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Trustees set up year of changes

By Jessica Speweike
Managing Editor

The University’s board of trustees discussed a new winter session, room and board rates, three honorary doctoral degrees and a new name for Hanna Hall at their Feb. 17 meeting.

President Mary Ellen Mazey opened the meeting by recapping the Ice Arena’s 50th Anniversary event and said the University is “in our glory years.”

Mazey also said there are expected to be 1,400 prospective students in attendance for the President’s Day preview event.

After Mazey, Daniel Keller presented a motion for a merger between the General Studies Writing and English departments, which was unanimously approved.

Keller said the merging would “allow for expansion in (the) writing curriculum of BGSU.”

Keller went on the present a motion for the new winter “J-term,” which was approved 6-1 in favor of the motion.

Stephen Daley discussed several motions for funding and pricing for the 2017-2018 academic year. Motions were introduced that would increase the cost of the “average” room rate by 2.1 percent; increase the cost of gold, silver and bronze campus meal plans by 3 percent; and increase the cost of commuter meal plans by 2.9 percent. All proposed increases were unanimously approved.

Student economic and financial challenges and a University need to reinvest in both new and existing housing facilities were all taken into consideration in regard to the increase in costs.

“(It) allows us to continue to provide students access to convenient, dependable and quality dining experiences,” Daley said.

Another of Daley’s financial motions included a revision to academic special course fees.

Daley proposed the revision to support technology needs, lab materials and instructional costs for courses like forensic

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GSS continues sanctuary dialogue

By Keefe Watson
Campus Editor

The Graduate Student Senate continued its discussion about inclusion and diversity, including sanctuary campuses, and passed a resolution that promoted furthering the current program to include post-consumer composting of food thrown away at the University dining facilities.

Faculty has called for a special session next Tuesday,” Robertshaw said. “For any of you who plan to go and voice your opinions…please remain calm, cool and collected.”

Tuesday’s discussion will be centered around the merits of both a “welcome campus” and a “sanctuary campus.” The meeting will be held Tuesday at 2:30 p.m. in the McFall Center Gallery.

Booth also addressed President Mary Ellen Mazey’s mass email on Thursday afternoon to the University community.

“What her email is saying is that we get the fact that there are…problems with students perhaps being harassed on campus…just problems with inclusion and diversity,” Booth said.

She reiterated a key point from Mazey’s email, urging students to report incidents that occur on or off campus concerning any student, faculty or staff member of the University.

“Marketing and communication are going to put it in a much more prominent place,” she said. “So when you see an incident you can easily click on the link that says ‘report it.’”

Booth also ensured GSS that the Graduate College is still admitting international students regardless of what country they may live in.

Academic Affairs Chair Joseph Robertshaw informed GSS of a special upcoming Faculty Senate meeting.

“The disposal of food waste in sanitary landfills results in anaerobic decomposition, releasing methane, a potent greenhouse gas, into the atmosphere thereby raising carbon emissions,” the resolution stated.

GSS hopes that post-consumer composting will be implemented in as many dining facilities as “applicable and practical” if this pilot program is a success.

Environmental Affairs Chair Joshua Chamberland presented the resolution to the body during Friday’s meeting.

“The current program includes only pre-consumer food waste of fruits and veggies,” Chamberland said.

This program allows for about 2,000 pounds of food waste to be composted per week.

“The current proposal is to expand the current program to include post-consumer food waste to one dining facility, likely the Oaks dining facility, for one year to do it as a pilot project,” he said.

The resolution, introduced by Chamberland, passed with no oppositions or abstentions.

Elections for next year’s GSS executive board will be held during its next general assembly meeting on March 24, 2017.
A female’s experience at night

On any given Thursday night this semester, people can find me coming back from my night class with my headphones in so I can listen to music and try to pump myself up for a new episode of “Grey's Anatomy” that starts at 8 p.m. This past Thursday, my routine was slightly interrupted by someone coming up to me and tapping on my shoulder, asking where Hanna Hall was.

That act, in and of itself, isn't a bad thing. It's the fact that I had my headphones in and didn't hear someone come up to me and was repeatedly tapped until my full attention was given to them. The worst part about it was it was another female who seemingly came out of nowhere.

Having been taken out of my normal routine (usually I can get home from class without being stopped by anyone), I wasn’t happy. It was late, I was tired and I just wanted to curl up in bed. Instead, I had to point out how to get to Hanna Hall to someone who I almost punched in the face because she scared the bejeezus out of me.

Which got me thinking: Why is it my first reaction is to punch someone when I’m tapped on my shoulder? To me, the answer’s easy. Women are taught to be on high alert when it’s nighttime and they’re by themselves because of the fear of being attacked.

As much as it sucks, that’s the world we live in.

After a few days of thinking about the innocent tapping (I told you all last week, I overthink everything), I realized why this woman tapped me on my shoulder and not someone else. First off, I’m small. I’m barely five feet tall. As much as I like to think I am sometimes, I’m not that intimidating. And, not that I like putting thoughts in people’s heads, but she probably thought that a woman would be less likely to attack her than if she asked a man who was walking around in the same area I was.

So, the lesson here for everyone: I’m okay with people coming up to me and asking how to get to certain places. I’m not okay with someone coming up from behind me and tapping me on the shoulder and making me turn around, not knowing what to expect. Learn the difference, and everything will be just fine.
Social media’s negative impact on society today

Social media. Reading those words alone makes me either roll my eyes dangerously far back into my head or gives me a strange desire to check what every single person I’ve ever met is up to via their online presence.

A couple months ago I found myself hitting that little “permanently delete” box in the rarely frequented settings of both Facebook and Twitter (cue the gasps). In the months prior, I had battled with deleting my social media apps, vowing to take breaks from caring about what others think of my postings and constantly feeling the need to know what everyone is sharing with the world, but I always found myself re-downloading those cursed little traps after only a week or so of “freedom.”

So, after taking the plunge and deleting my accounts on Facebook and Twitter permanently, here are some things that I think we all keep in the back of our minds but never really discuss about how damaging they are to society and ourselves.

Our concept of self-worth is seriously messed up. We’ve grown accustomed to a certain affirmation coming with every little thing we do. If you’re proud of a funny tweet you came up with and don’t get at least a handful of favorites or retweets, was it really that clever or funny or interesting? Then come the flooding of self-loathing thoughts: “I guess I’m not as funny as I thought I was.” “Should I delete this post because no one has noticed it?”

It took me way longer than I care to admit to realize I was getting so much of my self-worth from social media. It didn’t matter what I said or did in real life, I found myself caring more about what was going to be in solid writing or picture form, online for the world to admire forever.

Then, it’s easy to find yourself only wanting to post what you know will get attention.

We have grown to believe that without social media, we’ll be left out. Maybe this is true to a certain extent, but even if it is, that notion alone is pretty disturbing when you take a step back and look at it. “Wait you don’t have a Facebook? How are you going to stay in touch with people?”

For myself, I found an easy solution to this conundrum - call the people I care about every once in a blue moon, ask what’s going on in my loved one’s lives face-to-face in a personal manner and, most importantly, forget the need to check in on the person I met once years ago, the roommate I never really got along with or the funny account that just makes fun of celebrities. If someone wants to be in your life or if you want to be in theirs, then you really shouldn’t need social media for that relationship to last.

I’m in no way saying I am magically cured from society’s social media addiction. I still have an Instagram and I still scroll around seeing what everyone’s doing. My main point in all this is I’m learning to grow. I’m learning to not be dependent on what others think of me. I’m realizing more and more every day that real relationships matter, real conversations matter.

We’ve become so used to the perfectly edited, filtered versions of ourselves and others that we’re losing our concept of what’s real and what isn’t. It’s been said teenagers right now are on social media around nine hours a day. For years people have discussed the lack of real life communication skills due to reliance on technology, but is the problem getting dangerously worse quicker than we thought?

These of course are just my own personal thoughts. I realize social media can be a great tool for companies, an excuse to see what old friends are up to without actually speaking to them and, ultimately, a fantastic way to admire people’s pets. However, a huge part of me feels as if nothing is real anymore.

Deleting half of my social media accounts is my way of encouraging myself to work on my relationships in a deeper manner and in large part is a metaphorical slap in the face to help me realize that loving myself for, well, myself, is way more important than loving myself for what others think of me.”

Sarah Smith
Forum Editor
sciences, art and aviation. The revision would also eliminate fees for courses that had moved to online formats.

One of the anticipated motions presented by Daley included the proposal to rename Hanna Hall to the Robert W. and Patricia A. Mauer Center. The motion was also unanimously approved.

Robert Mauer graduated from the University with a bachelor’s degree in accounting in 1965.

“We don’t really consider this a gift,” Mauers said. “This is more of an investment… we think this investment will many times be paid back to our community.”

Mazey called the Mauers’ donations a “truly transformational gift” that will “build not only the University, but the community in which the University resides.”

James Bailey, the chair for the development committee, said it was a “great day” for the committee in regards to the Mauers’ namesake.

Three honorary doctoral degrees were also presented during the meeting: Stefan Sanderling received an honorary doctorate of musical arts; Dr. William Easterly received an honorary doctorate in social sciences; and Dr. David Winstanley received an honorary doctorate in business administration.

Board Member Betty Montgomery said the honorary doctorates were a “wonderful way to say thank you to the faculty.”

Each board member then presented a summary of their respective committees, and Amira Hassnaoui and Amanda Dortch presented for Graduate Student Senate and Undergraduate Student Government, respectively.

Hassnaoui discussed her previous work with Bowling Green Councilman Daniel Gordon and their anti-xenophobia resolution that was presented to city council on Jan. 17.

Hassnaoui also said the resolution was recently passed.

Dortch then took to the podium and said it was an “honor to see so many faculty members be awarded today.”

She also previewed a list of upcoming events for USG, including the second USG town hall, and discussed how USG will continue to work on constant communication with University administration.

The next board of trustees meeting will be held on May 5.
Legion continues slew of FX hits

By Jacob Clary  
Pulse Reporter

FX has been on a roll in the last year or so, bringing in quality television shows such as "Atlanta," "American Crime Story: The People v. O.J. Simpson," "Taboo" and its newest addition "Legion." This new addition is a partnership between FX and Marvel Television. The show is based off the Marvel Comic property by the same name written by Chris Claremont and Bill Sienkiewicz, which is connected to the X-Men franchise. Dan Stevens stars in this series as main character David Haller, a mutant who is a diagnosed schizophrenic.

"Legion" hits all of the notes that an X-Men property needs to, and the show's greatness doesn't stop there. I mentioned that the show nails what makes X-Men the way it is, but "Legion" doesn't really feel like I'm watching an X-Men franchise film or series, and I love that. If I didn't know that about the show coming in beforehand, I definitely wouldn't have known by watching episodes, that I can't even come up with a guess as to what they mean. I am intrigued to say the least, and I hope the first two episodes are an indication of how good the rest of them are.

Another part that the show gets right is that each relationship feels real, and that they each matter to one another. The relationship between Haller and Syd Barrett, played by Rachel Keller, especially feels like they actually are important to one another. The person watching the show understands the struggles that are going on with the relationship, and you want them to be together.

Alongside that, the acting in the show is superb. Dan Stevens kills the role of Haller, making the viewer think he really is sick and crazy. Every time he is on screen, I wonder if he is going to blow up, and do something erratic, or if he will ever actually get better.

More Shows of 2017 To Look Out For

"Big Little Lies" HBO is pulling out all the stops for their newest miniseries. A-listers Reese Witherspoon, Nicole Kidman, Shailene Woodley star as prominent Northern California wives and mothers who each have something to hide. The series is already making a major splash since its premiere on Sunday with its biting humor and intriguing mysteries.

"Santa Clarita Diet" Drew Barrymore and Timothy Olyphant star as married California realtors in this Netflix original horror comedies. The couples’ seemingly ideal life takes a nasty and gory turn though when Barrymore’s character becomes a zombie.

"Taboo" Acclaimed movie star Tom Hardy makes the transition to the small screen with this British drama. A period piece, the 8-part series is set in 1814 and follows a man, long presumed dead, who returns to London to inherit his father’s shipping business and recreate his own life.

"Riverdale" CW’s newest series is already a hit. Based on the classic Archie comic books, this series takes a much darker, juicier and, yes, sexier tone. The show is equal part neo-noir mystery and teen drama, but more than anything it’s incredibly addicting whether you grew up with Archie, Betty, Veronica, and the gang or not.

"The Good Fight" Powerhouse performer Christine Baranski returns as Diane Lockhart in the legal drama. When the series begins she’s lost her savings due to a financial scam and is forced out of retirement. Rounding out the impressive cast are Rose Leslie, Cush Jumbo, Justin Bartha, and the legendary Bernadette Peters in a recurring role.
Play reimagines classic story well

By Meredith Siegel

Margaret Atwood is a well-known feminist author and she definitely shows it in her play “The Penelopiad,” currently being performed by the University’s Theatre Department.

In history, “The Odyssey” has been told and retold as a man’s story and within it there is a certain image of Penelope that is typically portrayed. Penelope is hailed as the “perfect, faithful wife” and as a standard woman. But early in director Sara Chamber’s version of the play, Penelope expresses her regret and urges the audience to not follow in her footsteps. Her story is an example of missed empowerment, because she could have taken control of her life and her kingdom, but she waited for her husband to return home.

The maids also tell their own feminist story. Women’s bodies have been used for centuries for work and for male pleasure and “The Penelopiad” makes that clear. Penelope’s 12 maids work in her favor but give themselves to the suitors to protect Penelope. They are condemned by Telemachus, killed by Odysseus himself, despite their loyalty to his wife and his kingdom. While Penelope’s story is about her missed empowerment, the 12 maids who were born into slavery and used for their bodies were never given the chance for empowerment.

Penelope narrates her own story from the Ancient Greek afterlife, after she has died. She is joined by her husband, her son, and her cousin, the famous Helen of Troy. Most of her story is acted out by her 12 maids. They portray characters like her parents, Odysseus’ parents, and her suitors, but also take on more abstract roles like Penelope’s bed and Odysseus’ boat.

Penelope starts her story from her birth and continues on through her life as she marries Odysseus, has her son, waits 20 years for Odysseus to return from war while being constantly hounded by suitors and her eventual death. Every so often she is interrupted by her maids as they chant or sing to tell their own story, one of being born into slavery and used however their masters pleased.

The play stars Katya Dachik as Penelope, and while the show is traditionally cast with only women, two men portray Penelope’s husband, Odysseus played by Jarod Mariani, and her son, Telemachus. Dachik’s performance as Penelope is subtle but captivating. Much of the play is Penelope addressing the audience and describing her life, but the audience stays interested in her story. The audience wants to root for Penelope and to know how her story ends. Penelope stays relatively stoic for most of the play, but the end is definitely when Dachik is at her best.

The 12 maids also give a strong performance. Their chants and songs gave me goose bumps. As stated above, they portray most characters in this story and it is interesting to watch them change from bed post, to maid, to suitor as the plot moves along.

There are only two men in this play, and their performances were not as captivating or interesting as the women in the show. That’s okay, however, because the show isn’t about them. The men don’t dominate the show and they aren’t supposed to.

The sets and costumes are simple but interesting and are sprinkled with Ancient Greek letters. The set only includes two sets of staircases and the maids all wear the same outfit. This makes it clear that they are one entity, used to tell the story of our impoverished and enslaved female ancestors who were used by men and ignored by history. The simplicity of the set and the costumes really gets across the point that Penelope is telling her story from the afterlife.

“The Penelopiad” tells an ancient story in a fresh, new way with noteworthy performances, feminist themes and surprisingly good music.

Improvising group promotes women in comedy

By Megan Wimsatt

Comedy is for everyone and one group on campus takes that to heart.

Lady Parts is an all-female improv group on campus. The group is five years old and was started as a way to provide a specific voice in comedy.

“A lot of the improv groups on campus are co-ed but they don’t have a lot of girls in them, or the boy to girl ratio is kind of unbalanced so they wanted to start a group that was all female to have a female voice in comedy and to show that women are funny,” sophomore member Katelyn Eisenmann said.

Callie Inkrott, the director of Lady Parts, said something similar regarding the group.

“We are a team who is all about women empowerment,” she said. “We are in a world where women are not recognized on the same level that men are when it comes to comedy, so Lady Parts is established for the expressed purpose of promoting the positive representation of women in comedy.”

On top of providing a voice in comedy, Lady Parts tries to raise awareness about issues. The group puts on an event called Women in Comedy and all proceeds from the show go into helping The Cocoon Shelter. By doing this, there is a voice not only in the arts but in the community as well, Eisenmann said.

Inkrott said donations from Women in Comedy are collected through admissions and a raffle. She also said that the group donates to The Cocoon as a way to support battered women and what they may be going through.

“Lady Parts is a group that serves to empower women, and it is such a neat collision when we mix sexual violence awareness with comedy,” Inkrott said.

“Lady Parts aims to uplift women who are dealing with sexual violence, and we want to support them in any way that we can.”

The eleven-member group has a multitude of games for their performances, one being “Weekend at Bernie’s.” The game involves four performers who go through a scene once and then the audience chooses one performer to be ‘dead’. The rest of the performers have to prop up the ‘dead’ performer and do their voice and the cycle is repeated until one performer is left to move the others.

“I think the audience just likes to see us sweat,” Eisenmann said. “I think it’s funny for them to see us kind of like a chicken with our heads cut off running around on stage.”

Eisenmann feels like the recognition of Lady Parts on campus has changed from previous years.

“We’ve gotten a lot more presence on campus this year than I feel there has been in past years. Last year I didn’t know what Lady Parts was, and this year I feel like it’s everywhere… I think this year has definitely been the year of Lady Parts. We’re really coming into our own,” Eisenmann said.

Lady Parts received support from a wide group of people at their last joint performance with The Plastic Shatners, including roommates. Sarah McClure is roommates with Inkrott and attended the show. McClure has only been to four improv shows, but is enjoying the performances.

“I didn’t know what to expect after the first one,” McClure said, but finds the shows funny.

Comedy can be used as a creative outlet and the group can be used to explore interests as well.

“I’ve always loved stand-up comedy. I’ve always loved ‘SNL’, so I thought improv would be really cool,” Eisenmann said.

The group will be opening for The Vagina Monologues, which are February 24th and 25th at 8:00 p.m., and February 26th at 3:00 p.m. in Olscamp 101. Lady Parts will also be holding their next mini Women in Comedy Show on April 29th at 7 p.m. in Olscamp 117.
UAO discusses campus activities

By Keefe Watson
Campus Editor

The University Activities Office hosted a town hall meeting in an effort to learn what sort of events students want the University to host, including entertainment, excursions and campus events.

The meeting was held in collaboration with the Undergraduate Student Government. UAO Vice President of Membership Maddie Baumle and USG Vice President Richard Racette.

“We want to use this opportunity to brainstorm some ideas for on-campus activities and get a better idea of what students want to do,” Racette said.

This semester, UAO will be hosting a Mardi Gras celebration on Feb. 28, Sibs N Kids weekend March 31-April 2, music artists during Dance Marathon and a de-stress event at the end of April.

The Mardi Gras celebration will take place in the Union Ballroom from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. on April. This event could serve as somewhat of a showcase for student organizations.

“Different ideas we have are a trip to Ann Arbor or to Cleveland depending upon what’s going on during the different weekends we’re looking at,” Baumle said.

UAO’s excursions are day bus trips. Most recently, UAO hosted a trip to Dave and Busters. The trip was completely free for students, and included a $10 gaming card. In the fall, UAO hosted a day trip to Chicago.

Suggestions for Cedar Point, Hocking Hills, Washington, D.C. and various water parks were made during the meeting.

UAO’s entertainment programming team took suggestions including a program highlighting the many performing student organizations.

“I think that there’s such a compounded benefit when you go to a student org event,” USG Senator Joseph Tansey said. “UAO could use some of their resources and talent to help boost events that… support our student orgs.”

This event could serve as somewhat of a showcase for student organizations.

“It might be interesting to do something like that even earlier in the year because it could, one, entertain, but it could also serve as a recruitment informational for new or even continuing students,” Dean and USG Advisor Jodi Webb said.

According to Baumle, UAO has teamed with student organizations in the past, including the Plastic Shatners improv group and We Are One.

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According to Baumle, UAO has teamed with student organizations in the past, including the Plastic Shatners improv group and We Are One Team, and seeks to do the same in the future with other organizations.

UAO’s OrgSync page also has a collaboration request form that organizations can fill out to collaborate in planning an event with UAO.

Discussion on Monday night also turned to choosing performers who have wide appeal to students.

“The hard part is that wide-appeal is expensive,” one UAO member said.

In an attempt to find out what performers students would like to see visit the University, UAO has made a survey and published it to its Facebook page.

“We’ve recently added inclusivity to our mission statement,” Baumle said. “So we’re definitely looking at the broader spectrum (of genres).”

UAO’s social media handle for Twitter and Instagram is @bgsu_UAO. UAO can also be found and contacted through Facebook, OrgSync, its University website and its email: bg.uao.su@gmail.com.

“Feel free to reach out to us at any point,” Baumle said. “We’re definitely here to give back to all of you.”

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Mitch McLain finds fit with Falcons

By Zane Miller
Assistant Sports Editor

Mitch McLain is a junior forward for the Falcons hockey team, where he is currently leading not only the team in goals, but all of the Western Collegiate Hockey Association.

“I just think my day to day (effort) has been a lot better and more consistent,” McLain said. “Just getting into a routine, knowing what I need to do to prepare myself for the weekend, I think that’s been the biggest thing I’ve kind of learned my first two years being here and I’m starting to develop here my third year.”

McLain grew up in Baxter, Minn., where he learned to play hockey on frozen ponds during the wintertime. McLain also began his hockey career with the Langley Rivermen of the British Columbia Hockey League, when he spent two seasons prior to joining the Falcons.

“(I started) when I was three or four years old,” McLain said. “I just started skating on the lake and then got into it on Ice Mites, just like anybody pushing the cone around, so that’s where I started.”

McLain has netted 16 goals during the 2016-17 campaign, already twice as many goals as he had the season before. With two games still remaining in the regular season, McLain is looking to add to those totals in order to make a strong push going into the playoffs.

“The last few weeks I hadn’t been where I want to be with my game,” McLain said. “Just getting back to my top level and my top confidence, I think that starts in practice each day and I think if I do that then I’ll be ready to go.”

McLain came to Bowling Green not only to be a part of a prestigious team, but also because of the veteran leadership that was present around the team.

“I had a couple relationships with Matt Pohlkamp and then Ryan Peltoma who played here and Coach (Ty) Eigner was from my hometown,” McLain said. “So when they recruited me, I knew people in the process and got all the questions I had answered and it definitely eliminated some gray area for me. I knew I had a special opportunity to come here and play and it was just a good fit.”

While playing with the Falcons, McLain has made physical conditioning a priority and has used several different techniques to his advantage.

“During the week, it started with extra sessions on the ice,” McLain said. “Then riding the bike at night. I’ve been doing a lot more stretching during the year and trying to eat better, which definitely helps. I think going to bed earlier, that’s been the biggest thing in getting up each day.”

Having a level of consistency has also been at the forefront of McLain’s playing style, as well as being skilled both offensively and defensively to give the team the best chance to win.

“I think it’s just to be able to play both ways,” McLain said. “Be a 200 foot guy and then the consistency you have to bring every night at this level is obviously something that, if you’re not consistent, you’re going to get exposed for it. When you’re on your game and you’re playing well, things can go well for your team and for yourself.”

McLain is also studying to be an intervention specialist, which has helped him to balance his hockey career and school responsibilities.

“It’s been good,” McLain said. “I’ve got a lot of support from my teammates and the coaching staff with that and the advisors do the best they can. Taking summer classes here and there definitely puts you ahead of the eight ball, which is good so you can focus on hockey during the year.”

While McLain wants to continue his hockey career with the Falcons, he also wants to make it a point to work as a teacher down the road.

“Hopefully I’ll play hockey as long as I can,” McLain said. “I’m probably going to have to do student teaching at some point. With our schedule during the year it makes it tough to get all those hours, but whenever hockey’s done I’m definitely going to come back and get that because I want to be a teacher and I want to impact kids.”

The team has also recognized McLain’s efforts this season and see it as a major contributing factor to their success this season.

“His impact has been huge,” Falcons Head Coach Chris Bergeron said. “It’s been well-documented that we’ve lost some offense from last year to this year, whether it was through transferring or graduation, we needed some guys internally to step up. Some guys internally have had difficult years offensively and Mitch hasn’t. Mitch has had a pretty darn good year, offensively he’s stepped up big time.”

The team also wants to make sure that McLain stays a well-rounded player for their playoff run.

“The one thing is we don’t want him to forget what makes him Mitchell,” Bergeron said. “With that motor that he plays with and the grease and the heart that he plays with, sometimes when the offense comes you forget about some of the other things you bring to the table. I’m not saying Mitch has done that, I’m saying that’s the challenge because he has had such a good year offensively. I don’t want to say I’m surprised, because I’m not surprised, it’s been a great year for him and good for him.”

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Mens Baseball swept by Texas A&M

By Zane Miller
Assistant Sports Editor

The Falcons baseball team was swept by the Texas A&M Aggies, losing 15-1 on Friday night, then falling 19-2 and 16-5 in a Saturday doubleheader.

“We had the same problems all three games,” Schmitz said. “Defensively we were not very good, Texas A&M’s a really good ball club. They can really swing the bats and get on base. Friday’s game began with Texas A&M scoring a pair of runs in the first inning on an RBI double and single to take an early 2-0 lead. The score remained the same until Texas A&M doubled their lead in the second game of the doubleheader, Texas A&M continued the momentum into the sixth with a run-scoring balk and solo home run to take a 15-1 victory.

“We played like we hadn’t been on a baseball field for three months,” Schmitz said. “We committed five errors and we had numerous mental mistakes, struck out 14 times and actually (junior pitcher) Tyler Anderson pitched pretty darn good and didn’t get much support defensively. It turned into a very ugly game.”

The other two games of the series were initially scheduled to be played Saturday and Sunday; however, with inclement weather expected on Sunday, that day’s game was moved up to Saturday for a doubleheader.

The first game of Saturday’s doubleheader also began with Texas A&M getting on the board first, this time with an RBI single in the first inning and an RBI triple and three run home run for a 4-0 Texas A&M lead.

The score remained the same until the fifth inning when sophomore catcher Jeff Scott hit the first home run for the Falcons this season on a solo shot to cut the lead to 4-1. However, Texas A&M would respond in the bottom half of the inning, scoring nine runs on two bases loaded walks, two RBI singles, a third bases loaded walk and three more RBI singles. Texas A&M continued the momentum into the sixth with a run-scoring balk and solo home run to take a 15-1 advantage. The Falcons got a run back in the eighth inning off a sacrifice fly from sophomore infielder Mitchell Schneider, but Texas A&M came back with a two run home run, a bases loaded hit by pitch and a bases loaded walk to take the 19-2 win.

“There’s a number of areas where we have to improve,” Schmitz said. “Pitching, defense, hitting, we’ve got to improve all of them.”

In the second game of the doubleheader, Texas A&M jumped out to another early lead with an RBI single in the first inning. However, things began to look more promising for the Falcons when freshman outfielder Jake Wilson netted his first collegiate RBI on a groundout to tie the game at one apiece in the third inning. In the fourth, the team took their first lead of the series on a two RBI triple from sophomore infielder Riley Minorik for a 3-1 Falcon advantage.

The lead did not last long, however, as Texas A&M had three RBI singles and a run scored on a throwing error in the bottom half of the inning to take a 5-3 advantage. The offense continued for Texas A&M into the fifth, as a two RBI single, a two run fielding error and two RBI doubles resulted in an 11-3 lead. In the seventh, Texas A&M added five more runs on a run scoring fielder’s choice, RBI double, two RBI triple and another fielder’s choice. The Falcons were able to tack on two more runs of their own on a two RBI single by junior infielder Derek Drewes, but was not enough to overcome Texas A&M, who took the sweep with the 16-5 win.

“We just kept shooting ourselves in the foot time and time again and good teams figure out a way to get that changed around,” Schmitz said. “If we’re going to be a good team, that’s what we’ve got to do.”

The team will next play in the Mule Mix Classic tournament in Nashville, Tenn., facing the Lipscomb Bisons on Friday afternoon, the Middle Tennessee Blue Raiders on Saturday afternoon and the Belmont Bruins on Sunday afternoon.
Speaker opens up about open borders

By Hannah Finnerty
City Editor

While immigration and refugees have been in the national spotlight for the past few weeks and continue to be a pressing issue in Washington, Joseph Carens, professor of political science at the University of Toronto, brought discussion on migrants and refugees to the University's campus.

Carens’ speech echoed the themes he presented in his latest book, “The Ethics of Immigration.” He said he believed borders should be open and people should be free to move and settle where they choose, unlike President Trump’s isolationist stance on immigration.

“In many ways, citizenship in Western democracies is the modern equivalent of feudal class privilege,” he said. “The inherited status greatly enhances your life chances.”

For Carens, being born in America and being granted citizenship is similar to being born into nobility, where being born into citizenship in a poor country is like being born into the peasantry. Which class, or in Carens’ case, country, a person is born into is based entirely on luck.

Regarding immigrants without current legal documentation, Carens said whether they crossed a border illegally or came to the United States legally and overstayed their visa, the longer one stays in a society, the more one becomes ingrained in the society. Many of these migrants have been in the United States since childhood and don’t know anything about their home country or language.

He said sending them back to their home countries is a mistake, especially when they are active and contributing members to an American society and economy. Irregular migrants should enjoy most of the civil social rights that citizens enjoy, but their citizenship status often prevents them from doing so.

“It makes no sense to provide people with purely formal legal rights when the conditions make it possible for people to exercise those rights are ineffective,” Carens said.

For example, irregular migrants have the right to report a crime or access emergency health care. However, the fear of the police department or the hospital reporting their status to immigration officials and in turn, being deported is a deterrent. Because of this fear, crimes against irregular migrants are often not reported.

While Carens’ rationale for open borders is rooted in current political atmosphere, his justification for accepting refugees is historically rooted in the Holocaust. Jewish Europeans feared for their lives, and Western countries failed to accept Jewish refugees.

“If you look at the responses to Jewish refugees in the late 30s, it’s striking how many echoes we hear with contemporary concerns and attitudes,” Carens said. It was “a profound moral failure, something we should acknowledge as a shameful moment in our history and resolve never to repeat.”

Those echoes include rhetoric such as: “It’s not our fault and we’ve got our own problems.” “We have an obligation to look out for our own needy first,” “They don’t share our Christian or democratic values;” and “Refugees could pose security threats.”

He warned we are indeed repeating ourselves now with refugees from countries like Iraq and Afghanistan, countries that are producing refugees because of U.S. military influence in the region.

“We have a moral responsibility to find homes and permanent solutions for refugees that have had to flee their own homes because of our actions,” he said.

He also said environmental refugees are U.S. concern as well and should have special consideration. The economic and environmental policies in the United States are contributing to global warming which is causing thousands of people to flee their homes.

Cash is key to overcoming poverty

By Holly Shively
Editor-in-Chief

When facing poverty, the biggest obstacle is money.

As a speaker for the University’s Presidents United to Solve Hunger initiative, Luke Shafer, author of “$2 a Day: Living on Almost Nothing in America,” said when faced with buying clothes and diapers or paying heating and water bills, many families living in poverty struggle because they don’t have access to cash.

“When you have a question about what it’s like to live in poverty, you should go out and talk to people who experience it,” he said.

To do so, he went to places like Chicago, talking to people like Madonna Harris, a woman who was fired from a job for being $10 short in her drawer at work. Even though the money was found the next day, she was not given her job back. That job was her only access to cash. She also couldn’t afford a place to live in Chicago.

“How many times do we walk by somebody like Madonna Harris, and we don’t think for a second about what their story is and what their experiences are,” he asked. “How many times are we sitting in class with someone with experiences like that?”

Most people keep those intimate experiences to themselves as a survival strategy, he said.

“Because we’re so divided and we don’t know so many of the stories of the people who are trying to stay hidden” we let our biases creep into our views of poverty.

Shafer said to solve poverty, we need to solve the social rejection, which triggers the same feeling as physical pain.

“What if we do things radically different,” he asked. “Can we have programs that don’t strip people of their dignity but actually enhance it?”

To do this, the poor need to stop being singled out. Shafer said Social Security is the best poverty solution in the United States because it is open to everyone and also reduces hardship for those who need it. Increasing social connections are also important to enhancing dignities.

With few options to obtain cash for these necessities, some families opt to sell their SNAP - previously called food stamps - at local grocery stores, often only receiving $60 in cash for every $100 of SNAP.

“That is a lot of lost purchasing power,” he said. “That, to me, sort of speaks to the power of cash, that families who are on the very edge of things would rather give up $40 or $50 out of $100 to have the flexibility of cash.”

Selling SNAP also happens to be a serious felony. Penalties for SNAP trafficking can be more extensive than robbing a bank.

The other option many families choose is selling plasma, which becomes dangerous for some. One personal account in Shafer’s book was selling her plasma twice a week, despite being too small to do so. To make sure she would be able to donate twice a week, she had rituals including an iron bar on donation days.

The money she received from donating plasma was the only income her family had each week. Her twice weekly donations were crucial, and she even had scars from donating too often. The United States is the only country in the world that lets people donate plasma twice in a single week.

The number of plasma donations over the last decade has tripled and there were 35.5 million donations in 2015.
Citizens speak with senators

By Tessa Phillips
Reporter

Since the recent inauguration, there has been an influx of citizens calling their elected representatives to discuss President Trump’s proposed legislation as well as his picks for Cabinet, Supreme Court and department heads.

But is the practice of contacting government officials effective?
According to Dylan Poe, president of the University’s College Democrats organization, it is.
“Even people call their representatives on a particular issue, the elected officials will hear about it,” he said.

This was demonstrated in the outcome of the Senate vote that took place on Feb. 7 and appointed Betsy DeVos as the nation’s education secretary. Republican senators Susan Collins of Maine and Lisa Murkowski of Alaska voted against her nomination because of constituent phone calls. The vote was so close that Vice President Mike Pence had to vote to break the tie, a first in Senate history.

“While this wasn’t enough to block her confirmation entirely, it is an example of how contacting government officials is actually worth your time,” Poe said.

Poe, who has personally contacted several representatives including Senator Rob Portman as well as U.S. Representatives Bob Latta and Jim Jordan, said it is far more effective to call legislators than to email them.

There are other ways to maximize efficacy when contacting legislators, according to The Leadership Conference, a national civic and human rights coalition. On their website they provide a compilation of tips on calling legislators, such as being direct in stating the purpose of your call, and making sure to call your own senators and representatives as they will be primarily concerned with the residents of their districts.

In addition to these tips, the Union of Concerned Scientists offers its own list of additional pointers on how to be productive when contacting representatives. According to USC, constituents should:

- Call congressional offices directly or through the switchboard
- Be brief
- Note their expertise
- Know their facts
- Be timely
- Consider calling the local office

Sophomore psychology and Spanish major Ian Russell said he believes that calling one’s senators is an important practice, and that all students should strive to be more involved in politics.

“Political efficacy and awareness is the key to a functional and democratic society,” Russell said. “We all have to be aware of our power in order to have it.”

Russell said he has acted on this principle several times by attending protests and helping to canvas a campaign for the Ohio House of Representatives.

Like Russell, students can get engaged

Continues on Page 16
By Quentin Ison

On Feb. 17, Bowling Green Parks and Recreation and the College of Musical Arts hosted the 11th annual Brown Bag Music Festival at the Simpson Building.

A crowd of nearly 80 Bowling Green residents and community members showed up to watch the hour-long musical performance while eating their packed lunches. This month's set list was an ode to Black History Month. Two performers traded off singing a variety of folk, soul and gospel songs.

Performer Latara Jackson sang many Southern inspired slavery songs such as "Is There Anybody Here" and "The Battle of Jericho."

"I chose many of these samples and selections not because it is part of my heritage as an African-American woman, but because I grew up in Chattanooga, Tennessee where there is a lot of the black history," Jackson said.

Jackson's voice and message earned her a standing ovation from the crowd after her final selection, a rendition of the southern gospel "Deep River," a song that demanded a great deal of range and breath control.

Performer Christopher Collins, a graduate of the University of Michigan with a degree in music education, also performed a variety of soul songs. However, they were not as regionally tied as Jackson's selections. Collins performed renditions of "Give Me Jesus" and "Swing Low, Sweet Chariot."

"I chose many of these songs because they spoke to me in a spiritual sense," Collins said. "The African-American people are traditionally a very religious group and wanted that to resonate through the choices in my selections."

Collin's baritone voice and enthusiasm helped guide his performance to a success.

Community members and staff said they were enthralled by the music and the sense of community the Brown Bag Music Festival provided.

"I have been coming to the Simpson Building for nine years. This event is a perfect example of community and how everyone works together as a unit to put together such a wonderful show and event," spectator Linda James said.

Other Bowling Green locals came to the event purely for the experience and the surroundings.

"I come to hear a variety of different genres of music and entertainment," spectator Janet Smith said. "It is a great opportunity to be exposed to types of the music you normally wouldn't listen to otherwise."

Events at the Simpson Building are hosted monthly. On March 3 from 11:45 a.m. - 1 p.m., the building will host a variety of woodwind instrument performances called "Flutes, Oboes and Bassoons, O My!"

For more information visit www.bgohio.org/parks or call the Simpson Building at 419-354-6223.
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Senators continued from Page 13

in politics on a local level. In addition to calling representatives, Poe said students can participate in peaceful protests or do something as simple as registering to vote.

Students can also join political organizations on campus, such as Poe’s College Democrats, which meets on Thursdays at 7:30 p.m. in room 103 of the Business Administration Building. For a complete listing of the political organizations offered at the University, students can visit the Student Org Directory at http://bgsu.orgsync.com/

“Regardless of your political affiliation, I would personally like to encourage you to get involved as much as possible,” Poe said. “We cannot afford to be silent, especially at a time in our political history like this.”

It is always the simple things that change our lives. And these things never happen when you are looking for them to happen. Life will reveal answers at the pace life wishes to do so. You feel like running, but life is on a stroll.

Donald Miller
QUOTE OF THE DAY

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The Daily Crossword Fix

ACROSS
1 Ashley, to Mary-Kate 4 Martin and Cain 9 Role on “Black-ish” 12 Defunct airline 13 ___ ease; nervous 14 E-mail provider for millions 15 Monogram for Pooh’s creator 16 Actress Verdugo 17 Actress Panabaker 18 Shininess 20 Marcia of “Desperate Housewives” 22 Role on “Castle” 26 USNA freshman 27 Bell and Barker 28 Role on “How I Met Your Mother” 29 “... You Smarter Than a 5th Grader?” 32 “Without a ___” 35 Actress on “Last Man Standing” 39 French farewell

DOWN
1 Male deer 2 “... the Line”; hit song for Johnny Cash 3 American ___ Pago Pago’s location 4 Actor Vin 5 Perpendicular building wing 6 Tavern order 7 Fabray, to friends 8 Robert ___ of “Unsolved Mysteries” 9 Ms. Fanning 10 Rump ___ cuts of beef 11 Actor Ron and his family 12 Engine additive touted as “The Racer’s Edge” 13 American rock band 14 Mrs. Rubble 15 “Siskel & ___” 16 Fragrant wood 17 Mitchell or McKeil 18 “... in the Sun”; movie for Sidney Poitier

Answers:

1 Ashley, to Mary-Kate 4 Martin and Cain 9 Role on “Black-ish” 12 Defunct airline 13 ___ ease; nervous 14 E-mail provider for millions 15 Monogram for Pooh’s creator 16 Actress Verdugo 17 Actress Panabaker 18 Shininess 20 Marcia of “Desperate Housewives” 22 Role on “Castle” 26 USNA freshman 27 Bell and Barker 28 Role on “How I Met Your Mother” 29 “... You Smarter Than a 5th Grader?” 32 “Without a ___” 35 Actress on “Last Man Standing” 39 French farewell

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