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Gish task force recommends renaming theater, president to review findings

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Alumnus arrested by Saudi government
Activist’s family, friends gather to request statement from President Rogers

Ayman al-Drees, a BGSU alumnus, was arrested by the Saudi Arabian government in early April. The charges against him are still undisclosed to the public.

He returned to Saudi Arabia following his father’s death, after spending multiple years in the U.S. receiving his bachelor’s degree in business management, to care for his mother and the rest of his family.

Al-Drees was described as a “kind,” “intelligent” and “respectful” individual by his wife and several friends. His wife, Malak “Angel” al-Shehri, is a feminist and activist against Saudi Arabia’s restrictions on women’s rights.

The two met after al-Shehri was arrested in 2016 for posting a photo on Twitter of her in public without her abaya or hijab.

She said Al-Drees was always supportive of her and never brought the concept of male guardianship into their relationship, viewing her as an equal. Male guardianship, under Saudi law, requires all women to have a legal guardian, or wali, who controls their civic life in what is often seen as a dominant, sexist manner. Despite this, al-Drees respected al-Shehri’s personal autonomy and feminist ideals.

“He always tried to understand feminism, from my position as a woman,” al-Shehri said.

Al-Drees tried to understand other people through their perspectives by asking questions and learning. This passion for knowledge is what made al-Drees a successful student. Many of his professors enjoyed having him in class as he studiously worked on each assignment and project, as well as participated in class even when it had no relation to his major. Even though his major was business, he was interested enough to study another language, his German professor Kristie Foell said.

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HerChoice offers advice, not health clinic services

Morgan Gale
Guest Columnist

Last Thursday, an article about the Heartbeat Bill referred to HerChoice as a “women’s health clinic” available to answer student questions about pregnancy. It also cited a HerChoice representative stating they do not comment on political issues. However, HerChoice is not a medical clinic. Their website states they only provide peer counseling, not medical advice. Additionally, despite their public statements, HerChoice is an anti-abortion organization.

HerChoice is what’s known as a crisis pregnancy center, or CPC. According to Joann D. Rosen in “The Public Health Risks of Crisis Pregnancy Centers,” a 2012 article published in “Perspectives on Sexual and Reproductive Health,” a CPC is an organization that provides “counseling and other prenatal services from an anti-abortion (pro-life) perspective.” Pro-life organizations estimate that between 2,500 and 4,000 CPCs exist across America, and many belong to national pro-life networks.

A 2006 government study found that 87 percent of CPCs contacted provided false or misleading medical information.

HerChoice specifically is affiliated with Care Net and the National Institute of Family and Life Advocates (NIFLA), two national pro-life networks with the goal of ending abortion.

Care Net states in their vision that they wish to create “a culture where women and men faced with pregnancy decisions are transformed by the gospel of Jesus Christ and empowered to choose life for their unborn children.” Similarly, NIFLA states on their official website that they strive for “an abortion-free America.” To partner with and receive support from two anti-abortion organizations while using the name “HerChoice” is extremely deceptive.

HerChoice has also received training from Created Equal, a group that brings a Jumbotron and graphic images of aborted fetuses to BGSU’s campus every fall. A Facebook post by Created Equal in November 2018 shows a photo of the training session, stating that “it is critical that all arms of the pro-life movement are working together.” The presentation slide shown in the photo reads, “Frame the Debate: Would you kill a born person because of their circumstances?” This is a reference to Created Equal’s belief that abortion is never permissible, even in cases of rape or the mother’s life being in danger.

In a 2016 opinion piece for BG Independent Media, Executive Director Shelly Burkhart states that HerChoice provides “ongoing support, regardless of a client’s decision.” Additionally, when asked by the BG News in 2017 whether the name “HerChoice” might give students the wrong impression, Burkhart replied, “I certainly hope not. It clearly states on our entrance form and website that we don’t provide abortion.”

However, in a 2016 newsletter written for HerChoice supporters, Burkhart explains that changing their name from “BG Pregnancy Center” to “HerChoice” was designed to draw in students considering abortion. She wrote: “Our mission is to reach abortion minded (AM) clients to equip them to choose life. After doing some research of AM clients, we discovered that women seeking abortions are less likely to visit a center with the word ‘pregnancy’ in its title. With this finding, we have chosen to change up our marketing strategy. While we will remain The Bowling Green Pregnancy Center, our ‘tagline’ will be HerChoice. We are reclaiming the word choice, because it’s God’s word to begin with! This is what we will use when dealing with clients. I assure you, our Christ centered focus remains.”

It is vitally important to give pregnant individuals comprehensive and unbiased information about every option and to advertise reproductive services honestly. Presenting HerChoice as a neutral “women’s health clinic” is intentionally misleading to BGSU students seeking healthcare.

Man pours water over chalk messages written by protesters against crisis pregnancy centers.
Forum editor recommends 7 things to do before graduation

1. Get a drink at Grounds for Thought.

Grounds for Thought is a must-visit shop in Bowling Green before graduation. I recommend the Lavender Fog to drink.

2. See a $3 movie at the Woodland Mall.

The tickets for movies on Wednesdays are dirt cheap, totalling out at $3. The atmosphere of the mall can, unfortunately, sometimes be an off-putting one, but it's worth taking a look around the mall and seeing the arcade and the incredibly inexpensive thrift store. Plus, with a ticket that cheap, it's worth it to get snacks at the movie.

3. See an improv show.

BG has a surprisingly large improv community in town. There are four separate groups on campus and each does a slightly different version of improv. No two shows are the same and there's plenty of collaboration between groups, so it's worth checking them out.

4. See the Browne Pop Culture Library in Jerome.

BGSU is famous for the the Pop Culture Library, and it's pretty cool to check out the comics and other materials they have there. It's pretty easy to only see the first, seventh and eighth floor of the library, so it's nice to go out of your way sometimes and see something different.

5. Take a photo with the Metamorphosis statue.

There is tons of art on campus, but none of it is as well-known as the Metamorphosis statue. It unfortunately moved from its focal place next to the seal in old campus to the space next to the Wolfe Center, but it's definitely something to document about your time here. And it's all about the change college students go through!

6. Attend the Black Swamp Arts Festival.

While most people probably visit the festival, it's definitely not something to avoid. Have a look at all the cool local art, check out the bands and eat some great truck food. It's one of the most fun events the community puts on.

7. Go a whole day without paying for food because there was so much free food on campus.

One great thing about being on a college campus is that free food is offered relatively often. Spend a whole day attending events or meetings that feed you so you don't have to feed yourself. It's pretty satisfying to eat free for a whole day without ever having to cook.

Bonus: Have a Blizzard at Myles’ DQ.

Unfortunately, this can no longer be done, since Myles’ is long gone and the Dairy Queen is under new leadership. Those who entered BG before and with me remember the days when you could get a double the amount of ice cream in a Blizzard because it would be filled to the lid. While it's still nice to go to the DQ every once in a while, it'll never be the same as it once was.
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His professors appreciated his work ethic and dedication to his classes while studying his second language, and always seeking help when he needed it. He even got to know some of his professors more personally, bonding with them through his varied interests.

One of these interests was language, Foell said. As his German professor, she had in-depth discussions with him about the nuances between his native language, Arabic, and his secondary languages, English and German.

His affection for language allowed him to pursue a side hobby of his: translating various English texts into Arabic. These translations were videos that captured an aspect of feminism, human rights and philosophy he believed people who could not read English should have access to.

His love for and knowledge of language is one of many things that helped him endear himself to other students, refuting the common stereotypes Americans might have against Middle-Easterners. Al-Drees was able to show other students, who were at first somewhat dismissive of his culture, a peaceful side of Islam and views on Americans, Foell said.

Al-Drees gave more to his teachers than a friendly face and respectful attitude. He gave a general studies writing professor of his, Cynthia Mahaffey, a souvenir from New York City after a visit. Since she had never been to New York City, al-Drees brought her the gift, displaying his thoughtfulness and penchant for giving back, she said.

Out of all the people in Bowling Green he formed bonds with, al-Drees’ bond with the Hubbell-Staeble family was one of the strongest.

He met Dawn Hubbell-Staeble and her son, Nathan, during his classes. Dawn was another one of his general studies writing professors, and Nathan introduced himself after class one day. Nathan was initially drawn to al-Drees after his mother spoke highly of him in her class. These two relationships were the starting point for al-Drees’ development of his American family, Nathan said.

Through Dawn and Nathan, al-Drees was introduced to Aidan Hubbell-Staeble, who he formed a similar bond with. Both brothers attested to al-Drees’ “easygoing” personality, as well as the ease with which he adapted to the Hubbell-Staeble’s eccentric and open family dynamic.

“He was always there for Thanksgiving, birthday parties, family dinners,” Nathan said. “He got along with everyone.”

Taking in al-Drees as one of their own made the impact of his arrest hit even harder for the family. Because of this, Dawn organized a phone banking event in the ECCO lounge of McDonald Hall April 12 to call the office of President Rodney Rogers to get a public statement from him on the arrest. Rogers has yet to make a statement.

Al-Drees’ friends and family await updates on why he was arrested and if he’ll be released while worrying for his safety and wishing for acknowledgment of the injustice of his arrest.
Indies deliver on Nintendo Switch

Jacob Clary  
Sports Editor

For years, Nintendo was the place independent developers shunned. During the Wii and early Wii U era, nobody wanted to develop for it. Nintendo made it difficult for the developers with requirements for the games and also wouldn’t let certain games onto its hardware.

However, Nintendo seems to be the place indie developers flock to when they want their games to sell, and sell well they have. The Nintendo Switch has now become the bastion for indie games. Because of this, I am going to count down my top five indie games on the console.

5. ‘Golf Story’

This game, which was developed by Sidebar Games, takes golf and turns it into a story. It has some great pixel art as well. Even though I don’t really like golf, this game made it fun to play. It included many different ways to change the gameplay around to keep it unique. Whether that be hazards like sand traps, water or even wind to make it more difficult to play the course, it was fun the whole time. The characters were interesting to watch, too. This is one of those games that was just funny, and it’s not often I play a funny game.

4. ‘Night in the Woods’

This is a game, made by Infinite Fall, that doesn’t include a lot of gameplay other than interacting with the characters in the story. However, that really wasn’t a problem for me because I loved the dialogue. The game focuses on a group of animals who can walk and talk, and that lends itself to a lot of humor; although, that isn’t what the game is about. The main character dropped out of college and is back home for good. She faces a lot of problems on her road to getting better, and the game does great work with that.

3. ‘SteamWorld Dig 2’

This is a direct sequel to the original Image and Form game, “SteamWorld Dig,” which I loved. These two games are Metroidvania games, where the player travels through the game getting different equipment and returning to past areas to acquire more loot. The way you acquire said equipment, however, is the fun part of the game. It’s a little bit like Minecraft where the player has to dig to get more and more materials, which allows the player to buy better equipment. This equipment also allows the search for the materials to go quicker. This gameplay loop is so much fun, and I could, and did, do it for hours. The story was quite interesting too, as it continues straight after the first game but focuses on a different main character. The story ramifications for that were great and made me love the game even more.

2. ‘Hollow Knight’

This is one of the best Metroidvania games, made by Team Cherry. I have ever played. The different abilities the player gains on their journey is great, and I loved facing all the different enemies, too. Every character and enemy in the game is a different kind of bug. Some of them are cute, but then others downright creepy. Then, there are the bosses. The bosses are some of the hardest enemies I’ve had to face in a video game. I’ve been getting more and more tired of these ultra-hard games, and the bosses in this game have a bit of that in them, but that only means it took time and practice to win. The game is also gorgeous. I loved seeing each new area as it was completely different from the last. The story also took on the type of FromSoftware story, where the player isn’t necessarily told everything, which was pretty fun.

1. ‘Celeste’

Made by Matt Makes Games, “Celeste” is my favorite indie game on the Nintendo Switch. The way the game plays is absolutely perfect. Every time the player dies, it is 100% their fault. That can be aggravating sometimes, but it’s good to know that succeeding is because of the player, not because the game gave it to them. The light story elements are also great. I loved the internal struggle for the main character and how the game portrays that struggle. This game is just amazing and was my game of the year for 2018 too, in front of “God of War,” “Red Dead Redemption 2” and “Marvel’s Spider Man.”
EA fails Star Wars fans with newest game

Jacob Clary
Sports Editor

As I sat in my room watching the Star Wars celebration live stream that finally officially revealed “Star Wars Jedi: Fallen Order,” there was only one thought going through my head: this is sad. It’s sad that the game we have been wanting for years has taken this long to finally happen.

Star Wars is one of the most popular brands in the entire world. Think about that for a little bit. One of the most popular franchises was given to one of the biggest video game developers in the world, and what have they done with it? Well I’ll tell you. The only thing they’ve done is spit in the face of every fan of the Star Wars brand.

When I heard the announcer heralding the fact that there will, finally, be a story-based Star Wars game that also doesn’t include microtransactions, he said it like it was something that should be commended, like the game deserved all the praise in the world for that fact alone.

The audience was quick to clap after each of these comments as well, making sure everyone could hear their joy that Electronic Arts and Respawn Entertainment are finally developing the game we want.

However, by doing this, it’s letting EA win. We are praising them for something that should have happened anyway.

After the “Star Wars: Battlefront II” microtransaction fiasco, EA finally decided they needed to throw people a bone, but that doesn’t mean we should all go chasing after it just yet.

I’m tired of people saying they’re happy to finally be getting a story-based Star Wars game and then forgetting all the crap EA has pushed onto the Star Wars fan base.

They have only made two games in the over five years they have had the license, and what have they done? They made one incomplete game and another that was basically a magnet for the player’s money. That shows we shouldn’t have any faith in what they are saying right now anyway, even if everyone is touting the story and lack of microtransactions.

EA shouldn’t be commended for making a game that isn’t gouging the players’ money from their pockets, that’s the bare minimum they should be doing.

This is the game they should have been making in the first place. By making this game now, they know they have screwed up all hope from the fans, and they needed to go back to square one in terms of games that could get fans to the storefront.

EA finally went back to the drawing board, and thanks to Respawn Entertainment, we’ll be getting a story-based Star Wars game. But after about six years with the Star Wars license, I shouldn’t have had to wait this long to type those words. The Star Wars celebration was only proof of that.

The only thing I could hear at the Star Wars celebration live stream wasn’t clapping for “Star Wars Jedi: Fallen Order,” but applause for Electronic Arts, and that’s just sad.

5 albums to help get into industrial music

Vaughn Cockayne
Web Editor

Industrial music is one of the most varied musical genres, carrying with it a myriad of different styles and influences. This can make it one of the most daunting to try to get into just because it is hard to know where to start. But the following list offers some guidance as to what albums or artists provide a nice base to ease oneself into a genre as big as industrial music.

‘20 Jazz Funk Greats’ by Throbbing Gristle - Early industrial

Don’t be fooled by the title of the album, “20 Jazz Funk Greats” is strange, disjointed and an excellent introduction to industrial music. Throbbing Gristle’s sparse electronic grooves are perfectly offset with haunting and somewhat beautiful industrial soundscapes. Infused with stinging percussion and hypnotizing vocals, Throbbing Gristle’s first record is a must.

‘Nail’ by Foetus- Post-industrial

An album far more influenced by no-wave or post-punk than metal, Foetus’ sophomore album “Nail” brings a lot to the table. The album offers slow and methodical percussion and vocals that sound like someone trying to pass a kidney stone. The album also feels somewhat like a prank, where the first track is an instrumental orchestra that sounds far higher in production than anything else on the record.

'Horse Rotorvator’ by Coil - Post-industrial

One of the biggest names in industrial music is Coil’s album “Horse Rotorvator,” introducing more rhythm into the genre. The album also feels almost like a horror film, with many of the vocals sounding like they were performed in a room with a lot of echoes. And while the almost directionless instrumentals may seem daunting, there are beautiful guitar and piano sections that act as diamonds in the rough.

‘The Land of Rape and Honey’ and ‘The Mind is a Terrible Thing to Taste’ by Ministry - Industrial metal

This is the only entry on this list that is actually two albums. Ministry’s third and fourth albums are some of the most important records in industrial and industrial metal. Transitioning away from synth-pop, Ministry offers almost two hours of hardcore pumping action. Both albums also introduce more samples which would become prevalent in sub-genres of industrial metal in the 1990s.

Nihil by KMFDM - Electronic body music

One of the most unapologetically fun albums in the list, KMFDM is a trip into the realm of electronic body music. A subgenre of industrial that brings in elements of dance and disco to the industrial sound. So, the sound on “Nihil” is a lot faster and sounds like it would be played at a dance club where everyone wears black leather. The lyrics fly by at a breakneck speed that leaves listeners with their hair blown back.
Megan Borger
Falcon Communications

Last weekend, junior middle childhood education math and social studies major Morgan Duncan participated in the charity event “Bikes for Tikes.” Bikes for Tikes was a three-day event where the participants had to bike 60 miles each day all the way from Cincinnati to Bowling Green. BGSU holds this event every year to raise money for Mercy Health Children’s Hospital in Toledo, Ohio.

“I didn’t realize how hard it was going to be until I was doing it,” Duncan said. She is part of the Delta Gamma Fraternity and participated in the event with some of her sisters.

“When it was flat, the ride was pretty easy, but there were also a lot of hills and you would really have push yourself to make it over those hills,” Duncan said.

She said if it wasn’t for the endless support from her sisters during the ride, she doesn’t know if she could have made it.

Bikes for Tikes is part of Ziggython, an annual event at BGSU which raised over $255,000 for Mercy Heath. Duncan raised over $700 personally.

“Seeing the miracle children on Sunday when we returned home made all the work worth it,” Duncan said.

To train for this event, Duncan and her brother would go to the gym about three times a week and bike. Each time they would add a mile to push themselves and prepare them for the big event.

Duncan participated in this event last year, but two days of biking were cancelled due to bad weather.

She said she was excited to help out the community and will continue to do so.
BGSU names new hockey coach

Jacob Clary  
Sports Editor

BGSU named their eighth hockey coach in their history, promoting Ty Eigner from assistant to head coach.

Eigner has spent the last nine seasons with the Falcons as an assistant coach. He has almost eclipsed 25 years of coaching and administrative experience while also playing three years of professional hockey.

Eigner graduated from BGSU in the class of 1993. As an assistant coach, he was in charge of the defensive side of the team and helped multiple players succeed in this level.

“I am incredibly humbled and very proud that President Rodney Rogers, Bob Moosbrugger and Jim Elsasser have the confidence in me to be the next head coach of the hockey program,” Eigner said in a BGSU Hockey press release. “I was fortunate to play for the winningest coach in college hockey history, Jerry York, and now I get the chance to lead this program. Bowling Green has an incredible hockey history. I am confident that with the continued hard work of our student-athletes and a coaching staff dedicated to teaching and development, we will take the next steps toward being a championship program.”

Prior to coming to BGSU, Eigner won multiple awards as a high school coach. At the job prior to being hired as an assistant, he won the Minnesota AA state championship as well as State AA Assistant Coach of the Year in 2009 for Eden Prairie High School. Before that, he was the 5AA Coach of the Year for the 1997-98 season at Rosemount High School, then in the 2005-06 season he won the 7AA Coach of the Year award at Brainerd High School. Also, in 2008, he won the Dave Peterson Award.

“Ty has earned this opportunity to lead our hockey program. His passion for BGSU, the hockey program and the BG community is clear and abundant. His vision for taking the program forward is inspiring,” Moosbrugger said in a BGSU Hockey press release. “We consistently heard about his recruiting, his work ethic, his teaching ability and the strong connections throughout hockey, Bowling Green and the BGSU community. We look forward to many years of continued excellence in the hockey program under Ty’s leadership.”

Eigner will be taking over for the coach with the second-highest win total in school history behind Jerry York: Chris Bergeron. Eigner will have a lot to live up to but is also getting the program in better shape than when Bergeron began.

Baseball falls to Michigan, takes one against Western Michigan

Zane Miller  
Sports Reporter

The Falcon baseball team fell to the Michigan Wolverines 10-5 Wednesday. That was days prior to losing two of three to the Western Michigan Broncos, losing 5-1 Friday before winning 4-3 Sunday in the first game of a doubleheader and losing 4-2 in the second game.

“Until we start scoring runs on a consistent basis, it’s going to be a struggle,” Falcons head coach Danny Schmitz said. “They played hard all weekend, but we’ve just got to figure out how to score more runs.”

On Wednesday, the Falcons started out the game in front after senior first baseman Brad Croy hit an RBI single in the first inning for a 1-0 lead. However, Michigan fought back in the second inning as senior third baseman Jimmy Kerr smacked a two-run homer.

In the third, the Falcons came back with Croy getting an RBI double and senior shortstop Neil Lambert hitting an RBI sacrifice fly to retake the lead 3-2. The score remained the same until the sixth inning when Michigan sophomore shortstop Jack Blomgren grabbed a two-RBI double, followed by an RBI sacrifice fly from senior first baseman Matthew Schmidt. They also weren’t done, as later in the inning Blomgren came home on a wild pitch and sophomore center fielder Jesse Franklin hit an RBI single to take a 7-3 lead. The Falcons cut the lead in half in the seventh with Croy grabbing an RBI single and junior center fielder Jake Wilson scoring on a wild pitch.

In the bottom of the seventh, lightning in the area forced a two-hour delay as the teams waited out the weather, but when the teams resumed playing, Michigan was able to recapture the momentum as they had an RBI fielder’s choice from Schmidt and a two-RBI double courtesy of sophomore designated hitter Jordan Nwogu, which sent Michigan to a 10-5 victory.

“I thought we played a good game,” Schmitz said. “We didn’t make a couple of plays defensively that we should have made, but I thought we played right with them, if not better. We competed really well and swung the bats extremely well, but we have to be able to make big plays.”

Michigan freshman pitcher Walker Cleveland earned the win, pitching 2 1/3 innings with two earned runs allowed on four hits and a walk, while Falcons junior reliever Damon Egnor took the loss with four earned runs allowed on four hits and no walks over one and a third innings.

Read the rest online @ bgfalconmedia.com

A Falcon pitcher sends the ball to the plate.
The NBA playoffs to feature multiple new teams

Max Lewton
Sports Reporter

This year’s NBA playoffs so far have not been as eventful as NBA fans have hoped. Many of the first-round matchups are pretty much over with three teams up 3-0, and the rest have at least a one-game cushion, excluding the Spurs vs. Nuggets series which is tied 2-2. Many of the first-round matchups seem to be decided already; however, many of the games have come down to the wire, which is entertaining for any NBA fan.

Even though the first-round is pretty much over, I am going to give my predictions for the rest of the 2019 NBA playoffs.

I will start with the matchups in the Eastern Conference first because it will be much more competitive than the West (thank you, Golden State). With the Bucks and the Celtics both up 3-0 in the series, it is not hard to predict that the two will meet in the conference semifinals. Both teams have been playing excellent basketball this post-season and are looking for the series sweep. The second-round matchup between the Bucks and Celtics will be a fun one to watch. The Celtics will have to try and do their best to contain Giannis Antetokounmpo and make him shoot more jumpers if they want to win this series. The Bucks will have to deal with the masterful handles and acrobatic finishes provided by Kyrie Irving along with the high volume scoring of Jayson Tatum. I also like this matchup because both teams have so much depth on the bench and in a close game that is what could be the deciding factor. It will be a close and competitive series, but I think that the Bucks will win the series 3-2.

Next up we will most likely have a 76ers vs. Raptors, that is if my dark horse the Orlando Magic do not come back and steal the series from Toronto. Orlando is currently down 2-1, but this team is full of hard-working and dedicated players who all play well together. Excluding Nikola Vucevic, there really is no clear-cut star player on the roster, just a bunch of solid and well-rounded players who know how to do the dirty work to get the win. I think the Magic can crawl back into the series against the Raptors, but at the end of the day, the Magic do not have the depth that Toronto does.

A 76ers vs. Raptors matchup would be very competitive and would for sure get a little chippy. Having Joel Embiid, Serge Ibaka, Jimmy Butler and Ben Simmons on the court is just a recipe for trouble. The Raptors have had a reputation of losing in the conference semifinals, mainly because a guy named LeBron James would wreak havoc on the team whenever they were matched up. However, with LeBron in LA, the Raptors have been the frontrunners to win the East all season. If Kyle Lowry can show up for more than one game of the series, it would really boost Toronto’s chances of taking the series. No matter how much Lowry is overrated, when he is playing well the team also plays well. Philly has the star power to keep up with anyone in seven-game series. It all comes down to players staying within their limits and not losing their composure. Embiid, Simmons and Butler all love to talk trash and that could result in their downfall if players get ejected as Butler did Saturday. It will be a chippy and hard-fought series, but I have the Raptors winning 3-2 as well.

Bucks vs. Raptors is probably what most people have predicted in the Eastern finals. Many have been anticipating this matchup all season long. Both teams have a clear-cut star and great depth so this matchup will be one for the ages. The Raptors have Kawhi Leonard who is an elite defense, but no matter how elite you are Giannis makes things 10 times more difficult. If the Raptors want to win the series, they will have to limit the scoring of Giannis and make other players try to pick up the slack. The problem with that is Milwaukee has such incredible depth that any player could pick up the slack for a game or two. The Bucks have enough firepower on offense to hang with any team in the league, and that is why I have them winning the series 4-2.

Heading over to the Western Conference, the matchups are a little closer, but ultimately it does not matter because the Warriors will still win it all. Excluding a remarkable comeback by the Clippers, it will be a Warriors vs. Rockets rematch in the western semifinals. We all know how badly the Rockets choked in the Western Conference finals last season. The Rockets missed around 27 straight 3-pointers and ended up losing the game in overtime to the defending champions. I think that James Harden will prove that he deserves to be a back-to-back MVP this season and give the Warriors all they can handle. The Warriors are now without their fifth all-star in their starting lineup with Demarcus Cousins tearing his quad in the first round. This makes the matchup a little closer, but at the end of the day they still have four other all-stars to turn to and two of them have combined for three MVP awards. It will be a good and competitive series, but the Warriors will win 4-3.

The last semi-final matchup in the West is still up in the air with the Spurs and Nuggets being tied 2-2 and the Trailblazers being up 2-1 on the Thunder. The Spurs are making this a series because of how great Gregg Popovich is at coaching. They may not be like a typical Spurs team we have seen in the past, but they have a good combination of veteran stars and young players who are full of potential. Despite how well the Spurs are playing, I think the Nuggets will still take the series because the combination of Jamal Murray, Nikola Jokic and Paul Millsap; along with their young bench players, they will be too much for the Spurs to handle and will win the series 4-2. The Trailblazers came off to a hot start but dropped their last game against the Thunder on Friday. Damian Lillard has been phenomenal all series long and has received great support from CJ McCollum and Enes Kanter who comes off the bench. However, I am predicting that the Thunder come back and take the series from Portland. The Thunder’s big three of Paul George, Russell Westbrook and Steven Adams is a force to be reckoned with and will prove too much against the Trailblazers who have the reputation of bad playoff performances. The Thunder win the series 4-3 in a best of seven affair.

A Nuggets vs. Thunder matchup would be very interesting as the two teams match up fairly well. Adams is a brick wall on defense and can really slow down Jokic, especially if he gets physical with him. Gary Harris will have his hands full guarding Westbrook, but he can definitely slow him down, and Torrey Craig is a solid defender who can at least limit some of George’s scoring. It will be a very fun series to watch, and I predict the series to go all seven games, with the Nuggets coming out victorious.

I have been predicting a Nuggets vs. Warriors conference finals all season long, and I am saying it again. The Nuggets are a great team who have been playing well all season long, but the Warriors are going to beat them in a seven-game series. This is not a knock against the Nuggets at all, but Golden State is just too good to pick against. The biggest advantage Denver will have against the Dubs would be the center matchup. If Denver wants any chance of winning or making it a competitive series, then Jokic has to be the one to dominate over Golden State’s backup centers. Kevin Durant will be the biggest problem for the Nuggets because they have no one who is quick/tall enough to keep up with his high volume scoring and explosive offense. I think Denver will put up a fight, but the Warriors will win 4-1.

The NBA finals matchup I am predicting is a Warriors vs. Bucks title match that will be very entertaining. The Bucks match up pretty well with the Warriors, and if they keep feeding Giannis down low, they could really give the Dubs some problems. If Giannis is dominating the paint then the Warrior guards will have to start collapsing, leaving a multitude of shooters open and ready to knock down some 3s. Durant is always the X-factor that pushes the Warriors above anyone else in the league. His combination of height and scoring ability makes him a matchup nightmare for any defender in the league. The Bucks will have to trust the Khris Middleton will be able to weather the storm, and the rest of the defense as to be willing to provide some help. The Bucks will not go down easy, and I think they will take the Dubs to six games, but the Warriors will prevail (again) winning the series 4-2.

Overall, the 2019 NBA playoffs have been pretty fun to watch despite how the first-round records have looked. The later rounds should be full of intense competition and close games that will go down to the wire. The playoffs will really reach its peak once the Warriors super-team finally dismantles; then we can finally stop writing all the other teams off and can watch someone else win a championship.
Gish task force releases recommendations

Stepha Poulin
Editor-in-Chief

The task force related to the location and name of the Gish Film Theater reported its recommendations Friday. The report recommended renaming the theater; including educational materials in a display; screening programming with a focus on “social change, silent film, and classic Hollywood film;” and considering campus facility name dedications with historical context in mind.

President Rodney Rogers announced in a press release that he will review the report and consider its recommendations. He will also discuss the task force’s findings with relevant BGSU administrators and constituents.

“I appreciate the time and effort that the task force members put in over the past six weeks. I thank them for their work,” Rogers said in the press release.

The report calls for BGSU to rename the theater “to support the University’s mission and values, as it embraces the importance of the theater not only to film students but to all academic units and student organizations.”

Members of the Gish Task Force referenced BGSU policy to “determine appropriate actions” regarding the theater. They focused on two policies, including: University Policy 3341-9-2 (Naming) and University Policy 3341-5-36 (Racial & Ethnic Harassment).

BGSU policy outlines procedures for naming on-campus facilities. As referenced in the report, the name of a demolished facility won’t be transferred to a new facility unless a “useful facility is relocated to serve the greater interest of the university.”

The naming policy also notes a name shouldn’t “call into question the public respect of the university.”

University policy on racial and ethnic harassment intends to protect against “an intimidating, hostile or offensive educational, employment, or living environment” and includes any “pictorial illustrations, graffiti or written documents or material.” Under the policy, racial and ethnic harassment isn’t tolerated.

With the two policies in mind, the task force compiled its findings. About five pages of the report are devoted to them. The entirety of the findings can be found on the Office of the President’s Gish task force webpage, but the basics of the findings include the following:

1. “The reference to The Birth of a Nation and the images of Lillian Gish in the display area outside the theater contribute to an intimidating, even hostile, educational environment. The display, with its oversize images and text, are prominent in a well-used space and evoke the film and its racist legacy.”
2. “The stereotypes of African Americans in The Birth of a Nation are offensive, and the film presents a white supremacist vision.”
3. “Lillian Gish’s role in the film is central, and thus her image evokes and embodies the racism explicit in The Birth of a Nation.”
4. “In addition to the racist characterizations of African Americans, Griffith also presents Gish’s Elsie as the ideal white Aryan woman, anticipating the white supremacists’ ‘14 Words’: ‘Because the beauty of the White Aryan woman must not perish from the Earth.’”
5. “Lillian Gish and Dorothy Gish do not appear to have been advocates for racist or exclusionary practices or perspectives.”
6. “Lillian Gish spoke in interviews about actors being accountable for the roles they choose. This may speak to her recognition of the social impact of this film and her role in it.”
7. “Changing the name of the theater at BGSU will not erase film history, US cultural history, ‘Hollywood history,’ or the legacy of the Gish sisters.”
Consumers react to new iPad, AirPods

Parker Kern
Reporter

Apple CEO Tim Cook hopes new technology releases will continue to improve the lives of users and the world overall. On March 18, Apple announced new models to two of its biggest products: the iPad and true wireless headphones, the AirPods.

The first-generation iPad Air was introduced in 2013, and the second generation debuted in 2014. The iPad Air model was discontinued in March 2017, and almost two years later, the third and newest generation was rolled out by Apple.

The new iPad Air features Apple's A12 Bionic chip that delivers better processing capability. Apple claims it can handle everything from chip that delivers better processing capability.

Kevin Konssler is a technology instructor at Ridgewood High School in Norridge, Illinois. Every RHS student receives an iPad on their first day of classes at the school, and they use them daily for coursework, particularly in artistic areas. According to Konssler, the iPad is revolutionizing the classroom at Ridgewood and elsewhere.

“The iPad is a dynamic tool that promotes students' abilities to explore their creative abilities in creating videos, editing photography, drawing and much more,” Konssler said.

Since the new iPad models are compatible with Apple Pencil and have increased processing capabilities, these models are expected to further the creative wave of students and non-students alike using their iPads as their own personal canvas for a myriad of projects. Apple hopes the new models will take productivity to new heights.

The new iPad models prove the performance gap is narrowing between regular iPads and iPad Pros. With a starting price point of $499 and $399 respectively, the new iPad Air and iPad Mini models are easier on the wallet than iPad Pros (starting at $649.99) but still pack a significant punch despite a lesser price.

Apple also unveiled the second generation of their true wireless headphones, the AirPods. When initially released in 2016, the AirPods were scoffed at by Apple fans and haters alike, but they have since become some of the best-selling headphones on the market. If a buyer has products in the Apple ecosystem prior to purchasing the AirPods, they are even easier to set up and use.

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