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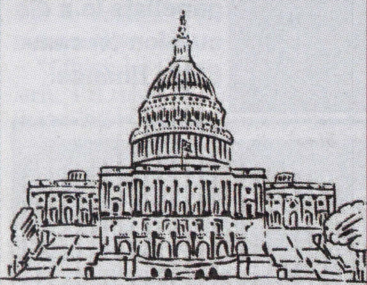
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Volume 66 Issue 18



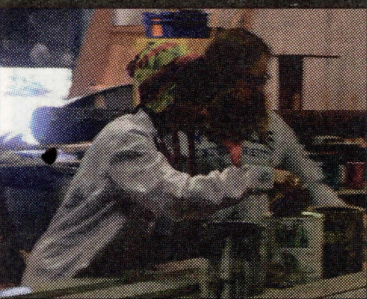
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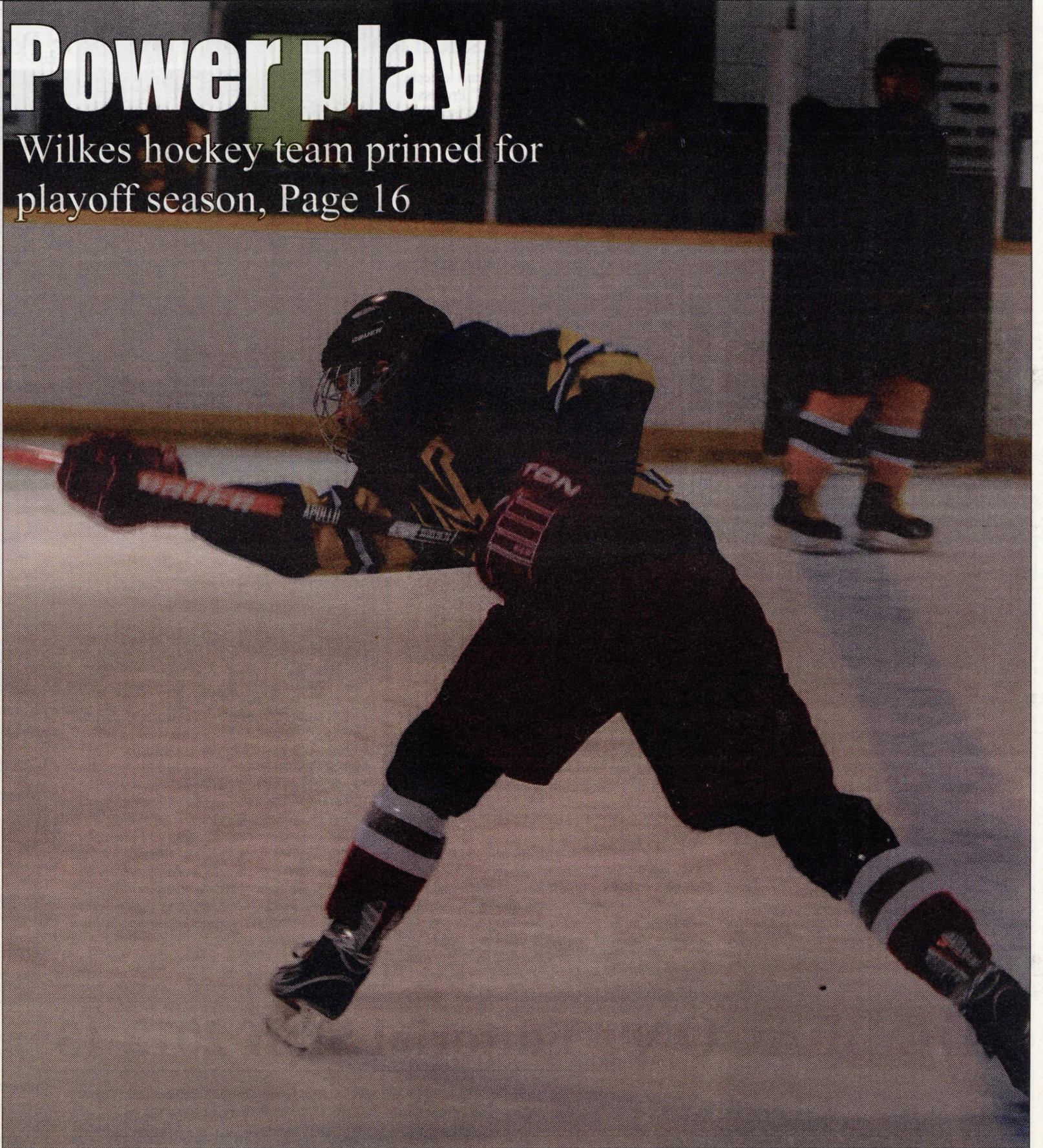


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The Beacon/Jake Cochran

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April 9, 2013

Contact editor: christine.lee@wilkes.edu

Panel asks 'Is the sky the limit?' with campaign finance

Political Science honor society hosts discussion featuring Temple professor, Politico journalist

By Priscilla Bonilla
Correspondent

Sigma Pi, Wilkes's chapter of the Pi Sigma Alpha National Political Science Honor Society, hosted a panel discussion entitled "Is the Sky the Limit? Campaign Finance in the 2012 Election Cycle and Beyond," featuring Temple political science professor Robin Kolodny and journalist Kenneth Vogel along with Wilkes political science professors Tom Baldino and Kyle Kreider.

"Legally the sky is the limit of how much people can give," Vogel, a reporter for Politico, said. "The only limit will be when or if the donors come to believe they are wasting their money."

The panel discussion was held at 5 p.m. on April 4 in the Henry Student Center Ballroom. Sigma Pi funded this event through a grant it received from Pi Sigma Alpha National Political Science Honor Society. The Chapter Activity Grant is given to chapters who show involvement with the elections year after year.

"The importance is to teach people something about campaign finance, and show its advantages and disadvantages," Sigma Pi President Brandon Wesneski said. "Campaign finance is something that has taken over the presidential elections since 2008."

Vogel's discussion focused on the way the growth of big money has changed the political process by loosening the control that the parties and candidates once had over campaigns.

During the discussion, the panel explained the idea "money is speech." In the 2010 and 2012 elections there was a larger amount of money from outside groups, allowing these groups to gain more say and power in the campaigns.

It has been argued in several court cases whether this idea of outside contributions should be allowed. And there have been different regulations established such as Super Political Action Committees, 527 groups and 501(c)s.

Super PAC's raise and spend money without a limit. The money is collected from anyone, not directly contributed to candidates or parties, but it is reported to the Federal Election Commission. The Super PAC is considered to be the most effective.

"Money is speech, you cannot limit speech, therefore you cannot limit money," Professor of political science and Sigma Pi adviser Tom Baldino said.

Vogel said advocates for reducing the power of money in politics reject the Supreme Court's assessment that money equals speech. These advocates believe that this weakens the concept of one person, one vote.

The panel agreed that outside funds have a positive and negative effect. Vogel said he believes these funds do have a potential for chaos. The chaos effect is that those who may not have a chance to run a significant campaign have the financial support to still have a strong impact and effect other candidates who might have more establishment support, he said.

Kolodny focused on two particular questions. Does the spending do anything other than allow donors their freedoms of expression, and do voters respond to the extra ads?

He said the response voters have to the extra campaign ads is of concern for addressing our generation, the students, who do not watch television in "real time" and consume cheap methods of communication. These cheap methods are Twitter, Facebook and Hulu to name a few.

Kolodny said you cannot tell rich people what they can do with their money. So the essential question is whether voters are persuaded by these appeals. Some independent voters can be, but we can't depend on them to vote as much as partisans who are more resistant to these messages, Kolodny said.

For example, Kolodny has been watching a lot of basketball recently, and has viewed a lot of messages about PowerAde, Bud Lite and Miller Lite, yet she still doesn't consume them. She said even if these companies tripled their advertising budgets, she still wouldn't buy them.

"So that is how you have to view it," Kolodny said.

The sky maybe the limit for outside contributors, but are people affected? When will these rich people leave politics behind them and find a new hobby to spend their money on? Vogel asked.



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The Beacon/Dan Lykens

Journalist Kenneth Vogel (pictured, left) and Temple political science professor Robin Kolodny (not pictured) were panelists in a discussion on campaign finance.

Wilkes University Television Program Guide

Channel 97: Service Electric Cable

Monday April 8, 2013

6:00pm Rosenn Lecture Dillon-Dau
7:00pm Spotlight
7:30pm As You Like It
Classic Arts Showcase

Tuesday April 9, 2013

12:00pm Wilkes Now
6:00pm Spotlight
6:30pm Did You Boscov Today?
7:00pm Wilkes Barre: Making a Difference
7:30pm Wilkes Now
8:00pm Rosenn Lecture-Lec Zanny
9:00pm Classic Arts Showcase

Wednesday, April 10, 2013

6:00pm Spotlight
6:30pm An American In Normandy
7:30pm Wilkes Now

8:00pm It Takes A Village
8:35pm Kirby Lecture-Tom Zasky
Classical Arts Showcase

Thursday, April 11, 2013

6:00pm Spotlight
6:30pm Ax Of Murder
7:30pm Wilkes Now
8:00pm Kirby Lecture Lawrence Reed
9:00pm True Rarity: Amazing Story of Irwin Weinberg
Classical Arts Showcase

Friday, April 12, 2013

6:00pm Wilkes Barre: Making a Difference
6:30pm Reveille To Taps
7:30pm Wilkes Now
8:00pm Generation X
Classical Arts Showcase

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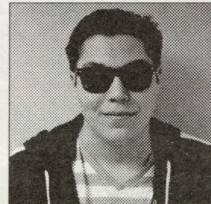
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Meet the Staff



Jake Cochran
Sports Co-Editor

President Leahy to return office to its original home in Weckesser

By Christine Lee
News Editor

At the start of his term, President Patrick Leahy said that one of his objectives in his first year would be to move his office to Weckesser Hall. This month, that objective is nearly complete. Leahy is scheduled to begin moving his office and the offices of members of his cabinet to Weckesser.

Leahy explained that his main reason for moving into Weckesser was to be a more visible figure on campus.

"It's much more centrally-located to campus and that's where I personally want to be and where I think it's best for our administration to be; right in the middle of things and I think Weckesser provides that opportunity in a way that UCOM does not," Leahy said.

He said his move to Weckesser will help him become a bigger part of life on campus and to engage with the campus community more easily.

"I think I will run into students more regularly, I'll run into faculty more regularly; activity will be passing outside my front door on a regular basis and I just will feel much more a part of this campus, which is what I think is appropriate for a president, especially a president like me that likes to be engaged in the life of the university."

Over the course of the year, Weckesser has been undergoing an extensive renovation of its interior to prepare for the move. Vice President of Finance and General Counsel Loren Prescott said after Leahy made the final decision on the move, architects familiar with campus and the building were consulted on its layout.

"They were able to give us some specific design ideas that helped us to not only about how to use the space on the first few floors of Weckesser Hall but also what to do about the interior design issues," Prescott said. "So when you see Weckesser Hall you'll see that there's a paint scheme that was recommended by the architect and so on," Prescott said.

Prescott said planning for the move took several months. Renovation work began in late fall and he said it took longer than expected due to unforeseen issues with furniture, and heating and air conditioning.

"Some of the furniture that had to be ordered took longer for us to have delivered and as we were studying the building we realized that the heating and air conditioning system needed to be upgraded," Prescott said. "So what we decided to do was to accelerate the process of upgrading the heating and air conditioning system before people moved into the building."

He explained that the contractors decided on improving the heating and air conditioning system as a part of the renovation because upgrading the system while there were people in the building would be an inconvenience. Prescott said the work in Weckesser is nearly complete as the heating and air conditioning system is nearly ready and all furniture has arrived.

The large, castle-like structure that stands at 170 S. Franklin St. was built between 1914 and 1916 as the residence of Frederick and Anna Weckesser. It was given to Wilkes in 1956 af-



The Beacon/Austin Loukas

The room pictured above will become the new office of President Patrick Leahy on the first floor of Weckesser Hall. Every Wilkes president except previous President Tim Gilmour has had their office housed within the walls of Weckesser.

ter Anna's death. The office of every Wilkes president with the exception of President Tim Gilmour has been located in the building.

More recently, faculty in the School of Education and the Jay S. Sidhu School of Business and Leadership have had offices on the upper floors of the building. Although it has been used for faculty offices, Leahy feels the building hasn't been used very much, particularly the first floor.

"Right now I think it's a little bit under-utilized," Leahy said. "There are offices in there on the second and third floor but the first floor, I think, is under-utilized so this (move) will allow us to fully utilize the building."

The tradition of the president and other administrative figures having their offices in the building is another reason why Leahy decided to move his office there.

"I think that tradition is nice; to continue to house the central administration in the building that for many, many years housed the central administration," Leahy said. "Continuing the rich heritage that we have of the university presidents here at Wilkes being housed there I think that is something that is very exciting to me."

Leahy explained the room that will house his office is one that has not been used by a Wilkes president but several rooms in the building have been used by former presidents.

"I'll feel surrounded by my predecessors in some respect," he said.

Prescott explained that the faculty in the Sidhu School of Business and Leadership currently occupying the third floor will remain there. The first and second floor will be home to Leahy and the vice presidents in his cabinet.

The first floor will have the offices of Leahy and Vice President of Student Affairs Paul Adams as well as the administrative support staff for the senior administration. A large confer-

ence room will be available for use by the administration and other campus functions. The second floor will house the offices of the other vice presidents. The academic deans that serve in the cabinet won't move into the building.

Prescott said the move-in will be well underway in mid-April to after Easter break and a Board of Trustees. He likes the idea of being in the same building as the other senior administrators.

"A lot of the work that I do involves interaction with the other vice presidents and with the president," Prescott said. "So I'm glad to be in the same building as them."

As for the vacated offices on the second floor of UCOM, Leahy isn't sure what will happen to them after the move but said a master planning committee composed of students, faculty, staff and administrators will determine their use.

"We have a campus master planning committee that's gonna work with me," Leahy said. "They will provide some advice for me as to the best use of this building."

He explained there are better uses for the office spaces on the second floor of UCOM.

Leahy expressed gratitude with the preparations made to prepare Weckesser for the move of him and the vice presidents.

"In a building that's that old and that special, it's taken a lot more care and attention on (the renovation crew's) part to do it properly and they've done a marvelous job and I'm just so appreciative of the care that they've done to this project."

He hopes to invite the community to a reception in the newly renovated Weckesser Hall this month.

Weckesser Offices:

First floor:

- President Patrick Leahy*
- Vice President of Student Affairs Paul Adams*
- Associate Vice President of Marketing and Executive Assistant to the President Jack Chielli*
- Administrative assistants*

Second floor:

- Rm. 201: Vice President of Finance and General Counsel Loren Prescott*
- Rm. 202: Vice President of Enrollment Melanie Wade*
- Rm. 203: Vice President of Advancement Mike Wood*
- Rm. 204: Vice President of Strategic Initiatives Mike Speziale
- Rm. 210: Interim Provost and Senior Vice President Terese Wignot*

Third floor:

- Faculty in the Jay S. Sidhu School of Business and Leadership currently housed in the building

*moving offices into building



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Administrators testing new online SRS evaluation form

By Shawn Carey
Assistant News Editor

The Student Response Survey forms that students fill out at the end of every semester are now going online in a new pilot study conducted by the university.

The SRS are forms that students fill out at the end of each semester to evaluate the class that they are currently taking. The forms are meant to gauge the class as a whole and the professor teaching the course.

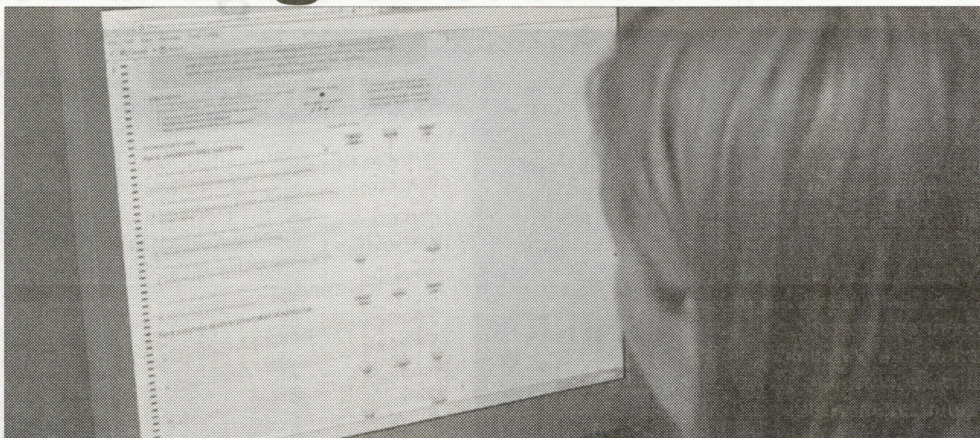
Despite the new online version, forms will not be any different from the hard copy form, but will be more interactive for students to complete.

"This has been floating around for quite a while," Interim Provost Terese Wignot said. "The faculty can get the online responses from their students much quicker than the paper."

For the pilot study there are approximately 80 sections and 50 faculty members taking part in the study. It will cross many disciplines and grade levels and will only include tenured faculty members.

"I wanted only tenured faculty in case there were glitches," Wignot said. "I didn't want it to affect their evaluation process."

With the new format it also saves the school money with forms. It is much more expensive with the paper format because of



The Beacon/Laura Preby

Fifty faculty members will be partaking in the pilot study of the new SRS forms.

the printing and the hours that go into looking through the forms manually. With the online format, it will all be compiled electronically.

"There is a cost savings with it, especially since we developed an in-house and online SRS," Wignot said.

For the faculty, all of the comments will be returned to them much more quickly in a PDF format.

Students that are going to be involved with the pilot study will receive an email notifying them that the SRS form is available online. It will also list all the courses that are available for an online SRS. After that, the students will

follow the instructions that are given to them. Students will receive reminders while the form is available.

For students, the process, rating system and open-ended questions are still the same. Professors are also still able to add open ended questions as well. With the new format, faculty will be able to have students fill the online form out in class because it will be mobile-friendly.

"Instructors will have the option to do it in class," Wignot said. "Students can use their phones to fill out the form; it will be mobile friendly."

Instructors that will be taking part in the sur-

"The faculty can get the online responses from their students much quicker than paper."

- Terese Wignot,
Interim Provost

vey seem optimistic about the pilot study. Professor of communication studies Jane Elmes-Crahall added her input on the study.

"Most students do not take time to fill out the open ended questions (on the paper form)," Elmes-Crahall said. "As a teacher, I want to read what they wrote in the open ended questions."

Elmes-Crahall is hoping that with the online format students will not feel rushed when filling out the form.

Students will begin to receive emails April 29 and the surveys will be available until May 11. Students and faculty with any questions can contact Wignot and her office regarding the new online format at terese.wignot@wilkes.edu and (570) 408-4627.



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Capital Projects to purchase new bikes for students

New bikes, helmets, locks, stand to be purchased for campus mountain bike rental program

By Shawn Carey
Assistant News Editor

After a week off, the Student Government meeting was called to order at 6:03 p.m. by President Kris Rivers.

All College	\$5,192.22
Conference	\$1,640
General/Leadership	\$4,279.92
Spirit	\$347.77
Student Government Total:	\$11,459.91

Education Club report

The meeting began with a club report from the Education Club. Catelyn Sofio and Kelly Lashock both presented the report to the board.

The club recently took a trip to the Crayola factory and have had several community service opportunities as well. They partook in the Wilkes-Barre Halloween Kids party this past year and will be participating in the Big Event and Adventures in Science as well.

They are still selling tote bags as a fundraiser. The cost of the totes is \$25 and those interested should go to the second floor of Breiseth. The club is hoping to start a reading program in the local schools to get students interested in children reading more.

Psychology Club report

Adam Bailey presented on behalf of the Psychology Club. He said that they have approximately 12 to 15 active members in the club and will be participating in the Big Event and Relay for Life.

They also have had many fundraisers selling Krispy Kreme donuts and sweatshirts. They will be going to NYC as a club in a few weeks.

Rivers talks fund requests

Rivers asked members of the board to be conscious of the upcoming fund requests because of a shortage of funds and increase in fund requests. Currently the board has \$15,000 worth of fund requests, but only \$11,000 on hand to use towards fund requests.

Engineering Olympics fund request

Lucas Domulevich and Nick Watkins presented for the second week about the yearly Engineering Olympics. High school juniors from the area are invited to attend and compete in different events pertaining to mechanical, electrical and environmental engineering and winners receive a scholarship from the university in the amount of \$10,000 per year for four years.

The committee has requested donations from local businesses and organizations but has not heard anything back. A motion was made to allocate \$1,000 to the Engineering Olympics, which passed 35-1-6.

WCLH fund request

WCLH was back for its second week of fund requests. Kyle Wolfe presented on behalf of WCLH. They are requesting funds to offset costs for students purchasing T-shirts from the group. WCLH is selling T-shirts to raise money for Relay for Life. The group is planning a 24-hour broadcast that will coincide with the Tom Bigler Journalism Confer-

ence and will feature people from area charitable organizations and high school students that will be attending the conference.

"I think this is a fantastic event," junior class treasurer Adam Bailey said.

A motion was made to allocate \$7 per Wilkes student up to \$700 for T-shirts. The motion passed 30-0-12.

Wilkes-King's recycling challenge

There was a presentation for a fund request from the Recycle Metrics. Steven Adamas, Hayden Lerner and Rebecca Taylor all presented on a competition that will be taking place between Wilkes and King's in the month of April.

The competition will consist of who can recycle the most printer paper. The winner will receive a trophy and a donation will be made to the charity of the winner's choice. They are requesting \$500 to pay for food and supplies of their three events and will be back next week to finish off its fund request.

History Club fund request

The History Club made its first presentation to the SG board. Club Vice President Samantha Early discussed the trip that the club will be taking to Washington, D.C.

They are requesting \$1,000 to pay for transportation costs and lodging. There are 17 students going on the trip. The club will have a cost breakdown of the trip at next week's meeting.

Bike rental fund request

Capital Projects Committee member Anthony Fanucci presented for the second week on updating the mountain bike rental program the school currently has. The group is purchasing new bikes, locks, helmets and a stand.

The group decided to drop a large bike and purchase another medium bike instead. A motion was made to allocate \$2,980 to purchase the bikes, which passed 31-1-10.

Programming Board constitution revision

Programming Board presented a constitution revision they have made. President Jessica Short and Community Service Committee Chair Bethany Sharpless presented the changes that were made to the constitution.

They updated the membership requirements, added the community service commit-

tee and other minor changes. The group will be back next week to finish their constitution revision.

Student Body President nominations

Nominations were taken for president of the SG board for the 2013-2014 academic year. Vice President Ian Foley was nominated for the position. Julie Miller was also nominated,

but respectfully declined the nomination. Elections will be held later in the semester. The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

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April 9, 2013

Contact editor: carly.yamrus@wilkes.edu

Can rap songs represent our country?

Americans waste Congress' time trying to change the national anthem

By The Beacon Editorial Staff

Due to the use of social media, whenever people see something they like or dislike, it is put on their Twitter feeds, Facebook pages, or Tumblr accounts. It is understandable that, wanting to capture the ever-fleeting attention span of the American public, the government has to have an online presence and allow citizens to voice their opinion in an online format.

Part of the government's solution to this is to make petitions online, and after a petition garners a certain amount of signatures, then Congress must discuss the issue. While this makes sense in theory, the American public has taken the issue to a ridiculous level, using their social media savvy to get enough signatures on petitions that are so asinine and ridiculous they should never even need to be discussed.

The latest issue to get enough Internet sponsorship to be discussed was changing the national anthem. Someone had the idea to change "The Star Spangled Banner" to rapper R. Kelly's song "Ignition" (specifically the 2003 remix). People found this funny and amusing, so they signed it. After signing this petition, many people took to their social media pages to share this petition with others. While all of this was going on, one has to wonder, did they realize that they had just actually added their name to a document proposing something so ridiculous and unneeded that its existence in the docket of Congress is actually insulting?

Even though the government keeps raising the amount of online signatures needed, the public just volleys back at them with even more signatures. One case that got a lot of attention was getting the CDC to acknowledge zombie apocalypse plans. Another, more recent issue that took up some of Congress' time was addressing whether or not the United States should build a death star. Yes, a death star, as in Star Wars.

It was concluded that the funding would be unavailable and the technology did not exist. The fact that this was actually discussed in congress was a new level of ridiculous for the American public, as petitions like these turn most Americans into hypocrites.

Congress has its lowest approval rating in years, and adding irrelevant things to the list of issues that they have to discuss isn't helping. Frankly, it is an abuse of power. In this country, the public has the right to bring issues to the attention of the government. The key word in that sentence is "issues." Whether America

will build a death star isn't helping the unemployment rate. Suggesting that we as a country replace our national anthem, written to honor our struggles in war facing the British, with a rap song performed by a man indicted on 21 counts of sex with a minor fan is absolutely absurd.

A national anthem is supposed to bring people together and unite the people of a nation under one common cry of nationalism. The lyrics, "So baby gimme that toot toot, Lemme give you that beep beep, Runnin her hands through my 'fro, Bouncin on 24's ... It's the remix to 'Ignition,' Hot and fresh out the kitchen, Mama rollin' that body got every man in here wishin, Sippin on Coke and rum, I'm like so what I'm drunk, It's the freakin' weekend baby, I'm about to have me some fun" don't personally inspire patriotism in me. Would soldiers cling to these words during war? Would they like to know that they aren't fighting for the land of the free and the home of the brave, but instead they are defending the rights of a drunk, rich rapper who wants to give someone a "toot toot" or a "beep beep"?

While this song is fun to dance to and it is admittedly catchy, it is not something I would want sung at my children's baseball games. It's not something I would like to hear before Americans heads into the Olympics. It's frankly, something I don't want associated with America at all.

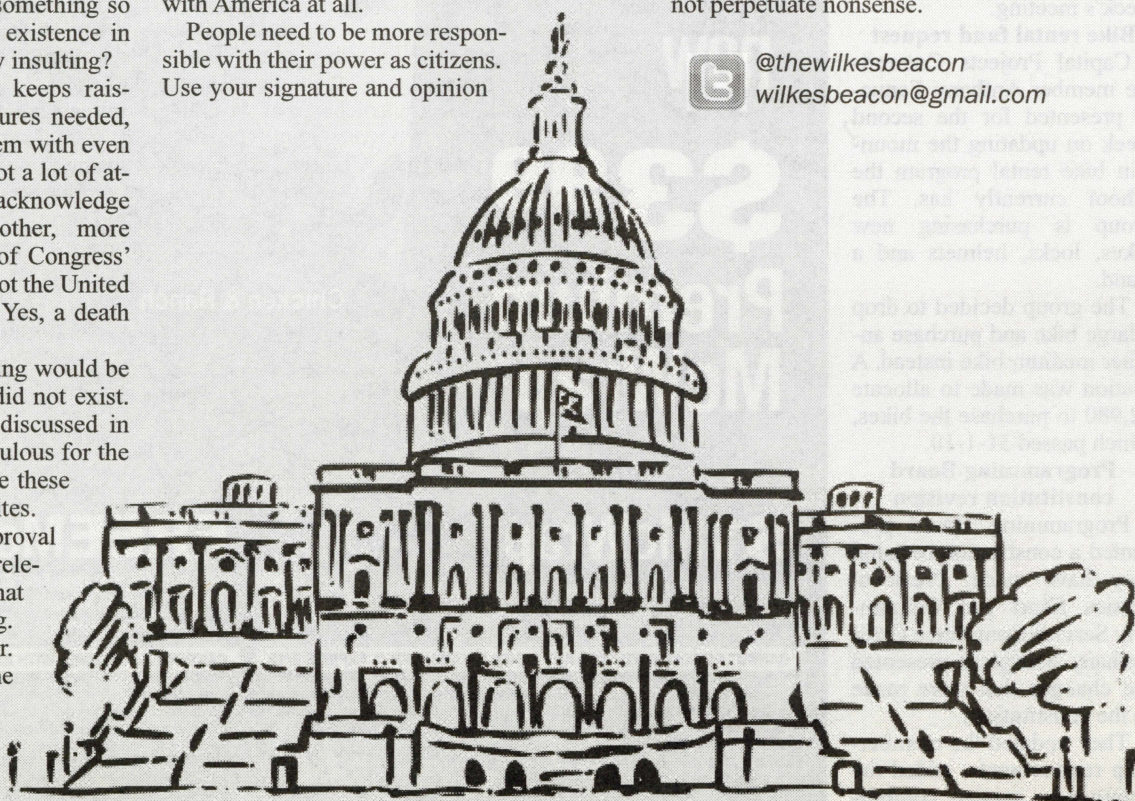
People need to be more responsible with their power as citizens. Use your signature and opinion

for good, use it for something that you as an American citizen truly believe in. While almost everyone complains about Congress not accomplishing anything, how can anyone who signed that petition complain? If you want to eat up valuable time in a government forum debating the merits of a song that rhymes "lobby" with "lobby," then by all means, embarrass yourself. However, you lose the right to complain about Congress not accomplishing anything or not caring about your issues as a common citizen.

Even the proposal made by the creators of the petition is Ludacris reading, "We, the undersigned, would like the Obama administration to recognize the need for a new national anthem, one that even a decade after its creation, is still hot and fresh out the kitchen. America has changed since Francis Scott Key penned our current anthem in 1814. Since then, we have realized that after the show, it's the afterparty, and that after the party, it's the hotel lobby, and — perhaps most importantly — that 'round about four, you've got to clear the lobby, at which point it's strongly recommended that you take it to the room and freak somebody. President Obama: we ask you to recognize the evolution of this beautiful country and give us an anthem that better suits the glorious nation we have become."

Use your voice to make a real issue known, not perpetuate nonsense.

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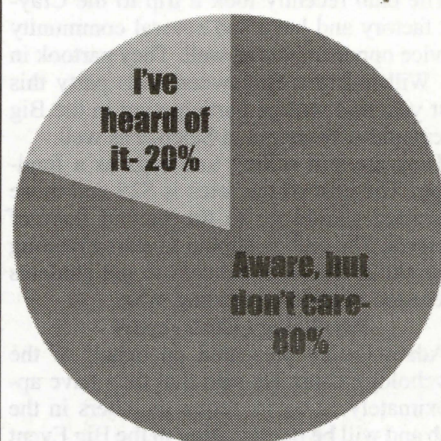


BEACON POLL

The Beacon poll is unscientific and does not claim to reflect the overall attitudes of students on the Wilkes campus. Poll results are based on responses.

Last week's question:

How much do you know about the interfaith community at Wilkes?



This week's question:

What is your opinion of New York Mayor Bloomberg's health initiatives?

- Has no right to infringe on our rights
- His actions will be beneficial
- He has good intentions, but I disagree with them
- No opinion

Cast your vote online at:
www.thewilkesbeacon.com

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Bloomberg's 'nanny state' an unfortunate reality

By Carly Yamrus
Opinion Editor

For the first time in our history, more people in the United States will die from overeating than they will from starvation.

That is really sad.

New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg has been causing uproar lately because of a few health initiatives introduced to the city. Unhealthy products such as cigarettes, sugary drinks and salt have been targeted for reduction or removal because of their effects on public health.

The American people love their sugary drinks. Although it is known to be one of the main contributors to obesity, we just can't get enough of it. So it is no surprise that there was an outcry when Bloomberg proposed to ban the sale of large sugary drinks. He had hoped for a ban on 20 ounce cups and two-liter bottles of soda. However, an NYC judge struck it down a day before it was scheduled to go into effect.

According to ThinkProgress.com, sugary drinks have contributed to 180,000 deaths around the world. But you know, we have rights. We can drink ourselves to death if we want to.

Bloomberg also urged food companies to reduce salt content in their products and it has proved to be effective. Twenty-one major food corporations have cut salt from their products,

including Kraft and Goya. The salt affecting heart health is likely to be what is already in the food and not table salt. The changes in salt content really have no effect on the taste and can help lower cholesterol.

I actually applaud these major food companies, for once. Finally, an ethical decision in the people's best interest. Those are few and far between. And note how it was not the general public's decision. If it were, the odds of acceptance to this decrease I'm assuming would be a lot less out of fear that America's favorite foods would taste different. Nevermind heart attacks and strokes, as long as my processed cheese is unaffected.

Now, Bloomberg is going after cigarettes. To dissuade teenagers from purchasing cigarettes, he hopes to raise the price to a minimum of \$10.50. He recently announced that the new bill would disallow the display of tobacco products, making them less inviting to kids wishing to experiment. Out of sight out of mind, right?

Because of Bloomberg's radical plans for health improvement, he has been criticized for being overprotective and overinvolved in the public's health. I can obviously see where the problem is ... nobody wants his or her personal freedoms tampered with. Force may not be the most popular method of direction either.

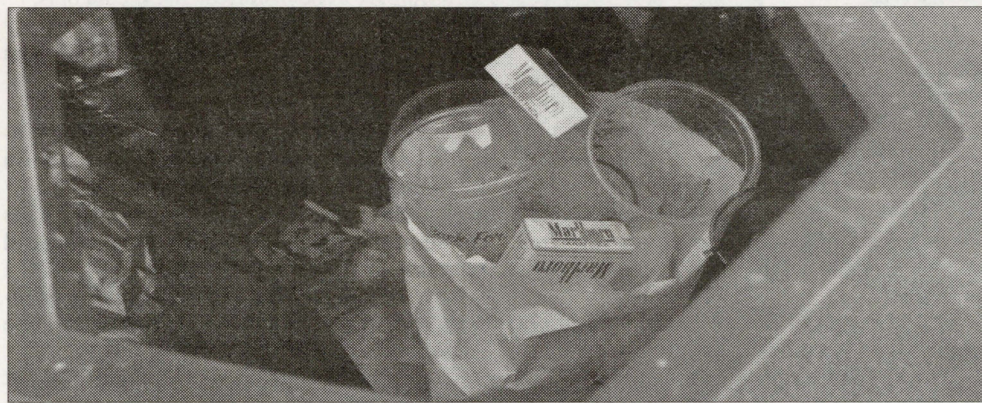
Can we just step back and look at this argument here? I feel we have reached an all time low. Kicking and screaming because we want to drink as much soda as we want, put salt on everything, and be able to see our cigarettes in the case at the 7-11 before we die from them. All of these initiatives are so miniscule they are hardly worth talking about.

I can see why people are upset though. It's not the decrease in soda or salt that has people up in arms, it's the bigger picture. It's the government telling us what we can and cannot do.

Force was definitely not the right way about going this but I can see why it was an option... We can be very stubborn and irrational when it comes to our food and tobacco.

It is sad to say that we have put profit before public health once again. We are awful at taking care of ourselves and something needs to be done to combat sky-high disease rates. As a country we favor immediate gratification over long-term effects of poor health practices and it takes its toll on us for sure.

While Bloomberg's actions were extreme, I'm not upset about them. I don't applaud him for these actions but I do not condemn him either. We don't need big sodas, more salt and cheap tobacco. We don't need another generation of unhealthy Americans. Wake up America, you're fighting for the freedom to slowly but surely poison yourselves.



The Beacon/Laura Preby

Mayor Michael Bloomberg has been making headlines recently for his obscure health initiatives for large sugary drinks, cigarettes, and salt.



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Senseless crimes leave victims confused, struggling for answers

By Lyndsie Yamrus
Assistant Opinion Editor

Murder and assault crimes occur everyday. The thing is though; they're usually for some reason or another- domestic disputes, theft related, hate ... it could really be anything.

But sometimes people kill or hurt others for no reason, and it makes you step back for a minute and seriously question humanity. When there's a reason for it, one can maybe wrap their head around the fact that it happened. But when there is no reason, we're left thinking, "What is wrong with people?"

For example, a 20-year-old man was shot in Wilkes-Barre after an argument broke out over a domestic-related situation involving his family and other persons. While shooting someone over any argument is wrong, unnecessary, and irrational in every sense of those words, there was a reason for that man to take his gun out and shoot his victim.

Even if that argument wasn't major, the man had a motive. Something initiated the action. But not all crimes "make sense."

Thinking back to mid-January, you might remember that a man was caught on camera dragging a woman from a bench across subway platform and onto the tracks in Philadelphia.

This story is simple. The man allegedly asked the woman for a lighter, which she gave to him, waited a few seconds, and then punched the woman in the face and grabbed her by the neck. He then proceeded to drag the woman toward the tracks for no reason at all,

turned around, stole her cell phone and walked away like nothing was wrong.

A completely meaningless act.

A similar senseless crime occurred more recently where two teenage boys were charged with the murder of a 13-month-old boy in a stroller pushed by his mother. One of the boys demanded money from the woman, threatening to kill her and her baby if she didn't hand it over.

The woman repeatedly told the boys that she didn't have any money and pleaded with them not to kill her baby.

Ignoring her pleas, one of the boys shot the woman in the leg and then walked over to her

stroller and shot the child in the face.

A horrific incident initiated out of sheer anger and aggravation.

Both events are hard to understand because they're completely senseless acts of violence. In both news write-ups, it was stated that there were no motives for either crime.

So why do people harm others out of pure aggravation? In the grand scheme of the situation, was dragging that woman onto the subway tracks worth the price of his punishment? He got his lighter, so what was the problem?

In the shooting incident, the same questions can be asked.



The Beacon/Austin Loukas

Murder and assault crimes occur every day, however, many are senseless and irrational, leaving victims wonder "why?"

Was first-degree murder REALLY a necessary response to not obtaining a little bit of cash? We're looking at lifetimes in jail or potentially even death sentences for that kind of unthinkable action.

Do killers like this even think of the consequences when they shoot sporadically like it's an everyday thing? There seems to be a disconnect with the cause-and-effect mechanism in their brains.

Perhaps the saddest part of the story is that losing the woman's 13-month-old son was not her first loss to violence. In 2008, her 18-year-old son was killed in New Jersey during an attack by other teens on a dark street.

While motives can't always be found for cases like this, the sad reality is that people often do kill or harm for no reason. It's an extremely sad and harsh reality for individuals to grasp because there's nothing there analyze in order to make sense of the situation.

Humans often need reasons for actions like this so they can understand why those bad things happen. It's in our nature to struggle to conclude something, as difficult as that may be in these types of situations.

So instead, the completely undeserving victims are left asking the basic question "Why? Why did this happen to me?"

But there is no answer. People don't know why they hurt other people, they just do.



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America's two-party system a failed representation

Citizens, media need to break the partisan stranglehold Democrats, Republicans now hold

By Anthony Goreczny
Staff Writer

I am a registered voter, but I am not registered as a member of either of the two major parties. Most people who know this, including my father, tell me I am wasting my vote if I don't vote for a Republican or Democrat. I believe it is the other way around.

American politics is defined by what we call the two-party system. In the Senate there are currently 51 Democrats, 47 Republicans, and two Independents. The House of Representatives totals up to 191 Democrats, 240 Republicans, and four vacant seats.

This Congressional split has many political implications, though I am particularly concerned with the clear dominance of both the Republican and Democratic parties over the Independents.

The two-party system is designed to operate on the rationale of quid-pro-quo. Translated from Latin, it means "this for that."

The basic idea is that the Democratic and Republican parties, having supposedly opposing views on government and its role, will bargain with each other until they come to an agreement which satisfies both parties, and hopefully most closely represents the views and wishes of their constituents.

As an example, let's look at a hypothetical public education bill. In this bill the Democrats want to increase teacher pay rates, increase the number of days in the school year, and increase the property tax to pay for this.

On the other hand, the Republicans would like to decrease government grants to schools and decrease the number of mandatory school days, which would allow them to lower taxes. One possible solution that they might eventually agree on would be to increase teacher pay rate, decrease the number of mandatory school days, and leave both the property tax and government grants untouched.

Quid pro quo works fine as long as both sides agree to sit down and compromise with each other. Unfortunately, this is becoming less and less the case.

The 2013 Sequester is a perfect example of the breakdown of the system. It was put into place as a deterrent, sort of like a death penalty for ineffective government.

In fact, both parties were certain that it would never come to pass, as both President Obama and House Speaker John Boehner are quoted as saying, "It will not happen." However, we now find ourselves in the thralls of this very event.

The reason behind this is that our country is now experiencing a political civil war, and it is a war of attrition. It has become more important to many politicians that their opponents fail than they succeed. Recently, political campaigns have become increasingly negative with each passing year.

This past election cycle, the first presidential campaign ad I saw was an Obama attack ad pulling out all the stops against Romney. Correct me if I'm wrong, but there used to be a time when the men who wish to lead our

great nation would at try to pretend for a while that they were civilized gentlemen, and female politicians are equally proficient at slinging mud at their opponents in the most despicable of ways.

When did American politics stop being about, "Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness" and become, "Well he divorced his dying wife, but this other guy is probably a Muslim and not even born in America?"

Election campaigns are not even the worst of it. Once these men and women make it into office, the problems really began to manifest themselves.

In his inexperience, as one of his first actions of office, President Obama tried to force through a healthcare bill that congressional Republicans and much of America's citizenry were vehemently opposed to.

The bill may have passed, and been upheld in Supreme Court opinion that, at best, can be described as sketchy and illogical, but Obama's actions pitted much of Congress against him and set the tone for the rest of his presidency.

With the current congressional split, it will be almost miraculous if anything meaningful is achieved this term.

To put it simply, our federal government had become a quagmire of cronyism and antagonism.

What makes this even more shocking is that the vast majority of Americans actually do not agree with what our government is doing. According to Gallup polling data, in 2011 only 27 percent of Americans identified themselves as Republicans and 31 percent as Democrats, while 40 percent considered themselves independent.

If you were to apply those numbers to congressional representation, instead of the current representation I

mentioned earlier, the Senate should be made up of 31 Democrats, 27 Republicans and 40 Independents, as well as two others, and the House of Representatives would contain 135 Democrats, 117 Republicans, 174 independents, and nine others.

While this does not account for the differences between states and other similar factors, the difference is still shocking.

Why such a drastic contrast? That is not an easy question to answer, primarily because there is not just one answer, and none of them are simple. Two of the most prominent culprits appear to be historical and media bias.

As far as historical bias goes, the two-party system has become so ingrained in American politics that many people cannot envision politics without it.

Despite all of its flaws, many people continue to rationalize the system because it allows them to choose the "lesser of two evils."

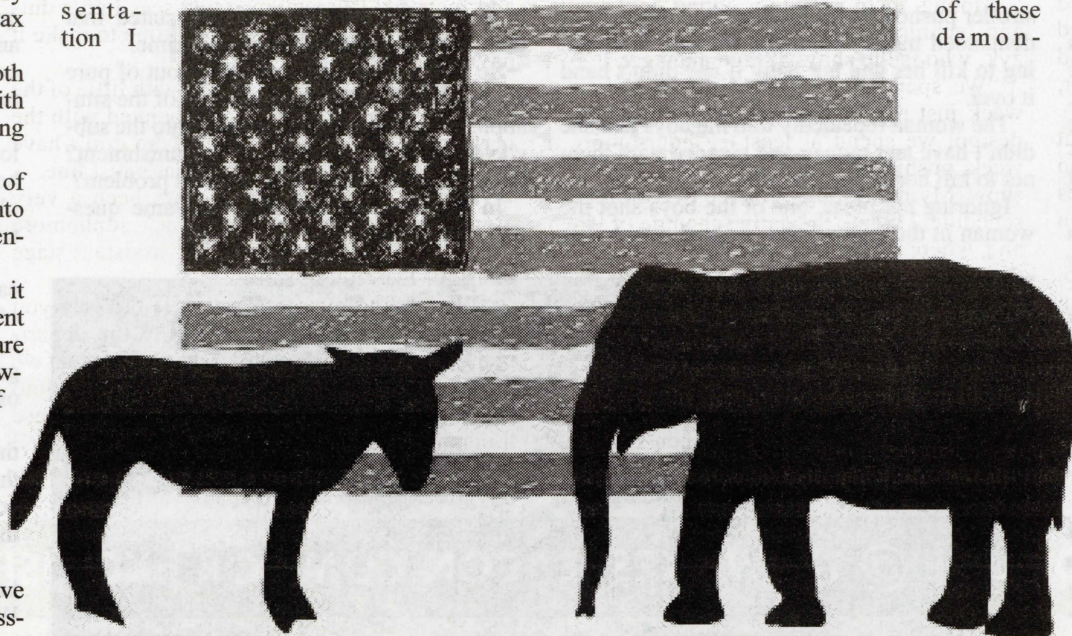
I don't know about you, but when it comes to selecting the leader of the most powerful country in the world, my beloved country, I would be caught dead before I would ever allow myself to vote for someone who could be described as an "evil."

By accepting that there are more than just two candidates for the presidency you effectively kill this bias and open up the future to entire new dimensions of possibility.

The media bias, on the other hand, is far more difficult to counter. The only way this can truly be overcome is to seek out news and information for yourself, instead of allowing MSNBC or Fox News to deliver to your ears exactly what they want you to hear.

There are numerous examples of this bias being exploited, but I shall only address two here, both occurring during the most recent presidential election.

The first of these demonstrations



America's current two-party system is broken. Citizens need to be more involved and the media needs to pay more attention to third-party and alternative candidates.

strates just how pervasive this bias is. There is a nonpartisan website, IsideWith.com, which allows prospective voters to answer questions about where they stand on certain issues, from immigration, to abortion, to gun control, and then informs them which current candidate's views align most closely with their own.

According to this website, more Americans aligned with Libertarian candidate Gary Johnson than either Obama or Romney.

This may come as a shock to many because few have ever even heard of Johnson, let alone were aware that he was running for president. This demonstrates that many voters are unaware of the candidates' actual positions on issues and vote based on some other method of determination.

And it's not like anything is being done to change this. In fact, it's just the opposite.

During the 2012 election, Green Party presidential candidate Jill Stein was arrested ... for trying to show up to a presidential debate.

According to the Huffington Post, after showing up at the debate taking place at Hofstra University, her and running mate Cheri Honkala were removed from the campus grounds and charged with disorderly conduct.

Apparently, it has become a crime to tell the people of this great country that you would like to be their president if you aren't one of the media's golden boys.

It is time for this bipartisan stranglehold on our country to end, and for the people to assert themselves once again.

George Washington himself was passionately opposed to the idea of political parties because he had seen first-hand just how destructive and counter-productive they could be, especially when there are two dominating parties pitted against each other.

While abolishing political parties in this day and age is unquestionably out of the question, there is no reason whatsoever why the two-party system should continue to molest American politics.

But this change must come from the hearts of the voters as there are currently laws and statutes in place which make it nearly impossible for third-party candidates to receive any recognition, and incredibly difficult to even appear on the ballot.

I am not telling you who you should vote for, or even that you should vote, as it is your right, and you may decide not to exercise it. However, Aristotle, one of the fathers of both politics and philosophy, once said, "He is a citizen in the highest sense who shares in the honours of the state." Meaning, that to truly be a citizen, one must participate in his or her own governance.

I am asking only that, should you participate, you do so on your own terms, and do not allow for others to dictate your decisions. By doing so you revoke your own citizenship, and only by reclaiming it will our nation begin to heal itself from these dire straights.

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April 9, 2013

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Waiting in the wings: The unsung heroes of 'Gemini'

By Bill Thomas
A&E Editor

When "Gemini," the latest Wilkes University theatrical production (and the last for the current academic year) takes to the stage this Thursday, audiences will be transported to South Philadelphia, circa 1973.

Few, however, will wonder how part of the Dorothy Dickson Darte Center in modern-day Wilkes-Barre was seemingly transformed into another place and time.

When the show is over, the actors will take their applause from dead-center in the public's eye, hot lights shining down.

Others will take it from in the dark, waiting in the wings.

That applause may not be intended for them, but one could argue that they're just as deserving.

After all, without the backstage crew members, without the set designers and propmasters, the wardrobe people, the lighting people, the sound people and all their kin, without all of them "Gemini" would amount to little more than naked actors reciting dialogue on an empty, unlit stage.

"Particularly for this play, we had to have a realistic set," Joe Dawson, the play's director and associate professor/chair of the performing arts department, said. "It's replete with a lot of historic detail. It takes a lot of time. There are a lot of steps in producing the play."

Taking place in 1970s Philadelphia, "Gemini" tells the story of a young man grappling with his own homosexuality and his interaction with the friend he's attracted to and that same friend's sister, who he used to date. Despite the heavy subject matter, "Gemini" is a comedy.

"It's kind of a coming-of-age story about self-discover and self-identity, but it's also really funny," senior communication studies major and theatre arts minor Corey Martin said.

Martin plays the protagonist's father, who, along with other colorful characters Martin describes as "just plain South Philly crazy," provides much of humor to what might otherwise seem a straight-faced drama.

All told, there are seven cast members for "Gemini," a number that pales in comparison to the 30 that make up the production's crew.



The Beacon/Austin Loukas

As the premiere of "Gemini" looms closer, the behind-the-scenes student crew members, like sophomore integrated media major Monique Woodard (left) and junior English major Ellen Riley (right) work tirelessly preparing the elaborate sets that will transform the Darte Center stage into 1970s-era South Philly.

Among them is junior integrated media and technical theatre major Joshua Solarczyk, who is the show's stage manager.

"We spend four hours a day, six days a week just rehearsing. With lighting and set design, we spend at least 15 hours more a week, pushing 25 when it comes close to the show. My main job is to keep everything on schedule. I create the daily schedule of when and where everyone must go. I take notes throughout the night of what must be fixed as well. Whatever the director needs, I do," he said.

"We have weekly meetings on what is going on and what needs to be done. The hardest time would be the entire two weeks before opening day. That is when the pressure is really on. Making sure sets are being completed, along with the lights being hung

and focused. The audience just sees lights during the show, but it takes a long time to make it have a 'realistic' feel."

It's a stressful job that comes with little of the glitz and glamour typically associated with the performing arts. But for those who don't have an interest in such pageantry, that's just fine.

"I like what I do. I've always been a very organized and structured person," sophomore theatre arts major and "Gemini" assistant stage manager Erin Reese said.

"What I find most rewarding is the way you become closer to your cast and to the department as a whole. It's a small department, so we all know each other. But when you're put into a position where you're responsible for these things that people depend on, if you do it well they respect you even more. You can build really great relationships because of that."

Perhaps that's one of the reason that all theater majors, even those whose interests are exclusively in acting, are required to learn the technical aspects of production.

Most importantly, the goal, Dawson said, is to provide an education that is all-encompassing.

Though an actor in "Gemini," Martin has served as an assistant stage manager himself in the past. As such he can attest to the importance of understanding the way those two worlds relate to one another.

"Behind the scenes, you are the support. You are what helps gets the play going. Without you, there's nothing," Martin said. "It can be a big transition from one to the other, but for the most part you feel just as involved and just as important. Because you are."

Nevertheless, it can be all too easy for audiences to forget to give crew members the same recognition they provide actors. For Reese, though, that's not necessarily a bad thing. Quite the opposite, it's a form of validation.

"People don't realize that it is a group thing. The people backstage deserve just as much credit as the actors, because they do just as much work," she said. "But if you're not aware that there are people backstage, it's probably because they're doing their jobs well."

Performance dates of "Gemini" are Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday, April 11, 12, 13 and 14. Performances Thursday, Friday and Saturdays will be at 8 p.m. The Sunday performance will be at 2 p.m. General admission is \$10. Admission for students and seniors is \$5. Admission for Wilkes students with a valid ID is free.



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Good eats for cheapskates: Spicin' up your Ramen with style

By Brandon Scott

Online Editor

The college staple in microwavable food has always been ramen noodles. Cheap and easy to prepare, ramen noodles provide a delicious salty snack at any time of the day without breaking the already empty wallet of the average college student. However, eating the same flavor of ramen over and over again can become boring and dull. For only a few extra dollars spent on cheap ingredients, you can turn your boring ramen noodles into delicious snacks your roommate will be jealous of.

The first recipe I'm going to bring to you is a simple way to enhance the flavor of your ramen. First you are going to need to gather these ingredients:

- 1 Package of ramen
- Water
- Olive oil
- Soy sauce
- Garlic salt
- Seasoning packet (should come with the ramen)

This recipe is simple. Add the water to the ramen so that the water just covers the noodles. If you add too much water and cook it, the noodles can over cook and become less absorbent to flavors. If you are using a microwave, cook for three minutes, stir and move noodles and then microwave for another minute and 30 seconds. If you are boiling the ramen in hot water, simply wait for the ramen to start to separate. Use a fork to test this safely. Once the ramen looks ready (should almost be loose like spaghetti) drain the water so that only a little bit is left. Add each of the ingredients on the list one at a time and be sure to stir after each ingredient is added. For the olive oil, add about ½ a tsp. For the soy sauce, add as much as you like. I recommend not over a 1 tsp, otherwise it might overwhelm the flavor. Add a dash of garlic salt and the seasoning packet that came with the ramen and stir the whole dish until it is thoroughly mixed.

The second recipe I'm going to share is a simple mac and cheese ramen. You need to gather these ingredients.:

- 1 package of ramen noodles
- Water
- American Cheese (about 3-4 slices)
- Parmesan Cheese
- Any other cheeses you prefer.
- Seasoning packet (From the ramen package: recommended beef or chicken flavor.)

Follow the first two steps from the last recipe using your preferred method of cooking the ramen. This time drain the water so that there is enough to cover the top of the noodles. Simply add the cheese a slice at a time and stir until the cheese melts and mixes with the noodles. Make sure the water is hot enough for it to melt the cheese. Then add the seasoning from the package and mix that into the cheese. Enjoy!

For those looking to up the ante with their ramen dish, I bring to you my best friend's specialty ramen. This dish was invented by my best friend Mike Agresto in the kitchen when he was bored one day. It soon became one of our favorite cheap meals to prepare for long nights of gaming. To start, obtain these ingredients:

- Ramen package(s). (If you want to prepare a large amount for seconds, use 3-4 ramen packages) **I recommend chicken, beef, or pork flavor.
- All beef hotdogs
- Chive onions (precut or fresh and cut yourself. Both are fine, fresh brings more flavor however)
- Soy sauce.
- Tabasco (Don't worry, this doesn't make the dish spicy)

To start, obtain a big pot, and fill it with water a little over half way. Once it starts to boil, throw in the amount of ramen packets you want to make. (No less than two). Grab two to three hotdogs and cut them vertically so you have hot dog circles. Add them to the pot along with about half a cup of chive onions. Stir the pot until all of the ingredients start to mesh together. The ramen noodles should be separating at this point. Add the seasoning that came with the ramen and continue to stir. After a few more minutes the ramen should almost be ready. Add about two tsp. of soy sauce and about three to four drops of Tabasco sauce.

"It's just kind of a recipe that I made up out of the blue" says Mike. "I was really bored in the kitchen, and felt like experimenting with what we had and one day I managed to make this. The key to the dish is to make sure the water level is just right. Also make sure you don't add too many drops of Tabasco or it really cuts through the flavor instead of blending".

Ramen is a cheap snack that college students love. But that doesn't mean it can't be used as a main course meal at restaurants. Head Chef Dan Goulet of the Lords Valley Country Club has served ramen to his clientele before and they loved it. "It's not about how expensive or prestigious the ingredient you are using is, it's how you blend the ingredients you have and understanding how they work together to make a unique taste." Says Goulet. "Ramen noodles are used often in many popular Asian dishes. Using soy sauce, wasabi, sesame seeds, ramen noodles and tuna, I was able to make a dish that many of the members of the club enjoyed."

So future college culinary masters, remember that. Your cheap ramen can become a delicious meal your friends will ask you to make again and again. These three recipes are just the beginning of what you can do with ramen noodles. Go out, buy a few packages of ramen and experiment to see if you can make your own unique ramen creation.



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Clouds of color over Wilkes



The Beacon/Trevor Gilliam
Color Wars returned to Wilkes University once again for its most successful year yet. Turning out in bigger numbers than ever before, Wilkes students gathered on the greenway to douse each other with colored powder and water balloons. Most are still washing the pink, blue and green out of their hair.

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THE 101

Every issue, the weirdos behind The Beacon's Arts & Entertainment section indulge their vanity and give a thoroughly biased crash-course in whatever madness happens to be dwelling in their warped minds. Their views do not reflect those of The Beacon, its staff or Wilkes University. Blah blah blah. This week, Bill Thomas is leering like the pervert as he explores what it's like...

Gettin' Nekkid for Fun & Profit

By Bill Thomas
A&E Editor

"Most of the girls prefer the term 'dancer'," London says, "but I like 'stripper' better."

"London" isn't her real name, of course. But it's the one by which she dons and doffs her skimpiest attire imaginable whilst twirling around the poles of Gentlemen's Club 10 in Wilkes-Barre, a job she's held for just over a year now.

"I had gone there a couple times and I had done Amateur Night. I went up against these three other girls and won. It was a lot of fun and very exhilarating," she explains.

"Shortly after that I went back to the club to apply for a different position. They'd already filled that position, but they did offer me the dancing job. I wasn't sure if that was something I wanted to do at first, but they were very nice and welcoming. Me and my friends stayed around for a while, spent some money on the girls and enjoyed at the atmosphere.

"By the end of the night, a few of the girls got me to come up onstage and dance with

them, and I realized how much I enjoyed being naked in public. It was great."

Though she regularly bares all for fun and profit, one thing London keeps close to her (topless) chest is her real name. She's not ashamed of what she does. Far from it. In fact, she says prior to becoming a dancer herself, she admired the women who worked at the club, noting that the job requires more skill and strength (both physical and mental) than many people might recognize.

Nevertheless, she likes to keep her personal and professional lives separate, a distinction she laments that not everyone seems able to make.

"People who come to the club sometimes want to mix the two worlds, but you don't go into a strip club to find a woman to date. If you see them in public, they're not the same person you see on the stage. In there, it's a job. People don't always understand that. They don't realize that when you leave you have your life and you back to it."

For London, stripping is less about getting naked and more about selling a fantasy.

OK, maybe not more, but at least as much. In any case, the problems occur when customers try to make fantasies into realities. But London equates her job somewhat to that of an actor, with the role of "London" being a character she plays. Not entirely fiction, it is often just an exaggerated version of her normal self.

Key word there: "normal." London is quick to rebuff the cultural cliché that strippers are all damaged junkie-prostitutes with no other options.

"There are definitely misconceptions. I've always said that there are stereotypes in this world for a reason, however, they're obviously not all true. Some people have more problems than others. Some people have their daddy issues or their babies or their drug addictions. For the most part, though, the people I work with are just normal girls in college trying to make their money," she says.

"People think stripping is the easy way out, that you're doing it because you can't get another job, but I don't want to. I love beautiful women. Who doesn't?"

That begs the question, then, does dancing make London feel beautiful? Objectified? Empowered?

"Some nights are better than others. Sometimes I feel all in the clouds. It does make you more aware of your appearance. But I think it's definitely helped my self-confidence. It's just like any other job. I actually felt more objectified as a waitress. This is something I choose to do because I want to. I enjoy it. I'm in control."



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CHEAT SHEET

Strip Club Survival Guide

DO...

...bring lots of paper money, mostly small bills, but don't rely entirely on ones if you're thinking about getting a private dance. The only thing worse than tipping a dancer with pocket change or by trying to swipe a Mastercard between her boobs is paying for a \$40 dance in singles.

DON'T...

...let yourself get pressured into getting a private dance if you don't really want one. Private dances are big business for the girls, so of course they want you to get one, but don't feel obligated. Remember, strip clubs are supposed to be fun. Choose how you spend your money (and who you spend it on) wisely, based on your own personal tastes. No one else's.

DO...

...tip the bartenders and waitresses, too. Not just the dancers. You take care of them, they'll take care of you.

DON'T...

...spend beyond your means. No one likes a cheapskate, but no one likes a broke-ass mofo either. It's easy to lose track of your limitations when the booze is flowing and the boobs are bouncing, but reign it in. Don't keep the money coming just to keep the party raging, because the only thing that will end up raging is you, once you realize your bank account is overdrawn.

DO...

...dress for success! Wear clothes that are comfortable and thin (after all, if a hottie is going to be rubbing her lady parts all over your junk, you want to feel it), but also stylish. Sweatpants are out. Don't look like a scrub.

DON'T...

...confuse fantasy with reality. These women are here to entertain you, but they are not your girlfriends and they, believe it or not, do not exist solely for your pleasure. Remember, it's all about having fun. They're not going to be your girlfriend, so don't ask them out or wait for them in the parking lot after. If you see them at Denny's the next day, don't presume to know them nor treat them the same way you would in the club. Don't fool yourself into believing that all strippers are insatiable nymphomaniacs with low standards who will sit on your face at the drop of a hat. Show some respect, both in and out of the club. Most importantly, KEEP YOUR HANDS TO YOURSELF!!!

DO...

...relax. If you're new to this, don't be shy or self-conscious. The dancers are neither your enemies nor potential mates, so no pressure. No one's going to judge. Ogle away, pervert! That's the whole point, after all.

DON'T...

...get hammered. Unlike other clubs/bars, strip joints are more a vehicle for entertainment than intoxication. A little drinkin' here 'n' there is good to loosen you up and help you have a good time, but drinking more does not equate to having more fun. In fact, the relationship is usually just the opposite, and not just in the case of strip clubs. Get drunk and you're more likely to make an ass of yourself. Besides, what's the point of blowing a paycheck on lapdances if you can't even remember 'em the next day?

DO...

...give it a shot if you never have before. Who knows? You may even like it.



April 9, 2013

Contact editor: anne.yoskoski@wilkes.edu

Wilkes students, community join together in service

By Alyssa Stencavage
Life Editor

One day a year Wilkes University students, faculty and staff gather with the surrounding community to give back and help areas in need of volunteers.

"This collaboration serves to unite and foster growth between Wilkes Colonels and local communities," this year's Big Event coordinator, Taylor Moyer.

Helping the community is something Moyer said everyone seems to enjoy, along with the event itself.

"The experiences participants have with those in the local community are priceless," Moyer said. "Participants seem excited to offer their services to the community of Wilkes-Barre."

This level of enjoyment brings people back, as well as new members joining.

"It is a great event, and participants love to help out," Moyer said.

With more than 400 participants, last year was the year The Big Event was initiated, through the efforts of Jamie Miller and coordinator Willie Eggleston. Originally started as a Student Government-run service event, The Big Event has continued on that same route this time around, just with a different coordi-

nator and a committee working side by side.

"Since all Student Government recognized clubs on campus are required to perform community service, this event is a convenient way, provided by Student Government, for these clubs to attain their service," Moyer said.

This year, on April 7, students, faculty, staff and alumni joined together and do their part to help those in need of assistance by raking yards, painting fences, cleaning up damage and much more. With the help of local agencies, they were on the hunt for volunteer sites.

Only positive feedback has followed from last year's gathering. Approximately 400 participants attended this year's Big Event, which didn't account for those came that day.

Moyer believes this is not only an event that supports the community at large, but also one that allows students to accomplish other goals in the process.

"I think The Big Event is a great event because it brings together the students, faculty and staff at Wilkes University and the local community of Wilkes-Barre through various service projects," Moyer said. "I believe people should get involved because it is a great opportunity to give back to the members of the surrounding communities and an easy way to fulfill any service hours."

For pharmacy major Kristofer Rivers, this

year is his first year overseeing The Big Event and helping out where needed, and he also sees the event as something that benefits students while also providing a way to get involved.

He said for one, it gives a chance for students to actively participate with new students and each other in a community event.

This day of service is also great for Wilkes' relationship with the local community, especially for students to give back. He said it fosters the relationship with the school and surrounding area.

"It gives students a sense of pride that they're helping out and will encourage them to help out in the future wherever they go," Rivers said.

He said everyone should volunteer at some point through the year every year.

"It is great to improve the area you live in and great for individuals to grow in all aspects of their lives," Rivers said. "This is that chance for students, and all they have to do is show up and offer their time. It's simple, but should be a lot of fun."

This year's group also worked together with Student Development Activities Assistant Kayla Cauthon to make the event a success. Cauthon is both new to the university and it is her first time involved with The Big Event, as the adviser.


She said that because it was previously advised by someone else, taking on the event was a bit overwhelming at first. However, she said it's been a challenge that she's accepted and she feels that everything is coming together smoothly.

"Working with the students has been really great, seeing them grow as leaders and answering any questions that they may have," Cauthon said.

Cauthon also believes that community service is important, especially to the university. She said the purpose of The Big Event is to say thank you to the local community, and that because we are in inhabitants of this community, it is important to do so.

"It's always nice to be able to give back," Cauthon said. "It is a way to work alongside faculty, staff and community members. It's a different kind of event. The community gives back to us, so it's awesome to be able to give back to them."

For more information on The Big Event, visit www.wilkes.edu.

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Members of the basketball team help clean up garbage around the river commons while Jimmy Brackett, left, and Devin Dunn attempt to make surrounding



The Beacon/Trevor Gilliam

lots cleaner. Almost 400 students signed up to participate in The Big Event, and subsequently spread out from the areas around Wilkes campus.



April is National...

National Humor Month, International Guitar Month, Keep America Beautiful Month, Lawn and Garden Month, National Poetry Month, National Pecan Month, National Welding Month, Records and Information Management Month, Stress Awareness Month, Jazz Appreciation, Confederate History (in the southern states), Financial Literacy and Sexual Assault Awareness Month

Pinterest: A How-To Guide

Admit it, everyone is on Pinterest. It's chock-full of amazing ideas and simple crafts that cause everyone to take one look at the picture with the "it's so easy!" description and declare, "I could do that." After some severe craft fails (and successes), I, **Anne Yoskoski**, decided it was time to share these experiences with everyone, hopefully saving at least one oven, set of eyebrows, trip to the doctor for stitches and a carpet in the process.

Hand scrub

This craft was very easy, and the most expensive part was the dish soap.

Supplies:

1. Dawn dish soap with Olay
2. 3/4 cup sugar

Procedure:

1. Mix

While surprisingly easy, it is also highly effective. The only thing that one has to watch for is making sure that the mixture is not runny or too much like a liquid.

This makes a perfect gift, and inexpensive mason jars or cleaned jelly jars are the perfect container.

For the person who has rough hands from outside activities or a person who is planning on gardening this spring, this is a great recipe.



The Beacon/Anne Yoskoski
Leave your hands soft and smooth
with this inexpensive hand scrub.

A+

Wilkes students will 'step out'

Professional choreographer offers lesson

By Macey McGuire
Correspondent

The Multicultural Student Coalition will be sponsoring an event called "Art of Stepping," featuring a special guest who has been seen on MTV's "True Life: I'm Stepping."

Jessica Saul, also known as Remo, will be performing step dances and teaching students step dance choreography.

This event will be interactive for the students.

"The night will consist of Remo explaining where stepping came from and about four performances, also allowing the audience a chance to step," Jaleel Sterling, the Multicultural Student Coalition president, said.

So why bring stepping to Wilkes?

"She is actually a close friend of our advisor, Erica Acosta, and we felt that the message that she delivers through her show is good for diversity here on campus," Sterling said.

Associate Director of the Diversity Center for Global Education & Diversity Erica Acosta and Saul are sorority sisters.

"She (Saul) started this program the "Art

of Stepping," to educate mainly obese students who do like a health kick step up," Acosta said. "For example she will go to different colleges in the area and do a performance. And then the audience will be interactive as well."

Saul's "Art of Stepping" workshop is scheduled 7 p.m. April 11 in the Henry Student Center Ballroom on the second floor. This event is open to all students on campus courtesy of the MSC.

Sterling said there is a chance that the fraternity brothers of Alpha Phi Alpha, who appeared at the talent show last fall, may be making an appearance.

Remo will be bringing her students to perform and show Wilkes' students what the three-to-five minute dance routines look like.

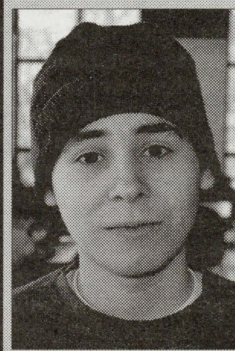
"I just want everyone to know that this is a big night for us and we are really excited and looking forward to a great turn out," Sterling said.



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THE WORD AT WILKES:

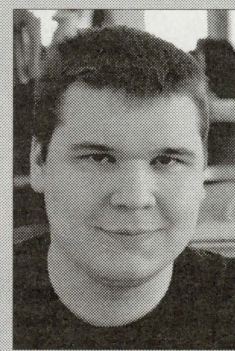
What did you do for April Fool's Day?



Jamie Alderiso:

Junior English
and theater major

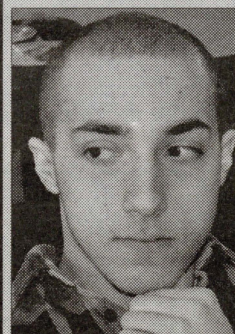
"I didn't remember
it was April Fool's
Day until 11:30 p.m.
and there was no
one around to
prank."



Jon Sytko:

Second year
Pharmacy Major

"I put green dye
in my mother's
milk to make
her think it was
spoiled."



Richard La Mana:

Sophomore
Physics Major

"We bought my
friend a fake
winning lottery
ticket."



Samantha Early:

Freshman
Communication
Major

"My brother told
me he got a girl
pregnant as an
April Fool's joke."

Res Life brings movie theater to Wilkes

Wilkes screens movies 24/7 on Channel 98

By Macey McGuire
Correspondent

As a college student it is hard to find the time to go out and see the newest movies or even find a place to rent movies. Sure there's a movie theater a few blocks from the Wilkes campus, and red boxes at nearby gas stations, but wouldn't it be more convenient if there were an easier way?

Thanks to Residence Life, there is a much easier way to see new movies.

Starting after spring break, Res Life brought about Channel 98, a channel that new movies will be aired for 24 hours a day for Wilkes resident students.

"Residence Life has been researching different benefits for on campus students and this was a perk we felt could be implemented and that the students would really enjoy," Elizabeth Swantek, director of Residence Life, said.

The program is the result of student government and school officials observing it at other colleges.

"This is a program that other schools have available to their resident students that Wilkes has been looking to incorporate for a few years now," Bethany Sharpless, president of the Inter-Residence Hall Council, said. She

helped coordinate plans with the Res Life to make this Channel to be available for the students to watch.

"This is the first time that a campus-sponsored movie channel has been featured at Wilkes," Sharpless said.

As far as the channel's movie selection goes, students should expect to see eight different movies a month. This month the movies that have aired on the channel are "The Dark Knight Rises," "Flight," "Argo," "Ted," "The Twilight Saga Breaking Dawn, Part 2," "Ted," "The Iron Lady," "Perks of Being a Wallflower" and "Paranormal Activity 4." Students have chosen these movies.

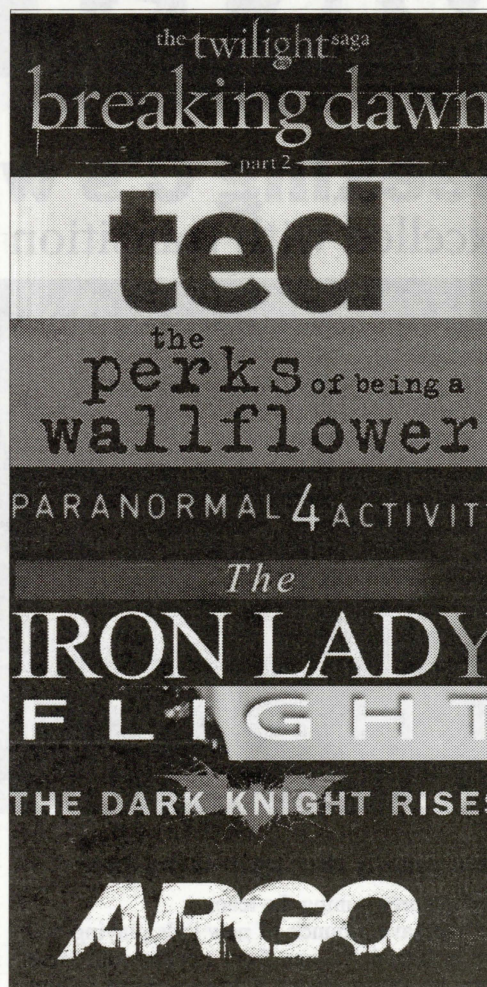
"We create an Excel spreadsheet and send it to all the RAs," Swantek explained. "They have either forwarded the information to their residents or posted the spreadsheet by the common TV."

The Res Life will be sending out surveys each month to see what the students want to see on the channel.

So far, Sharpless and Swantek said they have heard good feedback from students who really like the addition of this channel.



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Blood drive set for April 9

10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on April 9 in
Henry Student Center lounge

One donation can save up to three lives.

Uses of one donation include plasma, red blood cells and full blood transfusions for patients at Geisinger, Wilkes-Barre General, and hospitals in Danville.

The last blood drive at Wilkes exceeded its target goal of 53 donors, bringing in 72 participants.

Give Gab is a new social media system Wilkes is using for the volunteer, as well as posting community service events and Student Government activities.

For more information, see the calendar of events on the Wilkes website, or contact Megan Boone at megan.boone@wilkes.edu.

Beauty Beat: Max factor, color harmony, the invention of makeup

By Ashley Evert
Staff Writer

While applying your daily swipe of lip gloss or waterproof mascara in the morning, you probably have not given a second thought to who created these formulas. It's common knowledge that people throughout every culture have used certain beauty products for ages.

We are all familiar with the bold eyeliner associated with the ancient Egyptians and the outrageously pale skin that is synonymous with women of the Renaissance (bloodletting with leeches, anyone?), but who turned beauty products into an industry?

I'm sure we've all heard the name Max Factor in reference to the makeup brand, but very few people realize the impact he had on the world of beauty. Polish-born Maksymilian Faktorowicz immigrated to the United States in 1902 and began selling makeup products to local actors in St. Louis under the shortened version of his name, "Max Factor."

He eventually made the move to Hollywood and began perfecting makeup for movies. His most notable clients were early screen sirens Jean Harlow, Bette Davis, Joan Crawford and Judy Garland, all of whom became regular visitors at his salons.

He improved formulas for greasepaint, the original formulas of which he thought looked

dreadful and terrifying on screen. He created a more natural-looking flexible greasepaint to replace this.

In 1918, Factor developed his 'color harmony' face powder range. This allowed him to create make up for each individual based on their skin tone and became one of his most notable accomplishments.

Women were so impressed with this makeup on screen that they wanted to wear it daily. As a result, Factor opened a whole line of cosmetics to be used by the public in 1927. Factor's daily-wear face products could be considered the predecessors to modern foundations, tinted moisturizers and B.B. Creams.

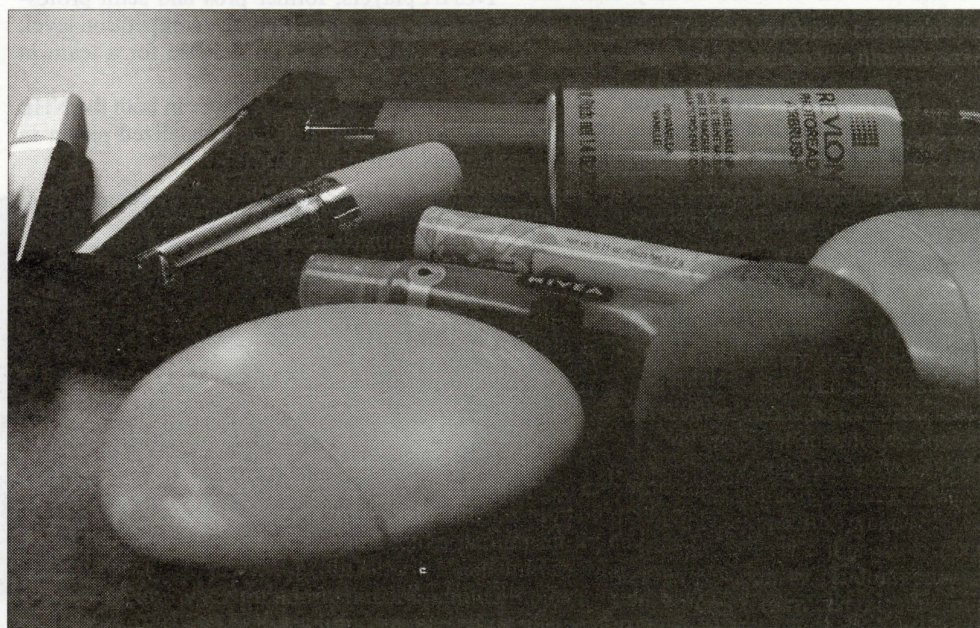
Factor has been dubbed the inventor of many revolutionary makeup products, including lip-gloss, pancake foundation, panstick foundation and waterproof formulas.

Without Max Factor, we might not have these revolutionary products today. Panstick foundation is still made by Max Factor & Co., with numerous variations on the formula to accommodate certain skin types.

With such great vision, creativity and drive, there is no wonder that Max Factor is unanimously known today as the inventor of modern makeup. You can still find the Max Factor & Co. cosmetic brand in almost every drugstore.



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The Beacon/ Anne Yoskoski

Beauty products as an industry is relatively new. The "Max Factor" used as a buzzword in many beauty product advertisements actually comes from the true founder of the beauty business, Maksymilian Faktorowicz.

Have beauty questions? Tweet them to @wilkesbeacon and our beauty expert will address as many as possible.

April 9, 2013

Contact co-editor: frank.passalacqua@wilkes.edu

Ice Colonels seeking C's with confidence, chemistry

Club hockey team has excelled with transition to Revolution Centre, new talent additions



Senior Epes Harris looks for the angle on his penalty shot against the Pan-

By Frank Passalacqua
Sports Co-Editor

With only 14 collegiate competing sports teams, it was said Wilkes may be looking to add a few new ones to the university.

President Leahy, I'm looking at you.

After how the club ice hockey team has been playing lately, they can certainly give an other D-III team a run for their money.

In only their second year, the Ice Colonels have improved vastly over last year's record of (2-12). The team lost six seniors, but have also added new faces with freshmen and

sophomores joining the team.

"We have a bunch of new kids playing and we switched leagues from people who were semi-professionals to a league more of our level," said Ben Eaton, goalie.

In fact, last year's opponents were anything but intermediate. The conference consisted of NCAA players, former pros and semi professionals. To get an idea of the competition level, Dennis Bonvie was on defense for a team in the league.

Bonvie was a former player in both the NHL and AHL, and is the most penalized player in professional hockey history.

ther's goalie. The club quickly developed rivalries with most teams in league.

This year, the Ice Colonels find themselves in a much more reasonable league, the Penalty Box Hockey League. The PBHL consists of players who signed up to be apart of the league to play for fun. The team now plays at the Revolution Ice Box in Pittston.

"This year we can still have a good time even when we're losing because it's more relaxed than last year," said Eaton. "It's really helped us develop. Most of us all know each other from having classes and the group of friends who played together over the past two years so we're all having a good time."

And a good time it is.

The Ice Colonels have fought their way to the top of their C/D Division, ranked at No. 2 with a (7-4) record. What's more impressive is the fact they pulled together a season-changing five-game winning streak and have not lost a single game in the month of March. The streak included a whopping 10-4 victory over the Silver Bullets. The Silver Bullets were the only undefeated team in the league at that time at (8-0).

What seems to be bringing the team together is the team chemistry they have built over time. Granted this league is just for fun, the Ice

See Hockey, Page 19



The Ice Colonels have an interesting situation when it comes to the man between the pipes. While most teams struggle to have one goalie, the Ice Colonels have three. With this multi-goalie approach they've seen great success as they hold many shut-out periods and keep teams guess with the rotation

between veteran senior Charlie Riley, pictured in net, returning sophomore Ben Eaton, 49, in the left of the picture and freshman Jayden Hensley on in the right of the picture.

The Beacon/Jake Cochran

Getting to know...

Tori Kerr

Freshman Midfielder

BY JAKE COCHRAN

Sports Co-Editor

Tori Kerr is a freshman early education and special education major. She is a top scorer for the Wilkes University women's lacrosse team and has great expectations for the team this season. She took time to sit down and talk to The Beacon about lacrosse and her pregame rituals.

What position are you?

I'm midfield, I'm center, and sometimes I do the draw to start off the game.

Do you like doing the faceoff?

I was definitely nervous in the beginning of the season, I was like "Oh my god I'm a little freshman they are going to body me." Definitely with the practice I am getting better at it so I feel better about it.

What made you choose Wilkes?

I heard about it and I was on Berecruited.com and I really wanted to play lacrosse in college but I wasn't sure. So I got an email from Kammie the head coach and I checked out the school and I loved it, automatically. I saw the campus and I knew I liked it.

Why lacrosse?

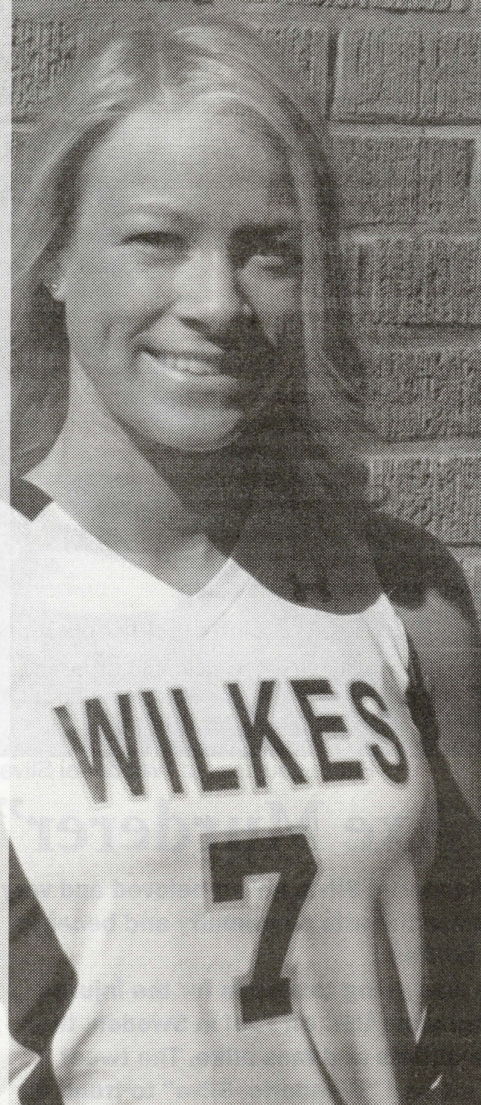
That's a good question because I just started my ninth grade freshman year in high school and the program just came to my high school, because normally I played soccer and basketball. But I said "I'm going to try lacrosse." I fell in love with it; it was awesome.

What was the difference with lacrosse from soccer and basketball?

It's a lot harder because you have to really practice; obviously it's hard catching a ball in that little net on the end of a stick. I just thought, "Wow this is hard but I'm going to try."

When you're out there on the field what's the feeling?

Well, it's a different feeling from any other sport I played. As soon as I picked it up I was pretty quick with it because I'm athletic but it was definitely harder but I liked that because I had to put more work into it. It wasn't like kicking a ball or dribbling a ball, it takes a lot of practice but it was good.

Do you have any pregame ritual?

Not really, I just kind of go out there.

Do you listen to music before games?

Yeah, in our locker room actually we blare music so everyone gets pumped up. I never really used to do that in high school but it definitely works.

What do you normally listen to?

We listen to rowdy, really loud or techno, just stuff to get you pumped up and we jump around.

What would your playlist be?

We have a lot of hip-hop like Lil Wayne, stuff like that. We have "Turbulence," and like, we have a lot of songs like "Go hard or go home." "Light Work." Stuff like that, just pretty much about putting in work.

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This week Sport Court Co-Editor Jake Cochran looks at both sides of athletes using social media to break news

Featuring...
Jake Cochran
Sports Co-editor



It's amazing

Think of this this way, would you rather someone like Georges St. Pierre have a twitter account and publicly state that he's never been on twitter at all, that he has a whole other person run his "verified" account.

Or would you rather have someone like Wanderlei who you absolutely are positive that he's running his account. Wanderlei will respond to his fans and he will tell the people what he wants to hear, all while maintaining his Wanderlei Silva-man-of-the-people style.

So if Wanderlei wants to play an April Fools Joke on the media outlets and say that he is stepping in to fight against someone, let him say that. He said it himself in the apology video that he released in the next few days that it was just a joke and if anything he thinks he made people excited about what on paper looked like a very lackluster card to most fans.

Plus if the UFC were to actually offer him the fight, he would have taken it. Even during the whole prank Wanderlei kept his attitude of fighting anyone at anytime and tweeted the phrase "Fight is Fight."

Which, while it might not be correct gramitically, it speaks volume about the character of this man and shows his true warrior spirit even during a joke.

So people can't even be mad about the idea that he made this up because if the UFC did offer the fight to him on short notice he would have without a doubt taken it. This even set up the marketing for the future fight with Mousasi.

There are a few reasons why they wouldn't offer him it at that time, one being salary, Wandy doesn't fight cheap and timing.

Timing literally meaning the time zone difference between Las Vegas, Nevada his main training facility and Sweden the location of the fight.

Plus in the end he apologized to everyone involved, including Gegard Mousasi, and he said even if he doesn't accept the apology that he does fight in the same division so he would make it happen. At the end of the day it was a good thing for the sport and Wanderlei came out on top.

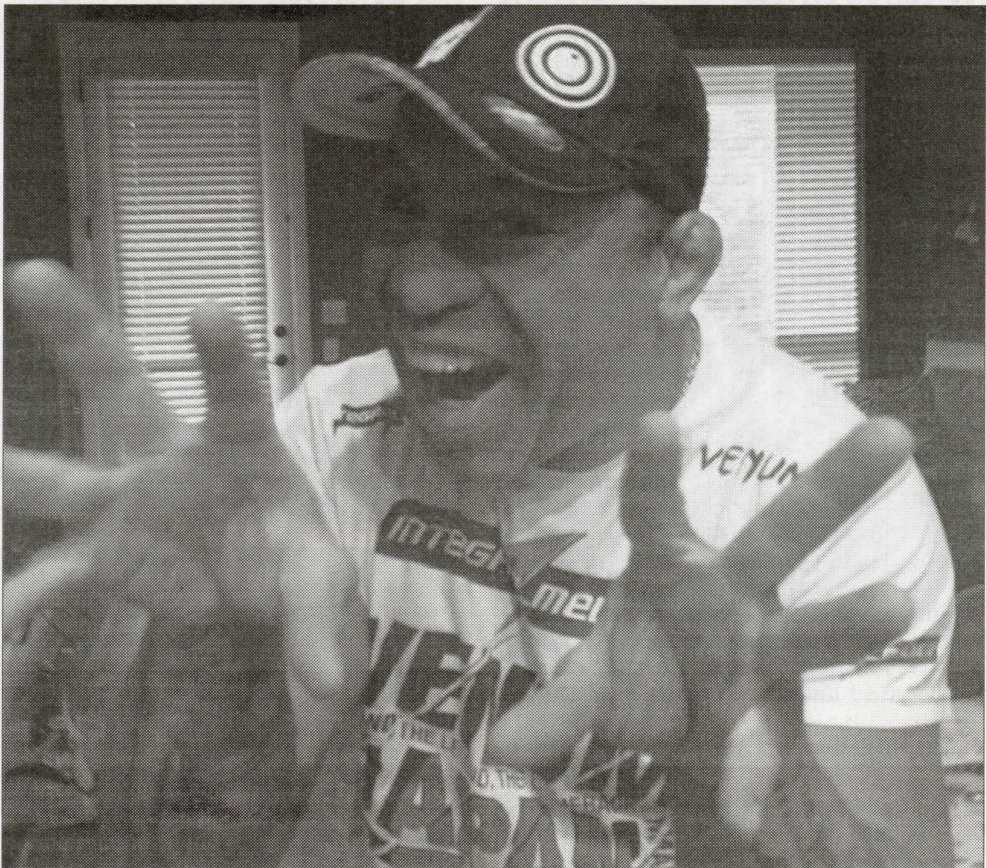


Photo courtesy of Wanderlei Silva

The case of "The Axe Murderer"

That frightening image above is that of Wanderlei Silva, he's a beloved and very accomplished fighter amongst the mixed martial arts community and because of this he has over 375,000 followers on twitter.

So when he tweeted on April first that he was going to step in for the injured Alexander Gusstaffson this weekend to headline UFC on Fuel in Sweden, there was an out pour of responses from media outlets and fans alike. The tweet became a sensation on Twitter and even caused "Wanderlei Silva" to trend on both the first and second of April and keep his name in the headlines all week. But what happened after the tweet is where the problem has arisen. Silva gave interviews to any outlet that wanted them to confirm that he was in fact fighting, only to then tweet this picture the next day saying he had fooled everyone.

It's terrible

The thing that everyone must keep in mind with this whole twitter fight acceptance/offer prank is, is how an April Fools joke is pulled off. Take this classic example for one, trick a person at work and saying, "Hey I just ate your lunch!"

They then go and check to see if the lunch is in fact gone and either the bag is in plain view for them to see or you make it a little tougher hide the bag somewhere in fridge for them to find and then you say, "April fools!"

Then there's not harm done, no one actually goes hungry and it's a fun little 'gotcha type moment.'

Not, continuing to hide their lunch until the next day and they go hungry and then tomorrow tell them, "Man I really got you, you were soooooo hungry!"

The second option is basically what Wanderlei Silva did, he told us the news we were all hungry to hear, someone would be replacing Gustafsson after he received a mysterious cut in training. (The cut being mysterious as to what the next plan of action will be.)

But Wanderlei Silva led the media, fans and most importantly Gegard Mousasi on a wild goose chase. In the end, Wanderlei would not be fighting Saturday and he knew it but continued to do interviews saying that he would be fighting.

The repercussions were not as severe as they could have been though because Mousasi being the gracious fighter that he was, said he would fight anyone on the short notice, which is a long stretch from what some other fighters might do, if you can remember UFC 151. Or not remember it, since it didn't happen because of another late camp injury.

So in the end Wanderlei's all-in-fun joke was not so much fun for everyone other than Wanderlei Silva and he should have showed a little more restraint because he should know what kind of a great impact he has within the sports world with just 140 characters.

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LAST WEEK
Baseball

- 4/1 Lebenon Valley L 8-17
 - 4/3 University of Scranton W 5-3
 - 4/5 Manhattanville W 17-13
 - 4/6 Manhattanville L 2-7, L 5-8
- Softball
- 4/3 Lycoming College L 1-3, L 1-5
 - 4/4 King's College L 7-9, L 5-7
 - 4/6 Manhattanville W 5-0, W 5-4

- Men's Tennis
- 4/6 Eastern University W 9-0
- Women's Tennis
- Eastern University W 9-0
- Women's Lacrosse
- 4/4 Suny Old Westbury W 16-2
 - 4/6 Eastern University W 18-12
- Golf
- 4/3 King's College L 374-334
 - 4/3 Misericordia University L 374-355

THIS WEEK
Baseball

- 4/7 King's College
 - 4/12 Eastern University
 - 4/13 Eastern University
- Softball
- 4/11 Susquehanna University
 - 4/13 Eastern University
- Men's Tennis
- 4/7 Marywood University
 - 4/9 Fairleigh Dickson

- 4/13 Arcadia University
- Women's Tennis
- 4/10 Fairleigh-Dickson
 - 4/13 Arcadia University
- Women's Lacrosse
- 4/8 Suny Maritime
 - 4/10 Suny Canton
 - 4/13 Arcadia University
- Golf
- 4/3 King's College
 - 4/3 Misericordia University
 - 4/8 Misericordia Invitational

Hockey

Continued from Page 20

Colonels have managed to align their talents and rise to the top.

What seems to be bringing the team together is the team chemistry they have built over time. Granted this league is just for fun, the Ice Colonels have managed to align their talents and rise to the top.

"Our team chemistry is through the roof," said senior Ryan Maloney, defense. "Our top two lines are playing great together. I settled in with my defensive partner and the other defensive pairs have settled in with their guys. We're starting to build confidence. Guys are starting to learn their positions better and figure each other out as a team. It's not just one guy out there scoring all the goals, we're doing it as a team. The only word for it is confidence—going back and keep playing with a chip on our shoulder with the underdog-role kind of mentality."

Even though the Ice Colonels realize teamwork is the key to their success, there is no denying the caliber of talent Sean Ryan brings to the offense.

Playing at center, Ryan leads the entire C/D league with 23 goals and 15 assists for a total of 38 points. Sean is only three points behind the top player in the A/B league for most points in the entire PBHL.

That stat is pretty impressive, considering there are 12 teams total that are playing in this league. However, Ryan quickly dismisses the glory and cites his teammates for the success of himself and the team.



The Beacon/Jake Cochran

Senior Sean Ryan gets the puck lifted off the ice in the warm ups before a game. Ryan is the leading in the league, and subsequently the club team in points. Ryan has been a keystone player for the clubs since it's creation.

"I actually didn't know that statistic," said Ryan. "To be honest points mean nothing to me as long as the team is winning, but it does feel great to know that I'm leading the league and helping the team out. It's nice to see all the hard work pay off, but I wouldn't have so many points without my linemates. They deserve as much credit as I do. We just need to keep looking forward and focus on the play-

offs. As long as we play as a team the points and wins will keep coming. Who knows maybe I'll be leading it all at the end of the season, but more importantly maybe we can bring home the championship for Wilkes."

The championship is now a reality.

The Ice Colonels like to refer to themselves as a third-period team. They adopted that title because the third period is said to be the decid-

ing factor. Numerous times throughout the season, a game has come down to that final period where they have either made a giant comeback, clinched a victory or were handed a narrow defeat.

While everything seems to be going smoothly for the team, they still face some issues.

Since they are not formally associated as a Wilkes University team, there is no funding. With no funding comes the problems.

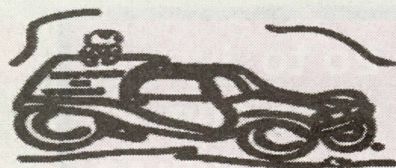
For starters, the only time the Ice Colonels get to practice is when they have games. Since ice time is so expensive, around \$200 an hour, the team can not hold separate practices to train and work on drills throughout the week.

Each player needs to supply their own equipment as well and they have been selling T-shirts on the side in order to make extra money for the team. The Ice Colonels have, though, received a large amount of help from Student Government. SG agreed to pay half of the league fees for the team, basically saving the team from destruction.

However, it is each player's responsibility to make it to the arena for games. The team is hopeful for a potential future shuttle service to and from the area, for the players and to help encourage more loyal fan support from students.

With one game remaining in the regular season, the playoffs are scheduled to begin April 16. If the Ice Colonels prevail, the championship series begins April 18.

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