BGSU students, faculty study harmful algae in Celina

Grand Lake St. Mary's in Celina is a tranquil spot, but forget about taking a cool dip in the water. The algae that gives the lake its blue-green cast could make you sick. A research team led by BGSU biologists Drs. Michael McKay and George Bullerjahn is studying why this type of algae is growing here and what can be done to encourage the growth of a less toxic form. “Something is happening in the lake causing the growth of this particular algae,” said Ben Beall, a postdoctoral research associate from Alberta, Canada. “It causes a layer of scum to form on top of the water and even contains toxins, which led to a ban on swimming.”

The experiment is a collaboration between BGSU, the city of Celina and Algaeventure Systems. The company wants to know if a different type of algae called diatoms can be grown. Diatom algae can be used for biofuel and would also help improve fishing on the lake. The researchers are hoping they can manipulate the nutrient content of the water to stimulate diatom growth.

The site is marked with a large sign proclaiming it a “Grand Lake Ecosystem Experiment.” Several large containers with mesh tops float along the lakeshore, each containing a mini-lake environment. Two of them are control samples while the others contain different combinations of nitrates, phosphates and silica. Nitrate and phosphate are found naturally in the lake.

Katrina Thomas, a marine biology junior from St. Mary’s, heard about the project from McKay, who is her advisor. He asked her to join the project after learning she was from the area. “It’s been a great experience, and I’ve learned a lot about how to use the lab,” Thomas said. “Plus, I never knew there was harmful algae out there that can cause serious damage to your body.”

Thomas is called the “master sampler.” Using a long stick with a cup attached to the end, she stirs the water inside the container before scooping up a sample and transferring it to a clear plastic jar.

She takes the sample across the street to a lab inside the Celina Water Treatment Plant, where she sends it through a microfilter, leaving the nutrients behind. Thomas freezes the filters, adds a chemical to the filtered water and then puts the sample in a refrigerator to be taken back to BGSU.

Once at BGSU, Beall and others analyze the samples for water chemistry. They see how much nutrient is left and if it changed any property of the water. They also look at the type of organisms that have grown and the number of them in the water.

Beall says the first stage of the experiment was successful and showed it is possible to manipulate the lake water. They are still analyzing the data to determine the nutrients’ effect.

Thomas remembers swimming in the lake when she was a child and says it wasn’t so bad. “Now I want to help turn it around to how it used to be.”

Family Campaign participation at all-time high

BGSU faculty, staff and retirees showed their support of the annual Family Campaign this year with a whopping 58 percent participation rate – the highest rate since the internal fundraising campaign was started in 1999. With the completion of this year’s effort on June 30, the Family Campaign has raised more than $10 million since its inception.
In addition to surpassing last year's participation rate by almost 3 percent, this year's campaign raised $686,000, exceeding the goal of $675,000 by more than 1.5 percent.

"During such challenging economic times, this success is absolutely phenomenal," said Marcia Sloan Latta, interim vice president for University advancement. "It speaks so well to how generous are employees are and how strongly they feel about the mission of the University."

Kari Johnson, who has represented the University Libraries for four years on the Family Campaign steering committee, credits the campaign's success to the strong network of volunteers.

"The committee and the volunteers within the colleges, departments and programs work tirelessly all year to educate the campus community and encourage their colleagues to support the campaign," Johnson said. "We are so fortunate to have people on this campus who support scholarships, programs and initiatives that benefit our students."

Offices to move to accommodate Conklin residents

The upcoming arrival of the second-largest incoming freshman class in the University's history has necessitated re-activating Conklin North as a residence hall. This in turn means that the services that occupy the top three floors of Conklin must be relocated.

The Counseling Center will be relocated to the College Park Office Building. The Career Center, Co-ops and Internships, Student Employment, TRIO Programs, Multicultural Affairs and Residence Life will move to the area formerly occupied by the Ogg Science Library in the Mathematical Sciences Building.

Some minor renovations are needed to accomplish the moves; some are already under way.

A major focus of the recently approved campus Master Plan is the long-term goal of locating in the heart of campus the academic functions of students and faculty and those services that directly support the University's academic mission and student success. However, there will have to be many interim moves as the campus progresses toward this goal, and administrative and other users may need to temporarily occupy space in central campus.

Huron Playhouse ends season with visit to 'State Fair'

Enjoy an evening of wonderful characters and unforgettable music in the Americana musical "State Fair," the final production of the season at the Huron Playhouse. "State Fair" runs Tuesday-Saturday (July 27-31).

Rodgers and Hammerstein's only musical written directly for the screen was later adapted for the Broadway stage and features an Academy Award-winning film score. Set against the colorful backdrop of an American heartland tradition, "State Fair" travels with the Frake family as they leave behind the routine of the farm for three days of adventure at the annual Iowa State Fair. Mom and Pop have their hearts set on blue ribbons while their daughter and son find romance and adventure on the midway.

Ticket prices are $16 for adults, $14 for students and senior citizens, and $11 for children under 12. Curtain time is 8 p.m. nightly. For reservations and further information, contact the playhouse at 419-433-4744. The box office at the McCormick School, 325 Ohio St. in Huron, is open from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Friday and from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday.
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IN BRIEF

Jazz group New York Voices to perform

Area audiences will have the opportunity to enjoy the unique vocal style and harmonies of the New York Voices when the a cappella group returns to BGSU next week. They will be giving three concerts, at 8 p.m. Aug. 3, 5 and 7, in Bryan Recital Hall of the Moore Musical Arts Center. The concerts complement the vocal jazz camp taught by members of the multiple Grammy Award-winning ensemble that week.

In a joint concert on Aug. 3, members Peter Eldridge and Lauren Kinhan will perform material from their solo recordings. Bass vocalist Eldridge will preview songs from his soon-to-be released “Mad Heaven,” while Kinhan will debut her just-released project “Avalon” to the Bowling Green audience. Tickets are $5, payable in cash at the door.

On Aug. 5, founding members Kim Nazarian and Darmon Meader will perform together. In addition to singing, both also arrange the group’s musical selections. Tickets are $5, payable in cash at the door.

The entire New York Voices ensemble will present the Saturday evening, Aug. 7, concert. Rejoining the group will be West Coast vocal entrepreneur Greg Jasperse, who continues to make his mark as an ensemble and solo vocalist in a cappella, vocal jazz and other vocal groups. Tickets are $15, payable in cash at the door or reserved by e-mailing info@BGSUjazz.com.

Help support scholarships for women at AAUW event

The Bowling Green Branch of AAUW is hosting a scholarship fund-raising event at the Clazel in downtown Bowling Green on Aug. 12. A wine and hors d’oeuvre reception will be held from 6-7 p.m., followed by rhythm and blues entertainment from 7-11 p.m. The event will benefit Bowling Green’s scholarship program for women in the local community.

Each year, the Bowling Green branch provides scholarships to two nontraditional Wood County female residents age 25 years or older. The branch also sends two middle school girls from the Wood County area to Camp BE WISE, a residential math, science and technology camp for girls entering the 7th or 8th grade.

AAUW (formerly known as the American Association of University Women) is a nationwide network of more than 100,000 members and donors, 1,000 branches, and 500 college/university institution partners. For more than 128 years, AAUW members have examined and taken positions on the fundamental issues of the day: educational, social, economic and political. AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research.

Tickets can be purchased at the Clazel website at http://www.clazel.com/ or from an AAUW member until Aug. 7.

CALENDAR

Monday, July 26

Sundaes on Mondays, free ice cream, noon-1 p.m., Falcon’s Nest, Bowen-Thompson Student Union.

Center for Teaching and Learning Workshop, “Integrating Your Courses with BGSU Learning Outcomes and Core Values,” 3:30-4:30 p.m., 201 University Hall. Register online at http://www.bgsu.edu/ctl/page74987.html.

Friday, July 30

Center for Teaching and Learning Workshop, “Active Learning and Problem-based
Learning Strategies,” 9-10 a.m., 201 University Hall. Register online at http://www.bgsu.edu/ctl/page68946.html.

Continuing Events
July 27-31
Summer Theater, “Rodgers and Hammerstein’s State Fair,” 8 p.m. nightly, Huron Playhouse, McCormick School, 325 Ohio Street, Huron. Tickets are $14 for students and senior citizens, $16 for other adults, $11 for children under 12, and $13 for groups of 15 or more. For reservations, call 419-433-4744.

JOB POSTINGS

FACULTY

Family and Consumer Sciences. Instructor (two positions). Call Deborah Wooldridge, 2-7851. Deadlines: August 1 and August 6, respectively.


Labor Postings
http://international.bgsu.edu/index.php?x=facinfohire

Contact the Office of Human Resources at 419-372-8421 for information regarding classified and administrative positions. Position vacancy announcements may be viewed by visiting the HR website at http://www.bgsu.edu/offices/ohr/.

Employees wishing to apply for these positions must sign a “Request for Transfer” form and attach an updated resume or data sheet. This information must be turned in to Human Resources by the job deadline.

CLASSIFIED

On-campus classified:
http://www.bgsu.edu/offices/ohr/employment/BGSU_only/page11151.html

Off-campus classified:
http://www.bgsu.edu/offices/ohr/employment/cl_staff/page11145.html

ADMINISTRATIVE

http://www.bgsu.edu/offices/ohr/employment/adm_staff/page11137.html

OBITUARY

Beverly Kline-Hill, 70, died July 21 in Findlay. She was a cook for campus sororities Kappa Delta, for 12 years, and Delta Zeta, for two years.