Students celebrate end of school year with fireworks, festivities

FALCON FINALE

PHOTO BY ABBY SHIFLEY

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Local manufacturers struggle to find workers

Samantha Sharp
Reporter

Manufacturing companies in Bowling Green, are struggling to fill entry-level positions with permanent workers. However, the city has a current unemployment rate of 3.9%, which is lower than the Ohio state average of 4.4%.

According to Sue Clark, Bowling Green economic development executive director, the low unemployment rate is an indicator that fewer civilians are actively searching for jobs in the community. While the unemployment rate is low in comparison to the state average, companies like Vehtek Systems are reporting that they are having difficulty recruiting permanent workers.

Tim Hendricks, Vehtek Systems Human Resources Generalist, said that the rapid production growth in his Bowling Green Vehtek facility has greatly increased the need for more entry-level skilled and unskilled workers.

“The biggest area where we have available openings is our second shift, which runs from 3 to 11:30 p.m.,” Hendricks said. “It is very difficult to find skilled workers who are willing to sacrifice their evenings and work these odd hours.”

In addition to finding versatile workers, manufacturing companies are trying to dispel the negative stigma surrounding factory jobs. Mary Dewitt, Wood County Social Services Administrator, said that manufacturing companies are doing a multitude of things to recruit for their positions and encourage younger workers to consider a career in manufacturing.

Companies are engaging in social media, using referrals from their employees to hire new workers, offering sign-on bonuses, increasing wages, offering staffing services, giving students tuition reimbursement and recruiting workers from other companies.

The Bowling Green Economic Development Foundation is working closely with Penta Career Center to encourage adult education classes and factory safety training courses. Clark said that it is “particularly difficult” convincing local, young adults to apply for manufacturing jobs, when they have grown up next door to a moderate-sized state university.

Read the rest online @ bgfalconmedia.com.
Columnist reflects on end of year

Rosiland Fletcher
Columnist

Spring semester is coming to a finish, and in the next week as we depart Bowling Green for the summer — or in the case of the seniors — for quite a while, think of your time at BGSU.

What are your most memorable adventures? Do you remember your first day on-campus? Were you excited, scared or nervous? Are you leaving with regrets? What have you accomplished? What have you learned? About the world or about yourself?

There's a variety of questions to ask yourself and a variety of conclusions one may come to, whether if it's your completion of your first year of college, or if it was last weekend spent with a good friend.

However you've spent your first year or spent all four years, it's time to continue reading and to turn to the next page of your life, thinking of the past few months to the last four years.

It is surreal to re-experience the heartache of friends who are graduating and leaving to live in full-time adulthood. They'll be working in their designated careers, enjoying the remaining years of their early 20s, then onto dating and marriage, or traveling across the world, whatever fate has in store for their lives; anything but being in Bowling Green. Except for the occasional visit during Homecoming weekend or randomly during the course of the school year, they won't be as near as they used to be.

It is insane to think I've known my friends, from freshmen to seniors, for less than a year, and it's like they're already family. Through the newsroom, my church group and other things I have been a part of has bought new friends and new experiences with lovely people, and some of those lovely people are graduating next weekend.

It sucks because I won't be able to call up a friend and talk, or go to Grounds for Thought to get coffee, or other small things around the town. They're miles away and the only form of communication is through call, text or FaceTime. However, I am very happy for all the seniors; it's an exciting time to celebrate and commend them for their accomplishments over the years, and the future accomplishments as they take first steps into the world.

But, it still sucks they're leaving. I couldn't imagine, what it'd be like to be a senior, graduating and not entirely sure of what you're going to do following graduation.

The relation I can think of is graduating from high school last year, and I've learned one thing consistently over the last year that I can advise to all students: live for today because tomorrow is not promised to anyone. I understand there are nuances in life, but it is crucial to take time and find a piece in the present because time will not stop for anyone nor will it be promised to anyone tomorrow.

We hear this quite a bit from those posts on Instagram and other social platforms, but it's the honest truth.

A lot of us tend to live in the past or consistently obsess over our unpredictable futures, which can affect how we live in the present, either positively or negatively. But, we have to remember whatever the past held for us and whatever the future holds for us, is a reality lived and one waiting to happen; it'll remain a universal enigma.

Honestly, I'd be lucky to take my own advice because I may "forget" to follow the words I am saying. Actions speak louder than words, and I have yet to be consistent in the action of living in the moment. I get it; it's not simple to just live in the present without thinking of past experiences and considering the future experiences. Remember, living day-by-day takes one step at a time and requires patience to endure each one.

Overall, I challenge you to live in the now because tomorrow is not promised to you. I hope you've all had an amazing year, and are looking forward to the summer!

Seniors, congratulations on graduation and I wish you the absolute best! See you fall semester 2019, Falcons!
Columnist discusses 6 quick self-care strategies

Mary Ross
Columnist

As someone who doesn’t always have a lot of time or make enough time for self-care, it can get hard to keep myself mentally and physically in check. As dead week and exam week approach, I’m not going to be the only one in this boat. Here are a few minor and quick ways I practice self-care to keep myself as even keeled as possible that you can implement into your life when studying begins to take over your life.

1. Grab or make a cup of coffee.
Coffee is the reason I am still alive today. Okay, not really. However, coffee always gives me a little extra boost of energy which helps me stay awake during my hectic days. Plus, the act of making coffee or waiting in line gives me something easy to focus on, whether that be the act of making coffee or people-watching the other people in line.

2. Pick up my clothes.
The cleanliness of my room is a representation of my mind. So when my room is a mess, it’s safe to say that my mind is too. By picking up clothes and either putting them in a pile or actually putting them away, I’m in a cleaner environment, which helps motivate me to do more work for some weird reason.

When I get too busy, many times I put off taking a shower for as long as possible. I know I’m not the only one there. However, taking a shower most of the time lifts a person’s mood, gives the mind a break from studying or whatever else I’m doing and helps with hygiene.

4. Stretch.
Stress causes muscles to clench up and become tight, which in turn makes the entire body hurt or feel stiff and uncomfortable.

5. Go for a walk.
Fresh air does wonders for the body, lungs and mind. Plus, moving around keeps the blood pumping, and even the smallest amount of physical exercise can release endorphins to start lifting your mood.

6. Call your mom or another family member.
Whenever I need a break, I call my mom. She has a really good way of talking about her life or family members that make me forget about my life for a little bit. Moreover, it builds a better relationship with your mom or whoever you decide to call, which is always a positive thing.

Columnist explains why vague rubrics suck

Mary Ross
Columnist

If I were to just say ‘it’s dangerous to be vague,’ what would you, the reader, start thinking? I want you to ponder that for a moment.

My knee-jerk reaction to this is it’s dangerous to be vague because people could misinterpret what I mean. But it could also mean that people don’t understand what I mean or that there isn’t enough detail for them to acknowledge what I say as fact or fiction.

I have been criticized by my writing teachers in the past for being vague and floundering around on the topic without saying what I truly mean. But professors are rarely criticized for their vagueness and lack of adaptability when they choose to be vague.

And in my classes, this vagueness of instructions, rubrics and comments from my teacher has resulted in several bad grades, which I would have been fine with had I deserved those grades. And maybe this is me being upset about bad grades, but I have found in these several bad grades, I followed the quite vague instructions completely and found in these several bad grades, I followed the quite vague instructions completely and was marked down simply because I took some creative liberties in getting my point across.

Which lends to the question if I’m not given a rubric or set of instructions, which permits my creativity, then shouldn’t the professor grade me based on how well my ideas are developed, not the exact wording I am using?

But yet I find myself losing points on assignments because I have worded things differently than professors would have. I find myself losing points because I didn’t go the direction the professor wanted me to go, even though I was supposed to be allowed some creative liberties, which is incredibly unfair.

Students shouldn’t be deducted points or told they are wrong based on how they process and express something. If I say ‘I like mac’n’cheese’ but the professor believes I should have said ‘I like macaroni and cheese,’ I should not have points deducted because that is how I chose to express myself. I opted to use the abbreviated term because that’s how I speak and write.

Granted, in various forms of writing, there are a certain set of rules laid out, such as journalistic writing and AP Style. However, the rules of AP Style are all written out in a quite thick textbook, 1, and all other journalists, could pull up online or pull out in-person. At least in that case, I, and all other journalists, have a set of laid out instructions where they can find answers need be.

But if a professor chooses to make a vague rubric, they also should have to choose to permit creative thought processes and a wide variety of styles and responses for each project and paper they assign. It is not fair for students to be graded based off a rubric the professor created in their head and hasn’t shared with anyone else.

I will say though, I only dislike vague rubrics if the rubric in the professor’s head is shown in the grading process. But if a teacher is open to accessing each student’s creativity for the thought-process and development, rather than exact wording, I then encourage vague rubrics and assignments.

At least then, a student’s creativity is not limited. They then can be confident in the creativity of their work and be confident in sharing their work both in college and throughout the rest of their lives.

But as it is right now, this vagueness is ultimately hurting the grades of students.
Nontraditional student enrollment rate at BGSU doesn’t fit national norm

Michael Pincumbe
Reporter

College students with children or over the age of 25 are enrolling in universities at the highest rate ever, with nearly 74 percent of American undergraduate students now considered “nontraditional,” according to USA Today.

At BGSU, the trends aren’t even close to the norm. According to Gabriel Dunbar, nontraditional and military student advisor, only 7% of BGSU undergraduate students are considered nontraditional students.

“We have about 1,300 students that identify as either 23 and older or as apart of the military. The reason for this is because BGSU has been focused on the traditional student experience. Actually, if you look up BGSU Strategic Plan for the next few years, put together by President Rogers, post-traditional or nontraditional students will become more of the focus of BGSU, because by 2025 the traditional student enrollment rate will begin to decline. The 7% number will begin to rise over the next several years,” Dunbar said.

Nontraditional students benefit from having more specific reasons for going to school than traditional students.

“Maybe they worked for a few years or have had other life experiences have helped them hone in on their passion or purpose. So generally, when they come back to college, they generally have a very specific plan,” he said.

While there are some benefits to being a nontraditional student he says, there are also some challenges students might face along their academic journey.

“BGSU is generally known for our strong traditional undergraduate experience right out of high school. Sometimes, our nontraditional students can feel a little isolated when they’re in class with all 18-year-olds. Sometimes there can be a lack of confidence,” Dunbar said.

Due to the tight schedule a nontraditional student typically has, Dunbar says the students tend to stay very focused on their studies.

“The students generally have a family they are trying to provide for or they’re trying to make a career change, so a bachelor’s degree is kind of their ticket to being able to get their new career. They generally have less margin in their life to able to get to classes, do homework and juggle life’s balances. The student’s financial situation can also be very constraining as far as what they are able to do,” he said.

Marianne Vanderbeke, nontraditional journalism and public relations student came to BGSU after spending years as a stay-at-home mom.

“I started out in college at 18, and I wanted to be an education or english major. I’ve always loved words. Everyone always told me I should be a nurse and how great I would be as a nurse. I was a real people pleaser when I was young, so I did exactly what they said, and I went to nursing school for seven years and I never got a nursing degree. In the last nursing program I was doing, I decided that I just couldn’t do it. I was going to be a mom, and I was engaged, and I decided I was just going to do the mom thing. I did the mom thing for 23 years,” she said.

She said caring for a special needs’ child took up a lot of her time, but since her children are now grown up, it was time for her to focus on something different.

“I have a special needs child and they require a lot of hands-on care, but since now all of my kids are grown, no one needed me at home anymore, so I applied to BGSU and got it,” she said.

Like many traditional students, she switched her major before finding her passion she would focus on for the rest of her time at BGSU.

Vanderbeke

PHOTO PROVIDED BY MARIANNE VANDERBEKE

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PHOTO PROVIDED BY MARIANNE VANDERBEKE

Marianne Vanderbeke, nontraditional journalism and public relations student came to BGSU after spending years as a stay-at-home mom.

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Student interns for Teaching Kitchen, shares love of cooking

Mary Ross
Reporter

Allie Godfrey discovered her love of cooking and sharing food with her family, and decided to share that love with her Falcon family at BGSU through an internship with the Teaching Kitchen.

“For me, it actually started because I was living with my parents over the summer, and it seemed like every meal was chicken and broccoli,” Godfrey said. “I kind of got sick of that, so I was just always looking on YouTube, looking at Pinterest for new recipes, and I was always trying new things. It was a way my parents and I bonded. We would go to the grocery store to pick up foods, and then we would come home and make meals together.”

Godfrey started attending the Teaching Kitchen because she thought it was the “coolest thing ever.”

“I basically started going to every single class that they offered, and then from there, the chefs started getting to know me, Chef Marissa (Riffle) specifically,” Godfrey said.

It was because of her consistent attendance at the Teaching Kitchen that Godfrey was offered an internship.

“One day I was at one of the events, and Marissa had addressed me by my first name. Someone asked if I had worked there, and I was like, ‘No, I just come here a lot.’ Then Chef Marissa was like, ‘Do you want a job here?’ and I was like, ‘Yeah, obviously,’ so that’s how my job started. It just kind of happened because I really enjoyed what I was doing,” Godfrey said.

For her internship in the Teaching Kitchen, Godfrey was responsible for setting up classes, preparations for ingredients and stations, assisting people during classes and cleaning up at the end.

However, Godfrey likes the Teaching Kitchen for more than just having the opportunity to cook and share food with others.

“Some of the best parts were just getting to talk and hang out with all the chefs. They are all really cool, and they come from different backgrounds. They have a lot of knowledge to share, and I feel like that’s where I actually learned the most about being an intern, by getting to know the chefs on a personal level,” Godfrey said.

Godfrey recommends everyone should attend at least one Teaching Kitchen event while they are at BGSU.

“At the end, everyone comes together and enjoys their meal together, something I think people today kind of stray from,” Godfrey said. Overall, Godfrey was able to use the Teaching Kitchen to spread her love of food with others.

“Food brings people together, and I think it’s really awesome to help bring people together and enjoy the time together,” Godfrey said.
Mayor honors biking at last Council meet of school year

Adam Gretsingr
City Editor

Bowling Green's mayor honored bicyclists at City Council's last meeting during the BGSU school year.

Mayor Richard Edwards commemorated the city Bicycle Safety Commission for its work encouraging bike use, announced the city's observance of the National Bike Month this May, and revealed the Bike Spokesman of the Year at Council's May 6 meeting.

"You move mountains," Edwards said during his praise of the commission.

The group works to make the city more bike-friendly, with recent efforts including inviting safety advisors to recommend changes to street markers and organizing bike safety media campaigns.

Edwards said the town will celebrate National Bike Month through different activities such as Bike to Work and School Day on May 19 and the Ride of Silence quiet ride honoring injured and dead bicyclists on May 15.

Edwards and the Bicycle Safety Commission named resident Allen Frischman the Bike Spokesman of the Year. They said his passion for riding, which has allowed him to circle the globe in equivalent miles, made him the correct choice for the award.

The mayor also used his time to denounce the potential passage of an Ohio House of Representatives bill that he claimed would devalue renewable energy-friendly tax credits and other expenses in exchange for nuclear energy support. Though he is sympathetic of communities reliant on nuclear energy opportunities, he believes this bill will injure Bowling Green's role as a renewable energy leader in the region.

The city does not want the state "to shut the door on communities like Bowling Green," Edwards said, adding that his office will send a letter asking for legislative support from Ohio representative Haraz Ghanbari tomorrow.

Mark Hollenbaugh, chair of the Community Improvement Committee, said a plan concerning the possibility of a city-wide plastic bag will be finished and revised soon for Council and City Attorney approval.

“You asked us for a recommendation, and we're forwarding a recommendation,” Hollenbaugh said about the recommendation process, which included a public hearing about the bag ban idea just prior to the Council meeting. This plan looks to include the creation of a “Sustainability League” for the city.

Madi Stump, a BGSU student and Council candidate for 2019, announced a reusable bag-making event May 7 at Grounds for Thought.

Municipal Administrator Lori Tretter said that, in light of the recent racist attack at Waffle House, the Bowling Green Police Division will be offering training to business employees to “identify trouble situations” starting June 26.

Colleen Smith, a lobbying resident, praised city utilities workers for a recent digging job on her property, saying they were efficient and courteous in replanting her yard.

Utilities Director Brian O'Connell thanked her for the praise, saying, “We are trying to make a positive impact on our residents.”

Council passed a variety of ordinances at the meeting as well, including:
• Adopting a supplement to the city Code of Ordinances.
• Appropriating funds for various expenditures and other expenses.
• Authorizing an agreement between the city and the Manchester Group LLC for a utility service line protection program.
• Accepting a utilities easement from Haskins village.
• Authorizing O'Connell to apply for an Ohio EPA and Ohio Water Development Authority loan to improve the city's Water Pollution Control facility.

Council will meet next on May 20 in the city administration building.
Falcon Finale ends semester with a bang

PHOTOS BY ABBY SHIFLEY

Junior Kelly Talley and senior Rachel Harris pose for the artist drawing their caricatures.

In the main lobby of the Bowen-Thompson Student Union stands a giant Freddy Falcon made of balloons.

Junior Kelly Talley and senior Rachel Harris's partially completed caricatures

There were various food stations set up in the Bowen-Thompson Student Union for Falcon Finale.

The group Joseph and Company sing "Get You" by Daniel Caesar, featuring Kali Uchis at karaoke in the recently renamed BGSU Film Theater.

PHOTOS BY ABBY SHIFLEY

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The group Joseph and Company sing "Get You" by Daniel Caesar, featuring Kali Uchis at karaoke in the recently renamed BGSU Film Theater.
Baseball takes down Purdue Fort Wayne to end losing streak

Zane Miller
Sports Reporter

The Falcon baseball team defeated the Purdue Fort Wayne Mastodons 3-1 on Tuesday afternoon, as the team snapped a nine-game losing streak with the victory.

“We got back to back innings where we had two out (RBI) base hits and that was the key,” Falcons head coach Danny Schmitz said. “The pitching and the defense kind of took it over from there and did a good job. We finally got a couple of two-out base hits that scored runs, so that was good.”

The first inning saw the Falcons take the lead first, as sophomore shortstop Dylan Dohanos hit a 2 RBI double to give the team a 2-0 advantage. The team then followed that up in the second inning with freshman catcher Tyler Haas delivering an RBI double to make it a 3-0 game.

The next several innings would go scoreless with the Falcons continuing to hang on to the advantage. However, Purdue Fort Wayne was able to break up the shutout bid in the eighth inning courtesy of senior shortstop Brandon Yoho getting an RBI single. But that would be all the offense that they would get as the Falcons held on to grab the 3-1 victory to win in their final nonconference game of the regular season.

“I thought today was a really solid effort by the team,” Schmitz said. “I thought our pitchers did a great job: they were pretty much all on a pitch count or innings limit and I thought they were all very aggressive and did a good job and attacked the zone.”

Falcons junior starting pitcher Damon Egnor picked up the win, giving up no earned runs on three hits and a walk over the course of two innings pitched, while Purdue Fort Wayne senior starting pitcher Shane Odzark was hit with the loss, as he went eight innings while giving up three earned runs on six hits and seven walks, as he eventually ended the game throwing a total of 153 pitches on the afternoon.

The game also saw a pair of excellent defensive plays from Falcons junior center fielder Jake Wilson, who made a long running catch near the warning track in center field, as well as a diving play in short center field later on in the game.

The team watches their teammates on the baseball field.

Anthony Smith swings to hit the ball against Western Michigan.

Sports reporter names booms, busts, bests of 2019 NFL Draft

Parker Kern
Sports Reporter

The NFL Draft has come and gone, and all 254 draft selections are prepared to make their new teams better with their efforts and talents. Like every NFL Draft, there were numerous great picks, some head scratching selections and many brilliant steals and sleepers selected on the second and third day. I'll tell you which player I think will have the best rookie season, which player I think will not have a stellar first season (and potentially have a short-lived NFL career) and which team I believe improved the most in this year's draft.

Starting with my "boom," I will start by saying I was toying with awarding this honor to New England Patriots WR N'Keal Harry (formerly an Arizona State Sun Devil). However, after much consideration, prayer and even some meditation, I've decided to declare that my 2019 NFL Rookie Boom will be Washington Redskins RB Bryce Love, formerly of Stanford University. Love was the Heisman runner-up in 2017 and has been slept on by many. He was selected at Pick 112 in the fourth round, which was an absolute steal for the Redskins.

Pairing him with fellow rookie, QB Dwayne Haskins (formerly an Ohio State Buckeye) will perhaps give the Redskins' offense the jolt it needs to truly contend for an NFC East Title, with the likes of the Philadelphia Eagles and Dallas Cowboys. Love will likely begin the season second or third on the Redskins' RB depth chart behind Adrian Peterson and possibly Chris Thompson. Peterson is aging and Thompson doesn't have a fraction of the upside that Love does, so look for him to move up the depth chart as the season progresses and potentially be featured back in Washington for years to come.

My bust pick is fairly obvious – if you follow the NFL at all, you'll know exactly where I'm going. The New York Giants' selection at Pick 6 overall, former Duke QB Daniel Jones, is my NFL Rookie Bust for 2019. Let's take a look at his final season at Duke. Jones threw for 2,674 yards in 11 games with 22 touchdowns and 9 interceptions. Respectable numbers, but respectable enough to be picked against other elite QBs in the draft, such as Drew Lock (Iowa) or Dwayne Haskins (Ohio State)?

Just for giggles, here are Haskins' stats from 2018. In 14 games, Haskins threw for 4,831 yards, 50 TDs and 8 interceptions. You mean to tell me that New York passed up on THAT guy and took some kid from Duke? I'm rooting for Jones, I honestly am – the pressure has to be insane in the Big Apple. To be honest, I think Eli Manning is done, so Jones may get in the spotlight earlier than anticipated. If he performs as he did at Duke without expanding his ceiling, he will easily be the biggest bust in this year's draft.

Now, for the team who I thought had the best draft. Washington and Arizona both had tremendous drafts and filled a lot of team needs, but there was one team in particular that I believe stocked their pantry with players who can keep them on top for a long period of time. This team is none other than the defending Super Bowl champions, the New England Patriots. As I said earlier, I loved the N'Keal Harry pick at the end of the first round – he will be an elite and elusive target that Tom Brady can confidently throw to throughout games. The Pats also picked up CB Joejuan Williams out of Vanderbilt and DE Chase Winovich out of Michigan.

Some other notable picks for the Pats include Damien Harris (RB, Alabama) and Jarrett Stidham (QB, Auburn).

I am very excited about the upcoming season and am looking forward to watching all NFL rookies play for their new teams. I hope your team drafted well and that they have nothing but success this season.
NHL playoffs highlights need for better refereeing

Max Marko
Sports Reporter

Boston Bruins defenseman Charlie McAvoy may have forced the National Hockey League’s hand with his dangerously high hit to the head of Columbus Blue Jackets forward Josh Anderson. McAvoy’s headshot may seem like a typical illegal check, but it is a key piece in a very frustrating postseason for officials.

Throughout the Stanley Cup Playoffs this year, there have been missed calls and other mistakes from officiating crews. McAvoy’s hit was an example of an underwhelming response from referees. The Bruin defender was only given a two-minute penalty with the implication that the NHL’s Department of Player Safety would take care of further punishment. McAvoy would later receive a one-game suspension, but to the majority that thought McAvoy should have been thrown out, this was a poorly mishandled situation.

Just 12 days earlier, the officiating team assigned to the San Jose Sharks and Vegas Golden Knights first-round series fumbled another infraction that ultimately changed the outcome of the game and the series entirely. Trailing 3-0 in the third period of game seven, Sharks forward Joe Pavelski was taken down by the duo of Golden Knights forwards Cody Eakin and Paul Stastny, resulting in Pavelski’s forehead to be split open.

Referees Dan O’Halloran and Eric Furlatt gathered while crimson red dots trailed Pavelski to the San Jose locker room and determined that Eakin hit Pavelski with a high-stick. Eakin was given a match penalty, the team was assessed a five-minute major and the Sharks scored four straight goals during that span. The Golden Knights would tie the game with a minute left, but the momentum swing was deep in the Sharks corner as they took the game, and the series, in overtime.

Looking back at the replay, it was clear Pavelski was not hit with a high stick. He was cross-checked in the chest by Eakin and then, after awkwardly colliding with Stastny in mid-air, hit his head on the ice. Was Eakin deserving of a penalty? Yes. Should he have been kicked out of the game and given a five-minute major? No, a two-minute cross-checking penalty would have sufficed. O’Halloran and Furlatt were sent home for the rest of the Stanley Cup Playoffs. In the middle of this madness, there has been a call to action. It has been suggested by media members that the league could be looking into setting up a video review process for major penalties. The details as to how far these discussions have gone are unclear, but it is clear that the NHL does not want this to happen again.

It would be wise for the NHL to adopt the NCAA policy. At the collegiate level, all dangerous hits that could be worthy of a five minute major and a game misconduct are reviewed by officials on the ice through video review. This process has worked very well for the NCAA. It puts head contact under scrutiny but does not impede the flow of the game.

The NHL already taking action by sending referees home is a good sign that there will be change coming. It is a shame that it had to happen in this fashion, but every moment of change starts with a tipping point.

Liverpool and Tottenham to battle for Champions League

Jacob Clary
Sports Editor

I can’t believe I am finally saying it, but we are here. The Champions League final is upon us. The final two teams, date and place are set. It will be Liverpool going up against Tottenham June 1 in Madrid. This season-long struggle to lift the Champions League trophy will all come down to one match in the Spanish city to decide the champions of European soccer.

The first team to punch their ticket to the final was Barcelona… Wait?! No?! That’s Jurgen Klopp’s music. That’s right; Liverpool came back from a 3-0 deficit at Camp Nou to winning the semifinal 4-3 with four goals at Anfield. Like the last article I wrote about the Premier League, I am going to make sure you know my biases. I am a Liverpool fan, so this comeback is one of the most memorable in my life as a fan of any sport. Liverpool deserved the comeback and will come out swinging in the final. They will have Roberto Firmino and Mo Salah returning from injury, which was missing from the second leg of the Barcelona match. They are two of Liverpool’s most important players, and having them return for this match will be very important to winning it. They aren’t the only important offensive weapons. Sadio Mane has sort of cooled off from his meteoric form but is still great this season. Midfielders Jordan Henderson and Georgino Wijnaldum have been playing great of late, with Wijnaldum scoring two of the four in the second Barcelona comeback. There are really too many amazing players on the Liverpool offensive side of the ball to mention every single one.

The defense of Liverpool is also a massive strength. Virgil Van Dijk, the winner of the PFA Award for best player in the Premier League voted by the players, is the headline. He is the biggest reason Liverpool are as good as they are on both sides of the ball. He isn’t the only reason though. Andrew Robertson and Trent Alexander-Arnold are important facilitators and help get the team the goals they need. The other center back position has been filled by many players, such as Joel Matip, Joe Gomez and Dejan Lovren.

Also, unlike last year’s Champions League final, Liverpool also doesn’t have a weakness. Last year, the goalkeeper was somewhere the opposing squad could exploit. That isn’t the case with Alisson Becker in goal. He has helped Liverpool get to where they are now in the Champions League and will continue to help them.

However, even though Liverpool got past the god known as Messi, now they have to go up against the Cinderella story of Tottenham. They were down and out after the first half of the second leg, but they didn’t give up. Thanks to a hat trick from Lucas Moura, Tottenham advanced from the semifinals to face off against Liverpool.

Even though Tottenham seems like Cinderella team, they have enough talent to go up against Liverpool. Their offensive firepower is there. Harry Kane might be hurt now, but I’ve read that there might be a possibility he could play in the final. However, bringing in Harry Kane takes away all of the great things one of the Tottenham’s other players, Son Heung-Min, can do. Dele Alli and Lucas Moura are also great players which could help Tottenham against the Liverpool defense, and when the Liverpool fullbacks are pushing up, that would be a perfect time to counter against them.

The Tottenham defense has some good players as well. Toby Alderweireld and Jan Vertonghen are good center backs, but they can make mistakes sometimes. Kieran Trippier is a weakness for them, and expect Liverpool to exploit that.

Another weakness can be Tottenham goalkeeper Hugo Lloris. Lloris has great games as well as bad games, but he is, overall, a good goalkeeper. He’s not going to win you the game, but he also won’t lose the game for you.

Overall, this will be a wildly intriguing Champions League final. These two teams have played each other twice this season, so they know what to expect. That might mean one of the teams could show something different or go full tilt. My prediction for the final will be 2-1 Liverpool, with one goal from Jordan Henderson, Mo Salah and Son Heung-Min. No matter what happens, however, this will be a fun game to watch.

VIA WIKIPEDIA COMMONS
BG Spotlight: Katie Warchol

Chelsea Schroeder
Falcon Communications

Katie Warchol is a graduate from BGSU, and is now a Senior Social Media Specialist at ProMedica, where she represents the brand on a corporate level.

Warchol graduated from the university in 2008 with a major in broadcast journalism. During her junior year at the university, she started working at the weekend assignment desk at WTOL and stayed for three and a half years. Warchol was also a freelance writer for Toledo.com, where she covered arts and entertainment.

Soon, Toledo.com offered Warchol a full-time position writing articles, and she was given some social media clients to manage.

“This was a brand-new experience for me, but by applying my news-gathering skills, I learned to seek out what was ‘newsworthy’ at the companies I represented, built a network of reliable sources at each company who could provide me with content and even developed my own way of writing posts in a way that honored traditional writing styles,” Warchol said.

Warchol explained that her experience in journalism gave her a firm foundation for how to adapt to the latest trends and industry standards at the time. In 2011, she was offered a position as a Social Media Specialist at ProMedica, where she now currently holds the position of Senior Social Media Specialist.

“I’m responsible for translating ProMedica’s marketing and communications initiatives into engaging and informative content for our patients, visitors and community members,” Warchol said. “Sometimes that means helping people learn about heart attack symptoms and sometimes it means informing people about services and events.”

For Warchol, it is something new every day depending on what campaigns are active, the time of year or what is timely in the news. She also monitors public conversations for sentiment toward the brand and any trending topics.

“My favorite part of my job with ProMedica is my ability to make a direct impact on the health and well-being of the patients and communities we serve.”

— Katie Warchol —
Senior Social Media Specialist at ProMedica

“My favorite part of my job with ProMedica is my ability to make a direct impact on the health and well-being of the patients and communities we serve. The information I provide people every day could very well save a life, or at the very least, provide some valuable food for thought,” she said.

When asked what advice she has to BGSU students who are pursuing a career in public relations, journalism or a related field, Warchol has always believed writing was one of the most essential skills needed to excel in any field, and to not limit yourself in the field you think you want to enter.

“I never imagined a career in healthcare marketing could be so fascinating and rewarding,” she said.

In the future, Warchol said that it is hard to say where she sees herself, because new social networks will always begin, and older ones will go out of style.

“Facebook was just taking off my freshman year, and social media as a career didn’t exist even as I was preparing to graduate,” Warchol said. “Always be on the lookout for how you can use the foundation of your major with new concepts, there just might be a demand for a field you never considered.”

PHOTO PROVIDED BY KATIE WARCHOL

Warchol

KNOW YOUR DATE
FALL 2019 REGISTRATION

April 8 | Graduate Students
April 9 | Seniors
April 11 | Juniors
April 16 | Sophomores
April 17 | Freshmen
April 19 | Open Registration

bgsu.edu/nowyourdate
College campuses struggle against mumps outbreaks

Marianne Vanderbeke
Reporter

A mumps outbreak at Temple University has over 100 students fighting the illness and thousands of others lining up for a measles, mumps and rubella vaccine, according to Delaware Online. Are students on the BGSU campus immune from the possibility of a similar outbreak?

The Center for Disease Control explains college campuses are ideal breeding grounds for viral illness like the mumps, with students living in close quarters and not always practicing anti-germ precautions. There’s also a concern about the vaccinations in the target age demographic.

“There is a little bit of concern for that age demographic, because vaccine handling procedures have changed, especially recently,” said Sara Bednarski, BGSU director of communications, explained BGSU does not have a vaccination requirement for attendance.

“At BGSU, we ask students to self-report vaccinations and immunizations. While we don’t have requirements, we do recommend Hepatitis B and Meningitis. This information is captured in the Housing portal,” she said.

Bednarski said they are ready for any outbreak Wood County may see. They recommended college students stay aware of the signs and symptoms of mumps.

“It’s pretty hard to miss. The swollen glands give it away. It isn’t like anything else you have ever seen,” Teeple said.

“Maybe some of those college students are losing their immunity to the mumps. It can happen. In an outbreak, they always recommend a booster,” said Kathy Teeple, RN, public health nurse for the Wood County Health Department.

While the efficacy of the MMR vaccine is relatively high — for mumps specifically it is 95%-97% after two doses — anyone born in the early 1990s is at a higher risk because vaccine handling was different. Teeple explains vaccines are fragile and require specific handling.

“But those practices may have been the cause of the CDC reported spike in mumps cases every five years since 2006, Briggs said. The last three years have seen a consistently high number of cases. There were between 5,000-6,000 cases in both 2016 and 2017, the highest number of cases since 2006. The data isn’t complete for 2018 or 2019 yet, but both have trends toward a high number of cases. Sara Bednarski, BGSU director of communications, explained BGSU does not have a vaccination requirement for attendance.

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“There is a little bit of concern for that age demographic, because vaccine handling procedures have changed, especially recently. So that age demographic, the vaccine may not have been stored or transported at proper temperatures. If the vaccine falls out of that range for even a short period of time it can affect vaccine efficacy,” WCHD epidemiologist Tyler Briggs said.

He added recently the control practices for transport and storage of vaccines have tightened. Now vaccines must be kept within a few degrees in temperature.

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Briggs and Teeple said they are ready for any outbreak Wood County may see. They recommended college students stay aware of the signs and symptoms of mumps.

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Briggs added some of the symptoms may mimic other viral illnesses and sometimes it makes early detection more difficult. It is harder to transmit than the measles, though.