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# THE BEACON

The news of today reported by the journalists of tomorrow.

## Poet visits Wilkes, encourages undergraduate creativity

By Megan Stanley  
Staff Writer

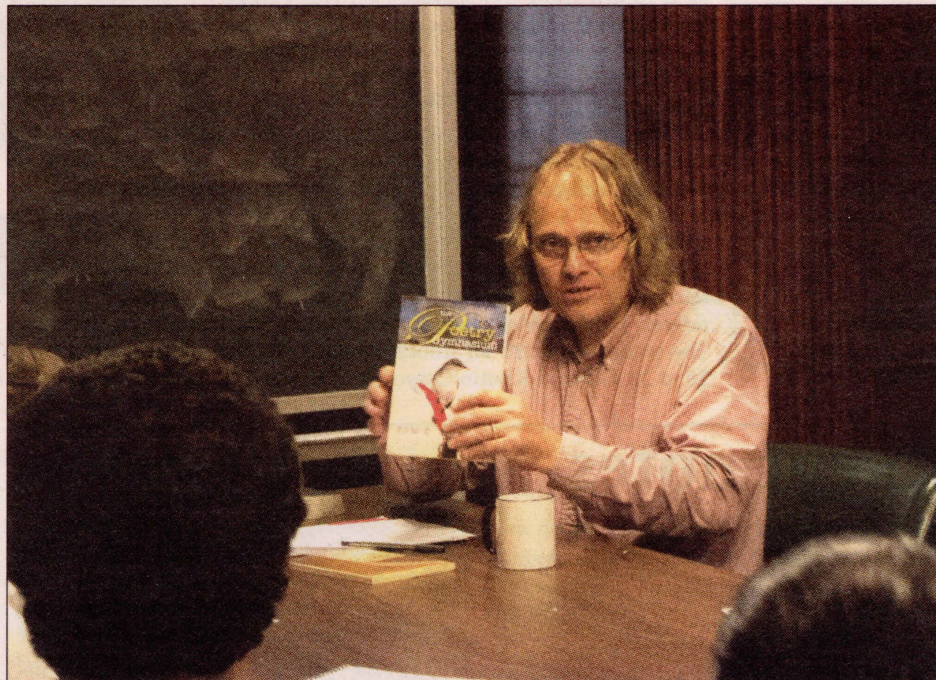
On Sept. 13, Wilkes University hosted visiting writer Tom C. Hunley. During the visit he conducted a poetry workshop with students. In the evening he gave a reading of his own poetry from "The State That Springfield Is In," which feature monologues from The Simpsons characters, and "Here Lies," a series of poems depicting his death in various different ways.

Visiting from Western Kentucky University, Hunley is a professor in the MFA/BA Creative writing programs. He has authored four poetry collections and has written for literary productions such as "New York Quarterly," "The Writers Chronicle," and "Poetry Daily."

"His work is very real word," said English Literature Professor Dr. Mischelle B. Anthony, who who met Hunley in January at a poetry conference. Anthony encouraged students who attended the afternoon workshop to use his education background to their advantage through a question and answer session toward the end.

The workshop focused on the workings of both the subconscious and conscious as a team. Taking a technique from his book, "The Poetry Gymnasium: 94 Proven Exercises to Shape Your Best Verse," Hunley taught the group about the Encyclopedic Braid technique.

Before explaining the Encyclopedic Braid,



The Beacon/Steffen Horwath

Poet Tom C. Hunley visited Wilkes on Sept. 13 to discuss his published works and lead a workshop.

Hunley discussed how poet David Kirby would create a marriage between stories. One story would be personal, and the other impersonal, taken from the news or world history. The unconscious mind would then form a poem, connecting ideas from both stories.

"Minimize the narrative and try not to tell the story," Hunley advised. "Avoid focusing on personal experience. Poetry should be centred for the audience and not the poet."

Taking facts from A. J. Jacobs' book, "The Know-It-All: One Man's Humble Quest to

**SEE HUNLEY, PAGE 3**

## Disaster preparedness top priority at Wilkes

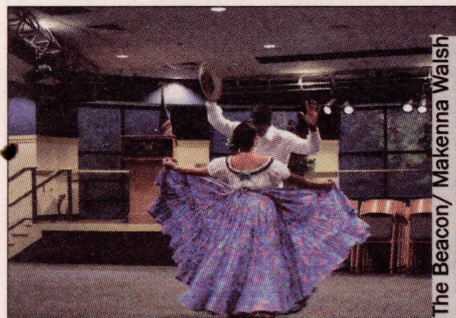
By Cabrini Rudnicki  
News Editor

In the past month, the United States has had a historic opening hurricane season with the destructive appearances of Hurricane Harvey and Hurricane Irma. The significant damage and costs have led many people to question the safety plans of their own area, as well as the future of the world's climate.

According to NBC News, 70 people died in the aftermath of Harvey, and it has cost the government more than any past national disaster except for 2005's infamous Hurricane Katrina. As stated by CNN, Hurricane Irma caused the evacuation of more than 50 million U.S. citizens, and was called the strongest hurricane in the Atlantic ever recorded by the National Hurricane Service.

The city of Wilkes-Barre has previously suffered similar destructive damage in 1972 with Hurricane Agnes, which according

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# News

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

## Beacon Briefs

### Wilkes' Halloween 5K

On Saturday, Oct. 21, Wilkes will be holding its annual Halloween 5K along the levee trail in Kirby Park. The fundraiser, which is for the Geo-Explore Club, will have three categories: competitive runners, non-competitive runners and walkers. It begins at 2 p.m. The run/walk also will feature a costume contest for participants. Wilkes students can sign up in the SUB during club hours, and will receive a discount with a Wilkes ID. Any questions can be directed to [ellen.mook@wilkes.edu](mailto:ellen.mook@wilkes.edu)

### Be an IEP Conversation Partner

The IEP Conversation Partner program is looking for students and faculty to spend an hour or two a week speaking to international students involved in the intensive English Program. Participants do not need to plan special activities for their conversation partner, they just need to include them in some of their usual activities. For more information, contact Dr. Kimberly Niezgoda, [Kimberly.niezgoda.edu](mailto:Kimberly.niezgoda.edu).

### Bystander Intervention Program Looking for Volunteers

The Office of Student Affairs, in collaboration with the Victims Resource Center of Luzerne County, are looking for volunteers to join a group of peer trainers who will present and discuss skills to intervene effectively when put in dangerous sexual situations. For more information, contact Associate Dean Philip J. Ruthkosky, Ph.D. at [Philip.ruthkosky@wilkes.edu](mailto:Philip.ruthkosky@wilkes.edu) or Samantha Hart at [Samantha.hart@wilkes.edu](mailto:Samantha.hart@wilkes.edu).

### Internship & Career Fair

On Oct 19, from 11 a.m to 3 p.m in the UCOM, join Wilkes University at its Internship & Career Fair for the opportunity to network with potential employers, or to find the right internship.

### Annual Kirby Lecture Series to be held Oct. 5

Wilkes students are invited to join the Interfaith Office in two upcoming retreats, hosted by the University of Scranton. The first retreat, The Soul Men's Retreat, is Sept. 29 to Oct. 1, for male students. The second, open to all students, is The Mystery Retreat from Oct. 20 to 22. Contact Kristin Osipower at [kristin.osipower@wilkes.edu](mailto:kristin.osipower@wilkes.edu).

## Student Government notes

By Seth Platukis  
Staff Writer

This past Wednesday, Wilkes University Student Government held its weekly meeting.

Amidst the third week of classes, the main portion of the meeting was discussion of the upcoming events within the next few weeks.

On Oct. 21 the Geo-Explore Club will be hosting a Halloween 5K run/walk along the levee trail in Kirby Park. Presidents of the club, Mike, and Ellen, requested \$1,250 which will be covered in the \$5 cost of the run per student, up to 250 students. After multiple remarks and suggestions were made to the club representatives, the members voted to allot the applicable funds.

Next on the agenda was the continuation of events regarding fall events. Homecoming 2017 ticket sales will begin on Sept. 28 and will go on until the following week. Some minimal changes were discussed regarding the events, along with the major detail of ticket price.

The cap of each year's budget was discussed, leading the members to a decision of upping the price to \$10 for everyone, not expectations for couples. A total budget of \$26,285.56 was allocated.

Also happening on Oct. 21, in the greenway there will be Fall Events happening

involving food and inflatables. A motion was made to allow \$6,900 toward these events, but after further discussion, a motion of \$1,000 less was approved, bringing the total amount allocated to \$5,900.

This year's Student Government retreat funds and activities were also brought to attention. This year it will occur at Kamp Kresge 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sept. 30. A total budget of \$530 was proposed, and will be discussed further at a later date.

All three upperclassmen groups thought highly of the idea. Some further comments were made about the Glassblowing Activity held on Friday in the Karambelas Media and Communication Center parking lot.

Some old business updates included the Alumni Homecoming Fund Request, Capital Projects Fund Request, SG Community Service, and The Colonel's March. Committee updates were also spoken of from the IT, Spirit, and Operations Committees.

In the concluding discussion, comments were made regarding some of the past events, including the concert and club day, and upcoming events such as the blood drive, sports events, meetings for other clubs and councils, and further student government business.

*Editor's note: In last week's issue of The Beacon, a story about renovations at the Stark Learning Center contained several errors. A corrected version of the story has been posted on our website. These errors included the following: Sam Meehan was listed as a "computer systems major." He is a computer science major. Dr. Barbara Bracken was quoted in the story, and her name was spelled incorrectly. Dr. Fred Sullivan was incorrectly referred to in the story as "Frank Sullivan." The professor's department was incorrectly listed as "mathematics and sciences," when it should have been listed as the department of mathematics and computer science. The Beacon deeply regrets the errors.*

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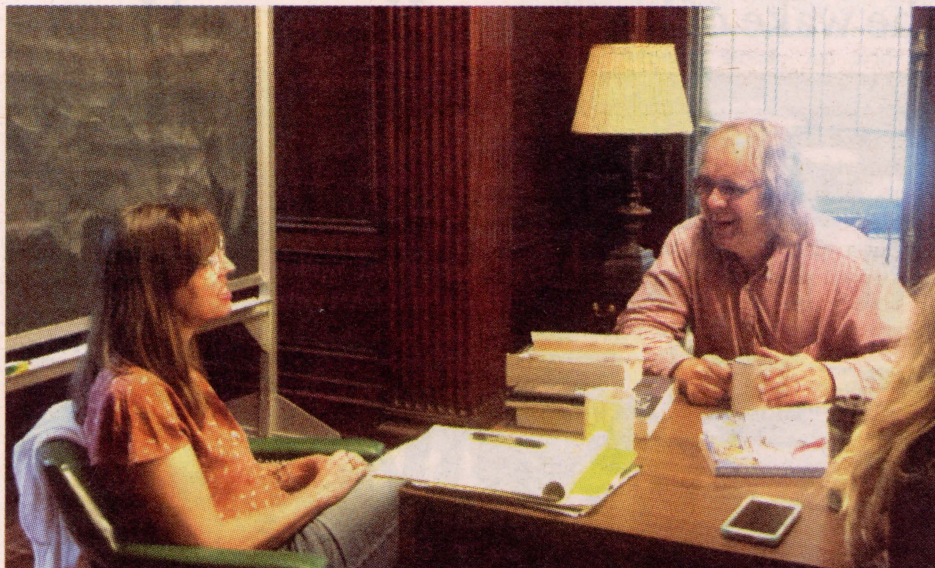
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## HUNLEY

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The Beacon/ Steffen Horwath

Tom C. Hunley and Wilkes' English professor Dr. Michelle B. Anthony having a fun chat together after the workshop on Wednesday.

Become the Smartest Person in the World," Hunley told the group that by using his conscious mind to explore the facts, his unconscious mind was able to work and be creative.

He then used the facts from the book and created a poem. By connecting the facts together, the workings of the unconscious mind were revealed. The poem produced, called "Out of Body Experiences," depicts notions of failure and ambition, whilst tackling the idea of false credit.

"I didn't know I was thinking about accomplishment versus real credit. As people generally experience way more failures than successes, this isn't surprising. We can use all these facts to find out what we're really thinking about."

Students completing the workshop then used this technique to create their own poetry. Students used facts from "Kesha was born with a tail" to "frost nip is what you get before frost bite," and "banging your head against a wall burns 150 calories an hour" within their poems.

Hunley said that workshops of this kind can be useful for all types of majors. "Everybody has a good poem in them."

Poetry adds an extra pleasure to your life."

The poet also acknowledged the inspiration young students bring to his own creativity.

"Students keep my imaginations fresh. Young people have a lot of energy, and undergraduates are more risk takers compared to graduates who have had their work rejected and sometimes play it safe. Undergraduate students write with abandon and I also want to write in abandon."

**For more photos  
from the workshop,  
visit our website at:  
[thewilkesbeacon.com](http://thewilkesbeacon.com)**

## PREPAREDNESS

Continued from front page

to the National Hurricane Center, was the costliest hurricane in United States history at the time.

The Times Leader reported in a retrospective 2009 article that the flooding caused \$2.8 billion in damage, and led to more than 68,000 homes and 3,000 businesses being destroyed.

The combination of current events and past trauma has caused students of Wilkes University to look at the hurricane season with weariness.

Justin Kraynack, Chief Risk and Compliance Officer, discussed the university's emergency preparedness for natural disasters.

"We have plans in the Emergency Preparedness Desk Reference, a handbook given to students and faculty throughout campus," he explained.

The pamphlet can be found at the Public Safety building, freely available to any interested students.

In the reference book, the University Administration outlines such things as flooding safety. For example, the book asks student and faculty to call Facilities Management, close doors and windows to prevent further flooding and stay away from flooded area until staff electricians have deactivated all electrical circuits.

The book features this type of instruction and reference for all kinds of emergencies.

"We tend to get the aftereffects of the hurricane, like high winds, tornados, and flooding," said Kraynack. "We check the projected data of the National Hurricane Service. Generally, we see them 10 to 15 days away, so we have time to monitor and plan in advance."

Timothy Lavoie, a freshman medical laboratory science major, was initially frightened by the current events, but also viewed it as scientific proof of a much discussed, controversial topic in the political climate.

"I think it confirms that global warming actually exists."

LTC Mark A. Kaster, an earth and environmental science professor, viewed it instead as evidence of the shifting climate.

"You can connect the dots and assume there is a correlation between the amount of storms and climate change, but I can't say Hurricane Harvey, Hurricane Irma, or Jose are due to global warming because they are naturally occurring," Kaster said.

"It took Mother Nature hundreds of millions of years to convert sunlight coming in," said Kaster. "We are burning through that stored sunlight in the matter of a few decades. It doesn't take a Ph.D. to realize that we are contributing to that curve [of data showing climate change]."



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Courtesy of the Wilkes Archives

Wilkes University in 1972 after Hurricane Agnes, which brought historic flooding to the area, leading to more than \$2.8 billions in damage.



# 'The Red Liquid of Life:' Wilkes to host blood drive

Drive aims to help restore blood supplies in the wake of hurricanes Harvey and Irma

By Seth Platukis  
Staff Writer

Have you ever thought about donating blood?

On Sept. 19 you won't have to think any further, and instead you can simply donate at the Henry Student Center Lounge, located on 84 W. South St. in Wilkes-Barre.

Due to recent natural disasters and events, including hurricanes Harvey and Irma, there is an even greater need for many necessities than before, and blood is something that is always crucial for survival.

According to the American Red Cross website, approximately 36,000 units of red blood cells are needed every day in the U.S. alone, adding up to nearly 21 million blood components transfused each year. In efforts to try and help the people affected by these happenings, Wilkes University has dedicated one of its four blood drive events to helping these victims.

Megan Boone Valkenburg, coordinator of student development who oversees the efforts being made regarding the blood drive, explained that to donate, one must designate an hour-long time slot by setting up an appointment anywhere from 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org).

Upon arriving at the site, donors go through a screening process where a full nursing staff will be on hand to ask a few health questions. After this step, the same officials will perform a finger prick and temperature to check your vital levels.

All that's left after this is to wait, be called on, and go through the process of donating. There are refreshments provided afterward to help the recovery process.

Boone Valkenburg explained that the need for blood after any type of natural disaster is so crucial that it usually determines whether a large portion of people survive. Not only is it important to give to help local individuals, but it is just as important to contribute to your fellow Americans afar because, as she put it, "you never know when you're going to be the next recipient."

College students are also some of the best to provide because of how easily students recover and bounce back from the process.

Sophomore communication studies major Sarah Matarella has always felt strongly about blood donation.

"It's something so easy to do, it doesn't take long, and I want to help these people in any way I can," she explained.



The Beacon/Jesse Chalnack

A student gets blood taken at a February 2017 blood drive held by Wilkes University and the American Red Cross.

## Blood Drive Fast Facts

- According to the American Red Cross, in the United States:
  - Every two seconds, someone is in need of blood.
- Approximately 36,000 units of red blood cells are needed every day.
  - The blood type most requested by hospitals is type O.
- Nearly 21 million blood components (red blood cells, platelets, or plasma) are transfused each year.
  - A healthy donor may donate red blood cells every 56 days.
  - Most donated red blood cells must be used within 42 days of collection.



## Profile of a new professor: Dr. Robert Bruno, communication studies

By Isaiah McGahee  
Asst. News Editor

There's a fine line between a student-professor relationship -- a line seldom crossed, or one even explored. At times, it may be easy to lose the fact that there's a person behind the podium.

Just as students, the professors around Wilkes campus are often unique and fascinating individuals. Meet the newest Communications Studies professor here at Wilkes: Dr. Rob Bruno.

Bruno, wearing a blue polo shirt tucked neatly into a pair of tan chinos, displayed his knowledge of and experience within the communication field as well as his passion for teaching.

Eating: a natural human function, we all must do it to survive. Most if not all of us have a favorite food. That is certainly the case for Bruno, who thoroughly enjoys both Mexican and Italian food; his favorite dish being spaghetti and meatballs.

A native of Toledo, Ohio, with an undergraduate degree from SUNY Stony Brook and a Master's degree from Ohio University, Bruno fondly recalls his upbringing in Toledo. Some of his greatest memories are those of being outside, which explains his passion for sports and physical competition.

"Growing up in Toledo, some of my fondest memories were just being outside, whether it was biking, hiking, you name it," he said.

Bruno's favorite sports are tennis and baseball. Due to his Ohio roots, his favorite sports teams are Ohio State and the Cleveland Indians, who are currently in the midst of a 22-game winning streak. An avid sports fan, Bruno appreciates athletics across the spectrum, but tennis stands above the rest.

A former competitive squash and tennis player himself, Bruno understands the complex nature and artistry associated with tennis. Continuing the theme of artistry, when asked who his favorite athlete was, Bruno quickly replied with the following: "John McEnroe."

"McEnroe was an artist, he could do just about anything," said Bruno.

Aside from teaching, Bruno is also a fan of cinema, his favorite film being Alfred Hitchcock's "Vertigo." Despite his love of film, Bruno doesn't have a favorite actor or actress. He instead appreciates the art of thespianism as a whole.

"I don't have a favorite actor or actress, but I do appreciate good acting ... There's a difference, you can certainly tell when it's bad," Bruno said.

A professor of 11 years with seven years of experience in public relations, students of Bruno may see his passion for teaching and his love of humor. This stems from his former childhood dream of becoming a comedian. Bruno reflected on such, and how in tandem with the inspiration of his mother, it eventually led to his desire to become a professor.




"I love making people laugh, as a kid I thought I wanted to be a comedian or a professional athlete of some kind ... I think going into the present day, I'm now in the perfect position. My mom was a teacher. I can't say I ever thought I'd ever become one as a kid, because I was such a brat in the classroom. So, this is my dream job, although I never thought of it back then."

Since coming to Wilkes, Bruno has enjoyed the campus immensely. He took note of the culture, campus, staff, students, and facilities.

"The facilities are great; it's a beautiful campus, but most importantly, the people

The Beacon/Anthony D'Amico are just fantastic. The faculty and students are terrific, just high class. There's such a culture of friendliness and helpfulness."

Bruno's love for teaching and helping others is apparent. When asked if time and money were no object, Bruno said: "(If time and money were no object) I think I'd still be doing teaching of some kind, I really do. I think that being a professor is the best job in the world. I certainly haven't had a better job than this."

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## Profile of a new professor: Dr. Ryan Henry, chemistry

By Amber Grohowski  
Staff Writer

Dr. Ryan Henry, originally from the suburbs of Philadelphia -- specifically, Pipersville -- will be one of the 25 new faculty members joining the Colonels this year.

Henry will be teaching an introductory chemistry course, along with the lab. He mentioned that he will really enjoy teaching biochemistry and looks forward to the possibilities of new upper level courses.

Henry was a recipient of a National Institutes of Health Training Grant that gave him the ability to do his post doctorate research on histones at the Fox Chase Cancer Center. He explained that histones help organize the DNA so it can fit inside of the nucleus of the cell, and he considered the histones' role of regulating the access to DNA.

He said the importance of it was gene transcription. He and his constituents looked at these chemical modifications using mass spectrometry, an analytical

technique. In other words, Henry looked at different proteins and how they decide where and why they modify the histones.

"All of the work needed to be self-driven," he said. "If your higher-ups needed you to do something, they didn't tell you how, you had to find out for yourself."

Henry attended John Hopkins University to earn his bachelor's degree in biophysics, and his master's and doctorate degrees in biochemistry from the University of Rochester. He said that the hybrid



Submitted Photo hands and you are the one who gets the grade."

He also mentioned to do the assigned


sciences are the way to go. As a doctor of biochemistry, it was a mixture of math and science, which is right up his alley.

Henry likes the small class size at Wilkes, and looks forward to being able to interact with his students while teaching. He advised his students to go to their professors' office hours.

He said, "we all have the same goal, and that is for you to pass the class; your education is in your

homework, graded or not, because there is a reason your professor is assigning it. Another piece of advice Henry shared is to ask questions in class.

When he's not teaching, you can find Dr. Henry playing board games or video games from his collection of roughly 170 games. He is also an animal lover, and plays with his rescued cat, Bruce, who, he jokes "isn't very agile."

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*Editor's note: Twenty-five new faculty members have joined the Colonel family this year. Each week, The Beacon will feature them.*



# MSC Fiesta features dancing, food, fun

On Sept. 15, the Multicultural Student Coalition held a fiesta in the ballroom of the SUB for Spanish Heritage Month. Keep an eye out for other MSC events via fliers posted on campus. For more information about the club, contact President Kala Walker at [kala.walker@wilkes.edu](mailto:kala.walker@wilkes.edu).



The Beacon/Makenna Walsh  
Edelys Azury Ceden Gonzalez and Elbin Rivera Ceballo perform a traditional dance at the MSC Fiesta. The event also featured a buffet and a fun dessert table.





# Life, Arts & Entertainment

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

## Spark a new conversation with students from across the globe

By Shannon O'Connor  
Staff Writer

Are you interested in expanding your knowledge of cultural history and making some lifelong friends from around the world? The Intensive English Program Conversation Partner Program provides students, faculty and staff with an opportunity to learn about different cultures by engaging in conversation with international students.

Students from across the globe come to Wilkes University to gain a valuable education and experience life in the United States. There are a total of 35 students enrolled in the Intensive English Program from Turkey, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia and Lebanon. During this 13.5-week-long program, students take rigorous classes to learn the English language.

In addition to receiving an education, students also want to experience the American culture. The Conversation Partner Program was created to help them practice their English speaking skills and develop friendships. Each international student is paired with a native English speaker. After they are introduced, they meet once a week to bond and learn about each other's culture at a time and place that is convenient for their schedules. Students can meet each other for coffee, grab some lunch at the Henry Student Center, or even teach one another to make their favorite cultural dish.

"This program gives [the international students] a chance to share their culture with the American students, and the American students get a chance to learn about another country," Dr. Kimberly Niezgoda, Director of the Intensive English Program said.

Huda Alhajer and Yuleisy Alvarez are two of the international students in the Intensive English Program looking for partners for the conversation program.

Huda has never had a conversational partner before, and is interested in the new opportunities it can provide her.

"I want to learn more English and I would like to speak more English. I want to learn more and more," Huda said.

Yuleisy had a former conversation partner. Her conversational partner recently graduated and now she hopes to be paired with another student.

"I really want to have friends to have conversation with, because sometimes my English is not really good. If I talk with other people who speak the language, I can get better," Yuleisy said.

Huda and Yuleisy are two of many students that want to become acquainted with the American culture.

"[The American culture] I found is very respectful and Americans like to be on time. Americans are also involved in many sport activities," Yuleisy said.

Yuleisy loves to play soccer and run. Her previous conversation partner became

her running buddy. Huda likes to play basketball, even though she explained she is not the best at it here in the United States.

The Intensive English Department also takes international students on many trips where they can experience American cultural activities firsthand. From going to different cities, to white water rafting, or to different county fairs, the students are surrounded in new cultures. Niezgoda includes conversation partners on these trips. Potlucks are held throughout the semester, giving international students the opportunity to learn more about American holidays, such as Halloween and Thanksgiving.

There is also Global Coffee Hour every Wednesday from 2 to 4 p.m. This is a chance for students to meet with their conversation partner or to meet other international students they may not know.




Design by Todd Espenshade

Whether participating in the Conversation Partner Program or attending International Coffee Hour, students can expand their cultural awareness and gain valuable intercultural experience for their resumes.

"To effectively communicate, we must realize that we are all different in the way we perceive the world and use this understanding as a guide to our communication with others," Anthony Robbins, an American author once said.

For more information, or if students are interested in participating in the Conversation Partner Program, contact Dr. Kimberly Niezgoda at [kimberly.niezgoda@wilkes.edu](mailto:kimberly.niezgoda@wilkes.edu) to be paired with an international student.

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[shannon.oconnor@wilkes.edu](mailto:shannon.oconnor@wilkes.edu)



## RECIPE OF THE WEEK:

### INGREDIENTS:

- 2 slices of Honey Wheat Bread
- 1 tablespoon of butter, divided
- 2 slices of Colby Jack Cheese
- 2 Hearty Garlic Deli-Style pickles

### INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Preheat skillet over medium heat.
2. Butter one side of a slice of bread.
3. Place bread butter-side-down onto skillet and add 2 slices of cheese and 2 pickles.
4. Butter a second slice of bread on one side and place butter-side-up on top of sandwich.
5. Grill until lightly browned and flip over, until cheese is melted.
6. Serve with potato, sweet potato, beetroot and cassava chips. Enjoy!!

Fall in love with Grilled cheese



Design by Nicole Kutos

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

*• Submit it to Amanda Bialek, Life, Arts and Entertainment Editor*

*[amanda.bialek@wilkes.edu](mailto:amanda.bialek@wilkes.edu)*

Interested in writing for Life, Arts and Entertainment? Why not try all three?

Contact Amanda Bialek at [amanda.bialek@wilkes.edu](mailto:amanda.bialek@wilkes.edu)



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## Wilkes Barre Chamber of Commerce announces Connect Program

By Emily Sutton  
Guest Writer

Coming to Wilkes-Barre is a new five piece program being implemented by the Greater Wilkes Barre Chamber of Commerce. The program, named Connect, is an initiative created to ensure that all entrepreneurs, start-ups and existing businesses have access to the providers, services and facilities they need to grow their business in Northeastern Pennsylvania. The five core focus areas featured are Spotlight, Pitch, Honor, Intern and the 101 Series.

This quintessential program is looking to spur the next wave of economic development in the area by providing a depth of opportunity within the community by building networks and making connections. Wilkes-Barre Connect is housed within the THINK. Center, a co-working space located off Public Square, featuring a 50-seat theater and three tech-driven conference rooms to be utilized by students and entrepreneurs.

The Wilkes Barre Connect system is predicated on the collaborative efforts

among the Greater Wilkes-Barre Chamber, the Wilkes University Small Business Development Center, the Family Business Alliance, the Northeast Ben Franklin Technology Partners, the Diamond City Partnership, the Institute for Public Policy and Economic Development and the Wilkes University Allan P. Kirby Center for Free Enterprise and Entrepreneurship.

"Since Wilkes Barre Connect will help link together our academic institutions with our business and industry leaders, students will benefit from being connected with internships, jobs, networking events and various experiences offered by Connect and our community businesses and organizations in the process. Students are also encouraged to utilize the THINK Center if they are in need of a co-working space or want somewhere new to connect, create, and innovate," Holly K. Pilcavage, Wilkes-Barre Connect manager said.

There are two Connect events coming soon: one focusing on the Spotlight Series, and the other on the Pitch program.

Brought by Penn State Wilkes-Barre, the Spotlight series will hold an event on Sept. 27 at 5 p.m in the T.H.I.N.K. Center. The focus of this event will be women's entrepreneurship, featuring speakers and video spotlights which highlight local female entrepreneurs and female-led organizations, as well as a networking mixer.

There will also be another event for the Pitch program, presented by the Willary Foundation. Pitch is a formalized process to introduce entrepreneurs, start-ups and existing businesses to a regional investor network. Interested parties can complete a venture profile online. On Oct. 5, two businesses will be selected to present to local investors at the T.H.I.N.K. Center on November 1st. Applications will be accepted until Sept. 27.

The Willary Foundation is a family foundation dedicated to developing ideas and projects that are interesting, creative and imaginative and which benefit communities in Northeastern Pennsylvania. Willary seeks to foster groups with unique, innovative or

unusual ideas and efforts.

"The Willary Foundation is a family foundation dedicated to inspiring the creative and imaginative spirit of Northeastern Pennsylvania, so it's only fitting that they've partnered with the Chamber and Wilkes-Barre Connect Initiative to launch Pitch," said Joseph Boylan, CEO & Founder of Argent Eagle Development Company. "This partnership will elevate the entrepreneurial spirit in our region by providing start-ups access to the resources they need to grow. We can't thank the Willary Foundation enough for their dedication to Wilkes-Barre Connect and Northeastern Pennsylvania."

To submit an application to the Pitch program visit the Connect website at [www.wilkesbarreconnect.org](http://www.wilkesbarreconnect.org). To register for the upcoming Spotlight event, visit [www.wilkes-barre.org/events](http://www.wilkes-barre.org/events), or for more information contact Holly Pilcavage at 570-408-1732.



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# JANUZZIS

## Pizza & Subs

Next to Movies 14 • For Delivery- Call 825-5166 • Wilkes -Barre. Kingston. Plains. Plymouth. Nanticoke

**\$13.95** + TAX

large 16" 1-topping  
pizza & 2-liter soda

**\$7.95** + TAX

each for 5 or more  
large plain pies

**\$16.95** + TAX

3 hot & cold subs  
mix & match

**\$20.95** + TAX

large 16" pizza & 12  
cut tray sicilian pizza

**\$17.95** + TAX

2 large plain pizzas  
toppings extra

**\$20.95** + TAX

24- cut Sicilian pizza

**\$17.95** + TAX

12- cut Sicilian pizza  
& 1 order of wings

**\$11.95** + TAX

12 -cut Sicilian pizza

**\$23.95** + TAX

2 tickets to Movies  
14, 1 med- 1 topping  
pizza & 2 drinks

**\$12.95** + TAX

small 12" 1-topping  
pizza & choice of  
any sub

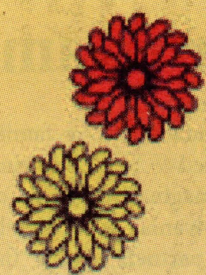
**\$18.95** + TAX

large 16" pizza, 1  
sub, & an appetizer

**\$28.95** + TAX

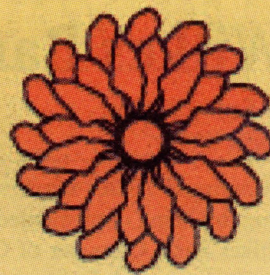
3 large 1- topping  
pizzas



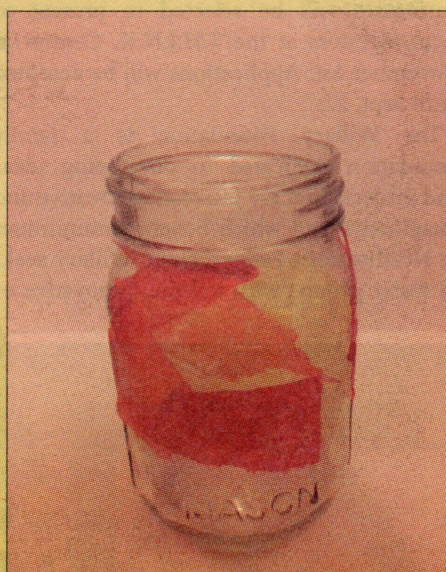
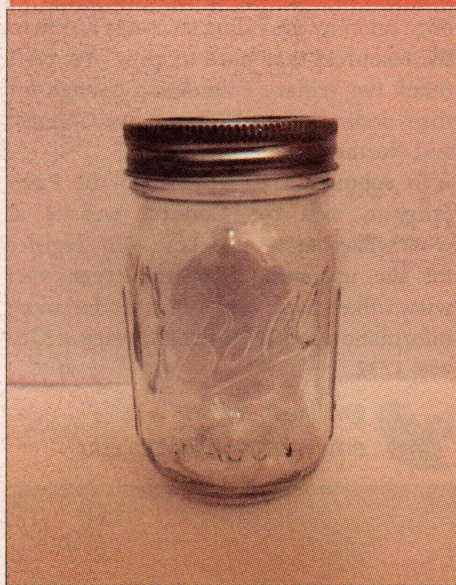


Crafting with

# MaryKate



## Fall Votive DIY

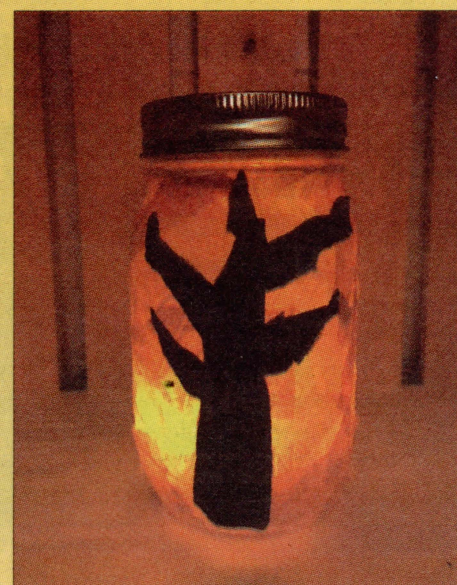


### Supplies needed:

- ♦ Mason Jar
- ♦ Fall colored tissue paper
- ♦ Paintbrush or foam brush
- ♦ Mod'Podge
- ♦ Brown Construction paper
- ♦ Flameless tea light

### Instructions:

1. Remove the lid of the mason jar, so it doesn't accidentally become glued shut.
2. Tear assorted tissue paper colors into small pieces.
3. Paint a small section of Mod'Podge on the jar.
4. Cover the section in colored tissue paper.
5. Repeat until the whole jar is covered.
6. Use ripped pieces of brown construction paper to make a tree outline.
7. Mod'Podge over the tree to keep it in place.
8. Add a flameless tealight to the jar, if you need some room decor, or use it to store pens and pencils if you need to free up space on your desk!





# Do you love all things pumpkin spice a 'latte?'



By Allyson Sebolka  
Staff Writer

Pumpkin Spice is back in season at Starbucks. Now that September is here, the perennially popular flavor is back on the market and surfacing all around Wilkes University.

A mixture of cinnamon, ginger, cloves, nutmeg sums up pumpkin spice latte. This beverage has been rated as the most popular seasonal drink at Starbucks, with more than 200 million being sold since its creation 13 years ago, according to the Washington Post.

Starbucks continues to be a popular go to place to get a pumpkin spice fix. Its menu includes a wide variety of the favorite fall flavor. Starbucks offers many pumpkin-based baked goods like pumpkin bread, pumpkin cheesecake muffins and a pumpkin scone, but the pumpkin spice obsession does not end there.

Starbucks has also launched a pumpkin spice chai, a pumpkin spice creme and a pumpkin spice frappuccino.

Pumpkin spice lattes continue to be the leading driving force behind the flavor. The Pumpkin Spice Latte brought in \$100 million in revenue last fall, according to Forbes's website.

The Daily Mail has even described the Starbucks pumpkin Spice Latte as a "social media master," claiming that it is just as popular online as it is physically.

The drink has its own Twitter, Instagram and Tumblr accounts. Its online persona goes by "The Real PSL." The PSL currently has around 115,000 followers on Twitter. Celebrities have gotten in on the social media outcry as well. The Huffington Post reported celebrities like Katy Perry tweeting about the flavor's return. Brittany Snow got her opinion out tweeting,

"Nothing is more surprising, yet oddly exciting than the return of the pumpkin spice latte."

"If you like pumpkin pie, you will like a pumpkin spice frappe. I like the pumpkin lattes. I am at Starbucks several times a week so the baristas know me on a first name basis. Pumpkin muffins are great," Parker Dorsey, a computer science major said.



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## ~Beverages~

Pumpkin Spice Latte

Pumpkin Pie Frappuccino

Caramel Pumpkin Macchiato

Pumpkin Spice Choco-Chai

Fall Mashup Frappuccino

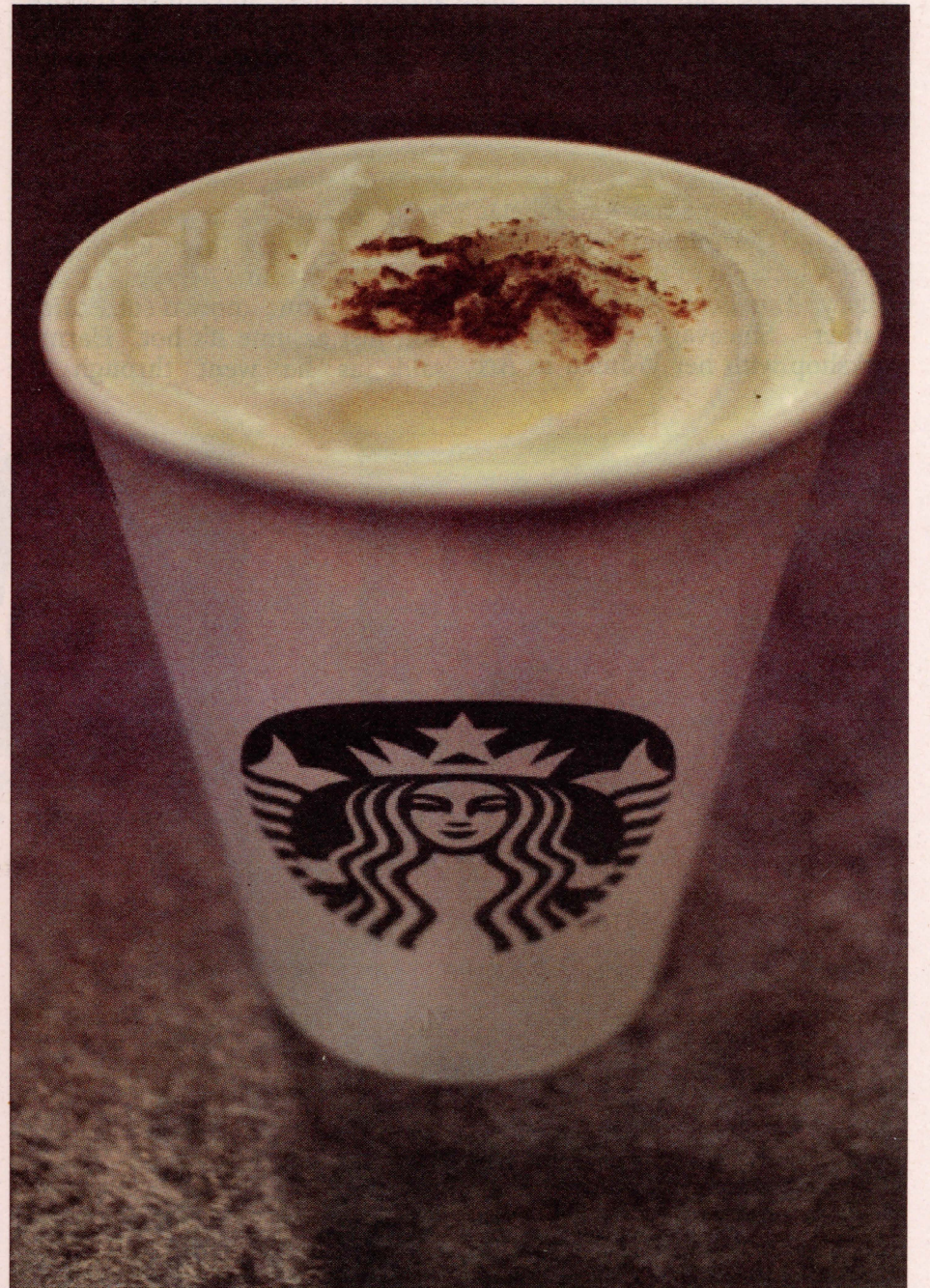
## ~Bakery~

Pumpkin Bread

Pumpkin Cheesecake Bar

Pumpkin Cream Cheese Muffin

Pumpkin Scone



The Beacon/Madison Kaminski

The Starbucks Pumpkin Spice Latte is comprised of Starbucks's signature espresso and steamed milk, highlighted with flavors of pumpkin, cinnamon, nutmeg and clove, topped with whipped cream and real pumpkin pie spices.



# Reps. from Keystone College bring glass blowing to Wilkes

By Cabrini Rudnicki  
News Editor

On Sept. 14 and 15, visiting artists from the Keystone College Mobile Glass Studio conducted hands-on glass blowing workshops.

Headed by Jim Harmon, the team of glass artists was hosted by Wilkes for a two day residency. On Sept. 15, the group also conducted a demonstration during the city's Art Walk.

The workshops took place in the parking lot of the Karambelas Media and Communication Center, the new location of the Sordoni Art Gallery. The head of the gallery, Heather Sincavage, hosted a workshop with her Women in Art

class.

"Overall, I wanted to provide exposure to Wilkes students of what is all involved in the craft and the art of glass blowing," said Sincavage.

"When you get a chance to actually make something that you never thought you'd be able to do, I think it gives you a newfound respect."

The students learned first-hand through instruction by Harmon and his cohorts, Brandon Smith and Mike Swanson. They had a chance to play around with liquified glass, heated to extreme degrees.

"If you don't know if something's hot, just assume it's hot," Harmon said, as he went through the

important safety precautions for the students. After being initially heated, the students each had about 45 seconds to play around with the glass blob with tools, creating shapes.

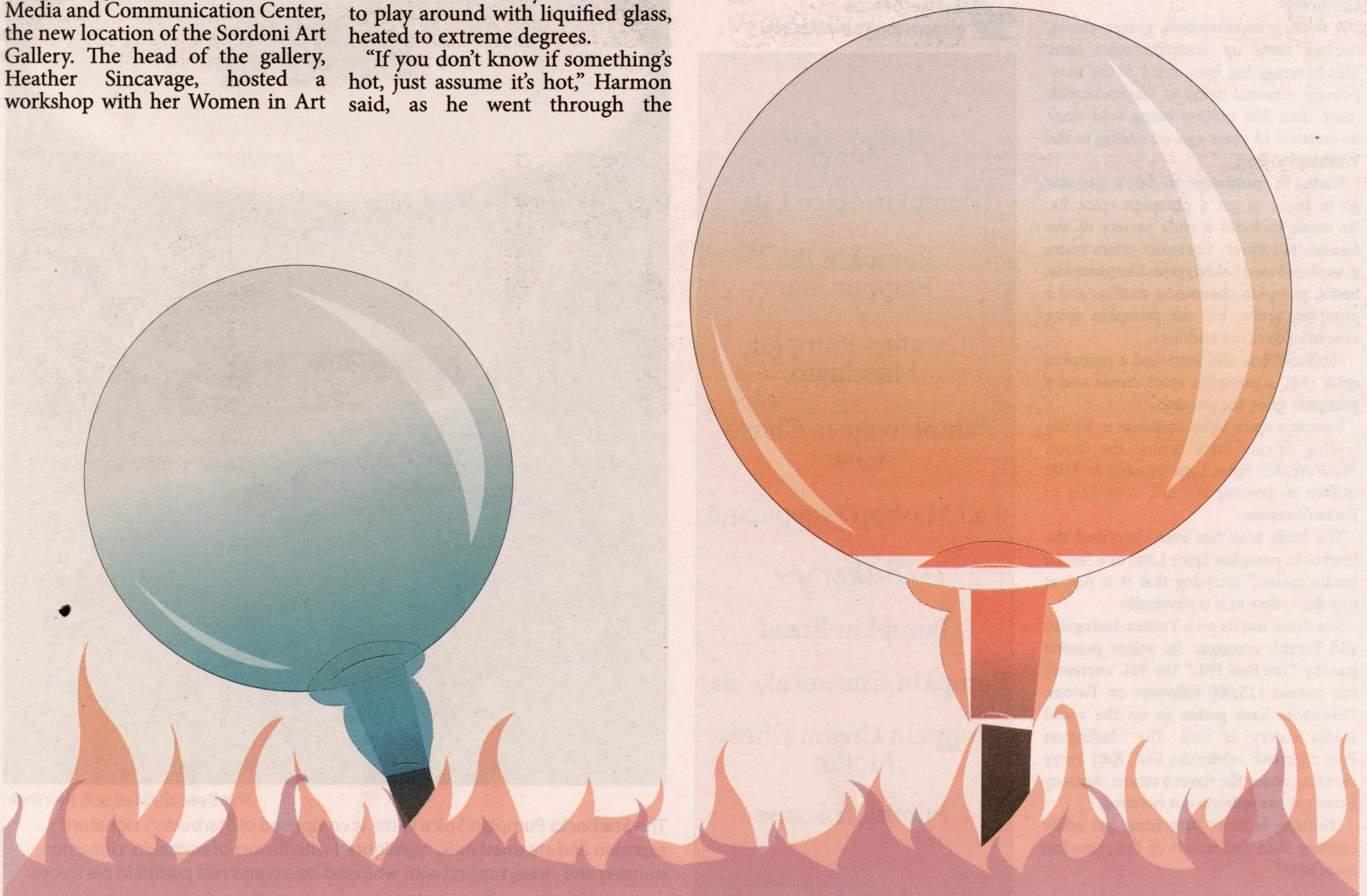
Although Harmon warned initially that the process was difficult, senior psychology major Lanai Galarza found it easier than she expected, but different than what she was used to.

"I've worked with glass before but it's different than working with

solid pieces of glass compared to working with molten-hot glass."

Brandon Smith changed majors to glass blowing at Tyler School of Art at Temple University after being exposed to just one day of class.

"When you get to college age, you start to put forth a real concentration towards different kinds of art, because you find deeper meaning in things. That's why all of you [the students in the workshop] are in college for specific things, because you found deeper meaning."

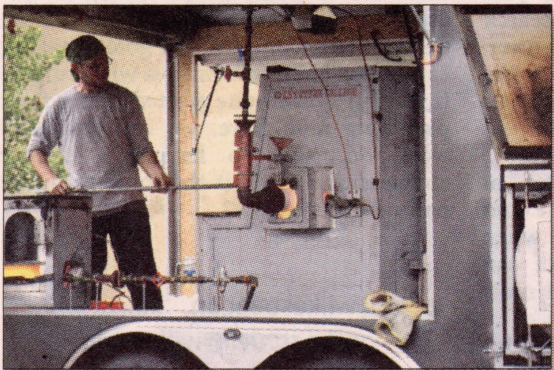






Brandon Smith heats up glass.

The Beacon/ Makenna Walsh



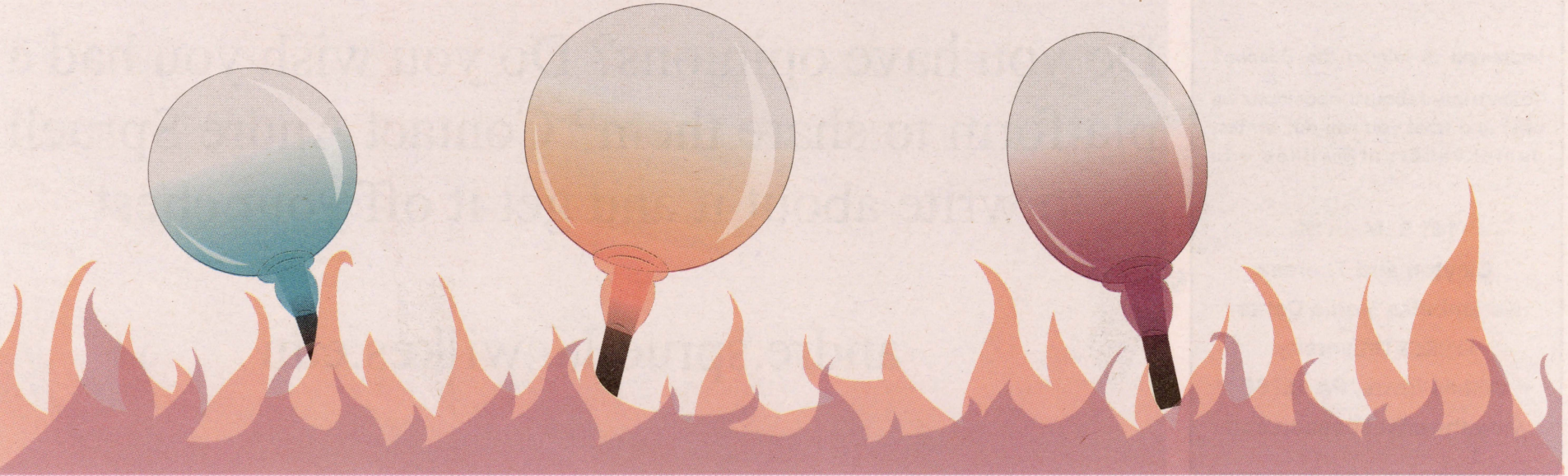
Mike Swanson heats up glass for the students to practice with.



Kayla Broschius gets some instruction in glass blowing.



Seth Turnage uses metal tweezers to form glass with the guidance of Mike Swanson.





# Opinion

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

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## The relationship between hurricanes and climate change

By Andre Spruell  
Opinion Editor

Two of the most devastating hurricanes occurring in the same month has caused many people to ask one simple question: How?

It has been well documented over the past month the devastation that has occurred in Houston because of the category 4 hurricane named Harvey, and the continuing destruction of category 5 hurricane named Irma that left Florida in its path of destruction and is now heading up to Charleston, South Carolina.

Before I dive into the numbers, hurricanes have five categories, with category 5 being the highest.

According to the National Hurricane System, the Saffir-Simpson Hurricane Wind Scale is the system used to put hurricanes into categories. In this system, categories 3 to 5 are considered major with category 3 winds gusting at 111-129 m.p.h., category 4 at 130-156 m.p.h. and category 5 at 157 m.p.h. or more.

Hurricane Irma's wind speed was recorded at over 180 m.p.h., clearly making it a category 5 and one of the most destructive hurricanes in U.S. history, according to CNN.

The damage that these two hurricanes have caused is not hard to realize through

all the videos and photos that have been posted all over the different platforms of social media like Facebook, Instagram and especially Twitter, which give first hand accounts about people living through the horrors of the damages caused.

The nation was put on notice because of the damage each hurricane left, but the bigger problem that has come about is the effect of climate change.

After seeing the devastation that two hurricanes have caused in such a short time, it forced me to realize that climate change is becoming a bigger issue than people need to start paying attention to.

You do not have to be a weather expert to realize that two destructive hurricanes occurring within such a short amount of time does not just happen by chance.

While hurricanes are a natural part of our climate system, recent research suggests that their destructive power, or intensity, has been growing since the 1970s, particularly in the North Atlantic region, according to the Union of Concerned Scientists.

The growing destructive power of future hurricanes only puts people and infrastructures in such danger that when the next hurricane strikes, people can do little to protect themselves and must surrender as victims.


In order to help limit the destructive

force of these natural disasters, we must start taking care of our environment, because we have the power to do so.

I think this is possible, because after a horrible disaster happens in this country, many Americans are so quick in lending out a helping hand to aid the rescue and relief efforts to those affected, which is great, but being able to help out potential future victims by helping prevent the destructive force of future hurricanes is another way to lend out a helping hand.

As Americans, when we need to react, we do a good job of coming together to help out those in need, but if we come together as a nation to prevent future natural disasters, that is an even better way to lend out a helping hand.

The biggest challenge with that is that there are so many people living in this country that realistically, it would be difficult to accomplish the goal of taking care of the environment as a whole at one time. But if everyone started doing their part here and there, we can gradually work our way to having a cleaner environment to limit the force of future natural disasters.

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Do you have opinions? Do you wish you had a platform to share them? Contact Andre Spruell to write about it and get it off your chest.

[andre.spruell@wilkes.edu](mailto:andre.spruell@wilkes.edu)



# Kevin Smith & the Mahoning Drive-In Movie Theater

By Nick Filipek

Asst. Opinion Editor

It was my 12th birthday when I unwrapped a DVD copy of "Clerks" and "Mallrats" a friend had given me. I honestly had never heard of them, but was told to have faith and give them a watch.

It turns out that the little bit of faith in watching those movies is what seems to have put me onto my life path.

The pair of these films were written and directed by a man named Kevin Smith, a New Jersey native like myself. These two movies are the first in what is now referred to by Kevin Smith fans as the "View Askewniverse".

View Askew Productions is the productions company that Kevin Smith, and longtime friend and partner, Scott Mosier set up after meeting in a Canadian film school.

Smith and Mosier would go on to add "Chasing Amy," "Dogma," "Jay and Silent Bob Strike Back" and, later on, "Clerks II" to the "Askewniverse," launching them into indie film stardom. What they did is not nearly as impressive as how they chose to do it, though.

From the start of production on "Clerks" in 1994, Smith has always done things in his own unique way. In order to bring his dream into reality, Smith had to take a huge leap to get the money necessary to start shooting the movie. Smith sold his comic book collection, but more drastically took out a number of credit cards to get a budget of \$27,575.

At the time, Smith worked in the convenience store that Clerks was set in, and he was making minimum wage. If he wasn't able to go on and sell the movie to Harvey Weinstein and Miramax Studios like he did, the interest alone on these cards would have crushed Kevin Smith by now.

It is that bold attitude that inspires me today to take all the risks that I have.

Kevin Smith still preaches the philosophy of "live a 'why not?' life," and insists that everyone take whatever shot it is that they see in front of them.

While watching a Canadian mini-series about hockey, Kevin picked up a piece of advice Wayne Gretzky's father, Walter Gretzky, had given him while learning to play hockey. "Don't go where the puck is, go where the puck is going," which Smith, and now myself, have taken to apply to everyday life.

On top of still breathing life into indie film, Smith co-hosts multiple podcasts from the podcast empire that he built in 2007, SmodCo. This has allowed me to listen to the words of wisdom from my spiritual guru on a regular basis, and affirmed the



The Beacon/Nick Filipek

A 'Silent Bob' look-alike (left) poses like the character in the movie next to Nick.

*Nick Filipek, The Beacon's resident movie buff and assistant opinion editor, will review movies each week. Want to hear about one in particular? Email Nick at: [nicholas.filipek@wilkes.edu](mailto:nicholas.filipek@wilkes.edu).*

fact that Kevin Smith really knows where the puck is going.

## Reviews:

**Clerks:** Released in 1994, on a shoestring budget, first time director Kevin Smith knocks it out of the park with "Clerks." The movie follows two prototypical slackers, Dante and Randall, during a normal day in their lives as clerks at a convenience store and video rental store.

The two complain about customers, talk about their love lives and just about anything else you and your friends talk about. That's

the best part about this movie for me, for once I saw people having conversations that sounded like the ones my friends and I had on an everyday basis, projected on screen. The movie is like a fine wine and gets better with time -- the more I learn about myself, and the world I live in, the funnier it becomes.

**Mallrats:** Kevin's "sophomore film" was a box office flop when it was released in 1995, but after its VHS release, it became an instant cult classic. Virgil Cardamome stated it perfectly in his interview: "It was that VHS tape we passed around in high

school."

Smith himself has stated multiple times that this is the flick that most people come up to him and say, "I love Mallrats, and it was my way into the 'askewniverse.'" This movie was so ahead of its time and deserves a second look from the bromance loving, comic book obsessed movie culture we live in today.

**Chasing Amy:** The story behind the making of "Chasing Amy" is one of my favorites out of the many that Kev tells. "Clerks" was a hit and "Mallrats" had just flopped, so Smith was in a sticky spot and wanted to bring this new vision to life, feeling he had something to make up for with "Mallrats." Smith was very set on how, and with whom, he wanted to make this movie, but the studio had other plans. Smith took a huge cut from his salary to make the flick with who he wrote it for rather than the big name stars the studio thought would help sell the movie upon release.

The film opened to critical acclaim and even won Kevin Smith, and one of the stars of the movie, Jason Lee, independent spirit awards for best screenplay and best supporting actor. It's a fantastic film that's a little heavier than all the rest, but stays on par with Smith's specific brand of heart and humor.

## Jay and Silent Bob Strike Back:

Matt Damon was surprisingly one of the first people to suggest that the two stoner buddies in the background get their own feature. Luckily, while signing the deal with Miramax all those years ago at the Sundance Film Festival for Clerks, Smith decided to cut those two characters out of the overall deal to sell the film, knowing he wanted them to show up in other projects he had in mind. Since then, the heterosexual life mates have become Indy pop-culture icons. They even have their own comic book store named after them, "Jay and Silent Bob's Secret Stash," located in Red Bank, New Jersey, which has even spawned its own television show coming into their 7th season on AMC.

In 2001, Smith listened and gave Jay and Bob their own road movie adventure which has endless "Easter eggs" to tie together Kevin's "Askewniverse," and is just plain fun to watch. Currently Smith is working on "Jay and Silent Bob: Reboot," which will have his beloved buddies come back to examine, and most likely mock, Hollywood's obsession with rebooting old properties.

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## Mahoning Drive-In theater interview: Champions of 35mm

### Kevin Smith, part II Continued from page 15

I'm not the only who Kevin Smith has inspired. Recently I was able to sit down with some other folks who Kev has helped find their way to living a "why not?" life.

Through the Facebook group "The World of Kevin Smith," I learned of a two night, four-film event called "Kevin Smith Fest III," held at The Mahoning Drive-In Theater in Lehighton.

I immediately knew I wanted to attend the event and meet the minds behind this fest. I was lucky enough to sit down with Virgil Cardamone, Matt McClanahan and Jeff Mattox, who are all partners at the Mahoning Drive-In Theater, and have hosted this event for the last three years.

Nicholas Filipek: If you could start off first with telling me some more information about the drive-in.

Virgil Cardamone: The Mahoney Drive-In theater has been running consistently since 1949, and was built in 1947. We have all original projection here with one of the largest cinemascope screens in the country, and most importantly we're one of the last drive-ins. In the heyday there were close to 4,000, now there's maybe about 300. When Matt and myself came into the fold here in 2014 our mission was to save this drive-in. With success here it's our new mission to save the drive-in culture.

We have reel to reel, where every 20 minutes Jeff has to physically switch out

the reels, so we kind of took that back and when we did that it let us work with private collectors, which is a really big thing for the model were going with.

I'm the film booker for this place and when I reached out to one of the studios they said "you're absolutely insane, there's no way you guys are going to be able to stand on the fact that you're going to have 35 millimeter, it's a dying medium. If you don't go digital you'll be dead in the water." So we really turned that on its head and made the fact that we show original prints in 35 mm our sell. People drive past other drive-ins to get to us because we're doing something unique in this whole entire country, in this whole entire film medium.

NF: So why Kevin Smith movies?

Jeff Mattox: I like it, I think in my opinion his older work is more appreciated so that's why I'm glad we're running the stuff that we're running.

Matt McClanahan: Virgil Loves Kevin Smith to an unknown end and it was always a dream of his to put on that show. So every season he gets to live his dreams on the big screen of his favorite filmmaker. We love to celebrate independent and local filmmakers, and Kevin Smith is very much a champion of that.

VC: He's the guy who lights the fire in my belly and I think for a lot of creatives he's the guy who's been in my ear since high school, literally in my ear with all his podcasts and movies and everything else. He made me want to become a filmmaker, but I think the thing I love him most for is that drive. He never has this settle, it's always "go go go go go."



Courtesy of Mahoning Drive-In

go." If you have an opening, go through it. That's definitely what he is to me, to many he is a hero, and to me he is my hero. The hope is that we will eventually get him here.

NF: How does this compare to the last two events?

JM: I think it's grown a little bit and I think it is going to keep on growing.

MM: Overall with the season we are growing. As a whole we are getting an uptick in people being aware of the theater, aware of our mission, and there's a blooming appreciation for 35 exhibitions of classic films and drive-ins is general. There's not many of these things left and we definitely have a special one here, it's not only a theater, it's a bit of a museum. We are very much of the mindset of restore and preserve, we keep rooted in the past because that's what's most important, the history.

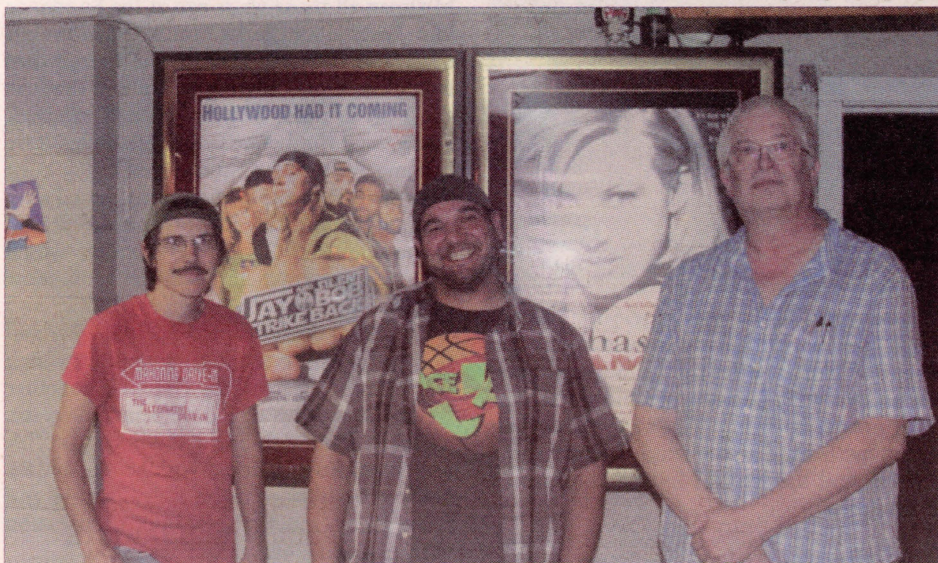
NF: Out of the four movies you played for Kevin Smith Fest III, what's your favorite?

JM: Clerks.

MM: Clerks.

VC: Mallrats.

It was an absolute pleasure to sit down with them and get to talk for a while. You can tell all three of them really loved film and are incredibly passionate about the theater they obviously love so much. At the end, Virgil really summed it up perfectly, "That's the most important thing to Matt, Jeff and I, is that not only this place stays alive but the idea of drive-ins for the next generations to get passed along to."



The Beacon/Nick Filipek

Matt McClanahan (left), Virgil Cardamone (center) and Jeff Mattox (right), the three partners securing the future of drive-in theater culture.



Poster art by Retro Release Video



# Meet the Majors

## This week's major: Spanish

Interviews and photos

by

Andre Spruell

Opinion Editor

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

Alyssa Schuler  
Senior

I decided to major in Spanish because I fell in love with the language in high school. Needing to be a full time student, I decided that Spanish was a great choice.

Going out into the medical field, I feel it's beneficial to know a second language, especially Spanish, since it's so widely spoken and it will help set me apart from other nurses when I start job searching.



Madison Becker  
Junior

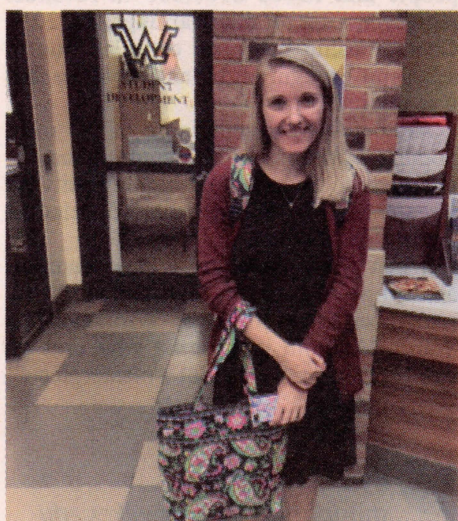
In the future, being able to speak a second language is going to give me a lot of opportunities within the workforce. The population of Spanish speakers is increasing, and I have the ability to communicate with them. It has already helped me in many scenarios at work. Besides having this skill within the workforce, I think that it helps me in being more aware of other cultures throughout the world.



Sierra Musa  
Junior

I decided to major in Spanish because I love the language and wanted to show others how important it is in today's world.

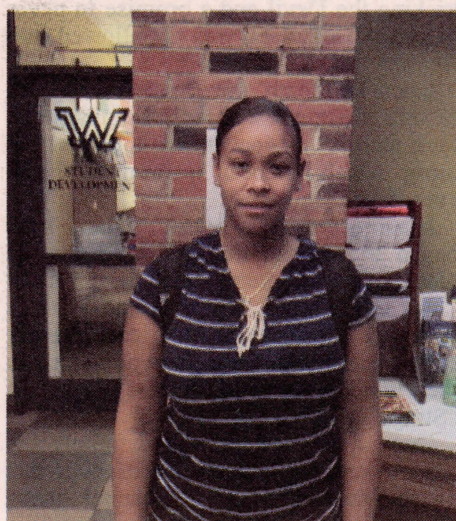
Having Spanish as a major will give me the edge that is vital in today's job market. Being bilingual will help me to teach my future students to the best of my ability and share with them what the language has to offer.



Ana Castillo  
Senior

I decided to major in Spanish so I could be able to translate in a healthcare facility.

Being a Spanish major would help me out in the future by being able to use the correct grammar, pronunciation, and words to communicate with people who have difficulty communicating because of a language barrier.





# Student reflects on Alzheimer's Awareness Month

By MaKenna Walsh  
Opinion Writer

More than 5.5 million Americans are living with Alzheimer's disease, according to the Alzheimer's Association. To better visualize the amount of people who are impacted, imagine the entire undergraduate student enrollment at Wilkes University, (approximately 2,600), and multiply that by over two thousand.

Alzheimer's is perhaps one of the most frustrating diseases, not only for those who have the disease, but also for their family, friends and loved ones.

The rapid, degenerative nature of the disease is part of the reason why it's such a frustrating illness, not to mention the fact that there are currently no available treatments to stop the progression.

This disease "is officially listed as the sixth-leading cause of death in the United States, the Alzheimer's Association states. It is common for people to shrug off forgetfulness and occasional memory loss due to the belief that memory loss as a natural part of aging.

The truth is, memory loss that is associated

with Alzheimer's is much bigger than forgetting a name or phone number. It gets worse when someone can't recognize their own home, or one of their best childhood friends.

A close family friend of mine, known as Bunny, is currently in the late-stage of Alzheimer's. She can no longer recognize her own family. From what I can remember, Bunny was once a grandmother-type figure to everyone.

Now, Bunny cannot form a coherent sentence, nor does she have the ability to perform every-day tasks independently.

Unfortunately, her family was faced with difficult decisions after she was diagnosed.

During the early stages, families usually choose to provide in-home care for their loved ones so that they can feel comfortable with their surroundings and enjoy their independence.

As the illness progresses, brain cells are failing and eventually, dying. The unfortunate truth is that a cure has not yet been discovered, nor are there any guaranteed ways to prevent the disease.

Although there has been extensive research done, the only results so far are

treatments and medications that are only capable of slowing down the worsening of the symptoms or 'temporarily' improving their quality of life.

September is World Alzheimer's month. More specifically, Sept. 21 is World Alzheimer's Day, according to the Fisher Center for Alzheimer's Research Foundation. World Alzheimer's Month is an international campaign; every September the goal is to raise awareness and fight the stigma associated with the disease.

Alzheimer's Awareness Month is celebrated during the whole month of November.

Bunny's story has inspired many of her loved ones, including me, to create a team and to raise money and awareness for the annual Walk to End Alzheimer's. The walk is run by non-profit Alzheimer's Association.

We have participated in the walk for the past several years with the team name, "Bouncing for Bunny." This year there is a walk being held on Saturday, Oct. 7 at the local PNC Field.

The support and energy at the event is unexplainable. Upon signing in, you are greeted by beautiful souls who not only


donate money toward finding a cure, they believe it is possible.

The walk was originally called the Memory Walk, which began in 1989. The Memory Walk started with only 1,249 participants who raised a total of \$149,000. By 2015 there were more than 50,000 teams who raised more than \$75 million.

The money that is raised for the walk is split up into three areas: 79 percent goes toward providing care and support to all those who are affected by or facing Alzheimer's. Fifteen percent of the money raised is used for fundraising and the remaining six percent is used for recruiting and training more advocates to continue spreading the word, the Alzheimer's Association says.

Chances are, someone who reads this will know someone who is diagnosed with Alzheimer's. It is a disease that changes lives and impacts more than just the person with the disease.

September is World Alzheimer's month and November is Alzheimer's Awareness month. Believe in the cure and spread the word!

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makenna.walsh@wilkes.edu

## Welcome the season of sweaters, apples, and pumpkin everything

By Shannon O'Connor  
Opinion Writer

It's that time of year again where the streets look like they're covered in pencil shavings and everyone has a jack-o-lantern glow. That's right, the times are changing as we wave good-bye to summer and give a big welcome to autumn.

The season officially begins on Sept. 22 when the fall equinox takes place. In other words, it's the day when everything you eat, drink and smell must be pumpkin.

Traditions, like the pumpkin spice lattes, are everywhere you look when it comes to this marvelous time of year. These traditions include things such as apple picking, hay rides, football games, pumpkin cravings, and of course, the brisk, chilly weather.

Let's break down some of these autumn traditions.

First up, the pumpkin spice latte. The signature drink made its debut in 2003 by Starbucks Coffee. According to Huffington Post writer Julie R. Thomson, this latte almost never made its way onto the menu. The pumpkin spice latte, which didn't use real pumpkin until 2015, couldn't hold up to other flavors such as chocolate caramel and cinnamon spice.

However, once it hit the market, after changing the flavors around a bit, it sold like hotcakes. Fourteen years later, and this latte has become synonymous with the fall season. As of 2016, Americans spend about \$500 million on pumpkin related products.

The next tradition is one people of all ages love: carving pumpkins.

This story originates in Ireland with the tale of "Stingy Jack." After a lifetime of tricking the Devil and a promise to never be put in Hell, Jack was not allowed into Heaven.

Upon his death, the Devil forced Jack to walk the night with only burning coal. Jack placed this coal into a hollowed out turnip which has been roaming the Earth ever since.

History.com explains, "The Irish began to refer to this ghostly figure as "Jack of the Lantern," and then, simply "Jack O'Lantern." The Irish and Scottish brought the tradition to America of placing carved turnips, potatoes, and pumpkins in their windows to ward off the evil spirit of "Stingy Jack."


One of the newest, and definitely the most interesting, autumn traditions is that of the famous Science Channel show, "Pumpkin Chuckin."

This three-day festival started out in 1986 in Bridgeville, Delaware. This event is the opportunity of the year for "backyard engineers" to defy the laws of pumpkin physics.

Punkinchuckin.com states the World Championship Punkin Chunkin event is a non-profit association that is run completely by volunteers. In 2016, the World Championship brought in 20,000 people and raised \$100,000 in revenue. However, after all their earnings, the 2017 Championship has been canceled due to a lawsuit brought on by an employee that was injured.

After going through some of the most popular traditions of the autumn season, get ready to trade in your bathing suits for sweaters and football jerseys and welcome the season of change.

When you're walking around campus, admiring all the beauty around you, remember these words by William Allen Ward: "Autumn is an artist who uses an oak leaf on which to paint a masterpiece."

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Have an  
opinion  
you'd like to  
share?

Email us!



# Sports

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

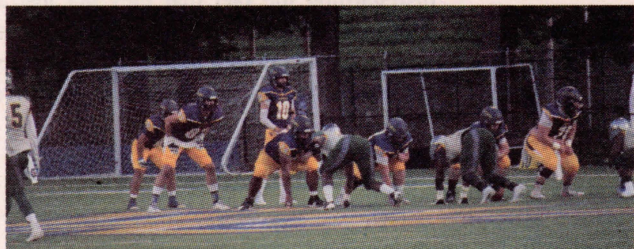
## Rippeon's first collegiate start spoiled by Delaware Valley

By Luke Modrovsky  
Sports Editor

*Editor's note: Danny Van Brunt contributed to this story.*

Colonel Football dropped a 34-14 decision to No. 12 Delaware Valley under the lights on Friday night at Schmidt Stadium. Wilkes could not rally after trailing 19-14 for most of the fourth quarter.

In what was arguably their best all-around performance of the season, the Colonels had the nationally ranked Aggies, but could not secure a lead in the contest. Back-to-back turnovers plagued the Wilkes offense in a period of just three minutes of game time.



Wade Rippeon (10) stands in the shotgun before receiving the snap.

The Aggies were able to capitalize on both turnovers to stomp out a Colonel comeback.

A Jordan Stiles interception brought the Colonel faithful to their feet as Wilkes took control of the football with 6:16 remaining in regulation. Stiles' interception would be spoiled by a Wade Rippeon lone interception, thrown with 5:17 to play. Delaware Valley's Shawn Miller traveled 31 yards before crossing the goal line for the interception return touchdown.

By the time the Ryan Bowman (#70) blocks the extra clock ticked to 3:51, point of Delaware Valley's Pat Moran. Delaware Valley had posted two scores to put the game out of reach. These two Aggie touchdowns made the final score look lopsided, when in reality, freshman Wade Rippeon's first collegiate start was solid.

While trailing 34-14, a late Wilkes push was halted after back-to-back incomplete passes stalled the drive.

With less than eight minutes to go before the half, a pair of Devauntay Ellis rushes, along with a Dashawn Darden pass to Ryan Norton. The Aggies found themselves with first and goal on the Colonel five-yard line. A holding call against the Colonels brought Delaware Valley's chance of scoring even higher after the penalty moved the ball to the Wilkes two-yard line.

Devauntay Ellis gained one yard before senior Jacob Brook stripped the football. Isaiah Robinson

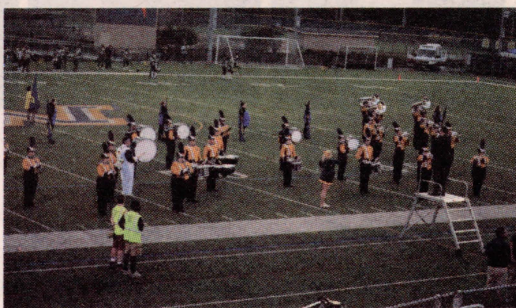
fell on the ball for Wilkes touchback. The Colonels would fumble themselves, killing the chance for any points off of the turnover.

Rippeon passed for 160 yards on 23-of-37 passing and two touchdowns. Junior Jeff Steeber was Rippeon's most reliable receiver with six catches for 61 yards and one trip to the end zone.

The other signal caller on the field, but for Delaware

Valley was a dual-threat and proved it. Darden threw for 126 yards and two scores while also keeping the ball 13 times for 92 yards and another trip across the goal line.

The running threat for Wilkes, sophomore



The Beacon/Nicole Gaetani  
The Marching Colonels perform prior to Friday night's game.

Shane Deemer, paced the Colonels running game with 18 touches for 52 yards.

One missing target, however, was preseason All-American Garrett Armstrong. Facing numerous double and triple coverages, Armstrong was held to very little yardage with five

catches for 27 yards. The Aggies even literally held Armstrong on 4th and 10 early in the second quarter, giving the Colonels new life.

On the defensive side of the football, Lukas Wood led the tackling department with 17 tackles. Robinson added 14 of his own, including 2.5 tackles-for-loss. Junior Michael Murphy also tacked on 11 tackles and a half sack.

Both teams took care of the football for the early portion of the game, but Wilkes and Delaware Valley notched one interception and one fumble lost each.



Greg Albertson (3) looks upfield as Jeff Steeber (18) leads in blocking.

The Colonels fell to 0-3 overall and 0-2 within the MAC before traveling to Dallas for another MAC matchup with Misericordia. Kickoff is scheduled for 1:00 P.M.

Both teams will be seeking their first victory of the season. The Cougars have dropped their first three games by no closer than a 13 point margin.

Delaware Valley 34, Wilkes 14  
Delaware Valley 6'7"6"15—'34  
Wilkes 0'7"7"0—'14

### First quarter

DEL — Marquis Ellis 9 pass from Dashawn Darden (Pat Moran kick blocked), 5:11

### Second quarter

DEL — Dan Allen 11 pass from Darden (Moran kick), 11:52

WIL — Aaron Coyne 11 pass from Wade Rippeon (Mike Hauck kick), 00:44

### Third quarter

DEL — Darden 7 run (Moran kick failed), 5:27

WIL — Jeff Steeber 11 pass from Rippeon (Hauck kick), 1:22

### Fourth quarter

DEL — Shawn Miller 31 interception (Devauntay Ellis pass), 5:17

DEL — Ellis 3 run (Moran kick), 3:56

### Team statistics D'W

First downs 22-19

Rushes-yards 40-206 35-101

Passing yards 126-160

Total yards 319-224

Passing 16-30-1 23-37-1

Sacked-yards lost 3-23 1-5

Punts-avg. 4-50 2-1

Penalties-yards 7-76 7-43

### INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

**RUSHING** — Delaware Valley, Darden 12-92, Ellis 16-70, Khalil Roane 6-16, LaQuille Nesbitt 3-9, Quadir Strothers 1-4, Mario Nigro 1-2. Wilkes,

**PASSING** — Delaware Valley, Darden 16-30-1-126. Wilkes, Rippeon 23-27-3-160.

**RECEIVING** — Delaware Valley, Ellis 6-59, Allen 2-29, John Graham 1-12, Ryan Norton 1-10, Nesbitt 3-6, Roane 1-5, Ellis 1-3, Aaron Nelson 1-2. Wilkes, Steeber 6-61, Coyne 4-32, Garrett Armstrong 5-27, Zach Bogoly 2-24, Sincere Williams 1-8, Greg Albertson 2-7, Shane Deemer 2-4.

**INTERCEPTIONS** — Delaware Valley, Darden 1. Wilkes, Rippeon 1.

**MISSED FGs** — None.

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# Multi-sport athletes face numerous challenges on campus

By Ashton Gyenizs  
Asst. Sports Editor

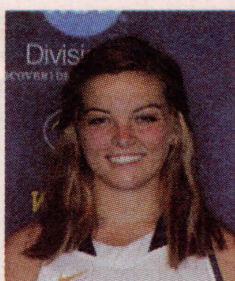
*Editor's note: Amber Grohowski is a member of the Beacon staff.*

With no form of incentive to participate in athletics, it can be argued that NCAA Division III athletes are the most committed across all divisions. This could be said even more so for multi-sport athletes.

Student athletes face many struggles, from time management and balancing athletics with academics, to dealing with injuries. The group of multi-sport athletes here at Wilkes University all face those same things, but for multiple seasons. With less breaks, these students are forced to adjust their lives in order to stay committed to the sports they love.

The amount of time a student athlete has to commit to one sport, let alone two, is immense and can seriously impact time management. It can really take away from free time that can be used on academics.

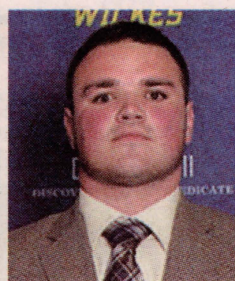
"I actually like playing multiple sports because it keeps me on track with my time management," said Jacob Kadis, junior on the men's lacrosse and football team. "Having limited free time requires me to



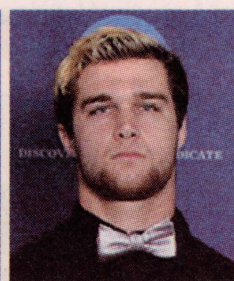
Grohowski  
Field Hockey  
Basketball



Courtesy of Wilkes Athletics  
Evans  
Football  
Basketball



Brook  
Football  
Wrestling



Kadis  
Football  
Lacrosse

really dial into my academics, and hasn't affected my studies."

Some multi-sport student athletes prefer that they are kept busy throughout the academic year by sports. It keeps them on task and allows them to focus on what is important, as opposed to wasting time.

"I personally like being kept busy because it helps me get my work done," said Amber Grohowski, sophomore field hockey and basketball player. "I would normally procrastinate and wait last minute to do everything, but by playing the two sports I have to schedule everything around

practices, meetings, and games, so it has to get done in the time slots I make for schoolwork."

Student athletes who compete on multiple sports teams also battle with the lack of an off season. After one athletic season ends, it's right into the next. There's no time to recover or recuperate.

If an athlete gets banged up during football season in the fall, it is right back to the grind when winter rolls around for wrestling or basketball. Less time to recover from injuries can keep that athlete from getting back to one hundred percent


health.

"Going right from football to basketball and then spring football after is tough, especially with any lingering injuries, as you don't have time off to recover," said Casey Evans, senior on the Wilkes football and basketball teams.

The vast majority of student athletes at Wilkes only play one sport. The few that are multi-sport athletes get the same recognition as their teammate who is only a member of one team.

"I don't think that I should get more recognition. I could care less if everyone knew that I was a multi-sport athlete or not. I'm just being myself," said fifth year student Jake Brook, a three year multi-sport athlete for the football and wrestling teams at Wilkes.

These student athletes chose to play multiple sports while both accepting and disregarding the fact that they get just as much respect and acknowledgement as the other athletes on their teams. To them, they are just participating in the sports they love.

 @wilkesbeacon  
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## Wilkes Fall Sports Schedules

### Field Hockey

x-9/2 vs. Susquehanna, L 3-4/OT  
x-9/3 vs. Ithaca, L 1-2  
9/6 vs. Marywood, W 4-3/OT  
9/9 @ Arcadia, L 2-5  
9/13 vs. Keystone, W 4-0  
9/18 vs. Alvernia, 12:00 P.M.  
9/19 vs. Moravian, 7:00 P.M.  
\*9/23 @ Eastern, 12:00 P.M.  
9/26 @ U. of Scranton, 7:00 P.M.  
\*9/30 @ FDU-Florham, 11:00 A.M.  
10/4 vs. Elizabethtown, 7:00 P.M.  
\*10/7 vs. Desales, 5:00 P.M.  
10/11 @ Widener, 7:00 P.M.  
\*10/14 vs. Manhattanville, 12:00 P.M.  
\*10/18 @ King's, 7:00 P.M.  
\*10/21 vs. Del. Valley, 11:30 A.M.  
\*10/26 vs. Misericordia, 7:00 P.M.  
\*MAC Freedom  
x-Connie Harnum Classic (4th place)  
**Record: 2-3 (MAC-F 0-0)**  
Home games @ Schmidt Stadium

### Football

9/2 @ Muhlenberg, L 19-62  
\*9/9 vs. Lebanon Valley, L 0-36  
\*9/15 vs. Delaware Valley, L 14-34  
\*9/23 @ Misericordia, 1:00 P.M.  
\*9/30 @ Lycoming, 1:00 P.M.  
\*x-10/7 vs. Widener, 1:00 P.M.  
\*10/21 @ FDU-Florham, 1:00 P.M.  
\*10/28 @ Albright, 1:00 P.M.  
\*11/4 vs. Stevenson, 12:00 P.M.  
\*y-11/11 @ King's, 12:00 P.M.  
\*MAC  
x-Homecoming  
y-Mayor's Cup  
**Record: 0-3 (MAC 0-2)**  
Home games @ Schmidt Stadium

### Men's Soccer

9/1 vs. PSU-Berks, W 3-2  
9/3 vs. Marywood, L 0-1  
9/5 @ Valley Forge, W 5-0  
9/9 @ Moravian, L 0-1  
9/14 @ Summit, L 0-2  
9/16 @ Lebanon Valley, L 0-4  
9/20 vs. Susquehanna, 7:00 P.M.  
9/23 vs. Stevenson, 3:30 P.M.  
9/27 @ U. of Scranton, 7:00 P.M.  
\*9/30 @ Delaware Valley, 2:30 P.M.  
10/4 vs. Lancaster Bible, 4:00 P.M.  
\*10/7 vs. FDU-Florham, 7:00 P.M.  
\*10/11 vs. King's, 7:00 P.M.  
\*10/14 @ Desales, 3:00 P.M.  
\*10/17 @ Misericordia, 7:00 P.M.  
\*10/21 vs. Eastern, 2:00 P.M.  
10/25 vs. Penn College, 7:00 P.M.  
\*10/28 @ Manhattanville, 3:30 P.M.  
\*MAC Freedom  
**Record: 2-4 (MAC-Free. 0-0)**  
Home matches @ Schmidt Stadium

### Women's Soccer

9/1 vs. PSU-Berks, T 1-1/2OT  
9/4 vs. Muhlenberg, W 2-1  
9/9 @ Marywood, W 5-3  
9/13 vs. William Patterson, W 1-0  
9/16 vs. Penn College, W 3-0  
9/20 @ Susquehanna, 7:00 P.M.  
9/23 vs. Arcadia, 1:00 P.M.  
9/26 @ U. of Scranton, 4:30 P.M.  
\*9/29 @ Delaware Valley, 7:00 P.M.  
10/3 @ Stockton, 5:00 P.M.  
\*10/6 vs. FDU-Florham, 7:00 P.M.  
\*10/10 vs. King's, 4:30 P.M.  
\*10/14 @ Desales, 1:00 P.M.  
\*10/18 @ Misericordia, 6:30 P.M.  
\*10/21 vs. Eastern, 4:30 P.M.  
10/24 @ SUNY-Cortland, 7:00 P.M.  
\*10/28 @ Manhattanville, 1:00 P.M.  
\*MAC Freedom  
**Record: 4-0-1 (MAC-Free. 0-0)**  
Home matches @ Schmidt Stadium





# Top five 'can't miss' Colonel sporting events each year

By Luke Modrovsky  
Sports Editor

**5. Friday Night Lights (Football):** Here's a newer tradition at Wilkes. There is nothing better than a game under the lights. While Wilkes holds a 1-2 record on Friday nights at home, all three games were competitive creating a fresh level of excitement.

2017 date: 7 p.m. Sept. 15. (Loss 14-34)

**4. Softball vs. Manhattanville:** Sure this year's addition is a road trip, but it's a road trip you do not want to miss. What will mostly line up as a pivotal playoff matchup in MAC Freedom play, it's a huge matchup for Head Coach Sarah Leavenworth's young, but talented team.

2018 date: 1 p.m. April 14 (doubleheader)

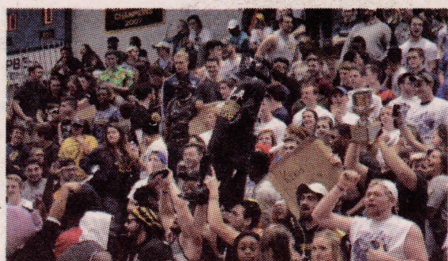
**3. Women's Soccer vs. DeSales:** Here's a road matchup that is worth spending money on gas instead of Frank's Pizza. Go spend the day in Center Valley, Pa. and watch your Lady Colonels exact revenge on their 1-0 loss in last year's MAC Freedom semi-finals.

"It's a tough matchup every year. My guess, they'll play in another MAC Freedom playoff

matchup again this year," O'Hara said.

2017 date: 1 p.m. Oct. 14.

**2. Men's and Women's Basketball vs. King's:** Here's the basketball doubleheader you do not want to miss. "In past years, it's been our last home game of the season. Typically, that's also Senior Day. That's our huge rivalry. It's usually a decent matchup for us. It's a good game for us. Something



Beacon Archives  
2015 home basketball game vs. King's

we look forward to every year," Wilkes Student-Athlete Advisory Committee President Sarah O'Hara said. O'Hara is also president of the Middle Atlantic Conference's SAAC. Go spend a Saturday afternoon with a rowdy student section in the Marts Center. Tell Head Coach Izzi Metz that I sent you.

2018 date: 3 p.m. Jan. 20.

**1. Mayor's Cup (Football vs. King's):** No matter what year, the Mayor's Cup Trophy matchup is always surrounded by incredible intrigue and hype. Wilkes currently holds a 21-9 advantage in the overall series and a 14-6 lead in Mayor's Cup games since it first began in 1996.

## Colonel athletics in brief

### Sept. 13

**FH:** Freshman Ali Dunn scores twice in the second half as the Lady Colonels defeat Keystone College. In a game tied at the half, Dunn's two goals, along with junior Haley Gayoski (once) and freshman Zoe Stepanski made the difference in the 5-0 victory.

**WSOC:** Senior Micaela Oliverio's early second half goal proved to be the difference in the game as the Colonels went on to defeat William Paterson 1-0. Junior goalkeeper Courtney Stanley also led the way as she recorded her first career shutout.

**WVB:** Lady Colonels fall to Eastern 3-1 in their MAC Freedom opener. Wilkes dropped the first two sets, but was able to take the last set to prevent the sweep. It was the first time since 2014 that Eastern University had dropped a set in MAC Freedom play.

### Sept. 14

**MSOC:** Wilkes fails to capitalize on outshooting Clarks Summit 26-7 and having the advantage in shots-on-goal 12-2, as they are shutout, 2-0. Freshman Danny McGinley led the Colonels with six total shot attempts.

### Sept. 15

**FB:** Delaware Valley broke open a five point game to defeat the Colonels 34-14 in Friday night football action. In his first collegiate start, Freshman Wade Rippeon threw for 160 yards on 23-of-37 passing, including two scores. Shane Deemer led the Colonel rushing attack with 18 carries for 52 yards.

### Sept. 16

**MTEN:** In their first action of the season, the Colonels swept both Keystone and Messiah. Messiah is the defending champion of the Commonwealth side of the Middle Atlantic Conference.

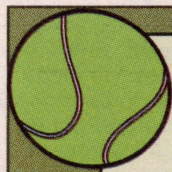
**WTEN:** The Lady Colonels swept Messiah in a battle of two defending conference title winners. Messiah proved to be a challenge, however; they were not swept in any of their individual matches.

**FH:** Junior Haley Gayoski's game-tying goal would not be enough as the Lady Colonels fall 4-1 to Alvernia. Senior Marissa Surdy assisted Gayoski's goal in the loss.

**WVB:** The Lady Colonels enjoyed two victories against Immaculata and Penn State-Harrisburg. In the match against Immaculata, the Lady Colonels rallied behind Jamey Mikovich (14 kills), Alexis Morgan (30 assists), Kayley Schinski (three blocks) and Juliet Betke (25 digs-career high) in the straight set victory. Wilkes also defeated PSU-Harrisburg in a five-set match behind the play of Jamey Mikovich (17 kills), Michele Natale (4 blocks), Alexis Morgan (42 assists) and Juliet Betke (17 digs).

**WSOC:** Lauren Esser and Ema Sabovic paced the Lady Colonels offense scoring one goal each. Esser also provided the assist in Sabovic's goal in the 3-0 victory against Penn College.

**MSOC:** Lebanon Valley scores four unanswered goals as they pitch a 4-0 shutout. The Flying Dutchmen found the back of the net in the 34th, 53rd (twice) and 81st minute.



## Wilkes Fall Sports Schedules

### Men's Tennis

9/16 vs. Keystone, W 9-0  
vs. Messiah, W9-0  
9/16 & 9/17 @ Bloomsburg Tourney  
9/29-10/2 @ ITA Regionals  
9/30 vs. Albright, 11:00 A.M.  
vs. Penn College, 4:00 P.M.  
10/21 & 10/22 @ MAC  
Individual Tournament  
(@ Ralston Athletic Complex)  
**Record: 2-0**

### Women's Tennis

9/16 vs. Messiah, W 9-0  
9/22-9/25 @ ITA Regionals  
9/23 & 9/24 @ Bloomsburg Tourney  
9/30 vs. Albright, 11:00 A.M.  
vs. Penn College, 4:00 P.M.  
10/3 @ U. of Scranton, 4:00 P.M.  
10/14 & 10/15 @ MAC  
Individual Tournament  
(@ Ralston Athletic Complex)  
Home matches @ Ralston Athletic Complex  
**Record: 1-0**

### Cross Country (Men and Women)

9/1 @ Misericordia Invite (7th place)  
9/9 @ Dutch. Invite (8th place)  
9/23 @ Aggie Open  
9/30 @ Dickinson Short-Long Invite  
10/7 @ Desales Invitational  
10/14 @ Gettysburg Invitational  
10/28 @ MAC Championships  
(Delaware Valley)  
11/11 @ NCAA Mideast Regional,  
(Newville, PA)

Results as of 9/17

### Women's Volleyball

x-9/2 vs. Widener, L 0-3  
vs. Bridgewater, L 0-3  
x-9/3 vs. Wesley, L 1-3  
vs. Simpson, L 0-3  
9/7 vs. Summit, W 3-1  
9/9 vs. Haverford, L 0-3  
vs. PSU-Berks, W 3-0  
\*9/13 vs. Eastern, L 1-3  
9/16 vs. Immaculata, W 3-0  
vs. PSU-Harrisburg, W 3-2  
\*9/19 @ Manhattanville, 7:00 P.M.  
9/21 @ Moravian, 7:00 P.M.  
9/23 vs. Wesley, 1:00 P.M.  
@ Rutgers-Camden, 3:00 P.M.  
\*9/27 vs. FDU-Florham, 7:00 P.M.  
9/30 vs. PSU-Brandywine, 3:00 P.M.  
@ PSU-Altoona, 5:00 P.M.  
\*10/3 @ King's, 7:00 P.M.  
10/5 vs. Lancaster Bible, 7:00 P.M.

### Women's Volleyball (cont'd)

10/7 vs. Lebanon Valley, 10:00 A.M.  
vs. Centenary, 2:00 P.M.  
10/9 vs. Marywood, 7:00 P.M.  
\*10/11 vs. Desales, 7:00 P.M.  
\*10/17 @ Delaware Valley, 7:00 P.M.  
y-10/20 vs. Morrisville State, 4:00 P.M.  
y-vs. Catholic Uni. of America, 6:00 P.M.  
y-10/21 vs. Kean, 10:00 A.M.  
y-vs. Moravian, 2:00 P.M.  
\*10/25 vs. Misericordia, 7:00 P.M.  
10/28 vs. Rutgers-Camden 11:00 A.M.  
vs. Utica, 3:00 P.M.  
\*MAC Freedom  
x- Puerto Rico Clasico  
y-Colonel Clash Tournament  
Home matches @ Marts Center  
**Record: 4-6 (MAC-F 0-1)**

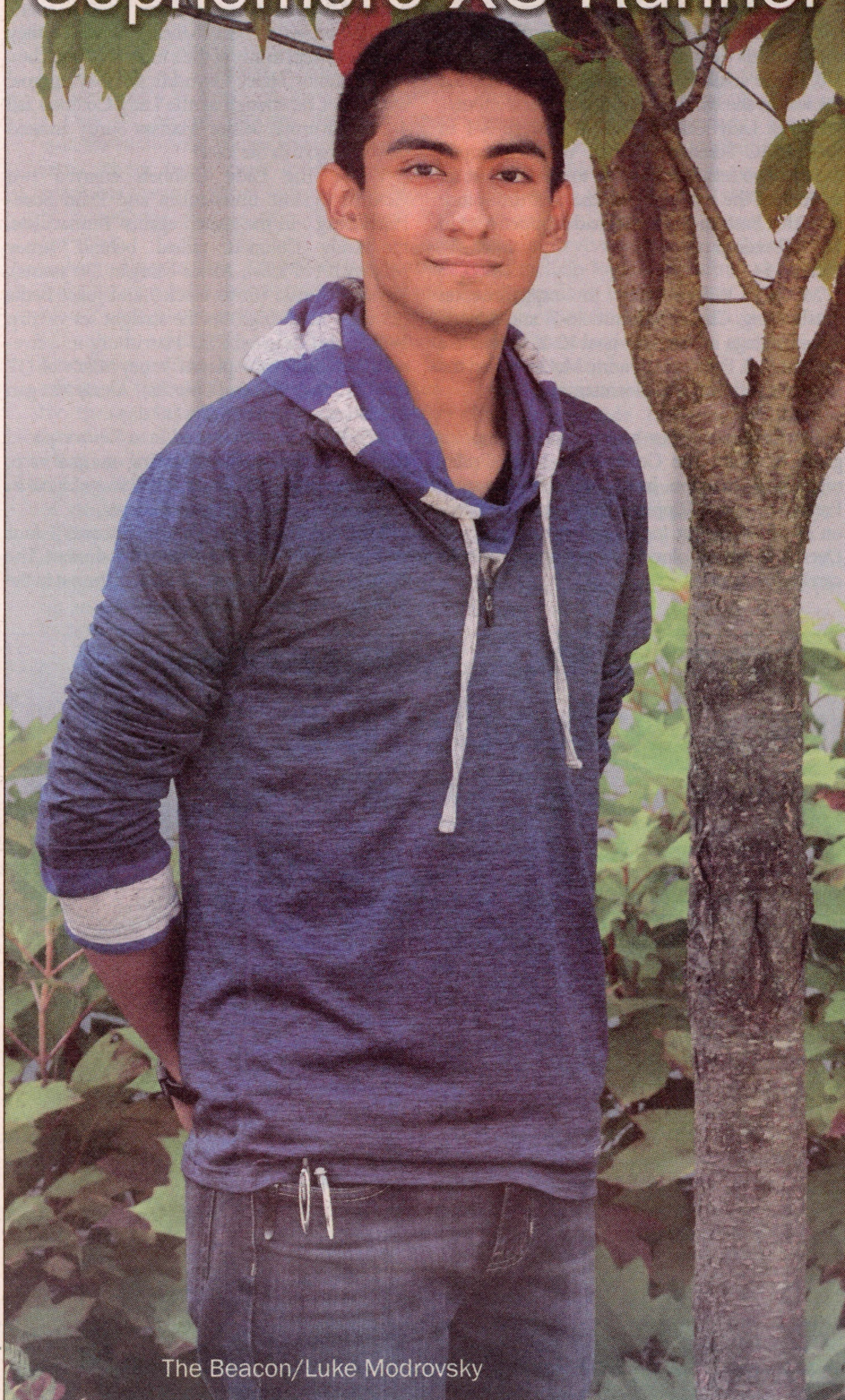




Getting to know...

# Franco Balbuena

## Sophomore XC Runner



The Beacon/Luke Modrovsky

### The Beacon: Male Athlete of the Week 9/5-9/10

**Why Franco Balbuena was selected:** Franco Balbuena finished 13th overall in the Dutchmen Invitational hosted by Lebanon Valley College. This finish was the fourth-best time in program history. Congratulations, Franco.

**Name:** Franco Balbuena  
**Year:** Sophomore  
**Major:** Neuroscience  
**Minor:** Psychology  
**Hometown:** Wilkes-Barre  
**High School:** Coughlin

**What was your driving force to attend Wilkes?**  
 Wilkes is close to home which made it easier on me and my family financially and geographically, since my family has only one car. I commute every day which isn't that bad, especially since it keeps you in shape.

**Post graduation plans in terms of a career?**  
 If I do well in the ROTC program here at Wilkes, it is my hope to join the ranks of the Air Force and become an RPA (Remote Piloted Aircraft) Pilot.

**What came first? The chicken or the egg?**  
 Definitely the egg, the chicken is a mutated bird dinosaur.

**Hopes for this season as a Colonel?**  
 It is my hope to make it to the regionals race this season, or be faster than I was last year, which is a long shot but I have to shoot for something big.

**When/Why did you first begin racing?**  
 In the beginning I just wanted to get out of my "soccer star" cousin's shadow and joined track my sophomore year in high school. Afterwards I tried out cross country and I saw I did so well that I just stuck with running.

**Other interests or hobbies off the field?**  
 I enjoy playing soccer and volleyball when I'm free and able to relax. I also like to play pool and have a good time with both family and friends alike.

**Favorite professor?**  
 I really can't pick with this either. Dr. Schicatano helps me keep a positive attitude and also makes me excited to learn more. Dr. Terzaghi helps me with study tips and also made planning ahead on a college level a lot more comprehensible. Mr. Kovacs helps me relax and keep things simple instead of over-thinking it and putting in extra details that aren't needed.

**Most influential person in your life?**  
 I could never choose one. My brother for helping me when I needed it, my mother for pushing me, my father for never giving up on me, my great grandmother for giving me the power to run with my heart, and my uncle Tony for showing me how to keep fighting and going with no excuses.

**A quote you live your life by?**  
 "If you really want that medal kid, remember that every moment of pain is worth it. You and I both know one of those medals belong around your neck. You have to show it tomorrow. It doesn't matter how badly you're hurting, if you really want that medal you'll get it one way or another. You will have your own, don't watch someone else take what's yours." "Every moment of pain is worth a lifetime of success." - Paul McGrane

**What does "Be Colonel" mean to you?**  
 To me it means to rise up to the challenge. I don't want to be someone who is weak, but I also don't want to be someone who is foolish with power. I want to be someone who can fight when there must be fighting and someone who can talk when there must be talking. It means, to me, to help when help is needed and not just asked for. To stand to the side and let events happen that shouldn't even exist anymore is non-existent to me at this point. I want to fight for a future where we are unified, not for our own personal gain.

**If you could have dinner with a famous person from the past, who would it be?**  
 Nikola Tesla, his work in electricity would have changed the world and to hear about that and about him would be incredible to me.

**Anyone to give a shout-out to?**  
 Definitely my family and friends who have supported me when even I thought I couldn't make it. They give me the strength to keep pushing when I have nothing left.



Getting to know...

# Dianna Connor

## Senior Soccer Player

### The Beacon: Female Athlete of the Week 9/5-9/10

**Why Dianna Connor was selected:** Dianna Connor led Lady Colonel Soccer to a 5-3 victory over Marywood on Sept. 9. Her "hat trick" of three goals kept Wilkes unbeaten. Congratulations, Dianna.

**Name:** Dianna Connor  
**Year:** Senior  
**Major:** Sports Management & Marketing  
**Hometown:** Effort, PA  
**High School:** Pleasant Valley HS  
**Position:** Striker

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

Wilkes was not my first choice, but I wouldn't picture it any other way. Coach Sumoski was a huge factor in it, I loved the feel of the campus and it wasn't too far away from home!

#### Post graduation plans in terms of a Career?

Hopeful to receive a job opportunity in NYC or NJ with a company at headquarters.

#### Favorite building on campus?

My favorite building on campus would be the UCOM, the business school since I am always there!

#### How many jolly ranchers do you think you can lift at one time?

If there in bags probably a lot, if were just grabbing, I wouldn't say a lot because I have small hands!

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

I would have to say the egg.

#### Hopes for this season as a Colonel?

I have high hopes for our program to win the MAC.

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

I first began playing when I was around 3 or 4. I played a lot of sports when I was little but soccer was the sport that I was allowed to be myself so I stuck with soccer.

#### Favorite professor?

Anne Batory.

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

I would improve the grass field, sometimes we have to warm up on it or even split the turf. I think having two turf fields would be very beneficial to every sport, not only ours.

#### Other interests or hobbies off of the field?

I'm apart of ENACTUS, the sports management club and I enjoy just hanging out with my close friend and spending a lot of time with family.

#### Most influential person in your life?

I would have to give this to both my parents and my brother. They all have pushed me my whole life to be the best version of my self, they support me 24/7 and always are my biggest fans, on and off the field. My brother is a huge help acting like a strength coach for me during the off season. I've looked up to my big brother my whole life, he's my hero.

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

"Never be afraid to be great."

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

Have integrity, be ambitious.

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

Without a doubt Victor Cruz.

#### Coke or Pepsi?

Eh, if I had to drink one, it would be Coke.

#### Favorite meal to eat on campus?

The black bean super food which at Witch Which.

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

Of course to my team, my coach and "eh" Elliot, without them I wouldn't be able to do what I do

*Editor's note: This year's Athlete of the Week will be merit-based. Don't agree with our selection? Let us know on Twitter: @WilkesBeacon*  
*Additionally, at the end of the academic year, we will post a reader poll to crown at "Athlete of the Year".*  
*Full qualification criteria and more information can be found on our website: [www.thewilkesbeacon.com](http://www.thewilkesbeacon.com)*

The Beacon/Nicole Gaetani





# THE BEACON

The news of today reported by the journalists of tomorrow.

## BEACON HIRES: WRITERS, PHOTOGRAPHERS, EDITORS

By:  
Staff Writer

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**This could be you!**

**If you have a passion for writing, design, or photography, join us!**

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**Contact:**

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**Freshmen and all majors  
welcome!**