2-11-2016

The BG News February 11, 2016

Bowling Green State University

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New Hampshire Caucus Results

While looking at the results, faculty encourage students to register to vote for the Ohio primaries in week | PAGE 2

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Miriam Justinger talks career with falcon basketball PAGE 13

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New Hampshire pulls staggering results

By ERIKA HECK
In Focus Editor

After losing to former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton in the Democratic Iowa Caucuses by a slight 0.2 percent, Vermont Senator Bernie Sanders won the New Hampshire primary Tuesday night by nearly 20 percent.

With 60 percent of the Democratic vote, Sanders accredited high voter turnout for having a hand in his victory.

Among all voters under the age of 30 Sanders beat Clinton by a whopping 84-15 percent margin.

On the Republican side, businessman Donald Trump won 35 percent of the vote and Ohio governor John Kasich came in second with 16 percent, according to an exit poll done by CNN.

According to this same exit poll, Trump was the top pick for a majority of voters who are under the age of 64.

While it's unsure if college students will vote more in this election than in previous years, Jackson says we may not know for sure if young voters are showing up in higher numbers.

Film Production major Nicole Bogdanobic hopes that more students come out and vote.

“I just feel like a lot of people...think that this stuff just doesn't apply to them, but it does,” she said. “I hope there's a greater population of people voting.”

Jackson pointed out though that things in elections change fast.

According to the exit poll done by ABC News, Bernie Sanders has most of the white vote and Clinton has the most of the non-white vote.

Jackson also recommended that if students do register to vote, they should register to Wood County while attending Bowling Green State University.

“If you plan to be a student here for four years, you’re basically going to spend 36 out of 48 months of the next four years living in Bowling Green,” he said. “There's always this thought that students have: 'Yeah, well I'll go home to vote...'. It's too easy to skip over and forget.”

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Frieda in a new light

By Jessica Fix
Reporter

Brown feathers, big eyelashes, orange Chuck Taylor shoes and a hair bow to match describes one of the University's mascots, Frieda Falcon. But the student inside Frieda's suit is described much differently. The identities of this year's Friedas are still unknown, yet one of last year's Friedas is prominent across campus today.

Maren Legg, senior gerontology major and 2014-15 Frieda Falcon, is a young lady with a round face curtained by her long, flowing, dark-blonde hair. Her ever-present smile spreads widely across her face, raising her rosy cheeks and putting a twinkle in her hazel eyes. She gives off the warmth and compassion of a teddy bear.

According to Legg's mother, Karen Glick, she is a genuinely caring individual deeply passionate about the University and its students and alumni. Being Frieda was one way Legg showed her passion for the University and voluntarily shared her time to give back to it.

She grew up in Bowling Green, so she was familiar with Freddie and Frieda and their importance to the University before becoming a student. Glick recalled her daughter's enjoyment in watching Freddie and Frieda take pictures with students and kids. It was then that she recognized a specialness in the mascots' part in making memories at the University.

"Maren was a great Frieda, because she is the epitome of BGSU spirit and pride," Glick said.

Legg said she was inspired to audition for Frieda because she felt a deep-rooted connection to the University and its traditions and being Frieda connected her to those even more.

"When I stepped into that suit, I was Frieda, not Maren," Legg said.

She represented not only tradition and spirit for the University, but also a face for the community. She said one of her favorite memories as Frieda was a surprise birthday party for a four-year old girl, during which she and Freddie played musical chairs with children.

Another of her favorite aspects of being Frieda was the relationships she developed with her "secret sibs," or the other students who wore the Freddie and Frieda suits. Each year, there are two sets of Freddie and Frieda. They were always there to support one another in their endeavors to raise school spirit.

Legg said one of the most challenging aspects of being Frieda was not being able to share her experiences with others openly. She had to bear on her own the physical and mental stress of being a student focused on classes and other activities, all the while being Frieda at the same time.

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“Maren juggled so many things while she was Frieda ... and yet she gave it everything she could,” Glick said.
While being Frieda Falcon, she worked in the Office of Admissions as a Student Tour Coordinator. Maren’s supervisor in this position, Brittany Scott, said Legg is driven and puts her full heart into everything she does.

“Maren will never do anything half-way,” Scott said. “She will always give everything 110 percent.”
Scott said the other student and full-time employees of the Office of Admissions were shocked by Legg’s reveal as Frieda.
In the office, she showed a driven, serious and professional personality, rather than the extremely bubbly, energized and outgoing personality expressed by Frieda. Knowing her love for the University though, they understood how she could express Frieda’s spirit.

“(Maren) embodies what BGSU stands for. She truly bleeds orange and brown,” Scott said.
Legg said she was nervous for her own reveal, but is now excited to be on the other side of the reveal this year. She is looking forward to celebrating the hard work and successes of the current Freddie and Frieda.
Tears of pride and joy welled up in her eyes, as she thought about the impact the reveal will have for her “baby birds.”

According to the University’s History and Traditions webpage, the secret identity of the students in the suits has been a tradition since the birth of Freddie, in 1950, and Frieda, in 1966.

Many years later, the tradition is still upheld, with the individuals revealed at basketball games in the Spring semester. At both the mens and womens basketball games this Saturday, Feb. 13, the 2015-16 Freedies and Friedas will be revealed.

“The heart and soul of being Freddie and Frieda is not for personal recognition or glory, but to give back to the University in a selfless, sacrificial and humble way,” Legg said.
Although she is no longer Frieda Falcon, she continues to find ways to show her spirit. She is still a Student Tour Coordinator in the Office of Admissions and currently a student of the Honors College. In addition, she is a leader and intern at H20 Church and intern at Hospice of Northwest Ohio.

She wears orange and brown on Falcon Fridays and never misses an opportunity to chant “Ay Ziggy Zoomba.”
Spinoffs, reboots spin out of control

Rebooting old TV shows has quickly become a popular trend. With the recent releases of “Heroes: Reborn” on NBC and “The X Files” on Fox, along with “Fuller House” and “Gilmore Girls” making new episodes on Netflix, it seems like there isn’t a shortage of people who want to draw in the dedicated fans of old shows to drive up the ratings.

However, is it getting to the point where any older show will get a chance at a reboot or a spinoff?

Maybe, and that’s where everything falls apart.

First off, I can’t believe I just typed that sentence. I love TV. I’m a hardcore fan of so many shows. When “Fuller House” premieres on Netflix at the end of the month, I’m curling up in bed to watch it and not doing anything else that weekend. I (almost) cried tears of joy when I found out the “Gilmore Girls” reunion was confirmed at the end of January.

Once the initial excitement wore off, I began to think long and hard about the last time I got excited about a spinoff of a TV show and I remember how disappointed I was in the first episode.

Let’s flashback to June of 2014 when Disney Channel’s “Girl Meets World” premiered. I can’t remember if I had a lunch or dinner shift at my summer job that day but I knew I was going to watch the show when it aired. I’d spent months reading any little morsel I could about the spinoff. I was excited for the show to start, even if I had some trepidation due to the show playing on Disney Channel. Honestly, I didn’t care. The original creators were coming back to the show; what could go wrong?

I thought the first episode was fine. After so many years off the air and only getting repeat episodes of “Boy Meets World” on ABC Family, it was great to see Cory and Topanga, still together and reminding me that fictional love still does exist.

The episode was missing something. The titular girl, Riley Matthews, was nowhere near as cool as her dad was in high school and college. Seeing Cory and Topanga all grown up with kids of their own and being actual adults was weird, even though I’d braced myself for it since the news of the spinoff was announced.

It all came down to one thing: it wasn’t the same.

That’s what makes me nervous about the upcoming “Gilmore Girls” revival.

While the revival might be better than the last season of the show (it’s a well-known fact that the original show creators left the show before the start of the final season) because creator and dialogue genius Amy Sherman-Palladino and her husband, Daniel Palladino, are back to work on the show, I wonder how much of the show will still be the same, especially since Gilmore family patriarch Edward Herrmann died at the end of 2014.

I’m super excited to see how the revival will be. I’m stoked to finally find out what the famous last four words of the show are supposed to be. When the four-part revival finally premieres on Netflix sometime later this year, I will 100 percent be watching it.

I’ll just watch it with a grain of salt so I won’t be as disappointed if I don’t like the way it turns out.

Respond to Lauren at thenews@bgnews.com

Lauren Fitz
Columnist
The very same racial bias that inundates the American justice system has also seeped into the drinking water of Flint, Michigan. About two years ago, the state of Michigan took over the city’s budget and in an effort to save money, decided to temporarily change Flint’s water source from the fifth largest freshwater lake in the world - Lake Huron - to the toxic Flint River. The river has been the dumping ground for industrial pollution for decades and is actually called “General Motors Sewer” by the locals.

Residents soon began to complain. Researchers from Virginia Tech found the water to be highly corrosive due to the fact that it wasn’t treated in accordance with federal law. Since so many of Flint’s service lines are made of lead, the poison leaked into the community’s water supply.

What has resulted in the short-term includes countless complaints of discolored, foul-smelling water and skin rashes. The long-term effects, which would be particularly harrowing for children, include: learning difficulties, lower IQ scores, slower growth patterns, anemia, hyperactivity and difficulty paying attention. The World Health Organization states that the effects of lead poisoning are, in some cases, irreversible.

Residents soon began to complain. Researchers from Virginia Tech found the water to be highly corrosive due to the fact that it wasn’t treated in accordance with federal law.

In Flint, a city with some of the nation’s worst economic disparity, the percentage of black households with dangerously high levels of lead has increased, while the percentage of white households with the same problem has decreased. While certain people argue that not every social or economic issue should be made into a “race issue,” some things cannot be ignored.

Were the people of Flint ignored because they are a majority black and about 40 percent are poor? Is this an example of environmental racism? Would more have been done and possibly done faster if Flint was an affluent white community?

The answer is unmistakably yes.

Respond to Tatiana at thenews@bgnews.com

“Adulting” no scapegoat for responsibilities

“Adulting” no scapegoat for responsibilities

Tatiana Gracyk
Columnist

“Adulting” no scapegoat for responsibilities

Deanna Huffman
Columnist

“Adulting” no scapegoat for responsibilities

“Adulting” no scapegoat for responsibilities

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SUBMISSION POLICY

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR: Letters are to be fewer than 300 words. They should be in response to current issues on campus or in the Bowling Green area.

GUEST COLUMNS: Guest Columns are generally longer pieces between 400 and 700 words. Two submissions per month maximum.

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Student Radio Moves to New Building

By Amber Jones
Pulse Reporter

With renovations accompanying the transition to South Hall and the emergence of a new electronic director, the University’s radio station has a bright future ahead.

The radio stations WBGU-FM and WFAL-AM (Falcon Radio), have been very successful on campus. Whether it is the music that they are playing or the topics that they are discussing, both stations allow students and community members to express their voices over the airwaves.

The General Manager of Falcon Radio said, “The Falcon Radio is not regulated by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), so students have the freedom to say what they want.” “Falcon Radio is more about students expressing themselves and talking about issues that are important to them,” she said.

WBGU-FM is FCC regulated and focuses on independent music

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Editors Pick movies for Valentines Day

Annie Furia
Editor-in-Chief

Movie: Scott Pilgrim vs. The World (2010)

Michele Mathis
Managing Editor

Movie: Sleepless in Seattle (1993)

Erika Heck
In Focus Editor

Movie: Pretty Woman (1990)

Sam Sharp
Pulse Editor

Movie: Moulin Rouge (2001)

Holly Shively
City Editor


Eric Burgasser
Photo Editor

Movie: Annie Hall (1977)

Tabitha Holowka
Forum Editor

Movie: Moonstruck (1987)

Aaron Parker
Sports Editor

Movie: The Conjuring (2013)

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and bringing attention to independent artists.

“WBGU-FM focuses a lot on underground and under-represented music,” sophomore Music Director Michaela Natal said. “We try to find a lot of bands or artists no one has ever heard of.”

After renovations on South Hall are complete, there will be a shift and emergence of new and exciting equipment for both WBGU-FM and WFAL-AM.

“Our Chief Engineer, Jim Barns showed us the blueprints to South Hall and it looks amazing,” Natal said. “There will be a baby grand piano set only for recording things, so bands can come and do live sets and other cool things.”

South Hall will have a variety of new features for students and community members who are a part of the radio station, as well as a new automation system that will allow them to be creative and innovative in the process of recording their shows.

“It is going to be all high-tech and fun,” Natal said.

With the building change, students and community members will have more spaces to record shows as well as other broadcasts in South Hall.

“There will be all new studios for the radio, TV studios and new recording bays/areas for DJs,” senior WBGU-FM Realms show host Reauna Wrighten said. “I’m pretty excited about everything. I have one semester left so I at least get to experience some of that.”

Hayes said the advancement in equipment and studios gives students opportunities to do interview style shows and be more involved with the community.

“It will be a circular area close to the studio where people who have sports shows can come in and talk and be more interactive with one another,” Natal.

WBGU-FM will also see the emergence of a new electronic director said.

“We definitely need someone newer bringing different kinds of music to the station,” Wrighten said. “Right now with WBGU-FM, it is mostly Indie music, so it would be good to have something else playing.”

With WBGU-FM focusing more on independent music, there is always a demand for something else that is underrepresented and underground.

“I’m really excited about it because electronic music is definitely gaining popularity and it is something that a lot of the BG students want to hear,” Hayes said.

With Natal being the music director for WBGU-FM, having an electronic director helps her with the process of sorting through music that gets sent into the station.

“Our new electronic director, Cole Highhouse, is very into underground stuff and has been very proactive in reaching out to labels and getting on their mailing list,” said Natal. “I can forward all of the electronic stuff to him, and it is his choice whether he wants it played on the air or not.”

With the transition to South Hall soon approaching, there will be a CD sale coming up in order to clear out some of the CDs that WBGU-FM and WFAL-AM will not be able to bring to South Hall.

“The sale will include a variety of genres such as Jazz and Punk. The sale will be Tuesday March 15th, in the union,” Natal said.

With a DJ training session this Sunday at 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. in West Hall 121 for anyone interested in becoming involved with student radio.
Movie brings faith to screen

By Jennifer Verzuh
Pulse Reporter

The fictional film of the same name as Joel and Ethan Coen’s “Hail Caesar!” is all about faith. It’s the story of Jesus Christ re-told as a Roman epic. The Coen Brothers’ latest offering is many things, but above all, it’s a bright, shining love letter to the movies.

Boasting one of the most impressive and energetic casts in years, the film follows Eddie Mannix (James Brolin) as he attempts to uncover the truth when one of his biggest stars (a gloriously over the top George Clooney) is abducted in the middle of shooting “Hail Caesar!,” while dealing with other complaints and problems from the studios.

These minor emergencies include warding off the attention of two rival gossip columnists and twins (both played by Tilda Swinton), protecting the reputation of an unmarried pregnant lead actress (Scarlett Johansson, who is as funny and refined here as he was in Wes Anderson’s “Grand Budapest Hotel”) anger at being forced to direct a clueless, but sweet, Western star (Alden Ehrenreich) as his romantic lead, to name a few.

The cast is game and works perfectly together here. This is the kind of movie you can tell everyone had a good time making. As is the case in most Coen Brothers’ films, each character, no matter how minor, is unique and colorful, leaving you wanting more screen time for even the smallest bit player.

Because this movie takes place on a studio lot, we get several inserted scenes from the large-scale productions they’re filming, such as a full-blown song and dance number starring Channing Tatum as a horny sailor off to sea in a Gene Kelly style musical. These vignettes are a really fun twist that sets “Hail Caesar!” apart from the Coen brothers’ other work and allow the writer-directors to celebrate cinema and it’s various genres.

It also gives the actors an even bigger opportunity to shine as they play two distinctive roles. The best example of this can be found in Ehrenreich as cowboy-turned star Hobie Doyle. Out of a star-studded lineup, he emerged as the film’s most likable character, both in and out of his movies within the movie.

Fans of the Coen Brothers may be surprised by this movie. It lacks the darkness, thoughtfulness and character-driven plot of some of the duo’s best and more recent pictures (i.e. “A Serious Man,” “No Country for Old Men,” and “Inside Llewyn Davis”).

This is pure, unabashed, zany fun, which we haven’t seen from them to this extent since 1987’s “Raising Arizona.” But that’s exactly what makes it so great.

“Hail, Caesar!” is a movie about all the joy, drama and chaos that goes into making a truly great film, which is something to celebrate and praise.
Valentine's Day is right around the corner and many college students have mixed feelings about this holiday. Some are ready to spend the day with their college sweethearts or others are prepared to order a pizza and stay in watching love movies all night.

Whether you have a loved one or just a good friend that you want to do something special for, buying gifts can always be a challenge. You either know right off the bat what would be an ideal present for them, or you're scouring around their Pinterest to find something they like.

An easy gift that no one is ever really opposed to is food.

Chocolates are always a main go-to for Valentine's Day but there are other ideas to give that special someone, or even to treat yourself with.

Many places in Downtown Bowling Green offer specialty items on their menus for the week of Valentine’s Day. Two of the most popular cookie places in Bowling Green, Insomnia and The Cookie Jar and More, offer a variety of Valentine cookies and specials for the holiday. They also have pre-made decals that you can choose to put on top of the cookie cake when ordering.

Similar to Insomnia, The Cookie Jar and More has a menu specifically for Valentine’s Day. The menu includes specialty cookies such as a Heart Shaped Vanilla Buttercream Frosted Sugar Cookie, Peanut Butter Smooches, and their signature chocolate chip cookie. They also have four packages you can choose from, heart-shaped cookie cakes, and even chocolate covered strawberries.

Cookies and pizza are not the only treats you can get for a special someone or yourself this Valentine's Day; some local restaurants downtown are offering specials for the weekend. Bowling Green offers a variety of restaurants to go to this upcoming Sunday and also many places to order something in advance for the special day.
Looking for the best place to take your date for Valentine's Day in the Bowling Green area? Students spoke about their top five destinations.

1. SAM B'S
For Valentine's Day, couples looking for a nice sit down meal can try Sam B's Restaurant in downtown BG. Sam B's will be running a weekend special for the occasion where they will be having a five ounce filet including lobster tail, glazed and grilled duck breasts, stuffed Portobello mushroom served over Rosado, as well as baked chicken linguini. The restaurant is located off of South Main Street, in downtown Bowling Green.

2. TROTTER'S TAVERN
Home of the original Brown Jug Steak, Trotter's Tavern is located in downtown BG off of North Main Street. This tucked away restaurant would be an excellent choice for a romantic date this Valentine's Day. Trotter's is offering reservations for the occasion, for those who choose to plan in advance and avoid the wait. Stop in and treat your date to some quality steak, along with many other entrée options.

3. CAMPUS POLLEYES
Visit Campus Polleyes, located off of E. Court St., this Valentine's Day. Commonly known for their famous stuffed breadsticks, take your date to a sit down meal at the restaurant, or have your meal delivered right to your house. Along with some breadsticks, you can surprise your date with a heart shaped pizza that Polleyes is offering this Valentine's Day.

4. REVEREND'S BAR & GRILL
Located near the heart of downtown Bowling Green, Reverend's Bar and Grill has evolved into a popular dining location since it first opened. For a unique dining experience for Valentine's Day, if you haven't sampled the menu, now is the time to treat your taste buds and your special date to what is truly an eclectic dining experience.

Originating as a primarily Latino-food based restaurant, the menu and atmosphere has evolved significantly since it first opened its doors. Under the menu heading of "Sandwiches of Salvation" are the Cuban, That Pulled Pork and Bat Out of Hell, featuring sourdough bread, grilled meatloaf, chipotle mayo dressing and veggie toppings.

With exposed brick on the interior, the restaurant has a hip, relaxed styling. To match this comfortable environment, the friendly staff sets the tone for the experience there. Hours this weekend are: Friday, 4-10 p.m; Saturday, 12-10 p.m.; and Sunday, 3-9 p.m.

5. LOLA'S FROZEN YOGURT
If you're looking to treat your date to something sweet after your meal, head over to Lola's Frozen Yogurt, located off of S. Main St. At Lola's Frozen Yogurt, customers are able to choose the type of frozen yogurt they want, as well as the added treats, which include all sorts of candy and fruit that they want inside their cup.

With this option, each costumer can manually fill his or her cup up with as much frozen yogurt and other toppings as they please. At the end, their cup is weighted and the price is given depending on the exact weight. Stop by Lola's this Valentine's Day for a sweet treat with just the amount of your choice.
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By Evan Hayes
Sports Reporter

Miriam Justinger has been a large part of the Womens Basketball program at Bowling Green State University for the past four years, never averaging less than 19.9 minutes per game and 22 starts per season.

A three-year letter winner and a captain this year, the senior guard/forward has been a strong presence for the team over the course of her career, both on and off the court.

While she has had a stellar career for the Falcons, she was very close to ending up somewhere else entirely coming out of high school.

“I actually went through the recruiting process twice,” Justinger said. “I had signed and committed to Kent State, and then their coaches had gotten fired right around the end of my senior year. So, I was like, ‘Well, I don’t want to walk into a program without knowing who the coaches are going to be or if they’ll like me or whatnot.’”

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Hockey looks to close out non-conference play

By Zane Miller
Sports Reporter

The Falcon hockey team will play in its final non-conference game of the regular season on Friday night, taking on the Miami RedHawks of the National Collegiate Hockey Conference at the BGSU Ice Arena.

While the Falcons lost 2-1 in their last meeting with Miami on Jan. 16th, with Miami scoring the winning goal just two seconds from the end of regulation time, the team said the close loss has provided extra motivation going into Friday’s game.

“When you play college, it’s not like you’ve got an 80 game schedule,” Falcons’ head coach Chris Bergeron said. “Playing one game is better than having the weekend at this time of year and the fact that we lost a really tight game last time we played them a couple weeks ago is still right there in their minds.”

The team will also be playing against a number of NHL draft picks (Louie Belpedio, Anthony Lewis, Jack Roslovic and Colin Sullivan). The team, however, is not intimidated by this.

“It makes no difference to us who’s drafted and who isn’t drafted,” Bergeron said. “We’ll focus on the last time we played them... We don’t get caught up too much in their players other than to prepare (our players) for the Sean Kuralys and Anthony Louis and (Miami’s) defense.”

The team also said playing their last two series against the other two top teams in the Western Collegiate Hockey Association, the Minnesota State Mavericks and Michigan Tech Huskies, has prepared them well for playing against Miami, who was recently on a four game winning streak after defeating the Falcons in January.

“We know they’re a good team, we’ll prepare to play a good team,” Bergeron said. “We just played two good teams back to back, so we think we play good teams every night, so this will just be another game.”

Despite the game not having significant league championship implications, which the Michigan Tech and Minnesota State series do have, the message to the team still holds Friday’s game to high importance.

“This is another opportunity to play a game,” Bergeron said. “Because you only have a limited number of opportunities, 36, 38, 40, whatever it is, it’s not 70. We’re getting an opportunity to play a game, and I think they should be excited to do that.”

The team also wants to keep the momentum going from their 3-1 victory over Minnesota State on Friday night.

“(Momentum) isn’t an implication, necessarily, but it is something we want to continue on,” Bergeron said. “Competition brings out the best in people, and we’ve got a chance to compete against somebody else.”

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Coincidentally, the Kent State coaching transition was happening at the same time as Bowling Green’s own coaching transition.

Previous Falcons’ head coach Curt Miller, now head coach of the WNBA’s Connecticut Sun, had left to become the head coach at Indiana University. Current head coach Jennifer Roos, who was an assistant coach at the time, was the one who contacted Justinger about playing at the University.

“It was kind of just like a blessing in disguise that Coach Roos was like, ‘Hey, I’m at Bowling Green. We don’t have a coach yet but I heard you decommitted from Kent State. We’d love to have you up for a visit,’” Justinger said. “The day that she was announced as head coach was actually the day that she also offered me, and then I committed like a week later.”

Justinger, the only fourth-year member of the Falcons and the remaining half of the 2012 recruiting class, was drawn to the University by a chance to play in the Mid-American Conference, the proximity to her family and the strong fan base that the Falcons hold.

“I knew Bowling Green from being close my whole life in Toledo, and I knew they had great fan support. My parents would obviously be able to make all the home games and make a lot of the away games too. So all in all, everything was just what I was looking for as far as academics and everything,” Justinger said.

When asked about her time at the University, Justinger was quick to mention the influence that her coach and teammates have had on her during her four years.

“Each one of our coaches brings something different to the table, which is very important in a coaching staff... I think they do a great job of teaching us not only basketball and what’s important as far as playing the game, but also being a good person off the floor and life lessons you can learn and apply on a daily basis,” Justinger said.

Aside from coaches, Justinger has bonded with team members as well.

“I’ve met some of my teammates and they’ve become lifelong friends, and some of them that I’ve only known for a couple years I feel like I’ve known them their whole lives. Hopefully I’ll have those connections my whole life,” Justinger said.

As her senior season is entering the final stretch, Justinger listed winning the MAC title her sophomore season as one of the bigger highlights of her career. She also spoke fervently of the matchups with Toledo over the years.

“I would say also every time we play Toledo... that is something that a lot of people are never going to experience. It’s even better when we win, but win or lose, it’s always a great experience to have. The rivalry is second to none,” Justinger said.

This season has presented new challenges for Justinger, as she has become more of a leader for a younger team that has had an up and down season. As the Falcons near March, Justinger is optimistic about her team’s prospects as the season is entering the final stretch.

“Early on we were a pretty new team trying to build chemistry, but now that chemistry is starting to get going, and we’re doing a better job of playing off each other. It’s all clicking, and it’s perfect timing right before March,” Justinger said.
Ash Wednesday celebrated

By Tabitha Holowka
Forum Editor

For many students at the University, Wednesday began a familiar sacred time. Yesterday marked the beginning of the season of Lent with Ash Wednesday, preceded by Fat Tuesday. Exiting the first of two seasons of “Ordinary Time,” of the liturgical calendar, Fat Tuesday is a day of celebration before the solemnity of Ash Wednesday to re-ignite the mind for the period of contemplation and self-reflection of Lent; it is in preparation for the season of Easter, an eight day observance for Catholics. Prayer, fasting and almsgiving are the focus of the forty-six day period of Lent.

Jordan Trejo, campus minister of St. Thomas More University Parish on Thurstin Avenue, said he was more than happy to share what these observances are and what they mean to so many people.

“Fat Tuesday is a huge party before we get real sad for forty days,” Trejo said. “Celebrate the year, celebrate what is going on in our lives. And then Ash Wednesday starts, and we start to be really intentional about focusing on where we have been lacking in our relationship with God and with each other as brother and sisters in Christ. Not just in the church. How do we do better everywhere we are?”

The practice is Bible-based, with Jesus Christ’s forty days in the desert. There, while facing the temptations of Satan, Christ fasted and prayed continuously.

Palm branches, having been previously blessed on Palm Sunday, are burned to provide the ashes that are rubbed across the forehead in the shape of a cross. Ashes are meant to symbolize the dust from which man was created. Trejo further notes, “ashes are an outward symbol that we are sinners, and we are in this business of sinning together.”

One student in the Bowen-Thompson Student Union who chose to remain anonymous shared her thoughts: “Lent means sacrificing something that takes time out of your schedule and giving (that time) to Christ.”

Another anonymous student remarked, “Lent is my time to prepare for Christ.”

From this day until Easter Sunday (March 27, 2016), participants will abstain from meat on Fridays, and fast, which means not eating between meals and eating two small meals that will not be greater in sum than the dinner meal eaten that day. Additionally, it is common practice to “give something up” in observance of Lent, in parallel with Christ’s forty days of no food or drink. Trejo takes a less traveled route.

“There are two ways to look at Lent: you can give something up, or you can do something extra. So, for the past couple of years I have been doing something extra,” Trejo said.

Trejo wears a reversible bracelet with the words, “Compassion It,” in black on one side and white on the other. He begins each day with the black side showing. When he commits a compassionate act for or towards another person, he flips it from the black side to the white side. He then turns his mind to how he can be compassionate towards himself.

“(Lent) is a time we have to figure out how to start again, like do-overs for everybody,” Trejo reflected. “So, you’ve failed all year long and its like, ‘I need to do something different.’”

Ash Wednesday ceremonies were held in various times at St. Thomas Moore Church and St Aloysius, as well as in Olscamp Hall.
Campaign gains faculty support

By Holly Shively
City Editor

University faculty members may be getting more involved in the It’s On Us Campaign.

Mary Toth, a political science major at the University, said President Obama and Vice President Joe Biden originally started the campaign in September 2014.

Director of the Wellness Connection Faith DeNardo said the campaign has been mainly student run since its start in the fall of 2014 and has been focused on not only spreading the word about sexual assault in general, but about the mission of the organization as well.

Specifically, the initiative focuses on bystander education and how to intervene when someone is not able or willing to give consent. It also focuses on what consent really means, presenting the information to students, student organizations, RA trainings and in class settings.

“This is a difficult conversation for anyone to have, especially among students,” DeNardo said.

Toth is one of 17 students taking part in the national committee that gives feedback to the National Campaign in Washington DC.

“She has been instrumental in moving this campaign forward since its inception,” DeNardo said.

Here at the University, students raise awareness for the campaign by passing out “swag” at tables around campus, including wrist bands, T-shirts and cards with the organization’s logo. The organization also holds video and selfie contests each year.

Anyone who supports the pledge can sign it on the It’s On Us website, which includes not only being an active bystander but recognizing that nonconsensual sex is sexual assault and making a clear stand against sexual assault.

“This may seem like common sense, but common sense isn’t common all the time,” Toth said.

Faculty Senate also discussed President’s Day coming up this Monday.

While President Mary Ellen Mazey was in Columbus meeting with the State Speaker of the House of Representatives to work on the capital planning budget, Vice Provost of Academic Affairs John Fischer stood in for her at the faculty senate meeting. Fischer conveyed Mazey’s message of how important President’s Day will be for all University faculty and staff.

“The number one priority of faculty is to work on recruitment and retention,” Fischer said.

The University’s enrollment target is 3500-3600 students with an 80% retention rate. While Fischer said the University is well on its way to achieving that goal, President’s Day could be a deciding factor.

“It tends to be one of those days where a lot students are making their final decisions about where they’re going to invest the next X-number of years,” Provost Rodney Rogers said. “We certainly want that to be Bowling Green.”
USG introduces initiative

By Michele Mathis
Managing Editor

A trans-inclusive initiative that would allow students who identify differently than their assigned gender to use their respective bathrooms was presented in the Undergraduate Student Government meeting Monday.

The initiative was presented by Paige Reinhart-Anez, the Multicultural Greek Council senator and was sponsored by Diversity Affairs senator Laura Francisco and the Kreischer-Compton Senator Frankie Pinckard.

The initiative states that if passed the “University (would) formally support trans students being able to utilize the bathroom that aligns with their gender identity not only in residence halls, but across Bowling Green State University.”

Reinhart-Anez said the initiative, if passed, would have to be matched with an educational aspect beginning with the University’s Residence Life.

“The RAs need a lot more diversity training,” she said. “(They need to) be able to speak intelligently on topics of gender and sex.”

During the meeting, Diversity Affairs senator Luke Savot brought to the senate’s attention that moving this initiative to pass would not hinder the daily life of students around on campus.

“Trans people use the bathroom that does not align with their gender assignment if they feel comfortable doing so day to day,” he said.

Reinhart-Anez echoed his statement by saying that “there’s no bar, there’s no test and there’s no detectors” to notify students when a trans student uses the bathroom.

“I am by no means encouraging (those options),” she said. “But this is a physical barrier and bar that the University has placed that prevents (trans students) from using the bathroom in their residence halls.”

Reinhart-Anez said that if the University wishes to uphold the idea of fostering a place of diversity and inclusion, the initiative must pass through the USG senate.

“This is a new concept because most of the discussion is around gender-neutral bathrooms,” she said. “Committing to saying that we have a environment of diversity and inclusion is different than making the moves to do it.”

Vice-President Danielle Parker said that the presented initiative would be beneficial to the students on campus.

“I’m really thankful that this was brought to the floor,” she said. “I think it’s a good direction for the University to take, it’s pro-active and something that we really stress is student safety, and if this has to deal with student safety concern, the University should at least be hosting a discussion about it.”

The senate will vote on this initiative two weeks from Monday, Feb. 22.

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While the percentage of students seeking medical help for anxiety, social anxiety and depression continues to rise annually, it may not be because of a growing problem with the mental illnesses. It may be a solution.

Clinical Director of the University Counseling Center, Anthony Rivera, said during the 2014-2015 academic year, there were 7,962 visits by 1,694 individual clients at the campus counseling center, and those numbers rise each year.

Rivera said while the stigma around mental health disorder still exists, it is becoming less stigmatized to seek help. It is possible there is not a problem with growing cases of anxiety and depression, but because people feel freer to talk about the illnesses, more people are seeking a solution and help.

Rena Onady, president of the campus organization Active Minds, recognizes the existing stigmas “you’re broken, you don’t function correctly or you’re somehow lesser than” of people diagnosed with mental illness.

“Struggling with your mental health is nothing to be ashamed of, it’s not your fault, and it doesn’t define you,” Onady said.

At the University specifically, the numbers are rising because every resident advisor gets training on how to talk about mental illness, the counseling center has outreach programs and the counseling center’s services are free.

Another of the factors Rivera said contributes is most mental health issues are diagnosed between the ages of 14-24, when many young people attend college. When students first come to college, they have an entirely unique experience than ever before.

“It’s just a developmentally challenging time for students,” Rivera said.

President and Founder of To Write Love on Her Arms(TWLOHA) at the University, Elijah Edwards, said people feel as if their niche is already taken, which makes them feel like they lack uniqueness and lose sight of their identity.

“On college campuses specifically, it’s really difficult because you go to a college that suits your interests, and you’re surrounded by people who are similar to you. And you realize that there are people who are better than you at literally everything that you do,” Edwards said. “It really does drown out your voice.”

Edwards said just because people have the same talents and skills doesn’t mean they’re not needed, but instead “you’re needed to be specifically who you are.”

The mission of TWLOHA is to directly invest in treatment of mental health disorders like depression and help reduce mental illness treatable.

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the stigma. The organization invests in treatment by fundraising for the national organization who in turn disperses the funds to various recovery and treatment facilities.

“A broader understanding of these issues will ultimately bring us a broader understanding of these individual as well,” Edwards said.

Onady said another issue is mental illnesses cannot be seen like physical ailments, so it is hard to know when someone might be struggling.

“When you have a mental illness it doesn’t just affect your mood. It affects every aspect of your life,” Onady said. She gave the example of students’ grades dropping as a result of a struggle with anxiety or depression.

Onady’s organization Active Minds has the goal of spreading information about signs and symptoms of mental illnesses, sending the message to seek help if needed and sharing information of free campus resources with students.

Stigma is not isolated to only those with a mental illness, but the prescribed medication also comes with reservations by many.

“Medication gets a bad wrap because it’s a lot of guesswork,” Onady said. “It takes a lot of trial and error, and I think a lot of the stigma comes from the error part.”

Rivera said that every brain is developed differently, so while some medication may not work for some, it can work for others. It is a game of figuring out which treatment method is best for the individual.

Aside from medication, therapy is also an option, which Onady said gives coping mechanisms that can help those with mental illnesses self-treat long after therapy ends.

The University counseling center has 26 people available to offer various types of therapy between psychologists, doctoral interns, trainees and other staff members. The center also works closely with the Falcon Health Center where students can be referred if in need of a prescription.

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