



# THE BEACON

Wilkes University - Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania

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

*Queen Elizabeth II: April 21, 1926 ~ Sept. 8, 2022*

## Scholars ponder: What does the future hold?

**By Maddy Kinard**  
News Editor

On Sept. 8, Queen Elizabeth II's reign ended after 70 years, the longest of any British monarch, leaving a question lingering in the minds of many all over the world: What happens next?

Thomas Hansen, international student and geography major, was shocked at the queen's death—an overwhelming feeling in Britain at the moment.

"The Queen was naturally quite a large figure in everyone's life in the United Kingdom. She had been the ruler for 70 years so the majority of the country had only ever known her as our ruler," said Hansen. "Every year on Christmas day at 3 p.m., the country stopped and listened to her speech and throughout the recent pandemic and internal social issues, she has been a calming and level-headed figure for the country to see and learn from."

Although Her Majesty's position has been filled by her son, King Charles III, this does not serve as an answer for the political turbulence that has been ongoing, and has now been exasperated by Elizabeth's passing.

"This is a singularly bad time for this to have happened because the situation in Britain is very turbulent," said Dr. Jonathan Kuiken, associate professor of history, global cultures and honors director. "They just got a new prime minister on Tuesday [Sept. 6] and she is not wildly

popular in her own party or the country. So, we've already got a kind of political crisis. The war in Ukraine is driving up energy prices in the UK tremendously and people are

really concerned that they won't be able to heat their homes this winter as well."

Kuiken goes on to explain what may happen within Commonwealth countries now that the queen has passed, finding it possible for those countries to end their association with the British monarchy as their head of state. Just last

year, Barbados became a republic, and many other countries, such as Jamaica, have been talking about it but, as Kuiken states, believe they haven't done it out partly out of respect for the queen.

However, her death opens up the possibility perhaps that we may even

***"Charles knows that he is pretty unpopular and I think he's going to do his best to not be in the limelight a lot or if he is in the limelight, for things that are good rather than bad."***

-Dr. Jonathan Kuiken, associate professor of history, global cultures and honors director.

see the end of the monarchy in Britain itself, but a stronghold on tradition will most likely keep it in place.

Due to an extended grieving process when a monarch

dies, Charles remains only king in name. However, going forward in his reign and coronation in a few months, Kuiken suspects him to lie low due to his unpopularity and the current state of Britain.

"I would not be shocked if the coronation is a much more stayed affair

than his mother's coronation which was filled with pomp and splendor," said Kuiken. "Charles knows that he is pretty unpopular and I think he's going to do his best to not be in the limelight a lot or if he is in the limelight, for things that are good rather than bad. Even William's reputation has kind of taken a hit recently. It's a really unsettled time for Britain."

The late queen's funeral took place Sept. 19 in the Westminster Abbey where she was married and coronated 70 years ago. Some 2,000 guests have gathered to honor her with the service having been led by Dean of Westminster David Hoyle. During her ceremony, other invited individuals also received recognition for their honored valor during her lifetime, like health workers who were praised during the pandemic.

Several smaller ceremonies occurred throughout the day, including a smaller service inside the Windsor Chapel where physical representations of her rule were removed from atop her coffin and a final familial service to lay her body to rest beside her husband, Prince Philip, the late Duke of Edinburgh, who died last year at the age of 99.



**Vreeland presents interactive workshop, page 5**



**Students celebrate Hispanic heritage month at Railriders game, page 7**



**The need for animal shelters: A volunteer's account, page 17**



**FH: Colonels fall to King's in a cross-town battle, page 21**

# News

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

## Student Government notes: Sept. 14 weekly meeting

**By Emily Cherkauskas**  
*Editor-in-Chief*

Student Government held its third meeting of the semester, covering a treasurer's report, finalizing this year's homecoming agenda and reviewing capital project's requests.

To begin, the Student Government has \$62,042.08 in its budget. This week, no clubs requested funds from the budget.

Next on the docket, was week one of two for the finalization of the homecoming budget. The homecoming budget totals \$22,298.89 from Student Government and \$313.88 from capital projects for the polaroid machine.

Homecoming will include several events throughout the week. A pep rally will start things from 6 to 9 p.m. on Sept. 29. The dance will be held in the Mary Stegmaier Mansion on Sept. 30, from 5 to 10 p.m.

The pep rally will include the dance team, cheerleaders and various other clubs.

There will be two food trucks: Smoked and Sauced BBQ and Frozen Island. There will also be yard games and other activities sponsored by Student Development and SG.

Three hundred alumni members will be given shirts and the Student Government will give away blue pom poms and blue and gold beaded necklaces.

Tickets are on sale in the SUB for \$10.

The dance is buffet style. Wilkes' Chris Gowarty will be the event's DJ. The photo booth will be available to use from 6 to 10 p.m..

Several capital project suggestions were discussed during the meeting in a roundtable session, although no proposals were voted on. The Student Government currently has about \$80,000 in

funding remaining for the year.

Lastly, Student Government discussed several upcoming major events for the fall

semester. These events include the Ping Pong & Pizza that was held on Sept. 15; the student government retreat and bonding experience; the homecoming pep rally, dance and football game that will be held during the week of Sept. 29 through Oct. 22; and casino week, which will be held from November 14 to 18.

Student Government will be meeting again on Sept. 21 for their fourth meeting of the semester.



## Beacon Briefs: Upcoming campus events

Compiled by Beacon News Staff

### Honors Online Clothing Store

Are you an Honors student looking for merchandise? The Honors apparel store is open now until Oct. 1. They are selling joggers, shirts, hoodies and clothing for parents as well.

To purchase items, please go to [www.axelradshop.com/wilkeshonors/shop/home](http://www.axelradshop.com/wilkeshonors/shop/home)

### Free Flu Clinic on Campus

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

No appointment is needed.

### Vocal Ensembles Seek New Members

Wilkes University Chorus is accepting

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

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

Chamber Singers is also accepting new singers. Students, staff, faculty and administrators are also welcome to audition. Participants will be required to complete the following:

- Sing a song of your choice that showcases your skills
- Ear training
- Sight reading

If interested in either, contact director Matthew Rupcich, at [matthew.rupcich@wilkes.edu](mailto:matthew.rupcich@wilkes.edu)

### Support Cheer Team Fundraiser

The Wilkes Cheer team is holding

a breast cancer awareness fundraiser, selling long-sleeved T-shirts for \$20.

To purchase one, contact a cheerleader or shop online at this link: <https://www.customink.com/fundraising/her-fight-is-our-fight-with-wilkes-university>

### Interested in Wilkes Adventure Ed?

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

### Interested in Track and Field Club?

If you are interested in joining a new track and field club on campus, email [brandy.varner@wilkes.edu](mailto:brandy.varner@wilkes.edu)

### Interested in Chess Club?

If you are interested in starting up a chess club on campus, contact [jake.middleton@wilkes.edu](mailto:jake.middleton@wilkes.edu)

### Table of Contents

News.....2

Life, A&E.....7

Opinion.....14

Sports.....19

### Upcoming Events: 2022 Spring Semester

#### September

22 - Get Groovy  
29 - Programming Board giveaway

#### October

6 - Wild Wild West Fest  
13-16 - Fall Break  
20 - Glow Game Night  
24-28 - Freak Week

Want your event featured in the calendar?

Email: [Madelynn.Kinard@wilkes.edu](mailto:Madelynn.Kinard@wilkes.edu)



# Jake Wood to deliver “Conquering Chaos” with APKCFEE

By Maddy Kinard  
News Editor

On Oct. 11, Jake Wood will deliver his speech “Conquering Chaos” as Wilkes University’s Allan P. Kirby Lecture in Free Enterprise and Entrepreneurship. The event begins at 7 p.m. in the Dorothy Dickson Darte Center.

Wood, a former Marine Corps scout-sniper who completed tours in Iraq and Afghanistan and a University of Wisconsin football player, continued his success and is an award-winning entrepreneur. He is the founder and executive chairman of Team Rubicon, an international organization that specializes in disaster response by mobilizing veterans who help people prepare, respond, and recover from disasters.

“This lecture will show students that entrepreneurial thinking and leadership is a lot like being a soldier,” said Charles Pierce, executive director of the Allan P. Kirby Center. “Challenges will come your way and there will be many obstacles, but one must persevere to be successful, much as Mr. Wood was in the armed forces.

“I think attendees will see what a real leader is in person, rather than reading a book or watching TV. Mr. Wood is very charismatic and humble.”

Wood was initially scheduled to deliver his speech in 2019. However, due to impending weather, the university had to act quickly. After speaking on a military-themed panel during a lunch for local veterans, the Henry Student Center ballroom was turned into a speaking space where Wood delivered his speech in its entirety despite the piling snow and his wife at home who was pregnant at the time.

Wood’s speech likened military operation, recalling on his time on the battlefield and experiences losing friends and fellow soldiers, to being an entrepreneurial leader.

“Everyone in attendance didn’t seem to mind that the snow was piling, school was closing early and no one had their phones out,” said Pierce. “All eyes were glued on Mr. Wood and his slideshow



Photo Courtesy Allan P. Kirby Center

**Wood was inspired by to enlist in the United States Marine Corps after watching first responders risk their lives saving others after the Twin Towers fell as a freshman offensive lineman at the University of Wisconsin.**

of pictures and quotes. It was a very moving experience.”

His parallels to military operations and entrepreneurial thinking will show attendees the ways in which challenges will come, but to be successful, one must persevere. Pierce highlighted the importance of a real physical example for attendees being more impactful than reading a book or watching TV on the same subjects.

“Every year is always exciting to see what entrepreneur will speak to the university, but I think Jake Wood will be a phenomenal experience, especially coming out of more virtual presentations,” said Lindsey Scorey, communications scholar at The Allan P. Kirby Center.

The event is sponsored by the Kirby Family and Wilkes and is open and free to everyone. For those that are unable to make it, there will be a live stream. Registration is required and is open. Additional information can be found at [www.wilkes.edu/kirbylecture](http://www.wilkes.edu/kirbylecture).

The Allan P. Kirby Center’s main mission is to foster ideas of free enterprise and entrepreneurship, which they accomplish in their day-to-day tasks. However, these annual speakers best showcase what the real world can be like.

“I have attended two of these speeches before and both times I found them to be very inspirational toward continuing in the world of business. I am even more interested because he was a football

player just like I am now. It helps me see more of myself in him,” said senior business management major Billy Cosner.

The Allan P. Kirby Center also offers free mentoring to all Wilkes faculty, staff and students daily. They teach business classes and frequently co-sponsor community business events.

“Anyone is invited to follow our social media, stop by the center for a tour or speak with myself, my Associate Executive Director, Gerald Ephault, or any of my 12 plus Kirby Scholars. We also look for ideas so we welcome anyone to speak with us about how we may better serve those around us,” said Pierce.



# Animal Welfare Club recognized by Student Government

By Maddy Kinard  
News Editor

Wilkes University's Animal Welfare Club, created at the start of the fall semester, received official Student Government recognition and seeks to educate students on the pandemic that is animal cruelty.

"There's more animal cruelty right now in the world than any other time in history," said Matthew Hollay, club president and junior biology major. "It's frustrating to me and I want to reduce it as much as possible. Trillions of animals get killed almost every year."

To this point, as per The Humane Society of The United States, more than 50 million animals are used in experiments each year in the United States.

The club's primary goals are to advocate, volunteer/fundraise, and educate. There are three important topics Hollay mentions that the club wishes to educate others on: using cruelty-free products, going vegan and adopting not shopping. He wishes to



**Matthew Hollay sells merchandise with all proceeds going to the Griffin Pond Animal Shelter.**

reach as many people as possible on things anyone can do to help animals.

Owner of two pets himself, Hollay's two rats "Hide" and "Seek" demonstrate for him the necessity of a club like this and how important it is to spread awareness.

With the club having started only two weeks ago, only one event has occurred: a fundraiser selling merchandise with all proceeds going to the Griffin Pond Animal Shelter. In the upcoming weeks, the club will hand out free samples from Eden-a

Vegan Cafe and discuss reasons to go vegan. They also plan to host various fundraisers for shelters like SPCA, Luzerne County and Blue Chip Farm Animal Refuge.

"Animals have always brought me extreme joy and happiness," said Megan Oakley, senior nursing major, who works closely with Hollay in the club. "The more I learned about them I realized how unique and incredible they really are. Animals bring love and comfort to those around them and I want everyone to experience that."

The Animal Welfare Club is the only club of its kind on campus. Students were eager to get involved, evident by Hollay's success on Club Day.

"I went from nine people signed up to 26 more people being signed up," Hollay said.

As of right now, there are no solidified scheduled meeting times but to get involved, reach out to Hollay at Matthew.Hollay@wilkes.edu

Photo Courtesy Matthew Hollay

# Wilkes to hold study abroad in Spain and Peru in 2023

By Zach Paraway  
News Staff Writer

Wilkes University is offering study abroad programs in Spain or Peru during the summer of 2023.

Dr. Paola Bianco, professor of Spanish and global cultures, has been the study abroad coordinator since 2002 and has been at Wilkes since 1996. She has seen many students come through the program and learn from their experiences away from America. Bianco's goals for the program are to gain confidence, flexibility, and an understanding of a different culture.

"By learning and absorbing a new culture students learn about their own culture. Students come back with a new perspective on the world, by studying abroad they gain confidence, learn to be flexible, and to adapt to new lifestyles," Bianco said.

As of now, the study abroad trip is flexible in time, city and length. Students also have the choice to stay with a family or in a hotel.

Spain programs are available for two

weeks at three credits, four weeks at six credits, or six weeks for nine credits. Such credits will be counted toward electives, general education, minor, major and or Spanish certification for Pharmacy. Available locations are Sevilla, Madrid, Valencia, among other cities.

The Cuzco, Peru, program is offered for two weeks for three credits. This includes excursions to Machu Picchu, clinical observations and/or conversational exchange with natives.

John Hannaway, P2 pharmacy and Spanish major, completed a summer in Spain with two weeks in Valencia and two weeks in Sevilla. He used this experience to better his linguistic skills.

"Currently, my goal is to work as a community pharmacist. I feel that, in this position and depending on where I live, I will have many great opportunities to speak in Spanish with patients," said Hannaway. "The hardest part to get over was not having dinner until 9 p.m. every night. In my family in the United States, we usually eat dinner at 5 p.m. when everyone



**Dr. Paola Bianco's summer 2022 study abroad group to Cuzco, Peru.**

gets home, so it was a big adjustment."

Philip Davis, also a P2 pharmacy major, attended the same trip as Hannaway. Similar to Hannaway, he reflected on his experience with cultural differences.

"It was super cool to see not only how other people live but how you can adapt in that situation," said Davis. "It was honestly the time of my life, I would go back

tomorrow if I could."

The study abroad program is open to all students and all levels of Spanish courses. More information can be found on the Wilkes website or contact Dr. Paola Bianco for pricing and itineraries. Some scholarships are also available.

Photo Courtesy Dr. Paola Bianco



# Patricia Moss-Vreeland presents interactive workshop

By Maddy Kinard  
News Editor

Patricia Moss-Vreeland held an interactive workshop on Sept. 14 in the Sordoni Art Gallery. The gallery is showing her work in the exhibit "In Search of Meaning: Memory Becomes Us." The exhibit is currently on display.

Vreeland, an artist, author, poet and thought leader has been compiling "In Search of Meaning" since 1999. During this time, it continually changed and shaped itself and its artist. However, the main point stayed the same: the brain's purpose is to look for meaning.

"I keep learning more and then I have new art and new ways to say things about it," said Vreeland.

Vreeland had worked closely with a neuropsychologist who is head of a memory learning lab, reproducing work together and changing the other's opinions on memory-related topics.

The interactive workshop functioned in a conversational way, Vreeland engaging attendees on the ways in which they use their memory to recall information and what that then says about people. As evident from student responses, past experiences and emotions make memories, and they are subjective. But just as much as they are subjective, shared experiences are equally important as they are the key source that allow people to form bonds.

"I honestly think after hearing her speak that it's going to change my views on everything because now I know that my

current memory is impacting the way that I'm going to think in the future; I'm going to focus on memory in a way I probably wouldn't have before the lecture," said junior criminology and psychology major Dreena Alvarez.

Memory is also derived from patterns, sensations and metaphors. One particular aspect reflected in Vreeland's work is her art of patterns and categorization which leads to a specific object or idea. In one of her works, she utilizes images like a feather, water and other duck like elements to engage the memory in recalling a duck without a duck ever being initially shown.

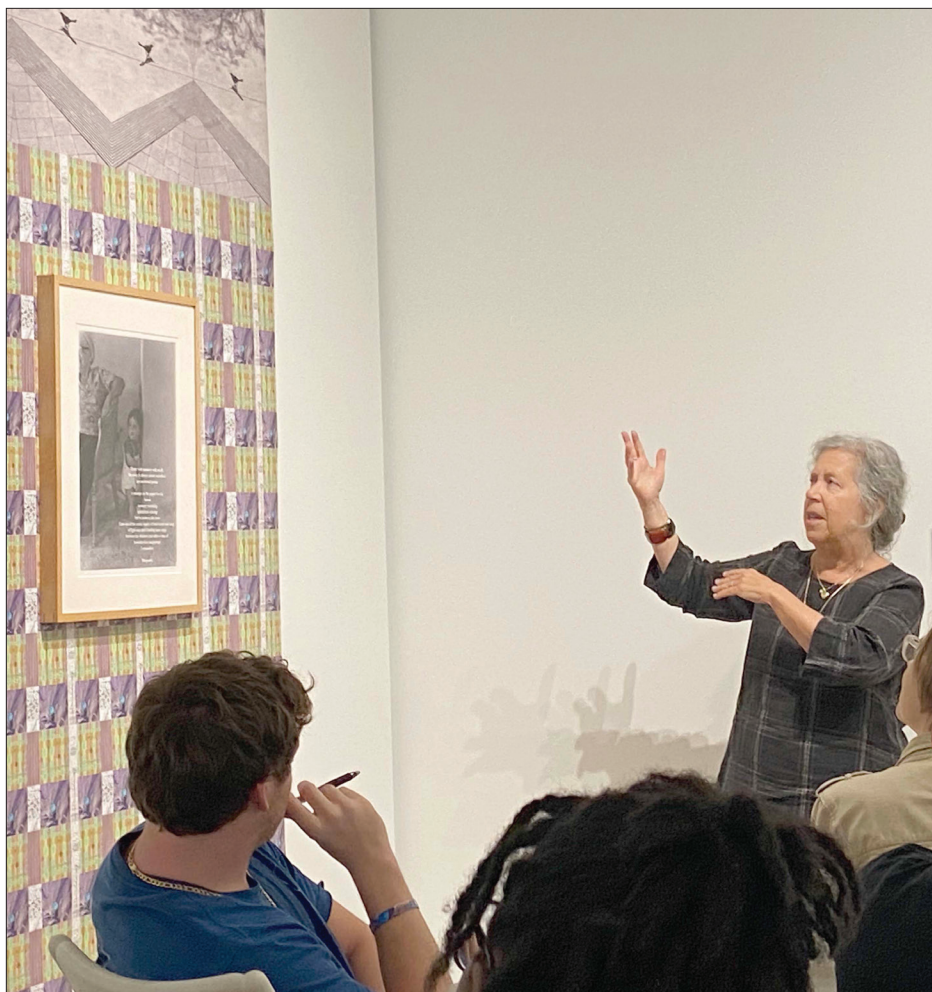
She also utilizes smell, particularly in her piece, "Memory Is." Smell is proven as the strongest sensation that makes connections for the brain. Vreeland's aforementioned

piece offers a smell of crayons, inviting a sense of nostalgia for those engaging with it.

"As somebody who's both an English major and a psychology major, combining those two entities into one visual thing and seeing it laid out definitely makes you think more. This exhibit completely clears those boundaries in your mind and makes you think differently and more openly about something you wouldn't have," said senior Jay Guziewicz.

"In Search of Meaning: Memory Becomes Us" will be on display until Oct. 9. Attendees can visit the exhibit at the Sordoni Art Gallery which is open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Friday, noon to 5 p.m. on Saturday, and closed Sunday and Monday.

Photos: The Beacon/Maddy Kinard



Vreeland lectures on her piece, "Rhapsody" which is comprised of a framed print and poem with a patterned print behind. Throughout her exhibit, she frequently examines the ways in which patterns are intersectional with memory, this piece being cognizant of that idea.



"WeWomen" artist book and poem examines another intersectionality that artist Patricia Moss-Vreeland correlates with memory: gender. The work is currently on display at the Sordoni Art Gallery.



# Wilkes hosts blood drive for 9/11 National Day of Service

By Zach Paraway  
News Editor

Wilkes held a blood drive Sept. 13 in collaboration with the American Red Cross in honor of the 9/11 National Day of Service.

The American Red Cross is a non-profit organization that helps support many underserved communities and disaster events. Blood gathered from every blood drive goes to help give blood transfusions and other treatments that help save lives.

Monica Morrison, a Wilkes 2021 graduate and AmeriCorps VISTA, gave blood at the event and has volunteered many times before.

"Blood drives are so important. It has been such a pleasant experience and everyone has been so nice. It is just important to give back to the community," said Morrison. "I was nervous, but everyone has been so nice

and makes you feel so comfortable."

A blood drive is nothing without people to help service it. Zachary Peterson, team supervisor for the American Red Cross, ran the event on Tuesday with his staff. Peterson has been doing this for five years and has done countless blood drives before. He sees giving blood to have a huge impact on the lives of so many.

"People have another day to be with their wife, child, mother, father, sister; some people don't get that chance. This is a way where we are able to extend someone's next goodbye's and hello's," said Peterson.

Donors also received a Red Cross t-shirt, free coupon for a Sports Clips haircut and were automatically entered for a chance to win a NASCAR racing experience. This includes two tickets to a 2021 Sports Clips-sponsored race, round-trip airfare for two, up to a three-night hotel stay and a \$750 gift card.



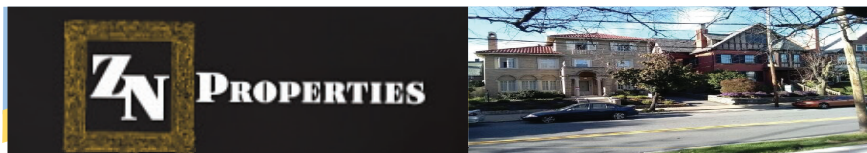
Photos: The Beacon/Zach Paraway

**After donating, donors were directed to a table full of snacks to replenish their body after the donation of blood.**

This give-away will continue throughout the month of September at all American Red Cross blood drives.

For more information on how anyone can participate in blood drives on

campus, visit the Wilkes website, or to find another local blood drive, go to the American Red Cross website and insert a zipcode to find the closest location.



## Student Housing 23-24 Open House

Sunday Oct 9, 2022

\*

**12-2PM**

**UPSCALE CLEAN ALL INCLUSIVE APARTMENTS**

**Availability mix and match SINGLES or 2,3,4 BR**

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**REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED!**

## REMINDER!

The Beacon is looking  
for News writers!

You can write about...

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



CONTACT:

**Madelynn.Kinard@wilkes.edu**



# Life, Arts & Entertainment

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

## Students celebrate Hispanic heritage month at Railriders game

By **Laury Angeles-Martinez**  
Staff Writer

On Sept. 15 a group of Panamanian students from the IFARHU program were invited by the Scranton/Wilkes-Barre Railriders production team to perform during the baseball pre-game.

The IFARHU program is a five-year program, which ensures that students with academic merit in Panama achieve a university degree at the bachelor's level in the stipulated period of time. The Panamanian students performed one of the traditional dances of Panama to celebrate Hispanic heritage month.

In addition to the traditional dance, they also conducted presentations with trivia questions to give more information and fun facts about Panama to those watching the game.



**Biochemistry major Federico Morán and accounting major Cleyda Atencio show off their traditional wear at the event.**



**Panamanian students during their performance at the Railriders baseball pre-game.**



**Supply chain management major Gabriel Araúz and digital design and media arts major Laura de Lora Leon show off their traditional wear.**



**Hospitality major Kathleen Beitia showing a traditional woman dress from Panama.**



Photos: The Beacon/Laury Angeles-Martinez

**Pictured from left to right are criminology major Victor Castro , environmental engineering major Lourdes Navarro and biochemistry major Arcelly Pineda at the trivia table. Viewers of the game could stop by and get information about Panama.**



## Cocktail of the Week: The Cinnamon Toast Crunch Shot



The Beacon/Haley Katona  
This shot is fun, creamy and is a perfect balance of sweet and spicy.

Looking for the perfect mix between alcohol and cereal? If so, this creative shot is your match made in heaven.

The Cinnamon Toast Crunch Shot:

### Ingredients:

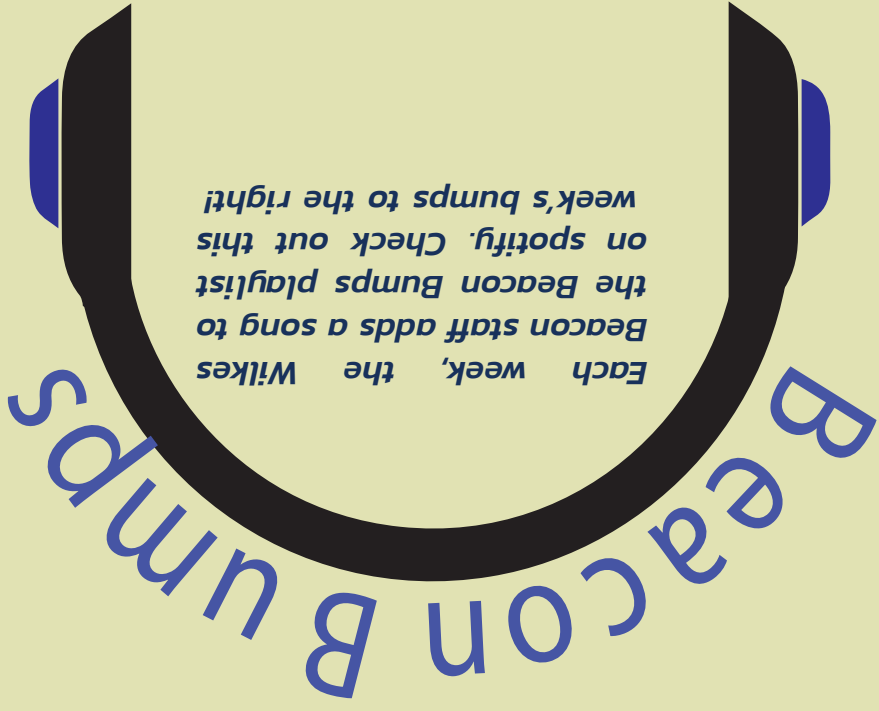
1 part Rumchata  
1 part cinnamon whiskey (Fireball)  
Whipped Cream

If you would like to garnish this shot, simple syrup, cinnamon sugar and cinnamon toast crunch cereal pieces can be used.

**Directions:**  
Add ice to a cocktail shaker. Add half Rumchata and half cinnamon whiskey over the ice.  
Close and shake for about 20-25 seconds to get an even blend. You can follow the other method for

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

By Haley Katona  
Staff Writer



Emily Cherkuskas, Editor-in-Chief:

Better Without You - Evanescence

Ariel Reed, Managing Editor:

Inception - Tso Mac

Maddy Kinard, News Editor:

1000 Blunts - \$uicideboy\$

Jordan Daniel, LA&E Editor:

Garden (Say It Like Dat) - SZA

Morgan Rich, LA&E Asst. Editor:

Back to You - Twin Forks

Baylee Guedes, Sports Editor:

Late Night Talking - Harry Styles

David Marks, Lead Layout Designer:

CAN'T GET OVER YOU - Jol!, Clams Casino



# Programming Board presents Ping Pong & Pizza event

By Bailey DeJesus  
Staff Writer

On Sept. 15, Programming Board put together a Ping Pong and Pizza event for the student body. This is the second time this theme has been used and the students seemed excited to engage in some friendly competition.

“We normally expect anywhere between 60 to 120 people at these smaller events and this has been a pretty good turnout so far,” said vice president of Programming Board and senior marketing major, Felicia Clark. “With having to take a break from in-person events like this due to COVID, it is great to see them [in-person events] coming back and have students be able to enjoy them again.”

When students checked in at the greeting table they were given the opportunity to enter a raffle. The prizes included in the raffle were pizza-related like a Ninja Turtle pizza maker and pizza blanket. All students were given tickets on their way in so that they were able to try for any one of the prizes.

Also, there were three ping pong tables and three cornhole stations set up as well for anyone that wanted to step up and play. Later in the night, a tournament was organized that anyone could sign up for if they wanted to team up and make things a bit more competitive.

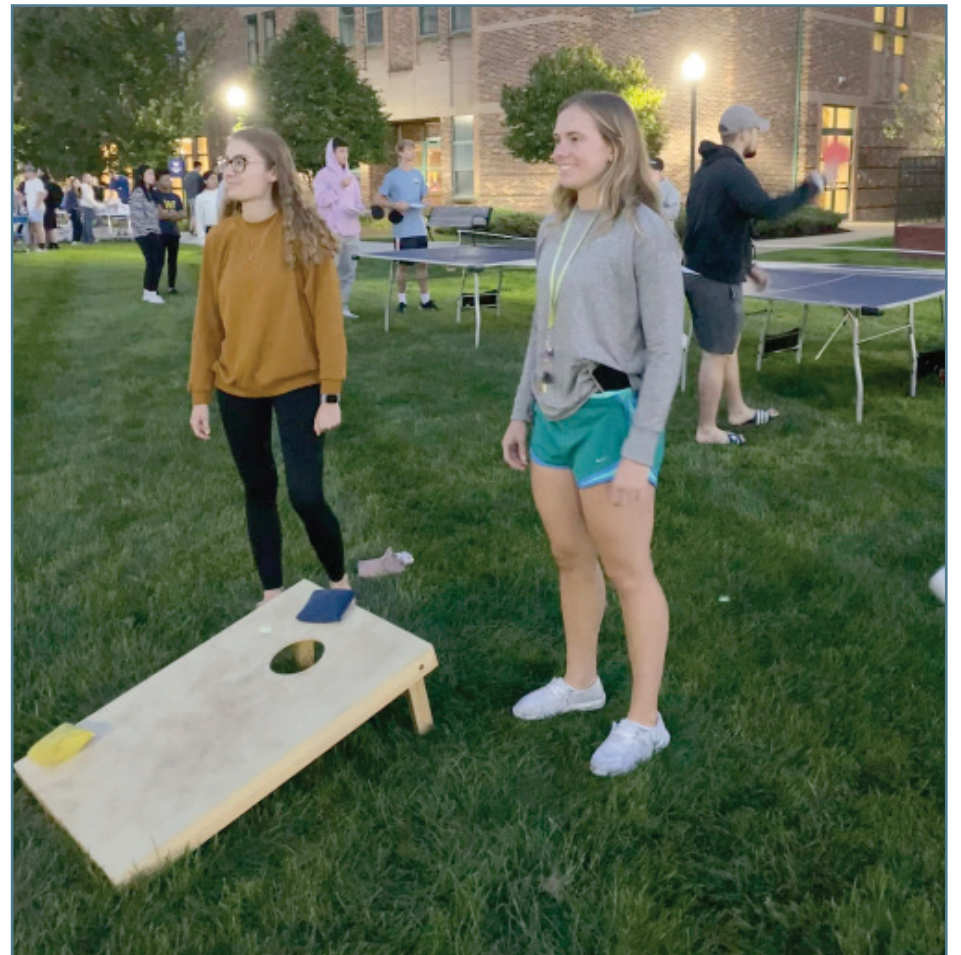
As always, the free pizza offered was devoured with every slice being eaten barely 25 minutes into the event.

“It’s nice to have small events like this on campus so that everyone can have something to do and get outside, especially before it starts getting cold,” said Jada Acheampong, pharmacy major. “I like these events because they are so much more interactive than movies or sitting inside.”

These events are great ways to help students relax during the week and realize that they can still enjoy their college experience no matter how stressful it may seem to become. Watching everyone get so into these games and have fun was great to see.

Next week, Programming Board is arranging a Get Groovy event but most members are excited for another upcoming event, which is the Wild Wild West Fest.

According to Lauren Beaver, sophomore nursing major and Programming Board’s community service chair and Jess Kunkle, sophomore psychology major and Programming Board’s social media chair, Wild Wild West Fest will be a big Wild West-themed event with Wild West-themed decorations and food. They also hope to bring in a mechanical bull but nothing has been finalized yet.



The Beacon/ Bailey DeJesus

Although the event was Ping Pong and Pizza, other games were set up on the greenway. P2 pharmacy majors, Megan Makovsky and Chloe Gilbert are pictured playing cornhole.

## Students respond to the upcoming release of “Don’t Worry Darling”

By Jordan Daniel  
Life, Arts & Entertainment Editor

This Friday Olivia Wilde’s sophomore movie “Don’t Worry Darling” is hitting theaters in the U.S. The movie is a psychological thriller, which Olivia Wilde directed and stars in alongside Florence Pugh, Harry Styles, Gemma Chan, Kiki Layne, Nick Kroll and Chris Pine.

According to IMDb, the film is about a 1950s housewife, played by Pugh, living with her husband, played by Styles, in an utopian experimental community. However, Pugh’s character begins to worry that Styles’ character’s company could be hiding some secrets.

The original film’s trailer was released

earlier this year on May 2 and it gave viewers a small glimpse of what to expect without giving away too much of the plot. Although more details have since been released, many were left with more questions after watching the trailer for the first time.

“I wanted to know the setting of the story like what time it takes place,” said junior education major, Nylah McDougald. “It seemed like it takes place in the past. I also wanted to know more about the project they are trying to prevent the women from knowing about.”

The trailer also revealed a “Victory Project,” which the men of the community are a part of but no specific description of the project was hinted. However, a scene

from the trailer displays how all the women are oblivious to the project except Pugh’s character who becomes skeptical toward it.

“I love romance movies so I think this will have a bit of romance and action but I also am all for women standing up and asking questions so I think I will enjoy that part of the movie as well,” said McDougald.

The genre of the “Don’t Worry Darling” is listed as a psychological thriller but scenes from the trailer highlight the romantic relationship between Pugh’s and Styles’ characters.

Due to Styles’ high-profile as a musician, these scenes have contributed to the amount of attention the film has been receiving.

“I am a big Harry Styles fan so I want

to see the movie because of him,” said P3 pharmacy major, Jen Gronska. “Also, the film does seem interesting because the housewife wants to discover more about the community she lives in and she realizes it is not perfect and there are some secrets. My favorite types of movies are dystopian movies and this seems to be that type of movie.”

Although many are initially excited to watch “Don’t Worry Darling” because their favorite musician is starring in it, they are also curious to find out how the movie’s story unravels.

At the moment, the movie will only be playing in theaters and tickets are available to purchase now at dontworrydarling.movie.



# Meet the Majors

## This week's major: Mechanical Engineering

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

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

Ellie Freiss  
Junior

“There were a lot of factors that drew me towards the engineering field such as the problem solving aspect and the creativity that goes into the major. I also have family members who are engineers who inspired me to pursue the science field.

“My current goal with the dual major of mechanical engineering and physics is to hopefully go into aerospace engineering and design technology for space.”



Erin Shober  
Junior

“I chose engineering because I took a few engineering courses in high school and I really enjoyed them and enjoyed all of the different types there was to learn about and possibly do. That is why I picked mechanical, specifically because it is the most broad, allowing for a wider range of learning.

“I hope to be able to secure a job right out of college and be able to work as a designer or engineer for a few years until I can sit the PE exam and eventually become a project manager of some sort.”

Paul Binner  
Junior

“I had originally contemplated electrical engineering as a major but after having spent a day at P&G and talking with various engineers, I felt that I related more to the mechanical engineering aspects, which helped me in my decision to study mechanical engineering at Wilkes.

“I hope to get a decent job and use the concepts that I learn in college to increase the quality of the workplace that I work in.”



Tess Edwards  
Junior

“I chose to become a mechanical engineering major because I want to work in the power generation industry to make renewable energy sources more efficient and affordable.

“I hope to make renewable energy sources more efficient and affordable for the general public.”

Photos: The Beacon/Jordan Daniel



# MAGICAL MEMORIES WITH MORGAN

## The First Official Week in Florida

**By Morgan Rich**

*Life, Arts & Entertainment Asst. Editor*

On Sept. 12, I officially started my journey in the Disney College Program and it was one of the best and most challenging weeks of my life.

To start, I moved into Flamingo Crossings Village. After I checked into my given time slot everyone had to watch a nine-minute video explaining the rules of the apartments and the campuses.

I live at the west campus, which is a lot quieter and does not have as many people residing in it as the east campus. The only downside is that the east campus hosts many of the events at Flamingo Crossings Village.

Now, moving to Florida for four months does not necessarily allow everyone to pack lightly so it took me a few hours to move in while dealing with the 100-degree heat. Once I moved everything into my apartment, I got to meet my three other roommates who

had already been living there since May.

The next day all of the new arrivals had off so I spent the majority of my day decorating my room and getting groceries. However, in the evening my parents, my friend Carla and I went to Disney's Boardwalk Inn Resort to see where I would be working. While we were there, I met a few of my coworkers and made sure to familiarize myself with the place so I would not get lost on my first day of training.

Then, we all took a trip to Disney Springs to look around and shop the stores that they have there. There were lots of cute Halloween merchandise and lots of Mickey Mouse ears. To end our night we made sure to get dole whips, which is a pineapple soft-serve created by the Dole Food Company.

On Sept. 14, I had a class called "Making the Most of Your Program," which taught me all about how I can make the most of my program while I am on my internship and how specific things, such as self-admission cards, will work during my internship. Since we had the night off, a few friends and I decided to head to Universal Studios Florida and head to Harry Potter World.

The following day, another group of friends and I decided to go to Halloween Horror Nights at Universal Studios Florida. Halloween Horror Nights is an annual Halloween-themed event that features unique haunted houses, scare zones and a live show on select nights in September and October. While we were there, we went into nine different haunted houses and my favorite was a house called "Spirits of the Coven."



Graphic by David Marks

Sept. 16 is when I had a class called, "Traditions." During this four-hour class, I learned about the past, present and future of the company and how Disney College Program participants fit into the success and image of the company. The class was very interactive and the four hours flew by.

The highlight of the class was when Mickey Mouse came out to greet us and hand out specialty magnets to those who answered questions. At the very end of the class, I received my company ID and name tag and became an official member of The Walt Disney Company. It was the most surreal moment of my entire life.

Then, to end my day I took a bus to Disney University with a few new friends that I made and we took lots of pictures together to remember the start of this unforgettable journey.



**Morgan Rich holds out her official nametag she received as a new cast member.**



# FAMILY DAY 2022

Page design by Emily Cherkauskas



The Beacon/Sam Mullen

On Sept. 17, Wilkes hosted Family Day 2022, welcoming families and friends to partake in campus festivities and activities—one highlight being able to witness the football team win over Widener in a 44-20 win. Pictured above: Hundreds of spectators watch a massive tackle by the Wilkes crew, as the crowd cheers them on in a standing ovation.



The Beacon/Sam Mullen

**Left:** Families were able to explore around the Ralston Complex, mingling with students.

**Right:** If one were tired of walking or partying, a photo booth was available for anyone to use, offering a captured memory for the day featuring appropriate Wilkes-themed props.



The Beacon/Sam Mullen





The Beacon/Sam Mullen

**A football staple anywhere, the cheer team performed to keep confidence high, boosting the team's and spectators' energy.**



The Beacon/Ariel Reed

**A key player to the game, senior wide receiver Nate Whitaker stiff arms an opponent while gracefully jumping out of bounds.**



The Beacon/Ariel Reed

**Above: Complementing the cheerleaders, the marching band blasted "Sweet Caroline" during an on field huddle to keep spirits high, in addition to many other songs played to keep spectators entertained and to energize the football team.**



The Beacon/Ariel Reed

**Above:**  
The women's ice hockey team showed up at Family Day to mingle with families and friends and to show support for the football team.  
**Right:**  
Given the colloquial name of "Wilkes's First Dog," Walter and his owner, President Greg Cant, also made an appearance to meet the Wilkes community of families and students.



The Beacon/Sam Mullen



# Opinion

Have an opinion or want to write a guest column? Contact: [Emily.Cherkauskas@wilkes.edu](mailto:Emily.Cherkauskas@wilkes.edu)

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141 S. Main Street  
 Clayton and Theresa Karambelas  
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## Our Voice

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

### It's time for club hours to be for just that: clubs

Whenever any first-year student steps on to the Wilkes campus for the first time, the first thing that every mentor tells them is: "Join as many clubs as you can."

Traditionally, in the beginning of the semester, there even is a club day dedicated to allowing students to be able to join as many clubs as they would like, showing just how involved students can be on campus.

The student life section of Wilkes' webpage boasts about the ability of students to be as involved as they want to be on campus.

According to the university's website, "Wilkes University is a community of learning in which co-curricular and extra-curricular activities complement academic life. Students, faculty, and staff work together to promote individual student development by means of a variety of activities, programs, organizations, and cultural opportunities. All campus organizations are open to all students, and all function in collaboration with faculty advisors and the student affairs staff."

Let's be clear: The university decided

to block off four hours a week to allow students to have the freedom to meet. This designated meeting time is great for students who are heavy on the academic side with courseloads, but administrators, professors and coaches have other plans for the club hours.

If only it was actually advertised that way.

Instead of further endorsing the participation of students in club activities, the aforementioned use that time for mandatory events.

For example, professors will use that time to host mandatory events for their class—is that not the purpose of class time?

Even administrators will host events that students are "strongly encouraged" to attend, making students decide between collaborating with other students or sucking up to the university for academic validation.

Coaches use that time for practices and lifts, isolating athletes from other opportunities on campus.

All of the above deters students from participating in clubs.

Does that not go directly against what

Wilkes is trying to promote? Student involvement in campus activities is the backbone of the true "university experience." Putting mandatory seminars, classes, practices and lifts during club hours forbids students from truly diving into the stereotypical student life.

One might argue that student-athletes do not get a normal student lifestyle or that there is not enough time during class periods to allow teachers to fully develop their information. However, that is not an excuse to deprive a student of their right to participate in campus life and activities.

If there is not enough time during class to cover content, revise your curriculum. Want to meet with the entire class or have a guest speaker come in? Do it during your designated class time.

There are only so many hours during the day, students cannot find the time to adequately participate in their clubs and maintain their class schedule on top of that.

That is literally why club hours were created: for student participation in club activities, not class or athletics.

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

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Phone: (570) 408-5903 (Voicemail: 30 seconds or less, please.)

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# What the changing of the British monarch means for us

## *How the phenomena of royalty emphasizes our mortality*

**By Rudy Urenovich**  
Staff Writer

Unless you've been living under a rock for the past week, then you know that Queen Elizabeth II has passed away. This undoubtedly marks the end of an era, as she was longest reigning British monarch in all of history.

My initial reaction? Disbelief. I mean, I know every living thing, especially humans obviously, pass away, but there are some you just expect to be around forever. Even though, my knowledge of the British monarchy is limited to what I have learned watching "The Crown," I still felt like somehow the death of the Queen affected me on some personal level.

I suppose it is more what her death represents, rather than her demise itself. I hope that does not sound too unfeeling and cold. But she has been a fixture in the world for nearly a century. I just expected her to live for ever.

I believe even as a small child, who knew even less about the British monarchy or really anything to do with the nation, knew Elizabeth was queen. She favored brightly colored dresses, corgis and a simple black handbag. I do not know how or why I knew or came to know this information, but I did.

I suppose this is not uncommon for major celebrities or figures put on global display. They become almost fantastical beings, rather than human beings, so when death or a real human experience plaques them, it brings them back down to Earth, so to speak.

In a way it is extra frightening and unsettling. We think if something can happen to them, an powerful, almost God-like figure, something of a similar tragic nature can happen to us, probably tenfold. I suppose that is why I was so taken aback by the death of Queen Elizabeth.

These past weeks I have been so busy and overwhelmed, as I am sure many you are too. I have not had a moment to reflect or react to something as small and banal as a tiktok, much less have existential thoughts about phenomena like death.

Ironically, her death was a wakeup call

to me, and maybe to many of you. Hey, death is a real thing. It is coming for all us. If it defeats Queen Elizabeth, there is no way it is not going to come for any of us.

These days, I also more aware of growing older, more mature and the passing of time. I still am disgusted and frightened by the fact that I am a senior in college.

There is bound to be a transitional, unclear time in my life coming up very soon. I will have to make small adjustments and major changes in my life. I hate changes. I thrive off of normalcy. Even if the normalcy is not healthy or productive.

Right now, I feel quite comfortable in life. I found my place at college, I am at a good place with all my friends. I have hobbies and job opportunities and extra-curriculars I am content, yet challenged with. I want to hold on to this for as long as possible.

Any disturbance—like the death of a monarch that does not affect me personally at all—is unwelcome and makes me uneasy. I suppose it also makes us look at our own mortality and the mortality of our loved ones. We all grow older each second, and this progression of life will not stop.

I am sure all of you know at least one person who is borderline obsessed with British royalty. Albeit it might be an older person, but an American nonetheless. They have a fixation with British royalty. I sort of understand it, honestly.

Some Americans are drawn to the opulence and tradition found in the British monarchy. It is has a sense of permanence and reverence. Traditional, yet definitely evolving. Full of strength and conviction. People seem to respect the crown, whether they agree with them or not, politically or socially. Bow to it, even.

***“We think if something can happen to them, an powerful, almost God-like figure, something of a similar tragic nature can happen to us, probably tenfold.”***

The British understand the monarchy is more of a figurehead: the name and face(s) of a nation. Quite different than what we experience here in America, in terms of leaders. We change leaders ever couple years, and with this change, the social and political climate change drastically.

I believe change is necessary and needs to happen, but I think we can all agree it is not always good, like the past few years in the United States.

Have they been good for the country? Have we had a totally competent leader, who represents and symbolizes the country in a proper manner? Perhaps we glance over at the UK and divulge into their royalty because parts of us crave

its grandiose, yet almost gritty, strong influence and conviction.

We always have to stress about a new leader. In the United Kingdom, they do not, aside from Parliament. They have had the same on for many years, and they know who succeeds her. And who succeeds her successor. Perhaps we crave this unchangeability in government.

As Americans, we may only see and hear the good parts of the British royal family, as we are not really affected or aware all that much by their actions on a daily basis. So it is easy to become almost a fan or fanatic about the British monarchy.

I guess what I am trying to say is that the world is undoubtedly a different place now that Queen Elizabeth II has passed on.

Whether it directly or indirectly affects us, we certainly are aware of it and almost act as viewers in a way, watching things going down, but having the luxury of turing a blind eye to things we do not agree with or care for, while really obsessing and almost adoring over the good.

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# Haley's hot takes: Misinformation and politics run amuck

By Haley Katona  
Staff Writer

Despite this age of unprecedented access to information, the public does not typically understand the inner workings of our political system.

Social media is an example which highlights this lack of understanding in allowing misinformation to easily spread. Social media is used as an outlet for political exchanges and political outrage. Content posted and circulated about major political events has mirrored the shift in focus of political issues that have transformed into social issues rather than mere policy issues.

“Most Americans have a cursory knowledge (at best) about the political system,” said Dr. Benjamin Toll, political science professor. “They know the facts of politics like who is in office, or how long a term is; but they struggle with understanding why things are happening. Political science is really about understanding the why rather than the facts.”

When a person misunderstands a concept and posts an opinion based on

emotion or bias, others begin to relate and accept the post as a kind of truth, increasing the general distrust or disbelief of the political system. However, this only adds to the radicalization and polarization of our beliefs.

Due to this, people react more emotionally to these debates and therefore, there is less of a dependence or instinct to rely on logic and knowledge.

“In today's day and age, people fully react with their emotions before they sit down to understand the material that is being presented to them,” said Sarah Phillips, senior political science major. “I think that if people understood the concepts it would allow for more logical thoughts instead of emotionally charged radical statements,” said Phillips.

For instance, this past summer both *Roe v. Wade*, a 1973 Supreme Court decision which granted the right to abortion, and *Planned Parenthood v. Casey*, a 1992 Supreme Court decision which upheld *Roe*, were overturned by *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization* on June 24.

Amidst any public support or disapproval from this decision, there was a specific push to “abolish” the Court as an

institution based on their refusal to follow precedent, also known as *stare decisis*.

Most believe that the Court must follow precedent and what they decided is not allowed, but this thought process circling social media is incorrect. The Court chooses to rely on precedent, but they have no obligation to.

Rushing to support the dismantling of the Court is concerning, regardless of public opinion on their decisions. Each branch of government is vital to the separation of powers and checks and balances created by the Constitution.

In an article from npr.org, Chief Justice John Roberts, who did not vote in *Dobbs* to overturn *Roe*, spoke on the importance of the Court: “You don't want the political branches telling you what the law is, and you don't want public opinion to be the guide about what the appropriate decision is.”

The term “echo chambers” has often been used to describe the consequence of algorithms designed to keep users engaged. Echo chambers can produce misinformation, which can intentionally or unintentionally set forth a great threat to our already polarized and inflamed

political atmosphere.

“I think that social media can be very beneficial when it comes to sparking young people's interest in politics as it is easily accessible to them. The problem that comes from this though is whether or not these young people take the information they have learned and research it further,” said Phillips.

These issues, which demand and deserve attention, are often displayed in a biased manner that leads to further pushing away from conversation and compromise—two things undoubtedly needed for change.

“All political science research in the last several years on this topic concludes that polarization is increasing because of echo chambers,” said Toll. “It allows us to think of people who disagree with us as the “other” and we can easily vilify them.”

If we continue to allow this space between truth and opinion to separate us as human beings, we lose what unites us in the first place.

Ultimately, we are the ones who suffer from misinformation and the willingness to perpetuate it even when witnessing the consequences to our political system.

# Wren's watchlist: “Moriarty the Patriot's” unique Sherlock spin

By Wren Haze  
LA&E/Opinion Staff Writer

*Disclaimer: This review contains spoilers.*

Everyone knows and loves Sherlock Holmes, and sure, even I would fall for a man who has dark brown hair and hands for days, but something about William Moriarty strikes me in a different way.

This week, I had the honor of binge watching “Moriarty the Patriot” and honestly I got hooked real quick.

The show follows a young man who serves as a consultant for the common folk to solve their problems.

These problems include killing noblemen for the actions they never took responsibility for. This stems from Moriarty's hatred for the British empire and his need to destroy the current structure that dominates their society.

Some of these noblemen commit murder

and I just sit there in shock as to why they are not arrested.

Moriarty explains the classist reasoning as to why the rich can get away with so much whereas the poor gets caught red handed.

After he monologues for three episodes and helping the common folk get the revenge for another four episodes, we finally get to meet the infamous Sherlock Holmes.

Now, I am pretty sure the BBC (British Broadcasting Channel) had a show about Sherlock Holmes himself, but not only was he ugly, he was boring.

Here, on the other hand, we see how popular he is with the ladies and his sarcastic demeanor shining through his intelligence.

Moriarty and Holmes finally meet and immediately they become adversaries or friends in Holmes' eyes. However

while they are on the boat they meet on, a common folk gets murdered by a noble man and Moriarty catches him. Moriarty also sets it up, but plays it off as he will let it slide.

Moriarty, with the help of his brothers, Albert and Louis, expose the noble man for his actions. However, Holmes becomes suspicious of the whole thing.

Which is not shocking considering Holmes is known as an expert consultant detective and nothing can get past him. Holmes and Moriarty finally become frenemies and James Bond is finally introduced.

What I like about James Bond's character is that they are canonically transgender and the creator shown light on it very well. Moriarty is accepting but one of his coworkers is not and we get to see him being educated in the whole thing.

I appreciate this because as someone

who is nonbinary, not every is going to understand and accept you. But seeing the growth of the character become educated was done beautifully and not in a cliché manner.

The season ends on Moriarty being caught for his actions but he seems to fulfill what he wanted to do in Britain which seemed to be his plan all along.

He is about to end his life when Louis sends Holmes to bring him back.

Well, he fails.

Moriarty jumps off the bridge and the assumption is that he is dead. The noblemen are happy and the common folk are devastated.

When they showed at the end of the season in a random bar Holmes found him at, I was punching the air.

I rate this show 8.5/10 and would like for season two to come out already.



# After successful legislation, it is clear America needed Biden

By Sydney Allabaugh  
Staff Writer

Becoming president of a divided nation during a pandemic and economic crisis is a difficult feat. Even through these challenges, Joe Biden has managed to pass pivotal legislation and restore America's image across the globe.

During his campaign, Biden promised COVID-19 relief, environmental protections, and student loan forgiveness. He is not even halfway through his first term, yet he has delivered on all counts.

Not even two months into presidency, Biden signed the American Rescue Plan (ARP) into law. This piece of legislation helped distribute over 500 million COVID-19 vaccines and delivered financial relief to millions, most notably through the expanded child tax credit. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, expansions to the child tax credit

contributed to a 46 percent decline in child poverty—the steepest one-year decrease in American history.

Last month, Biden passed the Inflation Reduction Act that will lower healthcare costs, combat the climate crisis, and reduce the deficit. Under this act, insulin costs will be capped at \$35 for Medicare beneficiaries, and 3 million more Americans will now have health insurance, according to a White House briefing.

Because of this legislation, homes, businesses, and communities will be powered by an additional 950 million solar panels, 120,000 wind turbines, and 2,300 grid-scale battery plants by 2030. Additionally, new measures are expected to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by about 1 gigaton—10 times more climate impact than any other piece of legislation, according to the White House.

In addition to the Inflation Reduction Act, Joe Biden also announced his plan to cancel student loan debt last month. According to the U.S. Department of Education, students who received Pell grants will be eligible for \$20,000 in debt forgiveness. Millions of others will receive up to \$10,000 in debt cancellation if their income is less than \$125,000.

Biden is not only creating major changes in the U.S., but he also restored America's image globally. According to Pew Research Center, only 34 percent across the nations surveyed had a favorable opinion of the U.S. during Donald Trump's presidency, but now 62 percent of those surveyed feel this way. Biden is also viewed as well-qualified, while Trump was viewed as dangerous and arrogant globally as stated in the same survey.

Many reduce Biden down to his relatively low approval rating, which is

42.3 percent as of Sept. 15. However, one may argue that this rating is due to the new political climate since the Trump administration.

According to Pew Research Center, poll data shows that Americans are more politically and personally divided than ever, cannot agree on "basic facts," and have concerns about the future of democracy. Many may not trust Biden due to this developed distrust in the media, the government, and the other party. It is clear to see how Biden, a stereotypical establishment politician, may struggle to win public trust in this anti-establishment climate.

Even though many fail to see what good Biden has done for the country, he promises—as stated in his victory speech—that he "will work with all (his) heart to win the confidence of the whole people." I believe he has what it takes to do so.

## The need for help at animal shelters: A volunteer's account

By Sydney Ruskey  
Staff Writer

From abuse to abandonment, and so much more, the mistreatment of animals is an issue that plagues us all around the world, and something that many people strive to combat. Everyday we hear inspiring stories of a mistreated animal overcoming the odds and finding a forever home.

But what about the in-between? How do those animals make the journey from the bottom of the barrel to cloud nine? You probably know one of the biggest answers already: animal rescues and shelters.

Animal rescues and shelters are a well-known category of charitable organizations, and are respected by many people for their work—but many are unfamiliar with the great effort that goes into running these organizations.

They may be admired for their contributions to "saving the animals," but that statement is not nearly enough to sum up the amount of responsibility they take on every single day in their attempts to fulfill that role.

These organizations, almost always run by volunteers who receive no monetary

compensation, do a massive amount of work not only for the animals, but for their communities at large.

As a volunteer at Blue Chip Animal Refuge, I'll tell you firsthand that volunteering with animals is hard.

We're not just there to play with kittens or walk dogs—in fact, as someone who volunteers with cats, my time is spent cleaning litter boxes. It's certainly more than two or three.

Additionally, every single day, over one hundred animals have to be fed, given water and cleaned up after. We also need



Photos Courtesy of Blue Chip Animal Refuge

**Iggy, not even a year old, came in bad health, but remains happy.**

to walk dogs, take sick animals to the vet, and give medication to those who need it.

One of the hardest parts of volunteering, however, is one that takes little effort: and that is simply seeing what happens behind the scenes.

So many animals arrive in or from horrid conditions, and simply seeing them, either their visible injuries or their defensive and terrified behavior, is painful.

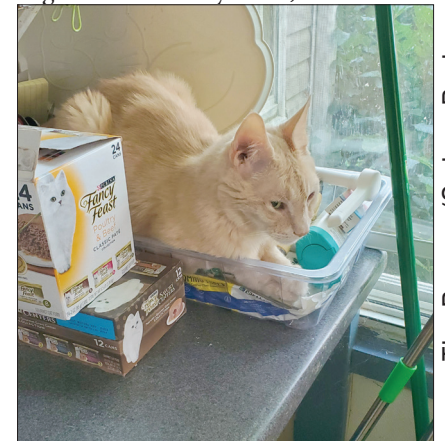
Seeing a depressed cat refusing to eat after their owner passed away is painful. Seeing the heartbreaking parting of a dog and an owner who can't take care of them



**Pizza is a young orange tabby cat, that may be shy, but is still sweet.**

due to poor health is painful. Seeing a perfectly healthy and friendly animal who has had to live in a kennel for years because no one seems to want them is painful.

But that pain is exactly why it's so important. Rescue shelters, like Blue Chip Animal Refuge, take animals from horrible situations and give them the chance to become some of the most loving and joyful creatures in the world. They are halfway homes and rehabilitation centers for animals, and give them the chance to find love. And getting them off the streets is good for not only them, but us as well.



**Hank is a confident and funny older cat that greets everyone at the door.**





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# THE BEACON

Wilkes University - Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania

By \_\_\_\_\_  
Staff Writer



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# Sports

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

## WVB: New-found team camaraderie lifts morale this season

By Baylee Guedes  
Sports Editor

Coming off of an 11-19 season in 2021, the women's volleyball team is looking to have a winning season this year as they have quite a few returning players.

"Returning a large roster this season gives us great depth on our bench," said head coach Joseph Czopek. "It increases the competition level in practices, this helps the team continue to grow throughout the early season."

Currently, the Colonels are 1-7 after some hard-fought matches early this season. Wilkes opened up with a 3-1 win over Keystone College where junior opposite hitter Hope Ousey led the team with nine kills.

Last year, Ousey ended the season with 138 kills, the third most kills on the team. In front of her were current senior opposite hitter, Kelsey Carroll, with 213 kills and current sophomore outside hitter, Alexis Reedy, with 224. Reedy is currently

leading the team with 76 kills while Ousey follows with 67. Ousey and Reedy have been putting in the work and are right in sync with each other on the court.

"It feels great to be a leader on the team in kills so far this season," said Ousey. "I have put in a lot of work over the off-season to get to this point and I am continuing to try to get better to be a dependable and consistent player that my teammates can trust to get the job done."

Sophomore setter and outside hitter Alexa Cassel is leading the team in assists with 204. During her first year as a Colonel, Cassel ended the season with 496 assists with 260 digs. Junior middle hitter Nicole Fitzpatrick adds 59 kills on the current season after having a total of 125 her sophomore season.

"The relationship between all the girls on the team is so much more positive than in past years and that is the most important," said Fitzpatrick. "A personal goal is to improve my game in a new position as an outside hitter and to be a leader on the

court. We need to continue to be positive, keep moving forward and stop focusing on the negative."

In their most recent home match, the Colonels faced Penn State Altoona where Wilkes was swept 0-3.

Ousey explained that the team is learning to celebrate each moment of the match, which has led to better team chemistry in comparison to last season and will convert into wins in the near future.

"I think the team is already so much more bonded and playing as a unit rather than individuals," said Ousey. "We have come together more and learned how

to communicate in a more positive and productive way to help each other out."

This new-found overall team compatibility and positivity will assist in leading the Colonels to victory in this 2022 season.

"Although a slow start to the season, the coaching staff sees this team developing upward at every match we play," said Czopek. "As we continue to improve, consistency will lead this team to a strong finish."

The next home match is on Sept. 24 when Wilkes will host Wilson College starting at 1 p.m.



(from left to right) Alexa Cassel, Ally Sheridan, Sierra Hines and Hope Ousey celebrate after a clutch kill from Ousey.



Photos: The Beacon//Baylee Guedes  
Cassel jump-serving in the first set of the Penn State Altoona matchup.



# FH: Monarchs best Colonels in the cross-town matchup

By Wren Hazel and Ariel Reed

LA&E and Opinion Writer & Managing Editor

The Colonel's field hockey team returns for another season hoping to leave its mark on its final season in the MAC conference.

The team finished 4-12 overall and 2-6 in the MAC Freedom conference. The team is led by Charlotte MacDonald who returns as the head coach for her second season.

"They put in a lot of hard work throughout preseason and summer, which show, and fitness returning in a far better space and skill than we were last year," said MacDonald.

In their season opener, the Colonels started out strong with a 4-0 win against Elmira College on Sept. 1.

"For the team I would like to improve on our record from last season, to make it to the playoffs and leave a strong impression as it is our last season in the MAC conference," said Hensel. "If we brush up on some individual skills and transfer them to the field our gameplay will greatly improve."

Opening up conference play, Wilkes battled down the street against King's College.

The Colonels and Monarchs battled back and forth in the first quarter, neither relenting a goal or field position.

In the final seconds of the first, graduate student Lauren Shiplett scored on a penalty stroke putting Wilkes up by one with only 2.9 seconds remaining in the half.

"It was a good feeling for us to be able to end the first half in the lead," said Shiplett. "Rita (Anmarie LeBron) worked super hard in the circle to get the stroke for us, and it was a great way to pick up the pace of the game, for both teams."

Heading into the second half, Wilkes had all the momentum on their side, but could not capitalize.

Five minutes into the third quarter, King's Sarah Zaleppa found the back of the net.

With the tide shifting into their favor, 90 seconds later, the Monarch's broke away and notched another goal, putting

themselves up by two.

Battling back and forth, neither team was able to get another goal for the remainder of the game.

"We lost our urgency in the second half, and we got too comfortable," said Shiplett. "We all wanted to win. We still had players that stood out, but the overall energy from the team fell."

The Colonels sit 1-4 in season as they took losses from York, Elizabethtown, Alvernia and now King's.

"We opened up the season with a strong win, but have been working on skills and tactics to make us more consistent," said goalie Carly Eidle. "We are all really close and you can see in the way we practice and play."

The Colonels return to action tonight against Neumann at 7 p.m..

Photos: The Beacon/Ariel Reed



Anmarie LeBron battles for inside position to get the ball into the goal.



Lauren Shiplett jumps in celebration as she scored the first goal of the game. Shiplett scored this with 2.9 seconds remaining in the first half.



Getting to know...

# Cole Jungwirth

## Junior Football Player

### **The Beacon: Male Athlete of the Week Sept. 8 to Sept. 14**

**Why Cole Jungwirth was selected:** Jungwirth shot a round low of 76 at their tri-match. His efforts helped the team finish 3rd at the contest.

**Name:** Cole Jungwirth

**Year:** Sophomore

**Major:** Corporate Finance

**Hometown:** Minneapolis, Minn.

**High School:** Bloomington Jefferson

**Position:** Caddy

#### **Favorite memory as a Colonel?**

Hockey UCHC championship in Utica, even though it didn't go the way we wanted.

#### **Hopes for this season?**

Take a picture with a trophy next to John Wilkes.

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

I first started playing hockey when both of my brothers put a hockey stick in my hand and body checked me through the stairs. I first started playing golf when I realized I could get away from them, and find somewhere else to play much more peacefully.

#### **Favorite thing to do during practice?**

Try to hit the golf cart picking up the balls on the range.

#### **If you had to choose one thing about your program that you could improve, what would it be?**

Being able to use the range at the course would elevate the level of our golf team by tenfold. Also, having Max Cocchi at as many matches as possible is a recipe for success for Wilkes golf.

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

SUB Ice Cream Road-Cone.

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

David Spade. He loves to have fun and joke around in his movies, and that is something that I enjoy as well.

#### **Is math blue or red, and why do you think that?**

Math is blue, science is green, English is red, and history is purple. This is not up for debate.

#### **Go to karaoke song?**

Blue (Da Ba Dee). It is a very easy song to sing along with, and allows you to make up some of your own words as well.

#### **If you could play any other sport, what would it be and why?**

Skeleton. It looks like they are sledding down the fastest hill in the world and I love sledding.

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

Phil Erickson. He seems to have a hand in every step I take at Wilkes. I truly couldn't do it without him, and I am extremely grateful and appreciative for all of his help and attentiveness to my college career.

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

"Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me."

- Compiled by Ariel Reed, Managing Editor

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

The Beacon/Ariel Reed



*There is no female AOTW due to no responses after inquiry to the chosen athlete*

## Colonels supporting Colonels throughout a week of contests



Bradley Anacreon (left) and Jason Eberhart (right) pose with their in-game snack at the volleyball contest on Thursday.

Photos: The Beacon/Ariel Reed



Kaylee Simmons and Devyn Cammarota work the front table at the Family Day festivities. This event hosted students and families of past and present Colonels.



Current and former members of men's swimming showed their Wilkes pride by cheering on the football team at their game against Widener.



(Left to right) Bridget Giunta, Angela Cant, President Greg Cant and Dr. Adams paused their celebrations at family day for a brief moment to pose for a photo.



# FB: The Rodriguez era shines with 20-point win over Widener

By **Ariel Reed & Baylee Guedes**  
*Managing Editor & Sports Editor*

EDWARDSVILLE, Pa. – The beginning of the Rodriguez era starts off hot with Wilkes winning their past two contests, the most recent against Widener with a 44-20 blowout.

“I think this team, it’s good,” said Rodriguez. “It’s definitely just a shock. Everybody knows we’re coming. We are comin’ different this year.”

Wilkes started with the ball and executed a perfect “two minute drill” and marched down the field to get themselves in scoring position.

“I think it set the tone,” said head coach Jonathan Drach. “We wanted to set a tone in that play. I thought we were very physical today. We limited them in some of the stuff that they wanted to do and it was effective for us.”

Sophomore quarterback Isaiah Rodriguez capitalized on their efforts with a six-yard pass to junior wide receiver Cory Pelzer for a touchdown, putting Wilkes up 7-0 to end the quarter.

Eager to get the ball back, senior defensive back Jeremie Hernandez snatched a pass off of The Pride’s QB.

The army of Colonels roared with excitement further supporting the outstanding field performance from the team.

With a chip on their shoulder and the sense of vengeance, Widener looked to even the score within the first four of the second quarter.

The Pride quickly put seven on the board off of an 11-yard run.

Wilkes dug deep to battle their way back. Rodriguez hit senior wide receiver Nate Whitaker for an 88-yard touchdown pass on their first down of the play. The extra point was missed, but the Colonels were up 13-7.

“There’s really critical points of games,” said Drach. “The 4 minutes before halftime and the four minutes coming out of halftime are probably the most important events in football to set the tone either way. And we won both of those four minute periods. They went three and out in the second half.”

With under four left before the break, senior defensive back John Washington

decided Wilkes was not up by enough, and snagged a pass from the Widener quarterback, scoring a 67-yard touchdown on an interception.

“So we knew when those times came to perform and separate ourselves from the competition, we did that,” said Washington. “I feel like we stepped up.”

Opening up the half, the Colonels started cooking early as junior running back Elijah Jules opened the half with a 72-yard touchdown.

“This game is a lot of fuel off emotions, so you kind of see where we started scoring,” said Jules. “We got them down on themselves and we capitalized.”

A few drives later, Widener came back, scoring on a nine yard pass—leaving Wilkes up by a smidge over two scores.

A strong fourth quarter drive gave the Colonels a comfortable lead on the scoreboard with junior wide receiver Xavier Powell rushing for a 30-yard touchdown.

Wilkes dominated the game and celebrated their big win with the packed stadium.

The Colonels return to the field on Saturday at Lebanon Valley College with a 1 p.m. kickoff.



Photos: The Beacon/Arel Reed

**Jesse Adesso (left) high fives John Washington (right) after a tough play that resulted in a change of possession on downs.**



**Isaiah Rodriguez stares downfield to find Cory Pelzer downfield. Rodriguez’s pass would be completed.**