Students debate value of Oval letters, crack jokes at BGSU’s expense

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Board of Trustees approves Gish Theater name removal

Mary Ross
Reporter

The Board of Trustees approved the removal of the Gish Film Theater’s name, promotions for 53 faculty members and other resolutions in its final meeting of the school year.

The theater’s name has been a controversial issue during this semester, with many students describing the name as supportive of political views expressed in “The Birth of a Nation.” Lillian Gish, whom the theater was named after, starred in that film.

The film is said to have brought around the revival of the Ku Klux Klan.

A task force was created in February to assess the conflict with the theater’s name. “On April 17, 2019, the task force issued it’s finding referencing BGSU policy on naming and creating an inclusive learning environment. The task force recommended the removal of the Gish Film Theater,” President Rodney Rogers reported.

In a unanimous vote, the Board of Trustees voted to approve the removal of the Lillian and Dorothy Gish Film Theater title from the screening room in the Bowen-Thompson Student Union. However, the resolution stated that “other honors bestowed on Lillian Gish by BGSU, including an honorary degree, a scholarship in her name and the archival collections, should remain unchanged.”

The Board of Trustees also approved promotion and tenure statuses for 53 faculty members, both at main campus and at Firelands campus. All faculty members receiving a promotion or tenure status were recognized by the deans of their colleges.

Read the rest online @ bgfalconmedia.com.
5 ways to help foster children this May

Kylie Tusing
Columnist

As we enter the month of May, many of us are thinking of dead week, finals or how every warm day is one step closer to summer. While May is about all of those things, it is also the month of awareness for the children apart of America’s Foster Care. With over 500,000 children in and out of the system, the breaking point has been reached. Help is needed and it is easy for us to sit in class, daydreaming on the change we will one day make in the world. Let that change be today, this month. Here are five ways that you can make a difference in a foster child’s life.

1. Become aware of the problem.
Something that costs nothing but can make a world of a difference is being educated on the foster system. There are many misconceptions that arise in a society based on foster children. An argument that has become more common is that all children in the system are ready to be adopted. That is untrue, while some children are able to be adopted. Others wait for reunification with their biological parents or finding out where they will find permanency.

2. Give back.
There are several non-profit organizations that give back directly to foster children. Another more creative way that can be done individually, as a friend group or organization is to create care packages. Care packages are great ways to bundle a variety of items and encouragement letters to give to foster families and children. Foster families do receive money by the state for the children, but it is not nearly enough. Donating clothes, toys, bags, non-perishable food or school supplies really can make all the difference.

3. Become a CASA.
A position solely based on volunteering, but is desperately needed, is a case-appointed special advocate. This person would have to be serious about advocating for foster care because it takes a background check, 30 hour special-training and the ability to stay with a case until it closes (on average 1.5 years). Essentially, it entails working alongside the judge, case worker, foster parents and biological parents. Although, your responsibility is to do what is in the best interest of the child.

4. Mentor a child.
Big Brother Big Sister is one of the most common known programs working with foster care. More known in high school than in college, it is still available for college students to participate in. Mentoring a child, being an encourager, tutor and friend is a task that makes a difference in an individual’s life.

5. Offer your services.
We sit in classes for hours each week learning information, taking exams, conducting research and experiments. We are knowledgeable and talented to the best of our abilities. Offer your services on what you know best to do. Foster agencies make profiles for each kid that is being adopted. Offer your photography, videography and writing skills to help build those kids adoption portfolios. Becoming a teacher does not have to happen when you get your degree, offer free tutoring to foster families that cannot afford a private one. There are a vast amount of teenagers in the system who have dreams and inspirations. Help them take their ACT/SAT or apply to colleges, even BGSU.

There is a community out there that needs our help, and in this moment in our lives, we have been given the ability to make the change.

— Kylie Tusing —
Columnist

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5 better ways to celebrate Cinco de Mayo

Meredith Siegel  
Forum Editor

Yesterday was Cinco de Mayo, a Mexican holiday that white Americans use pretty much exclusively as an excuse to drink and eat Mexican food. However, I believe that if you are celebrating a holiday, you should have some idea of the cultural significance. Cinco de Mayo means May 5 if you really don't know your Spanish, and it celebrates a Mexican battle victory in the Franco-Mexican war, but according to Britannica, outside of the town the battle took place in, Cinco de Mayo has little noteworthiness in Mexico. It actually came over with Mexican immigrants who wanted to celebrate their heritage. I also don't believe anyone should celebrate a holiday of a group of people they don't want in their country. So, I encourage anyone who went out to El Zarape or got a margarita to do something for the Mexican, or Latinx in general, community in the States, especially when two boys were attacked for being Hispanic in Bowling Green. So, here are five things you can do to support all Latinx members of the community here.

Learn.  
As with any issue, it's best to educate yourself on what's really happening. Knowing things as simple as the difference between Mexico and its surrounding countries is key. Knowing what cultural appropriation is and why it's harmful is useful, too. Latinx people have been in the United States before it was the United States, and it's important to see how Latinx people have been edged out of their own history, in ways like the lack of a Hispanic option on the census for most of American history, or how they have been and are marginalized today.

Advocate.  
Calling out your friends, family or even strangers is also an incredibly important part of supporting the Latinx population in Bowling Green. When people say racist things about Mexican immigrants, don't let them get away with it! When the Pike fraternity dressed up like a “Mexican gang,” it probably would only have taken one person saying, “Hey this isn’t OK, and you shouldn’t be doing it,” for it not to have happened. Especially at a time when anti-Latinx racism is especially fraught, like Halloween and unfortunately, Cinco de Mayo.

Support.  
Wood County has its own Latinx advocacy group called La Conexión, as well as a support group on Facebook that aims to support and create connections with the community for Latinx members. Going to events La Conexión is putting on or contributing to a fundraiser are good ways to support them. Also, buying from local shops like Rosita’s Latin Market is good too.

Change.  
Changing your behavior might be the most important part of allyship. If you are contributing to a harmful environment for another group of people, it's your obligation to change something about what you’re doing. Maybe you’ve “dressed like a Mexican” for Halloween or made a joke at the expense of Latinx people. Acknowledging your mistake and not doing it again is something you can, and should, do.

Donate.  
Probably the most concrete and best thing you can do to support a marginalized community is donate money. You can give to La Conexión or Adelante Toledo, a non-profit that provides support and advocacy in Toledo. And, while not all Latinos are recent immigrants, and some were in the United States before it was the United States, the Latinx community bears the brunt of the weight in anti-immigration discourse, legislation and racism. So, think about giving to an immigration advocacy group like the Immigration Advocates Network.
Falcon Finale to ‘take over’ the Union

Hunter Huffman
Reporter

As the spring semester begins to wrap up, the University Activities Organization is holding its annual “Falcon Finale” as a last send-off to students and staff.

Taking place May 8 from 7 to 11 p.m., the free event consists of various activities both in and around the Bowen-Thompson Student Union for what UAO Organizer Estee Miller calls a “takeover” of the building.

“It’s really just an end-of-the-year celebration for all our Falcons. … It’s a lot of different events thrown into one big event,” Miller said.

On social media, UAO has gradually revealed the activities occurring during the night, which include:
- Inflatables at the Union Oval and Multipurpose Room.
- Caricature artists in Room 308.
- An outdoor bungee run, obstacle course and mechanical bull.
- A mystery craft room, with new crafts every hour, limited to the first 100 participants.
- Karaoke 7-9 p.m. in the theater.
- Drag Bingo 9-11 p.m. in the theater.
- Video games in Room 207.

In addition, there will be a fireworks show outside the BTSU at 9:30 p.m., followed by a live musical performance from Next Town Down, a Los Angeles-based R&B group, at 10 p.m. in the Union Oval. Then, at 11 p.m., President Rodney Rogers will be in the Ballroom for “Pancakes with the Prez” to end the night.

This will be Falcon Finale’s second consecutive year, and according to Miller, it has required extensive planning ahead of time.

“(UAO) has been preparing this event since the beginning of the semester and even started some conversations at the end of last semester about what our vision was for the event,” she said. “Getting contracts for the inflatables and the live entertainment; all that stuff has to be done like three months out.”

For Miller, the success of the event places strong reliance on both members and volunteers within UAO.

“It’s such a big event; each person in UAO has a different role and oversees a different area. … It really takes all of UAO to make the event possible,” she said.

Overall, the organization hopes the event will be a memorable parting for students.

“We really just want to create an atmosphere where students can come and have fun, feel welcome and just create memories with their friends,” Miller said. “It is during dead week and stressful times, so (it’s) a little stress reliever to come out and just have fun.”

Read the rest online @ bgfalconmedia.com.

Many events for Falcon Finale will take place in and around the Bowen-Thompson Student Union.

PHOTO BY HUNTER HUFFMAN

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Internet backlash forces redesign of ‘Sonic the Hedgehog’

Evan Hayes
Pulse Editor

The final day of April brought the trailer for “Sonic the Hedgehog” to the Internet, and the early returns were far from great. The trailer left many viewers feeling wary after revulsive responses to the CGI-animation of the movie’s main character.

“Sonic the Hedgehog” features the blue video game speedster as an extraterrestrial, anthropomorphic hedgehog and has been given a human-like appearance, including fur, distinct facial features and a human-like physique. The resulting look is slightly jarring to look at.

The character looks very little like the cartoon version from the Sonic catalog, and backlash over the eerie human-like features prompted the film’s director to take to Twitter to promise changes are on the way.

The key pieces that viewers seemed to have problems with were the appearance of the character’s fur, the proportions of his body and legs and the separation of his eyes. All of these aesthetic features, according to executive producer Tim Miller, were made to make the character design as human as possible. While Sonic has been thought of by many as a creature from Earth, the movie has made him an alien, so a human-like design style feels even more off base.

This is also a strange strategy for a revered animated character, who comes ready-made with agreed-upon design proportions and previous examples of animation in other media. The approach has essentially plunged the character into the bottom of the uncanny valley, the aesthetic relationship that suggests as humanoid objects get closer to appearing like real humans they will invoke an eerie or revulsive feeling in viewers.

To change animation at this stage in production is a hard enough to do for a film team, much less the main character who’s an iconic piece of video game culture. It involves changing what is likely a majority of scenes in the movie, but also advertising and marketing efforts that were already under way. The movie premieres in six months, scheduled to release on Nov 8.

The redesign is ultimately disconcerting for a movie that has been in production since 2016 and has a reported budget of $90 million. Fowler was hired in 2016 and filming for the production didn’t take place until the second half of 2018, with the time between being extended due to Paramount acquiring the movie from Sony after it was put in turnaround. With additional production costs being sunk into this redesign close to the premiere, it suggests the studio is doing everything it can to make sure early opinions don’t sink the movie right away.

The rest of the trailer does little to inspire hope. The plot to the movie seems zany, as Sonic teams up with a local sheriff (James Marsden) to travel across the country to recollect his gold rings, all while Sonic evades capture by both the government and the evil scientist Doctor Robotnik, played by Jim Carrey. Carrey’s Robotnik is a prerunner to the video game version, and the trailer gave us a look at both styles of the villain.

Video game movies have seen a bit of a resurgence recently with “Pokemon: Detective Pikachu” already expected to break the box office when it releases on May 10. But the genre has largely been disappointing for viewers and fans alike, and “Sonic the Hedgehog” has shown some worrying signs it could go in the same direction.
Third-party games need Switch ports

David Escobedo
Reporter

The Switch is a fantastic console. Yes, I’m clearly biased; nice to meet you. It has fantastic first-party games, with more to come soon, and great indies that seem to be coming out every month on a steady stream.

Apart from that, there are also ports of older third-party games that sporadically arrive on the hybrid gaming system. “Dragon’s Dogma: Dark Arisen” just released on the system not long ago and the popular “Dark Souls: Ultimate” as DLC not long ago and Atlus teasing Persona news over the course of a few months with mysterious titles, many of which are expected to make their debut on the console.

There is traditional dungeon crawling as well as Crash Bandicoot. Crash had his own spinoff title. I barely remembered, not that I know that the series started as a Spyro games series called “Skylanders.” Some people even wondered why Spyro was a Spyro title came out to varying degrees of success, Spyro’s best games were coming out on Sony’s consoles exclusively. As time went on, more Spyro titles came out to varying degrees of quality, all culminating in a toys-to-life video games series called “Skylanders.” Some people barely know that the series started as a Spyro spinoff title. I barely remembered, not that I wanted to either.

But, after years of not exactly receiving a core Spyro title, someone somewhere decided to remake the first three main games in the series. The remake games look great. They have a splendid, cartoon-y vibe to them that’s easy on the eyes. And the gameplay looks polished and cleaned up compared to the originals. The remake trilogy had a simultaneous release on PS4 and Xbox One at its launch. The Switch was not announced to have a version of it, however. Activision owns the rights to Spyro as well as Crash Bandicoot. Crash had his own remastered trilogy released on Switch after a timed exclusivity on PlayStation. “Spyro: Reignited Trilogy” has been out for a while and still has not been announced to be coming to Switch. The possibility is still there though, but it is uncertain as to the game’s fate on Nintendo’s console.

Apart from that, there are also ports of older third-party games that sporadically arrive on the hybrid gaming system. “Dragon’s Dogma: Dark Arisen” just released on the system not long ago and the popular “Dark Souls: Ultimate” as DLC not long ago and the popular “Dark Souls: Remastered” also released a port. There are some third-party games, though, that I would like to see make their debut on the console. Here are a few of them.

‘Persona 5 Royal’

“Persona 5” is a JRPG set in contemporary Japan centered on struggling high school students that try to change the hearts of those corrupted by society. Yes, it sounds very angsty by description and something that someone who shops too much at Hot Topic would come up with, but it’s a quality game with depth for days.

There is traditional dungeon crawling as many RPGs have, and it’s not too bad in this one, but that’s only half the game. Along with dungeon crawling, you can gather personas, the in-game enemies-turned-allies you collect and fuse to earn more powerful ones. They serve as spirits that you can use a variety of elemental attacks with. Picture them as pokémon, but they’re demons. There’s a social life you must maintain throughout the game as well. Now I barely do this in real life, so having a game about it sounds unappealing, but the way it works in “Persona 5” is highly satisfying. Building bonds with the varied characters and slowly learning more about their personalities and backstories can range from heart-warming to heart-breaking.

With Joker, the main protagonist of “Persona 5,” coming to “Super Smash Bros. Ultimate” as DLC not long ago and Atlus teasing Persona news over the course of a few months with mysterious titles, many were expecting to hear a Switch version of the stylish JRPG series. And indeed, Switch owners will get a Persona game, just in the form of a Musou game. Musou games are part of the Koei Tecmo Warriors franchise where players are tasked with taking on large waves of enemies all at once. The Zelda and Fire Emblem franchises have had previous releases in this style of game as well on the Switch.

I, personally, would love to see “Persona 5 Royal” come to the Switch at some point. “Royal” is an updated version of “Persona 5” that adds in a new character, a new area to explore and much more. The Persona series has largely been a PlayStation exclusive since its creation, so the odds are not likely of “Royal” coming to the Switch. Relations between Microsoft and Nintendo have been great though, so perhaps the same can happen between Sony and Nintendo. Or maybe I’m just being greedy and want every game on the Switch. You decide.

‘Ori and the Blind Forest’

This game is more in the vein of what I usually play. “Ori and the Blind Forest” is a platformer Metroidvania adventure with gorgeous visuals and a magical soundtrack.

Players are tasked with restoring the forest home that shelters Ori and pals after it is decimated by a tragic event. There have been other games that tell the tales of adorable forest creatures, but this one just has a great mix of so much. The art style is charming, the score summons a tide of emotions at key moments, the gameplay looks top-notch and the world beckons to be explored. “Ori and the Blind Forest” looks like the perfect game to fit in with the Switch’s library.

The game, however, is a Microsoft exclusive title. It first released in March 2015 for the Xbox One and Microsoft Windows. The odds of this title coming to the Switch are rare, but it could happen. “Cuphead” was surprisingly announced for the Switch and was a welcome surprise partnership between Microsoft and Nintendo. I’d like to see this partnership continue to blossom with smaller titles such as Ori. With Ori’s sequel announced at E3 2017, “Ori and the Will of the Wisps,” perhaps more publicity could be brought to the series with a Switch port.

‘Portal 2’

I play two puzzle games a year, and then I’m satisfied with the genre. Though one game I always up for playing either single or multiplayer is “Portal 2.”

The critically-acclaimed and consumer-beloved “Portal 2” tasks players with solving first-person physics puzzles but with a twist: you use portals. The game would grow tiring, however, if it were just empty rooms with puzzles to solve, no matter how inventive the puzzles. As a result, there is a narrative happening simultaneously as players solve puzzles. Taking control of Chell, the silent protagonist, players must escape the clutches of the evil sentinent robot GLaDOS as she makes snarky comments while trying to torment Chell. The story is intriguing enough that, merged with the excellent puzzles, keeps players moving forward.

“Portal 2” would be an excellent addition to the Switch’s ever-growing library. Especially with the multiplayer component of the game. “Portal 2” has a two-player mode that forces duos to work together in order to solve some very notoriously-crafted puzzles. GLaDOS also returns to bully players in this mode, so prepare to be insulted. With the Switch’s on-the-go nature and the removable Joy-Con on the sides, taking and playing “Portal 2” anywhere with a friend sounds fantastic. Who knows what Valve does anymore though, so I don’t think this game will ever be ported. I like ending on happy notes.

‘Metal Gear Solid: The Legacy Collection’

My cheating continues as this collection has, like, eight games in it. Almost every game in the Metal Gear Solid franchise has contributed an innovative piece of game design to the industry. Whether that be in actual gameplay or narrative, the series has been an important piece of gaming history.

The games have a sometimes wacky tone to them while also balancing an ambitious, politically-driven narrative with some great spy action mixed in.

The foreseeable future of Metal Gear Solid has been murky ever since series creator Hideo Kojima and series publisher Konami got into a spat over the series. Things got messy between the two that left fans of the series mad at publisher Konami, since it resulted in Kojima’s untimely departure from the studio and consequently, Metal Gear Solid. “Metal Gear Survive” was the first game released by Konami that wasn’t under Kojima’s guidance. It was met with mediocre reviews from critics and largely negative fan reception. While the future is uncertain for the series to move forward, a port of the older games in the franchise to modern consoles would be welcome. The Legacy Collection contained all the games except for the split entry: “Metal Gear Solid: V.” The older titles re-releasing would give modern console owners the opportunity to play them. All the games have been released on the PS3 before, so in terms of power, the Switch should not have a problem with the games. Konami’s plan with the series is unknown, but a release of the classic titles of Metal Gear Solid would be much welcome.

Read the rest online @ bgfalconmedia.com.
**BG Spotlight: Danielle Austinson**

**Megan Borger**
Falcon Communications

Danielle Austinson is a sophomore majoring in business management. Austinson is a member of Bowling Green's golf team and the Delta Gamma Fraternity. This is Austinson's second year on the golf team and her sixth year taking part in the sport.

"I really love all of the friends I have made through golf and all the opportunities this program has given me," Austinson said.

She finds the love and support she gets from her teammates and coaches really motivating. Austinson says that her coach is such a strong mentor and has been able to make her two seasons at BG amazing.

Being part of Delta Gamma and the golf team, Austinson finds it difficult to find free time, but she enjoys being busy.

Through being on the golf team, Austinson has done a lot of volunteer work for the community. She has done 69 hours of volunteer work this year from working with the Wood County Humane Society to working with BGSU athletics and different community events. She enjoys all the work she is able to do and is happy to give back. Austinson is excited to start another amazing season with the golf team and cannot wait to see where the program takes her.

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Baseball loses to Dayton Flyers, swept by Central Michigan

Zane Miller
Sports Reporter

The Falcon baseball team, falling 6-3 against the Dayton Flyers in seven innings on Wednesday, before losing 7-3 on Saturday against the Central Michigan Chippewas, 4-0 in the first game of a Sunday doubleheader and 6-2 in the second game of the doubleheader, extending the team’s losing streak to nine games.

“You’re not going to win many games if you don’t score,” Falcons head coach Danny Schmitz said. “That’s been our bugaboo, we just can’t score runs and we’re struggling so much with the at-bats.”

Wednesday’s game saw Dayton grab the lead first as freshman catcher Jay Curtis hit an RBI sacrifice fly to give them a 1-0 lead in the first inning. However, the Falcons responded in the third inning as junior center fielder Jake Wilson hit a two-run home run to give the team a 2-1 lead.

The Falcons added to their lead in the fifth as senior second baseman Riley Minorik got an RBI single, but the advantage wouldn’t last long as Dayton came back in the bottom of the inning with sophomore third baseman Riley Tirotta hit an RBI sacrifice fly, followed by sophomore right fielder Michael Cleary stealing home to tie the game at 3-3. Dayton carried the momentum into the sixth, with junior left fielder Connor Wilson scoring an RBI single to take the lead, followed by junior second baseman Takahiro Yamada crossing home on a wild pitch and Tirotta driving in a run on an error. The Falcons would be unable to mount a comeback, however, as lightning and an impending thunderstorm forced the game to end after seven innings, giving Dayton the 6-3 victory.

“I thought our guys came ready to play and we got off to a nice start,” Schmitz said. “We are still searching for ways to win close games, and it comes down to execution and making plays.”

Dayton junior pitcher RJ Wagner got the win, going three innings with one earned run allowed on three hits and no walks, as Falcons freshman pitcher Griffin Parrill was hit with the loss, going a third of an inning with no earned runs, three hits and no walks. Dayton junior reliever Tyler Jones got the save.

On Saturday, Central Michigan grabbed the lead early with a five-run second inning, punctuated by sophomore catcher Griffin Lockwood-Powell hitting a two-run homer. They then added another run in the fifth as senior first baseman Evan Kratt drove in a run on a double play and senior right fielder Jacob Crum each earning RBI singles.

Central Michigan capped off the scoring with sophomore shortstop Zavier Warren getting an RBI single as well. That would be all for the offense as Central Michigan held on to take the 4-0 win and claim the series victory.

“We gave them all four runs,” Schmitz said. “The first run scored on a passed ball and the next three scored because we didn’t make two routine plays. We gave them two extra outs and when you give good teams two extra outs, that’s not a good thing, especially when you’re struggling to score.”

Central Michigan senior starting pitcher Pat Leatherman took the win, going 6 2/3 innings while allowing just one earned run on three hits and a walk, as Falcons sophomore pitcher Andrew Abrahamowicz took the loss with five innings pitched, allowing one earned run on seven hits and five walks.

After Friday’s scheduled game was pushed back to Sunday doubleheader, Central Michigan took the lead first as senior left fielder David Cole came home on a passed ball in the third inning for a 1-0 lead. In the sixth, freshman designated hitter Garrett Navarra drove in a run on a sacrifice bunt and Rollin had an RBI single. Central Michigan capped off the scoring with sophomore shortstop Zavier Warren getting an RBI single as well. That would be all for the offense as Central Michigan held on to take the 4-0 win and claim the series victory.

“We gave them all four runs,” Schmitz said. “The second inning proved to be the difference,” Schmitz said. “We made a few mistakes, and Central Michigan made us pay.”

Central Michigan senior starting pitcher Pat Leatherman took the win, going 6 2/3 innings while allowing just one earned run on three hits and a walk, as Falcons sophomore pitcher Andrew Abrahamowicz took the loss with five innings pitched, allowing one earned run on seven hits and five walks.

The second game of the doubleheader saw Central Michigan again take the lead in the second inning, with Warren drawing a bases-loaded walk and junior center fielder Zach Gilles getting an RBI sacrifice fly, followed up with Lockwood-Powell and senior right fielder Jacob Crum each earning RBI singles for a 4-0 lead.

Senior second baseman Jason Sullivan added an RBI single for Central Michigan in the fifth to give them a 5-0 lead, but the Falcons got a pair of runs back as senior left fielder RJ Williams scored on a passed ball and senior designated hitter Anthony Smith hit an RBI single. Central Michigan tacked on a run in the ninth as junior third baseman Zach Heeke got an RBI single as they went on to win 6-2 to get the sweep.

Sophomore pitcher Jordan Patty picked up the win for Central Michigan, going five innings while allowing one earned run on four hits and no walks, while Falcons junior pitcher Chase Antle took the loss, going 1 2/3 innings while giving up four earned runs on two hits and five walks.

The series also saw the jersey retirement of former Falcon baseball player Gary Haas’ number 6, as well as a commemorative plaque in honor of former player Cory Miller, who passed away in January.

“Gary has been a very dear friend of mine for about 25-plus years,” Schmitz said. “He bleeds brown and orange and is always there to help out the program and the university in any way, shape or form, and I can’t think of anybody that is more deserving to have his number retired. … With Cory Miller, that was a really tough phone call that I got in late January, he was in my first recruiting class and was just a great young man. He was one of those guys was just a coach’s dream and had that ‘hate-to-lose, love-to-win’ attitude. … That’s why we’re dedicating the season to him.”

The Falcons will next play on Tuesday afternoon at home against the Purdue Fort Wayne Mastodons.
**Softball wins last 2 out of 3 games**

**Michael Hubler**
Sports Reporter

In the last week of their season, the Falcons softball team won against Cleveland State and split a doubleheader with Kent State. They finished the regular season with a record of 22-29. While going 22-29, their conference record was 7-14, home 8-6 and road 10-14.

On Tuesday, the Falcons hosted the Vikings at Reserve Field which resulted in an 8-3 win. The first run was scored in the bottom of the first with a Kellie Natham double batting in Taylor Bleivins. In the second inning, Madeline Dyer singled with Logan Everett scoring, resulting in an early 2-0 lead for the Falcons. Although the Vikings would score in the third, in the bottom half Madi McCoy would have a two-run homer to left field with Bleivins scoring, making the lead 4-1. With a 5-2 lead in the bottom of the sixth, McCoy had a three-run homer, making the lead 8-2. The Vikings would score one run in the top of the seventh, but the Falcons prevailed. Meredith Miller was the winning pitcher of the Falcons going to 15-15 while the Vikings pitcher Kelly Hysong would fall to 8-12.

Saturday's Game 1 resulted in a 4-0 loss to the Golden Flashes. This game also ended with Kent State pitching a perfect game. In the bottom of the third, Kaitlyn Miller of the Flashes stole second base allowing Jen Cader to score. Brenna Brownfield in the bottom of the fifth singled batting in Sabrina Kerschner. Then in the bottom of the sixth, Hunter Brancifort hit a two-run homer making the lead 4-0. The score would stay the same the entire game as the Falcons would lose the first doubleheader. Brooke Parker would receive the loss going 6-12 while Andrea Scali would improve to 19-7.

Game 2 would consist of a 2-1 win for the Falcons. Natham would have a single in the top of the first with Payton Hamm scoring. Sarah Gonzalez, in the top of the fourth, would then tag on another run doubling to right center with Kali Holcomb scoring. The Flashes would score in the bottom of the fourth but would hold on winning 2-1. The winning pitcher for the Falcons was Meredith, improving to 16-15 while for the Flashes, Madi Huck would fall to 5-10.

Overall, on the season the Falcons improved pitching tremendously. Meredith Miller won her last four games over the Wright State Raiders, Akron Zips, Cleveland State Vikings and Kent State Golden Flashes. Meredith had 187 strikeouts this year while having 456 total during her four years. Seven seniors were on the softball team this year. The seven seniors leaving are Holcomb, Meredith, Natham, Parker, Alex Sorgi, Kiley Sosby and Kathleen Shier. For next year, it will be an uphill battle while losing two starting pitchers, but with young promise like McCoy, the Falcons look to reload with young talent swarming in.

**Liverpool taking City to final day is enough**

**Jacob Clary**
Sports Editor

No matter what happens, Liverpool taking Manchester City to the final day in the Premier League title race is all I could have ever hoped for. I’ll be honest, I’m a Liverpool fan. That means I have been wanting Manchester City to falter for weeks. However, this Manchester City team just won’t let that happen. Even though I might be disappointed that Liverpool doesn’t win the title, all I ever wanted was a good race, and I got that and then some. This has been one of the most interesting title races in any sport I have ever watched.

For those who are keeping score, if both teams win the rest of their matches, then Manchester City will finish with 98 points and Liverpool with 97. Just to put that into perspective, the most points any Premier League side has ever achieved is 100 points, which was by Manchester City last season. The second most was done by Chelsea in the 2004-05 season when they tallied 95 points. Think about that: this season will most likely have the second and third highest point totals ever in the Premier League. Having that happen in the same season is just fun to watch. Even though my team would be the one to lose the league, taking it to the final day is all I could have wanted.

This Manchester City side will have tallied 198 points in a two-season span. That’s just ridiculous. This is probably the best Premier League team ever. Pep Guardiola will most likely have led this team to two straight Premier League titles, which hasn’t happened since 2007-08 when Manchester United won it in back-to-back seasons.

However, talking about the greatness of Manchester City is giving Liverpool not enough credit. Last season, Liverpool lost to Manchester City by 25 points. Now, this season they might lose by only 1 point. That is a massive improvement. Also, Liverpool finished with 75 points, and this season they might finish with 97 points. A 22-point improvement is what was needed to take this season to the final day. Yes, it could have been even better. There were plenty of matches they should have won, but everyone has a bad day. Jurgen Klopp has made this side into one that is to be feared. Liverpool has only lost one match this whole season. Unfortunately, that was to Manchester, which set them on course to come back and take the lead in the title race.

At the beginning of the season, all I wanted at the end of the season was to believe that my team gave it their all. To believe that they didn’t give up on the title race. I definitely got that this season. The team gave everything they could and even if they don’t win, this season isn’t the last time they will be challenging for the title in the new few years. They will continue to get better consistently. However, there are still a couple of matches left and you know what people always say: They play the matches for a reason.

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Student discusses mental health, suicide

Mary Ross
Reporter

Concerns about suicide and the mental health of students are being raised at BGSU after a local high school student took his life at the beginning of April.

Courtney Foerg, a freshman social work major, believes these concerns exist because mental health isn’t as much of a priority as it should be for people.

“Mental health needs to be more of a priority to teachers and administrators. Without stable mental health, students can’t succeed,” Foerg said.

There are many warning signs for identifying suicidal tendencies.

“Without stable mental health, students can’t succeed.”
— Courtney Foerg —
Freshman Social Work Major

According to the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention, one warning sign is a person talking about killing themselves, having no reason to live, feeling pain and other variations of this thinking.

Other warning signs include increasing use of alcohol or drugs, withdrawing from activities, isolating from family and friends, sleeping too much or too little and visiting or calling people to say goodbye. The at-risk people’s moods can also change to display depression, anxiety, loss of interest, irritability and agitation or anger.

Suicidal tendencies can be a result of some mental health conditions, such as depression or anxiety disorders, as well as serious physical health conditions and traumatic brain injuries.

Historical factors also can attribute to suicidal tendencies: previous suicide attempts, family history of suicide and childhood abuse, neglect or trauma.

These tendencies can also be a result of environment factors such as prolonged stress, stressful life events, exposure to another person’s suicide and access to lethal devices like firearms and drugs.

Even though these warning signs and factors are common, according to the AFSP, there is no single cause for suicide.

However, it says students, faculty and staff can still look out for family, friends and peers to help make sure their mental health is stable.

Foerg believes being present in relationships with one’s friends and paying attention to what they are saying is important in making sure they are doing okay.

“Make sure you are always truly listening and taking everything your friends say seriously,” Foerg said.

No matter the state of one’s mental health, all students at BGSU have access to the Counseling Center.

According to the center’s website, it “strives to promote the psychological wellbeing of students from diverse backgrounds; to foster their development, learning, and academic success; and to provide appropriate intervention when students are experiencing serious mental health concerns.”

If you are concerned with the mental health of someone in your life, don’t stay silent about it. For more information on suicide prevention, visit the AFSP’s website.
$49,000 letters receive varied response

In their responses to the recent installment of large orange letters in the middle of campus, many students’ sentiments were related to the cost of the display.

Chief Marketing and Communications Office Dave Kielmeyer said the total cost of the display, including installation, was about $49,000.

After the April 30 Faculty Senate meeting, President Rodney Rogers said, “The funding for that specific display is a combination of things, including a donor who had that desire and perhaps would not have directed that money to other purposes.”

That donor contributed the letters, which are valued at about $24,000, according to Kielmeyer. The university picked up the rest of the cost: $25,000.

A full-time undergraduate student paying in-state tuition at BGSU and living in one of the cheapest residence halls with a bronze meal plan, according to the 2018-19 breakdown of tuition and fees, pays about $19,758 in one academic year — not including fees.