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How the University is Becoming more Sustainable with Energy

By Kaitlyn Filhart
Social Media Editor

The Student Green Initiatives Fund has pledged $500,000 to the University to help it in its commitment to be completely powered by sustainable energy by 2040.

The funds will be used to implement solar panels on campus. Right now, a company is assessing how the panels will be most effective in saving energy in terms of placement. When this is done, the next steps will be to talk with the city for the cost of the energy and then put the plan out for bid.

“The total cost for this project will be about $5 to $8 million,” Bruce Meyer, Interim Vice President for Capital Planning said. “We have a tremendous amount of support from the students. This pledge from the Student Green Fund has allowed us to start this progress.”

President Mary Ellen Mazey agrees the support from University students is a part of Bowling Green’s brand.

“We’ve gotten rid of buildings that have very high maintenance and energy costs.”

– Bruce Meyer – Interim Vice President for Capital Planning
Bowling Green State University

“This is one of the first symphonies Schubert composed after he began to make money off his music, and the exciting, happy pace of the piece reflected how Schubert’s passion for music was being reignited at this time. However, Schubert once said, “There’s no such thing as a happy song,” and the movement evokes that belief at certain points.”

Next was Ludwig Van Beethoven’s Symphony No. 7 in A major. This piece was more somber than the previous two, as it had a slightly ominous tone that slowly built its way up to an exciting finale. This symphony ended up being one of Beethoven’s most successful compositions.

Johannes Brahms’ Symphony No. 4 in E minor brought the tone of the concert back up with a movement that the composer himself described as “that waltz and polka affair.” The symphony took Brahms over a year to write, and his dedication to the music is made obvious through complex musical elements that make the piece intricate yet easy on the ears.

The show closed with Jean Sibelius’ Symphony No. 2 in D major. This movement was the perfect finale, as it was constantly rising and falling and very interesting to listen to. The piece went from a pompous tune with the entire orchestra down to a soft medley with only a few instruments, and then it came back up again within only a few bars.

“The one that really stands out is the Sibelius but we figured that was okay because it’s the grand finale,” assistant conductor Alexander Popovic said.

Bowling Green Philharmonia is the premiere orchestra at the University.

“We work very hard for each performance, weeks and weeks of rehearsal,” Freeman Brown said. The group practices three days a week for two hours each day. It typically has about a month to prepare for each of its concerts. In order to join Philharmonia, a prospective member must audition at the beginning of the year. The orchestra puts on multiple concerts each year, and its next performance is Jan. 17.”
The committee may have gotten it right, but CFP needs to change

By Chase Bachman
Columnist

The playoff is set. After Saturday night’s round of college football conference championship games, the 13-man committee settled on the four best teams in college football. Or is it the most deserving? I’m not really sure which, and neither is anybody else. I don’t think the committee knows what it takes to qualify for the playoff.

I also don’t like to use the term qualify in the context of the College Football Playoff. The word qualify creates the sense that there is objectivity and that there are official prerequisites, when in fact there are no official prerequisites and plenty of subjectivity lies on the part of the committee.

Shouldn’t the University of Central Florida be in the college football playoff considering they were undefeated the entire regular season? Probably not, when you put them in the proper context, but doesn’t that further my point? There is an infinite number of ways to interpret who is in the College Football Playoff, and for many Ohio State advocates, the committee made the wrong interpretation.

The Ohio State Buckeyes finished the regular season 10-2, winning their division and the Big Ten championship game, which, amazingly enough, came one year after the Buckeyes made the CFP after failing to even qualify for the Big 10 championship game in 2016.

Meanwhile, the nearly inexorable Nick Saban and his Alabama Crimson Tide lost last week to the Auburn Tigers. The Tigers replaced Alabama in the SEC Championship game, then lost to CFP-qualified Georgia. Now, Alabama is in the four-team playoff too.

Ohio State fans got a taste of their own medicine Sunday. The same scenario that got OSU into playoff has been repeated, this time with the Little Debbie Oatmeal Creme Pie-eating Saban. The committee is essentially saying that the conference championship games have almost no more value than any other regular season game in their eyes.

A few weeks ago, I was on “For the Win” sports talk radio show on WBGU-FM with former ESPN anchor Jay Crawford, who likened conference championship games to your annual middle school bake sale. They’ve become of little importance other than making money. Tons and tons of easy money.

In my interpretation, the committee did the right thing by letting Alabama into the playoff over Ohio State, despite the questionable fairness of the whole system. Yes, Alabama has a weaker strength of schedule.

Yes, OSU has more impressive wins. But, Alabama still has fewer losses and plays in its own respective Power 5 conference.

By that logic (if we can call any of this logical), shouldn’t Wisconsin be ahead of OSU because they have one loss compared to Ohio State’s two, and they didn’t win the worthless Big Ten championship game like OSU last year? Again, it’s all about your interpretation of what qualifies a team for the playoff.

The entire system is full of hypocrisy and reasoning that contradicts itself left and right. Like all other levels of competitive football, it’s time to expand the playoff format (eight teams is a good start), and set undisputable qualifiers for making the playoffs.

Later on “For the Win,” Crawford explained how eight teams would include the five champions from the Power 5 conferences. This would rejuvenate the importance of conference championships. The remaining three playoff participants would include “at-large” bids for the non-champions such as an Alabama, a Wisconsin and perhaps even a Central Florida.

College football could expand it further to 16 teams at some point, but 8 teams is a viable start. It’s the format for which fans have waited. It’s the format they deserve.

Choosing the college that fits you best can be difficult, and many young adults do not get it right on the first try. Thankfully, students can transfer schools.

Transferring can come with a whole onslaught of challenges. Personally, the biggest challenge of being a transfer student is the change in scenery. Moving from a small private college to a large public institution makes room for a lot of culture shock.

There were just over 1,000 students at my previous college: Alderson Broaddus University (ABU). That is about one-sixteenth the size of BGSU. The campus was small and easy to navigate as a freshman. On the other hand, BGSU has a large campus that is akin to a small community. I first came onto the BGSU campus and was intimidated by the size. You could basically see every building at once on my last campus.

At BGSU, it always seems like there are events taking place. Comparatively, my old school usually only had five or so events to choose from daily. During my first week on campus at BGSU, it seemed like there were 20 different events each day. There were not only more events, there was a wider variety, as well (and way more free stuff).

Going to a larger public university also allows students to have more collaboration within their majors. I was the only journalism major in my class at my last school. Now, I have more peers to compare my work to and learn from.

That being said, there are some things I miss about going to a small college. My classes were guaranteed to have at the very most 50 students in them. Also, you could develop a deeper relationship with professors since they often taught more than one of your courses.

At a small college, professors often take on more roles than what is normally expected at a larger institution. Many professors are also advisers and supervise sports or clubs. You can basically recognize everyone on campus at a small school, which is both good and bad. One may have a higher chance of being in a class with their friends, but they also cannot avoid people they dislike very easily.

The increased camaraderie is what I will miss about my old school, but I know I am moving onto bigger things here at BGSU. I knew in my heart it was right for me to come back home for college: and with that I leave you with my favorite quote.

“Trust your instincts, and make judgements on what your heart tells you. The heart will not betray you.”

-David Gemmell, Fall of Kings
Proposed plus/minus grading system would add exam stress

It's the final countdown.

Just about everyone is feeling at least a little stress as we approach exam week in seven days. Most exams hold a lot of weight, and the results can make or break a final grade. If the plus/minus grading system is enacted, there will be more pressure on University students.

The way the proposed grading system works would make it advantageous to students on the plus side, meaning a student receiving a B+ could earn more than a 3.0 GPA granted by a general B. However, a student receiving a B- would be negatively impacted by earning just a 2.7 (0.3 points below what they would currently receive).

Those who suffer the most are likely to be straight A, 4.0 students—the already high achievers. Instead of being rewarded for earning an A, even a low one, an A- would ruin the chance at a 4.0.

When going into an exam, students are already feeling pressure when they have a low A, B or C, knowing they have to earn at least a certain grade to maintain that same letter grade.

With the plus/minus system, students will feel even more stress going into finals, knowing that an 82 percent won’t cut it to keep their final grade at a 3.0 needed for scholarships or to get into certain programs.

Instead of needing just an 80 percent on their exams to keep their 80 percent in the class and a 3.0 B, they may need to earn upwards of an 87-90 percent to raise their grades from a B- to a B to get the needed GPA.

Higher exam grades will be needed in many instances just to keep a certain letter grade, let alone to try to boost a minus into a plus. This is all depending on the weight of the exam in the class of course, and a higher weight means more stress.

A justification for the proposed system is that it will encourage students to do better, and while it will in the case of exams, it is just adding extra stress on students who are already taking advantage of the 24/5 hours at the library.

Dead week isn’t even a dead week for most students, since so many projects are due. Mental health is already at lows during “dead” week and finals. Students don’t need additional factors that pile onto their anxieties.

More to this whole story is that we all understand wanting to raise the overall GPA of the university to be more competitive. But at what cost? At the cost of losing high-achieving students to other universities where they may have better chances at a higher GPA?

College should not be all about GPA. Our students are worth more and can be competitive in other ways, outside of GPA.

"College should not be all about GPA. Our students are worth more and can be competitive in other ways, outside of GPA."

HANNAH FINNERTY, EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

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GUEST COLUMNS: Guest Columns are generally longer pieces between 400 and 700 words. Two submissions per month maximum.

POLICIES: Letters to the Editor and Guest Columns are printed as space on the Forum page permits. Additional Letters or Guest Columns may be published online. Name, year and phone number should be included for verification purposes. Personal attacks, unverified information or anonymous submissions will not be printed.

E-MAIL SUBMISSIONS:
Send submissions as an attachment to bgfalconmedia@gmail.com with the subject line marked “Letter to the Editor” or “Guest Column.” All submissions are subject to review and editing for length and clarity before printing.
Graduate Student Senate in transition

By Meredith Siegel
Reporter

The Graduate College at the University is in a state of transition with potential federal taxes, a ratified constitution and a physical move into McFall Center.

“Both Scott and I have talk about making this year the best transition year possible to set ... grad students up for as much success as possible,” Daniel Ricken, Graduate Student Senate vice president, said.

GSS has one goal on campus, and that is to cater to and advocate for the needs of graduate students on campus, said both Scott Chappuis, GSS president, and Daniel Ricken.

GSS is also ratifying its constitution, which has not been properly ratified since 1983, Ricken said. The constitution has been passed by the senate and approved by President Mazey. The Board of Trustees will vote on the constitution next week.

Most universities cater undergraduate students and their needs on campus, but graduate students do a lot on campus as well, and GSS wants to support them.

Graduate students are in an awkward position, because depending on the “hat” they are wearing, they can be more like staff or more like undergraduate students, Ricken said.

The federal government has a proposed plan to tax waivers for graduate students, and this has been a major stressor for many graduate students.

“They are already in debt from four years of college,” Daniel Ricken – President Graduate Student Senate

Chappuis and Ricken want to support graduate students and make sure this sentiment is known. They recently put out a survey for graduate students to garner what their needs and wants are.

“We are really trying to gauge what issues matter most. As we move forward into this next semester, we can really work to address those needs and to really provide some answers,” Chappuis said.

GSS did not have a strong presence on campus in the past, but they are hoping for a change.

“I think we’re really trying to increase our presence with graduate students. I know last year our presence kind of wavered a little bit, so we’re trying to show people that ‘hey, we’re more active through social media, though Facebook, Twitter and the like.’ Just showing that we are more active than what has been done in the past and, again, showing graduate students that you can do more than just be in the classroom,” Chappuis said.

However, academics are a huge part of graduate life, and GSS has a major focus on professional development for students.

Professional development can get expensive, but it is a necessary part of building a resume for students graduating and finding careers. GSS is working to cut costs of professional development and expand the definition to fit more departments.

Ricken is in the theater department and may have to see a play or musical for his degree, but travel costs and show costs can get expensive, and because it is an academic trip, Ricken feels it should be paid for.

The move into McFall was also a transition for the Graduate College, but they are settling in and preparing for an eventful next semester.
Bethesda rewarded for support of Switch

By Connor Evans
Pulse Reporter

It’s no secret Nintendo has had a tough few years. The Wii U was a monumental failure, selling an abysmal 13 million units in its lifespan. A console plagued by a lack of power under the hood and support from developers alike, it should come as no surprise that the Wii U flopped. There just wasn’t much of an audience who was willing to buy a console to only play the catalogue of strong first party Nintendo games. Nintendo failed to bring support from outside developers, a failure they seem determined not to repeat.

The Nintendo Switch launched earlier this year, and it has hit the ground running. The lead up to the console was a bit of a rollercoaster though. At first, it seemed Nintendo had learned from all their past mistakes and was making the hybrid console the Wii U was destined to be. The promise of being able to take console quality games with you anywhere was the shot of adrenaline the tired Nintendo brand needed. All the pieces were there for a successful launch—a new Zelda game and a stellar new Mario on the horizon, as well as the hardware to back it up.

The one essential piece missing from the puzzle was the support of developers outside of Nintendo’s immediate ecosystem. There was timid support before the announcement from the likes of Capcom and EA with “Street Fighter II” and “FIFA 18” being promised before release. This hesitant response didn’t bode well because a lack of outside interest plays into itself—if developers are not all-in on the console from the jump, it is clear their games are destined to fail.

Let’s use “FIFA 18” as an example. EA decided to port the game to the Nintendo Switch alongside their console versions on the PlayStation 4 and Xbox One. The prospect of playing a fully-featured version of the acclaimed soccer series on-the-go was appetizing to say the least. The issue appeared when it became apparent it was a shell of the console version that everyone else was getting. It released with poor reviews and critics panned its lack of features as the main point of disappointment. EA has since said that they will be taking a “wait and see” approach when it comes to releasing games on Nintendo’s console.

This is in stark comparison to the efforts of developer Bethesda, who has enjoyed the spoils of the Nintendo Switch. From the announcement of the Nintendo Switch, Bethesda promised to bring “The Elder Scrolls V: Skyrim” to the console. Since then, they have doubled down on support, bringing last year’s surprisingly fantastic “DOOM” to the Switch in November as well as promising “Wolfenstein II” next year.

Bethesda’s dedication to putting games on the Switch has clearly paid off as both Skyrim and DOOM have enjoyed new life on the console.

It has been proven time and again Switch owners are always clamoring for things to play on the console. So this leads to a question: Why did “DOOM” and “Skyrim” sell so well and “FIFA 18” didn’t? Well, the answer is simple. People are willing to dish out money for a game on Switch as long as all the content is there. “DOOM” and “Skyrim” take graphical and framerate hits, but both come fully featured. You get essentially the same experience with the added bonus of portability. “FIFA 18,” on the other hand, can be played on other consoles with more to do and better graphics. The consumers have spoken loud and clear on what they are willing to dish out their hard earned cash for on the Switch.

Bethesda’s support of the Switch bodes exceedingly well for the console. Other developers have seen their success and are starting to follow suit. Rockstar games has recently ported “L.A. Noire” to the Switch which has also been met with solid reviews and sales numbers.

I have personally been enjoying both “Skyrim” and “DOOM” on the Switch, and like me just say, they are something to behold. The experience of sitting down on a plane, setting the Switch in tabletop mode, and mowing down demons is an experience I will never forget. This goodwill for Nintendo in allowing these kinds of experience is something I have heard time and again from friends and colleagues, which is exciting to say the least.

It’s nothing short of astonishing the year the Nintendo Switch has enjoyed. Between two of the best games of the year, “Super Mario Odyssey” and “The Legend of Zelda: Breath of the Wild,” Switch owners have been met with a stable flow of third party support that just wasn’t present on the Wii U. If Nintendo can keep fostering these relationships with developers, it’s safe to assume that Nintendo will return to the video game powerhouse they once were, which should be exciting for any and all fans of the video game medium.

**“Bethesda’s dedication to putting games on the Switch has clearly paid off as both Skyrim and DOOM have enjoyed new life on the console.”**

By Jacob Clary
Pulse Editor

The original “Xenoblade Chronicles” is one of my favorite games of all time, and while the sequel doesn’t soar to the same heights as the original, “Xenoblade Chronicles 2” is an amazing game with a good story and beautiful world. The soundtrack in the game is also amazing, and even better than the original “Xenoblade Chronicles.” That game’s soundtrack was one of my favorites in any game, and was only behind “Chrono Trigger” for best music in a game.

The characters in the game are interesting as well, but the designs of those characters is terrible, some of the worst I have seen while playing a game. There was one character who especially had this problem, and whenever she was on screen, I lost any immersion I had for the story. However, this was the only problem I had with the game, and I learned to deal with it.

The best part of the game is the world, and every environment is an absolute joy to explore. The exploration is perfect, and there is absolutely nothing wrong with it. The variety in the environments is great as well. It made me want to keep playing the game for hours and hours to see the next area. I can’t state enough how amazing the world looks and the fun I had exploring different areas.

It legitimately did not get old going through these environments. I’ve already played 20 hours in the last few days, and the exploration was fun every single minute. The amounts of color and diversity in the environments are some of the best in a game ever.

**“The characters in the game are interesting as well, but the design of those characters is terrible...”**

The story is pretty interesting as well, but the characters’ importance in the story is one Continued on page 7
reason the story isn't great, at least where I am in the story at 20 hours. Whenever something important happens and I'm supposed to care about the characters, the ugly problem rears its head.

The problem mentioned earlier in the review addressed the bad fan service in the game. It took me out of the game and made me not want to care about the characters.

The story is pretty good, as it doesn't reveal everything at once. It tries to foreshadow some things, and those actually work. It's just disappointing that a lot of the more important characters are hurt by the bad character design.

Overall, “Xenoblade Chronicles 2” is a very fun game in the minute-to-minute gameplay with the amazing environments and outstanding soundtracks. However, when it comes time to actually worry about the characters and their motivations, that's when the game goes a bit downhill. It doesn't ruin it, but it really hurts my enjoyment of the story. If Japanese role-playing games are your things, this is the perfect game for you, but if that isn't your type of game, “Xenoblade Chronicles 2” won't change your opinion.

**Favorite Holiday Movies**

**The Polar Express**
2004

**Miracle on 34th Street**
1947

**The Nightmare Before Christmas**
1993

**Happy Holidays from The BG News**

**Elf**
2003

**It's a Wonderful Life**
1946
Hockey splits series with Bemidji State

By Zane Miller
Sports Editor

The Falcon hockey team split their series against the Bemidji State Beavers, losing 4-3 in a shootout on Saturday night, but defeating them 3-1 on Friday night.

“Getting four out of six points against a really good team that was picked to finish second in our league, I feel okay about it,” Falcons head coach Chris Bergeron said. “I’m not happy about giving away two points that matter by not having a good third period at home, which we’ve done before. That’s disappointing, but I think when we look at it from the big picture, four out of six points is positive.”

The team got off to a good start on Saturday night, as senior forward Brett D’Andrea scored at the 12:39 mark of the first period to give the Falcons the 1-0 lead. However, Bemidji State would capitalize on a late power play chance with forward Adam Brady to even it up with just over a minute remaining in the period.

In the second, the teams remained tied for most of the period until just over four minutes remained, when freshman forward Sam Craggs scored his first collegiate goal to put the Falcons up 2-1. The score would remain there until the teams headed into the locker rooms.

“It felt good,” S. Craggs said of his first goal. “I got a lucky bounce, and I was able to put it home.”

The third saw the score stay the same throughout much of the first part of the period, but Bemidji State began fighting their way back at the 7:32 mark as defenseman Dillon Eichstadt scored, then again at the 14:19 mark as defenseman Ian Janco scored to give Bemidji State their first lead of the series. However, as the Falcons went with the empty net late in regulation time, sophomore forward Lukas Craggs scored with just 54 seconds left to force the game into overtime.

In the first overtime period, both teams went scoreless despite three shots for the Falcons and one for Bemidji State, forcing the game into a third on three double overtime. However, in the second overtime period, it was Bemidji State that led in shots on net, with four to the Falcons’ one. Neither team was able to score, sending the game into a shootout, the fourth of the season for the Falcons.

“We were in a game all night,” Bergeron said. “Just the way they play, their system piece, it seems like they’re always in the way, and we really struggled against them with taking what the game gives us. If the game gives us ice, we want to pass, if the game gives us no ice, we want to try to skate, and that seems to be the way it’s been the last five or six times we’ve played them.”

On Friday night, neither team was able to get on the board in the first period, and both teams had two power play opportunities neither were able to capitalize on. Each team hit the post on a shot chance in the first, as well.

The second period saw the Falcons kill off a five-minute power play before freshman forward Brandon Kruse scored midway through the period to give the team a 1-0 lead, which they would hold onto going into the third period.

“Our power play hasn’t been good enough, especially in the second segment of the season,” Bergeron said. “I think those guys that kill penalties for us, they took it personally and wanted to do better… I thought the details were pretty good, I thought our clears for the most part were pretty good, I thought we made them earn the zone for the most part, all of the things we want to do well on the penalty kill.”

In the third, Bemidji State was able to get on the board, with Mike Soucier scoring at the 6:19 mark just three seconds after a Falcons power play chance concluded to tie the game back up. With the teams still even as time began winding down in regulation, it looked as though the Falcons might head into their second overtime game in a row, but sophomore defenseman Niko Coffman scored his first collegiate goal with 1:12 remaining, shooting through a screen and beating Bemidji State goaltender Michael Bitzer to take a 2-1 lead. However, the Falcons would not be done yet, as senior forward Mitch McLain scored an empty net goal to make it a 3-1 win.

“We were in a game all night,” Bergeron said. “I don’t think we executed very well, but we found a way to lead. We had a big kill on the five minute (penalty), there were some good things to get behind and create some momentum for us.”

Coffman also said staying involved in practice helped him to be in position to get the goal.

“It’s a lot of hard work in practice over the last couple of years,” Coffman said. “It’s a dream come true for me especially, so it’s awesome.”

The team will next play Friday and Saturday nights, finishing out their six game home stand against the Alabama Huntsville Chargers.
Men's basketball defeats Norfolk State

By Jamison Terbrack
Sports Reporter

The Falcons men's basketball team started off strong in their road tilt against the Norfolk State Spartans. The Falcons found themselves with a 21-3 lead early and didn't look back.

"Once we started to slow down and started to get stops on the defensive end, that was the difference in the game," Falcons head coach Michael Huger said. "We were able to settle down, so the biggest thing was we didn't panic totally, but once we settled down, we were able to get stops again and get back in transition."

When the final buzzer sounded, the team left with a 92-77 win to extend their record to 7-2 on the year before MAC play begins.

"We did a really good job on the defensive end," Huger said. "The guys were sharp and locked in on defense. Our rotations, our closeouts, our drives were all good. We did a good job on the dribble drive that they were trying to run, and our guys did an excellent job on the defensive end, so it was a lot of fun."

The Falcons were lead offensively by sophomore guard Dylan Frye, who finished with a career high of 28 points.

"It was definitely impressive by Dylan," Huger said. "All of our guys, Justin Turner had a great night for us as well. Demajeo Wiggins and Matt Fox came in and played great for us down the stretch. Hit some big free throws, hit some big shots to open up that lead, but I was most impressed with his defense. He was able to defend and do a good job on the defensive end, hopefully that'll cover over into MAC play, but Dylan was very hot to start the game. He didn't have a particularly good shoot around, so I didn't know how he would play until he got out there. But, you know, he just had a really good game."

Senior guard Matt Fox had a career high as well, as he put in 18 points. Both Fox and Frye did most their damage from behind the arc.

Junior forward Demajeo Wiggins put in 18 points as well to go along with seven boards, one block and one steal.

"We started to run our regular plays," Huger said. "I told our guys 'Don't panic,' we just stood and passed it around the perimeter, and once that happened, we started to run our zone plays. Our man to man plays and everything worked against it. That was the difference in this game for us."

The Falcons will next take on the Evansville Purple Aces Tuesday night at the Stroh Center.

Volleyball eliminated from the NIVC

By Zane Miller
Sports Editor

The Falcon volleyball team fell to the Green Bay Phoenix three sets to two Thursday night, eliminating the Falcons from the Women's National Invitational Volleyball Championship.

The team made their way into the tournament after being knocked out of the Mid-American Conference semifinals by the Western Michigan Broncos back on Nov. 18.

The team got off to a rough start in the first set, falling behind 12-1 at one point, and while they were able to come back significantly, Green Bay was able to hold on to take it 25-21. The second set was much more even, as the teams went back and forth throughout. However, Green Bay took it as well 32-30, giving them a 2-0 advantage through the first two sets.

However, the Falcons were able to turn things around after the break, as 12 total attack errors by Green Bay in the third set, along with six kills by senior outside hitter Nicole Slimko, allowed the team to take it 25-18.

"We made less unforced errors (after the second set)," Tomic said. "We started serving more and kept Green Bay a little more out of system, they started making more errors, we just started playing better as a team. Our blocking was outstanding, it kept us in the match. Green Bay played some unbelievable defense, but we just started playing better."

The fourth set also went the way of the Falcons, as they took it 25-16, setting the teams up for a fifth set.

In the fifth, the teams were mostly even through the first part of the set, however, key kills by junior outside hitter Isabel Kovacic and sophomore outside hitter Jessi Holly, along with a service ace and an attack error allowed the Falcons to go up 12-9. While Green Bay came back with two kills of their own, Holly got another kill to restore a two point advantage. However, Green Bay would get a three point rally to take the lead, but the Falcons would tie it up on a service error, forcing the winner to take a two point lead. However, Green Bay would quickly take the victory on a bad set and an attack error to take it 16-14 and advance to the next round of the tournament.

Despite the loss, senior outside hitter Nicole Slimko had an exceptional game offensively, with 16 kills in her final collegiate match.

"I'm so proud that she had the senior year that she had and she played well in her last match," Tomic said. "It was the hardest loss for her, because it was the last collegiate match that she was going to play."

The team is also optimistic to be able to build on the playoff performance for the 2018 season.

"I think this will be a great learning experience for our team," Tomic said. "Next year, hopefully we'll have an opportunity to play in the postseason and this experience will make us better and stronger for the future."
THE BG NEWS SUDOKU

6 4 8 3 2 5 1 4 6 8 1 6 2 4 9 8 7 1 5 9 3

SUDOKO
To play: Complete the grid so that every row, column and every 3 x 3 box contains the digits 1 to 9. There is no guessing or math involved.

By Brionna Scebbi
Reporter

Students across campus are voicing dissatisfaction with the variety offered at several dining options, and BG Dining is listening. BGU Dining Director of Marketing and Communications, Jon Zachrich, explains how students can give input about the meal options and how the dining advisory board is working to meet expressed needs of students.

Q: Is there somewhere for students to give their input on dining options?
A: “Right on our website... They can just go through dineoncampus.com/bgsu/feedback... This (feedback survey) actually goes directly to... basically all of our directors. So if something comes up there, it's taken care of literally as soon as possible. It's probably the most effective way to get our attention as well.”

Q: Some students are expressing a lack of variation, especially in vegan and vegetarian options. Have you heard this feedback from students?
A: “Yes, variety is always the biggest issue because even though we do really pride ourselves on the variety, students always see what they like. So we do put a lot of different things on the menu, but it may not be what's in their wheelhouse of things they want to try.”

Q: How do you address the input and needs of students?
A: “We meet every month. We have a dining advisory board of students, faculty and staff and then one or two of our employees as well to kind of talk about issues within dining services... And one of the things we added this year through the student government, they actually have a vegan representative who sits on that board now... I know that's one thing our executive chef, Marissa Riffle, has been working on with that representative.”

Q: What solutions has BGU Dining come up with so far to accommodate these changing needs?
A: “While we know we have that variety, we don't do a very good job of telling people when those things are coming. So if you're not specifically looking for (a new dish), you'll never know that it's there unless you're there on that specific day... A couple ways we talked about doing that is kind of doing like a BG newsletter... We're talking about trying to do something like that, but we are just kind of concerned about who will actually read it.”

“'We're actually working with the University's marketing and communications to do a big push for (the BGU app) for spring semester since we're updating it, so it's going to have a little bit updated menu... We're also going to add our calendar events on the BGU app... It'll have a direct link to that feedback page; it'll have our nutrition information.”

If students have questions or concerns about dining services:
• Submit feedback through the survey at dineoncampus.com/bgsu/feedback.
• Check the dining icon on the BGU app for menus, hours and nutrition information.
• Watch for signs in the various dining facilities for upcoming events and other important information.
Teaching Tech

By Zane Miller
Sports Editor

The COMM 2030 class is one unlike any other at BGSU, as it has students teach older adults about something often lost between generations—technology.

According to US News, the gap between understandings of current technology is considered one of the biggest differences between generations. Professor Kate Magsamen-Conrad, the main professor of the course, faced difficulties getting opportunities to the University to start the course.

“Before I started my job at BGSU, we were living in Pennsylvania, as I had done my Ph.D at Rutgers,” Magsamen-Conrad said. “We had a really short period of time between when we had listed our house and when we sold it, which was great, but then we were homeless for a period of time. So, we lived on my family’s farm in a trailer next to my brother’s pig barn, which was down the street from my grandmother’s house.”

When they moved, however, it gave Magsamen-Conrad’s grandmother a chance to utilize her granddaughter’s technological and teaching skills to learn more about advancing technology, which later became the basis for the course created years later.

“For my grandmother, it was a great opportunity,” Magsamen-Conrad said. “I lived right down the street, and I could teach her how to use the laptop that she forced me to buy for her on Black Friday the previous November that she hadn’t touched since then. As I was trying to teach my grandmother how to use the laptop, that’s really where the idea came from. I was thinking about how older adults could really benefit from access to all of the things you can get technologically, especially thinking about information sources how much you can manage your health. But, there’s not a whole lot of infrastructure for older adults to gain technology skills.”

She also said that in addition to teaching older adults about technology, it also teaches students to find better ways to teach hard-to-understand topics more patiently and professionally.

“We get kind of stuck when we try to teach family members things,” Magsamen-Conrad said. “There’s a host of reasons related to relationships and roles and communication patterns as to why that is. I was thinking, What if I can provide this need to a community through my coursework as a college professor, I was supposed to be teaching an applied communication course as one of my first courses at BGSU, and because of the late point of the system when they put it in, I didn’t have enough students registered to make the course. So, I was thinking about what courses do we have that exist today that could maybe work … they would need me to teach, and small-group communication was one of them.

Most of the class takes place at the Wood County Committee on Aging senior center in Bowling Green, which they believe has been a big part of the class’s success.

“One thing I did was go to a community partner fair here every year at BGSU,” Magsamen-Conrad said. “I just went around to all of the booths who had representatives who interacted with older adults. I kind of pitched the idea to see if people were interested, and lots of people were interested … I went in to talk to the WCCOA in December 2012 about what I wanted to do in January 2013— they were right on board and have been on board ever since.”

“As I was trying to teach my grandmother how to use the laptop, that’s really where the idea came from, I was thinking about how older adults could really benefit from access to all of the things you can get technologically.”

— Dr. Kate Magsamen-Conrad —
COMM 2030 Professor
Bowling Green State University

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HIV/AIDS Week promotes sex safety

By JaLynn Dukes
Reporter

The Protect Your Box workshop kicked off HIV/AIDS Awareness Week.

Nicole Schmid, a senior public health major at the University, developed the workshop to help inform students about ways to keep themselves protected during sex.

“My boyfriend has a small wooden box that he keeps condoms in on his nightstand, and that’s what gave me the idea,” Schmid said. “I’m happy to have found a successful one.

She said keeping condoms close is important because it is easy to get caught up in other events being held following the event.

Schmid said the idea to have participants paint boxes at the event was to keep the mood light and help make everyone comfortable, but also inform participants about different contraceptives as well.

Among the group of participants was senior Mariah Schurko. She stated that safe sex is always important no matter the relationship you are in.

“I am married, and we still take precautions like that,” Schurko said. “You never know what could happen, and I think it is important to be aware of that. With risky behaviors come even riskier outcomes. You have to be prepared.”

HIV/AIDS Awareness Week held discussions panels, film viewings and free HIV/AIDS testing with a photo ID. Union tables were set up to offer students condoms and other protective barriers as well as distribute information.

“Protect Your Box was sort of my thing. I was very hesitant about spreading this idea around campus because it has never been done before,” Schmid said following the event.

Students were encouraged to attend the other events being held following the initial kick off.

Junior Taylor Day, who was also in attendance, said there were contraceptive methods she was not aware of that interested her enough to attend other events throughout the week.

“I had a chance to walk through the history of AIDS exhibit, and it was really eye-opening,” Day said. “There are things you would never even think about going on, and after walking through, I realized sexual education should really be more informative because, overall, it’s leading our youth, and no one talks about it seriously.”

Schmid was happy to see the events gather buzz within the University and said she would easily guide another intern in doing the same programs. She repeated the overall theme that sexual health is important and, by no means, needs to be awkward. There are many ways to talk about it, and she said she is happy to have found a successful one.

HIV/AIDS Awareness Week wraps up on Tuesday, Dec. 5 with an art exhibit in the Fine Arts Building room 1000.