MAZEY MOVES ON

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President Mazey announces her resignation

Brionna Scebbi
Reporter

University President Mary Ellen Mazey shocked students by announcing her resignation, effective Dec. 31 of this year.

She was named the 11th president of the University in July 2011. Mazey’s almost seven years at the University were an “honor and pleasure,” she said at the board of trustees meeting on Friday when she made the announcement.

With her 69th birthday approaching, Mazey mentioned she has spent a lot of time reflecting on each decade of her life, as well as her time at the University.

“I’ve got to start thinking about the seventies and what I’m going to do in that seventies decade. And I think it’s about time that I do some things that I can say has my life a little bit more flexible,” she said.

Mazey said she will continue to be involved with the University, including participation with fellow board members Linda Forte and Jim Bailey to support the University even after her resignation.

“Now it’s time to say farewell, but I’ll always be here, too,” she assured those present at the meeting.

The announcement was received with a standing ovation and applause as Mazey advised her peers on the board of trustees to remember all the accomplishments made during her time as president.

She also encouraged members of the administration to “take (the University) to the next level.”

The members of the board spoke in commemoration of Mazey’s time at the University, honoring achievements, such as the Master Plan and an increased retention rate, over the past seven years with the status of president emerita.

“I cannot thank you enough for everything you have done,” Megan Newlove, chair of the board of trustees, said.

In response to the announcement of Mazey’s resignation, the board motioned to appoint Rodney Rogers, the senior vice president of academic affairs and provost, as interim president of the University. He spoke about his goals as he makes this transition.

“My goal is to make sure we do not lose any momentum on the great progress the University’s making.... There’s a lot of initiatives that we are just going to continue, developing new academic programs,” he said.

Mazey commented on what this change means for students, reminding them that they are the University’s first priority.

“...if there are issues that you think that need to be resolved on the campus, let us know, because we always want to work with you. Provost Rogers wants to work with you as president. Just think about what you can do to really make BGSU better than it is today,” she said.
The state of the U.S. border

By Erika Heck
Guest Columnist

Last week, the Department of Homeland Security announced arrests of people who are attempting to cross the U.S.-Mexico border have hit a 46-year low. Compared to 2016, arrests at the border have decreased 25 percent.

It is no secret Mexicans are more worried about crossing into the United States because of the Trump administration, but Border Patrol attributes this decrease to fewer people attempting to make the journey on foot, and while this is more than likely true, the DHS missed something significant in their reporting: the increase of migrant deaths at the border.

The United Nations reported in August that migrant deaths at the U.S.-Mexico border had increased to 255. While this may seem like a small number in comparison to the thousands who cross the border and live (regardless of detention or success), hundreds more go missing, and their deaths are not recorded or reported.

The start of this increase in migrant deaths can be traced back to Oct. 1, 1994, with the launch of “Operation Gatekeeper.” Border Patrol assigned 200 agents to guard 14 miles of U.S.-Mexico Border south of San Diego, California. These 14 miles of border were commonly crossed by migrants, so it makes sense the additional agents would be placed there.

However, this pushed back where migrants could cross safely as well. The operation resulted in migrants needing to cross over mountain ranges and deserts to get to their destinations in the U.S. These new conditions brought new challenges: dehydration, a lack of water sources on their journey, heat exhaustion, hypothermia (because it can indeed snow in the desert and get cold), animal injuries or general natural causes.

Humanitarian activists estimate that more than 5,600 people have died since the implementation of “Operation Gatekeeper.”

We must be mindful of this situation and these issues when we discuss illegal crossings at the U.S.-Mexico border, especially with the current administration in the White House. As conspiratorial as it may sound, it is important now more than ever to ask questions about the statements our government and government departments put out.

Nowhere in the CBP Border Security Report does it specify anything about the people they detain. The report reduces them to numbers and dehumanizes them by referring to them as “illegal aliens.”

If we want to change anything about our issues on the border, we must first start with the way mainstream society and culture views migrants attempting to cross. We must first end the dehumanizing language put out there by our government and start empathizing more with people we may not know at all. It can be hard sometimes to think of others in a world where you constantly should be doing things for yourself to maintain your survival, but for once, consider yourself to be a different person born in another place and think about what you might do to maintain their survival.

Second, we cannot ignore the reality of immigration as it stands right now in the United States. Even though Border Patrol says arrests on the border are decreasing, Immigration and Customs Enforcement detaining people in the interior of the country is on the rise.

Finally, get active in your community. Find ways to help migrants in your area or try to help DACA recipients. Organize or get involved in an organization meant to help migrants. A little help and a reached-out hand goes a long way.
Problematic Christmas films

Christmas movies, along with the snow, hit us full force like a brick wall this year. But in all honesty, are they really worth the watch? The short answer: no, not really. As you've probably already guessed, I'm going to lay out the long answer for you too.

I have every sappy bone in my body, but I still find it hard to get behind Christmas romances. Most of the time, they're poorly made. Even when the actors aren't bad, they've all got some kind of cheesy vibe that keeps you from fully immersing yourself into the story. Just about every story follows one of three formulas that move at unrealistic paces.

I'm sure you've all recognized it. First we're introduced to a hard-working woman, one who may be a nobody waiting for her break or one who's already made it big, working in some massive city and making a ton of money.

Either way, one formula takes this hard-working woman, who is far too busy to look for love, and puts her in the path of a man she instantly dislikes. Later, she'll meet the man again, but this time, it's for work. The two are forced to spend time together and end up falling madly in love after realizing their first impressions were wrong.

Yesterday I watched Netflix's attempt at a sappy Christmas romance—"A Christmas Prince." In the movie, Amber (Rose McIver) attempts to get her big break in New York City journalism by traveling to Aldovia over Christmas to get the scoop on a scumbag prince taking the throne.

When she gets there, she unknowingly meets (and hates) the prince the first time when he steals her cab at the airport. When she gets to the palace and finds out the prince isn't talking to the press, she poses as the tutor to the prince's much younger sister to get "insider scoop." She knows she can't return home with nothing, or she'll never make it as a journalist.

Throughout the hour and half run time, viewers find out the prince isn't so terrible (how predictable) and the two main characters fall head over heels for each other (big surprise). The two become engaged after just a few weeks of knowing each other, and Amber will soon become queen.

Sounds like every other Christmas movie you've ever seen? If not, here's another formula for you.

Formula two exists when the "nobody" hard worker finds a rich hero whom she feels unworthy to in comparison. Despite the hero's wealth and high social status, he falls for the girl and steals her away from her service job.

The final formula takes the big-time, city-going designer or marketing executive to her tiny hometown for printing. She meets either her high school sweetheart, the boy she never looked at twice or her biggest love. What do we expect, though, when Hollywood releases dozens of new Christmas movies every year because the market for them is so large? There may be more than one way to skin a cat (or one way to make a Christmas romance), but there are still only so many ways (in this case, about three formulas).

We recognize that every one of these movies is going to follow some typical equation, yet for some reason, we watch them, anyway. It's really such a waste of our time when we can be watching other Christmas movies with original plots.

Here's what is worth the watch: the Christmas comedy. I can sit for hours and watch "Elf," "Christmas with the Kranks," "Home Alone" and all the "Santa Clause" movies starring Tim Allen. In all reality, most of them present relationships that do a better job depicting real romance than the movies that specifically focus on sappy love stories.

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Fast facts:
Mazey’s presidency

By Brionna Scebbi
Reporter

Mary Ellen Mazey became president of the University in 2011 and announced her resignation on Friday. In the past six and a half years, the University has acquired many accolades, undergone significant physical changes and grown in many ways under Mazey’s presidency. Here is a look at Mazey’s contributions to the University over the years:

**Total enrollment (Main and Firelands campuses)**
- Fall 2011: 19,880
- Fall 2016: 19,837

**Retention rate for first-time, first-year students**
- 2011: 69.5 percent
- 2016: 75.8 percent

**Investment in infrastructure**
- **Campus Master Plan:** More than $500 million
- **Completed renovations and additions:** Centennial Hall, Falcon Heights, The Oaks, Carillon Place, the Stroh Center, the Wolfe Center for the Arts, Falcon Health Center, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation crime lab, Greek Village, Kuhlin Center, University Hall, Moseley Hall
- **Demolitions and deferrals of investment dollars:** Memorial Hall, West Hall, Family Consumer Sciences, Administration Building, Education Building
- **Planned renovations and additions:** Robert W. and Patricia A. Maurer Center for Business Administration

**Fundraising and community partnerships**
- **Changing Lives for the World comprehensive campaign:** $110 million of the $200 million goal
- **Partnerships established:** Wood County Hospital, North Star Aviation and the Ohio Attorney General’s Office
- **Not In Our Town:** partnership between the University and Bowling Green to prevent hate and promote diversity

**University accolades**
- **Top university for student engagement** (Wall Street Journal and Times Higher Education, 2016)
- **Top five percent ranking nationally and top two percent ranking globally** for undergraduate business programs (Bloomberg Businessweek)
- **Recipient of Diversity and Inclusion Award** for work with We Are One Team (NCAA and Minority Opportunities Athletic Association, 2017)
2017 was the best year for video games I personally have experienced, with so many amazing games releasing this year. It was darn near impossible to narrow it down to only ten games. Before starting the list, which will go from ten to 1, a couple honorable mentions are "Cuphead" and the downloadable content for "Shovel Knight," titled "Spector of Torment." These two games didn’t make the list, but I thought they were good enough to be worth mentioning. Now, onto the list.

Starting off the list is "What Remains of Edith Finch." It is a "walking simulator," which will push some players away, but is one of the better in the genre. The focus of the game is the main character traversing her old home and learning about the lives of her family. The player ends up controlling an aspect of each of these family members, and there are a couple in particular which are legitimately amazing. I loved learning the story of each member and the family in general.

"Horizon: Zero Dawn" has two amazing looking things: graphics and story. It is the best looking console game I’ve ever played, and is completely worth playing just for the graphics. However, the story is also surprisingly deep and highly interesting. The world of the game is post-apocalyptic, and the way the game handles society dying off made me want to keep playing, just so I could learn even more about the world in the game.

"Uncharted: The Lost Legacy" is the best of the Uncharted franchise, and the competition isn’t close. I loved the chemistry between Chloe and Nadine, the two main characters in the game, and the inclusion of two women as main characters is a breath of fresh air. I also loved the shorter length of the game. The Uncharted games have always felt a couple hours too long, and this one changed that up.

"Night in the Woods" is a game about life. The main character, Mae, has returned home after not being able to go through college. Even though the characters are all animals, this game felt the most real of any of the games on this list. I really liked Mae’s story, and it resonated with me. I liked the music of the game as well. It was very catchy, and different from a lot of some other games’ soundtracks.

"Super Mario Odyssey" is a game that is fun to play. At its core, that is why it is so amazing. Just moving Mario around the world is fun. I loved exploring the game’s areas and seeing what they had to offer. I also liked the ability to take control of the enemies, which was a lot of fun, too. Being able to control a Goomba or Cheep Cheep was so different from what happens in a normal Mario game.

"The Legend of Zelda: Breath of the Wild" is all about freedom. As soon as the game starts, players can go wherever they want. It is completely open-world. There are no barriers to what the player can do. Do you want to immediately go and face the final boss? Players can do that. The freedom to do anything is what I love so much about the game. The world is huge and beautiful and has so much to offer the player in terms of nostalgia and interesting quests to find. I loved everything about the game, and it was the perfect game to start off the Nintendo Switch.

"Assassin’s Creed: Origins" is all about the game’s people. There are so many things to do for people, due to Bayek, the main character, being a Medjay, which is basically a cop in ancient Egypt. I loved doing the side quests. It was fun to help everyone fix their problems and have a better life. The game is also gorgeous, and very good at making the player feel immersed in the ancient Egyptian world. It is one of the better crafted worlds that video games have seen this year, and I’m really glad I tried playing another Assassin’s Creed game.

"Nier: Automata" has one of the best soundtracks of the year, and I really enjoyed the story as well. The game is very long, having multiple endings to play through, and I wanted to finish every single one just to see the music that might be at the end of each scene. The story is great too, and it was fun to see the way the story ended up going.

"Monument Valley 2" is a puzzle game for mobile devices. This means that almost everyone can play it, and I think it is amazing. The game’s puzzles are based around trying to get your character through areas that look like M.C. Escher drawings. Players have to fix the perspective of each of the areas to get the character to the end, and I loved it. The game also has a minimalistic style and uses a lot of different colors, so each area looks different. It is only $5. If you like anything to do with puzzles, this is the game for you.

"Xenoblade Chronicles 2" is about the music and the exploration. Exploring the world of Alrest is great, and never gets old. Each part of the world felt completely different from each other, which led me to love each area even more. The music helped the exploration, as I wanted to keep listening to the soundtrack. The story is pretty ridiculous and made me laugh a lot, but it also made me want to continue going forward in the game.

By Jacob Clary
Pulse Editor
The movies in 2017 were an odd bunch, with the best movies of the year being unexpected or far exceeding the expectations I had for the movie. Big blockbusters like “Justice League” and “Transformers: The Last Knight” were terrible as expected, which made way for smaller films to succeed. Here are my ten favorite films of the year, going from ten to 1.

Beginning this list is “Spider Man: Homecoming,” Marvel’s first foray with the webbed crusader. This reboot of the Spider Man character was much needed, and I really enjoyed how fresh the character felt. I loved the youthfulness of the characters, as well as all of the side characters, especially Ned. The different age of the characters allowed the movie to be a bit different, but not changing too much. The villain is pretty interesting as well, and one of the better in a Marvel movie. However, it is still a Marvel movie, with all of the tropes that come with them. If they aren’t your type of movie, “Spider Man: Homecoming” won’t sway you.

Next is “Murder on the Orient Express,” an adaptation of a famous book by author Agatha Christie. The best part of the movie is Kenneth Branagh’s performance as the main character Hercule Poirot. His performance was immersive, and led me to get into the movie even more. The other characters were good too, but they were not developed much. The main best part of the book was the interrogation of every single passenger. However, due to being a movie, it cuts out many of these, leaving many characters being underdeveloped and underutilized. It is still a good movie with this problem, though.

“Thor: Ragnarok” is a great Marvel, even rivaling “Guardians of the Galaxy.” The two best parts of the movie are the humor and the characters. Talking about the humor, every single time the movie tried to get a laugh, it worked for me. It is a welcome change from the other Thor movies, which I felt were very boring. The characters are also great, with Thor and Loki being standouts again. The chemistry between them is evident in every scene they are together, and I loved the movie for it.

“The Lego Batman Movie” is, unironically, one of my favorite superhero movies ever, and that is because of the amazing aesthetic and wonderful humor. I love the Lego aspect of the movie, and makes it feel completely different from any other superhero movie. The humor is great too, with the one-liners landing every time, and many small cameos getting a laugh. I liked it a lot, and I think many more people would as well if they give it a shot.

“Baby Driver” can be described with the use of one word, and that would be “style.” The directing in the movie is great, and the reason the movie is so good. Each scene felt completely different, and they would change based on the music Baby, the main character, listened to. The movie had me tapping my foot to the music, and excited to see what would happen next.

“Logan” is a movie about a man who happens to be a mutant. It’s why I love it so much. It can be seen without seeing any of the other X-Men movies, and is also a very personal story. Hugh Jackman’s performance as Logan is great, and I was rooting for him throughout the whole movie. The chemistry between Jackman and the other characters is good as well, and led me to love all the characters in the movie.

“Dunkirk” is a directing masterpiece. Every shot felt masterfully crafted, and were different every time. In the overall run time of the movie, I was transported to the past, and it was difficult to tell the difference in that time. I really enjoyed how each scene didn’t feel like a movie, but an actual part of the past. “Dunkirk” was the most immersive movie of the year. Christopher Nolan is one of the best directors in the business, and this is one of his best movies.

“Blade Runner 2049” is great in the quiet of the story. It is environmental storytelling at its finest. It is a science fiction movie, so you would think a deserted city covered in sand would be met with a monologue of its history. However, it is given a three-minute introduction with just music, and not dialogue. It was a breath of fresh air that a movie would respect its viewers in this way. I loved thinking about the history of the world, and is the reason I enjoyed it so much.

“Get Out” is a documentary using a horror movie as its shell. I loved all of the things the movie had to say about society as a whole, and the suspense the movie had going for it.

“Get Out” is good in making the viewer feel something when people are asking Chris, the main character, questions. It is great in getting viewers to know that something is going to happen, but not knowing when, where and how that thing will happen.

“It” is the best horror movie of all time, and one of my favorite movies. The whole movie is a mix of a horror movie, and a coming-of-age story, and I loved the contrast of these two things. The horror is weaved into the growth of each of the characters, and when one happens, something good or bad happens to the character. The scares in the movie are also not your typical jump scares. They scared me a bit, and I don’t usually get scared in horror movies. “It” was actually very funny too, with one character in particular being the main crux of the humor. Overall, I loved “It” so much, and am excited to see what it does for the horror genre.
The Falcon hockey team had their seventh split series of the season on Friday and Saturday nights against the Alabama Huntsville Chargers, winning 3-1 on Saturday, but losing in a shootout 4-3 on Friday.

On Saturday night, the Falcons got off to a good start in the first period, as sophomore defenseman Alec Rauhauser scored at the 8:44 mark during a four-on-four opportunity, giving the team a 1-0 lead. The team scored again later in the period, as senior defenseman Connor McDonald shot through a screen and into the back of the net for a 2-0 advantage going into the locker rooms.

“Last night, we got the first goal too, but I think it’s just the way we played after we got that goal,” Rauhauser said. “Last night we kind of sat back after we got up, but tonight we just kept pushing, just kept trying to get on a good forecheck, so the way we played after the first goal was much better.”

The second period had the Falcons continue the momentum. Junior forward Stephen Baylis scored the team’s first power play goal of the series at the 12:52 mark. The team also outshot Alabama Huntsville 17-3 in the period, to go along with outshooting them 11-4 in the first.

In the third, while the Falcons continued their offensive pressure, Alabama Huntsville got on the board early in the period as forward Tyler Poulson took advantage of a power play opportunity of their own at the 4:19 mark. However, that would be all the offense they would get, as the Falcons took the 3-1 victory.

“I just think we were responding to a game where we didn’t think we played very well,” Falcons head coach Chris Bergeron said. “I’m not just saying that I didn’t think we played very well. I think that our players thought we could’ve played better last night, and they wanted to come out early and play better. That’s what they did.”

Despite not facing a lot of shots, Falcons sophomore goaltender Ryan Bednard made 11 saves to earn the victory.

“I thought Ryan played good, he looked on top of it,” Bergeron said. “He didn’t face a bunch of shots, but he stopped a breakaway against (Josh) Kestner, who’s one of the better players in the league, when we started to get a little loose there, Ryan looked on top of his game as far as I’m concerned.”

“I think eight wins out of 19 games isn’t what you want, but there’s not a whole bunch of losses there,” Bergeron said. “We’re happy with the first half. More nights than not, we’ve got seven freshmen in our lineup, which are valuable learning minutes for them. We’re going to get healthy, and hopefully we can continue to identify what the best version of this team is.”

On Friday, the offense came out early for both teams as senior forward Mitch McLain put in the game’s opening goal for the Falcons at the 1:16 mark, giving the team an early 1-0 advantage. However, Alabama Huntsville would come back quickly with forward Madison Dunn scoring at 5:37 to tie it up. Alabama Huntsville would also take the lead at the 12:04 mark, with forward Josh Kestner getting the goal, but the Falcons would even up on a short-handed chance courtesy of junior forward Stephen Baylis to make it a 2-2 game heading into the second period.

In the second, both teams went scoreless despite a number of power play opportunities, with three power plays coming for Alabama Huntsville and one for the Falcons. The Falcons also led Alabama Huntsville in shots with 10 to their seven.

The third period saw Alabama Huntsville grab the lead once again, as Kestner put in his second of the game with just over two minutes in. The Falcons were able to get back even, but they were still unable to get another goal in overtime.

“I just think we were responding to a game where we didn’t think we played very well,” Bergeron said. “I don’t think there’s enough guys that take the shootout on Thursdays in practice, including three in rapid succession by Alabama Huntsville, but they were all stopped by Falcons freshman goaltender Eric Dop. However, neither team was able to put the puck in the net again, and the game went into a shootout.

Alabama Huntsville kicked off the first round of the shootout with forward Christian Rajic as he scored to put them ahead 1-0. The Falcons sent up freshman forward Max Johnson for their first shooter and he skated slowly up the ice, weaving left to right before finally putting the puck past goaltender Jordan Uhelski to even things up. In the second round, Alabama Huntsville had forward Brandon Salerno, and he found the back of the net as well. Needing a goal to keep the shootout going, the Falcons sent freshman forward Brandon Kruse, who, in contrast to Johnson, skated up the ice at near full speed, but his shot was saved by Uhelski and Alabama-Huntsville took the 4-3 victory. The Falcons are now 2-3 in shootouts this season.

“We try to explain the importance of these points (from shootout wins),” Bergeron said. “I don’t think there’s enough guys that take the shootout on Thursdays in practice, including three in rapid succession by Alabama Huntsville, but they were all stopped by Falcons freshman goaltender Eric Dop. However, neither team was able to put the puck in the net again, and the game went into a shootout.

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Men’s basketball falls to Old Dominion

By Travis Devlin
Sports Reporter

The Falcons men's basketball team traveled to Norfolk, Virginia, Saturday to face off in a nonconference game against the Old Dominion Monarchs, where they received their worst loss of the season so far with a final score of 88-46.

With the 42-point loss, Michael Huger didn't mince words about his team's performance on the court. To him, it was pretty simple why.

"We actually had a lot of great looks, we just missed, and when you miss and don't defend, it's turns into a 40-point game."

The Falcons leading scorer, Justin Turner, came away with 17 points, but the lack of defense was really Huger's biggest concern.

"I thought our defense wasn't good tonight, and they were able to get out and get loose and make shots. We got to get tougher defensively in order to win games," he said.

Another problem the Falcons faced that Huger pointed out was turnovers and the lack of ball control.

"They were tougher, they were definitely tougher than we were tonight, and they imposed their will on us."

This game leads to an 11-day break for the Falcons before they head to Wisconsin to face off against the Green Bay Phoenix.

"It wasn't the pressure of their defense, it was just careless turnovers, careless mistakes. It's the mental mistakes that kill you."

Nothing really went right for the Falcons, but another key factor was foul trouble, and that had a large effect on the game as a whole. But the reason for that, according to Huger, was effort.

"You got to come ready to play, you can't turn it on and off when you feel like it," he said.

Huger pointed out it wasn't anything the Monarchs did that made it difficult for the Falcons to handle the ball, it was mainly unforced errors.

"It wasn't the pressure of their defense, it was just careless turnovers, careless mistakes. It's the mental mistakes that kill you."

While the Falcons struggled, Huger recognized the overall solid play from the Monarchs in both halves.

"They were tougher, they were definitely tougher than we were tonight, and they imposed their will on us."

This game was cancelled due to bad weather at the time. The team was happy to get the opportunity, having South Dakota State play relentlessly, with five points apiece.

"First of all, rest up, and, you know, kind of heal the injuries that we have, kind of recuperate and get finals out of the way."

Women’s basketball loses to SDSU

By Brendan Kramer
Sports Reporter

The Falcon women's basketball team fell for their second time of the season by a score of 76-44 by the hands of the South Dakota State Jackrabbits.

The team was scheduled to play against South Dakota State last season, however the game was cancelled due to bad weather at the time. The team was happy to get the opportunity to be able to play them this season, despite getting the loss.

"We were fortunate to get them back on our schedule this year and make it happen," Falcons head coach Jennifer Roos said.

"(Head coach Aaron) Johnston's got a fantastic team. When you beat two out of three BCS opponents on your schedule, he's got it rolling, but he's got a team that's not only talented, but plays hard, and to me, that's a big key. It really reminds me of our 2007 team that went to the Sweet 16."

The Falcons did not have a good day from the floor. They shot 16-of-62 on shots and was able to convert just 3-of-21 on their three-pointers.

"I thought we had some good looks, but we rushed our shots," Roos said. "We talked about the significance of this opportunity, having South Dakota State on our non-conference schedule, and I have no doubt that they'll be ranked here in the next coaches' poll."

The Falcons had 12 different players put points on the board, but none of them were able to reach double digits.

"This was a game where they were much more physical than we were," Roos said. "When you get out-rebounded by 20, that's a telltale sign. The game was all about ball control and they had a lot of second and third opportunities."

Leading the way for the Falcons, however, was Andrea Cecil with seven points, and guards Carly Santoro and Sydney Lambert with five points apiece.

"We did a good job of boxing out at the beginning, but we couldn't get to the ball after. (South Dakota State) played relentlessly, played with a lot of passion and heart in that rebounding category and I think that's a true sign of a really talented team."

The team also believed they will be able to turn around quickly for the next game.

"We did not have second chance shot opportunities," Roos said. "We haven't been out-rebounded like that all season long, and they went and got the ball, but we have the ability to do that, and I know we'll do better."

The team will next play Monday, Dec. 18 on the road against the Ferris State Bulldogs.
Is Bowling Green prepared for flu season?

By Maxwell Hess
Reporter

With flu season typically lasting from October to March, highly-populated areas often face greater risks from the virus. Is the city of Bowling Green, home to thousands of students, adequately prepared to minimize its spread?

According to Joe Basalla, Bowling Green State University biology graduate student and teaching assistant, prevention in an area like the University’s campus is extremely difficult to maintain.

“A college campus creates a lot of opportunities for the flu to spread.”

— Joe Basalla —
Biology Graduate Student
Bowling Green State University

walking through the buildings, there are a lot of people who don’t want to miss class or who are close to somebody who’s sick, and not everybody has their flu shot. There is an incredible amount of opportunities for the flu to spread,” he stated.

Influenza, commonly referred to as the flu, is a highly contagious virus that can affect all areas of the respiratory system. It can cause symptoms such as persistent coughing, body aches, fevers, blocked or running nostril mucus, a painfully sore throat, diarrhea, vomiting and headaches. While the flu can occasionally lead to death for those with already-compromised health, typically it is mild at best and debilitating at worst.

As stated by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the 2015-2016 flu season included approximately 5.1 million cases of influenza, 2.5 million medical visits related to it and 71,000 hospitalizations from it.

Kelsey Williams, BGSU biochemistry major, recounts her past experience dealing with the flu.

“I had influenza when I was younger, around middle school or maybe early high school. The only thing I really remember were some of the more common symptoms like shakes and a fever and everything. I was probably bedridden for a day and a half, when all the symptoms crashed down on me,” she said.

Kathryn Dobbs, a medic for the U.S. Air Force, also dealt with the flu once before, only much later and less severe than Williams.

“I got the flu just recently, for the first time, last year. Thankfully I had a mild case. It was just your typical fever with a general feeling of unwellness. I didn’t have any vomiting or anything like that, just a decreased appetite, headaches, and things like that,” she said.

Although there is no quick and easy cure for influenza, there are remedies that are said to help ease the symptoms. Basalla gave his take on how to properly treat the virus.

“Obviously, you have to take care of yourself. Make sure you’re washing your...Continued on page 12
Holiday cocktails

Jalynn Dukes
Reporter

The holidays can be a crazy time. Finding time to visit all your family members, prepping food and getting gifts is hectic. When it’s all said and done, wind down in the evening with one of these four hand-picked cocktails.

1. Eggnog Mudslide
- 1 part Kahlua
- 1 part vodka
- 2 parts eggnog
- whipped cream
- ground nutmeg

Instruction:
1. Combine Kahlua, vodka and eggnog in a cocktail shaker with ice.
2. Shake well, then strain into glasses.
3. Top with whipped cream and ground nutmeg.

https://www.lemontreedwelling.com/2016/12/eggnog-mudslide.html

2. Holiday Punch
- 1 (12 ounces) frozen orange juice concentrate
- 1 (12 ounces) frozen limeade concentrate
- 4 cups cranberry juice cocktail
- 12 ounces vodka
- 1 (2 liters) 7UP®
- ice cubes
- cranberries, optional

Instruction:
1. In a large bowl, over ice, combine all of the liquid ingredients.
2. Top with cranberries, for garnish, and serve.

https://deliciouslysprinkled.com/holiday-punch/

3. Jingle Juice
- 1 bottle (750 milliliters) Whipped Vodka
- 1 bottle pink champagne or sparkling rosé
- 1 2-liter bottle of Cherry 7UP®
- Cranberries (optional)

Instruction:
1. In a large bowl, over ice, combine all of the liquid ingredients.
2. Top with cranberries, for garnish, and serve.

https://inspiredbycharm.com/2015/12/jingle-juice-holiday-punch.html

4. The North Pole
- 1 ½ ounces Grey Goose Cherry Noir Vodka
- ½ pepermint schnapps
- 1 ounce heavy cream
- 1 ounce chocolate syrup
- mini candy canes (optional)

Instruction:
1. Combine all ingredients in a shaker filled with ice.
2. Shake well and drain into glass.
3. Top with optional candy canes and serve.

http://www.cosmopolitan.com/food-cocktails/g2586/christmas-cocktails/?slide=10

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Continued from page 10

hands and not sharing utensils like water bottles, especially if you’re eating somewhere like the union, where there’s a lot of people also eating and germs are everywhere. Just make sure you’re paying close attention to your hygiene,” he explained.

These methods of treatment lessen the severity of the virus, slow its spread and possibly shorten it, but they cannot avert it. Vaccination is not a perfect solution either, as the manufacturers’ predictions of what strain will be spread the following year can, at times, be inaccurate. Furthermore, they are ineffective for treating active cases of the flu, the weakened virus can only help people to preemptively build immunity. With that said, however, flu vaccines are by far the most effective method of prevention, despite the questionable accuracy of strain predictions. "We really harp on flu shots nowadays, and I think that really does help, especially because there are some places you can go to for really cheap $20 flu shots. I think people really underestimate washing your hands and just hygiene in general, though. We should definitely increase awareness about how much hygiene really does for you," she said.

Despite vaccinations being a beneficial modern breakthrough, lots of students at the University will skip out on getting theirs. Williams thinks they aren’t convenient enough for the majority of busy students.

“I feel like there should be more places within walking distance of here (campus) that have the flu shot as something cheap, that the students can get on their way to class. Lack of time is a major reason college students don’t get it. People who have classes all day can’t find 30 minutes or an hour to go sit in a doctor’s office,” she said.

Like Williams, Basalla thinks there should be a greater effort in expanding local accessibility to flu vaccines. He also warns of the common mistake of using antibiotics as an attempt to treat the virus.

“I don’t think I’ve seen much being advertised about going to get your flu shots and staying healthy. I know one thing that our lab focuses on is antibiotics, so if you do feel sick and think it’s the flu, and you go to the doctor’s, just remember that the flu is a virus. You don’t need antibiotics for a virus. In fact they can actually be harmful if you don’t need them,” he said.

Influenza is a harsh virus that creates a massive ripple effect, negatively affecting productivity, safety, and happiness on a wide scale. Vaccinations remain the most effective method of prevention, despite the questionable accuracy of strain predictions.