Baseball and American identity focus of new book

Long considered America’s “national pastime,” baseball can also be used to define the country’s identity post-9/11 and during the ongoing War on Terror. That’s the focus of a new book by Dr. Michael Butterworth, School of Communication Studies. *Baseball and the Rhetorics of Purity* was published last month by the University of Alabama Press.

“It’s a project that goes back to when I started my doctoral studies in 2002,” explained Butterworth. “As a lifelong baseball fan I paid attention to the game no matter what, but like any other American I was riveted by what happened on Sept. 11, 2001. I found myself watching what happened with baseball when it resumed play six days later. The initial response I thought was compelling and it made sense. Baseball brought people together and served a healing function; it’s the best part of what sports can do. But the following summer I was struck by how quickly the response in the nation had changed from a come-together message to a belligerent, ‘let’s go get them’ message – ‘you’re with us or against us.’”

Butterworth says in-game ceremonies that initially honored those who lost their lives quickly turned to celebrating the military and the ongoing war efforts in the Middle East. “Baseball and sports in general, because of the mythology and identity as America’s pastime, became a symbolic place for Americans to come together and pound the drumbeat toward war.”

The book looks at steroids in baseball — the mention of it in President George W. Bush’s 2004 State of the Union address and the subsequent congressional investigations. Butterworth also explores the National Baseball Hall of Fame traveling exhibit, “Baseball as America,” the return of baseball to Washington, D.C., after 9/11 and the creation of the World Baseball Classic, a move he says showed Major League Baseball’s “imperialism,” an accusation also leveled against the United States for its policy the Middle East.

*Baseball and the Rhetorics of Purity* is available on Amazon and through the University of Alabama Press.

IN BRIEF

Faculty, staff offered discount Toledo Opera tickets

Toledo Opera invites BGSU faculty and staff to purchase discounted tickets for the company’s production of “The Rake’s Progress,” playing at 8 p.m. Friday, Nov. 12, and at 3 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 14, at the Valentine Theatre.

In Igor Stravinsky’s opera, the hero, Tom Rakewell, signs a pact with the devil to trade his simple country life and his devoted sweetheart for an exciting life in the city, only to end up broke, insane and married to the bearded lady from the local fair.

Tickets are offered to BGSU employees at a 20 percent discount. Call the box office at 419-255-7464, ext. 1, and identify yourself as a faculty or staff member. You may also buy tickets by clicking on discounted tickets and follow the drop-down menu under “discount.” For more information, contact the Toledo Opera at 419-255-7464.

Auditions set for Caryl Crane Children’s Theatre

Caryl Crane Children’s Theatre is holding open auditions for its upcoming production of the musical “Children’s Letters to God” as well as the theatre’s Teen Board production of “I’m
Dreaming of a BROADWAY Christmas," in the McBride Auditorium, BGSU Firelands. Auditions will be held from 5-7 p.m. Nov. 11 and Nov. 12 and from 9 a.m. to noon Nov. 13 in the McBride Auditorium. Both productions will be directed by CCCT Artistic Director Brian Marshall.

All roles are available for both productions. Actors, singers and dancers ages 10 through adult are needed. All children must be 10 by Jan. 1 to be considered.

Audition preparation: Prepare two short musical theatre selections of contrasting styles; bring sheet music in the correct key. An accompanist will be provided. You may be asked to read from the script. Scripts will be provided at audition.

Rehearsals for "Children's Letters to God" will begin in early January. Roles are available for strong singers and actors. Performances are scheduled for Feb. 24, 25 and 26, and March 3, 4 and 5.

Teens and adults are sought for "I'm Dreaming of a BROADWAY Christmas!" a cabaret-style extravaganza featuring holiday songs from Broadway and the movies. Rehearsals will begin this month. Performances are Dec. 17 and Dec. 18.

More information is available by calling Brian Marshall at 2-0642, emailing mbrian@bgsu.edu, or visiting at www.firelands.bgsu.edu/arts/ccct.

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**CALENDAR**

**Monday, Nov. 1**

**ARTalks 100@100 Alumni Lecture,** "With Space in Mind," with digital and new media artist Erwin Redl, 7 p.m., 1101 Fine Arts Center. The talk is also part of the Architecture Lecture Series.

**Center for Teaching and Learning Workshop,** "Deep Learning: Can You Make It Happen?" 3-4 p.m., 201 University Hall. Register online at http://www.bgsu.edu/ctl/page75113.html.

**Concert,** featuring guest artist Yehonatan Berick, violin, and Laura Melton, piano, 8 p.m., Bryan Recital Hall, Moore Musical Arts Center.

**Tuesday, Nov. 2**

**EcoBreak Seminar,** with Steve Gauthier, 11:30 a.m., 332 Life Sciences. Hosted by the Department of Biological Sciences.

**Tuesdays at the Gish Film Series,** "The Thin Man" (U.S. 1934), 7:30 p.m., Gish Film Theater, Hanna Hall.

**Concert,** featuring Horn Choir, 8 p.m., Bryan Recital Hall, Moore Musical Arts Center.

**Wednesday, Nov. 3**

**Center for Teaching and Learning Workshop,** "A Call to Advocacy from the YWCA

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H.O.P.E. Center and Battered Women's Shelter," 9:30-10:30 a.m., 201 University Hall. Register online at http://www.bgsu.edu/ctl/page11755.html.


**Biology Seminar,** "Round Goby Putative Pheromones: Chemical Identification and Olfactory Properties," by Alyson Laframboise, University of Windsor Life Sciences Institute, 3:30-4:30 p.m., 112 Life Sciences.

**Women's Basketball vs. Findlay (Exhibition),** 7:00 p.m., Anderson Arena.

**Thursday, Nov. 4**

**Center for Teaching and Learning Workshop,** "Championship Teaching: Lessons from Lemov," 9-10 a.m., 201 University Hall. Register online at http://www.bgsu.edu/ctl/page11755.html.

International Film Festival, "Dieci inverni (Ten Winters)," Italy 2009, 7:30 p.m., Gish Film Theater, Hanna Hall.

MFA Reading, with Melissa Shaner, poetry, and Jessica Vozel, fiction, 7:30 p.m., Prout Chapel.

Concert, featuring Jazz Lab Band I, 8 p.m., Kobacker Hall.

Friday, Nov. 5

Women's Professional Development Series, "Serving Those Who Serve Their Country," presented by Dr. Brett Holden, Veteran Assessment and Service Team; Jane Krueger, U.S. Department of Veterans' Affairs, and veteran Manda Hicks, doctoral student, Media and Communication, 1:30-3 p.m., Women's Center, 107 Hanna Hall.

Center for Teaching and Learning Workshop, "The Ethics of Teaching," 3-4 p.m., 201 University Hall. Register online at http://www.bgsu.edu/ctl/page11755.html.

Psychology Department Friday Afternoon Lecture Series, with Bob Lord, University of Akron, 3:30 p.m., 108 Psychology Building.

Hockey vs. Notre Dame, 7:05 p.m., Ice Arena.

Saturday, Nov. 6

Men's Basketball vs. Adrian (Exhibition), 2 p.m., Anderson Arena.

Hockey vs. Notre Dame, 7:05 p.m., Ice Arena.

Sunday, Nov. 7

Concert, featuring guest artist Paul Barnes, piano, 3 p.m., Bryan Recital Hall.

Sunday Matinee, "Teacher's Pet" (1958, U.S.), with Doris Day and Clark Gable, 3 p.m., Gish Film Theater, Hanna Hall.

Monday, Nov. 8

ARTalks 100@100 Alumni Lecture, "Recent Works," with Jason Dziak, creative director, 5:30 p.m., 206 Bowen-Thompson Student Union.

Center for Teaching and Learning Workshop, "Foster Significant Learning Using Integrated Course Design," 2:30-3:30 p.m., 201 University Hall.

Through Nov. 6

Art Exhibition, featuring the work of Erwin Redl, digital and new media artist, Willard Wankelman Gallery, Fine Arts Center. Gallery hours are 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday, 6-9 p.m. Thursdays, and 1-4 p.m. Sundays.

Nov. 7 - Dec. 8

Planetarium Show, "Cowboy Astronomer." Shows at 7:30 p.m. Sundays; 8 p.m. Tuesdays and Fridays, and 2 p.m. Saturdays. $1 donation suggested.

Through Nov. 12

Art Exhibit, "The BGSU Gallery of Centennial Facts," Union Art Gallery. Gallery hours are 8 a.m.-9 p.m. Monday-Saturday and 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Sundays.

JOB POSTINGS

FACULTY


Labor Postings

http://international.bgsu.edu/index.php?x=facinfohires

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/.
Top Stories

In Brief

Calendar

> Job Postings

> Obituaries

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

There were no obituaries this week.