Partnership with Groome aims to save students money

Abby Shifley
Campus Editor

The new University shuttles are the product of a partnership between Groome Transportation and the University. Brad Leigh, executive director for Business Operations, said the University made the switch because the cost of maintaining the old shuttles was increasing every year.

“We saw last year that this was going to be a really expensive year,” Leigh said in a phone conversation.

The transition to Groome happened over the summer on July 1, 2018.

With the new partnership, costs of the new shuttles — such as the shuttle drivers’ salaries and replacing the old shuttles — are paid for by Groome. In return for Groome’s services, the University pays an annual flat rate of $690,000.

Had the partnership not been made, the cost for shuttle services this academic year would have been $250,000 more for the University. Leigh said over the five-year term of contract with Groome, the University plans to save more than $1 million in costs. Those costs would have otherwise gone to students, in the long-run.

Leigh also said six of the previous shuttle drivers decided to retire and two decided to resign rather than transfer to Groome.

Groome originally required its drivers to be 25 years or older but reduced this age limit to 21 to accommodate former student drivers and to assist in recruiting future student drivers, Leigh said.

Four out of five students who were shuttle drivers in previous years were able to continue as shuttle drivers after the Groome partnership. The one student who would have been too young to continue as a shuttle driver is still employed by Groome and will resume driving a shuttle when they turn 21 in December, Leigh said.

Additionally, the former Shuttle Manager, Aileen Berry, was retained by Groome and is the current operations manager.

The new shuttles are slightly smaller than the old ones, with 24 passenger seats on four shuttles and 30 passenger seats on two shuttles. Also, the previous shuttles ran on diesel.

“The ridership data indicated we needed to modify the shuttle fleet. The new vehicles are smaller, using less fuel and run on propane which burns much cleaner and is better for the environment,” Leigh wrote in an email.

“At the end of the day, this is a student service,” Mike Campbell, director of public safety and chief of the University police, said.

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Welcome back BGSU ALUMNI!
Lexi Evarts, a student at the University, has “Meet any Marvel actor” on her bucket list. It’s interesting, since many would consider her a superhero herself. At the age of 21, Lexi beat one of the rarest forms of cancer.

Looking at Lexi, one would never know she was a survivor of Ewing’s sarcoma, an aggressive form of cancer. She has short hair many might assume is a trendy haircut. Her eyes are a bright blue that show no signs of pain, despite what she’s been through.

She was just a normal student who spent her days going to classes and studying in her dorm. Her life revolved around school. “I was your average everyday college student. I was always stressed out. I was constantly focused on getting stuff done,” Lexi said.

Little did she know, studying for exams would be the least of her worries. During finals week her sophomore year, she went to an appointment that would change everything. She’d been suffering from a severe pain in her hip and tried many things to relieve it. She went to chiropractors, physical therapy, pain clinics and had an sacroiliac joint injection in her hip, but nothing seemed to work. It was finally recommended she have an MRI done.

“It was finals week. I had emailed my professor and said, ‘I’m going to come to your office hours at 2:30.’ (The doctor) called me back when it was done and told me that something was there, he just didn’t know what,” Lexi said.

She figured it wasn’t a big deal. The only thing on her mind was talking to her professor about her exam the next day.

“I was annoyed. I had to make it to these office hours,” Lexi said.

The following day, she went back for a biopsy. It was then explained to her family that the pain in her hip was from cancer. From there on, Lexi and her family searched for the right hospital to undergo treatment. They settled on the University of Michigan’s hospital, where a doctor explained her cancer was Stage IV and had spread to her lungs.

“That’s when I got upset. I realized Stage IV was bad. I thought this isn’t just cancer; it’s cancer-cancer,” Lexi said.

She did five months of chemotherapy and six weeks of radiation. Her cancer was so aggressive she had to do chemotherapy five days a week for eight hours a day. She’d get a week off and return to receive chemotherapy for 72 hours straight.

She handled chemotherapy well, never getting sick, which is rare for chemo therapy patients. The only real side effect she had was constant exhaustion. During her time in the hospital, she became Reddit famous by sharing her story.

Those posts on Reddit are what led the founders of One List One Life, a company devoted to helping cancer patients complete their bucket lists, to contact her. They’ve made it their mission to help Lexi complete all 36 items on her bucket list. So far, with their help, she has been able to swim with dolphins, help paint a mural, visit Redwood National Forest, meet Shane Madej and Ryan Bergara from Buzzfeed Unsolved and many others.

Lexi acknowledges she wouldn’t have been able to put up such a good fight if it wasn’t for some of the amazing people in her life. One of those people is her boyfriend of two years, Jay Conner. They had only been dating for six months when she was diagnosed.

“I was not scared at all. I wasn’t going to leave her for that reason; I was going to be by her side no matter what. I told her she’s got this. I knew if I was sad, that it would make things worse on her part, so I decided to be consistently happy,” Conner said.

Lexi’s stepmother, Jamie Evarts, said it wasn’t just the people in her stepdaughter’s life that made the whole ordeal easier. It was Lexi herself.

“She was positive most of the time. She made her disease easier (for us). Her being so positive was a gift she gave to her parents,” Jamie said.

Earlier this year, Lexi received the news she was cancer-free, news that not only changed her perspective on life but those who were around during her fight. Her stepmother feels her own life has been changed forever too.

“I’ve learned to find the joy in each day with my kids and husband. I want to be with people more. I am so honored to have been apart of Lexi’s story; I want Lexi to fulfill her life and have a purpose and passion,” Jamie said.

Being cancer-free has allowed Lexi to really think about what she wants to do with her life. When she was diagnosed, she was told she had a 17 percent chance of survival and is so grateful to be here today.

While nothing is set in stone, she said she knows no matter what she will continue to advocate for childhood cancer.

“One in five children diagnosed with cancer in the U.S. will not survive,” according to the St. Baldrick’s Foundation.

Lexi hopes to keep educating the public about childhood cancer to save more lives.

“Childhood cancer does not get enough recognition. Childhood cancer gets 4 percent of the billions of dollars (raised for cancer). They’re focusing on what causes cancer, instead of focusing on the children that have it now,” Lexi said.

Lexi has been cancer-free since April and is ready to get back to normal and return to everything she had to put on hold for the last year. While it is uncertain if she will have to undergo treatment again, there’s one thing her stepmother and boyfriend can agree on: no matter what happens, she will be ready to fight again and beat it once more.
Wizard uses love to support students

Quinn Taylor, dressed as the BG Wizard, protests religious demonstrators.

With several passersby also sharing videos of the Wizard on Snapchat, their image began to receive more attention. People started to recognize them outside of their wizard garb.

“I got recognized at McDonald’s last night where somebody was just like, ‘Excuse me? Are you the Wizard?’” Taylor said.

Although, it is no surprise people identified Taylor beneath the guise of the BG Wizard. When in costume, their distinct fuschia hair splays out around their blue gauge earrings and beneath their blue cone-shaped hat, and their 6-foot-3 stature is not easily disguised by the length of their red cloak or the height of their rollerblades.

While Taylor is not used to the local fame, they have not let that stop them from protesting at multiple demonstrations by religious zealots they call “Bible thumpers.” These groups, such as Created Equal and The Campus Ministry U.S.A., preach from free speech zones on campus against topics such as reproductive and LGBTQ rights.

Taylor’s mission as the BG Wizard is to turn the aggressive atmosphere of these demonstrations into a more accepting one.

“As a person who identifies as both queer and trans, it feels important to me to speak out against hate like that. … I would like to send that message not only to them that they’re not welcome to spread their hate here but also spreading a message to BG students that they are loved, and they are not what these people think of them,” Taylor said.

It is their support of students who might feel attacked by demonstrators’ messages that has earned Taylor the support of friends.

Taylor said they send pictures of them dressed as the Wizard to their devout Christian mother who “supports my endeavors 100 percent.” In regard to the so-called Bible thumpers, Taylor quoted her as saying, “This is not the God I love; this is just people pandering.”

Taylor had a similar view of what the demonstrators believe.

“You can walk around all day promoting this false idea of a wrathful, hateful god-figure — and you can believe in that all you want — but I’ll continue to believe in Bowling Green and the people in it,” they said.

And the people of Bowling Green, including Taylor’s roommate and graphic design senior Morgan Gale, believe in the BG Wizard too.

Gale has described herself as Taylor’s “social media hype man” and has supported them by making flyers to pass out during demonstrations, interviewing them on her YouTube channel and posting about them online.

Taylor’s friend and digital arts sophomore David Hancock said he supports them because the Wizard wants to “just make people happy while taking away from the opposition’s point as much as possible, as peaceful as possible, with as much fun involved.”

The Wizard and their mission reflect how Taylor is as a friend, Gale said.

“Quinn’s always been really supportive of me … They really build me up. They’re also possibly the most ridiculous person I’ve ever met; they’re always been able to escalate a situation into something completely absurd,” Gale laughed. “(The Wizard and Quinn) are basically the same person, I think.”

Hancock shared a similar sentiment as one of Taylor’s friends.

“To hear them give that sort of rousing speech at the end of the first day … with the whole, ‘You guys are all loved and cool and super special, and I appreciate all of you.’ That’s Quinn,” he said.

Wizard Continued on page 7
7 ways to keep yourself safe during spooky season festivities

Morgan Ward
Columnist

Hello, ghouls and monsters. Spooky season is upon us. Halloween is approaching soon and this can be such a fun time. This can also be a very dangerous time, especially in a college atmosphere. Here are some tips on how to have a safe but fun Halloween this year.

1. Go with a group and leave with the same group.
If your squad is planning on going out for Halloween, try to remain as a unit throughout the festivities. Always use the buddy system when you are out. If one of the members in your group needs to pee, someone better go with them. If it is possible you can designate a meeting spot at every place you go to.

2. Eat and hydrate properly.
Halloween is all about having fun and getting candy. But college students have their fun through drinking. When drinking, it is best to go out on a full stomach. This will help alleviate blood alcohol level spikes when you start drinking. And this can minimize hangover symptoms the following morning.

3. Listen to your body and know your limits.
When your tolerance level reaches its breaking point, try to switch up your drinking to a non-alcoholic beverage. It is best to go at a slow pace. When going over the edge, judgement is impaired, and there can be extreme physical discomfort the day of and the next day.

4. Don’t walk by yourself in the dark.
Walking alone can be scary. But walking alone in the dark is even worse. This is a time where people can be taken advantage of and get into trouble. If you can’t find a way to have someone walk home with you, there is always Uber, and campus security. The University’s campus security can be reached at 419-372-2346.

5. If you are uncomfortable, get out of the situation.
If there is any point where you feel uncomfortable or suspect a dangerous situation, listen to your instincts. Tell someone you trust how you are feeling and try to leave this situation. If you need to make an excuse on why you left, that’s okay.

6. Avoid vision impairing costumes.
Did you know that wearing Halloween masks is considered illegal in several states? I sure didn’t. This could be for a very good reason. Masks can obscure vision when alcohol can already have this effect on a person.

7. Make sure your phone is charged and location is on.
iPhones have this amazing feature called “find my friends.” This is an app where you can follow people’s exact location. Snapchat also has the feature of SnapMap where location can be seen from other people when your location is turned on. Making sure your phone is fully charged is important, so you have a way to connect virtually if anything happens. This can also get you a way home.

Halloween is a spooky fun time, but it is important to look out for yourself then before looking out for people around you.

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PHOTO PROVIDED BY GOOGLE
Focus on your feelings

Bea Fields
Columnist

Life can get busy, this we know. The currents of our lives seem to be an unending stream of this and that. Successes and failures. Work and more work.

Sure we can stay up, drink three cups of coffee today or complain to our friends about our abnormally normal expectation to never take a moment for ourselves, but what if I told you it didn’t have to be this way?

What if we did take a moment for ourselves? Not to stop our lives completely, not to dwell on our problems, but to be by ourselves for ourselves. Maybe on your way to work remember to release your shoulders from your head. Your ears don’t need company; they already are attached to your head. Unclench your jaw and look around. We usually think of meditation as keeping our hearts from feeling and our minds from thought with our eyes closed.

This is not the case! Any moment where you are present and look out at the world without judging is meditation! When you are in between classes and stop in front of the union to watch students pass by, just enjoying the moment— that’s meditation.

When you are in your room and just feel where you are at emotionally and mentally without attaching a label—if you are able to feel without the constriction of labeling whether or not you should be — that is meditation. You are however you are. There is no such thing as should when it comes to being.

As this semester ramps up, you don’t have to do anything but release tension and be. You don’t need to “know” something with buzzing words to understand something. Sure to communicate it, maybe.

Do you say “I am sad” when tears are rolling down your face? Do you say “I am angry” when you tense up and refuse to talk to a friend that has hurt you? No.

You already know these things without the mind. However, it may help to pay attention to those feelings when you feel them as well as the thoughts that hurt. Please don’t wave them away! Be present in them and know them because they are you.

When you are angry, you are anger. When you are sad, you are sadness. Many times we do not realize this and treat people harshly. Because we haven’t taken the time to transform our anger or sadness into understanding. Active participation within our bodies, minds and emotions is meditation, and it can remind you that you don’t have to be so hard on yourself.

Thus, you are not so hard on others when it comes time to set boundaries and tie loose ends. If you have a moment or minute, try to take a deep breath and understand yourself through feeling and watching the world around you and in you. No, your shoulders don’t need to be by your ears. Shoulders have nothing to offer your head. That’s why they are always by your side, as they are there for support and stability.

Lemon: How to handle life’s curveballs

Miah Paloma
Columnist

“When life gives you lemons, make lemonade,” said literally everyone ever. It is an age-old saying. So much so I have no idea where it comes from. This saying is helpful in some cases, but what about the others?

What about when life throws you curveballs? Or hands you bricks? Or maybe even hands you lemons made of plastic?

The point I’m trying to make here is that whether we like it or not, life hands us things. The things life hands us are often much more complicated than lemons.

What do we do?
I personally have a bit of experience with this. Imagine merely being aware of your grandmother’s existence for fifteen years and all of a sudden she lives with you part-time. It was hard. I’d be lying if I said it wasn’t. I never knew what a true whirlwind of emotion was until I got to know my Nanna.

In hindsight, I couldn’t be more grateful for it all. My Nanna was here for a short time, but the memories will last for a lifetime. Through that experience, I not only got to know who she was, but I learned a bit more of who I am.

So you’re probably thinking: “Yeah, that’s really cute in all, but what does that have to do with my life?”

I’m glad you asked.
When life throws us curveballs, what we have to do is the only thing we can: manage it. I began to learn how to do this with my Nanna, and it is still something I’m learning today.

How do we manage it?
We start by finding things that we’re grateful for. I have no idea why, but true gratitude creates a sense of peace within. It makes all of the troublesome things we encounter seem a little bit less impossible.

The next thing we do is realize that we are not alone. Everyone, everywhere is dealing with something. There’s nothing wrong with struggling, but there is something wrong with a lack of a support system. People need people. So, whether it is a counselor, friend, significant other etc; find someone you can trust.

In them and don’t be afraid to let your true feelings show. We all need that from time to time.

Lastly, try to find a sense of beauty in your situation and focus on it. Find the beauty in everything, because when we do, life becomes a little more like fresh lemonade.

Email: dovesept.2013@gmail.com

Thoughts?
Wizard uses love to support students continued from page 4

The support the Wizard gives to the crowd at a demonstration seems to have inspired more students to join the spectacle. Several other students dressed in costumes with the same intention of distracting everyone from religious fanatics.

This made demonstrations a great place for making new friends because “all of the coolest people show up to make it goofy,” Gale said.

The distractions created by this “army of gays,” as Gale calls them, during their protests included a fake wedding between participants dressed as dinosaurs. Taylor officiated this pseudo-ceremony, and as an ordained Unitarian minister — which they achieved in order to have a “legally binding gender-neutral honorific rather than being referred to as mister in legal documents,” they said — they plan to do so for real at friends’ weddings in the future.

“The Wizard does weddings,” Gale said with a laugh. She plans to have Taylor officiate her wedding when the time comes.

While the Wizard united dinosaurs in love to protest the message of religious zealots on campus, students united at demonstrations to show each other they are loved, which is a “cathartic experience because for a brief moment we’re united through a common goal, which is to just to remind each other that we’re not what people will make us out to be,” Taylor said.

While Taylor never expected their work as the Wizard to have such an impact, they said they would like to see it grow into something bigger than themself. As for the Bible thumpers, Taylor looks forward to a day when students stop listening to the condemnatory messages they have been shouting.

“I want it to no longer be ‘Oh, there’s a bunch of homophobes just raging around campus, and they’re saying a bunch of hateful stuff’ to ‘Did you hear the Wizard’s out today?’” Taylor said. “Because then suddenly the pedestal is knocked out from under them; they don’t have a voice because nobody’s there to listen to them. (Students are) there just for a fun show and to take pictures with somebody dressed as a wizard.”

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Just 2 blocks from campus
Students of all backgrounds come together at H2O to engage in worship, Scripture-based teachings, and connection with others. This year H2O has two venues—Downtown Bowling Green at 9:00 and 10:30AM (252 S. Main Street) and On Campus at 11:30AM (Union Ballroom). “We are all at different places on our spiritual journey. But no matter where you find yourself right now, we want you to feel welcomed,” said Pastor Bryan Wiles. “H2O has a ton of opportunities to offer and there is a place for everyone.”

If you want to find out more about H2O, stop by one of their many events this week or check out their website at H2Ochurch.com. Many students have found this church to be a great place to not only meet other students, but to find and experience their relationship with God.

“H2O has many other ways to get involved, in addition to Sundays and Groups. There are opportunities to join teams that serve with the music, video, hospitality, H2O Kids, and more. “Freshman year, I came to H2O to see what it was all about. Then, after getting involved with a group and serving on Sundays, I found a family,” said Tessa Mitan, a student-turned-staffer with the church. “H2O has a ton of opportunities to offer and there is a place for everyone.”

“H2O has a ton of opportunities to offer and there is a place for everyone.”
—- Tesla Mitan, Church Student Leader

“This is a time when we open our Bibles in search of the truths that connect to our lives today. For me, I was looking for a community that would help me grow in my search for spirituality and a place to build lasting friendships.”
—- Joe Kaloger, H2O Staff Member

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Sorority Omega Phi Alpha and fraternity Kappa Sigma joined forces this week in the Union Oval to take donations in exchange for playtime with some furry friends. Faculty and students lent their dogs for the afternoon in support of military veterans.

Omega Phi Alpha and Kappa Sigma host Kisses for a Cause every year. For $1 students were able to spend time with the dogs while taking pictures on their own phone, and for $3 students were able to get a polaroid picture taken with them.

"Kisses for a Cause is an event that raises money for Military Heroes and Pets for Vets, but it is designed for students as well. Without them, we wouldn’t have such a successful event, and for that we are very grateful," said Kaitlyn Whittaker, an Omega Phi Alpha member who is also the sorority’s Philanthropy Chair. "Dogs make us feel better even when we are having the worst day. They love us unconditionally, and they see the good in us, even if they don’t know us."

Proceeds for this event go to Pets for Vets and Kappa Sigma Philanthropy Military Heroes.

Both programs help veterans return from active duty in hopes of rehabilitation and getting back to the normalcy of civilian life. Specifically, Pets for Vets is an organization that pairs rescue animals with military veterans for therapeutic rehabilitation for the veterans and second chances for the animals. Research done at Purdue University showed veterans who owned pets and who suffer from post traumatic stress disorder were psychologically, socially and physically healthier.

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Give a buck, kiss a pup Continued from page 10

healthier than those who were not owners of pets at all.
While benefiting these organizations, Kisses for a Cause serves students and faculty as well.
“I really enjoy the puppies being on campus because it allows me to take time out of my day to relax and ease my mind. Also, getting to play with them reminds me of my own dog who I really miss, so it helps to deal with some of the homesickness. But overall, I just love puppies and spending time with them,” freshman Nicole Picciano said.
A University of Maine study stated college students are proven to be less overwhelmed and more positive and relaxed when being able to interact with animals, specifically domestic animals.
Nandika Talwar, an Omega Phi Alpha member, shared her experience with her first Kisses for a Cause event.
“We are spreading positive vibes and happiness through campus, and it’s also a good stress reliever for students,” Talwar said. “It takes your mind off of classes while giving money to a good cause, which is even better.”

Maddy Laugherty and Yoshi the Dog

Annie the dog spent time with faculty and students all day.
Survivors discuss Kavanaugh proceedings

Stepha Poulin
Editor-in-Chief

The Senate voted Saturday to confirm Brett Kavanaugh to the Supreme Court. Following weeks of allegations of sexual misconduct, his approval has prompted a response from survivors of sexual assault.

Some of those survivors are students at the University — including Jillian Riley, a junior film production major.

“It’s close to home. It doesn’t matter who it is or how close they are to you,” Riley said.

According to an article from The Denver Post on Saturday, the near party-line vote was 50-48. The Senate’s roll call was “interrupted several times by protesters in the Senate galleries,” leading to the Capitol Police removing them.

Riley had been watching the hearings that preceded Kavanaugh’s confirmation and said watching was painful “as a person who’s been in a position that severe.” Christine Blasey Ford’s testimony brought up memories for Riley, along with other survivors who have gone through trauma similar to what Ford alleges.

Despite the pain Riley felt watching Ford’s testimony, she said watching was painful “as a person who’s been in a position that severe.” Christine Blasey Ford’s testimony brought up memories for Riley, along with other survivors who have gone through trauma similar to what Ford alleges.

Riley said. She hopes to help other survivors by sharing her story and encouraging survivors to “get close to other women” who can empathize with what they’ve been through.

Hope Eller, a senior musical theater major, decided to share her experience after seeing a friend share their story on social media.

Eller posted her #MeToo statement to Facebook in late September. She mentioned she has a lot of conservative friends on Facebook, but that didn’t stop her from making the post.

“I’ve never been one to shy away from political posts on Facebook,” Eller said. Through her #MeToo statement, she hopes to show her friends “how common the issue is.”

The response from Eller’s friends was positive; several people even shared their stories with Eller privately.

Moreover, Eller’s parents called after reading the post — they didn’t know about their daughter’s assault until then. She was 16 years old when the incident happened. Eller said after telling a close friend about the assault and getting a non-reassuring response, she didn’t feel comfortable opening up to anyone else.

Eller recognized that survivors don’t often get a supportive response. She said people who think survivors are “crazy enough to get that kind of attention for fun” are being naive.

“It makes sense that people are saying it’s for the left’s agenda,” Eller said. But Eller hopes survivors still come forward in light of Ford’s testimony.

Eller gave advice similar to Riley’s, telling survivors to talk to someone who has been through sexual assault.

“Don’t let it scare you from being honest and getting help,” Eller said.
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HolidayInnBGOH
Falcons host Western Michigan

Evan Hayes
Pulse Editor

Now halfway through the 2018 season, the Falcons are looking to bounce back from a shaky start as they enter the final six games of their schedule.

A tough non-conference schedule and early season struggles on both sides of the ball have left the Falcons (1-5, 0-2 MAC) fighting for every yard and point possible. But after a tough fought battle against rival Toledo last week in a losing effort, there is optimism that the program can use that resiliency and turn this season around as they host Western Michigan this weekend for Homecoming.

“The thing that we talked about on Sunday as a football family is that, before you win, sometimes there are some things that have to take place,” Falcons Head Coach Mike Jinks said. “And you’ve got to have winning effort. You have to be resilient.”

I mean, all the outside noise and everything that was going on last week, and to get down 17 the way we did, in the way that we did, that was a perfect time for a football team to fold and say, ’we can’t do this,’ and they didn’t. They were resilient. They found a way to continue to battle, and they made it a heck of a football game.”

After falling into a hole early in the last week’s Battle of I-75, Bowling Green played perhaps its most complete stretch of football this season. Facing a three man front and eight in coverage, the Falcons were able to get their run game going, something they have struggled to do all season (103.3 rush ypg, 12th in MAC).

Running back Andrew Clair looked like the dynamic playmaker many were predicting him to be this season, racking up 118 yards on 12 carries while adding 74 receiving yards and three total touchdowns. A reshuffled offensive line, featuring starting left guard Jack Kramer at center and redshirt junior Matt Tanner at guard, consistently opened lanes for runners and bought time for quarterback Jarret Doege.

The defense also put together one of its best performances of the season, recording three pass breakups and three quarterback hits. Finding ways to get off the field will help a defense that has struggled with tackling and depth this year, and they showed they can do that against Toledo, only allowing one touchdown in both the second and third quarters.

“I believe that was our most complete game. The situations that we were in, we didn’t point fingers, we didn’t complain, we just went out there and played,” defensive back Marcus Milton said. “That’s as a whole team: offense, defense and special teams. No matter what happened, we went out there and played for each other.”

The Broncos (4-2, 2-0 MAC) will be arguably the toughest MAC opponent the Falcons have played all season. Western Michigan sits in first place in the Western Conference of the MAC, leading the conference in passing offense (276.3 ypg) and total offense (472.2 ypg) while allowing the second fewest sacks (4). Western Michigan also fields the top punt return unit in the MAC, leading the conference in total punt return yardage (315), average punt return yardage (28.6) and punt return touchdowns (2). The Falcons have struggled on special teams, specifically in the punt game. Toledo had one blocked punt and two return touchdowns that were called back on penalties. Getting his team to play up for their Homecoming matchup in front of their home crowd will be crucial for Jinks again this week.

“That’s where we want to be. We want to be MAC champions again, and in order to get there these are the guys you have to beat. So we’re excited, and it won’t be tough to get them pumped up again.”

A win this week would help the Falcons as they enter the final stretch of their regular season schedule. After Western Michigan, the Falcons will have three games on the road and two at home. Both home games will be weekday games.

“You look at the teams that are remaining on the schedule, all quality football teams, but none any more talented than anybody we’ve played,” said Jinks. “We continue to build and we continue to stay together as a football team and a football family, who knows what can happen.”

The Homecoming game against Western Michigan will kickoff at 3 p.m. this Saturday at Doyt Perry Stadium. The game will be broadcast on ESPN+.

“Mike Jinks
Head Football Coach
Men's soccer wins overtime match at IUPUI

Jacob Clary
Sports Editor

The men's soccer team traveled to Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis and won 3-2 with a last-second goal in the first overtime period. This win continues the unbeaten streak the Falcons have been on the last three games.

However, Coach Eric Nichols said, “Getting a win on the road is always very hard,” so this win is important for the team.

The Falcons dominated the attacking sheet with 19 shots during the entirety of the match, with eight of those being on goal. This let the Falcons stay in the game, even though they allowed two penalty kick goals for the second time this season. The defense, however, was able to hold them to just 10 shots during the match and only three on goal.

The three goals the Falcons scored were from different players, showing the team's ability to have a varied attack. The player who scored the game-winning goal in overtime was Charlie Maciejewski, while the other two were being from Chris Sullivan and Tate Robertson. Sullivan's goal came in the 64th minute from inside the 6-yard box after a pass from Robertson. This tied the match up at 1-1. Robertson's goal was from the penalty spot.

“All of the emotion and energy that went into Saturday, we were a bit drained going into this one. So to be able to dig down and pull out the win is a testimony to our toughness.”

Eric Nichols
Head Soccer Coach

Predictions for upcoming League Championship Series and World Series

Parker Kern
Sports Reporter

It's that time of the year – the leaves are beginning to change color, the outdoor temperature is chilling (although that hasn't really happened yet) and postseason baseball is on every baseball fan's mind. Some are mightily disappointed (sorry, Indians fans); others, very hopeful. Of course, like any other good writer, it is in my best interest to leave my partisanship at the door and make honest predictions on which teams I believe will make it to, and win, the World Series. At this point, I'll take off my Los Angeles Dodgers hat.

Two heavyweights collide in the ALCS: the defending champion Houston Astros and the 108-win Boston Red Sox. Both of these 100+ win teams are built for championship contention, and I am looking forward to seeing the two teams duke it out in a series I believe will be an instant classic, and a series I believe will go six or seven games.

Both teams have fantastic starting pitching, both teams have tremendous hitting lineups, and both teams have solid bullpens. What this series will come down to are managerial moves mid-game that will trip up the opposing team. While I want to go with the Astros, I also know that only two teams have won back-to-back World Series in this the past three decades: the 1998-2000 Yankees and the 1992-1993 Blue Jays.

While this has nothing to do with actually getting to the World Series, I understand that the Red Sox have a chip on their shoulder this postseason, mainly due to their earlier than expected exit from last year's postseason. They'll have home-field advantage, and they'll find themselves in a better place than ever since 2013 to win a World Series title. It'll be a challenging series for both teams, and while my heart says Houston in six, my gut says Red Sox in seven. I'll take the Red Sox representing the AL in this year's World Series.

The NL is the more up-in-the-air of the two League Championship Series. The Brewers are the hottest team in baseball, and Christian Yelich clearly played well enough to be the NL MVP this year. Their whole lineup has been hitting the ball exceedingly well, and they blanked the Rockies in a very non-competitive NLDS series. However, the Brewers are exactly in the position the Dodgers want them in.

The Dodgers' starting pitching was rocky during the regular season, but some of their guys on the mound have stepped up in the postseason, especially Walker Buehler. Couple this with the fact that the Brewers will also have to face the all-time great Clayton Kershaw, and I think LA pulls it out in five or six. They'll certainly steal at least one game in Milwaukee, and with that, I truly believe the Dodgers will be the NLs representative in the Fall Classic.

Two teams are left in the World Series. Two teams were disappointed with the outcome of last year's playoffs. Both teams have bolstered their lineups to ensure them postseason success. The notable acquisition for the Red Sox was outfielder J.D. Martinez, who was amazing this year, hitting .330 with 43 home runs and 130 RBIs. The notable acquisition for the Dodgers came mid-season, when they acquired infielder Manny Machado from the Baltimore Orioles. In 66 games with the Dodgers in the regular season, Machado hit .273 with 13 home runs and 42 RBIs. Both teams have power lineups and excellent starting pitching. The difference in this series will be the bullpens and those mid-game managerial moves.

I believe this will be a fairly quick series, four to five games at most, with the Red Sox taking the title. Their bats went on a field day with the Yankees starters, something I believe will continue in the ALCS against the Astros and again in the World Series against the Dodgers. The Red Sox will win their ninth title, and I don't think it will be close.

All their acquisitions will pay off, and look for outfielder Andrew Benintendi to have an outstanding season. Benintendi is a talented under-the-radar player who I believe is destined for greatness, and who I believe will win MVP of this series. I'll take the Red Sox in five games over the Los Angeles Dodgers, with a possible repeat title coming next season, if they can keep the band together.
Falcon Flock mentor program looks to soar to new heights

David Escobedo
Reporter

The Falcon Flock mentor program is a new organization on campus that looks to provide mentors to students. The program will foster relationships while promoting conversations about social justice.

“Truly, the Falcon Flock is about mentoring students who are interested in social justice leadership. It’s a one-on-one pairing with a mentor who is a faculty, staff or graduate student on campus who has done social justice leadership type work,” said Katherine Stygles, assistant director for Diversity Education and LGBTQ Programs at the University.

Stygles has been heavily involved with Angela Clark-Taylor, the director for the Center for Women and Gender Equity, before the program even began. They worked closely and had conversations about what the program would look like and how it would operate.

“I think the overall goal of the program is really about starting the conversation, moving it forward,” Stygles said.

To add to this, Clark-Taylor went more in-depth with the goals of the program: “articulating that philosophy of social justice leadership, identifying and describing social and cultural issues that influence a diverse society, exploring leadership in the context of being an advocate for social justice and then this idea of developing a framework of self-understanding around social justices,” Clark-Taylor said.

The program aims to mentor students to be better equipped to have conversations and advance change or increase awareness of social justice issues.

“This is a program that combines one-on-one mentorship experience with career development and social justice leadership education to equip students to be more prepared leaders for social change.”

— Angela Clark-Taylor —
Director for the Center for Women and Gender Equity

With its pilot year coming soon, “I think I would’ve loved a program like this when I was an undergrad. To have the opportunity to be paired with a faculty or staff member,” Stygles said. “Today’s college students are really so much more thoughtful about social justice issues and leadership. So I have a lot of hope for what our students will get out of this program and where they’ll, hopefully, be able to take it with them in their futures.”

With its pilot year coming soon, the Falcon Flock is forming and mentors and students are prepared to build relationships through this program.
National issues for Ohio voters

Adam Gretsinger
City Editor

Bowling Green and Washington, D.C. are two places different in peoples, cultures and governments, but the politics of the latter will reflect on the former this year, especially before the upcoming midterm elections. The election on Nov. 6 will not concern the presidency but will affect other issues, including the governor office for Ohio and the state’s open senator and representative offices.

The term of Gov. John Kasich, R-Ohio, will end in January, leaving questions regarding the state’s education department, opioid crisis and healthcare approaches.

Though seven candidates are listed by the Wood County Board of Elections for the gubernatorial race, two are seeing the most debate: Republican Mike DeWine and Democrat Richard Cordray. A Toledo Blade article said though both campaigns are competing for the same spot with some political ads, both expressed notions of using non-partisan policies.

Cordray said he was specifically looking to reform infrastructure, education, opioid control and the Ohio criminal justice system.

Cordray’s drug control concerns match with similar governments’ problems across the nation. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services said more than 130 people died each day to opioid drug overdoses on average for 2016 and 2017, and 11.4 million people misused prescriptions with opioids during that time.

DeWine, on the other hand, looked to improve state testing for rape kits and ensure more government action on issues.

His concern about rape kits came during a national conversation about sexual assault prosecutions following the confirmation process of Judge Brett Kavanaugh, who was accused of sexually assaulting Christine Blasey Ford.

For students, concerns about governors’ policies focus on funding for higher education, Brandon Willinger of BGSU Votes said. Willinger also said the candidates’ stances on recreational drug sentencing and the state issue supporting more lenient sentencing are important for student voters.

However, national political controversies are also proving to be a magnet for local voters, he indicated.

“This time,” he said, “whatever side people happen to be on, they’re coming out for the vote.” The two Ohio candidates are near even in pre-election polling.

Other topics of national interest to Ohioans are the Senate and House of Representatives races.


Senate seats are important for parties as they can affect legislation decisions in Washington. Republicans hold the current majority there, but Democrats’ desire for a “blue wave” has colored different state representative races — like Virginia’s — through the year, Reuters reports.

However, Reuters also reported less Democrats expect to win back the Senate, as the process requires the Democrats to gain two seats and lose no seats, while more Democrats are facing re-election than Republicans.

The House of Representatives race will be closer, according to Reuters. Although Democrats have to win 23 seats from Republicans, many more congressional districts are in position to switch parties following political changes that occurred since the last election.

“Democrats take control of the House (of Representatives)“ after elections, University political science professor Justin Rex predicted. He later clarified saying the result was “Likely but not guaranteed.” He also said the control of either chamber brought by this result would allow the Democrats to “aggressively” use investigative powers to oppose presidential actions.

Democrat J. Michael Galbraith, Republican Bob Latta and Libertarian Don Kirsch vie for one seat in the 5th United States Congressional District.

These issues will see decisions in early November, but others with later due dates are also being worked on.

President Donald Trump is campaigning again in Ohio in Cincinnati-area Lebanon on Friday. An Associated Press article said he will be talking about low unemployment numbers and improved economic health under his administration to begin building support for his 2020 re-election race. He is also slated to support Republican candidates for federal House and Senate seats at the rally.
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Ohio Arts Council
Bowling Green police prepare for Halloween

Max Hess
Reporter

Police in Bowling Green could be expecting a heightened amount of vandalism and theft this Halloween. The holiday, known for being a celebration of fall, harvest and all things creepy and horror-related, is also a prime time for lawless mischief.

Insurance claims for property crimes increase by around 24 percent, according to 2016 Travelers Insurance data cited in the Nerdwallet.com article “Halloween Is No. 1 day for Free Candy — and Property Crime.” Of this property crime, 19 percent is vandalism and malicious mischief, 21 percent is off-premises theft and 60 percent is theft from the home.

According to John Betori, deputy chief of police at the University Police Department, the campus does not typically experience anything unusual during Halloween. “We don’t do anything special for Halloween. We still have our normal patrol strategy. We still have our same people who patrol on bikes or in cars or on foot. Historically, we haven’t really seen an increase in criminal activity on campus. For us, here on campus, there aren’t any special preparations,” he said.

Betori said campus police and city police have always coordinated, helping each other out when needed. “We have a strong working relationship. There will be times that they may be short or their officers may be busy that they’ll contact our officers to take a call for them. Likewise, if we’re ever in a situation where we need outside help, they’re going to be our first resource. That relationship is also strengthened by the fact that a lot of their officers will also work our bigger special events here,” he said.

Lt. Daniel Mancuso of the city police department said crime during Halloween is more likely to occur off-campus than on-campus. “There’s always a lot of foot traffic in the downtown and student housing areas during Halloween. In anticipation of it, staffs are adjusted to provide for increased police presence.

People have increased disregard for the property rights of others, leading to high levels of criminal damage, criminal mischief, trespass and theft,” he said.

Mancuso listed several tips for avoiding trouble while having a good time this Halloween:

• Don’t drink to excess.
• Keep your property secured.
• Lock your doors and windows.
• Travel in groups.
• Respect the rights of others.
• Provide for high visibility (lighting, reflective clothing, don’t limit vision by costume or other covering).
• Expect the unexpected of others.

Betori concluded while campus is not likely to see extra rowdiness this Halloween, it is still important to stay mindful and vigilant. “Halloween falls in the middle of the week this year, so it’s going to be even slower for us, but I would say that if you’re going to go out and have fun on Halloween, on-campus or off-campus, I would just say to use common sense,” he said.
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