12-7-2017

The BG News December 7, 2017

Bowling Green State University

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KINDLING SUCCESS

Independent Falcon Network helps foster, independent students access resources for success. | PAGE 2

TIME chooses a surprising “person of the year” | PAGE 3
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PHOTO BY KEVIN MENSAH
Independent students aim for excellence

By Holly Shively
Student Director

After a few semesters away from the University, Justice Glenn made a hard decision to put all her eggs in one basket as her “last resort”—that basket was the Independent Falcon Network.

A rough semester in fall 2015 led Glenn, a 23-year-old exercise science senior, to take a semester off. The plan was always to come back.

“I just kept saying, ‘Well maybe next semester,’” Glenn said. “Then next semester turned into another semester.”

Everything changed when she got an email about the Fostering Forward program from Cynthia Snodgrass, who met Glenn as a TRIO adviser during Glenn’s freshman year.

Snodgrass emailed her periodically during her time off, just to see how she was doing.

Snodgrass is also the associate director of the Career Center and one of the founders of Fostering Forward, a roughly two-year-old program that has evolved into the Independent Falcon Network.

“After deliberating about the name of Fostering Forward...how [stigma] might impede a student’s willingness to come and engage with the group,” a steering committee decided to change the name, Snodgrass said. Data also showed that the University had several independent students who weren’t necessarily foster youth but could still benefit, warranting the name and mission change just a few weeks ago.

IFN collaborated with Institutional Research, using FAFSA data to identify students who may be emancipated minors, foster youth, independent as ward of the court, orphaned, unaccompanied by biological parents due to other unique family circumstances, homeless or facing homelessness.

Between 2013 and 2016, there were over 300 students at the University who identified in any one or more of these categories. This fall alone, there are 33.

Once these students are identified, Snodgrass and other key players reach out to them to see if they’d be interested in more information about the program.

As a collaboration across many campus departments and centers, IFN offers help finding resources including the counseling center, financial aid, academic advising, TRIO, scholarships, a toiletry pantry in the Career Center, Student Employment Services, community-building events, Wood County Job and Family Services and more.

“It’s about actually having a centralized method of accessing and tapping into these resources,” Snodgrass said.

While not as many students as Snodgrass would like have reached out, IFN is still in its beginning stages, and other universities with similar programs have thrived even though they started with low numbers. She’s working hard to engage more students, including using word of mouth as the best form of marketing.

“As the program builds, we’d love to have the students tell their stories—share their success stories,” she said. Glenn is one of those stories. At first, she didn’t think the program applied to her because Glenn was never part of the foster system. However, she was an independent student raised by her maternal grandmother after she lost both parents before she was even two years old.

After Snodgrass’s email brought Glenn back to the University, she took advantage of several resources including subject tutoring, the Learning Commons and resume building during her time in the program.

“I was like, ‘I don’t have anything else to lose so I’m just going to put all my eggs in one basket and see how this is going to turn out,’” Glenn said.

While she’s used several resources, her biggest benefits are the support system she’s received through the program, confidence boost and a better outlook on her college experience.

“When I was younger there was a lot of stuff that happened to me that was out of my control, so growing up I was really strict with myself,” she said.

Her plan was to graduate high school, go to college, get into a nursing program, graduate and become a nurse. When that didn’t go the way she planned, she felt crushed.

“They always say have a plan B, but if I have a plan B that means I don’t believe in my plan A,” she said.

She remembers Snodgrass checking up on her until she got the email that brought her back to the University. Now she always thinks about Snodgrass reminding her that there’s more than way to reach a goal. Now she’s preparing for graduation in May.

 “[Thinking about graduation is] still stressful, but I feel a lot more optimistic,” Glenn said. “I feel like it feels more attainable now than two years ago.”

Vocal Jazz Choir to perform finals downtown

By Meredith Siegel
Reporter

The University music programs offers many different majors and specializations, but the Vocal Jazz Ensemble can help students in many ways for their major, or future careers.

The ensemble, made up of 12 students, meets for class every Tuesday and Thursday, where they learn new music, perform it and receive feedback.

Finals are coming up for everybody, but for Jazz Choir students, their final is a solo performed at Bar 149. Students get to choose their own solo, and like with other pieces, they perform them in class to get some constructive criticism.

John Hanson, a music education minor, is doing “Do Nothing ’Til You Hear from Me” by Duke Ellington for his solo.

“A couple years ago we sang it in jazz choir, and I really liked it a lot. There were really good harmonies and it’s a really good piece. I just really wanted to sing it, and so I did,” he said.

He feels that his involvement in jazz choir has influenced his college career.

“It’s probably the most challenging style of singing I’ve personally done. It’s got all kinds of intricacies; the chords are very strange, lots of cool things happening. It’s very applicable to somebody who is in music education... It’s really important while you’re teaching kids to be able to hear their mess-ups and when you’re sight-reading music and even after you’ve known it for a while to see where they messed up,” Hanson said.

Bryce Absher is also in jazz choir and is doing “My Way” by Frank Sinatra.

“I chose that solo because, not only is that the song I auditioned with, but it’s always been a good, personal heartfelt song to me. Most of the songs that I do I always put my own little spin on it, so ‘doing everything my way’ just kind of felt right,” he said.

Absher is composing music for the jazz choir, and he hopes to continue working with jazz choirs into his adult life. It is also something that has helped his expand his skill set.

“Most of Bowling Green’s music program is focused on classical music, so it just gives a whole new genre to explore techniques with,” he said. “So it’s broadening my range and also my knowledge of jazz repertoire.”

The Jazz Choir show will be on Dec. 13 from 8:30 p.m. to 11 p.m.
No shame in handmade gifts

Those in poverty often have countless problems to worry about, like simply making ends meet. At times, the last thing on their mind is making art or crafting a gift. However, as I grow older, my experiences suggest that one can put art into anything they do.

Many impoverished Americans have resources available to them due to the technological advancements of our time. They may have access to internet, a local library or other support networks such as community organizations like churches.

One should not belittle the stress poverty inflicts, but in 2017 there are multiple ways to create things for free. Money cannot buy happiness, yet in many ways art can bring happiness: for free!

A lack of money can stop someone from achieving some goals, but one should not limit themselves to goals that have a monetary cost. Linchpin, by Seth Godin, defines how broad the concept of art is by saying,“Money cannot buy happiness, yet in many ways art can bring happiness: for free!”

Linchpin provides examples as to why poverty does not equate to destituteness due to the realization that anyone can become an artist, have cheap access to technology and the fact that artistry is truly fulfilling and may be what releases one from the grips of poverty.

The Christmas season can prompt many people who are not well-off to feel obligated to present their friends or family with gifts. Rather than spending money on materialistic gifts, consider giving someone the gift of art. There is no shame in not being able to afford a gift, and a handcrafted gift is much more wholesome than a store-bought gift.

A handmade gift doesn’t even have to be of prodigious quality to be considered worthwhile. When someone you love gives you a handmade gift, more often than not, we are thinking about the time they put into creating it.

I’ve found myself scrambling for gift ideas at times – and I’ve even been embarrassed when handing my friends a gift I made because I was just too broke to buy one. But as I get older, I realize the sentiment behind these handmade gifts.

When I look around my room, there are probably dozens of pieces of clothes and other random items that were gifted to me, but the ones I truly remember are the people took the time to personalize with my personality in mind.

An unlikely person of the year

TIME magazine has named its person of the year, and it turns out it was multiple people. The women, and men, who spoke up this year are being recognized for the change they made in our entertainment world. Hollywood is finally taking action against powerful men who took advantage of their position and assaulted lesser powerful people.

People like Taylor Swift, who was taken to court after a man groped her; Terry Crews, who was groped at a Hollywood event, and the hundreds of thousands of people in 85 countries who used the #MeToo tag.

Sexual assault has always been something that women have dealt with and were shamed if they talked about it. But, it is finally being shown how pervasive this issue is and what needs to be done for it to stop. Powerful people need to be held accountable and punished for when they assault other people.

It is also important to remember that not every person wants to share their story, and even though many people have been brave enough to share their story, sexual assault is deeply personal and not something everyone is comfortable bringing up or putting on social media.

While it is vitally important that stories are shared to stop people from continuing to sexually assault others, people who come out about their assaults often receive threats from both their assaultor and strangers online. Survivors are not given support, and without it, there is no incentive to share their story because the cons outweigh the pros.

If we truly want people who assault others to be punished, then we must support survivors and their stories. More than just celebrities shared being assaulted by their bosses, and speaking out could cause them to lose their jobs or they may have to continue working with the person they spoke out against.

There is a woman on the cover of Time Magazine who preferred to only show her elbow, and this represents all the women who do not feel safe sharing their stories, but these women also lived through assault or groping or rape.

Support for survivors means supporting everyone, even the ones who don’t want to share their stories, or the atypical survivors, which are people other than straight, white, attractive women.

This year has been a huge step in support for survivors of sexual assault. But there is a need for more. Trump is our president, despite several accusations of assault. Keep supporting survivors.
Cincinnati should be in the MLS

By Jacob Clary
Pulse Editor

Cincinnati, Detroit, Nashville and Sacramento are the four cities that will be chosen from to make two new Major League Soccer teams. On Dec. 6, each city had a group that presented their pitch to MLS officials and people that would help make the selection. Detroit is rumored to be out of the running for one of the spots due to their hope of using Ford Field, which isn't soccer-specific. This means that other sports teams play there other than the soccer team, which MLS has said many times will not be allowed for these two expansion spots.

This leaves three cities vying for two expansion spots. Sacramento is thought by many to be already in, due to them being the only West Coast team, which leaves one spot open for two cities: Cincinnati and Nashville. Nashville has a very good ownership group, who all hold a lot of money. Their stadium plan, as well as their ownership group, are the reasons they are already thought to be one of the teams to get in.

However, Cincinnati should be the city to get the last spot in the MLS. This is probably my bias showing, being from Cincinnati and a massive FC Cincinnati fan, but the city has shown in the last two years they deserve to be in the top level of soccer in the U.S. The club has been able to achieve things the country hasn’t seen in any place. FC Cincinnati is in the second division of the U.S. soccer hierarchy, called the USL.

In the 2017 season, the club had an average attendance of 21,199. If that were put in the same group as MLS teams, FC Cincinnati would have the eighth best attendance. This is absolutely outstanding, considering the team is only in the second division. The club is basically already an MLS team, except in name. Also in the past two seasons, the club has had five games with over 30,000 people attending.

The city’s support of the club has been historic and has also been noticed by big businesses in the city. Just last month, they announced that if the team were to make MLS, the jersey sponsor would be Mercy Health, and this deal would be one of the most lucrative in the MLS immediately. This alone shows the city is behind the club and is ready to support them.

The announcement for the cities that will be getting into MLS will not occur until the middle of December, some people have been saying Dec. 19 or 20 are the days that should be watched. Sacramento is a shoe-in, which leaves one spot for Cincinnati or Nashville. If you like lower market cities getting teams, hope for Cincinnati to get the spot. I definitely will.

“...the city has shown in the last two years they deserve to be in the top level of soccer in the U.S. The club has been able to achieve things the country hasn’t seen in any place.”
Charter amendment loss, what’s next?

By Paul Garbarino
City Editor

The University Environmental Action Group has moved past the defeat of their esteemed charter amendment initiative last month and is now focusing on new environmental problems.

Expanding out from Bowling Green, EAG is pushing to help the Lake Erie Bill of Rights initiative in Toledo, another charter that would grant the lake rights similar to citizens’ rights.

Citing a long history of nutrient pollution, industrial farming and flawed regulation, environmental activists in Toledo are trying to grant the crucial ecosystem of Lake Erie the right to exist, flourish and naturally evolve.

The charter amendment needs 13,090 signatures to get on the ballot, and EAG wants this to be one of their next big goals. But they also have plans for much more.

“During Earth Week in April, we want to put together a rights of nature symposium forum event,” EAG president Brad Holmes said. “We’re looking to have a panel of professionals or professors from different disciplines like biology, economics, political science, philosophy and environmental science. And, potentially have BG orgs or national environmental organizations attend for the sake of really getting people to think about how nature and environmental rights are overlapping wide-spread issues.”

Promoting education and awareness of environmental problems are the pinnacle stepping stones for environmental groups to accomplish their long-term sustainability goals. And groups like EAG take active roles in doing so.

“EAG offers a more diversified education outside of the classroom, pertaining to the environment,” senior EAG member Adam Panas said. “It’s a really good way for the student population to get involved with the community and enact environmentally friendly change. We’re involved with various protests and community initiative planning. And promoting community awareness that’s definitely not passive. We take an activist approach to it.”

Waste issues and waste reform at the University are also recurring problems EAG intends to tackle next year.

“Whether it’s food waste, whether it’s improper handling of recycling, whether it’s having Styrofoam,” Holmes said. “We just began meeting with people in the sustainability office and with campus services and with dining operations. So we could start inquiring about ways to get more established at BG, ways to get composting, ways to get more responsible recycling, de-incentivizing plastic bag use.”

EAG’s members express optimism for the future, hoping that their increased efforts will drive more support.

“I feel a very definite connection, and I really believe in the work I’m doing, and I love sharing it with people,” EAG member and charter amendment lead organizer Lisa Kochheiser said. “Community environmental rights are crucial.”
We invite you to worship with us and look forward to meeting you soon!

Church Directory

St. Aloysius Catholic Church
We’re on the corner of Summit & Clough St.
(419) 352-4195

WEEKEND MASSES
SAT: 5:30PM SUN: 8, 10, and 12 NOON

St. Mark’s Lutheran Church

DNA
DISCOVER | NURTURE | ACT

First United Methodist Church
WELCOMES YOU

Sunday Worship
9:00 am Non-Traditional
10:00 am Small Group gatherings
11:00 am Traditional Service with Choir

JOIN USMO! | @UMSOATBG
A student based group serving the community
Across Wooster Street from the Stroh Center
1526 East Wooster St., Bowling Green
419-353-0682

H2O Church

SUNDAYS
10:00AM DOWNTOWN BG
11:30AM ON CAMPUS UNION BALLROOM

brookside church
Helping people find their way back to God.

WEEKEND TIMES
Saturday 5:00PM
Sunday 10:00AM
5:00PM
9:00PM

425 Thurston Avenue, Bowling Green, OH 43402
419.352.7555 | www.sttoms.com | @sttoms_bgsu | #BGSUStToms

415 South College, BG
419-353-9305
www.stmarksbg.org

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St. Aloysius Catholic Church
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WEEKEND MASSES
SAT: 5:30PM SUN: 8, 10, and 12 NOON

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10:00AM DOWNTOWN BG
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brookside church
Helping people find their way back to God.
Conveniently located close to campus with a congregation that is “small but mighty” is how the former Senior Warden describes St. John’s Episcopal Church, located at 1505 E. Wooster St., on the corner of Mercer and Wooster streets. It is still true, says the current Senior Warden.

People of all denominations and backgrounds are welcome to worship at St. John’s, including those of no faith. The church offers services based on the traditional English Anglican Church.

Enter into the mystical worship provided by chanted Compline, Thursdays at 9:30p.m. St. John’s Bridges, the Episcopal Campus Ministry, in collaboration with St. Timothy Episcopal Church, Perrysburg, also meets on Thursdays at 6:00p.m. for free homemade suppers with students throughout the academic year. The group is growing as students bring new friends with them each week. Dinner is followed by an Interfaith/Multicultural discussion group, Thursdays at 7:30p.m. You may have dinner and stay or leave depending on your schedule, or come back for Compline (the “bedtime prayers of the church.”)

The last week of Bridges for the semester is 7 December. Bridges will begin again spring semester. Hope to see you then.

“Come Chant with Us”

“TO SERVE CHRIST BY NURTURING AND EDUCATING PEOPLE IN THE FAITH, PROVIDING A SPIRITUAL HOME FOR OUR COMMUNITY AND BOWLING GREEN STATE UNIVERSITY STUDENTS THROUGH PRAYER, WORSHIP, AND THEOLOGICAL PROGRAMS. TO DO SO, WE ARE COMMITTED TO MOTIVATE PARISH MEMBERS AND STUDENTS TO REACH OUT IN ACTIVE SERVICE TO OUR COMMUNITY AND WORLD.”

WORSHIP

SUNDAY SERVICES AT 10 AM

Sunday School is held the first Sunday of the month, from 9:45-11 a.m., with a potluck following for everyone at church or Sunday school that day.
Hockey faces Alabama-Huntsville

By Zane Miller
Sports Editor

The Falcon hockey team will take on the Alabama-Huntsville Chargers on Friday and Saturday night to finish out a six-game home stand before going into the winter break.

However, the team is looking to keep the upcoming winter break from being too much of a distraction.

“I think what happens to college kids around this time of the year, at least in our sport, is that they start looking at the holiday,” Falcons head coach Chris Bergeron said. “They start counting down the days, and they forget how excited and energized they were in September to play... I don’t want to look back after these two games and say we let some things slip through our fingers because we were too anxious for the break.”

The team also believes that they will be facing a very different Alabama-Huntsville team than what they played against last year in a sweep of all four games against them, due to the players that Alabama-Huntsville recruited getting more experience.

“ar top players are a little bit older now,” Bergeron said. “They have recruited some skill, but over the past couple of years that skill has been young. Now they’ve got the freshmen that are learning from some guys that have been through it and battled, I think they’re underrated in terms of how good their skill is, which means their power play and their top six or seven players on the back end... I believe that some of those are growing pains that you get when you rely on freshman and sophomore players to lead the way. They’re now juniors and seniors, and they’re seeing the fruits of that.”

“I would really like to see us take advantage of these last two opportunities at home before a two week break and that just means to play well.”

-Chris Bergeron-
Falcons Head Coach

The team is also looking for a good weekend to end the final series before the break on a positive note.

“This is a huge weekend for us,” Bergeron said. “It’s not bigger than last weekend or the weekend against Ferris State, but it’s a big weekend because it’s our next opportunity. And we’ve got a two week break coming up after this weekend, so I think it would be huge to play well. I think it would be disappointing and regrettable if we didn’t.”

The team also believes that ending the first half on a positive note will be important because there will be more road games in the second half of the season.

“This is the end of a first half where we’ve played a bunch of games at home,” Bergeron said. “I would really like to see us take advantage of these last two opportunities at home before a two week break, and that just means to play well.”

Upcoming Games

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Men's basketball falls to Evansville

By Jamison Terbrack
Sports Reporter

The Falcons basketball team lost to the Evansville Purple Aces by a score of 91-76 on Tuesday night at the Stroh Center.

Evansville shot the lights out in this one as they went 12 of 15 from behind the three-point line, 34 of 56 from the field and 11 of 13 from the free throw line.

“Our defense failed us at the end, and in the second half they still were able to get the drives that they had in the first half,” Falcons head coach Michael Huger said. “They were still able to get the things they were able in the first half, and when you can put together two halves like that, you know, this is the end result.”

As a result of the loss the Falcons now sit at 7-3 for the season.

“They did what they wanted to do; actually, they were able to drive the ball. We knew they were gonna drive to start the game; they did a great job of that but surprised us with how many threes that they hit,” Huger said. “They shot it really well tonight, and when you shoot that well from three point range, 12 of 15 from three, they are tough to beat... You know they shot 60 percent from the field as well, so whenever you play like that and have a night like that it's tough.”

Junior guard Sydney Lambert and senior guard Carley Santoro contributed 12 points apiece. But these performances could not get the job done for Xavier as they drop to a 4-2 record on the season.

“Take away the first two possessions where we turned it over (and we did fine),” Falcons head coach Jennifer Roos said. “But it was the start that we wanted and that set the tempo. We knew that they had played more recently than we had so we wanted to push the tempo as much as we could to start the game.”

The game was not as close as the final score indicates as the Falcons soared to a 21-9 point lead after the first quarter which led to a comfortable 38-24 lead at the half, big thanks to 8-of-13 three-point buckets by both junior guard Sydney Lambert and senior guard Haley Puk to assemble a 22 point differential between the Falcons and Xavier. The Musketeers by no means helped their cause by shooting 3-of-12 from the field in the third.

The Falcons led by 20 with only 5 minutes remaining in the contest and saw that lead cut in half by a late Xavier run that seemed to have come far too late.

“Our team responded well,” Roos said. “We had several days to prepare for us and get better internally. We had a day off on Sunday and then came back and just really worked hard to prepare for Xavier. This is a talented Xavier team and we got lots of contributions from different kids. When you have five different kids able to shoot from beyond the arc and we had lots of penetration and made the extra pass today. So I thought our kids really did a good job of executing.”

“We had several days to prepare for us and get better internally.”

-Jennifer Roos - Falcons Head Coach

Women’s basketball defeats Xavier

By Brendan Kramer
Sports Reporter

The Falcon women's basketball team faced a big challenge Wednesday morning in the form of Big East and in-state foe; the Xavier Musketeers. The team seemed to not be discouraged from the power conference squad as they defeated them at the Stroh Center 63-53.

Thompson with 19 points on six of nine shooting and five of those buckets being three-pointers. Junior guard Cecil Andrea added 14 points and junior guard Carly Santoro contributed 12 points as well.

The Musketeers were led by Ariana Gray and Princess Stewart with 10 points apiece. But these performances could not get the job done for Xavier as they drop to a 4-2 record on the early campaign.

The team's flight to victory was fueled by third quarter three-point buckets by both junior guard Sydney Lambert and senior guard Haley Puk to assemble a 22 point differential between the Falcons and Xavier. The Musketeers by no means helped their cause by shooting 3-of-12 from the field in the third.

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“We had several days to prepare for us and get better internally.”

-Jennifer Roos - Falcons Head Coach
By Brionna Scebbi
Reporter

With winter break approaching, it is not every student’s first response to think about summer. However, Keisha Taylor, assistant director for the Career Center, advises students to look ahead to the warmer months by using this break to start organizing plans for summer internships.

Since many employers fill less-competitive internship positions in January and February, winter break is an optimal time to update resumes, research internships, call or email the Career Center and begin applications. Here is how to get started, according to Taylor:

Update resumes and craft cover letters.

Edit and add to an existing resume to include relevant activities and employment changes from this semester. Once a resume is updated, students can tailor it to a specific internship and the position’s needs in a candidate. Resume and cover letter critiques are offered by the Career Center throughout the semester or can be scheduled by appointment.

Students can also upload their resume to WorkNet, an employment database that connects students to on-campus and off-campus work and internship opportunities.

The summer internship search

Get to know the Career Center and its employer partners.

The Career Center is open Monday through Friday from Dec. 18 until Jan. 5 for winter break appointments and will have updated spring semester drop-in hours on their website soon. Appointments can be scheduled by calling 419-372-2356.

They also offer events, such as the Spring Expo Job and Internship Fair, throughout the semester to help students build connections with employer partners of the Career Center, which include companies like Disney, Honda and ProMedica. These events range from large-scale networking fairs to smaller cluster programs for specific groups of majors. The Career Center’s calendar of events is available at www.bgsu.edu/career-center/career-center-events.

Taylor emphasized the importance of connecting with alumni and employer partners. “It’s not about who you know all the time, it’s who knows you,” she said.

This networking can happen not only through events the Career Center offers, but also through online resources such as LinkedIn.

Take advantage of resources offered.

The Career Center offers resources such as FOCUS and the Falcon Internship Guarantee. FOCUS is an assessment of interests and skills with the purpose of helping students explore majors and career options that are best for them. The Falcon Internship Guarantee helps students find experiential learning opportunities if they meet the criteria of a 3.0 GPA, a major declared by the end of sophomore year and progress toward a degree. Some of these opportunities include internships, research, co-ops, field experiences and internships for medical students.

Big Interview is another resource the Career Center offers. The site says it offers the tools needed to prepare for interviews and increase interviewing confidence. From mock interviews to lists of potential interview questions, this resource gives several opportunities to train for interviews and receive feedback.

Some final advice Taylor had for students applying for summer internships is to be open-minded about where they can apply their skills and knowledge when researching internship opportunities and to be themselves in interviews. She also advised students to keep in mind an internship might validate their career choice, but it is also okay if they learn about what they do not want in a career from their internship.
By Brionna Scebbi  
Reporter

Dhiman Chattopadhyay says one of the best gifts one can give is that of knowledge. Chattopadhyay is a doctoral candidate at the University and recently received the Mahatma Gandhi Award for dedication to service from the India Student Association. He denies the credit given to him for what he has given to Bowling Green and the University and gives recognition to everyone who has worked with him to help others.

"You need a good heart and a lot of friends; you cannot do things alone," he said. When ISA presented him the award back in November, he referred to his experience of witnessing the professors in his family give unconditionally to their students as a key influence in his desire to help others.

A former journalist and current instructor for several journalism courses, Chattopadhyay continues this giving in his classroom. His affinity for giving knowledge shows in his interactions with students as he works with them to help them bring their grades up with extra effort, he said. In return, he claims to receive helpful feedback that serves as an affirmation to him.

This focus on learning rather than strict grading comes from his own schooling. While most other schools in India had an emphasis on exams and gave students the opportunity to either pass or fail from their first day of school, Chattopadhyay went to a school where exams were not a focus of education until sixth grade. This environment was less competitive and more cooperative, he said.

"As a result, we were told and taught and we appreciated that we could help each other... Helping did not mean pass or fail; helping meant trying to get those who had fallen behind to catch up," Chattopadhyay said.

His education experience was not the only inspiration for his willingness to help others, but his experience in Bowling Green has also led to involvement in other forms of service.

"Just to see how unselfishly people give is an eye-opener here... I saw what people were doing; I merely followed," Chattopadhyay said. Seeing organizations helping international students by providing transportation, the town and University putting on cultural events, professors building welcoming relationships with students and churches collecting food for those who are struggling in Bowling Green inspired him to give.

When he was president of the India Student Association a few years ago, four-

Gandhi continued on page 12
Gandhi continued from page 11

Teen students came to the ISA leadership team asking for help to organize aid for the people of Nepal after a devastating earthquake. Within just two days, ISA raised $2,500 with the help of students and faculty who saw Chattopadhyay and other ISA representatives at their table in the Bowen-Thompson Student Union and gave whatever they could. The check went to the American Red Cross teams in Nepal where one dollar would feed and clothe a homeless Nepali person for a day in the wake of the earthquake. Things as simple as students of the University emptying pockets of change or donating money that was meant to buy lunch that day continued to motivate Chattopadhyay to help those around him.

Chattopadhyay admits that he is not a perfect example of selfless giving, but that should not stop anyone from giving to others. "We are all selfish… One can argue one does things to feel good about yourself; that's fine as long as that makes somebody else feel good too," he said.

Learning about and celebrating cultural differences through ISA events is one way Chattopadhyay shares the gift of knowledge with students and community members in a way that he says allows him to learn as well. Another example of this is his involvement on the organizing committee of the Bowling Green Community Interfaith Breakfast, where representatives from different faiths come together over food to have conversations about their beliefs.

"We're different… and we should celebrate that by learning about our differences," he said.

Media and Communications professor Srinivas Melkote presents Chattopadhyay with the Mahatma Gandhi award.

The Daily Crossword Fix

1. Winglike
2. Pitcher
9. Russian emperor
13. Guy
14. "Bolero" composer
16. Dogfish
17. Apothecary’s weight
18. Lissome
19. Corpse
20. Flower part
22. Decrements
24. Fastens
26. Clairvoyants
27. Wrench (British)
30. Donnybrook
33. Surpass
35. Chocolate-flavored coffee
37. Anagram of "Ail"
38. Enlighten
41. Not bottom
42. Plunks
45. Someone’s foot
48. Grab
51. Ask someone to marry you
52. Angers
54. Avid
55. Reproduce
59. Anagram of "Space"
62. Not low
63. Without company
65. Wild goat
66. Type of sword
67. Geeks
68. A flat mass of ice
69. Noxious plant
70. A musical pause
71. Cravings

1. Contributes
2. Attraction
3. Alteration
4. Stays behind
5. Historic period
6. Tail motions
7. Iniquities
8. A change for the better
9. Hot sauce
10. Dirty air
11. Assistant
12. Beams
15. Pariah
21. Gave temporarily
23. Baby buggy
25. Arid
27. A cleansing agent
28. Tugs
29. Disencumber
31. Punishable
32. Footwear
34. A sizeable hole
36. Church alcove
39. Dandy
40. An English royal house
43. Scorched
44. Blend
46. Foot digits
47. Determine
49. Tidy
50. Doctor
53. Doctor
55. Expresses relief
56. Fully developed
57. Curved molding
58. Terminates
59. Anagram of "Space"
60. Hireling
61. Former lovers
62. Not low
63. Without company
64. Eastern Standard Time
66. Type of sword
67. Geeks
68. A flat mass of ice
69. Noxious plant
70. A musical pause
71. Cravings