only

7%

of 1,000 students

approve of a plus/minus grading scale

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Student creates student union as ‘home’ for Asian Americans

Meredith Siegel
Forum Editor

Asian American students describe their experience on campus as invisible and isolating. Two students are trying to combat those feelings with the creation of an Asian Student Union.

For Meghan McKinley, ASU creator and president, the space she wants to create is simple.

“This is going to sound corny as shit but a home, honestly. A home,” she said. “Some place where they can see people that look like them, some place where they don’t have to be the only Asian American in the room all the time. Because that happens for me, even in Ethnic Studies. A place that they feel welcomed and heard and represented.”

She has wanted to create this group for over a year, and she thinks most Asian students have felt a similar need for a group like this on campus.

A few weeks ago McKinley decided to go for it and create the ASU Instagram page, ASU_BGSU.

“I think we posted something last week. That was it, I was like ‘I’m going to create an Asian Student Union,’ and now I’m just doing it,” she said.

Her experience on campus motivated her to create ASU. She is heavily involved in the Theater Department and found a social justice community there, but it couldn’t offer everything she wanted.

“It was really isolating still, being the only Asian American student in the Theater Department, being the only one that I really saw on campus because there wasn’t an Asian American community that I was ever familiar with,” she said.

McKinley struggled to find spaces where she would be understood by those around her.

“I didn’t have anybody to go to, to talk to that could understand,” she said.

BGSU is a predominantly white institution, and this reality can make campus an intimidating and isolating space for students of color. According to a fall 2018 student enrollment headcount on the BGSU website, there were 15,050 white students, 1,470 Black students and just 204 Asian students.

“When I say invisible, that’s the term we all seem to find. We don’t see ourselves,” said Trinidad Linares, a graduate assistant for the Office of Multicultural Affairs, who is helping McKinley and ASU Vice President Dula Perera form the group.

Perera has a similar experience, describing the lack of people like her as “difficult.” Perera believes having this group will be good for the Asian community on campus; it’s helpful to “let each other know you’re not alone in this,” she said.

Organizations like the Black Student Union and the Latino Student Union were formed for other communities. However, there has never been a group like this for Asian students on campus, Linares said.

A similar group, Asian Communities United, has not updated its OrgSync page since 2012. It was more focused on Asian studies programs, as well as international students coming to campus, Linares said.

McKinley decided to create an entirely new group, one more closely related with other identity-based organizations like BSU and LSU, especially when it comes to implementing social justice into the organization, something BSU and LSU have succeeded in doing.

Perera and McKinley are currently building their member base, while creating the entire organization, including things like the constitution, from scratch. They can be reached through their Instagram or their emails: megmcki@bgsu.edu and dulap@bgsu.edu.

Ultimately, the goal is to “involve as many people as possible, of any ethnicity, to celebrate Asian culture,” Perera said.
Columnist gives advice on transition back to college

Mary Ross
Columnist

For many people, including me, spring break is an essential mental and physical break for their health. And if anyone spent break like I did, meaning they didn’t do any homework and barely thought about school, it can be hard to get back into the swing of classes, studying and life on campus again. Here are some tips on how to transition back to life on campus easier after breaks.

1. Make a study schedule.
After a week of doing barely any school work, there is probably a lack of motivation to begin studying again. However, planning out what work you have to finish each day and setting aside time to do this work breaks each day down into manageable tasks.

2. Start with just two minutes.
I have long been told that as long as I start something, I’ll find the motivation to keep working on it. So start with just two minutes. Tell yourself to work on one part of school work for two minutes. If after two minutes you don’t feel the drive to continue working on it, move on to something else and come back to it later.

3. Get a good night’s sleep each night.
It’s amazing what a good night’s sleep can do for work ethic and motivation the next day. Try to get to bed earlier than normal and plan to sleep for seven to nine hours. Then try to get up earlier in the morning and work on whatever you want.

4. Take time for yourself.
Especially with the large workload us college students have, it’s easy to forget to take time to take care of ourselves and do what we love, which can create apathy for homework, causing decreased motivation to do it. Whether it’s working out, reading a book, writing, meditating, playing an instrument or other things, remember to take time out of each day to do things that make you happy.

5. Avoid getting sick.
I have a really bad immune system, so I always find I get sick within the first two weeks of coming back to school after a break. I know I’m not the only person who struggles with this either. And being sick does not help create motivation to do school work, rather doing the opposite. Whether it’s taking some extra vitamins, sleeping more at night, diffusing essential oils or drinking more water (all of which I will be doing), there are many ways to avoid getting sick and put your healthiest foot forward.

VIA PUBLIC DOMAIN PICTURES
Columnist points out confusing political labels
Definitions of typical labels are changing

Brian Geyer
Columnist

Labels in politics are completely unescapable. To start, on the surface, you are required in primary elections to vote for a person within the party you signed up with. This is probably the simplest part of political labeling and does not need much, if any, explanation.

Next, we can go into the labels on whether someone is a liberal or a conservative. Most of the time, the case is that a Republican leans conservative and a Democrat leans liberal. However, within the party it can also be said that some Republicans are more liberal than others, meaning they are more center-leaning than their right-winging counterparts. In the same way, Democrats who consider themselves pro-life or pro-gun are considered to be conservative-leaning Democrats since their values are a little more center-leaning.

In recent years, labeling has become a bigger hassle than a convenience. Candidate for the 2020 presidential election Bernie Sanders is a self-proclaimed democratic socialist. Although he is heavily involved in Democratic issues, he labels himself as an Independent candidate. Sanders has received much scrutiny from people on both sides of the aisle for his labeling as a “socialist.”

Socialism, to many, especially Republicans, would undermine the democracy America has fought to keep.

To clear up some of the discrepancy, Bernie Sanders has sent out various tweets specifically speaking on democratic socialism and what it means to him.

“What I mean by democratic socialism is that I want a vibrant democracy. Trump is actively involved in voter suppression and trying to keep people of color or low-income people from voting. I want to make it easier to vote,” he said in a tweet.

Since the rise of Sanders’ popularity, other Democrats such as Congresswoman Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez has come out as a self-proclaimed democratic socialist, further muddling what it means to be Democrat. Like Sanders, Ocasio-Cortez believes in a system in which Americans are allowed to vote more readily and systems like Sanders’ Medicare for All bill is fully implemented. Ocasio-Cortez has also become the face of extreme progressive ideas such as the Green New Deal, which would erase all fossil fuel emissions.

Politicians like Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez have completely changed what the Democratic Party looks like—and it’s clear her influence is changing the party. The Republican Party has a unique right-wing group called the Tea Party, and it’s not uncommon to hear on conservative networks that the Democratic Party is creating a left-wing tea party of their own. Besides established Democrats who have been in the public eye for years such as Nancy Pelosi, the speaker of the House, it is clear the Democrats are open to moving a little more into “left-field” if voters support these progressive policies.

Thinking about the 2020 Democratic primary, I am stunned at how close everyone’s policies are. Nearly every Democratic candidate has come out in support of some form of Sanders’ Medicare for All policy. This makes voting even harder for a potential Democrat casting their ballot next year.

Although a large majority of these candidates hold similar values, their labels are not similar. Sen. Elizabeth Warren, my personal favorite so far, has been asked multiple times if she can be called a “socialist,” and every time she has responded that although she endorses many progressive policies, she calls herself a “capitalist.” She claims her policies such as breaking up large corporate businesses are ultimately capitalist policies that work for the everyday, middle-class person.

As an observer, could Warren be labeled a democratic socialist like Sanders? Of course, she could. In fact, Warren and Sanders have very similar ideologies. But is it good public relations skills to label herself something else that may appeal more to center-leaning Democrats? You bet.

Columnist calls out homophobic phrase

Meredith Siegel
Forum Editor

“Love the sinner, hate the sin” is a widely espoused Christian cliche as a way to express love for a person but not what they do. In almost all cases, this is used to describe a “loving” attitude towards the LGBTQ community but it’s still steeped in homophobia.

The phrase seems to come from Mahatma Gandhi’s autobiography where he writes, “Hate the sin and not the sinner is a precept which, though easy enough to understand, is rarely practiced, and that is why the poison of hatred spreads in the world.”

This says that hating the sin and not the sinner is not ever actually done, so the person judging the sin is also judging the person. I agree it is incredibly hard to separate a person from what they do, but it can be done.

However, when used in the context of LGBTQ identities, it conflates action with personhood and identity. Being gay is not an action; it is inseparable from who someone is. No one feels the need to separate a straight person from their actions, and who straight people love and are attracted to is considered a part of them.

There is a clear distinction between being gay and being a thief. A gay person is living out some intrinsic part of themselves everyday, whether or not they are in a same-gender relationship. Being gay comes from within.

Being a thief is motivated by some outward force, whether it be need or boredom. There is no intrinsic need to steal things.

To say “love the sinner, hate the sin” there is always an inherent hatred for “gayness.”

There is also an underlying thought to this cliche, which is that if being gay is an action, people should be pushed to crush their “urges” and live a celibate life, or a straight one. It’s this idea, that gay people can and should stop “being gay” even if they continue to “feel gay” that is truly dangerous.

People who go through conversion therapy, or an effort to change their sexuality, are eight times as likely to have attempted suicide as LGBTQ youth who were accepted by their families.

If people continue to think of being gay as something bad and “sinful,” the world will continue to be dangerous for LGBTQ people. True acceptance of LGBTQ identities does not consider it a sin, it considers being gay as something natural. I don’t think it should matter if being gay is a choice or not because it should be okay to be gay.

There are many churches that are LGBTQ affirming, including the First Presbyterian Church and the First United Methodist Church in Bowling Green. It’s possible to be a Christian and be gay, and it’s possible to be Christian and be totally accepting of LGBTQ people. But it takes a paradigm shift of what is considered “sinful” first. “Love the sinner, hate the sin” is not a loving ideology.
Campus government bodies discuss plus/minus grading scale

Marianne Vanderbeke
Reporter

Most BGSU professors follow a 10-point grading scale, but the university believes in a policy of “academic freedom,” allowing professors to choose the scale they use to evaluate students. Negotiations are happening between the BGSU, professors and the Undergraduate Student Government to implement a standard grading scale.

BGSU is looking at implementing a plus/minus system. This would break down grades farther than the 10-point grading system most professors use now. This change would affect both current and incoming students but would not be retroactive.

USG President Hannah Cubberley explains the process has been very slow. The USG conducted a survey and found only 7 percent of over 1000 students surveyed approved of the concept. The challenges of making it a smooth transition that works for everyone involved is part of why the process is slow.

“Right now, it is with Faculty Senate. They are still in conversations. I believe they were waiting on the undergraduate council to give some final approvals and final feedback and adjust some of the language on it. Particularly on the pass/fail component of it — what courses would be considered passing and C, C plus, C minus — what would be considered failing,” Cubberley said.

She says at first the USG was less supportive of the process, but now they are working with the committees to try to make the transition as smooth as possible.

“Grading scale Continued on page 11

“We’re still having the conversations. When the conversations that directly affect students are happening, we want to be at the table. We want to be sure that everyone’s interests are being represented.”

— Hannah Cubberley —
USG President

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This year has been relatively silent so far when looking at Nintendo Switch exclusive games. A port of a Wii U title was brought to the Switch in the form of “New Super Mario Bros. U Deluxe” and the top-down action game “Travis Strikes Again: No More Heroes” made its debut. Apart from these, not many other titles made a lot of buzz for the start of 2019 for Nintendo. But the rest of the year is looking to change that with lots of new, exclusive titles being released for the Switch. Take a look at what games will be making headlines for the remainder of 2019.

‘Yoshi’s Crafted World’
**Release Date:** March 29, 2019

Originally announced over two years ago, “Yoshi’s Crafted World” finally got a definitive release date earlier this year. The game is a pretty simple 2D platformer with its cuteness factor ramped up to 11. The game’s art direction is craft-inspired, hence the title, with many buildings being made out of cardboard and most of the characters looking like they could get their own plush line of toys. A demo was released near the middle of February that allowed players to try out a few game levels before making a decision to purchase the game. My only personal worry is that the game will overly rely on how charming it is without offering much in its gameplay. However, I can’t tell without playing the full game first, so any judgements will be saved for now. The game promises fun and smiles galore when it releases at the end of this month.

‘Fire Emblem: Three Houses’
**Release Date:** July 26, 2019

Fire Emblem is one of my favorite Nintendo franchises of all time. I played “Fire Emblem: Shadow Dragon,” a remake of the very first game in the series for the Nintendo DS, at a young age. I had no idea what I was doing at first because at the age of 12, I barely understood the concept of a ‘strategy game.’ But either due to me being patient or having nothing else to play, I continued to try and eventually fell in love with it. I’ve played a handful of games in the franchise since and almost every one offers something new and unique to the series. The Fire Emblem franchise is a straightforward tactical role-playing game, where players move units across a gridded map trying to defeat enemy units without losing their own. However, every unit of your own is a character with a unique personality, their own stats and their own abilities, raising the stakes of every battle, since you don’t want to lose them. “Fire Emblem: Three Houses” was announced last year at E3, showing off the new setting of the game: the continent of Fodlan. This new game sees the continent divided amongst three different kingdoms, with your character being able to choose a closer alliance with one of the three. This could add replayability to the game since the story could easily split into three different paths. Though, I hope the three stories are handled better than “Fire Emblem: Fates,” a 2016 3DS entry that had a muddled plot and featured one too many unlikeable characters. Command your own army when “Fire Emblem: Three Houses” rides on to Switch on July 26 of this year.

‘Marvel Ultimate Alliance 3: The Black Order’
**Release Date:** Summer 2019

PlayStation got an impressive, exclusive Spider-Man game from Insomniac Games and now Nintendo is answering with a different long-awaited title for Marvel fans. I’m sure Xbox players will have their moment at some point too. “Marvel Ultimate Alliance 3: The Black Order” was originally announced at the Game Awards back in December of last year, exciting fans that had been eagerly awaiting a new game in the series for almost 10 years. This time around, players are tasked with taking down Thanos and his Black Order before they unleash the power of the Infinity Stones on the universe. The game will also feature an online multiplayer function, allowing players to venture through the story with friends. My only caveat with the game is that it seems as though it has been influenced heavily by the Marvel Studios films. This isn’t necessarily a bad influence, but it could still limit the scope of the game to just characters mostly featured in Disney-owned properties. However, Wolverine is shown quite a bit in the game, who isn’t officially part of the MCU yet, so that could just render this point totally invalid. Just give us Deadpool and everything will be fine. Create your own alliances when “Marvel Ultimate Alliance 3: The Black Order” makes its marvellous debut sometime this summer.

‘Luigi’s Mansion 3’
**Release Date:** 2019

At this point, I’m starting to think it’s a trend to announce games without a release date. Unlike Animal Crossing, “Luigi’s Mansion 3” got an actual gameplay trailer, albeit a short one, in September last year. The setting appears to be some sort of large hotel area. The gameplay looks to be very similar to the second game, released on the 3DS in 2013, as well as the look of it. But since it’s releasing on a more powerful system, the animations look better and the game seems to have a nice polish to it. One of my questions is whether there are multiple ‘mansions’ in the game like the second or if there is only one big one like the first. I found nothing wrong with the 3DS sequel, but the first game felt like a more tight experience with a great atmosphere. If I can pet the ghost dogs, affectionately called ‘polterpups,’ in this third entry though, I’ll love it forever. Become a bonafide ghostbuster when “Luigi’s Mansion 3” releases sometime later this year.

‘Pokémon Sword’ and ‘Pokémon Shield’
**Release Date:** 2019

Pokémon has turned into such a massive franchise that whenever a new mainline game is announced, it receives its own Nintendo Direct stream. This time, the dynamic duo of games was announced less than a month ago near the end of February. Fans got a glimpse of the exciting new areas that they’ll be exploring and the new starters featured in the game. The new areas and locales where players will be trekking look gorgeous.
It's been almost two years since the release of the last installment of Netflix's "Stranger Things," the science fiction/horror drama that has captivated viewers and critics alike. But fans of the show rejoiced Thursday when the trailer for the upcoming season, due out this summer, hit the internet.

Amidst a whirlwind swirl of '80s power ballads, neon colors and monster close-ups, the almost three-minute long trailer shows all is not well in Hawkins during the summer of 1985 without giving away much of the plot. But with new changes within beloved characters and dark forces lurking around every corner, Season 3 promises to be the perfect "Stranger Things" balance between Stephen King-style horror and Goonies-esque adventure. For a breakdown of the trailer, here are four observations to think about as we get closer to Season 3.

The kids are all grown up.

The opening sequence of the trailer shows Dustin getting home and the gang playing a prank on him to surprise him. It ends badly, however, when Dustin is scared by their surprise and sprays Lucas in the eyes with his Farrah Fawcett Hair Spray. The sequence ultimately proves to foreshadow the changes the kids are going through as they leave their playful childhood for their teenage years.

As The Who begins to play and the trailer flashes wide-shots of all the characters moving on with their lives, Mike Wheeler's voice echoes with the eerie statement: "We're not kids anymore. I mean, what did you think, we're just going to sit in my basement and play games all day?" We can catch Will Byers crying over it, leading to speculation that thealternate-dimensional activity.

The '80s mall culture has arrived in Hawkins - hard.

The most startling aspect of the trailer is the sheer amount of pastel colors, neon lights and mall imagery. It's been known for months the newly built Star Court Mall will play a big part in the storyline of Season 3 following a teaser trailer that was a mock commercial.

We see Eleven and Max dressed in overalls,prank on him to surprise him. It ends badly, however, when Dustin is scared by their surprise and sprays Lucas in the eyes with his Farrah Fawcett Hair Spray. The sequence ultimately proves to foreshadow the changes the kids are going through as they leave their playful childhood for their teenage years.

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Nancy and Jonathan at a local newspaper, Billy serving as a lifeguard at the local pool and Steve working as an ice cream attendant, showing time hasn't stopped moving forward despite the tragedies that have befallen the citizens of Hawkins.

Billy is headed for serious trouble, and Steve can't catch a break.

Two of the older characters on the show look to be headed for trouble this season. Everyone's favorite boy-next-door turned apocalypse babysitter, Steve, seems to be in line for another torturous beating, while resident bad boy Billy seems to find himself in deeper waters than intended.

Steve has taken a lot of beatings throughout the length of the show, seeming to get a good whooping at least once a season. Season 3 looks to be no different, as we see Steve looking worse for wear while having some kind of needle stabbed into his neck in a sequence of flashes toward the end of the trailer.

Billy, on the other hand, seems to be in over his head. On one side, last season's hint at romantic tension between him and Mrs. Wheeler seems to carry over to this season. There is a look between the two at the local pool that is as PG-13 as it can get.

On the other, however, we see Billy struggling in the shower with what looks like an infection in his forearm. The dark, spidery pattern looks similar to what appeared on Will's skin in Season 2 when he was being controlled by the Mind Flayer, which leads one to think Billy will be used in the plot of Season 3 for evil purposes.

New faces and monsters

The trailer has introduced viewers to some of the new characters that will be entering the show during Season 3. One is Robin, played by Maya Hawke, who is one of Steve's coworkers at the ice cream shop in the mall. Another is Mayor Kline, a seemingly new politician played by Cary Elwes who is seen welcoming the town to a local event. Both of these characters promise to bring new dynamics to the show as viewers wait to see whether they will be friend or foe.

The other major new face, while grotesque, is probably the most important part of the new trailer. We see the latest monster the gang from Hawkins has to fight during the middle of the trailer, a huge, gross-looking beast that seems to cause energy surges around it. In searching for a "Dungeons & Dragons" name for the new character, as the show has done in the past, IGN's Nick Limon has pointed out the creature looks like it could be a Tarrasque. Whatever they call it, the gang will be hard-pressed to fight the latest on a long list of alternate-dimensional beings.
DJ finds life direction on Facebook

Marianne Vanderbeke
Falcon Communications

Andrew Vogelpohl, WBGU-FM programming director, DJ and student, started his career at BGSU’s radio station after reading a Facebook post on his social media feed. His original goal wasn’t to become a full-time student, but classes opened doors for him he never expected.

"Is this for students only?” Vogelpohl asked via Facebook.

When the station responded that training was open to the community as well, he jumped right in. He attended his first DJ training in January 2017 and has been involved since. There are times the station has him running from as early as 8 a.m. or as late as 2 a.m. — or later.

"I actually have about five shows,” Vogelpohl said. “WBGU keeps me busy, and I like that.”

The thin, clean-shaven man laughed as he spoke. A couple of tattoos peeked out from beneath his button-down shirt. As a non-traditional student, some days he feels closer to being 40 years old than 30, he said.

"I feel like my life experience sometimes sets me apart from the other students,” he said. “It’s been awhile since I was that young, and I have lived a lot of life since then.”

He has enjoyed his time with the BGSU students he encounters. Penny Rae Hawkins, a junior journalism major and DJ at the station, is one of his favorites.

"It’s funny, sometimes we will be working together, and we will finish each other’s sentences. She has a good head on her shoulders and will go far,” Vogelpohl said. Hawkins was in the same training class and said she really enjoys working with him as well.

"Life has already taken me on several twists and turns; we will have to see where the next one takes me.”

— Andrew Vogelpohl —
Student, Programming Director and DJ

Working with Andrew at the station is a blast. He’s so passionate and dedicated. I can’t imagine WBGU-FM without him,” Hawkins said.

Following his training, Vogelpohl developed his first show, Tear Down the Walls. The Friday night show gives him a chance to break down barriers in music, he said.

“I play a little bit of everything — vinyl to CD, folk to punk, rock to R&B, what’s now called alt-country and of course local bands,” Vogelpohl said.

His Monday show, Home Grown, showcases Ohio and Michigan talent.

"Detroit is local music, because Bob Seger and Mitch Ryder way back in the ’60s used to play in small places here in the Toledo area,” Vogelpohl said.

Turntable Time, his Tuesday night show, is a time to showcase the special sound vinyl gives to music. The hour devoted to vinyl leads into the Tuesday night feature, Live and Loud. It’s an opportunity for local talent to get air time and some interview segments, so they can begin to build a following.

Vogelpohl enjoys working with the bands and hopes to see the show concept grow and eventually even host bigger-name talents.

He is also exploring photography and other topics while he studies at BGSU. He loves spending time in the darkroom developing 35 mm film — like vinyl, some say this is a lost art, he said.

His hard work at the station paid off for him in a way he never expected. BGSU offered him a scholarship and he moved from community DJ to student.

“I don’t know for sure what I want to do when I graduate. I would love to have the opportunity to watch this station grow. Life has already taken me on several twists and turns. We will have to see where the next one takes me,” Vogelpohl said.

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Hockey advances to NCAA Tournament despite championship loss in Minnesota

Jamison Terbrack
Sports Reporter

The Falcons played the top divisional ranked Minnesota State Mankato Mavericks in the Western Collegiate Hockey Association Finals Saturday in Minnesota, dropping a 3-2 heartbreaker in overtime.

“We just lost our poise and our focus,” head coach Chris Bergeron said. “It’s very difficult to simulate that type of situation. We hadn’t been in a situation like that this season with what was at stake, and we found our way on the wrong side of plays. … The responsibility is mine; it falls on me. … The momentum hurt us.”

The scoring started with junior Frederic Letourneau doing what he does best and using his speed. Those wheels got him an open shot opportunity, and he did not miss. Letourneau found the smallest opening over the Maverick goalies left shoulder to put BG up in the first, with helpers in forward Taylor Schneider and defenseman Will Cullen. The score remained locked at 1-0 after a back-and-forth second period.

Quickly into the third period, a Maverick player ran Schneider into the boards from behind earning himself an ejection from the game and giving the Falcons a five-minute man advantage. They took advantage as junior defenseman Alec Rauhauser found twine on helpers from sophomore forwards Connor Ford and Max Johnson. The goal was Johnson’s 11th point of the postseason.

The Falcons controlled the game for the first 58 minutes, and college hockey games are 60 minutes long. With time running out and down by 2 points, the Mavericks pulled their goalie for an extra attacker with three minutes left.

The Mavericks scored back-to-back goals in under 30 seconds with their goalie pulled to send the game into overtime. This took all the momentum from the Falcons. Once the home crowd got back into this one, it was going to be hard to take them out again.

“I thought we were taking away time and space, and we were playing hard, which is who we are when we are at our best. I think we defend pretty well for the most part. When we did break down, Ryan was there to make saves. That’s who we are when we’re playing good hockey. I thought we did that for 58 minutes,” Bergeron said.

With all the momentum on the side of the Mavericks, they quickly scored the game-winner less than two minutes into overtime earning another WCHA Championship.

“It’s tough. We’ve got to turn the page, and we just had an opportunity to win something, and it’s always really sad, and we will think about it for a few days. There’s another championship at stake, and we’ve just got to move on. That’s our next goal, winning the next game,” Letourneau said.

Even with the loss, the Falcons were still able to lock up a spot in the college hockey tournament for the first time in over 25 years.

Jovannah East wins MAC gymnastics title

Kerstie Shaw
Sports Reporter

BGSU gymnastics placed fifth at the Mid-American Conference Championship Saturday, with a final score of 194.25. Junior Jovannah East won the MAC Championship for beam with an overall record of 2-14 and a fifth-place finish.

Northern Illinois hosted and took home the first-place team title. Central Michigan, Eastern Michigan and Kent State placed second, third and fourth, respectively.

Western Michigan and Ball State sat behind BGSU with sixth- and seventh-place finishes.

East’s 9.9 on beam garnered her an individual MAC Championship for the event, and her 39.125 secured third place in the all-around competition. Earlier this week, East was named First Team All-MAC. Her performance at the championship also earned her a spot on the All-Tournament team. She is expected to receive an individual bid to compete in the all-around at NCAA Regionals.

Though East won the beam title, the other Falcons competed strongly on the event as well. The team scored the second-highest at the meet with 49.075. Only Northern Illinois scored better with a team mark of 49.275. Lexi Augustine and Jasmine Jones both scored above 9.625, while Julia Beyer and Lauren DeMeno each earned 9.7. Head coach Kerrie Turner was pleased with the team’s performance on bars and beam.

“I am proud of the strong start on bars. It took our bar line-up a while to hit their stride this season; however, the last three meets of our season, they did a great job. We didn’t have a lot of depth on that every meet and they had a clean performance at the championship,” Turner said. “Beam was a definite highlight, achieving the second-highest team score of the MAC Championship and Jovannah East tying as MAC Champion on beam with a 9.9 score.”

All six of BGSU’s seniors competed in Saturday’s championship meet. On bars, Leslie Delgado posted the team’s top score of 9.750. Captain Lauren DeMeno and teammate Katie Morsefield both competed in three rotations. DeMeno earned a 9.8 on vault and is a candidate for an individual bid to NCAA Regionals for the event. In her final meet, Morsefield tied her career-best of 9.7 on the uneven bars. Kayla Rose also tied her season-best with a 9.825 on the floor.

“We stumbled a bit on floor, but the character of the team showed by finishing very strong in vault. Overall, our team has worked through a lot of adversity this year, and I am proud of how they represented BGSU and our program throughout the MAC Championship and the season,” Turner said of Saturday’s final two rotations and the team’s season overall.

Bowling Green finished their 2019 season with an overall record of 2-14 and a fifth-place finish at MAC Championships. The team hopes to send two competitors, East and DeMeno, on to the postseason.

“The MAC Championship definitely prepares our regionals qualifiers by competing in the championship format with more pressure and teams and individuals at the peak of the season,” Turner said of the two regional hopefuls.

The NCAA regional round will take place April 4 through April 6. The qualifiers will be officially announced Monday.
Baseball sweeps in Battle of I-75

Zane Miller
Sports Reporter

The Falcon baseball team swept the Toledo Rockets, winning 10-6 in the first game of a Saturday doubleheader as well as a 9-6 win in the second game of the doubleheader, before claiming the 6-5 win on Sunday afternoon.

“They’ve had our number the last couple of years, so it’s nice (to win the series),” head coach Danny Schmitz said. “It’s a great rivalry; it’s one of the best, not only in our conference but in sports in general, so anytime you talk about any sport that’s being played between Bowling Green and Toledo, whatever sport it might be, it’s a big deal.”

After Friday’s scheduled game was pushed back due to inadequate field conditions, the first game on Saturday began with three scoreless innings from both pitchers. However, the Falcons were the first to get on the board as senior second baseman Riley Minorik hit an RBI single in the fourth inning to open the scoring. As sophomore left fielder Dylan Dohanos walked with the bases loaded to double the lead, freshman third baseman Ryan Johnston followed it up with a two-RBI single to double the lead again.

However, Toledo was able to get back into the game in the fifth as freshman shortstop Thomas Eitniear hit an RBI single, followed in the seventh with sophomore right fielder John Servello making it a 4-3 game on a two-run home run.

The Falcons were able to restore the lead in the bottom of the seventh inning, starting with senior shortstop Neil Lambert drawing a bases-loaded walk and Minorik getting hit by a pitch again with the bases loaded to make it 6-3, before senior Ty Suntken, who came into the game as a pinch hitter, delivered a two-RBI single to make it an 8-3 game.

Toledo again responded as junior catcher Michael Ryan came through with a two-run shot in the eighth inning, but the Falcons pulled away again in the bottom of the inning with Johnston scoring on a wild pitch and freshman right fielder Mike Malewitz grabbing an RBI sacrifice fly to give the team a 10-5 advantage. While Toledo scored in the ninth on an RBI single courtesy of freshman designated hitter Darryn Davis, it wouldn’t be enough as the Falcons claimed the 10-6 victory.

Falcons sophomore pitcher Andrew Abrahamowicz picked up the win, going 2/3 innings with one earned run allowed on three hits and a pair of walks. Toledo senior pitcher Michael Jacob faced the loss with 6 1/3 innings pitched, giving up seven earned runs on seven hits and five walks on the game.

The second game of the doubleheader saw Toledo jump out to the early lead, with senior center fielder Brad Boss hitting a leadoff home run, sophomore third baseman Chris Meyers getting an RBI triple and Davis finishing the first inning scoring with an RBI groundout to make it 3-0 early.

The Falcons grabbed a run in the bottom of the inning with senior designated hitter Brad Croy hitting an RBI single, but Toledo rebounded in the second as Boss had an RBI single to make it 4-1. In the bottom of the second, the team cut the lead down to one as Malewitz took an RBI single and sophomore first baseman Adam Furnas also had an RBI single. The third would be even better offensively for the team as Minorik took advantage of a fielding error to drive in a run, and the team took the lead on a Johnston RBI double and tacked on an insurance run with a Wilson RBI single to make it 6-4.

Softball drops five straight games after Morehead State Classic

Michael Hubler
Sports Reporter

The Falcons won six straight games, winning both doubleheader home games against Oakland and winning all four games at the Morehead State Classic, defeating Morehead and St. Bonaventure twice March 16-17. This past week, however, the Falcons lost five in a row, resulting in their overall record dropping to 10-16.

Wednesday consisted of a doubleheader at the Wright State baseball field against the Dayton Flyers and Wright State Raiders. Both games against Dayton and Wright State resulted in a 5-4 loss while playing back to back.

“We played Dayton and Wright State close and had both of those games won,” said head softball coach Sarah Willis. “We are needing to work on cleaning up the defense if we are to keep teams at bay.”

After Wednesday’s doubleheader, the team traveled for three games in Athens against the Ohio Lady Bobcats. All three games resulted in losses with the first game at 7-2, the second game at 8-7 and the third game at 15-10.

Friday’s 7-2 game was won by Bobcats pitcher Madi McCrady improving to 10-6 while Meredith Miller received the 7-8 loss. Early runs hurt the Falcons, falling to a 3-0 deficit with the Bobcats striking first.

Luckily, the Falcons rallied back cutting the lead to 3-2 on a Sarah Gonzalez two-out single to center field with Madi McCoy and Payton Hamm scoring. Unfortunately, the Bobcats tagged on another four runs in the fourth, fifth and sixth inning, resulting in the loss.

“The up and down of the season is based on our team needing to get consistent on defense,” Willis said.

Saturday’s games consisted both of doubleheaders. The first game resulted in eight innings after being tied 7-7. McCrady once again took the win while Brooke Parker took the loss, falling to a 3-6 record. Runs were scored back and forth with both Sorgi sisters having RBIs.

McCoy had a fourth-inning RBI to build the lead to 5-2. Then, when trailing 6-5, she had a sixth-inning, two-run homer regaining the lead to 7-6. Although, in the bottom of the sixth Parker gave up a walk to Bobcats right fielder Morgan Geno. Two innings later Geno batted the winning run with bases loaded.

After the first game, McCrady on her third straight game improving to 12-6 with Madison French of the Falcons falling to 0-2. The Bobcats would once again gain an early advantage leading 4-0 after the first two innings. McCrady held a consistent 4-0 lead until the fifth inning.

An eight-run fifth inning began with a McCoy three-run homer, an Evelyn Loyola two-run homer and a Payton Hamm three-run homer. However, the Bobcats would score 11 runs in the fifth and sixth inning with a three-run homer and a Geno grand slam. Although the Falcons added two runs in the seventh, they fell short.

“Our offense will score runs this year, but our pitching and defense is needing to clean some things up and execute the way I know they can. We have some work to do in those areas,” Willis said.

The Falcons will play at Purdue Fort Wayne Wednesday then host the Toledo Rockets at home on Friday.
Grading Scale Continued from page 5

Cubberley feels the transition could be rough for some students because it is about so much more than grades.

“It can affect how people look at final exams. Right now, if a person’s grade is at a certain point, they can get through finals with less stress.

With this change, finals could be more stressful because it could be a make or break point for someone’s grade,” she added.

Students at BGSU have opposing opinions on the matter.

“I think it represents a step in the right direction of more accurately representing work to GPA,” senior accounting major Joseph Tansey said. He wouldn’t have a problem with the change.

“The only reason I have against it is because most of my As are not at the top of the A range. I don’t think we will see this happen during our college careers though,” junior accounting major Cayleb Reys said. He isn’t worried about himself but about the future students coming to BGSU.

Cubberley said the USG is looking to see what types of support may need to be put into place as the new grading system eventually takes over. It may look like extended library or learning commons availability. It may also affect scholarship availability and Honors College students. USG is seeking ways to make the transition as painless as possible.

“We’re still having the conversations. When the conversations that directly affect students are happening, we want to be at the table. We want to be sure that everyone’s interests are being represented,” Cubberley said. “It’s going to happen. We want to help it happen the best way possible.”

—I think it represents a step in the right direction of more accurately representing work to GPA.” — Joseph Tansey —
Senior Accounting Major

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City looks for innovative parking

Adam Gretsinger
City Editor

City parking in Bowling Green has been changing in recent years, but even more changes are coming soon.

City Council voted to install new kiosks for downtown Lot 2 spaces in February and is planning to install similar kiosks in the other three downtown lots over the next couple years.

These new machines, made by the IPS Group, will be installed in Lot 2 by the end of March, but until then, all parking in that lot is free.

This move is part of the city’s “evolution from meters to kiosks,” Assistant Municipal Administrator Joe Fawcett said. He said the new kiosks will bring an “element of ease to the situation.”

Incoming pay machines require parkers to insert their plate number, consistent with the older machines. However, unlike the older system, parkers can choose whether to insert their money or their plate numbers first. Those parking at a kiosk will at most answer three prompts—plate number, estimated parking time and payment—before confirming their purchase.

The new system will also allow parkers to pay through a mobile app, “Park Smarter.” Users of the app can create an account with their license plate numbers and payment methods, find the parking spot and pay for specific blocks of time and extensions remotely.

Movement to this new system was driven partially by research offered by the Bowling Green Police Division. Fawcett said the division appraised the system as efficient for parking and city maintenance needs, and it would help supply effective information to law enforcement.

This review matched community desires for simpler parking systems, as shown in input from residents, businesses and visitors.

Most downtown parking lots gained kiosks in September 2016, but feedback from community voices was not entirely positive. “Not as user-friendly as we would desire,” Fawcett said about the older kiosks. He said issues with the older machines included their use of six to seven prompts and their tendency to “kick you out” for mistakes or attempting to answer prompts in the wrong order.

He added this older system had been based on the kiosk system used by BGSU to keep consistency between town and university systems. However, “the needs … of BGSU don’t necessarily apply to the city,” he said.

While Fawcett and the city see these new machines as improvements to Lot 2’s kiosk parking system, some residents have resisted the use of kiosks at all.

Read the rest online @ bgfalconmedia.com.