SWAMP ART
The annual Black Swamp Arts Festival returns to Bowling Green with as much music, food and fun as ever. | PAGE 2

Athletes punishments may not fit their crime
PAGE 3

Falcons earn first season win with late stop against North Dakota
PAGE 6

Event commemorates Sept. 11 attacks
PAGE 8
Community continues arts tradition

By Claire Morrow
Reporter

Various artists from the area all gathered this weekend for the Black Swamp Arts Festival. Representing BGSU were many student organizations who aimed to show their work to the community.

In the Kiwanis Youth Arts Village, one of the largest, and probably loudest, booths belonged to the Student Construction Management Association. The SCMA is a student-run organization whose main goal is to network and build relationships within the construction community.

The members of the organization came to the Black Swamp Arts Festival to set up their “Creation Spaces” for the children in attendance. At the booth, children were given the chance to build their very own wooden toy to take home. They were able to choose from several wooden toy models or even bring to life an idea of their own.

“We do the cuts and work like that, but the kids actually get in on the manufacturing portions of it. It makes (the experience) hands on and gets their inspiration going a little bit more,” SCMA member Blake Fox said.

This is the organization’s third year at the festival, and as member Alex Francisco said they have gained an additional 20 feet of space each year that they have returned. Doing the math, that brings their booth to 60 feet for the 2016 festival.

Staying in the Youth Village, the writing and English student organizations also provided activities for the children. Prairie Margins Advisor, Abigail Cloud, offered a look into their organization and contribution to the festival.

Prairie Margins is an undergraduate literary journal that prints poetry, fiction, creative non-fiction and art from undergraduates nationwide. They work all year to promote and curate submissions for the release of their journal in late October.

They do various fundraising activities such as Winter Wheat, an on-campus writing festival and Blind Date with a Book to support the endeavors of their organization.

It is their third year downtown in conjunction with other writing-based student organizations such as Sigma Tau Delta, Mid-American Review and the Graduate Writer’s Club.

This year, the organizations were helping youth make what they call “Animal Conversations.” Cloud said the hope is to teach them about personification and how dialogue looks which helps them with their reading later on.

On the opposite end of Main Street, there were many vendors selling various art pieces and sculptures of all shapes and sizes. There, the Two Dimensional Arts Association was nestled in the midst.

This year, they set up a display of artwork from various student artists in the association and also had prints and greeting cards for sale.

Club Treasurer Ashley Julian said it is important to be at events like Black Swamp because it allows the community to see their progress and raise funds for their various trips throughout the year.

The association meets every Tuesday to plan trips, fundraise, talk about inspirational artists and support each other in their pursuits throughout the art community.

Directly to the right of 2-DAA, festival goers could find the BGSU Clay Club. Member Megan Small recalled that the club had been present at the Black Swamp Arts Festival since their founding in the late 1990s.

The Clay Club booth sold current and past student work, some of which benefited the Clay Club and some which went directly to the artists.

The money that the club brought in will be going to fund their trip to Toronto and their spring trip to the National Council on Education for the Ceramic Arts or NCECA in Portland, Oregon. Member Emerson DeAngelo said it is a great opportunity for the club members to travel the nation and learn more about their trade.

Other student organizations present included the Student Metal Arts Council, BGSU Print Society and the Student Glass Association.
Athletes receive a lack of punishment for crimes

As I’m sure everyone is aware by now, Olympic swimmer Ryan Lochte got in huge trouble down in Rio during the summer Olympics. Recently, it was announced that he’d been suspended for 10 months by U.S. Swimming and that he’s not allowed to compete in world competitions.

But the entertainment world isn’t treating him as harshly. Instead, shortly after a Brazilian judge ordered Lochte to stay in the country, the Esquire network decided they were going to air a weekend marathon of Lochte’s 2013 reality show “What Would Ryan Lochte Do?” as a way to capitalize on the drama surrounding LochteGate.

And now, ABC’s “Dancing With The Stars” is also trying to capitalize on the controversy surrounding Lochte as he’s competing in the upcoming season of the show.

It’s almost as if he’s being rewarded for his bad behavior.

Which brings me to my point: stop treating athletes who royally mess up like men-children.

If I was the one who had vandalized a bathroom in another country and covered it up by saying I was robbed at gunpoint, I can almost guarantee that I wouldn’t have been able to escape the country in the early morning and have been able to fly back home. I would have been locked up and the key probably would have been thrown away.

And if I did somehow manage to get out of the country, I would have been in so much trouble with my family.

Honestly, who knows what would have been worse?

It’s not just Lochte who acts like a man-child or who has potentially gotten away with less than legal actions. This past basketball season, Los Angeles Lakers player Kobe Bryant retired after playing in the NBA for 20 years. Everyone celebrated...
Worldwide wilderness continues to dwindle

Ten. That’s the percentage of wilderness on Earth that has been destroyed since 1992.

In a recent study by James E.M. Watson and published in Cell, science shows that action desperately needs to be taken to protect the wilderness that we have left here on Earth.

30 percent of this 10 percent loss is in South America alone.

Why should we care though?

Even though the Amazon and other forests have seen a large loss of forest, “these landscapes still support globally significant wilderness areas and are increasingly threatened by industrial forestry, oil and gas exploration, anthropogenic fire and rapid climate change,” Watson said.

In addition to the environmental effects, an increased risk in the extinction of many highly threatened species goes hand in hand with this wilderness loss as well.

“The continued loss of wilderness areas is a globally significant problem with largely irreversible outcomes for both humans and nature; if these trends continue, there could be no globally significant wilderness areas left in less than a century,” Watson said.

That’s right, less than a century. This sort of problem isn’t the type of thing that we can push aside and save for our grandchildren to handle.”

Sarah Smith
Forum Editor

“This sort of problem isn’t the type of thing that we can push aside and save for our grandchildren to handle. This is a real issue that could affect us in this lifetime.

Not only does this problem exist, but little is being done to fix it.

A recent article published in Science Mag about Watson’s study states that “governments and conservation organizations often prioritize their protection efforts on habitat that is severely threatened or degraded. But left unguarded, remote land is vulnerable to homesteading farmers and claim-seeking miners.”

Twenty years. That’s all it has taken to completely destroy land that adds up to more than twice the size of the state of Alaska.

However, the study does offer a positive side to the sad discoveries. Globally protected wilderness areas have almost doubled in number since the 1992 Rio Earth Summit. While this is good news, the quantity of protected land still isn’t enough to make up for the amount of wilderness being destroyed during the span of the past two decades.

We all hear about loss of forest area around the world, “save the rainforest” missions and the importance of protecting endangered species. This new study throws a specific number in our faces and I think that this is a great wake up call for many people. Maybe you don’t find yourself interested in saving the wilderness that we have left, but someone, somewhere out there does. This study just might bring about the change that we need.

What are we doing Homo sapiens? Let’s at least be aware of this wilderness problem before it’s too late. This is why we can’t have nice things.

Reply to Sarah at thenews@bgnews.com

Continued from Page 3

his illustrious career, which Bryant deserved.

But, out of all the celebrations and memorializing Bryant as the great basketball player his career highlights show that he is, there’s one stain on his record that no one talks about: his sexual assault allegation from 2003.

In fact, a week after Bryant’s final game, Gavin Polone, a Hollywood producer who’s known for his work on “Gilmore Girls,” “Curb Your Enthusiasm” and the 2002 Jodie Foster movie “ Panic Room,” penned a column in The Hollywood Reporter titled “Remember When Kobe Bryant Was Charged With Rape? I Didn’t Forget, and Neither Should You.” In his column, Polone said that he asked his friends if they were uncomfortable with Bryant being celebrated despite the charges being dropped in criminal court and a settlement being reached in civil court.

The response Polone got from his friends? “That was a long time ago.”

Seriously?

Of course, Bryant isn’t the only well-known player who has been accused of sexual assault and denied the claims. Bryant and Lochte aren’t the only sports stars who do something wrong and have public reactions do what they do to protect their reputations.

But it’s the way they’re treated after the fact that’s almost unacceptable. Stop immediately defending athletes when they do something wrong. Stop inflating their egos any more than they’re already inflated. Stop treating them like they’re special little angels and try treating them like what they are: criminals.

Reply to Lauren at thenews@bgnews.com

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.

POLICIES: Letters to the Editor and Guest Columns are printed as space on the Forum page permits. Additional Letters or Guest Columns may be published online. Name, year and phone number should be included for verification purposes. Personal attacks, unverified information or anonymous submissions will not be printed.

E-MAIL SUBMISSIONS: Send submissions as an attachment to thenews@bgnews.com with the subject line marked “Letter to the Editor” or “Guest Column.” All submissions are subject to review and editing for length and clarity before printing.
bgfalconmedia.com  |  @BGFalconMedia

A collaboration of all BGSU Student Media bringing you multimedia content including local and campus news.

Also including content from

BG24 News
BG News
Key Magazine
Obsidian
BGRSO
WBGU FM
Falcon Radio
By Zane Miller
Sports Reporter

The Falcons football team edged the North Dakota Fighting Hawks Saturday afternoon 27-26, stopping a late two-point conversion attempt to clinch their first victory of the season in their first home game of the season.

“A win’s a win,” Falcons head coach Mike Jinks said. “While it wasn’t the prettiest of wins, we’ll take it.”

The team started the game with a bang, as senior quarterback James Knapke hit sophomore wide receiver Scott Miller for a 71-yard touchdown, which would be the first of his three touchdown receptions in the game. The successful extra point attempt made it a 7-0 game.

“Scotty’s done what he’s done every day in practice,” Jinks said. “Scotty had a little bit of a mismatch... Knapke did a good job of recognizing that.”

The team scored again soon after, as senior wide receiver Ronnie Moore ran for a three yard score to give the Falcons a 14-0 lead early on.

North Dakota was able to get on the board twice before the end of the first half, getting a field goal to make it a 14-3 game, then returning an interception back for a touchdown with just under two minutes remaining in the half to close the gap to 14-10. However, the Falcons rebounded by scoring on a 51-yard touchdown pass from Knapke to Miller with 1:05 to go to give themselves a 21-10 lead at halftime.

“I felt like we really had the chance to take control of the game early and we’ve got to do a better job of making the routine plays,” Jinks said. “We don’t need any special plays, we need to take care of the routine plays and make those plays and we’ll be fine.”

North Dakota started off the scoring in the second half, getting a touchdown and extra point to cut the lead to 21-17. They trimmed the lead further by scoring a field goal off an interception to make it a one-point Falcon advantage.

The Falcons closed out the third quarter scoring on another touchdown reception from Knapke to Miller, this time on an 11-yard score. Yet, the ensuing extra point attempt was no good, so the team held a 27-20 lead.

“There’s got to be more sense of urgency, there’s got to be more consistency,” Jinks said. “We’ve got the personnel to be able to do that.”

The fourth quarter featured strong defensive play from both sides, with neither team being able to score until 13 seconds remaining in the game, when North Dakota scored the game’s final touchdown. Rather than take their chances in overtime by going for an extra point attempt, they opted to go for a two-point conversion to win the game in regulation. However, the ensuing pass attempt was incomplete, allowing the Falcons to hold onto the 27-26 victory.

The win was also the first for Jinks as a head coach.

“It feels good,” Jinks said. “It’s tough to get a win in this business, we’ve got a chance to get a lot more this year, we’ve just got to go and get back to work.”

The team will compete at home against the Middle Tennessee Blue Raiders on Saturday afternoon, the team’s final game against nonconference opponents this season.
Mens soccer earns first loss of season

By Elias Faneuff
Sports Reporter

The BG men’s soccer team suffered their first loss of the season against Western Illinois University by a score of 2-1.

After winning their first four games, the team looked poised to keep the momentum going on the road. Originally, the game was scheduled to be played on Western Illinois’ home field. However, the game was played on Western Illinois’ practice field due to the home field’s condition.

Things looked promising early on as BG got off to a quick start around the 16 minute mark where senior Joe Sullivan got the team on the board with an early 1-0 lead in the first period. This was right out of freshmen goalie Anthony Mwembia’s reach and tied the game at one a piece.

BG would have another great opportunity to score around the 41-minute mark as Sullivan’s reach and tied the game at one a piece. Following a corner kick from Sullivan, Jina worked inside and put up a shot attempt that was saved once again by Hansen.

In the second effort to score, sophomore Bismark Agyeman and junior Prayag Jina were the last hope opposing goalie Hansen. Agyeman and junior Prayag Jina were the last hope opposing goalie Hansen.

Another scoring opportunity arose shortly after two straight fouls on Western Illinois. This led to senior Jacob Roth taking a shot in close range, but it sailed high over the net. Another scoring opportunity arose shortly after two straight fouls on Western Illinois.

This was right out of freshmen goalie Anthony Mwembia’s reach and tied the game at one a piece. Following a corner kick from Sullivan, Jina worked inside and put up a shot attempt that was saved once again by Hansen.

The period ended shortly after Roth’s attempt in what looked like another hard fought game. In the second period, Western Illinois took the lead early in the second period following a corner kick from Western Illinois’ Daniel Collins that would quickly result in a chip shot goal by his teammate Jacob Bevan.

This would be the only game where BG trailed in the second period. BG would keep hanging around late in the final minutes of the second period as BG would have three corner kicks.

The first two shots came from Robertson and senior Pat Flynn. Robertson’s shot would end up being blocked and Flynn’s shot was saved by opposing goalie Hansen.

In a last effort to score, sophomore Bismark Agyeman and junior Prayag Jina were the last hope for what hoped to be another overtime game. Following a corner kick from Sullivan, Jina worked inside and put up a shot attempt that was saved once again by Hansen.

An extra scoring opportunity arose shortly after Roth’s attempt in what looked like another hard fought game. In the second period, Western Illinois took the lead early in the second period following a corner kick from Western Illinois’ Daniel Collins that would quickly result in a chip shot goal by his teammate Jacob Bevan.

This would be the only game where BG trailed in the second period. BG would keep hanging around late in the final minutes of the second period as BG would have three corner kicks.

The first two shots came from Robertson and senior Pat Flynn. Robertson’s shot would end up being blocked and Flynn’s shot was saved by opposing goalie Hansen.

In a last effort to score, sophomore Bismark Agyeman and junior Prayag Jina were the last hope for what hoped to be another overtime game. Following a corner kick from Sullivan, Jina worked inside and put up a shot attempt that was saved once again by Hansen.

Following Jina’s attempt, Bismark got the rebound and attempted a shot of his own, but it resulted in a blocked shot.

The final shot attempt around the final two-minute mark came from Jina who put up a hurried shot right toward Hansen, but it was saved by Hansen.

Sullivan would attempt a final corner kick in the final seconds, but there was hardly any time left and Western Illinois got the victory. Although it was tough loss to swallow, BG Coach Eric Nichols gave credit where credit was due.

“I give credit to Western Illinois,” said Nichols. “They played hard, fought hard, and they very much deserve this win they got today.”

Nichols also commented on what was the possible issue during the game that might have affected the team’s play.

“As I’ve mentioned before, once we get into our formula, we can beat anyone,” he said. “But, when we steer away from that formula or don’t execute properly, we can lose to anyone. So hopefully we get dialed back into our formula heading back home.”

BG finished with 14 shot attempts, four saves and seven corner kicks. BG will hope to bounce back as they take on Wright State University on Tuesday evening back home at Cochrane Field.
University students remember 9/11

Kaitlyn Fillhart
Reporter

Fifteen years have passed since the 9/11 attacks, and still the mention of the date causes a slight tightness in the chests of Americans. To commemorate this tragic event, on Sept. 9, graduate students from the Association for Textual and Literary Analysis (ATLAS) coordinated a student conference to discuss the global responses to 9/11 by showing literary works, media and film perspectives from around the world.

The conference consisted of a panel of Muslim women who answered questions about what it is like to live in America post-9/11, keynote speaker Jeffery A. Brown and a discussion among peers on papers centered around subjects like Osama Bin Laden from the perspective of South Asians and Americans.

Putting this conference together started with a class taught by Professor Khani Begum.

“In the class, we learned about 9/11 not just from the American view,” President of ATLAS Sarah Worman said. “We wanted to make the conference a global subject.”

Screenings of films related to terrorism and 9/11 were discussed and viewed at the conference such as Clint Eastwood’s “American Sniper,” “Four Lions,” a British comedy about “wannabe” terrorists and “Whiskey Tango Foxtrot.”

Worman shared how countries around the world responded to 9/11 in terms of film.

“It took a long time for American movies to have 9/11 as the main subject. Films made by Southeast Asia, Britain and the French were different from American films,” Worman said. “Southeast Asian films had a Bollywood influence and lacked a protagonist and antagonist like we usually see.”

Brown spoke about how, when American films are made about the subject of 9/11, it’s easier to “deal” with the tragedy by having the film be about a superhero.

“It is easier to have it in a different context,” Vice President of ATLAS Elena Aponte said. “For American films, it took a lot of time because people weren’t ready.”

Aponte recalled where she was when 9/11 happened.

“I was in the 5th grade, and I remember my teacher turning off the television before the second plane hit the towers,” Aponte said.

Worman thought about the people who were not born before the terrorist attacks and how it affects the world around them.

“(The event) has shaped our political climate, it has started wars,” Worman said. “They had their whole world view change before they were even born.”

Freshmen in high school and younger don’t know a time before 9/11, they will only know what they read in history books, which Aponte believes stresses the importance of having the conference.

“What we want people to take away from this conference is for people to always learn more, go beyond the media and to not take things at face value,” Aponte said.
The Latino Student Union started in 1972 to spread awareness of the many issues Latino culture was facing in the country. Now LSU focuses on educating the University on Latino culture by holding many different events throughout the school year.

One main event that LSU holds is the Latino Heritage Month Kickoff. The kickoff serves as the opening event for Latino Heritage Month, which runs from Sept. 15 to Oct. 15.

President of LSU Kandann Coleman said, “This is for us to show people what we love about our culture...We are basically just going to go ahead and introduce people to the culture. This is the food we eat, this is all the cultures that are kind of intertwined in Latino culture.”

The kickoff takes place in the Business Administration Building, room 112. A some other events LSU is hosting and taking part in are Latino Nights, the Diamante Awards, Latin Cuisine at The Oaks and Latino Arts Extravaganza. These events are all during Latino Heritage Month.

“(Heritage Month) is about remembering the past and being motivated for the future,” Coleman said.

LSU also takes part in the Olympics between Ohio LSU organizations, including Ohio State University and Ohio University. The organizations participate in tournaments to win awards and the competition is to help the organizations bond.

A new event this year that LSU is co-sponsoring is the Cultural Empowerment Series. Divided into three parts, the series focuses on allowing student organizations and college departments to come and talk to first year students about everything they need to know to be successful at the University.

LSU is always looking for new members to join their organization. Members do not have to identify as Latino or Hispanic to join, they just have to be interested in learning more about the Latino culture, heritage and issues that are affecting Latinos here and around the world.

“You don’t have to be Latino to join this organization. Just as long as you have a certain interest within that culture,” Vice President of LSU Joseph Sturgis said.

The organization likes to think of itself as a family.

“We have a motto where you come in, you’re familia. As soon as you come in, you introduce yourself, you make a friend and you are part of our family. You’re welcome forever,” Coleman said.

Their official mission is to stimulate common interests, ensure the civil liberties and improve the quality of life for all Latinos.

To find more information on how to get involved with LSU, Latino Heritage Month and other upcoming events, LSU has a general body meeting every Wednesday in the Bowen Thompson Student Union in room 207 at 9 p.m.
Mazey speaks to USG, answers questions

By Keefe Watson
Campus Editor

President Mary Ellen Mazey spoke at Undergraduate Student Government on Monday night, where she highlighted some of the University’s recent successes and offered a Q & A period for members of USG.

“It’s all of you, it’s about the students here at BGSU. All of us are here for you,” Mazey said as she began her brief address to the body.

She boasted the freshman class’ academic preparedness and the diversity of this year’s entering class. The class of 2020 represents 33 states, 900 high schools and 36 countries.

The University’s enrollment is now at 19,812 students, and Mazey shared the University’s ultimate goal of 25,000 students, which, if reached, would be comparable to other MAC schools. This enrollment goal requires specific attention to online, non-traditional and veteran students; all of these are growing in enrollment.

In response to a senator’s question about future plans for campus improvements, Mazey spoke about the plans to move the Business College to a renovated Hanna Hall, which is scheduled to have a new addition on the east side of the building – preserving the west side of the building which faces old campus. This proposed project requires $12 million in donations, about half of which has been raised, said Mazey.

“It’s all of you, it’s about the students here at BGSU. All of us are here for you,”

-Mary Ellen Mazey
BGSU President

She was also proud to announce that the Doyt-Perry Stadium, soon to turn 50 years old, is currently being painted and is expected to be completed in time for the homecoming game.

For the second time this year, members of the general assembly addressed the lack of emergency blue lights around campus, particularly in the Greek Village. Mazey explained the safety measures in place in the new village, including exterior cameras that provide footage to the BGSU Police and the emergency buttons located on the lower level of each house.

“(The blue lights) are a safety of the past, and what we’re trying to do is find the safety ways of the future,” Mazey said. She also said that by having Greek life on campus, as opposed to off campus like some universities, sorority and fraternity members exhibit better behavior, which improves the overall safety of students.

Bob Moosbrugger, director of athletics, also spoke briefly at the meeting. He encouraged students to attend and support the athletic events and he gave a few updates about the ice arena, including the replacement of the floor and the installation of a video board.

The video board is being paid for by an advertising partner and will serve as a “great interactive piece for the ice arena that will get fans engaged,” said Moosbrugger.

USG President Amanda Dortch spoke about the Falcon Care Initiative – the program that allows students to donate swipes to be used by students in need. The initiative was created by USG a few years ago, but many students do not know how the program works, or that it even exists. USG intends to work towards spreading awareness of this program.

Dortch also informed the body of a voter registration event scheduled for Sept. 27. The Center for Community and Civic Engagement is hosting the event in the Union Oval and will also be staffing Union tables. The event is a opportunity to register voters for the coming election.

Dortch also informed the body of the upcoming One Grey Dress project. One Grey Dress is a global project that shows support and awareness of human trafficking; participants wear the same grey dress (or shirt) for one month straight. The project this year is being held from Sept. 25 to Oct. 25.
By Holly Shively  
Editor-in-Chief

Students choosing to use campus shuttles instead of trekking across campus may have noticed two changes this year: a younger driver and a shorter route.

Manager of Parking and Shuttle Services for the past six years Aaron Kane said shuttle services started hiring student drivers halfway through last academic year.

There are nine student drivers this year, which is roughly a quarter of all drivers at shuttle services.

The jobs are posted through Student Employment Services, and all students need to apply is a valid driver’s license with no points.

“A lot of transportation options in the area struggle with drivers because it’s part-time, and we have this entire campus full of potential employees,” Kane said.

Parking and Shuttle Services looked at the setups of equivalent departments at The Ohio State University and in Iowa, finding that Iowa’s shuttle services department was founded through students.

Once students are hired to drive shuttles at the University, they must get a commercial driver’s license. Parking and Shuttle Services pays for the on-site training, and all students have to pay for is the final test.

“There were times we had to turn away campus requests” for charter shuttles, but now there are less turn downs, Kane said.

The Shuttle Services Department also gets a new bus every one and a half to two years, and the newest one is a student design.

“Students have made a positive impact on this operation…we really try to utilize our student population because it’s for them,” he said.

Additionally, a new Falcon Express route was added this year, which cuts the 22 to 24 minutes a full loop takes on the Orange Main Route to 12 to 14 minutes.

Amanda Dortch, Undergraduate Student Government president, said the complaint she heard was it takes an hour to get around campus, but the Falcon Express route is “quick, fast and to the point.”

“The conversation is always about what can we do,” she said.

Dortch said it’s important to make sure students are getting to classes and events on time. It’s also important for students to learn intensive new skills, which student employment provides.

Kane said an undergraduate student came to him with several discussion topics, and one of them was the shorter route.

“The more I thought about it, the more I thought that would really benefit us on campus,” he said.

To make the route happen, one of the two buses on the Orange Main route was moved to the new Falcon Express route.

“It improved the efficiency of the shuttle department and our ability to get students around campus quickly and efficiently” without increasing the financial burden, Kane said.

He said the last time a shuttle route was changed was roughly three years ago when on route was adjusted to go to Meijer because ridership was low on the one that went downtown.

Kane said he is always open to suggestions on ways to improve the service.

Shuttle services has been working to reduce the time it takes to loop the Orange route.

PHOTO BY ISAIAH VAZQUEZ

PHOTO BY ISAIAH VAZQUEZ
Organization aims for education, literacy

By Amber Jones
Reporter

Going into its 20th year at the University, America Reads is a program that aims to get students working and reading.

The University picked up the program in the fall of 1997 and it has been a part of the Reading Center ever since.

“I got involved with America Reads my freshmen year,” senior Brittany Allen said. “The program is geared toward reading, and they put an emphasis on that, but we also help students with other homework and activities."

According to the America Reads Website, the program started as an initiative in 1996 by the Clinton Administration, also known as The America Reads Challenge.

This program allows college students to tutor at school districts surrounding the universities they attend based on their work-study eligibility.

Along with having work-study, employees should also have a love for teaching and helping students.

“It has to be something more than just a job, it has to be a love and desire for working with children,” Coordinator of America Reads Marty Sears said.

Employees of America Reads work at schools surrounding the University such as the Bowling Green City Schools, Elmwood District, Eastwood and many more. Hours are flexible depending on what school students are placed in.

“They are anywhere between two and three hour blocks,” Sears said. Employees have to have availability within their schedule, and it is their choice on what their hours will be.

Having additional experience in a school teaches employees how to be quality educators. The program is an asset to many students in building their careers.

As an education major, the program helped Allen gain experience with students and provided an outlet to implement those teachings with the students she tutored.

“Amercica Reads is a really effective program. Actually having us work with students on reading and engaging with them has allowed me to become a better educator,” said Allen.

Although the program is geared toward helping students with literacy, employees also help with other subjects as well. “I’ve helped students with various subjects such as math, science and even some social studies. Every subject involves reading of some sort so being able to help students with multiple subjects is really exciting and also a learning experience for me as well,” Allen said.

However, the America Reads program at the University has seen a decrease in applicants over the years.

“It is amazing what I have had to go through in the last couple of years to get the word out that the program is here and hiring,” Sears said. “I try to encourage, especially those who are education majors, how wonderful it is to have this program on your resume.”

The program is available to anyone who has a work-study and an interest in tutoring students. Please contact Marty Sears at megsear@bgsu.edu for more information.