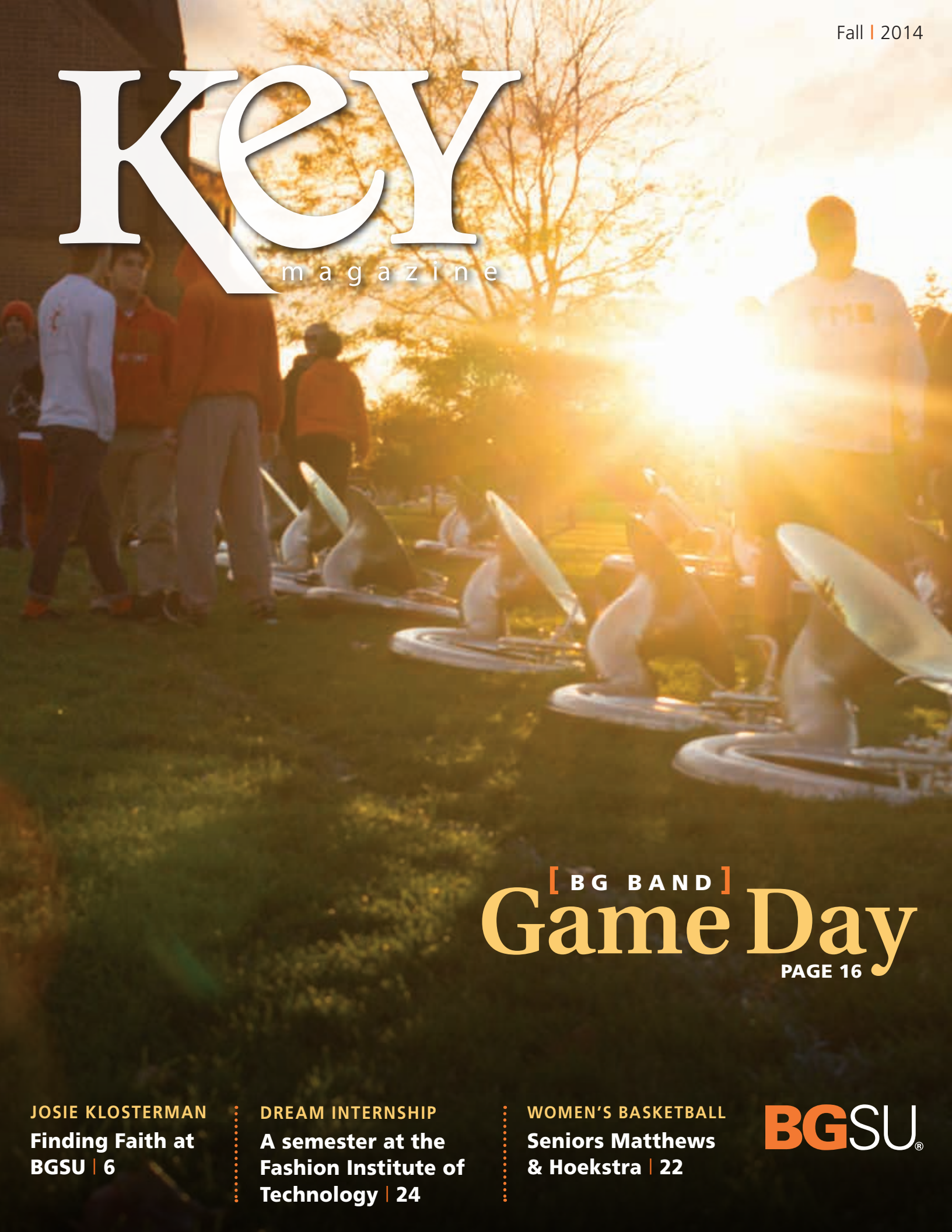


KEY

magazine



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Letter from THE EDITOR

Dear Readers,

Another semester is about to come to a close and I can't believe it! I have met some amazing people and have learned a great deal. I took on the task of balancing being a student, athlete and editor. At times I felt myself falling off that balance beam. However, with the hard work, passion and creativity of each and every person who helped create this issue of Key, we did it!

One of my favorite things about Key is that anyone can be involved. Everyone has something to offer and I'm so impressed with the students and faculty I worked with this semester. I saw students who may not have written a journalistic article in their life write pieces about topics of interest and relatability. I saw photographers work hard to give each story life. I saw the art of design grace each page of the magazine. I saw new innovations like our release party become a reality because of hard work and persistence. I also saw myself grow into someone who could delegate (reluctantly I might add), could work hard when it was crunch time, and, despite a tear or two, could balance everything that was put on my plate.

To students, faculty and staff: I present to you the fall 2014 edition of Key Magazine. I hope you can see our hard work and love for journalism while flipping through the pages. I hope you all have a wonderful holiday season, and we will see you in the spring!

Sincerely,
Lily Bartell

KEY MAGAZINE

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Questions related to advertising in Key Magazine may be directed to Assistant Director of Student Media Tonya Whitman at twhitma@bgsu.edu or by calling 419-372-0430.

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Student Media, School of Media and Communication



EDITOR
Lily Bartell

ASSISTANT EDITOR
Audrey Quinn

WRITERS

Natalie Baransy
Lily Bartell
Hannah Benson
Jasmine Burnett
Amy Faber
Patricia Holt
Tiffany Jackson
Elena Lancioni
Jackie Luedtke
Audrey Quinn
Holly Shively
Cameron Teague-Robinson

COPY EDITORS

Lily Bartell
Audrey Quinn

EVENT PLANNING

Ariella Centlivre

PHOTOGRAPHERS

Lily Bartell
Amy Faber
Patricia Holt
Molly Thobe

DESIGNERS

Kristen Grom
Krystin Reiser
Eric Pothast
Alyssa Pine
Tyler Liber
Paul Obringer



Service!

THE MANY DEFINITIONS

By Jackie Luedkte

“You don’t make friends when you join ROTC, you join a family.”

— Bailey Counts

Community service, military service, service to your religious institution, court-ordered service or service to your fraternity brothers or sorority sisters. Students across campus may have different ideas about what service means to them, but there are two groups at BGSU that are taking service to another level.

First, there are Civic Action Leaders (CAL) through the Office of Service-Learning. This small group is striving to create a culture of service on campus through service projects, outreach, alternative break trips and volunteer fairs. CAL participants receive a scholarship that incorporates an internship model so students gain skills such as professional development, leadership and public speaking.

The Office of Service-Learning searches for potential CAL students each year to go through their three year program and each student helps the office in a variety of ways. First, students support existing programs the Office of Service-Learning hosts such as the Volunteer Fair held at the beginning of each year.

Areas the CAL students are looking to expand is their one-on-one consultations with students and presentations to student groups around campus. CAL members not only want to help individual students find their service niche, but they also want

student organizations to find a way to give back in a meaningful way as a group.

Emma Sales, a senior CAL student, said, “This is a lot more than just planning events.” The CAL program has five competencies they hope each student gains by the end of the program such as diversity, inclusion and leadership.

“I’ve always been driven by service, but I didn’t know how much I would gain out of the program,” Sales said.

In addition to the CAL program, the Office of Service-Learning offers many events for students to get involved throughout the year. Two larger initiatives include the alternative break program called bGAB and Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. (MLK) Day of Service in January.

bGAB is a newer initiative started by one of the CAL students and focuses on poverty and homelessness. In its second year, bGAB sends students on service trips over fall and spring breaks to areas such as Detroit, Chicago and Cincinnati.

Jeremy Doughty is a doctoral student working in the office and said the program is student-run so there are no faculty or staff members accompanying students on the trip. The goal for the upcoming spring break will be five trips available to students and the aim is always to keep the opportunity affordable at around \$200 or less.

One of the biggest events of the year is

“We are working hard to let people know about what we do. We want to create a culture of service and create sustainable models to make that happen.”

— Emma Sales

the MLK Day of Service known nationally as a “day on” instead of a day off for students and professionals alike. This past January was the biggest year yet with over 800 students participating. Students travel all over Northwest Ohio helping area non-profits and agencies.

The morning starts with an opening ceremony. Students then travel to their sites for the afternoon and return back to

campus for an engaging closing ceremony where students can celebrate the work that was accomplished. The Office of Service-Learning is currently looking for individuals and groups to participate.

“We are working hard to let people know about what we do. We want to create a culture of service and create sustainable models to make that happen,” Sales said.

Another definition of service comes from the students in the Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps Detachment 620. The main Air Force goal is to prepare college graduates for the Air Force as incoming officers.

ROTC students not only attend classes, but also have the added responsibilities that come with the program such as physical training, leadership courses and detachment jobs for their four years at BGSU.

Tori Trottier, a junior in the detachment, describes the ROTC as, “a completely different lifestyle and almost impossible to explain. It’s only 2 to 3 credits, but you put 10 to 15 hours or more per week into it.”

In addition to the required work, the Air Force expects all students to adhere and follow their core values, which are integrity first, service before self and excellence in all you do.

Thaddeus Atalig, a sophomore member, adds, “You hold yourself to a higher standard in the ROTC. It teaches you to be a better person, respect authority, become a good leader and follower, become physically fit and focus on academics.”

Students in the Air Force have a unique perspective of service on campus. Jessica Gregor, a junior ROTC member says, “It is about making a sacrifice. The military is

its own service for everyone in the United States. We uphold the Constitution and keeping everyone safe. We don’t just go into work every day, we are providing a service for everyone.”

Trottier also explained that the ROTC requires students to complete community service projects on weekends on top of their work during the week.

“You can’t do all the fun stuff on the weekend. You have to get the job done and you have to do it well,” she said.

In addition to making sacrifices through service, the community of the ROTC adds something unique on campus.

Bailey Counts, sophomore, described her experience in the program. “A lot of friends that I made my first year, I didn’t keep because they would skip classes and scarf down pizza late at night. I couldn’t because I have a future and a goal. A lot of kids just want to get their degree, but I have a plan. I know exactly what I’m going to do when I graduate,” she said.

In addition to creating a highly structured environment for students, it also provides a support system for members. Trottier explains that members are supposed to look out for each other and be a wingman for everyone in the program. This role is called wingmanship.

“You can make friends outside of ROTC but they aren’t going to go to the lengths as other Cadets will. That’s not something you find in the civilian world,” Counts said. “You don’t make friends when you join ROTC, you join a family.” ■ KEY



“You hold yourself to a higher standard in the ROTC.”

— Thaddeus Atalig



By Patricia Holt
Photos courtesy of Patricia Holt

“It’s OK to have doubts. It’s OK to have questions. I think many are under the impression that you are not allowed to question the written word, but that is not the case.”

— Josie Klosterman

What would prompt a person to get the word “death” tattooed on their wrist? The same thing that would prompt a person to have the word “life” tattooed. Josie Klosterman has both.

Romans 6:23 reads: “For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life through Christ Jesus our Lord.”

The tattoo inspired by this verse holds special meaning to Klosterman as she seeks to live her life according to the teachings of Jesus Christ.

“The more you practice your faith, the more God works on your heart. It becomes something that brings fulfillment,” Klosterman said.

Klosterman is a senior at Bowling Green State University. She is completing a degree in human development and family studies but intends to study ministry upon graduation.

The word “involved” doesn’t even begin to describe Klosterman. She is a member of the club soccer team, and is acting as a private coach for the goaltenders this year, a leader for the Fellowship of Christian Athletes and is completing an internship with h2o Church as the FCA intern.

She maintains a rigorous schedule as a key member of the club soccer team with practices four days a week, private instruction of goaltenders outside of the practice block and traveling to an average of 10 games per season.

According to Monica Knoll, BGSU

club soccer head coach, Josie has been instrumental to the success of the team in the instruction and coaching she provides to the goaltenders, in addition to the positive role model she embodies for everyone.

“Josie is a very passionate person, not just about soccer. She is passionate about her relationship with God and her friends as well,” Knoll said.

This passion can be seen in every aspect of Klosterman’s life. As a leader of FCA, she not only brings knowledge and insight in the teachings of the Bible, but she brings life, enthusiasm and excitement to weekly meetings and worship services, said Hannah Lewis, fellow FCA leader and active h2o Church member.

“Josie brings a lot of refreshing views, thoughts and questions, some that I haven’t asked or thought through in a while,” Lewis said.

As the FCA intern of h2o Church, Josie’s duties include tasks aimed at involving university athletes in pursuing a closer relationship with God through FCA and the church.

Klosterman plans outreach events, such as dinners for teams that are underrepresented in FCA. She is also on the committee that identifies potential leaders within FCA. A part of her time is designated to holding one-on-one meetings with members to help them explore the questions and doubts of their faith. A large part of her internship focuses on the teachings of the Sunday service and how the content can

“When I first met Josie she was just kind of curious about God. But she has such a strong desire to learn. I have seen her be transformed into a whole new person.”

— Ronnie Goble



be applied directly to people’s lives, which is then discussed at Thursday night FCA meetings.

Many would be shocked to learn that Klosterman’s journey with Christ is just beginning as she has only truly considered herself a Christian for a year and a half.

“When I first met Josie she was just kind of curious about God. But she has such a strong desire to learn. I have seen her be transformed into a whole new person,” said Ronnie Goble, director of athletic ministries at h2o Church.

“Even though her relationship is young, she is very confident in the path God is leading her on. She wants to do what he wants her to. That is very evident,” said Wendy Standing, director of women’s ministry at h2o Church.

The mission statement of h2o Church is to “Engage, Inform, Inspire.” Goble describes Klosterman as being instrumental in driving this vision forward, especially through her outreach to female athletes.

“Josie has influenced a lot of girls in showing them the relevance of God in their lives. She has made a lot of people feel really loved,” Goble said.

“Ultimately my goal is to reach all the athletes at BG. And that’s a really crazy goal, but crazy goals are what get us to the next level,” Klosterman said.

Perhaps her favorite part of her internship is the three or more hours a week set aside to study apologetics. Apologetics includes studying the logic and facts behind the teachings of the Bible to discover why she believes what she believes.

“It’s OK to have doubts. It’s OK to have questions. I think many are under the impression that you are not allowed to question the written word, but that is not the case,” Klosterman said.

She aspires to start a group in the spring semester that is open to anyone, Christians



or not, that have questions about their faith or the Christian religion. She wants to raise these questions so that she can justify the teachings and tenets of her faith. She does this through the study of apologetics.

“This group would be about presenting questions and providing answers to them,” she said.

“Josie is really good about questioning me about hard stuff, deep stuff, anything. She is good at seeing through my answers and digging deeper,” Lewis said.

The on campus church is a huge part of Josie’s life at BGSU. The church, which started out as nothing more than a Bible study group, has grown immensely since its establishment in 1984.

The church will commemorate 30 years this November with a weekend of activities celebrating the past, present and future of the organization.

“The goal of the event is to cast a vision for h2o Church for the future and have people who have been involved in the past come back to see how the campus and church have changed. We want to get people excited,” Standing said.

Klosterman’s understanding of the Bible and her devotion to leading a Christian life

are the result of commitment, exploration and constant questions. She focuses on prayer and the reading and study of scripture as her way of communicating with God.

“Faith goes beyond religion and a list of things you can and cannot do. It is a personal relationship,” Klosterman said.

But as with any relationship, this takes time and devotion.

“You must work every day to build that relationship and communication with God,” she said.

Klosterman describes her Christian ideals as something that she must adhere to on a daily basis. Reminders of her faith surround her. She wears a necklace of a crucifix, carries her Bible with her often and has a wall in her home dedicated to prayer requests she receives from members of FCA and people close to her.

On Josie’s other wrist she presents another large influence and defining moment of her faith: the date of her baptism.

This tattoo reflects “my public proclamation of being dead to my old self and becoming alive in Christ,” Klosterman said. ■ KEY

THAT'S A WRAP!

ATHLETIC TRAINING PROGRAM AT BGSU

By Jasmine Burnett

“It’s always nice to know that there is someone there to check up and relay the messages to the head trainer.”

— Haley Schrock

Envision a world where athletes competed competitively with no type of training. Every time they went to a game, practice or even weight training they had to rely on themselves. This means taping or wrapping any injury, getting their own water during games and having to keep all their medical records in case a doctor needed any medical information.

Matthew Kutz, clinical education coordinator, has been at the university since 2008.

Kutz said the athletic training program is very competitive.

“About 60 students every year are in the professional stage, another 60 in the pre-professional stage and more than 60 freshman enter as athletic training majors,” he said.

Out of all the incoming freshman, the program accepts 20 to 25 athletic training majors.

Amber Bowman, junior athletic training major, was inducted into the program spring 2012.

“Before you are actually in the major you have to do 30 observation hours, know every site which a sport is located (Ice Arena, Sebo, Stroh, and Anderson Arena), learn first aid, do modules, know the emergency action plan for all the sites and then you go through the interview process,” she said.

The athletic training profession requires a lot of commitment, time management and most importantly, educational background.

“About 60 students every year are in the professional stage, another 60 in the pre-professional stage and more than 60 freshman enter as athletic training majors.”

— Matthew Kutz

Not every athletic training major can begin taping once they get inducted into the program.

The athletic trainers are tested academically from the many modules that each athletic training major must complete before the module packet is signed off and turned in.

Each module must be completed in front of the head athletic trainer of that sport (Approved Clinical Instructors). The completion of each module gets you closer to the hands-on experience of an athletic trainer.

These modules consist of: taping and wrapping techniques (making sure there are no wrinkles in the tape or compression wrap), how to properly cut tape off of an athlete's body (the proper angle in which you hold the athletic scissors) and how to create an ice bag (the amount of ice that is used per bag and for which ever area the ice is intended for and how to tie a proper knot.)

Not only do they have to perform well, but they must be knowledgeable of the supplies at each athletic site.

Kutz said supplies are ordered every semester equaling \$90,000 per year.

In March 1982, the National Athletic Trainers Association (NATA) identified six major tasks of competency for certified athletic trainers. Tasks include prevention of athletic injury or illness, evaluation of athletic injury or illness, first aid and emergency care, rehabilitation and conditioning, counseling and guidance and organization and administration.

From these six tasks, athletic trainers

have one goal: make sure athletes have proper care so they can perform better on and off the field.

Haley Schrock, softball player, sprained her ankle at the beginning of softball season and was able to get proper care from her athletic trainer without having to sit out her first season.

“Our trainer travels with us everywhere,” Schrock said. “She sets up a training time before we leave the hotel and says, ‘Come get your ankles taped here, or stretch with me now,’ she just sets up a time and whoever needs it can go.”

As the year progresses, observation hours get longer, modules get harder and clinical sites are off-campus. This causes athletic training majors to adjust to the time commitment that this major requires.

Bowman said time management and juggling classes with clinical rotation is the biggest challenge that she's had to face thus far.

“People don't really realize that whatever sport you're with whenever they have a game, you're at that game, whenever they have practice you're at that practice, and whenever the ACI needs you to be there, you need to be there,” Bowman said.

Kutz says that there are some overlapping competencies.

“Our patients are temporarily healthy and active, this makes the philosophy of how you treat the patients totally different,” he said. “Sometimes it can be for clinical, which is different for nursing and physical therapy. We do ours coinciding, they do theirs

typically after education.”

As the program continues to bring in athletic trainers, this gives the athletes something to be happy about. Knowing there's a major that caters to student athletes' every need will help them be on top of their game.

“It's always nice to know that there is someone there to check up and relay the messages to the head trainer,” Schrock said.

■ KEY

“The athletic training program is very competitive.”

— Matthew Kutz

GREEK LIFE

"I don't want to pay for my friends."

"They are party animals."

"Are they even Greek?"

"They just step and stroll."

"I do not want to be hazed."



By Hannah Benson | Photos courtesy of Marketing Communications

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"You're really paying for self-improvement. You're paying to open doors that can't be opened anywhere else."

— Tiffany Mitchell

For those not involved in Greek life, the perception of the community is wrapped in stereotypes.

According to current Greek council members, the image of a frat guy or a sorority girl has been falsified through dated practices and media clichés.

National Pan-Hellenic Council President Shantel Boss said the most common stereotype she hears about NPHC is they only step and stroll.

Stepping and strolling are done for entertainment and unity purposes, Boss said.

However, it is not the only thing NPHC does.

"That's something we do, but that's not who we are," Boss said.

Another stereotype associated with Greek life is partying.

Panhellenic Council President Tiffany Mitchell said this stereotype is often put onto this community because it's easier to spot someone who already has a label and is outgoing.

"It's like residence halls," Mitchell said. "Someone might say 'I've heard this is a party hall.' No, you just don't see the people not going out."

These clichés are associated even more so with fraternities.

"Fraternities are a great experience, but it is often overshadowed by these stereotypes," Interfraternity Council President Victor Senn said.

Senn said he is not going to deny that fraternities party. However, he said he does not think the stereotypes are valid.

"The things you hear are from a small proportion of the community," he said.

"There was obviously at one point something to enforce these stereotypes and that's not something we are blind to. It's something we are always working on."

To address this, the fraternities and sororities are educated about risk management and given standards to follow.

"Although fraternities have parties, there

are guidelines for those things," he said. As an executive board we are always trying to improve them and follow them."

IFC encourages its members to follow standards with incentives such as IFC Man of the Month, which grants \$100 scholarship to someone going above and beyond expectations.

Not only does this encourage the members to follow the standards, but also it discourages those who are feeding into the stigma.

Senn also emphasized the importance of safety at parties and providing IFC members with resources to carry this out. This includes no open source alcohol, guest lists and wristbands.

The list of stereotypes continues.

"If I paid for my friends, I surely didn't pay enough," Mitchell said is one of her favorite quotes to respond to the stereotype that Greek life is paying for friends.

"There are a lot of different

organizations on campus that you have to pay to be a part of," Mitchell said. "Gaining friends is just part of it."

Senn said he does not view it as paying for friends, but for opportunity.

"They assist you in becoming a better you," he said. "You're really paying to open doors that can't be opened anywhere else."

Mitchell also said she is paying for so much more than friends such as conventions, philanthropy and leadership programming.

Senn said he encourages those who believe this community is just paying for friends to dig deeper into what Greek life is about.

Multicultural Greek Council President Emily Soster said her freshman year she was, "one of those people who said they would never get involved in Greek life



because [she] thought it was stupid."

After being persuaded to go to an info night by her friends, Soster said she ended up really liking the service values of Omega Phi Alpha and joined spring 2012.

Continued on page 12

“We’re here to help you find your home. If you want to be Greek, you’ll find somewhere you fit.”

— Emily Soster
Multicultural Greek Council President



Since joining Greek life, she said she has encountered some stereotypes attached with MGC.

“A lot of people consider the chapters in our council to not be real, not based on anything, or that MGC is a joke,” Soster said. “Because there is different recruitment processes and we aren’t united with that, it’s hard.”

Panhellenic Council President Tiffany Mitchell said the four councils coexist together as a Greek community.

“We have sisterhood and brotherhood, similar things that tie us together. Even though it’s not exactly the same we do have those core values.”

Soster encourages both those who are skeptical of and those interested in Greek life to do their research.

“Go look for answers to your questions,” Soster said. “We’re here to help you find your home. If you want to be Greek, you’ll find somewhere you fit.”

The four councils have taken steps to address stereotypes.

The term “pledge” came with the connotation of hazing, Mitchell said. This is why they are now referred to as new members.

Boss said the four councils have been working together to regain and reestablish a vision for Greek life’s purpose in the community.

“Lately there has been a lot of talk about why Greek life is even relevant,” Boss said.

“So, [the councils] have been trying to act out their purposes to regain our relevancy in the community. There are a lot of orgs forming who can do what we do, but we have to figure out why we stand out.”

INTERFRATERNITY COUNCIL

Interfraternity President Victor Senn said IFC is traditionally large male fraternities. At BGSU there are currently 600 men and 15 chapters affiliated with IFC.

Senn said as president he acts as a spokesperson for IFC fraternities.

“I’m there to help them be successful,” he said.

Formal recruitment is a structured process.



“It’s very intricate and if you’ve never been in the Greek life process, it can be hard to understand,” Senn said.

Men interested in joining a fraternity sign up through org sync and are assigned to a recruitment group. They are informed about recruitment events through their recruitment group guides.

“Our goal is to find where you fit best,” Senn said. “We feel the best way to do that is through the formal recruitment process because you get to meet all the fraternities.”

During the process the men meet all the fraternities and eventually preference their top six, or an optional eight.

Then, on a separate day the potential new member spends 30 minutes with each of their top six or eight choices.

From there, they would narrow it down to their top three and spend an additional 30 minutes with those chapters.

Then a bid, or extension of membership, is presented and the potential new member has the option to decide.

In an open recruitment process, Senn said the chances of meeting all the fraternities narrow.

PAN-HELLIC COUNCIL

While PHC is nationally made up of 26 sororities, BGSU only consists of 12 chapters.

The council exists to not to govern them, but to help them govern each other, Mitchell said.



Formal recruitment typically takes place in the fall for two weeks, allowing those interested to get to know the chapters.

“We have a computer system which matches people up with the chapter they fit in best with,” Mitchell said.

Formal recruitment is separated into rounds. The first round is meeting all twelve chapters, the next is nine, the next is six and the last is three.

On bid day, girls find out what chapter they will be in.

Informal recruitment, also known as open or continuous bidding, typically takes place in the spring. Mitchell said the idea behind this is to give the chapters not at total and who have spots available, a chance to recruit new members.

Unlike formal recruitment, informal is more flexible and does not have time limits with how long one can meet with a chapter. Rather than only being allowed one bid like in formal recruitment, informal allows a girl to receive more than one bid, leaving the decision up to her.

While informal seems to give the potential new members more control, Mitchell said they are making the decision in either recruitment process.

“Formal recruitment is just a more systemized decision,” she said.

THE NATIONAL PAN-HELLENIC COUNCIL

The National Pan-Hellenic Council consists of African American fraternities and sororities. At BGSU, NPHC consists of four

“MGC gives those fraternities and sororities who don’t necessarily fit under the umbrella of the other three councils a place.”

— Emily Soster
Multicultural Greek Council President



sororities and two fraternities.

For those interested in becoming involved with NPHC, they are labeled as an interest and then they are encouraged to explore the different chapters, she said.

“You want to see which organization you fit in best within the council,” she said.

The membership intake process differs based on the chapter.

In addition to being interested, one must uphold qualities of leadership, service and scholarship to join a NPHC chapter.

“We are here to help develop those qualities, but not start you off,” Boss said. “It’s good to come in with experience.”

MULTICULTURAL GREEK COUNCIL

MGC is “based on diversity and inclusion of its members,” Soster said.

MGC is made up of six chapters, which Soster said are, “all very different from each other.”

This includes two Latina/Latino fraternities and sororities, a multicultural sorority, a fraternity for gay men, a musical fraternity and a service sorority.

Soster said it is obvious not all six of these are culture-based, but as long as they are willing to uphold MGC’s values they are welcome.

Different from the Panhellenic and Interfraternity councils, MGC does not hold a formal recruitment process. Rather, each chapter has their own recruitment process.

Without a formal recruitment process, the executive board aims to be a support system for recruitment events.

She said MGC is important because it is a resource for its members.

“MGC gives those fraternities and sororities who don’t necessarily fit under the umbrella of the other three councils a place,” she said.

To be considered Greek allows MGC more resources such as the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life, events, potential funding and a community of support. ■ KEY



“I think being Greek gives you a lot of opportunities to grow as a person and as a leader.”
— Emily Soster



Beyond the Greek Letters

By Elena Lancioni
Photos courtesy of NPHC

“You are a part of something bigger than you...The council can only be as successful as the community is.”

— Victor Senn

At the beginning of a new school year, chatter about who is joining which sorority or fraternity consumes many conversations. People sporting shirts with flashy Greek letters can be found all across campus. Have you ever been curious to know how Greek life actually works?

On the Bowling Green State University campus there are four Greek councils including: the Interfraternity Council, Multicultural Greek Council, National Panhellenic Council, and the Panhellenic Council. Each council has its own governing body. The council's purpose is to provide structure for each of the Greek chapters and promote communication between Greeks and the general student body. The councils share common values, but each one is unique in its own way.

When he first walked onto campus, Victor Senn knew he wanted to be apart of the Greek community. That's why he joined his fraternity during the second week of his freshman year. Senn is a part of the Alpha Tau Omega fraternity and is also the president of the Interfraternity Council (IFC).

“You can't find a leadership development experience anywhere else,” Senn said.

“You are apart of something bigger than you.”

The IFC is comprised of 15 fraternity chapters. It has been an organization on campus since the early 1940s and is governed

by the North American Conference. The mission statement of the council is to build better men. They are also devoted to academic excellence, helping others on campus and in the community, building positive relationships and leadership.

“The council can only be as successful as the community is,” Senn said.

Sometimes it can be hard to avoid the stereotypes associated with Greek life, but Senn is on a mission to get back to the values that fraternities were founded on. The council is focusing on redefining manhood. The purpose is to build a better brotherhood and well-rounded men. Senn wants to make the previous board members proud.

“I want to continue what we are doing and carry on the mission,” he said.

The IFC is involved in many on and off campus activities. They host a breast cancer awareness week in the fall and finish the week off with a kickball tournament.

Formal recruitment is also a big event for the council. During the summer, tables are set up at SOAR to provide information. Interested men can learn more about fraternities and have the opportunity to visit their top six chapters one day and the top three the next day during formal recruitment.

“I can't imagine my college experience without the fraternity experience,” Senn said.

One of the newest councils on campus is the Multicultural Greek Council (MGC). In 2012 the MGC became official. The president

of this recently started organization is Omega Phi Alpha member Emily Soster.

“I joined in the spring of 2012 and was involved right away,” Soster said.

The Multicultural Greek Council is full of various opportunities for members. There is a Latino fraternity, Latina sorority, multicultural sorority, service sorority, LGBT fraternity and a music fraternity.

This council deals with relevant activities occurring in the community. It unites Greeks who value open-mindedness, difference and diversity. Some of the MGC events deal with forms of oppression. Leadership events are also important.

In the future, Soster hopes to leave a framework for others in this young organization and pave the way for future members. She wants MGC to feel a part of campus and develop traditions to pass down.

“I think being Greek gives you a lot of opportunities to grow as a person and as a leader,” Soster said.

The council with a long tradition of history is the National Panhellenic Council. Founded in May of 1930, this council represents the African American community on campus. President Shantel Boss is a Zeta Phi Beta who has been involved in the council for two years.

“It is a great way to network and to get to know the community around you,” Boss said.

The National Panhellenic Council promotes service and helping the community. One of the big events that the council puts on is Meet the Greeks every semester. There is also the Step Show, a dance competition.

The goals that Boss has for the council include collaboration among the Greek councils, being a strong representation of the community and being leaders and role

models. She wants to start a good foundation for others and for the council to thrive.

You don't always have to have an immediate interest in Greek life. Tiffany Mitchell, president of the Panhellenic Council, wasn't always sure that she wanted to join. Mitchell is now a Pi Beta Phi. She has been involved in the Panhellenic Council since the fall of 2011.

“It's a home away from home, it's a great place to meet friends who then become family,” Mitchell said.

This council stands for academics, integrity, empowering women, being accountable for your own actions and serving the community. There are 12 chapters in the Panhellenic Council, which has been on campus since the mid 1900s.

In the community, the council promotes the Circle of Sisterhood. This group works to bring education to underprivileged children and people in developing countries.

Mitchell has many goals for the council. She hopes for the women involved to become value-based individuals, unite the community, engage members, empower women, and create accountability.

Being Greek is more than friendship it is a community that helps you grow as a person.

“There is much more than meets the eye,” Mitchell said.

Mitchell experienced this community firsthand when she attended the Greek Leadership Institute that brought Greek members together from across the country. During the week, each chapter had the opportunity to recite their own creeds.

“Instead of saying our own, all Panhellenic women stood and joined together to recite the Panhellenic creed,” Mitchell said.

Hopefully, you can now understand that

Greek life is much more than the stories you may hear about. It is a community that makes campus and Bowling Green a better place to be.

If you are interested in joining you can attend informal or formal recruitment, approach anyone wearing Greek letters, attend events or contact one of the council presidents. ■ KEY

Victor Senn- Interfraternity Council
vsenn@bgsu.edu

Emily Soster- Multicultural Greek Council
emilyps@bgsu.edu

Shantel Boss- National Panhellenic Council
sboss@bgsu.edu

Tiffany Mitchell- Panhellenic Council
tmitch@bgsu.edu

GAME DAY

By Natalie Baransy | Photos courtesy of Molly Thobe

“When I first started out, I just thought of it as a fantastic way to continue my musicianship. Now I want people to realize that this band is a great community.”

— Shelby Sweinhagen

“Good morning Falcon Marching Band! It's game day!”

These words were said by Dr. Carol Hayward, director of the Falcon Marching Band, and heard by 250 members standing at attention, ready to begin rehearsal.

It's 8 a.m. and the excitement of the day ahead has already begun.

Whether it's been at a halftime show or a homecoming parade, most Falcons have seen and heard the marching band. The Falcon Marching Band is the largest student organization on campus and is composed of students from all colleges at the university. On game days, members of the FMB serve as symbols of Falcon spirit and pride.

For Shelby Sweinhagen, a senior FMB member, game day means more than putting on a great halftime show.

She has been the saxophone section leader for two years, and marching band has become her deepest connection to university life. She has been commuting to campus since her freshman year, so joining the marching band helped her make friends, become an involved student, and form a strong connection to the traditions of the University.

“When I first started out, I just thought of it as a fantastic way to continue my musicianship. Now I want people to realize

that this band is a great community,” she said. “You learn a lot of skills, and not just music. You learn leadership skills and social skills. And it's fun!”

During her second year in the band, Shelby was encouraged by her squad leader and section leader to pursue a leadership position. They were beginning to take notice of Shelby's musical skills and her willingness to help others, two things that would eventually help her achieve the position of section leader.

“Hearing those things from them was so inspiring,” said Sweinhagen.

One of Sweinhagen's favorite parts of game day is having breakfast with her saxophone section. Game days always start with a rehearsal, and this can sometimes make for a very early start for FMB members.

“We're up in the morning together and we encourage sitting by someone different. It helps me as a leader because when we're together I get to be myself,” said Shelby.

You won't find members of the FMB sitting down on game days. When they're not energizing the crowd with a spirit song or their rendition of a popular tune, they are cheering on the team.

“The marching band is similar to Freddie Falcon and SIC SIC in the sense that we rally people up. One of my favorite memories was when we were doing really

“We push the entire crowd to cheer for the football team.”

— Shelby Sweinhagen

well in a game and the score was really close. [The band] started the wave and it went around the stadium about five times. It was a great way to bring people together,” she said.

Falcon football fans can always count on hearing the live version of the University's spirit songs on game day. Playing songs like “Forward Falcons” and “Aye Ziggy Zoomba” create a musical connection between the band and the fans. “If we weren't here they'd be playing recordings. We push the entire crowd to cheer for the football team,” she said.

Since being a music major is not a requirement for being in the band, the Falcon Marching Band is comprised of students with

a wide array of interests. Talking with fellow band members every day allows Sweinhagen to learn the exciting things going on in other colleges of the University.

“I would know nothing about the science department or the education department if it wasn't for band,” she said. “It shows how diverse this band can be, but we connect so well and are one huge family.”

Some of Sweinhagen's closest friendships were formed throughout her time in the marching band. Members of the band spend approximately twelve hours a week together in rehearsal and sectionals. Outside of rehearsal, most sections of the band plan social events to promote a positive atmosphere among its members.

For Sweinhagen, being a Falcon Marching Band member has been a valuable experience, and not just because of the way it has helped her grow musically.

Being a member of the band has helped her develop lasting friendships, grow in her leadership abilities and help other reach their full potential as a musician and as a leader.

“Helping people is what I absolutely love the most,” she said.

And in the Falcon Marching Band, helping others is one thing that will always be in tune. ■ KEY

TYPICAL GAME DAY SCHEDULE:

Bowling Green vs. Western Michigan
OCTOBER 18TH, 2014

8:00 am
The band meets at the practice field for rehearsal. Stretches, warm-ups, and playing exercises.

8:23 am
The traditional ballad entitled “Chorale” is played.

9:00 am
Full show run-through.

11:15 am
“Pre-flight” show.

1:45 pm
The FMB energizes fans with their pregame show.

3:32 pm
The FMB performs their halftime show, “Green Day on Broadway.”

5:30 pm
The band exits the stadium to the cadence played by the drumline.

5:40 pm
Dismissal. The band will be back at it on Monday at 4 pm!



tattoos &

There are two sides to every story...

Tattoos and piercings can be a touchy subject. Here are two opinions on the topic from BGSU students Tiffany Jackson and Hannah Benson.

“Tattoos are a work of art and our bodies are a blank canvas.”

— Tiffany Jackson

By Tiffany Jackson

Photos courtesy of Tumblr

In today's society tattoos and piercings are seen both negatively and positively. Young adults and teens see them as a way of self-expression and art. Their bodies are a blank canvas and tattoos are the artwork. Often times they tell a story or help keep memories alive. Most tattoos are sentimental and have a deep meaning behind them.

Although some members of the older generations have tattoos, they seem to be more popular among the younger generations. But if tattoos and piercings are so popular why is it they are frowned upon by employers and scrutinized by people that don't have them?

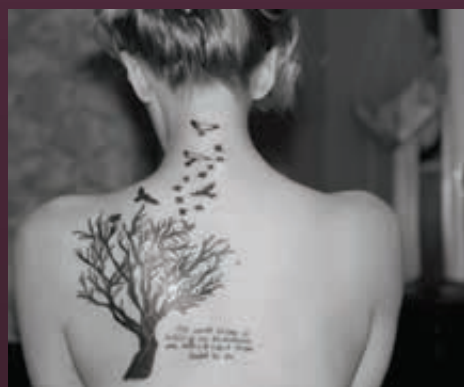
I got my first tattoo the day before I turned 18. I knew my dad would be angry with me for getting one so I convinced my mom to take me while he was out of town to ensure that I got it. I kept his suggestions in mind when I got it so in order to please him I got it where it could be covered. My second tattoo though not so much. The thrill of my first one only lasted about two months before I was ready for a new one.

Not thinking about the consequences or how angry my dad would be, I completely ignored his suggestions and did everything

he told me not to do. I got a massive hibiscus tattooed all around my forearm with my step mom's name and the date she passed away in bold letters underneath.

However, with the amount of teens and young adults getting tattoos today, I don't think it's an issue anymore. In America, body art has commonly been thought of with a negative point of view. Members of the older generations frown upon putting things on your body that are permanent. Once someone obtains a tattoo it is not possible to remove it unless they want to spend thousands of dollars on painful laser surgery. It is understandable why employers might frown upon employees with tattoos on their face or neck, but with tattoos being as common as they are maybe its time to start overlooking them.

What people need to remember is that tattoos and piercings are only outward characteristics of a person. They don't define who they are or indicate that they won't be successful. Tattoos are a work of art and our bodies are a blank canvas, each tattoo tells a story behind it. A tattoo doesn't make someone unable to work, it makes someone unique. Each person is different, we are all individuals and we reserve the right to decorate our bodies how we want. We just have to remember to be smart about our choices during our younger years, but to never be scared of taking risks. ■ KEY



piercings

“Culture is dynamic because people are dynamic.”

— Hannah Benson

By Hannah Benson

Photos courtesy of Tumblr

I sit in class and my mind starts to wander. I begin doodling on the corner of my paper.

This corner soon reaches its capacity.

My pen wanders to my clean, untouched skin. I redraw the same, half-inch semi colon I have drawn countless times before on my wrist.

This symbolizes my struggle with anxiety and depression.

If my life were a sentence, the semi colon represents the ability to stop, but the decision to continue.

Every time I draw this on my arm, I am reminded of this sentence. It helps me to not be crippled by these mental illnesses.

Why not make it a permanent reminder? Tattoo.

“You'd never do that to me, right?”

A statement from my father said after my older sister got several tattoos.

I never want to disappoint my parents. Most of my life is spent trying to make them proud. However, I don't think tattoos are inherently wrong.

The argument is becoming increasingly prominent that culture is changing and tattoos are becoming more socially acceptable. This excites me, but I am still left with doubt.

I've considered just doing it. I'm an

adult, I can make my own decision and I am the one who has to live with it.

But that's just it.

I think of all the times I've been so sure about decisions and choices in my life and how I feel about them now.

Culture is dynamic because people are dynamic.

Just as I have changed from when I was 15, I will change in the next 10, 20 or 50 years.

While I am sure I will still believe in the meaning of my semi colon tattoo, will I be thrilled with my decision to put it on my body permanently.

I cannot confidently say yes or no. And that is why I have not followed through with the idea.

I think our society for the most part has grown past the disapproval of tattoos because they are now more widely seen as self-expression and art, two concepts highly valued.

Obviously, there are lines that should not be “drawn.” For example, I don't think many professional settings have grown past looking negatively on face or other visible tattoos.

Ultimately, it's a personal issue.

If someone feels convicted about getting a tattoo and are able to confront their future self with the decision, I say go for it.

I, however, have not reached that point.

I know I would love the tattoo now, but I change my mind a lot and I have absolutely no clue how I would feel in 20 years. I do not want to put myself through that regret later on in life. ■ KEY





Kermit's

"A mom and pop kind of thing"

By: Lily Bartell



"We keep our community in touch with the past."

— Cassy Maas, store manager

The smell of coffee and syrup seeps through the front door of Kermit's Family Restaurant marking a new day. The yellow brick building stands ready to serve a steady stream of customers. The hustle and bustle of breakfast time at Kermit's feels more like a diner in the middle of Chicago rather than a mom and pop restaurant in Bowling Green, Ohio.

Kermit's dons rows of family style booths, a variety of artifacts including a saw and wagon wheel mounted on the wall, wicker lamp shades hover overhead, a bouquet of flowers on each table and a hand written specials board looks out over the restaurant.

"We keep our community in touch with the past," said store manager Cassy Maas.

Maas is the daughter of Jim Maas, the owner of the restaurant. She started working at Kermit's as a waitress, now runs the daily operations and knows just where they began and where they are headed. Opened in June of 1987, she talks fondly about her father and the origins of Kermit's, right down to the old carpet that used to cover the restaurant's floor and their continued use of hand-written customer bills.

"He ripped a bunch of stuff out and he did the menu by hand originally," she said. "He would work six days a week open to close."

Often working long hours, Maas gets her work ethic and ability to run Kermit's from her father. The restaurant was voted Best Breakfast in Wood County in 2011 and 2012 under the management of Maas. Although Kermit's is known mostly for its breakfast menu, it is open Monday through Friday for breakfast, lunch and dinner and Saturday and Sunday for breakfast and lunch.

"I love breakfast. I could eat it 24 hours a day," said waitress Amber "Bert" Bodi.

Bodi graduated from Wittenberg University and moved back home to Bowling Green to save money. She has been working at Kermit's for three years.

"I love breakfast. I could eat it 24 hours a day."

— Amber "Bert" Bodi

"I like that there is always something to do and customers are so friendly," she said.

Menu item #3 is what Bodi suggests as one of the most popular breakfast dishes on the menu; a choice of two eggs, homefries, ham, bacon or sausage. Coming in a close second, the Pick Four with two eggs, homefries or hashbrowns, ham, bacon, or sausage and toast or an English muffin. Enough to make any mouth water and satisfy any hungry stomach.

Maas takes pride in her staff where specific waitresses are often requested, know customers' orders by heart and help bring in patrons because of their dedication to their job.

"My girls work hard," Maas said.

Bodi sees how her hard work pays off and likes that Kermit's takes care of their employees.

"It gets really busy on the weekends and there are forceful customers," she said. "But there is a quick turnover and people tip better than in (nicer) sit-down restaurants."

Sisters and Bowling Green State University alumnae Pam Basinger and Pat Jay enjoy the family feel of Kermit's when they spend time together. They hang around for the after lunch lull which washes over Kermit's at about 1:30 p.m. The women are in their early 60s, both live in Findlay, Ohio and travel to Bowling Green to walk trails and have a meal together; making a point to stop at Kermit's almost every time.

"There is a good variety of food, it's reasonably priced and there are nice waitresses," Basinger said.

Kermit's reminds Jay of the show Alice from the 1970s and 1980s and reminisces about the characters Flo, Alice and Mel, the diner and how Kermit's enhances that sense of community in Bowling Green.

"We love Kermit's," said Jay. "It's a mom and pop kind of thing."

Despite the mom and pop feel, Kermit's appeals to every age range in Bowling Green. Being in a college town, the restaurant offers meals and prices that students, senior citizens and everyone in between can enjoy.

"I choose to eat there because the food is excellent, not to mention the prices are also ideal for a college student," said BGSU senior Allie Schaber. "All the workers are very friendly, and you can get in and out in a pretty decent time."

Kermit's Family Restaurant isn't a diner one finds only once. Rather, it is a consistent piece of history in Bowling Green. As the years pass and new students and residents find Kermit's and make it their go-to for a good meal, a smile and maybe a little touch of home, the restaurant's place in Bowling Green's history carries on.



Photos courtesy of Lily Bartell

"I think it's a staple of BG as a restaurant because a lot of people consistently go there to eat," said a Kermit's regular and BGSU junior Josh Cameron. "I choose to eat there because I love the family and community environment." ■ KEY

"There is a good variety of food, it's reasonably priced and there are nice waitresses."

— Pam Basinger

“2 STRONG”



Seniors Jasmine Matthews and Deborah Hoekstra

By: Cameron Teague Robinson
Photos Provided By: BGSU Athletics

“They are roommates, teammates, best friends and they even finish each other’s sentences at times.”

If a picture could speak, the junior photo of women’s basketball players Jasmine Matthews and Deborah Hoekstra would say just two words, “Two Strong.” The photo of the two who jokingly call themselves “Two Strong,” is blown up and hanging in head coach Jennifer Roos’ office and is also the header photo on Jasmine Matthews’ Twitter account. The photo features them both in their BG jerseys and Matthews holding Hoekstra on her back. Like they are in the photo they have been together for four years now. They are roommates, teammates, best friends and they even finish each other’s sentences at times. They are the same but different people at the same time. Now they are preparing

for their senior year and like everything else they are doing it together. “This whole journey knowing that we have each other makes it easier,” Hoekstra said. “We joke about how we’ve been through literally everything in the book: coaching changes and other miscellaneous things ...” Matthews cuts Hoekstra off and finishes that thought and said “but we wouldn’t want to do it with anybody else.” Hoekstra smiled and shook her head in agreement. “I know I’ve made a lifelong friend in Jas,” Hoekstra added. The two work well together on and off the court. Hoekstra is the one who makes sure Matthews makes it to practice on time and Matthews keeps Hoekstra in line and

“We have goals that we want and we only have one year to accomplish them. We have an intensity that we’ve never had before.”

– Deborah Hoekstra

her head on straight they said.

“I think we really grew up from freshman year,” Matthews said. “I can’t even imagine how I was, I was so unorganized. They’ve grown from the quiet, timid and intimidated freshman that stepped on campus in 2011. They aren’t the girls who walked into the gym and were intimidated by coach Curt Miller, the Mid-American Conference Championship banners, and the amount of All-Americans.

“They were afraid to come into the coach’s offices as freshman, now they come in and don’t leave,” said head coach Jennifer Roos.

Since then they’ve been through many things including a coaching change their freshman year. Head coach Curt Miller left BG and took the head coaching job at Indiana University.

After Miller left current Coach Roos took over and the tradition hasn’t taken a step back since.

“We’ve gotten hit with a lot of things but I wouldn’t change anything that happened for the world,” Hoekstra said. “Everything that has happened made us stronger.”

In came a 6-foot freshman from Sylvania, Ohio their sophomore year. That freshman’s name was Miriam Justinger and she has become very close friends with them both since then.

“I knew coming in freshman year that we were going to be good friends,” Justinger said. “I’m sad I’m a class younger than them, because I am going to miss them.”

Like they did with Justinger, Matthews and Hoekstra have worked to get to know all of their teammates and to make this year’s team more like a family. To them being

a family on and off the floor is the most important part to their success.

Matthews, Hoekstra and Justinger all believe this year’s women’s basketball team is the closest team they have been a part of since being at BG.

Justinger said the chemistry and family feel among the team begins with Matthews and Hoekstra.

“They have a certain dream of how they want this team to get along,” Roos said. “They’ve worked extremely hard at building team chemistry.”

That’s not the only thing they have worked hard for. They have had months to sit and dwell on their MAC Tournament loss to Ball State last March.

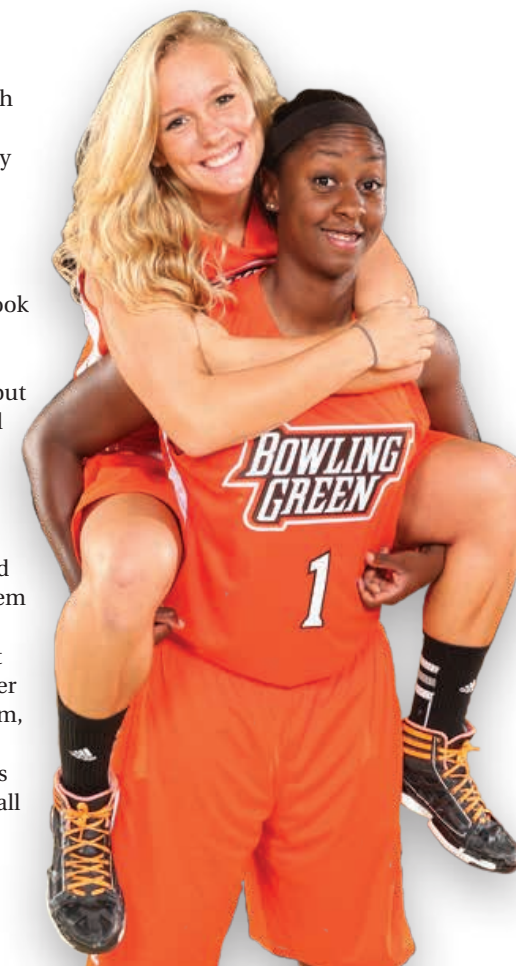
Since then they have set goals for themselves and the team this year. This being their senior year they have an urgency that they never had.

“We have goals that we want and we only have one year to accomplish them,” Hoekstra said. “We have an intensity that we’ve never had before.”

Matthews echoes those thoughts by saying “we know what we want this year and we will do whatever it takes to accomplish them.”

They have already accomplished many things as Falcons, but they have failed to make a MAC Tournament Championship game in their career.

Though they have not made a MAC Championship game they have been a part



of a program that has won nine of the last ten MAC regular season championships.

“That’s always the goal but we realize goals are just wishes until you are putting actions forward,” Hoekstra said. “We don’t just walk in the gym and win because we are Bowling Green and we know that. Even though that’s the goal we know the work happens now.”

That continued tradition can make athletes feel a lot of pressure, but it can be good or bad pressure Roos said.

“I think they have good pressure,” she added. “It is the type of pressure that makes them work a little bit harder because they know they want to have success.”

Now instead of being intimidated by that tradition they take pride in it and are embracing it together.

“We take pride in the tradition,” Matthews said. “We do the same thing every year: play hard, and we are always a family. That helps us carry the tradition.”

They may not want to think about their Senior Night but it will be here in a few months. Last year Hoekstra subbed in late in the game for then senior Alexis Rogers. Hoekstra walked onto the court and handed the towel to Rogers, she couldn’t help but start crying as she embraced the senior.

“It’s going to be bittersweet. Walking off the court first it will be all big smiles. Deb will probably cry, but I won’t let’s be real,” Matthews said. “I still remember the summer conditioning and being like, ‘we have to do this three more times?’ Now it’s over, this is our last chance to give it all we have.”

They’ve been together for four years, and no matter what happens during their senior season their junior picture together will also represent: “Two Strong.”

“We made it together,” Hoekstra said. “We made it through everything together. We were just baby freshman crying before and after practices. We came in here as little girls and we are leaving women.” ■ KEY

“I know I’ve made a lifelong friend in Jas.”

– Deborah Hoekstra

Making **fit** work

Senior Tessa Carson takes on the Big Apple as an intern at the Fashion Institute of Technology

By: Audrey Quinn



pierced nose sniffing as she spoke of her true home.
 “She thrived [in NYC] with the diversity and the culture,” Vail said. “[The city] is constantly changing and she needs that to be inspired.”

In addition to living in New York, Carson also worked at an H&M in Times Square, helping with the opening of the location as well as selling product for the company.

Ultimately, Carson hopes to succeed in the fashion industry as a designer.

Her immediate goals are to get an entry-level job in the industry, starting from the bottom and working her way up.

“I know the work I do is of a high quality and so I can move up quickly that way,” Carson said.

Her confidence and knowledge of the fashion industry will allow her to succeed, Vail and Walker said. ■ KEY

“Being in New York made me braver in general and with my fashion choices”

“It was set up like an art school,” she said, with multiple classes in a day, some taking up to 4 hours at a time.

“I took knitting textile courses there and got to do hands-on creation of stuff,” Carson said.

Folding her tall frame into a chair and dressed in all black, Carson talked about her decision to pursue a career in design.

“I wasn’t sure I always wanted to design,” Carson said.

However, through her classes at FIT, Carson discovered design was her calling.

Carson said that the hardest part of her time there was admitting to others that she wanted to design.

“My whole life, I’ve been talking about why I’m in the program... and why I wanted to do fashion but never design, and finally being like, ‘I want to design’ was a catalyst for me,” she said. “Admitting it out loud made it more real.”

BGSU and FIT students Taylor Vail and Caroline Walker both knew Carson from before their time at FIT, and living on the same floor while in New York and, in Walker’s case, having every class together, helped strengthen their bonds.

Both dressed impeccably and quick to talk highly of Carson, Vail and Walker discussed what it means to be a designer and all of the ways Carson fits that mold.

Vail and Walker said that Carson knows the fashion industry well.

“She’s always thinking of ideas and better ways to do things,” Walker said, “She’s always analyzing.”

“She likes to let people know what her opinion is, which is very good for design,” Vail said. “She sticks with what she wants.”

Additionally, both girls mentioned Carson’s ability to handle pressure.

“She needs pressure to thrive,” said both girls, forming the sentence together as they spoke of Carson.

“She’s very resourceful and hard working,” Walker said. “She’s a go-getter.”

Her time at FIT helped her understand the real world of fashion better.

“I feel like I understand and have a better expectation of what work is going to be like when I am done,” said Carson.

“She’s very knowledgeable about the industry,” said Vail.

Carson’s time in New York also helped her develop as a person.

“Being in New York made me braver in general and with my fashion choices,” Carson said.

Speaking of New York, Carson began to tear up.

“It was the first place I feel like I really had a connection to,” Carson said.

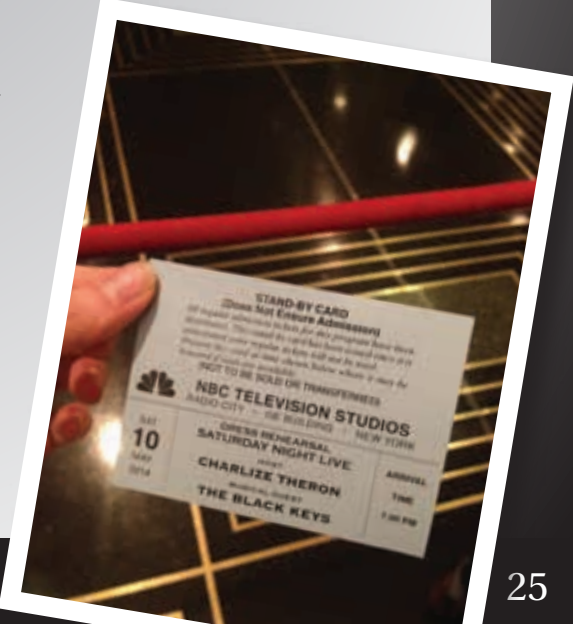
While she has always felt comfortable wherever she is, New York, “was the first place I felt homesick for... when I left I just wanted to back there,” said Carson, her signature double-

“She’s always thinking of ideas and better ways to do things.”

— Caroline Walker, BGSU & FIT STUDENT



Photos courtesy of Tessa Carson



Honors College

The University Honors Program was established in 1978, and designated as an Honors College in 2013. The mission of the Bowling Green State University Honors College is to create a community of scholars through an emphasis on personal and intellectual development and preparation for global citizenship. Members of the University Honors College will develop critical thinking skills, make interdisciplinary connections, conduct original scholarship, and have access to leadership and professional opportunities.

By: Holly Shively

This year's honors freshman class will be the first class to spend four years in the Honors College. In 2013, the Bowling Green State University Honors College was established. Prior to being recognized as a college, it started in 1978 as a program.

The website also says that the Honors College aims to "create a community of scholars through an emphasis on personal and intellectual development and preparation for global citizenship."

As members of the Honors College, students are taught to think critically, make connections, conduct original scholarship and access leadership and professional opportunities.

Teachers in the Honors Program are excited about the new Honors College. "I am delighted about the Honors Program's transition into a College," said Professor Dr. Lisa Hanasono.

Hanasono believes the establishment of an Honors College on campus shows that students want to join a community of other scholars and graduate with university Honors. It also reflects the university's commitment to recruiting and supporting high-achieving students.

Dr. Hanasono felt privileged to be able to participate in the Honors Opening Convocation, a ceremony that officially inducted the class of 2018 students into the Honors College. This year's Convocation was historically important, because it was the first Opening Convocation that inducted students

into the Honors College, rather than the Honors Program.

"We have an exceptional cohort of new students that joined the Honors College this year, and I look forward to working with them. Upon graduation, I hope our students will reflect on their experiences and growth as members of the Honors College—and that they will think fondly how their lives have changed since their first year at BGSU and the moment they ceremoniously became part of the Honors College's family during the Opening Convocation," Dr. Hanasono said.

Honors Senior Darrell White has thoroughly enjoyed three years in the Honors Program, and he is spending his senior year in the Honors College.

As a psychology major, Darrel is currently applying to graduate programs in decision making in business and neuroscience. "I want to be a professor, and I want to do research on judgment and decision making," White said. White hopes to present his research at national conferences and publish research in journals, popular books and textbooks.

"One of my favorite parts about it being a college, is that now we're moved from Harshman to more central campus, and the facilities are better," White said.

He especially enjoys that there is now more staff, including a dean, and the Honors College is now tied with the Office of Admissions, which helps get more high-achieving students to the university.

White has been involved in Honors

Ambassadors, which assists with the recruitment of Honors Students. The organization gives tours and speeches on Honors days and goes to other cities to recruit new students.

He has also been involved in a learning community involved in learning outside of the classroom and critical thinking called Honors Scholars. This organization helps build connections for graduate school and intellectual involvement.

Darrel was chosen to speak at the Honors College Invocation, where he spoke about how students need to remember to have fun and not be afraid to ask for help.

"I can't do all work, and I can't have all fun," he said.

White has made sure, no matter how busy he gets, to make time for friends and fun. For fun he and his friends go out to eat and go to cookie jar. Several times a week White likes to do homework and get coffee with friends.

As far as getting help, White has spent his fair share of time in the Learning Commons even when it was just the Math Lab and Writing Lab.

"There were times when I was going three or four times a week," he said.

White is still getting help from his teachers and peers in preparation for graduate school.

Currently working on his Senior Honors Project, White is looking at regret philosophically and psychologically. He first started thinking about the Honors project last semester, but has done other research projects. He has even been published in journals.

"One of the greatest experiences for me has been some of the mentorships I've been able to do through the Honors program," White said. "That's the thing I'm most proud of, to be able to give back to the community."

Becca Wait is a sophomore in the University Honors College. Though Wait is a sophomore, this is her first year in the Honors College. She decided to apply to the Honors College because she had a lot of friends in the program and liked that the College offered more challenging courses.

"I feel like I get more out of a class when I really have to work hard to do well," Wait said. In fact, Becca's favorite part about being a part of the Honors College is taking honors sections of classes. She said, "It's nice to know that my professors expect a lot from me, and I like the challenge of proving myself. It's also nice to be in classes with other Honors students who care about the work they're doing."

Wait hasn't started her Honors Project yet, but she plans to combine aspects of her major, interpersonal communications, and her minor,

English, with applications to her future job. Freshman Michael Milhim agrees with Wait. He says, "My favorite part of being in the honors college is that I have a specific environment that fosters a higher level of thinking. Especially in the honors only sections and the required Critical Thinking classes, I feel a real and honest sense of respectful academic and personal challenge every day, and unfortunately you can't get that everywhere on campus, whether here at BGSU or at any university."

Milhim believes the Honors Program becoming the Honors College establishes us as an institution and helps get the word about Honors heard.

Another freshman, Hayley Ruff, also enjoys her time in the Honors College. "It keeps me focused," Ruff said.

Ruff says the qualifications to be in the Honors College keep her working hard and keep her on task while planning her classes and future. "Being in the Honors College seems more official," Ruff said. "Instead of it being a program like high schools had, it is its own college with a dean and professors." ■ KEY



"I feel like I get more out of a class when I really have to work hard to do well."

— Becca Wait

ways to survive Finals Week

1 Eat Healthy

The worst thing you could do when studying up for finals is gorge on fatty fried food... It'll make you sluggish and sleepy. Grab an apple or take a little time to make yourself a healthy dinner!



2 Take Advantage of the Learning Commons

They can help you with almost any subject and tutoring is free to all BGSU students.



3 Get Sleep

Pulling all-nighters may seem necessary at the time, but waking up late on exam day or getting sick due to lack of sleep will not help your case.



4 Stay Active

Take a trip to the rec, throw a football, or whatever keeps your feet moving and the heart pumping. It'll open your thoughts and allow for all that knowledge to start flowing.



5 Make Time For Fun

Whether you spend time with your friends, go to the movies, or go holiday shopping, you'll be much more relaxed and ready to learn if you have some fun too.



BGSU

6 Read Campus Update

During finals week Campus Update can be super beneficial. There are often tutoring schedules, activities like petting puppies at the library, or other opportunities to blow off some steam.

7 Don't Panic!

Finals week can be stressful whether you are a freshman or a senior. This particular week will not make or break your life. Take one thing at a time and you'll do great!



A Musical Sphere of Life

By Amy Faber



Photo courtesy of Amy Faber

“At some point, you have to trust one thing. That if you do your work, work hard and believe in it, things will happen.”

— Rosenkranz

Rosenkranz says teaching is “as creative, challenging and rewarding” as performing, and often more important.

Pianist Thomas Rosenkranz has worked as a Cultural Ambassador in Tunisia and Lebanon, studied in Paris with Yvonne Loriod-Messiaen and concertized in numerous cities and four continents. But he carries himself with casual dignity. He rarely mentions the exotic locations he has seen, and instead says, “The places I travel have to do with people.”

Rosenkranz has been teaching piano for 10 years and is an associate professor of piano at Bowling Green State University (BGSU). His studio – an office with two pianos, a nice desk and scattered seating – is tidy and open. Plants line the window and a large, brightly-colored throw rug cheers the space. Most of the décor, including a plaque from China and an Indonesian wall hanging, reflects his travels.

Described by students as a “calm, chill person,” Rosenkranz is constantly alert and thoughtful, with deep-set brown eyes, a wide smile and a bit of facial hair. He says teaching is “as creative, challenging and rewarding” as performing, and often more important.

“You may play really well, may move people, but it’s kind of a fleeting thing,” he said. He believes teaching can transform someone in a positive way. More than just teaching piano playing, he wants to take part in forming a better, deeper, more reflective human being.

Stephanie Titus, a BGSU graduate student and teacher’s assistant in her 3rd year of study, says Rosenkranz’ teaching is not about coercing his own opinions.

She says, “He’s encouraged me to find my own way of thinking about music” and improved musicianship is a “natural outcome” of studying with him. His approach is “very hands-off” and she makes many decisions herself.

She says, “It’s what I need at this stage, and I doubt I would have that in another studio.” When she needs help, he “gives fantastic advice.”

Elizabeth Canfield, a 2nd-year graduate student in Rosenkranz’ studio, heard about Rosenkranz through a former teacher and requested to study with him. She says he “definitely helped with technique” and her playing has become “more fluid, with less tension.” She also finds herself noticing details more. Of the studio, she says he tries to create a good environment and the culture of his students is “warm and welcoming.”

At the core of his teaching, Rosenkranz believes “people have to be free at the piano” and “physically feel comfortable.” He calls teaching “a funnel of everything that you’ve learned as a pianist, musician and human being.”

He says students are “all using piano as a different vehicle,” which can be challenging. Some want to get into the best doctoral

school, some want to play the most compelling new music, others simply want to be excellent pianists.

While he did not come from a background of professional music, his parents were amateur musicians, and his mother rented a piano, hoping one of her children would play. One of Rosenkranz’s clearest memories of attraction to music is from age 8. He was listening to Beethoven’s 9th Symphony, and a storm was brewing in the sky. He was conducting to the music, somehow feeling as though he could conduct the sound itself and change it. As he conducted the recording, the recording seemed to conduct the ecosystem; an experience that, especially at this young age, was “moving and compelling.”

Rosenkranz describes his undergraduate studies as “transforming.” He says his teacher at Ohio’s Oberlin Conservatory of Music, Robert Shannon, “for some reason or other, saw something in me.” He says of Shannon, “He pushed me in a good way, gave me so many lessons, so much time. Now, as a professor, I know how hard that is.”

He was also becoming an adult, living on his own and having to make adult decisions. The community at the conservatory included many students he looked up to, which he saw as an inspiration, not a discouragement.

His senior year of undergraduate study, Rosenkranz won the Music Teachers National Association (MTNA) national competition, something he says “Gave me confidence I must be doing something right.”

It was also significant because it gave him gigs (performance engagements). At 22 years old, he had his first gig, in Walla Walla, Washington. He didn’t care where it was: he was flown there to give a concert and things developed from there.

During his studies, Rosenkranz lived in Oberlin, Rochester and Paris. Other places he has lived in the last 10 years include New York City, Brooklyn, Honolulu and China. He says of life, “Every place has a kind of expiration date.”

He compares it to a well that “through time, will dry up,” and you need to know “when it’s time to look for new water sources.” Knowing when to move on or “when to say when” in relationships, places, and people is part of his philosophy of life.

When asked about his travels, Rosenkranz tells about experiences, not locations. Having visited Bali, Indonesia, he says, “The whole culture is geared toward music.”

He encountered gong players and singers on the beach. Music is “a communal thing there, not a specialized thing.” It is more of a day-to-day practice, “like going to the café in France.”

Of his time in Jakarta, Indonesia, Rosenkranz says, “It was kind of an ugly place, but it was very moving.” He was invited to go to the Jakarta slums: “There is no sewer. The sewer is on the street in a kind of stream.”

There was a class there, where all the children came to learn. The children were about 5-7 years old, and the school was one room, with a bathroom and closet.

He said “These little children, they grabbed my hand and put my hand to their forehead. It is like a very touching welcome.” He taught them songs and musical games. The situation there is what he calls “the biggest paradox.” Right next to the slum sits an amazing fashion mall that sells Prada. Thousands of dollars are spent on luxuries while those next-door live in deep poverty.

“He’s encouraged me to find my own way of thinking about music.”

— Stephanie Titus

Rosenkranz also visited Lijiang, in the Yunnan province of China. He was interested to meet minority groups there, who he calls “wonderful people, with their own food and their own language.” There are 52 minority groups in Yunnan, called the “Na Xi Ren.” He ate a Sunday night dinner with some of the people, and says, “I was a foreigner, but there was no kind of barrier with them. I really got a sense of the culture.”

Rosenkranz has been to Tunisia about a dozen times, and is fascinated by the “Part French, part Arabic” culture. He says the call to prayer is quite musical and he enjoys that it “stops everyone five times a day.” He refers to this as “an alarm to change your focus.”



This Plaque is displayed in Rosenkranz’s studio in the language of the “Na Xi Ren.” Photo courtesy of Amy Faber

Rosenkranz spends most of his time involved with piano in some way, but says, “I used to be a skateboarder. I was a short-boarder and did tricks. I used to be like a punk rocker, but I still have a long-board.” He enjoys running, cooking and learning languages: “trying to get my Mandarin better.” As a teacher, he finds it important to be “a good pianist, a practicing musician, so I have empathy for students.”

If you ask him how he got where he is today, Rosenkranz simply says, “At some point, you have to trust one thing. That if you do your work, work hard and believe in it, things will happen.” ■ KEY

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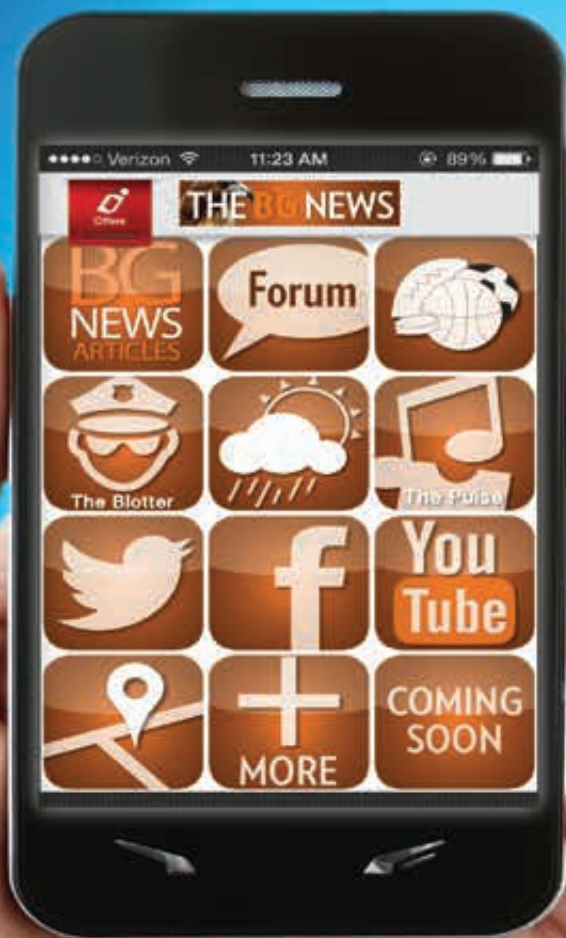
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