If you're wondering if the computer at your desk will work when you turn it on next Jan. 3, the answer is something like this: Probably, but time will tell.

Ano-Marie Lancaster, vice provost for technology and chief information officer, and Toby Singer, executive director of Information Technology Services (ITS), said they believe the University will be ready for the dreaded Year 2000 computer "bug."

"Fear of the bug stems from the old programming practice of two digits representing a year, and thus, come January, computers reading "00" as 1900 and disrupting life as we know it.

With more than three years of work having gone into preventing such a disruption on campus, Lancaster and Singer don’t see it happening, at least not to a great extent.

"My guess is that our problems will be minimal," Singer said. There will no doubt be something imbedded in the system that "we just didn’t see," he said, but it should be minor and capable of being corrected quickly.

Both he and Lancaster conceded, however, that they’ll be relieved when the time comes—then goes, hopefully, unfortunately.

"I’ll feel better this time next year," Singer acknowledged, saying he fears a "million phone calls" when faculty and staff return to campus Jan. 3, 2000.

"It will be nice when it’s over," Lancaster agreed, citing the "great deal of anxiety" that dealing with the situation has caused.

But if there’s some consolation, the whole world has been faced with it, helping make information readily available, Singer said. And the upgrades it has forced both to hardware and software, while costing "hundreds of thousands" of dollars, have been beneficial beyond Y2K, Lancaster said.

"Many of the desktop systems that would have been problematic have been replaced. The remaining non-compliant systems will be upgraded or replaced this year," she said. In all, there are nearly 4,000 desktop systems on campus.

Meanwhile, conversion of all administrative software systems is expected to be complete by July, Singer said. A hardware inventory exists, and everyone will receive instructions telling what, if anything, they will need to do, Lancaster added. The "big issue," she said, is testing in administrative offices, where a testing schedule will be developed.

The old mainframe computer didn’t have sufficient capacity to handle testing along with everything else, so for this and other capacity issues, the University cut to a new mainframe recently. Singer said. A "volume test" is probable on Thanksgiving weekend, he said, noting that "the whole world is testing it like this."

There have also been Year 2000 issues involving network equipment. In August, a new switch was installed to replace three non-compliant routers. The transfer of all University buildings to the new switch is in progress.

The Y2K issue has been on Singer’s plate since he came to campus in 1995 from private business, where he was already "well into" dealing with it, Lancaster said.

He was "taken aback" that it wasn’t on the agenda when he arrived here, he said, adding that if work hadn’t begun then, "there would be no way we would be ready."

Singer was asked by Richard Conrad, director of then-computer services, to form a committee, which has met monthly for the last three years to make the necessary plans. Its members have included Richard Peper, internal auditing, and representatives from ITS and IBM, which Singer said was among the first organizations to put out a planning guide on the subject.

"It’s been a daunting task," said Lancaster, estimating that by the end of this year, more than $1 million worth of staff time will have been allocated to the project. And that’s time taken away from other things that have gone on the back burner as a result, she and Singer noted.

Presentations have been made to campus groups, Lancaster said, and further meetings are planned with administrative staff to, among other things, advise care about how their files are backed up.

Lancaster said they also want to get more information to people on campus about their home computers.

"If somebody’s got something they’re concerned about, they’ve got to tell us," Singer said, explaining that doing so now may help cut back on problems—and phone calls—later.

President extends Invitation to State of University speech

To the Campus Community:
Please join me for the State of the University Address on Tuesday, March 2
9:30 a.m. Coffee and fellowship
10 a.m. State of the University Address
103 Oslamp Hall

This event is an opportunity for us to reflect on the progress we have made as we approach the new century and as we move forward with our goal of becoming Ohio’s premier learning community. It will be an opportunity to pause in celebration of our many successes as we continue working together to realize the learning community ideal at Bowling Green State University. Please join me for this important discussion.

Through the wonders of technology, our colleagues at Firelands campus will be joining us through interactive video. The address will be broadcast live in residence halls and classrooms across campus, and closed-circuit television viewing is available in 113 Oslamp Hall. Moreover, the address will be videotaped and replayed on CCTV Channel 8 at the following times: March 2, 7 p.m.; March 3, noon and 6 p.m.; March 4, 9 a.m., noon and 8 p.m., and March 5, 9 a.m., noon and 3 p.m.

I look forward to seeing you on Tuesday, March 2, and encourage you to join in this gathering of the campus-wide community. If you need further information, please call my office at 2-0467.

Sincerely,
Sidney Ribeau, President

Presidents’ Day produces record turnout

The fourth annual Presidents’ Day program proved to be the most popular so far, with about 2,400 prospective students among the more than 6,500 visitors who came to campus. Hundreds of faculty and staff volunteers helped make the day a success. University Treasurer Gaylyn Finn (above left) talks to Michele Knapp and her mother Mary, of Doylestown, at the head of a line which stretched around the Perry Field House track. Helping Euclid High School student Holly Douglas with check-in (top right) is Lewl Sonnenberg, continuing education, international & summer programs. In the Student Union (bottom right), Jim Zentmeyer, residence life, discusses housing with (left to right) Marilyn Stegeman, her daughter Karyn and Chrrissie Harper. Karyn Stegeman and Harper are juniors at Seton High School in Cincinnati.
When Tim Breeding said he wanted to visit the University to recruit students for his information audit team at Southwest Airlines in Dallas, his boss had two questions: "Where is Bowling Green and why there?" I told him that when it comes to training information systems auditors, Bowling Green is a diamond in the rough," said Breeding, who also had never heard of BGSU until he began his effort to build an IS audit team at Southwest.

"I did all the usual things—headhunters, internal recruiters, ads in professional publications—but learned that information systems auditing is a tight field," he said. "There are very few people in the field and even fewer who are good at it.

Part of his strategy is to hire young people with IS audit skills who can "grow" into the profession. He began looking at colleges and universities across the country and became discouraged. There are only a small number of schools training IS auditors," he said.

Then he learned about BGSU's 5-year-old Information Systems auditing and control program.

"On paper it looked good and I wanted to go for myself," Breeding said. "I told my boss that if Bowling Green really had a IS audit program, we should develop some ties, because the students who will be graduating will have the exact skill sets we need.

Bowling Green was everything Breeding hoped it would be. He was particularly impressed with Alan Lord, Ernst & Young Professor of Accounting and Chair of the accounting and MIS department, who, along with Mark Asman, accounting and MIS, emeritus, is the driving force behind Bowling Green's ISAC program. The scholarship he received from the ISAC program不同 from the accounting and MIS specializations that students have taken in the past. We've had great cooperation from the computer science department in providing the courses our students require for the ISAC specialization, said Lord. "In fact, the cooperation from everyone—the department, the college and the faculty—has been key to the ISAC program's success.

BGSU graduate student among six to receive national scholarship

Brenda Mayo, a second-year doctoral student in educational administration and supervision (EDAS), is among six graduate students selected nationwide to receive the North Mole Educational Administration Scholarship from the American Association of School Administrators.

Mayo, of Napoleon, received the $2,000 award during the AASA National Conference on Education last week in New Orleans. The scholarship awards are designated for graduate students who aspire to be school superintendent.

Mayo was nominated by faculty in EDAS, where she is pursuing a doctoral degree in leadership studies. According to Eugene Sanders, department chair, Mayo "has extraordinary skills and will become an outstanding superintendent. She is highly motivated and strongly committed to the success of all students. Mayo is a magna cum laude graduate of St. Paul's College in Lawrenceville, Va., and holds a master's degree in education from the University of Virginia. She began her career in educational administration as a social studies teacher for the Henrico County Public Schools, IMG which she later became assistant principal of a middle school. She subsequently served as middle school principal for schools in Houston, Texas and Chesterfield, Va., and has more than 16 years of experience as a middle school administrator. In addition to her doctoral work, Mayo teaches an undergraduate class in school organization at the University.

Family Campaign: Q&A

Q: What is the Family Campaign?
A: The Family Campaign is for everyone who is directly or indirectly tied to Bowling Green State University. "Family" incorporates all staff from all of the colleges and University departments, from academic affairs, the president's office, financial affairs, student affairs and University advancement.

Q: How can I be a part of the Family Campaign?
A: There are about 35 faculty and staff members of Bowling Green's family who are serving as campaign liaisons for all the academic and administrative units on campus. Look for the liaison in your area and ask how you can volunteer, or contact Suzanne Sopa, development, at ssopa@bgnet.bgsu.edu. You can identify campaign liaisons by the bright yellow sign outside their workplace.

Q: If I give to the Family Campaign, where will my gift go?
A: The priority project is the "Family Room" of the soon-to-be-renovated and expanded Student Union. But your gift to the University can be given to any area that is of importance to you! There are more than 1,300 programs at BGSU to which donors can make gifts. No matter what course or program you believe in, it is probably right here at the University. A complete booklet of all programs is available by contacting Sopa or any steering committee member.

Q: How much will I have to give to be a part of the campaign?
A: The goal of the Family Campaign is 100 percent participation! There is no specific dollar amount required for a gift. Anything that you can give back to the University (and its students) is an important contribution to the campaign.

Q: Why will my gift make a difference?
A: The Family Campaign allows all of Bowling Green's family to give to the area where they want to make an impact. The action of volunteering or providing a gift is ensuring the success and excellence of our University's future. Any investment in the University is an investment in its students, and can only make it stronger.

I was intrigued with the Monitor's recent article on the (Student) Recreation Center. I was there and remember well how much it was needed. Students were frustrated by the lack of facilities, and had to "make do" with two gymnasiums. And then Dr. (Heils) Moore, president of the University, announced that if 7,000 signatures could be procured, he would "back the project." That was all that was needed. Faculty and students came together to write petitions and procure signatures. Recreation majors walked the campus with paper and pens, gathering those needed names. But it was "slow going" until someone thought of "hanging out" at the two gymnasiums and catching people as they came to shoot baskets. But even more successful was getting signatures of those who sat in the balconies, studying, or sleeping. I joined others who came to "get names." Many a sleeper was awakened long enough to hear our speedy message and "sign the paper." Frankly, we weren't sure how much they understood but they procured peace (and more sleep) when they signed.

It is always great to win success. We were successful in a project which is still around. Enjoy!

Agnes M. Hooley
Professor emerita, physical education and recreation
Gibsonia, Pa.
Library to dedicate Davison collection, mark pop culture library anniversary

No less than a Dixieland jazz band will be paying a musical salute to Defiance native and famed cornetist "Wild Bill" Davison March 19 at Jerome Library.

Tom Saunders of Grosse Pointe, Mich., and his jazz ensemble will provide musical entertainment reminiscent of Davison's popular style from 4-6 p.m. that Friday in the library lobby.

In addition to hearing some of the finest Dixieland music around, visitors will be able to see special displays in the main lobby and in the music library, which is located on the third floor.

The entertainment and displays are part of the activities planned to celebrate the 30th anniversary of the creation of the nationally known Popular Culture Library, and to officially dedicate the "Wild Bill" Davison Collection which is now part of the University's holdings, according to Linda Donec, head of Libraries and Learning Resources.

"Wild Bill" Davison was born in 1906 and raised in Defiance. Not only did he have one of the longest careers in jazz history—it spanned some 70 years—but he also was considered one of jazz's most charismatic figures.

His 80th birthday was proclaimed "Wild Bill" Davison Day in Defiance. The same year, Japanese jazz lovers named him "A Living National Treasure." He made more than 800 recordings between 1924 and his death in 1989 at age 83.

The Davison collection contains some 400 records, 1,000 of the "New Face" of the Business Writing Process. Bonnie Fink, English, will lead the business writing session.

The 10:45 a.m. sessions are "Managing a Crisis Situation in a University Setting: What to Do if Taken Hostage," "Eye of the Tornado: Yoga in the Workplace," and "What is the #1? Are You Talking About." Leading the latter session will be Gregg DeCrane and Amy O'Donnell, both student life advisors. Enrollment is limited. To register, or for more information, call the continuing education office (2-8181).
Union to host Irish dance Saturday

To Dance Irish, a day of activities devoted to traditional folk dance, is planned Saturday Feb. 27 in the Student Union's Community Suite.

Free activities will include a workshop for teachers, the premiere of a new video about Irish dance, a dance workshop and a concert featuring traditional Irish music and dance.

A workshop will be offered from 9:30 a.m.-noon to introduce primary and secondary school teachers to Irish dance traditions and offer suggestions for incorporating these materials into social studies, writing, music and movement curricula.

Workshop leaders include Lucy Long, popular culture, folklorist and ethnomusicologist; Deborah Tell, human movement, sport and leisure studies, and coordinator of the University's dance program; and Lynne Hamer, a folklorist and education faculty member at the University of Toledo.

A highlight of the day will be the premiere of a documentary video on a local Irish dancing school, which will be followed by a lecture by Mick Moloney, a Philadelphia folklorist and musician who has written extensively on Irish-American traditions.

Kitty Hertzman, who has taught ceilidh dance classes in Detroit for almost 30 years, and Frank Hall, an anthropologist who has studied and written about traditional Irish music and dance, will give a dance workshop from 4-6 p.m.

Capping the day will be a traditional Irish music and dance concert at 8 p.m. featuring Moloney, fiddler Marie Reilly of New York City and pupils of Hertzman School of Irish Dance.

Advance registration is not required but notification of planned attendance is requested. Those planning to attend should contact Long at either 2-2981 or lucy@pobox.bgsu.edu.

The day of activities is being sponsored by the University, WBGU-TV and the Ohio Humanities Council with support from the Toledo Irish-American Club.

Friday, Feb. 26

Public Skating, 11:30 a.m.-12:45 p.m., Ice Arena. "Cheap Skate" admission is $2.

Men's and Women's Indoor Track and Field host Mid-American Conference Championships, noon, Perry Field House.

Lecture, by Tom Palmer, director of the Project on Civil Society at the CATO Institute, on "Cosmopolitanism and Democratic Justice," 3 p.m., 301 Skatch Hall. The free lecture is sponsored by the Social Philosophy & Policy Center.

Public Skating, 3:30-5:30 p.m., Ice Arena. Students, $2; others ages 13-older, $3.

Bowling Green Opera Theatre presents "Susannah," 8 p.m., Kobacker Hall, Moore Musical Arts Center. Tickets are $12, $10 and $8 for adults and $5 for students at the door. To order tickets, call 2-8171.

Campus Film, "The Toy," 8 p.m. and 11 p.m., Olscamp Hall. Admission is $2. Two tickets may be purchased with one ID.

Saturday, Feb. 27

"To Dance Irish," a day of activities devoted to traditional Irish folk music and dance, 9:30 a.m., Community Suite, Student Union. Free. For more information, call Lucy Long, popular culture, at 2-2981.

Men's and Women's Indoor Track and Field host MAC Championships, 11 a.m., Ferry Field House.

Campus Film, "The Toy," 8 p.m. and 11 p.m., Olscamp Hall. Admission is $2. Two tickets may be purchased with one ID.

Bowling Green Opera Theatre presents "Susannah," 8 p.m., Kobacker Hall, Moore Musical Arts Center. Tickets are $12, $10 and $8 for adults and $5 for students at the door. To order tickets, call 2-8171.

Sunday, Feb. 28

Undergraduate Student Art and Design Exhibitions, opening reception, 2-4 p.m., Dorothy Uber Bryan and William Wankelman galleries, Fine Arts Center. Free. The exhibitions will continue through March 30 except during spring break. March 6-14. Hours are 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday and 2-5 p.m. Sunday.

Concert, by Lance Ashmore, baritone, and Pamela Ashmore, piano, 6 p.m., Bryan Recital Hall, Moore Musical Arts Center. Free.

Public Skating, 7-10 p.m., Ice Arena. Students, $2; others ages 13-older, $3.

Continuing Events

Through March 5

BGSU Planetarium, "Is This The End of the World?" Tuesdays and Fridays, 8 p.m.; Sundays, 7:30 p.m. $1 donation.