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The news of today reported by the journalists of tomorrow.

Unity, diversity lecture held for MLK Day

By Genny Frederick
Staff Writer

The Center for Global Education and Diversity held a lecture observing the close ties between diversity and unity in an event for Martin Luther King Jr. Day. The lecture entitled, "A Call for National Unity" was held on Jan. 23 due to the university's closure for observance on Monday.

The lecture brought together many students including members from the Wilkes African Cultural Association (WACA) and the Multicultural Student Coalition (MSC) as well as faculty and staff.

Before the lecture began, Dr. Georgia Costales from the Center for Global Education and Diversity and Erica Acosta, the associate director of Diversity Initiatives, spoke about the importance of celebrating the life of Dr. King. They also discussed how the students' participation in the lecture helped to continue Dr. King's ideals.

Shaelyn Briggs and Mmachi Dimoriaku sang the National Anthem and the Black National Anthem before Brianna Rowland, the President of the Multicultural Student Coalition, began the lecture.

Rowland explained that she started this organization on campus because she understood that she had to change her perspective.

"When problems arise with human



The Beacon/Sean Schmoeyer

Dr. Leon John Jr., director of alumni engagement at East Stroudsburg University, discussed his experiences with diversity.

beings no matter where they lie on this planet, you should not sit idly by and say, 'Well, it has nothing to do with me so I'll ignore it' or 'I don't care.' Trust me, I am guilty of this same issue."

Her introspection led her to create a community on campus with the goal to "keep the conversation of diversity alive." The goal of this conversation is to

bring together people from all different walks of life and to create a family, based on listening and respect.

After Rowland spoke, interim President Dr. Paul Adams spoke to the audience.

Adams recognized that we have steps

KING, page 4

MIH: Wilkes can't overcome crucial call in loss to Elmira

By Ben Mandell
Co-Sports Editor

A crucial call at the end of the second period took United Collegiate Hockey Conference's (UHC) leading scorer, Donald Flynn, out of the game, and it proved to be too much for Wilkes to bounce back from as they lost to Elmira, 3-2.

The call was a five-minute major for interference on Flynn. Connor Powell skated the puck out of his own zone for the Soaring Eagles and as he crossed the blue line, Flynn came across with a big hit, knocking Powell down and drawing the attention from the officials.

The penalty was explained by the officials as a "blind-side" hit, a term not normally associated with hockey.

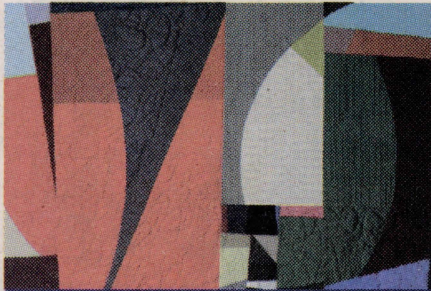
According to the NCAA 2018-2019 ice hockey rulebook, an interference may be called if "a Team A player violently checks an opponent from the blindside."

The Colonels and coach Tyler Hynes pled their case against the call, but they didn't have any luck, and they were down their top scorer for the final 21 minutes of the game.

Hynes opted to not comment on the official's call.

As a whole, Wilkes played a very good hockey game. They outshot Elmira 38-32

MIH, Backcover



Submitted by The Sordoni Art Gallery

New Sordoni Art Gallery exhibit, page 5

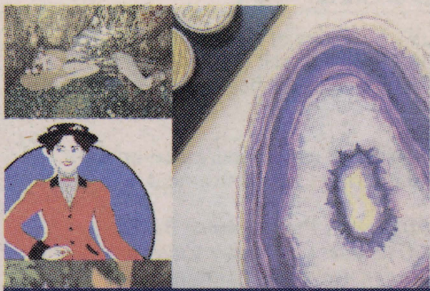


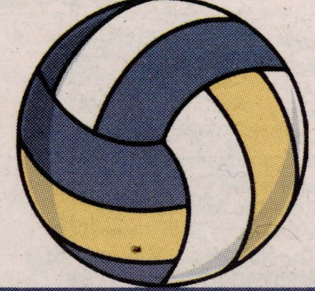
Photo Submitted by Lily Nguyen

Creative Colonel: Lily Nguyen, page 11



The Beacon/Madi Hummer

Adam Sandler shines in "Uncut Gems" without nomination, page 17



The Beacon/Madi Hummer

Men's Volleyball, page 20

News

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

Student Government notes: Jan. 22 weekly meeting

By Sara Ross
Staff Writer

On Jan. 22, Student Government held its second meeting, which featured both first and second-week presentations along with committee reports.

To begin, the Asian Cultural Society's president, Victoria Morrison, delivered a club report. Their mission is to spread knowledge of Asian countries and cultures. They plan on holding fundraisers, such as coffee hour and merchandise sales. The Lunar New Year Event is also coming up, where they expect 200 students to be in attendance.

Sigma Tau Delta, the International English Honors Society, presented a fund

request. Their organization is going to the 2020 Spring Convention in Las Vegas, where they will be having students give presentations and win awards for the university. They requested \$2,500 for their trip.

The Engineering Students Activities Committee is looking to be recognized on campus. Their president, Susan Cook, wants to establish an environment that would bring all the majors of the engineering department together. Fundraising plans for their club would include a gear sale and a Moe's fundraiser. Some events they want to hold are an Engineering Shadow Day, resume workshops and a Welcome Back Picnic.

The Chemistry Club attended the meeting


as well. The group added changes to its by-laws and led a discussion covering a trip to the American Chemical Society Spring National Meeting. Students would have chances to network, partake in graduate school fairs and meet other students from other schools. To cover their trip, the members asked for \$2,220.

The Pennsylvania Pharmacist Association is looking to go to the 2020 Midyear Conference in Harrisburg. Attending this conference would provide pharmacy students with opportunities to network, win awards and participate in demonstrations. They requested a total amount of \$3,129, which would cover hotel and registration fees.

Next up, was a presentation for Casino

Night from the Executive Board Treasurer. The spring semester's theme will be glow-in-the-dark with new prizes, such as an Oculus Quest prize and a paid year of a Disney Plus Membership. The total cost of the event is \$10,800.

The Vagina Monologues fund request was approved, which are a series of monologues that highlight women's issues. For the event, they asked for \$500 that would allow 100 Wilkes students to attend the performance. All money made from the showings will be donated to organizations like the Domestic Violence Service Center, Victims Resource Center and Planned Parenthood.

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Beacon Briefs: Upcoming happenings on campus

Compiled by Sara Ross

Apply for the Briefly Fellowship

The university is seeking candidates for the Bierly Fellowship, which facilitates experiential learning opportunities for undergraduate students who are looking forward to performing work in the field of study outside of campus and the community.

The application can be found online, and if you visit the Center for Career Development and Internship Office, reach out to Sharon Castano, director of internships, by Feb. 1. For any questions concerning the internship, contact Castano.

Get Off-Hours D2L/LIVE Support

Students will be able to contact D2L End-User Support Services (EUSS) through live chat, phone and email for assistance when the Help Desk is closed. They will no longer have to wait until the following week to get assistance when having trouble with D2L.

A link will be provided to access the off-hour services on D2L or LIVE on the homepage in the Help Resources section beginning on Jan. 27. It will also be available on the weekends.

Apply for a Wilkes-Barre/Scranton Penguins Internship


A two-semester internship with the

Wilkes-Barre/Scranton Penguins is available for the 2020 and 2021 academic school year. There will be opportunities for those interested in sports management, marketing, hospitality, supply chain management or accounting.

Benefits of the internship include receiving an understanding of the different functional areas of a sports organization, explore career alternatives through several experiential learning opportunities, network with industry professionals and complete a major project which will add to a student's portfolio. If interested, contact Sharon Castano in the Center for Career Development and Internship Office.

Adventures in Reading

Beginning Feb. 12, Adventures in Reading, an after-school reading program, for children in Pre-K through sixth grade. Teacher education candidates will present thematic learning opportunities across content areas with a focus on vocabulary and comprehension enrichment. It will be a series of eight free sessions that will be from 4 to 5 p.m. on the second floor of Breiseth Hall. Contact Professor, Diane Polachek, for more information and registration.

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Upcoming Events: 2020 Spring Semester

January

30 - Brunch Bash (PB)

February

1 - Skiing Trip (WUSD)
4 - Student Forum (SG)
6 - Paint n' Sip (WUPB)
11 - Rent the Musical (SD)
13 - Valentine's Day Event (PB)
16 - The Ice Cream Museum (SD)
20 - International Bingo (PB)
18-21 - Casino Week (SG)
27 - Giveaway (PB)
29 - Spring Recess begins

March

9 - Classes resume

12 - Magicaroni n' Cheese (PB)
14 - Axe Throwing (SD)
19 - Techno Bingo (PB)
27 - Spring Fling (SG)
28 - Defy Jump (SD)

April

4 - Phillies Game (SD)
7 - Free Rita's Giveaway (CC)
9 - Laser Tag Tournament (PB)
9 - Holiday Recess begins
13 - Classes resume
16 - Birthday Bonanza (PB)
18 - The Big Event (SG)
21 - Commuter Council Cookout (CC)
23 - Rainbow Bingo (PB)
25 - Block Party (SG)

29 - Final day of classes
30 - Snack Attack (PB)
30 - Final exams begin

May

7-9 - Final exams end/make-up days
16 - Spring Commencement

PB denotes Programming Board
CC denotes Commuter Council
SG denotes Student Government
MSC denotes Multicultural Student Coalition
SD denotes Student Development

Want your event featured in the calendar?
Email: TheWilkesBeacon@wilkes.edu

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It's On Us chapter recently awarded \$30,000 grant

By Emily Cherkauskas
Staff Writer

The university's "It's On Us" program has made a strong impression on campus since the 2018-2019 school year when the chapter was formally established on campus.

The efforts of the chapter can be seen after the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania awarded Wilkes University \$30,000 towards the "It's On Us" organization, an initiative dedicated to raising awareness about sexual assault and intimate partner violence.

This is the third time that Pennsylvania has awarded Wilkes with the "It's On Us PA" grant.

According to the Pennsylvania Department of Education, the statewide "It's On Us PA" campaign "invites everyone to play a role in ending sexual assault."

The program "brings together college and university presidents, superintendents, administrators, teachers, students, families and community members to reframe the conversation around sexual violence and pledge to be part of the solution."

Including Wilkes, a total of 38 institutions around Pennsylvania were awarded the grant, with fellow local colleges Marywood University and Keystone College also being named recipients.

Wilkes University interim President

Paul Adams expressed his satisfaction at the news.

"Creating a safe, welcoming environment for all of our students is our highest priority," Adams said, in a press release. "We want to thank Gov. Tom Wolf, Sen. John Yudichak, and Rep. Eddie Day Pashinski for their continued support of Wilkes students, especially when it comes to combating sexual assault."

In his announcement, Gov. Wolf stated, "Every student, teacher, administrator and visitor to our campuses deserves a safe environment free from harassment."

This is the fourth year that Wolf's administration will be working along with schools and communities to build programs. Since 2016, a total of almost \$4 million has been awarded to these institutions.

"We must never tolerate this behavior on our campuses or a culture that allows it," Wolf said.

"Governor Wolf's 'It's on Us' initiative

has helped colleges like Wilkes University implement programs aimed at preventing sexual assaults from occurring on campus,

as well as raise awareness on how to report assaults if they occur," said Independent Senator John Yudichak of Carbon and Luzerne Counties. "The funding received today will help Wilkes University with their efforts to ensure that students have every resource available to make them feel safer on campus."

Lindsay Becker, junior criminology major and president of Wilkes' "It's On Us" chapter described her eagerness to work with the grant this year.

"I made it my mission to make Wilkes University safe for those who have gone through sexual assault and to actively fight against the threat that is college sexual assault."

She also added, "It's amazing that we received the grant. It allows us to help

educate on the issue of sexual assault and bystander education. Having the money will allow us to put the necessary resources to help students and the campus culture."


"It's On Us" will be working alongside Wilkes University Title XI program and its coordinator, Samantha Hart, who has already recognized the efforts of the movement.

"We are honored to be a grant recipient, which will allow us to continue to provide the best education and response to sexual violence," Hart said.

The funding will be used to educate and train both students and faculty/staff on identifying, responding to, and reporting any form of sexual violence on campus.

Additionally, the grant will help to support a month-long awareness campaign in April, which is Sexual Assault Awareness Month. During that time, "It's On Us" plans to continue its Red Flag Campaign, a movement that teaches the importance and strategies regarding bystander intervention towards sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking on campus.

The Red Flag Campaign also encourages friends and other campus community members to speak up when they notice any possible warning signs, also known as "red flags," of intimate partner violence.

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Graphic by Madison Hummer

Wilkes University Board of Trustees elects three new members

By Wilkes University Marketing

The Wilkes University Board of Trustees welcomed three new members to seats on the board. The Board of Trustees welcomed the new members during the Fall 2019 semester.

The new members, Lisa Isbitski Golden, Willia Hanbury and Tara Mugford Wilson. They officially joined the Wilkes University Board of Trustees at the October meeting in 2019.

Isbitski Golden is from Moosic, Pa., and a 1990 alumnus. At Wilkes University she earned a bachelor's degree in nursing, and later received her master's degree in health administration from King's College. She now is the chief operating officer of Geisinger Health Plan. She has served in that office at Geisinger since September 2016.

Golden holds a certification from the

American Case Management Association while also being a certified healthcare insurance executive. She is also an alumnus of the American Health's Insurance Plan Executive Leadership program.

Hanbury, of Skaneateles, NY, is a 1972 graduate of Wilkes University. He later earned a Masters of Public Administration degree from Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government. Hanbury has more than 30 years of nonprofit executive management experience and has served in multiple CEO roles over his career.

Hanbury was in the role of CEO at the Bermuda Tourism Authority, United Way Capital Area, Destination DC, Visit Milwaukie, the Hilton Head, S.C. and the Chamber of Commerce. Hanbury is also a former chairman of Destinations Internation.

Wilson is from Dallas, Pa. She is currently the president of Power

Engineering Corporation (PEC). PEC is a family-owned-and-operated mechanical construction and HVAC service company. The company is based in Wilkes-Barre.

Wilson is currently the chair of the Greater Wilkes-Barre Development Corporation Board. She is also a current member of the United Way of Wyoming Valley and a past co-chair of its Annual Campaign to give back to the local community.

In addition, Wilson is also a member of the Greater Wilkes-Barre Chamber of Business and Industry/Growth Partnership Board. She is also on the board of the Appleseed Foundation, Geisinger Wilkes-Barre Advisory Board, Circle 200, and Luzerne Foundation.

In 2019, Wilson was the recipient of the Athena Award presented by the Greater Wilkes-Barre Chamber of Commerce. According to the Greater Wilkes-Barre Chamber of Commerce website, the Athena

Award is an award that is presented to a woman who exemplifies the highest level of professional excellence in her community in a meaningful way while also assisting women in attaining their full potential.

Golden, Hanbury and Wilson join the current Board of Trustees members Daniel Cardel, Chair; William R. Miller, Vice-Chair; Daniel Klem, Jr., Secretary/Assistant Treasurer; Laura B. Cardinale, Treasurer/Assistant Secretary; current Interim President Paul S. Adams; Carolann Besler; Terrence Casey; Cynthia Charnetski; Edward Ciarimboli; Charles F. Cohen; Jeff Davidowitz; Ray Dombroski; William Grant; Jason Griggs; Ellen Stamer Hall; Seymour Holtzman; Randa Fahmy Hundome; John Kerr; Milan S. Kirby; Gregory MacLean; George J. Martz; Gerard McHale; George Pawlush; Thomas Ralston; Hedy Rittenmeyer; Steven Roth and Mathew Sordoni.

Pharmacy, nursing students take on Script Your Future challenge

By Parker Dorsey
News Editor

Students from the Nesbitt School of Pharmacy and the Passan School of Nursing are collaborating for the ninth annual Script Your Future Medication Adherence Team Challenge.

The challenge has Wilkes students working with health profession students from across the country competing in the 2020 Medication Adherence Team Challenge.

The challenge is a two-month-long competition to raise awareness about medication adherence as a critical public health issue.

The Medication Adherence Team Challenge is a part of Script Your Future, a campaign started by the National Consumers League (NCL) in 2011.

According to Script Your Future, more than 18,800 health care students involved in the challenge directly counseled nearly 78,000 patients since its start. The challenge has reached more than 26 million consumers about the importance of medication adherence.

Last year, Wilkes earned the Rookie Award for their debut in last year's challenge, where they engaged with over 100 scouts in the Generation Rx and

MedWise Scout Events of the importance of proper medication usage.

They also collaborated with local pharmacy organizations to advance medication adherence efforts for diabetes, respiratory disease and cardiovascular disease.

The mission of the National Consumers League (NCL) is to protect and promote social and economic justice for consumers and workers in the United States and abroad. They are the nation's oldest consumer organization.

"Today's medications are better than ever at treating and curing people, but these treatments can only work if patients know the importance of taking their prescriptions as directed," said Sally Greenberg, NCL Executive Director in a press release released by Wilkes University. "It takes all members of the health team to make that happen, and pharmacists play a big role in that circle of trust."

According to the National Consumers League, in the United States nearly three out of four patients do not take their medication as directed, which could lead to serious complications.

Additionally, poor medication adherence results in more than one-third of medicine-related hospitalizations and

almost 125,000 deaths occur annually due to poor medication adherence.

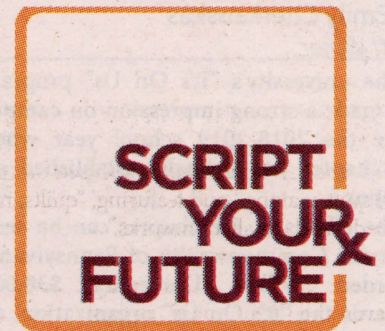
Sponsors for the challenge include American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy (AACP), the National Association of Chain Drug Stores (NACDS) Foundation, the National Community Pharmacists Association (NCPA) and the American Pharmacists Association (APhA).

The Wilkes University team is comprised of pharmacy students Brianna Boyer, Deanna Fox, Devanshu Kothari, Neha Kunche, Marissa Lewis, Erica Mabry, Sergey Svintozelskiy and 13 club liaisons from various professional pharmacy organizations across campus.

Competition efforts will be coordinated by Dr. Troy Lynn Lewis, assistant professor of pharmacy, in conjunction with the Passan School of Nursing through Faculty of Practice member, Angela Jones.

Marissa Lewis, P2 pharmacy student, is the SYF social media coordinator for Wilkes.

"From my perspective, this is an amazing challenge to be a part of because medication adherence is so critical in ensuring our patients are healthy and their disease states are being managed," said Lewis.



scriptyourfuture.org

The challenge started Jan. 20 and will end March 20, and students involved will go to various events around the area in order to do community outreach.

Anyone interested can follow the Wilkes' Script Your Future team on their Facebook page or on Instagram (@wilkesu_syf). For more information on the challenge, visit syfadherencechallenge.ning.com. Participators will be using the #SYFchallenge hashtag and following the campaign on Twitter (@IWillTakeMyMeds).

For more information about Script Your Future, please contact Dr. Lewis at troy.lewis@wilkes.edu.

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KING, from front

to take toward unity.
"We applaud creative expressions of words, music, and dance but we're reminded of how far we still have to go to fulfill the dream of Dr. King," he said. "Being present in this space today together is our tangible demonstration to each other that we believe in the ideals set forth by Dr. King."

Costales spoke again this time to introduce Dr. Leon John Jr., of East Stroudsburg University, whose dissertation, "Self-Efficacy Among Students of Color at Predominantly White Institutions of Higher Education in Northeastern Pennsylvania," highlights the problems students of color face on campuses in the region.

John emphasized the celebration of diversity and how this celebration ultimately leads to unity.

He shared his experience with diversity leading to unity while growing up in the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago.

He explained that the nation celebrated a large number of public holidays each year, however, these holidays were not simply a day off from school.

"Imagine for a second, everyone regardless of color, creed, or race celebrating the same holidays together. The love and pride that the citizens of Trinidad and Tobago showed when celebrating another's culture is infectious," said John. Rather than a passive goal, "unity is action and we cannot have unity without taking action," according to John. Rowland earlier had also encouraged students, faculty, and community members to lean into this call to action,



The Beacon/Sean Schmoyer

Mmachi Dimoriaku sang the Black National Anthem before the lecture.

do not have to be as rebellious as Dr. King was, but we can be messengers." Some ways to start include participating in campus organizations and simply listening to those around us. After John finished speaking, the lecture was turned back over to the

"It's on you to be the change. It's on you to find your own voice not to mimic what your parents or grandparents are telling you how it was in the good old days. We need you."

This call "to be the change" does not have to be earth-shattering," John said, "We

students in attendance. Noella Nkemjeu, junior business administration and marketing major, shared her poem "Unapologetic" which highlights the strength of those who celebrate their diversity in the face of opposition.

When others have attempted to subdue the celebration of her culture she responds in her poem with, "If that makes you feel uncomfortable, I cannot apologize for that. I am unapologetic."

Nkemjeu's poem expressed how creating room for others to celebrate their own identity is as important as celebrating other's diversity.

After Nkemjeu's poem, members of WACA took the floor and danced for those in attendance.

Following the dance, Alex DeSpirito, junior, business administration major, reflected on the performance and said, "I'm happy that we have people at Wilkes that are culturally diverse and I feel very blessed that I'm able to go to a school that has events like this where everybody is welcome."

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Sordoni Art Gallery's newest exhibit celebrates quilting

By Sean Schmoyer
Asst. News Editor

The Sordoni Art Gallery is reopening for the spring semester on Jan. 28.

The new exhibit is titled *Material Pulses: Seven Viewpoints*, which the art gallery describes as "an exhibition focused on the art of quilt-making," and featuring, "quilts, mixed media and installation works."

The exhibit's subtitle, *Seven Viewpoints*, reflects that the works curated come from seven different fiber artists. The works themselves were curated by Nancy Crow, a renowned quilting artist and teacher.

Crow talks about the purpose of the curated pieces in the overview of the exhibit, "*Material Pulses* is the culmination of my mission to bring back the majesty, strength and energy of textile works, particularly large quilts."

Material Pulses will feature quilts as long as 101 inches. Outside of the size of the quilts, the artists selected are known for making use of and experimenting with color, pattern and size.

The exhibit plans to showcase both traditional and experimental quilts and methods used to make such quilts.

The seven fiber artists whose works are featured in the exhibit are from the United States, the United Kingdom and Canada. The

list of artists includes:

Mary Lou Alexander, a former biological anthropologist and teacher, who is now a full-time textile artist known for her hand-dyed quilts; Claire Benn, an author, curator and educator of art textiles from Surrey, UK who focuses on expressing solitude, stillness and silence in her work; Elizabeth Brandt, a former freelance illustrator for the *Wall Street Journal*, *Children's Television Workshop* and NPR before she was inspired by Crow's works and became a full-time studio artist; Chris Mauersberger, an American artist who makes "complex mark-making narratives" through paintings, embroidery and installation works; Denise Roberts, a visual artist who views quilts as her creative medium; Jayne Willoughby, known for her work as a coach and in textile, as a mixed media artist and a teacher; and finally, Barb Willis who has been weaving for more than 40 years.

"This exhibition is so different from our last one," said Jessica Morandi, junior digital design and media art major and the Sordoni Art Gallery designer and social media ambassador. "The colors are so vibrant and diverse and the show is light and fun. It has been wonderful designing for this show because it is unlike anything I have designed for before."

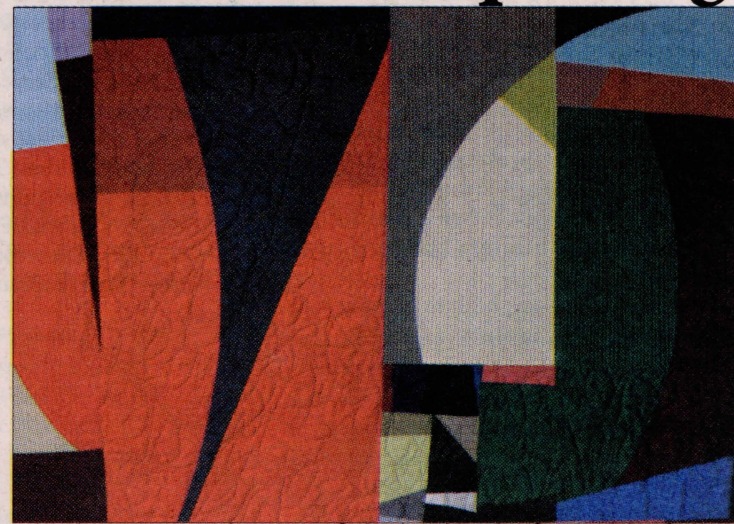
"The motion and the color captured in the pieces were so fun to work with, and even

more fun to see in person."

While the exhibit's main focus is to "contribute to the dialogue of contemporary textile arts," the Sordoni Art Gallery is also hosting the first Art in Context of the Spring semester which plans to focus on how many female artists, that work with fiber, are overlooked by curators and museums.

The lecture titled "What Binds Us Tight" is to be held on Jan. 30, at 5 p.m. in the Sordoni Art Gallery. The lecture will be presented by Eva Polizzi who earned her MFA with a focus on fibers and clay.

"Working in both visual arts and contemporary craft and drawing on a background in languages, my work explores



Submitted by the Sordoni Art Gallery

The Quilt titled "Habits of Being" by artist Elizabeth Brandt, who is one of the seven featured artists of *Material Pulses*.

recording layers of history," Polizzi said in her bio on the Wilkes website.

The gallery is also hosting a film screening on Feb. 19. Those interested in learning more and potentially attending should speak with Heather Sincavage.



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Public meeting held on downtown bicycle and pedestrian study

By Parker Dorsey
News Editor

Consultants for the Downtown Wilkes-Barre/Downtown Scranton Pedestrian and Bicycle Network Study held a Downtown Wilkes-Barre Public Input Session Jan. 21 on the second floor of the Marts Center to review draft plans for a new bicycle network.

Wilkes-Barre is looking into new street plans that accommodate cyclists alongside motorists. The study focuses on two areas in Wilkes-Barre: the first is between Pennsylvania Avenue and River Street, and the second is between Jackson and South Street.

The study commenced for the mostly grant-funded project in January 2019, and there have been a number of previous meetings with a Stakeholders Committee comprised of key individuals from Wilkes-Barre and Scranton to determine where the best routes would be to place bicycle facilities.

Funding secured by the study includes \$54,500 from the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) and \$75,000 from the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR).

Public participation was noted as being

a key in developing the early stages of the Bicycle and Pedestrian plan, resulting in input sessions such as the one held last week. They hope to have the proposals finalized in the spring.

"The LLTS MPO noticed that bicycle facilities have been a key and thriving mode of transportation and economic development in different cities around the United States and really wanted to try to incorporate them in the downtowns of both Scranton and Wilkes-Barre," said John Petrini, Transportation Planner for Luzerne County Planning. "Linking these new proposed routes to existing trails/routes will be key in developing a successful bicycle network."

The proposals could reduce some lanes of traffic in order to accommodate cyclists, which would result in more congestion. Some of the proposed bike route ideas include "sharrows," where lanes would be shared by both motorists and cyclists.

Incorporation of street signs and road-surface striping and symbols would designate lanes as either strictly for cyclists or shared between cyclists and motorists.

"I think it's valuable they're trying to improve cycling, but in a real cycling environment where you have street lights for

cyclists, cyclist boxes and all that kind of stuff, I don't know how that's going to happen. We're not at that point yet here in Wilkes-Barre," said Dr. John Koch, professor of computer science at Wilkes University.

Koch has biked for over 15 years and currently bikes to campus from Shavertown. He noted that there have been more cyclists in the area the past few years. He would have liked to see more Kingston routes.

Other proposals included changing one of the driving lanes on West Northampton, South Franklin and Jackson streets into bike lanes, and narrowing the driving lanes on Main Street to create bike lanes on both sides of the street.

There are no cost estimates yet for any of the proposals, which encompass 18 downtown streets and Public Square.

Feedback from the audience was positive but with concerns. Many liked the Franklin Street proposal and felt that would be the easiest to implement, as well as being a benefit to students of both Wilkes and King's campuses. Others felt that while the plan was friendly to cyclists, it was equally unfriendly to motorists.

A point raised was that the Wilkes downtown was designed in 1975 and that

traffic patterns needed to be reorganized in order to implement many of the proposals. Questions raised included where traffic would go after the changes were implemented and how drastically the changes would affect the cityscape.

According to the LLTS MPO website, "The use of bicycles for commuting as a transportation alternative is well documented within our downtown areas. Yet presently, the only existing connections within both downtown areas are at grade on city streets, with no safe amenities (such as signage, delineation and bike racks)."

Petrini said that even after the plan gets finalized, placing actual bicycle facilities within both Wilkes-Barre and Scranton will not be accomplished overnight. Future phases of the study plan to account for traffic patterns and traffic counts.

The next phase of the project would be to eventually connect the two cities of Scranton and Wilkes-Barre. Petrini noted that this would require more grant funding for another study, but this would be the overall goal down the road.



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Students, faculty react to recent presidential impeachment

By Sean Schmoyer
Staff Writer

Coming into the new year, President Donald Trump was officially impeached by the House of Representatives. The case to remove President Trump from office was brought before the Senate on Jan 21. As of Jan. 26, the hearings had been going on for five days.

This past week saw both the Democrats make their case against Trump and Trump's team present their defense argument.

Students around campus shared their knowledge and stance on the impeachment trials.

Domingo Franciamore, senior history and education major, said, "I have been paying attention because the last impeachment was 22 years ago. On the other hand, it is a complaint created by the Democratic party to a Republican-controlled Senate. They will be carrying out the trial process so while I am not entirely nihilistic about the process, I have my reservations."

Franciamore, who is about to begin his student teaching in a history class, elaborated expressing how he wants to see the trial proceedings go fairly.

"I am not sure how it will turn out. If it was not done by the books, not everything was handed over, and the trial was not 'clean' I am not sure how OK I would be with the results if nothing is found. If the trial is clean then I would accept it," he said.

A common worry among students was one shared by Franciamore and Jennifer Boch -- that the partisan nature of the trials will impact the end verdict.

Boch, sophomore history and international relations major, said, "I have been following a decent amount of the proceedings but have not watched all of it. I know the key/main details of the process taking place. I think this case is extremely important regardless of partisanship because the process to remove the most powerful person in our democracy has been invoked. It is serious business."

Since September, Trump has been under suspicion of having committed crimes that fall under the misdemeanor definition of "high crimes and misdemeanors." This means that the House of Representatives believes that President Trump committed political offenses against the community and the state as a whole.

Assistant professor of political science, Benjamin Toll explained the current process.

aid to a country that is in the middle of a war with Russia until that country opened an investigation on a domestic rival's family," Toll said.

Ukraine is the country mentioned by Toll, and the case for the abuse of power article comes from Trump withholding aid with the implication that doing so personally benefited him. The obstruction of Congress comes from Trump's decision to tell those who work with him not to

did do what they are claiming I think they are impeachable offenses and he should be removed," Boch said.

Boch also expressed that she felt that there were many other options the House could have picked to use as articles of impeachment, as she felt the abuse of power and obstruction of Congress are not the President's worst offenses.

Regardless of the outcome of the current trial, the many look to the 2020 political election. While the result of the trial could have a large impact, it is also important to look towards the future and decide what needs to change in a country that has an impeached President of the United States.

"I think it will not have an impact," said Gubbiotti. "The level of election engineering that has occurred over the past few years has already solidified the political viewpoints of the electorate. The government should return to its duty of serving the citizens. Eliminating misinformation from national decisions is perhaps the most important

goal for the nation. Government officials could then be elected by their qualifications rather than fear-mongering."

Gubbiotti continued, "National healthcare as a right and not a luxury should not be a national debate. The conclusions of the scientific community should be respected by government officials, not mocked. It will be a long time before the nation heals from the lies told."

"What I would like to see is the softening of partisanship and bridging the growing chasm in American society due to political party and ideology," said Franciamore.

Boch agreed with that sentiment.

"I would love to see less partisanship which has become so extreme. We are always personally attacking each other and it should not be that way. We need to be less selfish and stop isolating ourselves by party."

"The way that I think about it is like a regular trial, the House is a grand jury and the Senate is the jury trial. A grand jury decides if there is enough evidence to move forward, and the House has decided there is enough to move forward, and now the Senate decides whether there is enough to remove President Trump from office," Toll said.

Toll stressed it is important to remember that Trump has officially been impeached; he has just not been removed from office. This means that the impeachment trial is no longer to impeach the President but instead to remove him from office.

How the Senate removes the President from office is by finding him guilty of the articles of impeachment presented by the House.

"The House is not arguing that he has committed treason. The two articles of impeachment were abuse of power and obstruction of Congress. The launching off point is that the Democrats are suggesting that Trump illegally withheld

provide the House with information or to testify.

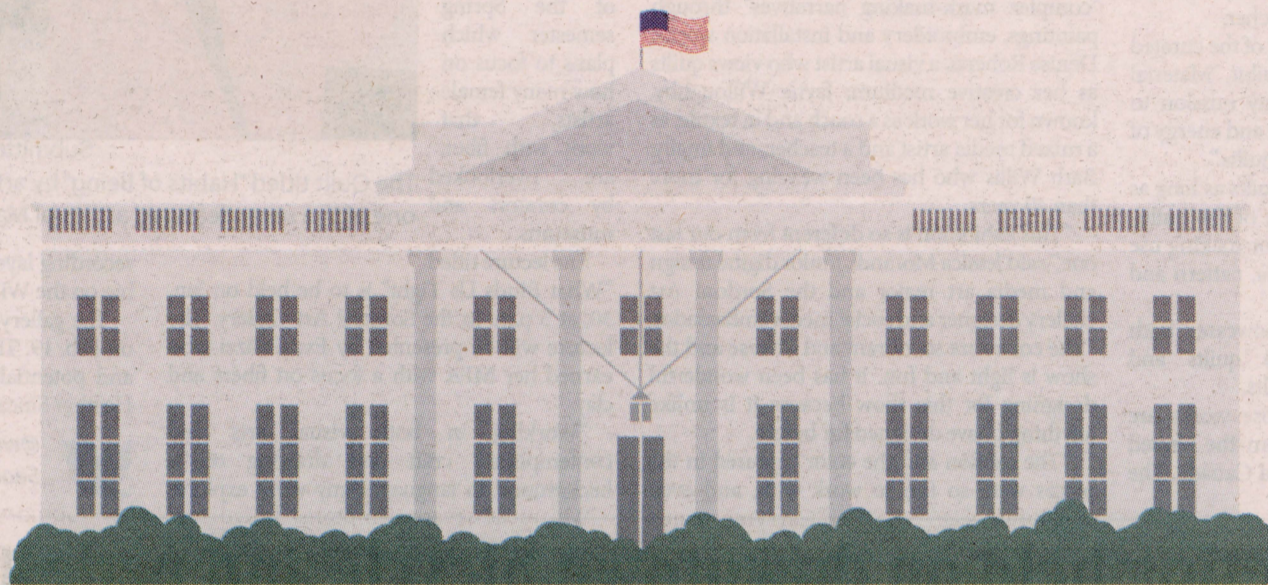
The defense of Trump that has been used is that abuse of power is not an impeachable offense and that a president has to have committed a criminal action to be impeached from office.

What is important to note is that the impeachment process is not a legal trial that results in the criminal prosecution of the President.


Students weighed in on the articles of impeachment selected and how effective they could be.

Joe Gubbiotti, senior computer science and Bachelor of Science major, said, "The charges were certainly well thought out, but seemed far too vague to be as effective as they could have been. The president has done far more than what he has been charged."

"I do not think he is going to be removed from office, and I think the Democrats shot themselves in the foot with what the articles are based on and how they are proceeding. If the trial discovers that he



Graphic: Madi Hummer

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Life, Arts & Entertainment

Tips for keeping healthy as flu season hits campus

By Jordan Daniels
Staff Writer

Student Affairs sent out a recent email alerting the Wilkes community that the flu has been found on campus.

The email included ways to prevent the flu and symptoms of the virus so if any students experienced them, they could react quickly to receive treatment.

"It is very important to take precautions to prevent the spread of the flu on campus," stated an email from Student Affairs. "The symptoms of the flu are as follows: high fever, dry cough, body aches, headache, chills and fatigue."

Any student experiencing the symptoms are instructed to go to the Health and Wellness Center to get tested for the flu. The center has seen a few positives as of this month, but the peak of the flu season ranges from February to early March, sometimes lasting until April.

"Last year we had about 25 cases of the flu but tested probably over 100 students with symptoms," said Diane O'Brien, family nurse practitioner and director of Health and Wellness Services.

There are many courses of action students can take to avoid getting sick. Washing your hands, covering your mouth when coughing and sneezing, not sharing drinks, using disinfecting wipes on TV remotes, gaming devices, computers and phones are all steps students on campus can take to help not spread germs.

"Using common sense and being extra vigilant about handwashing and not being around sick people will certainly be helpful," said O'Brien. "Carrying hand

sanitizers in your purse or backpack will allow you to keep your hands more germ-free."

However, the most important step to take against the flu is getting a flu shot annually. Students and faculty should take advantage of the opportunity of receiving a free flu shot from the Wilkes-Barre Department of Health at the Student Union Lobby on Feb. 4 from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m.

"The first defense against the flu is getting the flu shot," said O'Brien.

Sophomore history and international relations major Jennifer Boch, got the flu before returning to school from winter break. She shared her experience with being sick at school.

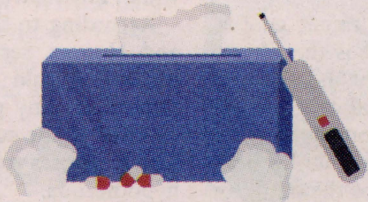
"My most severe symptoms lasted for

three days with a fever, achiness, tiredness, cough, and I had a stomach strain of it, which caused vomiting. However, I did not feel 100 percent until about a week later."

Boch also advises people to get the flu shot every year to protect themselves from getting sick. She clarified why it is necessary for people to do so around this time of the year.

The virus can take a toll on a person's daily abilities for numerous days, especially students who not only have classes to attend but might even have jobs to work.

"The most important thing you can do is rest and relax," Boch said. "Do not try to act like you are fine. Take a pause to your normal pace and take care of yourself because you will feel worse at the end of the day if you do not."



Graphic by Madi Hummer

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WHAT'S HAPPENING AT WILKES UNIVERSITY

Programming Board



Programming Board hosts events almost every Thursday during club hours or thursday evenings.

You can follow them on instagram to keep up with the latest events at @WilkesUPB.

For any questions you can contact Deandre.Depass@wilkes.edu.

Student Government

Student Government hosts events regularly.

You can follow them on on instagram to keep up with the latest events and campus happenings at @WilkesSG.

For any questions you can contact Alanah.Guerrero@wilkes.edu.

SAVE THE DATES!

- STUDENT GOVERNMENT SPRING EVENTS
- 1/16/20 - COUNCIL OF THE CLUBS
- 2/04/20 - STUDENT FORUM
- 2/18- 2/21/20 - CASINO WEEK
- 3/27/20 - SPRING FLING
- 4/18/20 - THE BIG EVENT
- 4/25/20 - BLOCK PARTY

Photos courtesy of Programming Board, Student Government

Stay stylish and warm with these trendy winter fashion tips

Kylie Dillon
Life, Arts & Entertainment Editor

It is always hard to stay fashionable when the temperature starts to drop, especially when our days are packed with fighting the cold and traveling from class to class. Whether you want to look cute to feel more confident in yourself, or you need to attend a meeting with a more professional attire, you can still look the part and feel good doing it.

There are a few ways you can accomplish the 'put together look' while remaining comfortable for those long lectures. No matter how you identify or what your ideal outfits are, these tips are sure to spice up your style.

If you have ever had a cute outfit that you wanted to show off, and you suffered through the cold wind blowing through your open jacket, layering your clothes might help show off that trendy outfit.

Layering your outfits can be an easy yet surefire way to add something special to your day to day outfits. Start off with a thermal shirt to go under your chunky sweater to keep you warm. Pairing it with a pea coat or trench coat and a scarf can give you the look you love and the coziness we all

want in the winter.

"I think layering outfits adds another dimension to someone's fashion and gives the wearer more opportunity to play with pieces that go with the rest of your outfit," said Reynaldo Perez, junior business administration major. "More layers mean more chances for expression in a person's outfit."

Arguably one of the most important choices to make when it comes to style is selecting the right shoe to go with your outfit.

If warmth is what your ultimate goal is, thick socks inside of a boot is the way to go. Boots come in all shapes and sizes, so no matter the look you can always find the perfect one to compliment your style.

Whether it's a knee-high chunky boot that becomes the spotlight of the outfit, or a simple little bootie to keep your toes out of the snow, the options really are limitless.

"Shoes are a critical aspect of every outfit. They help pull together and compliment other items in your outfit. They really set the mood and can change the vibe of an outfit," said Olivia Caraballo, senior mid-level education major. "In winter I try to be practical with my shoes because we get so much snow and ice. Boots with good

traction or lining inside are usually my most worn in winter."

Last, but certainly not least, accessorizing with winter essentials can also add personality to your outfits. Adding items like hats, gloves, scarves, or even earmuffs will provide warmth and there are many opportunities to use them to spice up a look.

Choosing a colorful scarf or a hat that has a unique stitching will add the depth you might be looking for in a winter outfit. Temperatures are steadily dropping, so these winter must-haves are key to a warm look.


According to the Department of Health and Human Services, when it comes to combating cold temperatures, layering is important. Any part of your body that is exposed to the cold can lose its heat faster, which exposes you to things like frostbite or hypothermia.

The Department of Health says you should always have three specific layers that you can then remove if you get too hot. There is the wicking layer which is the one closest to your skin, so it should be breathable. The insulating layer should be something such as a knitted sweater to keep you warm. Lastly, the weather protecting layer which is a heavy jacket to protect you from cold winds.



A large scarf can add unique charm (and warmth) to your outfit.

Although fashion is fun and being able to feel confident in your look is important, make sure ultimately you put your well-being above a nice top or cute pair of pants. There is no right way to style an outfit. Fashion is all about expression and adding your own unique personal flair to your favorite outfits.

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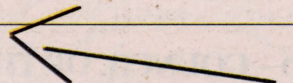
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Wilkes University - Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania

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Staff Writer



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Freshmen and all majors welcome!



Wilkes alumnus takes stage in "Woodstock" King Lear

Wilkes students: Show student ID and receive free admission to Little Theatre of Wilkes-Barre

By Staff Reports

A Wilkes alumnus takes to the Little Theatre of Wilkes-Barre stage in the Shakespearean play, King Lear.

Deirdre Navin ('08) plays Regan, one of Lear's three daughters, in the production.

Navin, who married fellow alum Matt Navin ('07) in May 2018, graduated from Wilkes with her degree in musical theatre.

She has been in many theatre productions within the local theatre community including Rock of Ages, Clue: The Musical, Lend Me a Tenor, and many more at theatres including the Music Box Dinner Playhouse in Swoyersville and The Little Theatre of Wilkes-Barre.

"What I love about the show is how timeless the characters are and how easily the characters can be played differently

depending on the direction and/or actor behind the character," Navin said. "Regan and her older sister Goneril can easily just be seen as the scheming sisters that are hard to differentiate between much like Rosencrantz and Guildenstern (from Hamlet) but with David (Parmelee) at the helm he allowed both Becky (Bennett) and I to explore how they are different from one another."

The Little Theatre of Wilkes-Barre has been a staple of downtown Wilkes-Barre for 98 years. Parmelee, the theatre's general manager, is at the helm of this production as director.

"Many have called King Lear Shakespeare's most modern play. It is bleak and brutal," Parmelee said. "In the lines of Lear, I hear the music of Bob Dylan, the narratives of Jack Kerouac,



Photo courtesy of On My Cue Photography

From left, Deirdre Navin as Regan and Becky Bennett as Goneril in Little Theatre of Wilkes-Barre's King Lear, woodstock edition. Navin is a 2008 Wilkes alumnus.



Edgar, played by Tyler Floryan, is well-born, well-educated, and wealthy—yet, he pretends to be homeless and insane. It's all a ruse. The King, played by Kevin Costley, meanwhile, actually is homeless and insane. He gave his kingdom to his daughters, and they threw him out. From left, is Floryan and Costley.

[and] the drug-fueled rhythms of Neil Cassidy. This led me to set our production in Woodstock, during the festival's 50th anniversary year, and to add the sound of that era: the guitar of Matt Bennick."

Lear describes the chaos — both personal and national — that results when an old king divides his kingdom according to a press release.

"Our Lear is set in the Woodstock era, 1969, where the painful division that now affects our own nation finds its roots. Our cast will include a troupe of roadies: hippies, bikers, Vietnam veterans, and misfits who propel the action," the press release continues.

William Shakespeare's King Lear continues on the Little Theatre of Wilkes-Barre stage Jan. 31 through Feb. 2, with

performances on Friday and Saturday at 8 p.m. and Sunday at 3 p.m.. Wilkes University students can see the show for free with valid student ID. Tickets are \$17 and can be purchased online at www.ltwb.org or at the door.

Interested in more Shakespeare?

King's College, presenting King Lear. Feb. 20 through 23.

Act Out Theatre Group LLC (150 E. Grove St., Dunmore, Pa.), presenting Romeo and Juliet. March 20 through 22.

Wilkes University, presenting The Tragedy of Julius Caesar. April 2 though 5.

WCLH: Weekly Radio Schedule

Wilkes University's daily student-run radio station, WCLH can be found on 90.7 FM. Keep it locked!

Monday

Metal Monday

- "Bag of Rocks" (11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.) Adam Seiwel
- "Metal in the Park" (2 - 4 p.m.) Parker Dorsey

Tuesday

- "Ambassador Radio" (6 - 8 a.m.)
- "Outlaw Hour" (2 - 3 p.m.) Haedyn Hale
- "All Jazzed Up" (4 - 6 p.m.) Nick Alfano
- "Sports Talk w/ Ben Mandell" (10 p.m. - 12 a.m.)

Wednesday

- "Woke Wednesday" (5 - 7 p.m.) Sammi Verespy

Thursday

- "Generation-Rx" (9 - 9:30 a.m.) Harrison Ferro
- "The Third Chair" (11 a.m. - 1 p.m.) Parker Dorsey
- "Rational Choice" (1 - 3 p.m.) Lindsay Becker
- Steffen Horwath (4 - 5 p.m.)
- "The Downbeat" (5 - 7 p.m.) Kyle Kraemer
- "Sports Talk w/ Ben Mandell" (11 p.m. - 12 a.m.)

Friday

- "Mornings with Murphy" (9 - 10 a.m.) Neil Murphy
- "Kickin Country" (11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.) Tyler Aldinger
- "Riverside Chats" (4 - 5 p.m.) Josh Bradley, Matt Finnegan
- "Ragga Vibes" (5 - 7 p.m.) Darien Jacques

Saturday

- "Dead Air" (11 a.m. - 12 p.m.)
- "Classic Artist Spotlight" (12 - 1 p.m.)

Sunday

- "Recesco Communitario" (11 a.m. - 12 p.m.)

M - F: Democracy Now (8 a.m. - 9 a.m.)

For more information, contact Kristin.Rock@wilkes.edu.



BEACON BUMPS

Each week, the Wilkes Beacon staff adds a song to the Beacon Bumps playlist on Spotify. Check us out under the Spotify username, The Wilkes Beacon, or look below for this week's list of songs.

Cabrini Rudnicki, Editor-in-Chief: Tame Impala - Lost in Yesterday
Maddie Davis, Managing Editor: Abhi the Nomad - Me no evil
Parker Dorsey, News Editor: Cannibal Corpse - Scavenger Consuming Death
Sean Schmoyer, Asst. News Editor: I Fight Dragons - A New Brain

Kylie Dillon, LA&E Editor: Amine & Kehlani - Heebiejeebies
Kirsten Peters, Co- Sports Editor: JP Saxe - If The World Was Ending
Kevin Singhel, Asst. Sports Editor: The 1975- Somebody Else
Madison Hummer, Design Editor: Harry Styles - Watermelon Sugar
Ben Mandell, Co- Sports Editor: Josh Turner - Your Man

creative colonels

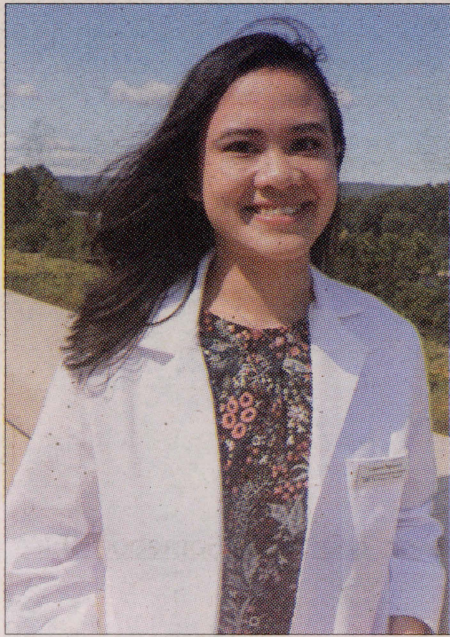
Creative Colonel of the Week: Lily Nguyen

By Kylie Dillon
Life, Arts & Entertainment Editor

When you enjoy something, you can always find a way to incorporate it into the things you do every day. For this week's creative colonel, Lily Nguyen finds a way to bring her artistic talents to spice up her more strict job.

Nguyen, a p3 pharmacy student is the crafty Colonel many of us wish we could be. Mainly, Nguyen enjoys pencil drawings but has also dabbled in other types of art including watercolors, acrylic paints and oil paintings.

Her artistic journey started when she, as a young child, watched her two older sisters express themselves through several art forms.



Nguyen after her White Coat Ceremony for the Nesbitt School of Pharmacy in September 2017.

"I was inspired by them. And I've been drawing since I could pick up a pencil or a crayon. I actually just recently found a book I had of drawings I did from fourth grade," said Nguyen.

As she got older and had less free time, Nguyen's artistic bubble only grew bigger. She started dabbling in digital art, which she completely self-taught, but she prefers to stick with pencil drawings. She says digital art is very versatile and that it allows the artist to make art look however they want it to.

Nguyen stated that she enjoys drawing pictures of more realistic images like people, animals and flowers. When it comes to pulling inspiration for drawings, Nguyen prefers to bring her own style to her art pieces.

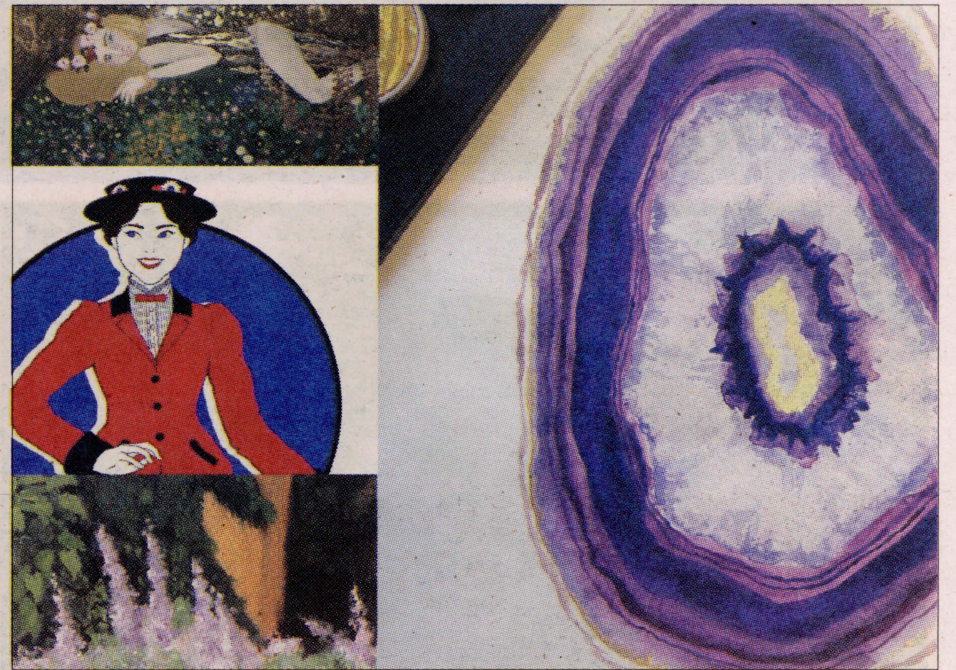
"Usually when I draw I don't really have a reference or person in mind. I just kind of draw different features that I think are appealing," said Nguyen.

Nguyen noted that as she has gotten older, her time to sit down and draw has become very limited, specifically since taking on different responsibilities on campus like being a resident assistant.

However, even in her busy schedule, Nguyen finds ways to make her job a little more colorful with her artistic capabilities. In her role as a resident assistant, Nguyen is tasked with making bulletin boards, door decorations and other hall decorations or posters.

Putting up decorations and meaningful boards are a way to make the residence hall to feel homier, and for Nguyen it allows her to show off her crafty creations.

"I enjoy originality, and the residents like to see effort put into things. I can utilize my talents in a way that would spread happiness or cheer someone up because they know someone actually



Photos submitted by: Lily Nguyen

Pictured above are several of Nguyen's pieces dating back to 2015. The pieces above include an acrylic painting, a digital piece, an oil painting and watercolor painting.

cares for them."


Not only does she bring the art to her position in residence life, but she also manages to make her studies in pharmacy feel artsy as well.

"I use my talents in my field in pharmacy, even though its completely different parts of the brain, any time there is informational sheets for patients that need to be made I know how to make it appealing," added Nguyen. "Even though I'm not studying art I can still apply it to my patients and help them understand their medications and help their well-being."

Creating art for many different things

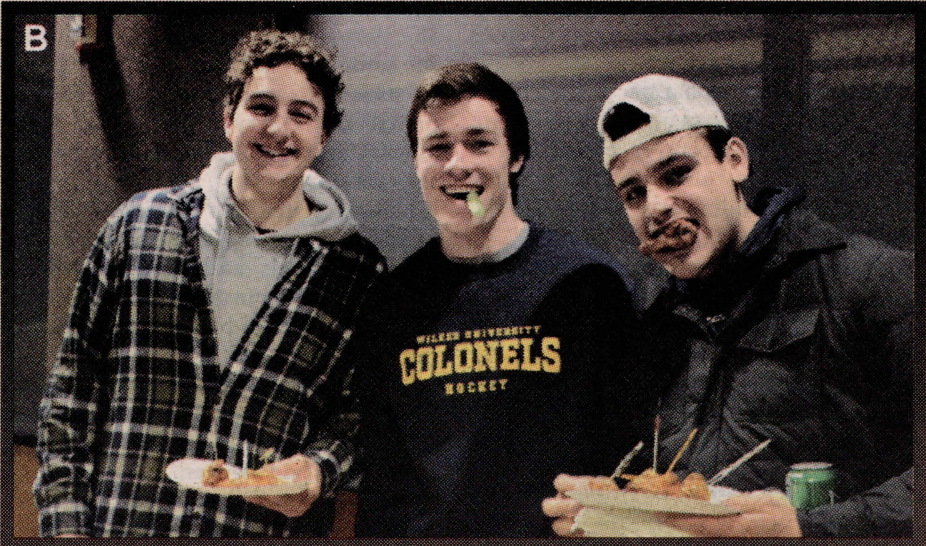
in your life, you can quickly become your own worst critic. For Nguyen, the more time spent working on a piece, the more time she could potentially spend noticing errors that others might even find beautiful. She found it hard to accept imperfections in her works, but the more she worked the more her mindset changed.

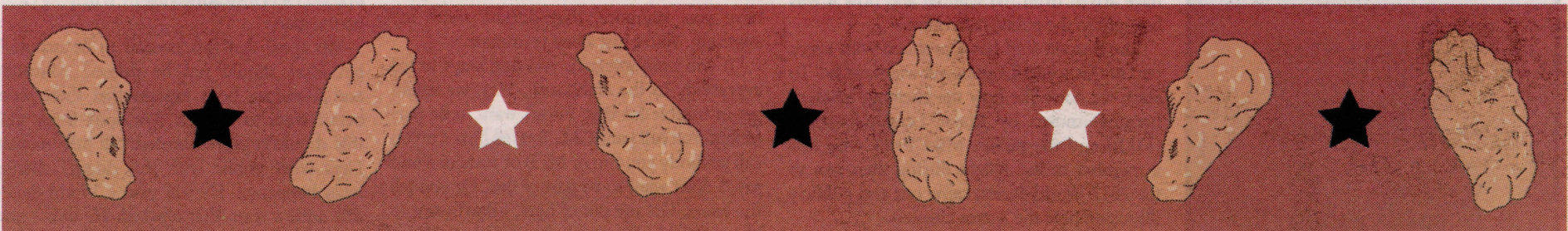
"My philosophy now when it comes to art is it doesn't have to be perfect," added Nguyen. "If there is a mistake and that is fine. I've learned to finish something and then move on to the next project."

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PROGRAMMING BOARD HOSTS

WING ★ WARS





A Holly Jones smiles with her \$40 gift card to Dominos after winning the "Hot Ones" contest.

B Men's ice hockey players Nico Pidro, Scott Mueller and Danny Reidel pose with their wings and celery.

C Nate Whitaker can't handle the heat during the "Hot Ones" contest and reaches for his cup of milk.

D Larry Scartz hoists his ranch-covered wing into the air before chowing down on a plate full of diverse wings.

E Tyler Smith has no problem cleaning the bone during the speed-eating contest, being crowned the winner.

F Wilkes' Programming Board offers a selection of wings: Mild, Whiskey River Ranch, Buffalo Garlic Parm, PUB Sauce, Fu-Manchu, Mango Habenero, Cajun, Siracha BBQ and Jameson for students to vote on their favorite.

G Zack Baraszek tries to make it to the final round during the "Hot Ones" contest.

Page Design: The Beacon / Madison Hummer

Photos: The Beacon / Kirsten Peters

Opinion

Have an opinion or want to write a guest column? Contact the managing editor Maddie Davis at Madelynn.Davis@wilkes.edu.

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2019-20

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Our Voice

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

Fiers should not be praised for exposing cheating

The baseball world is mourning right now. Not the death of a person but the integrity of the game appears to be lost in the wake of the Houston Astros sign stealing scandal.

Players were caught using cameras in the outfield and the replay monitors to steal signs from opposing teams. Many problems have arisen from the scandal and how it was brought to the public's attention.

The Beacon staff has a problem with every part of this scandal and how it was handled. To start, we don't like how the cheating incident became known by Major League Baseball (MLB) and the public. Mike Fiers, who was a member of the Astros during their run to the 2017 World Series, came out and publicly discussed how the Astros cheated.

"They would view opposing pitches in real-time using a camera in the outfield," shared Fiers. "There was a monitor in the dugout that the team could watch in the tunnel, away from the public. After they figured out the signals, the players would hit a garbage can to alert the batter what was coming next."

It is important to note that we agree this needed to be exposed, but the way Fiers did this was cowardly. He came out to the public after he was no longer a member of the Astros. Fiers could have shared his knowledge in private with the MLB, or he could have done so while it was happening instead of reaping the benefits of cheating, such as winning the World Series.

Pedro Martinez, Hall of Fame pitcher and

MLB Network analyst, and Jessica Mendoza, an ESPN analyst and Mets employee, both have questioned Fiers' decision making.

"If he was to do it when he was playing for the Houston Astros, I would say Mike Fiers has guts," Martinez told WEEI, New England Sports Radio. "But to go and do it after you leave the Houston Astros because they don't have you anymore, that doesn't show me anything. You're just a bad teammate."

"If you have integrity, you find ways to tell everybody in the clubhouse, 'Hey, we might get in trouble for this. I don't want to be part of this.' You call your GM. You tell him. Or you call anybody you can or MLB or someone and say, 'I don't want to be part of this.' Or you tell the team, 'Get me out of here, I don't want to be part of this.' Then you show me something. But if you leave Houston, and most likely you didn't agree with Houston when you left, and then you go and drop the entire team under the bus, I don't trust you. I won't trust you because we did have that rule."

Not only did Martinez have some harsh words, but Mendoza also shared comments that received heavy scrutiny.

"I get it. If you're with the Oakland A's and you're on another team, I mean, heck yeah, you better be telling your teammates, 'Look, hey, heads up, if you hear some noises when you're pitching, this is what's going on,'" Mendoza said on ESPN's Golic and Wingo show. "But to go public, it didn't sit well with me. It made me sad for the sport that that's how all this got

found out. This wasn't something that MLB naturally investigated or that even other teams complained about ... It came from within. It was a player that was a part of it. That benefited from it during the regular season when he was a part of that team."

Many people have criticized Mendoza and praised Fiers instead, saying he is helping clean up the game.

We agree that this needed to be exposed, but Fiers should not be praised. Martinez and Mendoza both explain that there were better ways to do this. We don't think that this should've stayed buried, but just because Fiers went public with this doesn't change what happened. He still won a World Series title with a team that cheated. He didn't give up his World Series ring from that tainted championship.

The issue with the MLB in this scenario is this grew right under their noses. They didn't have any knowledge of the situation. After the 2017 World Series win, the Astros bench coach Alex Cora moved on to Boston, bringing Houston's method of cheating with him. The Red Sox, using the same idea, cheated and won the World Series.

We are strongly disappointed that this was able to happen to baseball, and the only reason it was exposed was because of Fiers going public with the information after the fact.



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

All letters to the editor must be sent using one of the following methods:

Email: TheWilkesBeacon@wilkes.edu

Phone: (570) 408-2962 (Voicemail: 30 seconds or less, please.)

Mail: 84 West South Street, Wilkes-Barre, Pa. 18766 Attn: *The Beacon*

The Top Ten Metal Albums of 2019

Looking back at last year's heaviest hits.

If 2018 was the year of solid but not spectacular metal, then 2019 was the year of comebacks. Tool, Exhorder and Possessed each released their first new album in decades. This list has been revised about four or five times simply due to the sheer volume of quality material that was released last year. There were pleasant surprises, comebacks and letdowns. Without further ado, here are the top ten metal albums of 2019.

By Parker Dorsey
News Editor



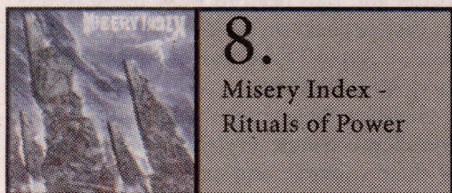
10.
Knocked Loose -
A Different Shade
of Blue

"A Different Shade of Blue" is not just a worthy successor to "Laugh Tracks," it almost completely outclasses it in every way and offers more of everything that made the debut record so compelling. It's more metal, more hardcore and faster. There are some death metal parts, more breakdowns, more anger and certainly more energy. While it is not groundbreaking, it is a very well-crafted and put together hardcore album, and that is enough to make it stand out.



9.
Hideous Divinity -
Simulacrum

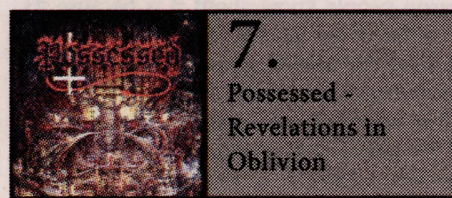
Hideous Divinity is a perfect representation for Italy's brand of death metal: "Italian dudes playing instruments really fast." They have always written powerful material but "Simulacrum" confirms their transition from blunt brutality to intelligent death metal. The album is filled to the brim with huge staccato rhythms interspersed with grinding sections of dissonance and lashings of memorability. This album is over 50 minutes of the almighty riff.



8.
Misery Index -
Rituals of Power

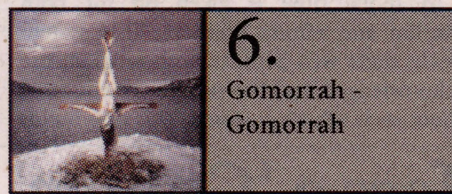
This is yet another battering ram triumph of ferocious, no-holds-barred fury and killer groovy riffs from one of death metal's most consistent and punishing acts. Their grind and thrash-infected style of muscular death metal matches up perfectly with their trademark passionate, insightful and vicious

socio-political tirades. "Rituals of Power" is the weightlifting metal album of 2019 and it is without a doubt going to have a few songs as mainstays during live performances.



7.
Possessed -
Revelations in
Oblivion

Thirty-two years. That's how long it's been since the godfathers of death metal, Possessed, last released an album. Vocalist Jeff Becerra is out to resurrect the dead with a whole new lineup and they do not disappoint. Becerra's one-of-a-kind hoarse bellow leads the charge backed by frenzied riffs and killer drums. This record is fast, furious and features a boatload of classic thrash moments. This is just about the best album they could have produced after three decades.



6.
Gomorrah -
Gomorrah

Can I take "Jaw-dropping albums from unknown bands" for \$2000, please? Thanks for taking a wrecking ball to these rankings. The duo's sophomore release is filled to the brim with pitch-shifted guitar bends that ooze and undulate, rhythmic growling and borderline militaristic drumming by hired drum god Hannes Grossman. It is impressive how tight, well-written and beautifully fluid this album is. Each track is a brutal wonder to absorb and enjoy, and this is an incredible album that raises the bar for technical death metal.



5.
Mayhem -
Daemon

The infamous Mayhem dropped their newest album after what seemed like much longer than five years. I guess that goes to show how uninspired their releases have

seemed aside from their chilling debut "De Mysteriis Dom Sathanas." However, where "De Mysteriis" was cold, worldly, curious and terrified, Daemon is incendiary, aggressive, pained and enraged. Daemon's artistic vision is executed by musicians who are -- without exception -- masters of their craft. This is not an easy listen by any means, but well worth it if you have the time and the stomach.



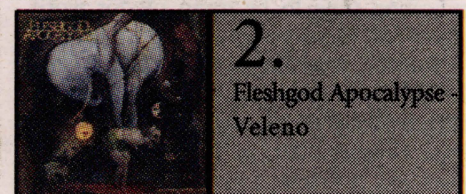
4.
Baroness -
Gold & Grey

Baroness has expanded their own progressive repertoire by going from plain sludge to the realm of hard rock/heavy metal but with a haunting atmosphere. And while this probably will not change the minds of those who think Baroness is a hipster metal band similar to Mastodon (not the first time they have been compared to their contemporaries from Atlanta), think of the sound on this as brooding progressive stoner rock. It is a beautiful masterpiece of well-written, spacey songs where an argument could definitely be made for "Gold & Grey" being Baroness at their peak.



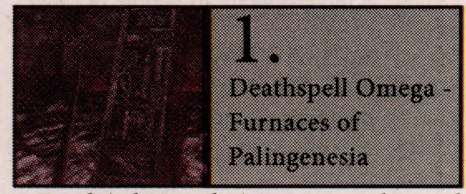
3.
1914 -
Blind Leading the
Blind

With a band name like that, it should come as no surprise what their lyrical themes are. Blind Leading the Blind was originally released on Nov. 11, 2018 -- the 100th anniversary of the armistice that ended the conflict -- before being rereleased this past May on Nuclear Blast Records. What really separates this album from other war-themed bands is the sheer pathos behind it, especially by death metal standards. The articulate vocals and unsettling samples may serve as an aesthetic gateway, but combining these elements is what truly makes this something unique. There is something distinctly haunting here; it is obviously stylized, but it feels horrifyingly real.



2.
Fleshgod Apocalypse -
Veleno

The kings of Italian death metal grace us with another scintillating album. Francesco Paoli's return to vocals after over a decade behind the drumkit brings back a level of raw, primal ferocity not seen since their debut. "Veleno" has them doing precisely what they do best: blending their classical orchestral sensibilities with brutal death metal in an epic, soaring and beautifully intense album with the drums being STUCK ON CAPSLOCK.



1.
Deathspell Omega -
Furnaces of
Palingenesia

Few bands view lyricism as a truly equal part to composition and performance as Deathspell Omega. They've been defining and redefining this universe for a while now, and their latest release is a concept album about propaganda. The mastery on display here is perhaps even more intriguing for the fact that Deathspell Omega chose to record this mystifying and complex album live in-studio on analog equipment and then also mix it with analog equipment. The ringing forward motion of the intricate guitar work, the natural reverb of the drums, the absolute weight and tone of the bass guitars, all meld to create an awe-inspiring dynamic befitting of a truly unique record.

Honorable Mentions

Aephanemer - Prokopton

Kalmah + Ensiferum = Aephanemer.

Moon Tooth - Crux

Incredibly catchy prog metal.

Stormlord - Far

Quality symphonic goodness from the veteran act.

Enthroned - Cold Black Suns

Atmospheric blackened death metal.

Inter Arma - Sulphur English

Heavy, ponderous sludge that pushes forward like a tectonic plate.



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It's unfair to base holidays solely around the Christian calendar

By Zarqua Ansari
Staff Writer

The Western or Gregorian calendar used in America is a staple household necessity. It outlines major events and holidays, indicating time to be given off for work, school and vacations accordingly.

However, according to author Joshua Cole, the holidays encompassed by the Gregorian calendar adhere to the sayings of its founder, Pope Gregory XIII, in Europe nearly 440 years ago. It follows a system invented by a Christian, for the Christians don't look at the needs of other faiths.

Resultantly, the Gregorian calendar is practically synonymous with the "Christian" calendar.

Although we don't call them "Christmas Break" or "Easter Break," their purposes are evident. There is nothing wrong with giving time off for the holidays. In fact, that's the whole problem. The Christian-based holiday calendar is inconsiderate to people of other faiths.

For example, as a Muslim, I observe two major holidays, Eid-al-Adha and Eid-al-Fitr, based on the lunar calendar. This means the holidays are observed roughly 9-11 days earlier every year.

Eid-al-Fitr celebrates the end of the holy month of Ramadan in which Muslims are required to fast (refrain from food and drink) from sunrise to sunset for a month.

This month is supposed to be devoted to worship as much as possible.

For the last few years, I've attended classes and taken my finals while fasting. It's not really an issue to take an exam while fasting, but I don't have time to pray extra prayers and read the Quran. I have several friends who have had to skip fasting because they can't think while hungry. This is a very big deal because fasting is one of the five pillars of faith in Islam.

Another pillar of faith that is often interfered with is the Hajj pilgrimage. Hajj is mandatory for all those who can afford to make the pilgrimage to Mecca and Medina during the ten days prior to Eid-al-Adha.

My father had to take two weeks off from work, without pay, for Hajj. However, every year he gets two weeks off in the wintertime for Christmas. Christmas is both a holiday we do not observe, and it's only a day long holiday.

Holidays are a time to celebrate with friends and family. Religious holidays like Eid require attentiveness.

For those that believe in an afterlife, the primary goal in this life is to secure the best afterlife, a process that requires some sacrifice in this life.

In addition, offering time off for other holidays opens the door for learning. I am often asked around winter time if I celebrate any of the holidays. This happens to the extent that people assume that Kwanzaa is

a "Muslim Christmas." Introducing non-attendance days for other holidays would help people learn about other religions and potentially diffuse the stigma surrounding them.

It's not just Muslims who have issues with the Christian-based calendar.

Sophomore Biology major Holly Jones explained, "Hanukkah is not even an important holiday for Jews. The only reason people know about it is because it's considered to be the 'Jewish Christmas.' Most of the time Hanukkah is done before school break even starts, so we get two weeks off for essentially nothing."

The Jewish day of atonement Yom Kippur involves a 25 hour or longer fast. There are 39 conditions that must be met and many are broken if someone attends their average workday.

People of Hindu faiths like sophomore biology major Charmi Patel said, "Instead of attending religious festivals and celebrations, the past few years I have been in labs that are unable to be rescheduled. My college offers a 'Diwali celebration' hosted by a student-led club, but instead of worshipping and celebrating the holy day, we just eat cheese and crackers and light a sad sparkler."

In India, time is given off for both Muslim and Hindu holidays. This system works quite well because both religions are acknowledged and the people are educated about each other's customs. This also builds

a sense of respect, and humanizes the other religion, making it harder to be prejudiced and racist.


According to the University's undergraduate student handbook, "absences due to illness, religious holidays... are usually considered to be acceptable reasons for absences, but notification of such absences and arrangements to make up missed work should be made with the instructor by the student."

Although these absences due to the celebration of a religious holiday are "usually considered" as acceptable reasons to be absent, it is unclear whether the professors will honor the holidays on an individual basis.

All in all, I understand why it's important to give non-attendance days for Christian holidays, but it doesn't acknowledge those of other faiths.

It's unfair that I couldn't attend my own family's Eid party because I had a psychology class I couldn't miss. It's hurtful that my Jewish friend couldn't take an exam because it fell on a religious day. It's upsetting that instead of participating in the festival of lights, my friend was in a lab mixing chemicals.

I hope one day we can all celebrate our holidays without concern of what we might have to make up tomorrow.

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Golden Globes host Gervais offers a 'Golden' Start to 2020

By Sarah Weynand
Staff Writer

Premiering live on Jan. 3, The Golden Globes seemed to roll out the carpet for the new year and decade. This night, usually filled with laughs and heartwarming speeches was a wake-up call to everyone watching.

The award show is known for being more casual in comparison to prestigious others, such as the Oscars. However, this year's host was irritated about Hollywood's elitist attitude as of late after shocking discoveries in 2019 and the previous decade. He was especially irritated at the sexual assault allegations against Woody Allen, Jeffrey Epstein, Harvey Weinstein and those who covered for them. The spotlights were on, not just on the winners of the past year, but all of the celebrities in attendance and throughout Hollywood.

Ricky Gervais foresaw that some of the

award winners would take their moment in the spotlight to lecture the audience about their duty to help Australia after the fires that have ravaged the continent.

Gervais let everyone know that as his "last year hosting," he did not care at all about who was uncomfortable, because he was tired of the elitism that paved the way for celebrities to get away with anything.

Award shows have allowed celebrities, with astounding amounts of money, to get on their soapboxes and tell the rest of the world that they're at fault for these problems, not them.

In his seven minute opening monologue, Gervais decided that enough is enough, that the wrongdoings of the rich will not be kept in the dark. Several sources seem to understand Gervais's message but dislike his methods. TIME magazine, in their article, "The Best, Worst and Most Bizarre Moments of the 2020 Golden Globes," believed that while there may be truth to the fact that

most celebrities are "woke" hypocrites, "it's not exactly the way to get the crowd in the room, and at home, geared up for a fun season celebrating their favorite stars, films and shows."

Jon Liebetrau, a working actor and acting professor/director of the performing arts also commented on Gervais' approach, "The message - I don't have a problem with. People should change their behavior, but when you apply negative tactics bringing people to your side, it's not the most effective way to make them do so."


"I applaud people that want positive change. Now, when you have a forum as he did, it's important for the entertainment business because we are a political, social, and justice industry. It's a human endeavor that theatre, film, and TV people are a part of," he added.

Although he understandably disagrees with Gervais's bluntness, Liebetrau does believe "we have to be careful about

hypocrisy. If you're going to teach people how to change behavior, you better make sure you do it yourself."

That is exactly why it was something to be remembered as we begin the new year and decade. Sometimes things that need to be heard are uncomfortable. Gervais made sure Hollywood knew that, but consumers of the media and film need to wake up to it, too. It's easy to cheer on Ricky Gervais and then turn on Apple TV, because it's not your fault there are sweatshops.

However, these companies that discourage and silence assault survivors, take advantage of their workers, and care little about the planet that supply them of their wealth, are also supported by the common folk as well as the elite. Going into 2020, it's important to realize that everyone plays a role in the very thing they want to change.

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Players' accountability falls into question after immunity

By Ben Mandell
Co-Sports Editor

The dust has settled on the Astros cheating scandal and Houston has received its punishment. Other teams, the Red Sox and Mets, have fired their managers due to connections to the scandal. Boston is still under investigations for their own cheating scandal, despite firing their manager and former Astros bench coach Alex Cora.

Major League Baseball (MLB) is left with a lot of questions now. How did we get here? How do we fix this? Where do we go from here?

After the scandals were exposed to the public, the MLB had a lot of questions they needed to answer.

The league investigated the Astros and found answers, but the process was not what many wanted. The players from the 2017 Astros were interviewed and questioned, but in order for the league to guarantee honest answers, they granted them all immunity, according to Joseph Zucker's Bleacher Report article on Jan. 22.

This angered the league and many fans, including myself. The players were not

held accountable for their actions, and according to the reports, the players played the biggest role in cheating outside of Cora.

With that in mind, the players should have to take responsibility for their part in the cheating scandal. I understand that the league wanted to ensure they would get the entire truth, but giving the players immunity should not have been the answer.

Carlos Beltran, a player at the time of the cheating scandal, was recently hired as the Mets manager. He was not punished like Cora and AJ Hinch were by the MLB because of the immunity deal he was granted. Beltran did lose his job, however, after the Mets decided they needed to move on and cut any connection to this scandal. If it wasn't for this decision by the Mets, Beltran would've gotten away with his connection to the incident.

The issue I have with the lack of responsibility put on the players is that it sets a precedent for the future.

The players still have their World Series rings. There is no future punishment coming to the players. No fines or suspensions, or in other words, no accountability.

What stops the players from doing this again? There really isn't much except for public ridicule.

Blaming management solely for the cheating is also not fair. Even though I believe managers have the power to shut anything down in their clubhouse, these players are grown men who made conscious decisions to cheat.

The game's integrity took a huge hit from this scandal and letting the players get a pass doesn't do anything to fix it.

There isn't much that can be done now, but the MLB should not have granted the players immunity. They should have gone through their investigation to the best of their ability and given the players some form of punishment.

The issue with the players will now continue into the regular season. Everything the Astros and Red Sox do will be questioned, and the new managers will be tasked with finding a way to run a team with all of this baggage.

Baseball isn't in a great place right now, and the MLB has backed itself into a corner. The only thing they can do at this time is to move forward and hope to


weather the storm.

As for the new managers, the Mets officially announced on Friday that Luis Rojas would take the reins instead of Beltran, per CNN. The team now does not have even the slightest connection to the cheating scandal.

As for Houston and Boston, they are still searching for replacement managers. Time is ticking for these teams, as pitchers and catchers will be reporting for spring training in less than three weeks.

Big names that are still out there include Dusty Baker and Buck Showalter. The Astros could also promote Josue Espada, a name that was thrown around for many open jobs in November. Although Espada could be a good candidate, I do not foresee the Astros promoting from within their program after the scandal.

Both teams do not have a front-runner for the job, but once they hire a manager, they will have a lot of work to do to make up for the tarnished reputation laid before them.

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Adam Sandler shines in "Uncut Gems" without nomination

By Dylan Mehl
Staff Writer

The Oscars, while seen as one of the, if not most, prestigious awards when it comes to films, have made some mistakes in the past. Sadly, this year is no different with the snub of an Adam Sandler nomination for best actor for his lead role in the 2020 film "Uncut Gems."

Sandler's role as Howard Ratner, a jeweler in Manhattan with a gambling addiction who is full of self-delusion, was played masterfully. Sandler's character goes through a roller coaster of trial and tribulation throughout the movie including dealing with loan sharks, a failing marriage, a mistress and much more.

Howard is constantly gambling and pushing all limits possible to win more money which gets him into some serious trouble with said loan sharks. This does not phase Howard, however, as the movie's climax is reached when Howard essentially bets his life on Boston Celtics' power forward Kevin Garnett's performance in his game that night.

With Sandler's acting at its peak, as an

audience member, you find yourself sympathizing with a character who really does not deserve it.

Throughout the movie, it's hard to feel bad for his character as he digs himself in a financial hole because of his seemingly poor decision making and is seen as a jerk based on how he treats everyone around him. There is no logical reason to feel bad for him, but you just do. This can be credited to Sandler and how he is able to make one feel they have an emotional attachment to his character.

The emotions conveyed by Sandler in the movie shows us a side of him movie fans wouldn't expect from the actor who is known for his comedic roles like Bobby Boucher in "The Waterboy." With his dramatic role in "Uncut Gems," we see him in situations we've never seen Sandler in before,



like being mugged, brutally beaten, and in multiple stages of depression. His ability to pull off acting in these situations pulls at our heartstrings and with each scene, Sandler proves that not only is he a real actor but a really good one at that.

Throughout his tenured career as an actor, Sandler had begun starring in some dramatic roles and has earned him some critical praise, like in "The Meyerowitz Show" and "Spanglish," but none of these roles reveal the top-level acting displayed by him in this movie.

That being said Sandler's previous roles in comedies may be the reason the Oscars snubbed him of this award. The egos of those in charge may just not be able to handle the guy who played "Happy Gilmore" being up for an Oscar. If this is the case, then shame on them because Sandler's acting in this movie is phenomenal and

deserves proper recognition.


As a whole, "Uncut Gems" is a wild ride that has you on the edge of your seat wondering what is to come next. Since it's premiere, the movie is doing very well ratings-wise with scores such as, 91 percent on Rotten Tomatoes and 90 percent from Metacritic.

Considering critical acclimation is normally what it takes for a movie and its actor(s) to be nominated for such awards like the Oscars, but for some reason that just does not seem to be the case here.

"Uncut Gems" is similar to a football team that does very well during a season and Adam Sandler is the star quarterback of that team.

If the New England Patriots had an amazing season finishing as a top seed you would expect Tom Brady to be up for the NFL's MVP award. The case is no different here and to see Sandler not even in the conversation in the Oscars eyes is an insult to his dedication to the role.

Graphic Credit: The Beacon/Madi Hummer

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Bre's Beats: Styles releases outstanding sophomore album

By Breanna Ebisch
Staff Writer

Harry Styles has already made quite a name for himself in the music industry. Besides being a member of arguably the world's biggest boyband, One Direction, he has also starred in an Oscar-winning movie "Dunkirk," become a familiar face in the fashion world by modeling for Gucci and claimed the number one spot with his debut self-titled album in 2017 followed by a world tour. For two years, fans have been eagerly awaiting his next release and Styles didn't disappoint with his sophomore album "Fine Line" which dropped in December 2019.

With heavy 1970s influence and rock-and-roll esque sounds, "Fine Line" is full of dreamy melodies and honest lyrics paired with raw emotions. Unlike other mainstream music in today's day in age, Styles truly stands out and continues to make waves within the industry. The album immediately soared to number one on the charts and held the spot for two weeks to be the last number one album of the decade and the first of the next. Between a mix of irresistibly upbeat songs

and heartbroken ballads, it was no surprise the album saw its well deserved success.

The tracklist consists of a total of 12 songs and none of them are remotely similar. Opening with the lighthearted "Golden," Styles pulls you right into the magic of the record with a whimsical feeling portrayed through music itself. Followed by the three catchy singles that were released leading up to the album's debut including "Adore You," "Watermelon Sugar" and "Lights Up," listeners are exposed to the pop-rock element of his sound. Styles kept the vibrancy of the album alive in track nine, "Sunflower Vol. 6," and track 11, "Treat People With Kindness," where he singer encapsulated happiness in each word besides a powerful choir.

Styles has been known for his unique genre-blending ability in his music and he proves that again on "Fine Line." Several of the ballads fall into the soft rock category while others, such as "She," contains heavy electric guitar giving the song more of a soulful feel. Along with portraying emotions wondrously through well-written lyrics, Styles sings about the aftermath of a breakup that's still haunting him on several tracks

making the story behind each song resonate that much more.

The album comes to a close with the title track, "Fine Line," as Styles croons the simple yet promising line "We'll be alright," giving every listener a hopeful note while featuring a strong presence of brass and drums.

Overall, the album is different from anything else being produced in the pop music industry today and Styles embraces the rockstar persona not only on stage but with the unmistakable vocals and incredible musicianship of this record.

With the use of many influences, raw emotions, upbeat melodies and Styles' charisma, "Fine Line" is nothing short of an outstanding album. In a world full of mainstream music created by big name stars, Styles has gone in the complete opposite direction and continues to find unprecedented success. The sophomore album "curse" that most artists experience in their careers, seemingly didn't apply to the well-loved pop star as this record outsold Styles' debut and proved that he is only getting better with time.

On a path to stunning the globe again

with his second world tour "Harry Styles: Love on Tour," Styles has truly embraced his individuality and talent which is on full display in "Fine Line." Give this album a listen because you won't regret what you hear on his 12 track masterpiece. And in the words of Styles himself, "treat people with kindness."



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What does your horoscope have to say for the start of 2020?

By Sammi Verespy
Staff Writer

Welcome back to the weekly horoscope from *The Beacon*. This week is a very powerful one for a lot of signs, so make sure to strap in for the high energy week that is coming at all of you. There is a recent shift into Aquarius, so emotions will be high all around.

Aquarius (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18)

The past month has flashed by for you. Aquarius, you feel like you are stuck in a funk, and to be honest you are. In order to really push forward into the new decade, you need to let go and let a higher energy lead you. It is time to get a jump on your goals as the future is so bright.

Pisces (Feb. 20 - March 20)

This week seems to be a good time to get your finances together. Budgeting has never been your strong suit, meaning it is time to buckle down and get to business. In order to enjoy your new year, you need to be able to fund it.

Aries (March 21 - April 20)

Aries, you are meant to take this time and reflect on yourself. The energy from you is very chaotic and strong. Enjoy a

nice weekend in and practice some self-care.

Taurus (April 21 - May 20)

You are stepping into your true self. Now is the time to take that jump. If an offer comes your way gobble it up and make the best of it. You deserve to enter the new year and claim everything that is offered to you.

Gemini (May 21 - June 20)

You have been a bit sneaky lately. You are no longer in your shell and hiding it though. Be careful who you cross and what bridges you burn into this new year.

Cancer (June 21 - July 21)

You have spent the past few months/years trying to prove that you are amazing to everyone else. Now is the time to prove

that you are amazing to yourself. You are no longer in the hot seat so now you can and should take a breath.

Leo (July 22 - Aug. 22)

Now is a great time for you to step into the spotlight.

You are ready to broadcast your new ideas. Leo, the eternal extrovert, it is your time to shine. Have a great time standing up for what you want and what you believe in.

Virgo (Aug. 23 - Sept. 21)

You have been very stuck in your ways. Now is the time to pioneer a new way of thinking. There are new problems that you have yet to experience coming your way. In order to get through them, you'll need to approach them in creative ways.

Libra (Sept. 22 - Oct. 21)

You have a new relationship heading your way. This may be platonic or romantic, but either way it is going to test you to the max. You are going to feel very off kilter, Libra.

Scorpio (Oct. 22 - Nov. 21)

You feel like your trajectory is off. You need to sit down and balance your priorities. You are sending yourself in too many ways, and with that in mind, you are not able to make sure that you are performing to your best capacity.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21)

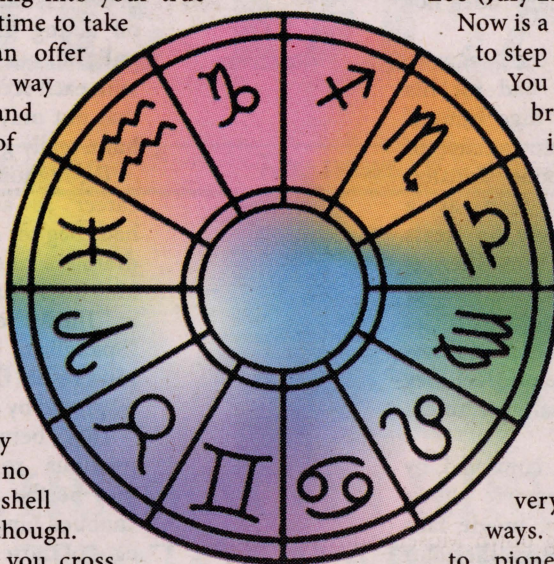
You are feeling a change in your house. This may be family, friends or relationships. It is important to reflect on why you feel this way, not just how. Heal the issues and grow stronger in these bonds.

Capricorn (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19)

You are holding yourself back. Yes, you have worked hard and struggled. But you do not allow yourself to reap the rewards of your hard-work and actions. Use your energy for good in your life.

Graphics: Madi Hummer

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Sports

Want your sport covered? Deserve to be Athlete of the Week? Contact the Sports Editors: Benjamin.Mandell@wilkes.edu or Kirsten.Peters@wilkes.edu

Mahomes, Chiefs square up with Bosa, 49ers in the "Big Game"

By Kevin Singhel
Asst. Sports Editor

The NFL's big game has turned into an American holiday over the years. Millions of people watch the event worldwide, making the game one of the most watched sporting events every year. This year, the hype is no different, as two of the NFL's best regular season teams prepare to square off.

The San Francisco 49ers and the Kansas City Chiefs have looked dominant in both the regular season and the playoffs. So who has the edge in this anticipated matchup?

Not much was expected of the 49ers coming into the year, as their 2018 campaign was a miserable one resulting in just four wins (the second-worst record in the league). However, the 49ers used the second overall pick in last year's draft to select Nick Bosa, a huge boost to their defense.

The defense has been a huge part of San Francisco's success this year, emerging as one of the best defenses in the league. The addition of Bosa was definitely a factor, but the reemergence of former All-Pro cornerback Richard Sherman and adding former Chief Dee Ford to an already talented defensive line also helped.

In the regular season, the 49ers' defense ranked second in total defense and first in passing defense. So, scoring on this unit has proven to be quite the challenge.

However, last year's regular season MVP Patrick Mahomes has proven that he is also hard to stop. He is a quarterback who seems primed to dominate the big game and the league for years to come.

Mahomes followed his MVP year with another stellar season, and he is in the discussion for the award again despite missing a few games due to injury.

In the postseason, Mahomes has been spectacular, throwing for eight touchdowns and rushing for another with

zero interceptions. He also seems to show maturity beyond his years, overcoming large deficits in both of the Chiefs playoff games this year before quickly turning them into blowouts the other way.

Mahomes has plenty of weapons to utilize on offense, including stars like tight end Travis Kelce and wide receiver Tyreek Hill. The Chiefs can score quickly and often, leaving the stout 49ers defense with their work cut out for them.

The 49ers offense may not be led by a former MVP, but their offensive unit is not something to overlook. The offense is led by Jimmy Garoppolo, a quarterback who has learned under the tutelage of greats like Tom Brady, Bill Belichick and the well-respected mind of head coach Kyle Shanahan, who has a career record of 21-5 when under center.

However, unlike the Chiefs,

rushing, even though he rushed 203 times for 1,273 yards over his last eight games prior to playing Kansas City, an NFL record.

The Chiefs defense had been the Achilles heel in the past, but this year things have changed. Additions like Tyrann Mathieu, Frank Clark and defensive coordinator Steve Spagnuolo have turned Kansas City into a respectable unit that can more than hold their own.

If the Chiefs want a shot at winning this game, their defense is going to need to slow the 49ers' running game down and force Garoppolo to throw the ball more.

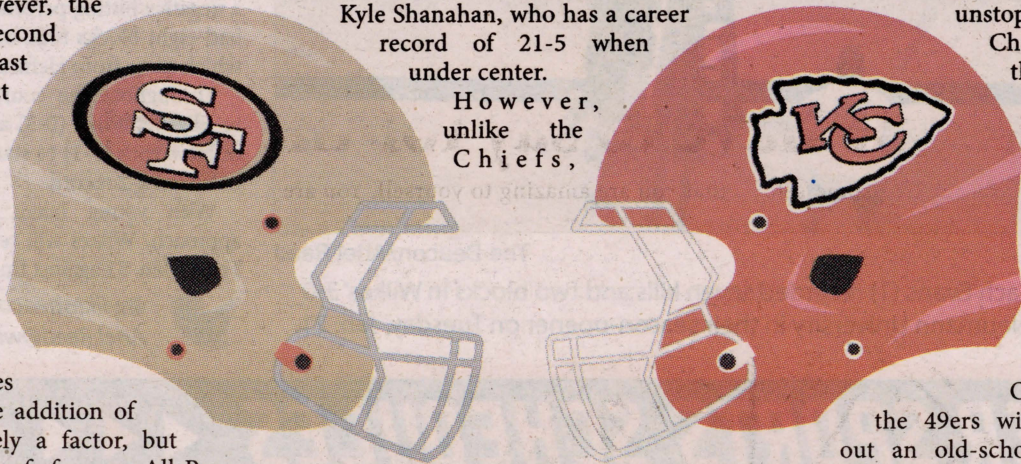
This matchup is so intriguing to NFL fans because of the stylistic differences between these two teams. The unstoppable force of the Chiefs offense meets the immovable object of the 49ers defense.

The Chiefs will try to score quickly and often, forcing the 49ers to throw the ball to stay in the game.

On the flip side, the 49ers will look to grind out an old-school smash-mouth game. They'll look to control the time of possession, keep Mahomes off the field as much as possible and rely on their defense.

The effectiveness of each strategy will come down to execution and the play-calling of each team. Veteran head coach Andy Reid is seeking his first championship to cement his legacy, while Shanahan returns to the big game for the first time since 2017 when he was the offensive coordinator for the Atlanta Falcons and their infamous "28-3" game. Now he makes his debut as a head coach.

A championship is on the line, as well as how these two coaches and their teams will prepare a strategy for one last game. It will be old school versus new school, defense versus offense and a matchup of the NFL's best teams.



the 49ers

primarily focus on running the ball.

Raheem Mostert has evolved into a top running back, and he and the rest of the 49ers running back corps can earn large chunks of yardage on any given carry.

In their previous game against the Green Bay Packers, the 49ers had almost 300 rushing yards. In that game, Garoppolo only completed six passes on eight attempts for 77 yards, a far cry from Kansas City's high-flying passing offense. Even still, slowing down Mostert and the rest of the 49ers rushing game is going to be a tall task for Kansas City.

Luckily for the Chiefs, they already have experience slowing down some seemingly impossible-to-stop running backs.

Just last week, the Chiefs were able to hold Derrick Henry to under 100 yards

Beacon Picks FOOTBALL

Who has the edge between the San Francisco 49ers and the Kansas City Chiefs?

Kevin Singhel
Asst. Sports Editor
Chiefs.

Ben Mandell
Co-Sports Editor
Chiefs.

Kirsten Peters
Co-Sports Editor
49ers.

Kobe Bryant 1978 - 2020

Sports fans everywhere mourn the loss of basketball player Kobe Bryant, who passed away in a helicopter crash on Jan. 26 alongside eight others, including his daughter Gianna, 13. Bryant played for 20 years with the Los Angeles Lakers. He was considered one of the greatest basketball players of all time, having won multiple awards and beating many records throughout his career.

@wilkesbeacon
Kevin.Singhel@wilkes.edu

MVB: Fresh talent leaves Czopeck optimistic for 2020 season

By Ariel Reed
Staff Writer

The men's volleyball team is starting off this season with record-breaking momentum from last year.

In their previous season, the Colonels reached their first double-digit win record. This is the first time Wilkes has accomplished this feat within their four years as a program.

Head coach Joe Czopeck is looking to restructure and continue posting double-digit win records with his talented second and first-year players.

Czopeck has brought in skilled freshmen from various regions to improve upon the team's previous record-breaking season.

"Zach Shay and Casey Shipman are freshman setters who will be leading our offense," said Czopeck about the young talent on his 2020 team. "Both come from quality high school programs that can offer us two different offensive perspectives."

In addition to Shay from Bethlehem, Pa. and Shipman from Hershey, Pa., Czopeck is optimistic about three other fresh faces on his roster. Zach Evans from Nescopeck, Pa., Randall Rykiel from Glenn Burnie, Md. and Konnor Pierce from Souderton, Pa. are standout newbies as well.

"Randy brings us the advantage of height at 6'6". He is rapidly learning the speed of the college-level game," shared Czopeck. "Zach Evans out of local Berwick High School also brings an added dimension to our offense as an outside hitter."

Czopeck has wasted no time utilizing his

young players. In the starting lineup, four of the six starters are underclassmen. Not to mention that nine of the thirteen members of his team are either first or second-year players, leaving his team with only a handful of experienced players.

However, Czopeck is forward-thinking and excited about the diverse players he has brought in and how they will develop throughout the season.

"As a young team, we will continue to learn and get stronger," explained Czopeck. "Our schedule offers the opportunity to develop before we get into the competitive Mid-

Atlantic Conference, already being recognized as a top conference with three nationally ranked teams. We will be battling for one of the five playoff positions."

Wilkes has started their season with a 2-2 record. Their wins come from competitions against Neumann University and Purchase College. The Colonels exploded against Neumann, sweeping them easily in three sets.

For the first game of the 2020 season, Wilkes' offense was powered by junior middle hitter Cole Hefner and sophomore outside hitter Andrew Potter.

Hefner and Potter paced the Colonel offense

with nine and eight kills, respectively. Shay, a freshman setter, debuted his college career with 32 assists and four digs.

Shay was not the only freshman to make an impact on the evening. Evans, an outside hitter, and sophomore middle hitter Ethan Speicher recorded seven and five kills, respectively.

Wilkes' defense played a big role in the game that evening as well. As a team, they held Neumann to a -.13 hitting percentage. This effort was fueled by Evans and Speicher, who tied for a team-leading two blocks on the night.

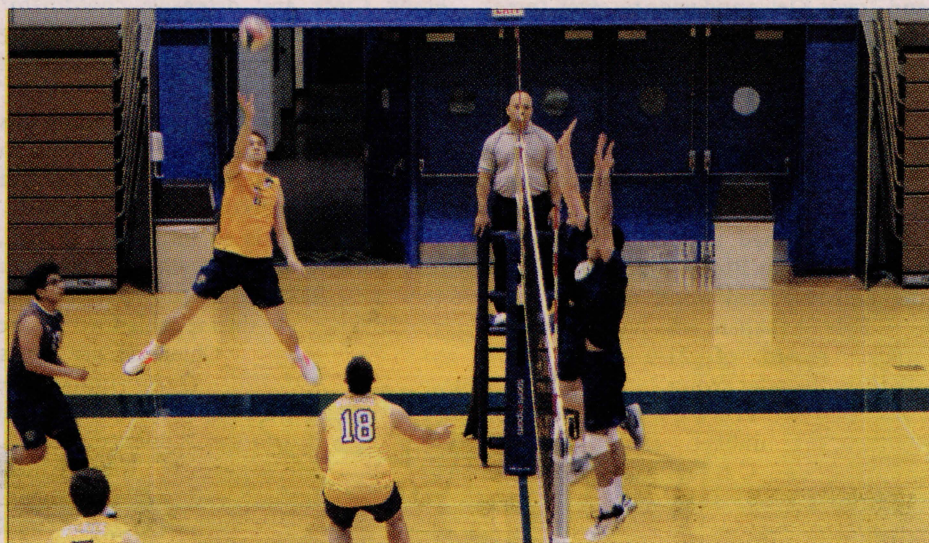
The Colonels' second win of the week was also a 3-0 sweep over Purchase College. In this match, middle hitter Rykiel and Potter led the team with eight and seven kills, respectively.

Shipman, a freshman setter, started his Wilkes career with 24 assists and six digs in the competition while Shay set a career-high 40 assists to help carry the Colonels over the Panthers.

Again, Wilkes' defense played an instrumental role in the win. This is the second time the Colonels have held their opponent to a negative hitting percentage: -.19. The team had eight blocks total on the evening, six of which came from Hefner.


Throughout the course week, Wilkes fell to Elizabethtown (0-3) and The City College of New York (3-1) to start their season with a balanced 2-2 record.

With young talent and an optimistic approach, Wilkes will return to the court on Friday, Jan. 31 against Immaculata.



The Beacon/Ariel Reed

Outside hitter Zach Evans (1) recorded seven kills and two blocks in Wilkes' 3-0 sweep against Neumann University in their season-opener on Tuesday, Jan. 21.

 @wilkesbeacon
Ariel.Reed@wilkes.edu

WINTER SPORTS SCHEDULES

Men's Basketball	Women's Basketball	Men's Ice Hockey	Women's Ice Hockey
11/8 vs. PSU-Scranton, W 122-69 11/12 vs. PSU-Hazleton, W 96-58 11/16 @ Marymont, W 73-65 11/20 vs. U. of Scranton, L 91-62 11/23 vs. Clarks Summit, W 105-63 12/4 @ Marywood, W 89-76 12/7 vs. Messiah, L 80-68 12/15 @ Drew, L 76-65 1/2 @ College of New Jersey, L 95-69 1/4 vs. Susquehanna, W 86-84 *1/8 @ Misericordia, L 68-60 *1/11 vs. Stevens, W 58-55 *1/15 vs. Desales, L 79-74 *1/17 @ Eastern, L 67-62 *1/22 vs. King's, L 75-72 *1/25 @ FDU-Florham, L 77-70 *1/29 @ Delaware Valley, 6 p.m. *2/1 vs. Eastern, 2 p.m. *2/5 @ Stevens, 6 p.m. *2/8 @ Desales, 3 p.m. *2/12 vs. Misericordia, 6 p.m. *2/15 @ King's, 3 p.m. *2/18 vs. Delaware Valley, 6 p.m. x*2/22 vs. FDU-Florham, 3 p.m.	11/8 vs. PSU-Scranton, W 72-28 11/12 @ Centenary, W 46-35 11/16 @ Franklin & Marshall, W 53-50 11/17 @ William Smith, L 59-39 11/23 vs. Marywood, L 65-58 11/24 vs. U. of Scranton, L 78-42 12/4 vs. Gwynedd Mercy, W 73-71 12/7 vs. Pratt Institute, W 65-49 12/17 vs. Lycoming, L 78-57 12/19 vs. Neumann, W 54-40 1/4 vs. Stockton, L 59-49 *1/8 @ Misericordia, L 74-41 *1/11 vs. Stevens, L 85-54 *1/15 vs. Desales, L 70-55 *1/17 @ Eastern, L 65-48 *1/22 vs. King's, L 75-53 *1/25 @ FDU-Florham, W 66-65 *1/29 @ Delaware Valley, 8 p.m. *2/1 vs. Eastern, noon *2/5 @ Stevens, 8 p.m. *2/8 @ Desales, 1 p.m. *2/12 vs. Misericordia, 8 p.m. *2/15 @ King's, 1 p.m. *2/18 vs. Delaware Valley, 8 p.m. x*2/22 vs. FDU-Florham, 1 p.m.	11/1 vs. SUNY Canton, L 5-3 *11/8 vs. Lebanon Valley, W 4-3 11/9 vs. Elmira, W 5-3 *11/15 @ Stevenson, W 3-2 11/16 @ Chatham, W 6-4 *11/22 @ King's, W 5-2 11/23 vs. Albertus Magnus, W 6-1 11/30 vs. Suffolk, W 9-0 12/1 Steve Hoar Tournament, L 4-1 12/6 vs. Manhattanville, W 7-5 12/7 @ Neumann, W 2-1 12/17 vs. Bryn Athyn, W 5-3 1/7 @ Bryn Athyn, W 5-1 1/14 @ SUNY Cortland, L 6-5 1/17 vs. Utica, L 8-3 1/18 vs. Nazareth, W 4-3 *1/24 @ Lebanon Valley, W 5-1 1/25 @ Elmira, L 3-2 1/31 vs. Chatham, 5 p.m. *2/1 vs. Stevenson, 4 p.m. *2/6 vs. King's, 7:30 p.m. 2/14 vs. Neumann, 5 p.m. 2/15 @ Manhattanville, 3:30 p.m. 2/21 @ Nazareth, 7 p.m. 2/22 @ Utica, 7 p.m.	11/9 @ #3 Elmira, L 12-0 11/10 @ William Smith, L 4-1 11/15 vs. Nazareth, L 7-0 11/16 vs. Utica, L 2-1 11/23 vs. Post, L 3-0 11/24 vs. Post, L 3-0 12/7 vs. Anna Maria, W 5-4 12/8 vs. Anna Maria, L 1-0 *1/5 vs. Alvernia, L 4-1 *1/10 @ Lebanon Valley, L 4-2 *1/11 vs. King's, W 3-2 1/17 @ Manhattanville, L 4-0 1/18 @ Neumann, L 4-0 *1/24 @ Stevenson, L 3-1 *1/25 @ Alvernia, W 3-0 2/1 vs. Chatham, 1:30 p.m. *2/2 vs. Lebanon Valley, 3:30 p.m. 2/7 vs. Elmira, 5 p.m. 2/8 vs. William Smith 2/15 @ Nazareth, 3:30 p.m. 2/16 @ Utica, 3 p.m. *2/21 @ King's, 3:30 p.m. *2/22 @ Stevenson, 3:30 p.m.

MBB: Wilkes drops to 1-4 in MAC Freedom after loss to King's

By Dylan Mehl
Staff Writer

Trailing by two with six seconds left in the game, Rob Pecorelli inbounded the ball for Wilkes -- trying to tie the game at the very least. Mark Mullins grabbed the ball at the top of the key and drove to the paint. He went up for the game-tying layup but lost the ball for just his second turnover of the night.

The Monarchs' Jake Pawliczak snatched up the loose ball and iced the game with a free throw to give King's a 75-72 victory on Wednesday.

King's jumped out to a sizable first-half lead thanks to their excellent shooting, totaling 60 percent from the field and 50 percent from three-point range. Guard Kevin Hunter scored a half-high 14 points, going 4-7 from beyond the arc.

Suffering a 44-35 deficit in the first half, the Colonels spent most of the second half playing catch up to get back into the game.

It was a different story for Wilkes in the second half, outscoring the Monarchs 37-31 with a solid team effort. Derek Heiserman led the way, putting up 14 points and 11 rebounds for a double-double.

"My teammates did a very good job at driving the lane and bringing over an extra defender," Heiserman said. "It left me open under the basket for easy dump offs."

In addition to Heiserman, Mullins contributed 10 points, six assists and five rebounds, Pecorelli notched 12 points and both Sean Coller and Donovan Breeding added nine.

Andrew Hudak was a force on the floor

for the Monarchs. He led the way with 27 points and nine rebounds. Not to mention that he was perfect from the field, shooting an astonishing 12-12. Pawliczak also put together a big night with 15 points and 11 rebounds to secure his double-double.

"I think we took some bad angles in the post, and we walked them into some layups," said Wilkes head coach Izzi Metz. "We knew coming into the game that the strength of the team was low post play."

It is still early in the season for Wilkes, leaving the team with high hopes for the remainder of the year.

"As disappointing as this is, we have to keep grinding away in practice. I have to do a better job getting them prepared to play," Metz said. "That's the fun part of conference play. There's parity. We've been on the other end of these close games the last few years and won them."

The Colonels were 1-4 in conference play prior to their 77-70 loss against FDU-Florham on Saturday, which further dropped their record to 1-5.

"I think we are doing things through the game," Pecorelli said. "It will come together, we just need to tighten up a few things."



Wilkes Athletics/Steve Finkernagel

Junior forward Derek Heiserman dominated on both ends of the floor with a 14-point and 11-rebound double-double against King's.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL King's 75, Wilkes 53

Wilkes hung around with the Monarchs but couldn't muster up enough to dethrone the top team in the MAC Freedom.

The Colonels demonstrated their competitiveness in the first half, trailing 33-26 after two quarters. In part, this was due to Wilkes' ability to shoot the ball, going 50 percent from the field and behind the arc to keep them in the contest.

"We played 80 percent of the game to their level, and they're a top team in the league right now," said Wilkes head coach Tara Macciocco. "We need a floor general for when we aren't playing our best. There are some people that are stepping up and getting everyone on the same page, but there are so many young players on this team and we are working on it."


For King's, forward Rebecca Prociak stepped up with 15 points and 10 rebounds to record a double-double while Samantha Rajza had a game-high 18 points.

The Colonels were led by freshman Macy Berryman's 16-point game, as she made four three-pointers.

"My teammates were looking to get me the ball," Berryman said. "I was just trying to return the favor."

Maddie Kelley also contributed eight points and nine rebounds.

"We were able to execute and keep the offense flowing at points," Berryman said. "We just need to put a whole game

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WINTER SPORTS SCHEDULES

<h3 style="text-align: center; margin: 0;">Men's Swimming</h3> <p>10/19 @ Arcadia, L 180-81 10/19 vs. Immaculata, W 173-53 11/2 @ Dickinson, L 114-74 11/2 vs. Lebanon Valley, W 137-52 11/9 @ Marywood, W 147-41 11/16 vs Mount Saint Mary, W 119-73 11/24 @ Diamond Invitational (King's), 4th of 11 teams *12/7 @ Lycoming, W 124-71 *1/25 vs. FDU-Florham, W 159-82 *2/1 vs. King's, 1 p.m. 2/13-16 @ MAC Championships (York), TBD 2/28-3/1 @ ECAC Championships (Naval Academy), TBD</p> <p>*Denotes MAC Freedom/UCHC x-Denotes Senior Day</p>	<h3 style="text-align: center; margin: 0;">Women's Swimming</h3> <p>10/19 @ Arcadia, L 176-80 10/19 vs. Immaculata, W 162-44 11/2 @ Dickinson, L 112-79 11/2 vs. Lebanon Valley, L 113-81 11/9 @ Marywood, L 103-91 11/16 vs Mount Saint Mary, W 118-80 11/24 @ Diamond Invitational (King's), 5th of 11 teams *12/7 @ Lycoming, W 96-89 *1/12 vs. Misericordia, L 149-50 *1/25 vs. FDU-Florham, L 139-112 *2/1 vs. King's, 1 p.m. 2/13-16 @ MAC Championships (York), TBD 2/28-3/1 @ ECAC Championships (Naval Academy), TBD</p>	<h3 style="text-align: center; margin: 0;">Men's Volleyball</h3> <p>1/21 @ Neumann, 3-0 1/23 @ Elizabethtown, L 3-0 1/25 vs. Purchase, W 3-0 1/25 vs. City College of NY, L 3-1 1/31 @ Immaculata, 7 p.m. 2/2 vs. Bard, TBA 2/2 vs. Keuka, TBA 2/7 vs. SUNY Potsdam, 6 p.m. 2/8 vs. Sage, TBA 2/8 vs. Mount St. Vincent, TBA 2/11 @ PSU Altoona, 7 p.m. 2/15 vs. Brooklyn, 1 p.m. 2/15 @ NJ City, 3 p.m. 2/18 @ St. Joseph's, 7 p.m. *2/20 vs. Misericordia, 4 p.m. *2/20 vs. Widener, 8 p.m. 2/25 @ Bard, 6 p.m. *2/27 vs. Eastern, 7 p.m. *3/11 @ King's, 7 p.m.</p>	<h3 style="text-align: center; margin: 0;">Wrestling</h3> <p>11/1 vs. Lackawanna College, W 34-15 11/9 @ Ned McGinley Invitational, tied 9th *11/13 @ Alvernia, W 28-12 *11/16 @ Delaware Valley, W 28-12 11/16 vs. York, L 26-9 11/23 vs. KSU-Tuscarawas, W 54-6 11/23 vs. Central, L 32-12 11/23 vs. Muhlenberg, L 42-9 11/23 vs. Gettysburg, L 25-22 12/7 @ Messiah Petrofes Invitational, 9th place 12/22 @ Wilkes Open, 17th place 1/8 vs. Hunter College, W 47-6 1/10 vs. #25 Washington & Lee, L 44-3 1/10 vs. #23 Castleton, L 38-3 1/10 vs. Ohio Nothren, L 24-14 1/10 vs. Wesleyan, W 35-15 1/10 vs. Williams, L 29-17 1/18 @ MAC Championships, 5th Place 1/26 @ John Reese Duals (Marts Center), 11 a.m.</p>
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Getting to know...

Donny Flynn

Sophomore Ice Hockey Player

The Beacon: Male Athlete of the Week Jan. 12 to Jan. 19

Why Donald Flynn was selected: Flynn notched five points throughout the week, tallying a combined two goals and three assists against SUNY Cortland and Nazareth. Notably, two of Flynn's points fueled a comeback against Nazareth for a 4-3 overtime victory.

Name: Donny Flynn
Year: Sophomore
Major: Computer Science
Hometown: Randolph, N.J.
High School: Pope John XXIII
Position: Forward

Other interests or hobbies off of the ice?

Outside of playing hockey, I like eating out at new/different restaurants, playing video games, watching all types of sports and hanging with my friends.

Driving force for your decision to come to Wilkes?

I came to Wilkes University because of the once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to build something.

Most influential person(s) in your life?

I'm so lucky to have three: both of my parents and my girlfriend.

Post-graduation plans in terms of a career?

I'm not too sure what I want to do right now. I want to see what life has in store for me.

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

Knute Rockne.

Favorite building on campus?
Stark Learning Center.

Favorite meal to eat on campus?
A wrap from the POD.

What came first? The chicken or the egg?
Egg.

A quote you live your life by?
"Though an army encamp against me, my heart shall not fear; though war arise against me, yet I will be confident." - Psalm 27:3

Hopes for this season as a Colonel?
I definitely hope to build off of last year's success while also competing for a National Championship.

What does "Be Colonel" mean to you?

To me, "Be Colonel" means leading with your best foot forward while embracing the day-to-day grind.

When/Why did you first begin playing?
I began playing hockey when I was four.

Anyone to give a shout-out to?
I would like to give a shout-out to the boys I live with: Tyson, Charlie, Ship and Morgan. And, of course, my wonderful girlfriend, Lauren.

Favorite thing to do during practice?
I like to win the "Pays to Win" games.

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

Honestly, everything. You never can be satisfied.

-Compiled by Kirsten Peters, Co-Sports Editor

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

The Beacon/Kirsten Peters

Getting to know...

Maddie Kelley

Junior Basketball Player

The Beacon: Female Athlete of the Week Jan. 12 to Jan. 19

Why Madalyn Kelley was selected: Against DeSales, Kelley recorded a double-double with 15 points and 11 rebounds. Two days later, she tallied 12 points and seven rebounds against Eastern, allowing her to average 13.5 points and nine rebounds on the week.

Name: Maddie Kelley
Year: Junior
Major: Nursing
Hometown: Dallas, Pa.
High School: Dallas HS
Position: Guard

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

Our consistency from game to game.

Other interests or hobbies off of the court?

Outside of playing basketball, I love taking my dogs on walks and hanging out with family or friends.

Most influential person(s) in your life?

My mom and dad.

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

Princess Diana.

Favorite professor?
Dr. Stewart.

Coke or Pepsi?
Coke, if I had to pick.

Favorite meal to eat on campus?
Fruit Friday.

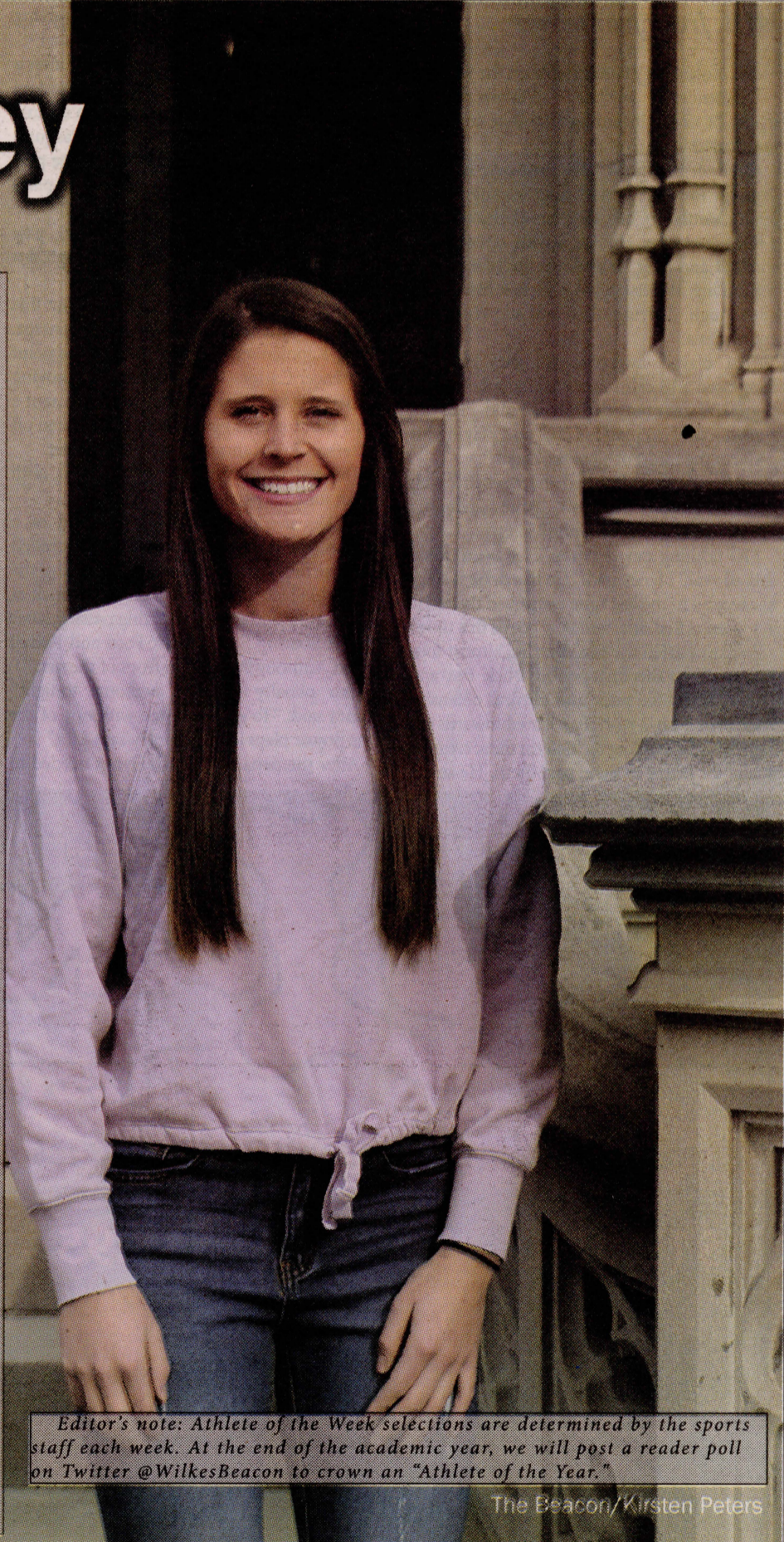
A quote you live your life by?
"Everything happens for a reason."

What does "Be Colonel" mean to you?

To me, "Be Colonel" means to be the best possible version of yourself.

Anyone to give a shout-out to?
The dawgs.

-Compiled by Kirsten Peters, Co-Sports Editor



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

The Beacon/Kirsten Peters

MIH, from frontcover

and looked very comfortable on the ice. Goaltender Michael Patterson-Jones made 29 saves, including one that could be nominated for save of the year.

On their first power play, just over halfway through the first period, the Soaring Eagles set-up Matthew Cuce, their top goal scorer, on a back-door play. He had a wide-open net to shoot at and after he took the shot he started celebrating. Patterson-Jones kicked his left leg out though, denying Cuce and surprising the entire arena.

"He played awesome tonight. He was composed and calm in a chaotic, intense and aggressive environment," Hynes said. "He did a great job of keeping his cool and playing his game in the midst of all of the chaos."

Patterson-Jones finished the weekend with good performances in two games including Friday's win against Lebanon Valley.

"It's nothing new for him. He's been doing this all year," Hynes said. "He has done it since he stepped in the last time we played there. He got them at that time and they got us this time."

Wilkes started the goal-scoring almost four minutes into the first period. Nick Fea and Flynn carried the puck into Elmira's defensive zone on a 2-on-2 rush. Fea skated towards the right wing, spreading the defensemen, creating a lane for Flynn to skate past them. He sent a

perfect pass to Flynn and he buried it, giving the Colonels a 1-0 lead.

The Soaring Eagles tied the game up after a couple of miscues by Wilkes. Tyler Barrow tool a high sticking penalty with less than a minute and a half left in the period. Joey Pasquini took a cross-checking penalty behind the play shortly after, giving one of the best power plays in the country a 5-on-3.

Cuce capitalized on this power play opportunity, taking the puck into the high slot and ripping a shot to the top left corner.

Elmira scored the next goal as well, but this time it was the fourth line doing the damage. Marty Kapoian sent the puck back to the point to Spencer Carter. Carter kept the line moving with a pass to Harry Kramer, who then sent a wrist shot towards goal. The puck bounced off Patterson-Jones' shoulder and into the net.

The rest of the period was stagnant until Flynn took his penalty.

Wilkes needed to kill five minutes of a continuous power play, and they succeeded until the final seconds. Devon Schell, one of the penalty killers, attempted to steal the puck at the blue line and missed, creating passing lanes for the Soaring Eagles. Nick Ford and Powell found Anthony Parrucci in front of the net.

"Our penalty kill was awesome tonight," Hynes said. "To go toe-to-toe with one of the best power plays in the country says a lot."

After the penalty expired, Hynes needed to

find a way to work with a short bench and mix his lines up without Flynn.

"It was definitely a unique challenge, but it is not rocket science trying to figure out the lines," Hynes said. "We have guys that are bought in and going. You can put any number in any spot and that's a good feeling to have."

Billy Berry jumped onto the top line and power play in the absence of Flynn for the

third period. Berry made the most of his opportunity, picking up the primary assist on the Colonels second goal.

Tyler Barrow carried the puck into the zone. He passed it to Berry, who split the defense and delivered a pass to Fea, who found the back of the net for his second point of the game.

Needing one more goal to tie the game, Wilkes pushed for the equalizer. The comeback attempt took a huge blow with two minutes left, as Tyson Araujo picked up a tripping penalty.

The Colonels fought to tie the game while playing down a man, including pulling Patterson-Jones for the extra skater.

Elmira took the puck in the neutral zone and shot at the empty net, attempting to finish the game off.


Phil Erickson raced towards the net to block the shot, which he did, and the puck went out of play.

The Colonels tried but failed to get a good shot on goal, and the Soaring Eagles held on for the victory.

"I am extremely proud of their performance today," Hynes said. "This is the best feeling I have had after a loss in a long time. I'm proud of the group and to battle against a team with depth that they have was very good for us."



The Beacon/Kirsten Peters
Forward Nick Fea led the Colonels offense with a goal and an assist at Elmira on Saturday. He currently leads the conference in assists with 20.

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