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Letter from THE EDITOR

Dear readers,

Spring semester always seems a bit more hectic than fall - at least for me. Projects and papers pile up at record speed. For some, finals overshadow the entirety of the semester.

As Editor-in-Chief of Key Magazine, I am happy to say this publication gives me a chance to reflect on what this semester has wrought for me and other students at the University. Despite working under the pressure of looming finals and due dates Key Magazine's staff has created a publication made for students, faculty, staff and other members of the community back on another semester at the University

Within this issue, you will find content which serves as a culmination of events and the University and issues that have received national attention, like the outsourcing of campus shuttles, coverage of local businesses, profiles on student athletes, popular apps and other national news.

I am privileged to have the help of the faculty in the School of Media and Communication, especially Paul Obringer and Robert Bortel. This magazine could not have been completed without their guidance, the contributions of our student writers, photographers, copy editors and designers.

Key Magazine is still evolving from its original purpose as the University's yearbook. This semester, the staff has produced an exceptionally long publication. Hopefully, this semester's publication will be the first of many Key Magazines of this length.

We hope this publication turns into a staple of BG Falcon Media with each edition We have accomplished a lot with a small staff, and I am extremely grateful for all the help I have received during the compilation of this publication.

> Please enjoy this semester's publication and the hard work of all the Key Magazine staff!

> > Sincerely Stepha Poulin, Editor-in-Chief

> > > KEY MAGAZINE

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Student Media, School of Media and Communication



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THINGS BLACK FRESHMEN SHOULD KNOW BEFORE STARTING COLLEGE

Be the bigger person and be open minded to the white people around you.

Culture shock is a real thing, and that's ok.

By Angelica Euseary

People usually associate culture shock with moving from a small place to a big one. Culture shock is possible with any change or transition in life. Entering a public white institution is a big deal, don't down play it. As a black person, you are trying to further your education in a space that wasn't meant for you. In a sense, you are an outcast. It's okay for you to be shocked.

College towns are different and, most of the time, smaller than where you're from. This is a new experience for you. This is probably the first time you're away from home and in an unfamiliar place. For the first time in your life you have to do everything on your own: feed yourself, clean up after yourself and make sure you get to class and do all of your work. That on its own can be overwhelming, and you're in a space that is foreign to you. It is okay to be a little surprised. This is the start of something new.

Find a safe space that works for you.

On top of being a little shaken up because you're in a new place, at this point in your life, the world sees you as an adult, and you could use a support system. Don't be afraid to get involved. Getting involved will help you make friends and find a passion you can stick with. Finding your passion will help you grow and learn much more outside of the classroom. Your safe space is so important because that could potentially grow to be your support system.

A support system is vital to you being successful throughout your college career. It is important to have people in your corner, because college can get rough, especially if you are away from home and your parents. Programs and organizations you get involved in will to lead you to resources. Some of the people you meet in college will be your lifelong friends, so don't be afraid to go to meetings and make some new people. Find your home away from home in your safe space at your university.

Outnumbered in class? Don't be afraid to speak up.

If you are a black student at a public white institution, there aren't going to be a lot of students who look like you in classes and certain spaces. This goes along with culture shock. Depending on your major, there might not be a lot of people who look like you in your classes. That takes some getting used to, especially if you are from a predominantly black high school. Don't let that scare you.

White people already have their own images of us. They may be surprised in class when we can do things like they do, like form sentences. Don't let the lack of black people in class make you feel like you're speaking on behalf of the entire race. When you do talk, just be yourself. It's okay to be nervous in class, but step outside of your comfort zone, answer a question or two and say what's on your mind. You might be doing more teaching than your professor and you'll be surprised at the responses you get.

Some white people won't be culturally competent.

There are some people who have never seen black people in person before. The fact that they have never seen a black person in their 18-or-so years of life leads them to be very curious about our culture. They're usually just as shocked to see you as you are to see them. Their curiosity leads them to do certain things that might not be okay, like violate your personal space.

The most common form is their ignorance on boundaries, like touching your hair. Don't get physical with a white person if they do touch your hair. They literally do not know any better – trust me. As offensive as it is, you will still get in trouble for putting your hands on someone, even if they started it. If it happens to you, either tell them it's not okay and explain why or just walk away.

Don't be afraid to educate your white peers.

Some white people are curious about black culture. They aren't afraid to ask questions, ignorant or not. They will ask about our hair textures, styles, how we dress and simply what it's like to be us. Some white people might use a slur or two in front of you. Don't let it shock you but be aware of what they said. You can correct them or answer their questions only if you want to. They might not even fully take in what you say.

If you do educate them, that'll still be good. The more knowledge they know the better, trust me. You don't always have to educate them; it is not your job. Their ignorance can be exhausting, so you don't always have to entertain it. You can simply lead them to Google, where everyone goes for information on things they don't know. You don't go to school to fix the racism people around you face or perpetuate. It's impossible.

Oon't assume that all white people are the same.

This is easier said than done. From what you've learned in class and the daily encounters you have with white people, it's easy for you to not trust them. I know this from experience. Don't block out all of them though. There are some white people who are not racist and educated on what is going on. These are people who can be a resource to you and are here to help you just as much as the next student.

White people are still people that you can take information and learn from.
All of them are not bad and some want to actually help and create change. And it won't help you at all being prejudiced towards them. Your prejudices could turn into much more disdain and result in you blocking something that might be for you. Be the bigger person and be open minded to the white people around you. You could learn something from them and they could learn something from you.

Take advantage of the opportunity before you.

Appreciate the fact that you are black and going off to college. A lot of people don't get the opportunity to do what you're doing. There are black people before you who fought for your right to sit in the classes you're in today. There was a time when black people weren't granted the opportunity to receive higher education, which was such a big disadvantage.

As a black person, it is important that you are here and willing to further your education at a higher level. There are black people who were given the opportunity to go to college and didn't finish. Being in college isn't as easy as it looks. Being black while trying to get your degree creates a whole different world of problems you have to face. If you use my tips and other resources when you need help, you will make it through your four or five years of undergraduate studies at a predominately white institution.

KEY MAGAZINE | Spring 2018

Shuttlebus Fleet Retired

The University is always looking for ways to save our students money, create efficiencies

Brad Leigh
 Executive Director for
 Business Operations

and lower costs.

By Meredith Siegel

he University announced that it is outsourcing the shuttle services, and while some think this will benefit the students, others believe the negative consequences drivers could face outweigh benefits.

The department made the decision to outsource to lower costs and buy new buses.

"The University is always looking for ways to save our students money, create efficiencies and lower costs. And that's really what started us down that path," Brad Leigh, the executive director for Business Operations, said. "The shuttle service is funded by a general service fee that the students are charged. The fee itself should remain unchanged; it's been costing us more to run it than the fee was covering. This will allow us to lower that cost so that the fee is sufficient to cover

According to an email sent out in January 2018, the buses will need around \$250,000 for replacement and maintenance costs, and the decision to outsource will save \$200,000 to \$250,000. This agreement will start July 1, 2018.

Leigh said with lower costs, students should be expecting news buses and better technology, hopefully with "the same friendly service they've been accustomed to and appreciated."

Students have loved the service from the shuttles, especially from Richard L. Van Horn, who goes out of his way to develop personal relationships with all the students who ride his bus. He goes to their sporting events, their performances and keeps track of where they end up when they leave the University. He is determined to make them smile. Van Horn continually expressed love for students he has met while driving the buses, which he estimates to be about 50,000.

He has been vocal on Facebook about his opposition to the outsourcing and he feels that he is not receiving support from the University.

The students love Van Horn in return. He expressed his disappointment with the outsourcing on Facebook and students responded with messages of love for him. There is now a petition on iPetitions.com for Van Horn to keep his job with 1,090 signatures.

Though, Van Horn has stated before the announcement that if the University

the University that I passionately did not agree with. I'm all for finding ways to save money, finding ways to give the students here the same services, but I truly believe that this decision will not be a great decision for the University. For many different reasons for not providing charters, not hiring students," Kody Korbas, a gerontology senior who has been

decided to outsource his last day driving

changes will make it hard on him, but he

"I've never had a decision made by

would be May 15, 2018. He feels the

loves the students nonetheless.

However, one problem that others have is persons under the age of 25 cannot drive for Groome Transportation.

driving the buses for three years, said.

"Their current policies do say that the drivers should be 25 years of age. That is where it becomes a challenge for some of our student drivers, and we've asked them to revisit that, and they've agreed to go back and talk with their group to see if there could be a way they could make an adjustment to their current policy to allow for student employees at BGSU to continue to be drivers under this news agreement. So, all we can do is ask them to revisit it and they have agreed to do that. If, in the event that there are not able to change that, we would gladly work with all of our students to find them other employment opportunities on campus," Leigh said.

Seven students will have to be considered as drivers or find new jobs next year. Shuttle salaries are among the highest for student on-campus jobs at \$11.57 per hour.

"A lot of things that I view that could be problematic because the reason we started hiring student drivers was because there was not enough interest in the community and so I foresee that being a problem with the potential outsourcer," Korbas said.

I've never had a decision made by the university that I passionately did not agree with.

Kody Korbas
 Shuttlebus driver
 BGSU Senior, Gerontology

Korbas loves driving the buses and he thinks it a great opportunity for students to meet people, get to know the campus and surrounding areas, and have a job that isn't sitting at a desk.

Korbas considers his fellow bus drivers a "second family" and worries about the impact on them.

The University's current drivers will be considered for employment with Groome, but there is no guarantee. All drivers must be able to obtain an Ohio Department of Transportation Operator Card. This includes a physical.

"I'm all for saving money, making the University as best as it can be, but to the fact where I don't want this decision to impact so many people it will be impacting. Not just student shuttle drivers, but full time and part time people as well. Third party company compared to an employee from the University... can be completely different," Korbas said.

Current employees that are hired may not necessarily be taking a pay cut, but their pay is no longer up to the University and will be determined by Groome Transportation, Leigh said.

Groome will also not be providing charters, which Korbas finds problematic.

"Won't be providing charters and so the people on campus will have to go through a different company. So, money that could be staying in the University will not be because the new company will not be providing that service. Someone who uses the charter service often will have to be paying an outside service for it and have to be paying more for it because it's an outside service. For instance, Childers is a company in Toledo that we use for like, big events that we can't provide enough buses for, like preview days, stuff like that, they are more expensive to charter bus than we offer," Korbas said.

Charter buses are something the shuttle department is looking at with Groome, Leigh said.

Other departments on campus have been outsourced, like the dining halls and the Falcon Health Center.

Leigh said new buses should be arriving on campus next fall. • KEY

I'm all for saving money, making the University as best as it can be, but to the fact where I don't want this decision to impact so many people it will be impacting. Kody Korbas Shuttlebus driver BGSU Senior, Gerontology KEY MAGAZINE | Spring 2018



Cast-off football players find success at mid-major programs

By Hannah Finnerty

ess than 30 seconds to go. A pass into the deep right corner of the end zone falls seemingly effortlessly into the hands of star wide receiver Roger Lewis with 9 seconds left.

Touchdown.

The Falcons win 45-42, bringing the team its first victory over a Power Five conference team in almost 10 years.

Lewis' catch, though spectacular in nature, was not out of the ordinary for him. waged by Division I college football. His sure, soft hands that seem to have a magnetic attraction to the ball caught 73 in that 2014 season for more than 1,000 vards receiving. He's continued his football career with the N.F.L.'s New York Giants.

Lewis prepares for the Falcons' game against Georgia Southern in the GoDaddyBowl in 2015.

No, football always came easy to Roger Lewis. But it was other things in life that sometimes didn't, and if not for a second chance at mid-major Bowling Green State University, his football career might have been a dream beyond his grasp. Lewis got a second chance-redemption-and statistics show that his story is not unique in the ever-increasing competition to land game-winning talent in the recruiting wars

THE CASE OF ROGER LEWIS

In high school, Lewis was a football stand out. A native of Pickerington, Ohio, Lewis had his choice of schools but committed to The Ohio State University on Aug. 9, 2011. However, his plans of

playing as a Buckeye in the Horseshoe were far from secure.

His efforts on the field chalked up big wins for his high school, and he led them to the state championship game in 2011. But Lewis also found himself the subject of two rape charges in 2012.

First-degree felonies, the charges were punishable by up to 11 years in prison on each count. On one count he was acquitted, but the other case ended in a hung jury. Instead of a retrial, Lewis was sentenced to 3 years probation when he pleaded guilty to a misdemeanor for falsification in exchange for dismissal of a rape charge. "I wasn't a troubled kid at all before that," Lewis said. "It was a situation where someone accused me of doing something I didn't do."

No, football always came easy to Roger Lewis. But it was other things in life that sometimes didn't, and if not for a second chance at mid-major Bowling Green State University, his football career might have been a dream ""

In light of the court cases, Lewis abandoned his dreams of Ohio State. After a year at an athletic preparatory school in North Carolina, Lewis moved back to his home state to play for Bowling Green State University, a Division I school in the Mid-American Conference.

But Lewis said Bowling Green wasn't his only offer in 2013, even in the wake of the rape trials. Lewis remained a hot commodity despite the charges; he received offers from several other mid-major schools and even a few large Power Five schools according to recruitment data from 247 Sports. But he chose Bowling Green. "BGSU wasn't taking a risk," Lewis said. "Football is football. It was just a second chance."

Former BGSU football coaches Dave Clawson and Dino Babers did ask Lewis about his criminal record, Lewis said. "They brought up the trials," Lewis said. "They did consider it, but they knew I was focused on football.

LEWIS' CASE IS NOT UNCOMMON.

Group of Five schools (five conferences in the NCAA Division I that generally do not contain the football programs that are perennially nationally ranked) have made a habit of recruiting players suspended or dismissed from Power Five teams (five conferences that house dominant football teams and receive annual automatic bids to bowl games) for one reason or another.

This trend goes far beyond Bowling Green, Ohio, and has spread in the last 20 years. And when Group of Five schools are at a recruiting disadvantage when it comes to high-talent players, why shouldn't Group of Five coaches take the opportunity to bring talent to their teams? Recruitment Disadvantage

Group of Five schools are at a considerable disadvantage when signing day rolls around; four- and five-star recruits, the elites of high school football, are more likely to commit to Power Five schools that can offer endless financial support, promises of national championships, big scholarships and a football-campus culture unlike any other. Even then, only a small fraction of Power Five schools reel in the big recruits, creating disparities even among "the haves" of the college football world.

Between 2014 and 2017, 129 five-star high school recruits emerged, according to 247 Sports composite rankings. Just 31 universities snatched up 129 players. 5-Star Football Recruits and Colleges

Recruitment data from 247 sports shows that just a handful of elite football programs snatch up five-star high school talent.

A few facts stand out from the data:

- Of those 31 schools, only one was not a Power Five school: University of Houston
- 15 schools had only one five-star recruit.
- 16 schools recruited 88 percent (or 114) of the five-star athletes.
- Alabama destroyed the competition, picking up 21 five-star recruits over the last four years.
- Georgia and Florida State tied for a distant second, with only 11 five-stars each.

From this data, it appears an elite group of Power Five Schools have a nearmonopoly on the best recruits, putting Group of Five schools and even second-tier Power Five schools at a clear disadvantage when it comes to attracting the best young talent.

Given these recruitment statistics, a Power Five school with a wealth of five- and four-star players could drop a troubling player with little impact to their season performance, knowing the following year another top-tier recruit will be added to the program.

Group of Five schools don't have that luxury. Often, they'll take the talent they

When a skilled player from a Power Five school suddenly becomes available, but maybe with some academic, behavioral or legal baggage, an opportunity emerges for less-elite schools to pick up talent they could not secure through traditional recruitment.

A SECOND CHANCE

The decision to offer a "second chance" player is not taken lightly, coaches say. When recruiting a player with a questionable past, on or off the field, coaches take their time.

As the head coach, at the end of the day, you're responsible for the actions of each and every one of these individuals !!

Mike Jinks

Bowling Green Football

BGSU coaching staff talk to the recruit's former coaches and trainers, but research goes beyond football. Current Bowling Green football head coach Mike Jinks said he and his staff turn over stones off the football field as well. They approach parents and former teammates to learn more about continued on page 10

POWER FIVE CONFERENCES

- Big 12
- Pac 12
- Big Ten
- Southeastern Conference
- Atlantic Coast Conference

GROUP OF FIVE CONFERENCES

- Conference USA
- Mid American
- Mountain West (MW)
- Sun Bell Conference
- Western Atlantic Conference (WAC)

SECOND CHANCES

the recruit's character and attitude. School counselors and teachers are consulted to discuss the recruit's classroom behavior and

"As the head coach, at the end of the day, you're responsible for the actions of each and every one of these individuals," Jinks said. "So there's a lot, a lot, a lot to deciding whether or not to give someone a second chance."

academic prospects.

Sometimes admitting the player is beyond the athletic department's power. Athletic prospects approach the university application process the same as the rest of the student body, and those decisions are made in a university's admissions office. Andrea Spoon, director of admissions at BGSU, said in an email that the athletic department has no control over whether the university admits an athlete or not. Spoon declined to be interviewed in person. Cases in which a recruit has a criminal history are evaluated the same way as a general applicant. If an applicant, potential athlete or not, has been convicted of a

This information is reviewed by a committee made up of various campus departments/ personnel who have a vested interest in balancing both an applicant's right to an education as well as maintaining a safe living/learning/working environment for all members of the BGSU community.

> Adrea Spoon Director of Admissions, BGSU

felony, the student must provide police reports and court documents to the admissions office.

"This information is reviewed by a committee made up of various campus departments/personnel who have a vested interest in balancing both an applicant's right to an education as well as maintaining a safe living/learning/working environment for all members of the BGSU community,"

And even then, not every former-Power Five player gets an offer, no matter how

"There are guys that we've researched and got more information on through last recruiting season that we didn't bring in," Jinks said. "I know how we want to build (the team) here, and I know the way we're gonna build it here, and I know what is acceptable and what is not."

Coaches do their research. Sometimes teams end up with a recruit like Lewis who took the second chance and literally ran with it. As an underclassman, he led the Falcons to two successful seasons without any other issues, legal or otherwise. But sometimes, coaches see players throw away their second chance. Jinks emphasized that third chances don't exist.

TWO STRIKES. YOU'RE OUT?

Robbie Rhodes was another Power Five pick-up for Bowling Green in 2014. A Texas native, the wide receiver played football for two years at Baylor University, the nation's No. 1 scoring offense at the time.

He was dismissed from Baylor in June 2014.

Robbie Rhodes transferred to Bowling Green State University after being dismissed by the Baylor Bears.

Earlier that year in May, Rhodes was arrested for the possession of marijuana and evidence tampering. The dismissal came after an undisclosed incident that "violated conditions of an agreement he'd made to remain a member of the team," according to an ESPN article written at the time of Rhodes' dismissal.

Just two months after Rhodes parted



Robbie Rhodes Courtesy of BGSU Athletics

ways with the Baylor Bears, Bowling Green announced Rhodes had transferred to its program. At the time, Rhodes was a huge recruit for Bowling Green. He was a five-star catch coming out of high school and still had three years of eligibility left when he made the move to BGSU in 2014.

By May 2015, still under then Bowling Green head coach Dino Babers, Rhodes was charged with aggravated menacing, according to Bowling Green Municipal Court records.

By June 2016, a few months after Jinks took over the program, the Falcons had dismissed Rhodes for a violation of team rules, his second school in less than three

In the past, universities gave more than two strikes. Cases reveal universities keeping players for far more than aggravated menacing.

In 1994, DeAnthony Hall, a player at the University of Arkansas, was charged with attempted rape for an incident with an 18-year-old woman. He pleaded guilty to a reduced charge of public sexual misconduct and was sentenced to a year in jail. Not

only were six months suspended from his sentence, but Hall returned to the university and to his position on the Arkansas football team. His final days in jail were suspended so he could start practice on time with the rest of the Razorbacks.

The behavior demonstrated by the University in Arkansas, Hall, coaching staff and local police officials wasn't uncommon As the nation witnessed in the rape case against Florida State quarterback Jameis Winston, universities and surrounding communities are often complicit in covering up criminal acts, defending the athlete and ostracizing the victim.

But Jinks said acceptance of behavior like that is falling to the way side.

"You can't hide anymore," Jinks said. "Fifteen to 20 years ago, sometimes a kid gets in trouble, nobody would know about it. Not anymore."

Football: An American Identity Competitive recruiting and second chances are driven by the underlying big business of college football. For the programs at the top of the competition, college football has become more than a sport; it is an industry. Coming in at \$1,510,482,000, the Ohio State University has the most valuable football program in the nation, according to fall 2017 statistics from the Wall Street Journal.

The Buckeyes are followed by Texas and Oklahoma. Alabama comes in fourth, falling just short of a billion-dollar value.

The highest paid coach in college football, Alabama's Nick Saban, is paid \$11.1 million a year. Comparatively, the highest paid coach in the N.F.L., the Oakland Raiders' Jon Gruden makes \$10 million.

You can't hide anymore. Fifteen to 20 years ago, sometimes a kid gets in trouble, nobody would know about it. Not anymore.

> Mike Jinks Bowling Green Football Head Coach

His study revealed that when a university football team has a great season, the school becomes more academically selective. It sees a rise in the number of in-state applicants, and applicants have a higher average SAT score.

> Douglas Chung Associate Professor of Marketing Harvard University

Coaches at Group of Five schools aren't paid as much as powerhouse coaches, but the coaches are still bringing in some of the heftiest paychecks at their universities.

At BGSU, Jinks has a base salary of \$428,655 annually, according to USA Today's 2017 compilation of NCAA coaching salaries. Former BGSU president Mary Ellen Mazey had an annual income of \$412,136 when she resigned in 2017.

University of Toledo (UT), BGSU's MAC rival, pays similarly. The Rockets' head coach Jason Candle has a base salary of \$450,000 that increases to \$575,000 by the end of his six-year contract, according to an article from the Toledo Blade. UT President Sharon Gaber, has a base salary of \$459,000

Universities and athletic departments pay astronomical salaries to head football coaches to train athletes that bring in millions of dollars to their universities, but universities feel justified in their investments. They know that Americans love football. More importantly, they know that alumni and future students can be attracted by successful football programs.

THE FLUTIE EFFECT

Boston College's Doug Flutie threw a 48yard "Hail Mary" pass in a game against the University of Miami, the defending national champion, in 1984. The football was caught for a game-winning touchdown with no time left on the clock. Some call it the "Boston College Miracle."

Over the next two years, applications at Boston College shot up 30 percent. This trend of successful football seasons followed by increased applications is known as the Flutie Effect.

Douglas Chung, associate professor of marketing at Harvard, studied the correlation of success of collegiate football programs and a subsequent boost in admissions. His study revealed that when a university football team has a great season, the school becomes more academically selective. It sees a rise in the number of in-state applicants, and applicants have a higher average SAT score.

Universities also see an average increase in applications of 18.7 percent after a successful season.

In a society that dedicates two days of the week to football, athletic programs and their brands have incredible mass media advertising power, pulling students to their universities. But when an institution's athletic prowess is coupled with a winning record, applications pour in by the thousands. Although top ranked academic programs and great dining hall options don't hurt, the idea of living in a college town drenched in sports-heavy American culture and big wins has prospective students caught up in the glamour.

Universities need to strike a delicate balance, juggling the responsibility and potential consequences of offering a troubled player and the allure of a successful team.

But to reap the "Flutie benefits" of a winning team, universities must first build successful football programs. And for many Group of Five schools, catching good talent requires universities to strike a delicate balance, juggling the responsibility and potential consequences of offering a troubled player and the allure of a successful team.

And that balance is resting on a few second chances. ■ KEY



A Hidden Community

Polyamory is alive and present in the Bowling Green area, but many don't know what it is or that it even exists

By Holly Shively

eather Ware has been dating her boyfriend since she was 18 years old. After roughly three and a half years together, they found a way to avoid missing out on anything, but not in the way many would expect.

Ware's boyfriend always felt a little bad that the two of them started dating so young, depriving Ware, a 22-year-old senior, of experiencing other romantic partners. The two found a solution in polyamory—a relationship style rooting in the idea of having many loves, where a person can be in love with or in committed relationships with more than one person at a time.

It all began on a date when the two started talking about not wanting to waste their youth since they were "only going to be young and hot once," Ware said.

From there, the couple began an open relationship in June, which developed into a fully polyamorous relationship

after more discussion. Over the course of their relationships, they had to work out some kinks.

"At first we had a veto rule in place, which is kind of toxic," Ware said. "It's disrespectful to the other person."

With the veto, Ware and her boyfriend could prevent each other from getting involved with someone else if they weren't comfortable with that specific person; however, they realized it went against the respect those in polyamorous relationships pride themselves on.

Only going to be young and hot once

— Heather Ware BGSU Senior

THE 'POLY PATH'

That's the beauty of polyamory to Anya Light, a former practitioner and current researcher and advocate of the relationship style—partners learn that they do not own each other, and communication becomes key.

"This poly path is a lot about emotional literacy," Light said. "Poly people tend to be able to communicate about their feelings more readily and available than not."

This communication roots in having to deal with jealousy, so difficult conversations become the norm. While those within the poly community may be able to bring up difficult topics, the topic of polyamory itself makes many people uncomfortable, especially in the Bowling Green community.

"It is a deeply healing practice to begin to view yourself as capable of loving many people in different ways," Light said.

The poly path breaks down the rules of the very limited beliefs of how humans should act, Light said, and the poly community generally is more in tune with knowing how to get their needs met.

"A lot of people think the only way to get those needs met are through a romantic partner and only one of them," she said. But Light said poly people understand that being snuggly and cozy with different kinds of people can be friendly rather than sexual.

Alexia Shrout of Maumee first dabbled in polyamory in high school where she and her now-husband had a few girlfriends. Now she is in a closed poly family with that husband who she has been with for 15 years, her second husband of seven years (through a spiritual ceremony), and their three children. Shrout also notices that people outside of the poly community automatically sexualize it.

"One of the first questions I get asked is 'how does the sex work,'" she said. "I'm not even exaggerating."

Similarly, 31-year-old Chris Kasior constantly attempts to re-educate people about the concept of sex within the polyamorous community.

"There's people in the community that are in it for the sex, but not all of them," Kasior said. "It's a gross generalization. There are asexuals, and demisexuals within polyamory. Even among sexpositive community members there are dynamics that are just platonic, or just romantic, or any other combination."

He said he was as young as six when he was one of two husbands while playing house, he's leaned toward polyamory but didn't realize there was a term for it until his mid-twenties.

"Until then I could have been what some would consider a serial monogamist," Kasior said. "I had lots of long term relationships, but I would always want another. When I found out about polyamory it was like a light bulb went off that said 'Yes! That's what I want!'"

Kasior said while he hasn't experienced living outside of Northwest Ohio to compare it to, it is lonely to be poly without community support in the area.

"We are here, we just stay quiet," he said.

"Even if you talk about polyamory to those people, the instinctive reaction is fear because it calls into question these deeply ingrained ideas about sexuality," Light said.

Most of the time Light won't bring up polyamory because it's "so outside of people's frames of life."

"I would love to see this become mainstream," she said. "I would love to see it be not weird for me to talk about polyamory."

Both Light and Ware agree that Bowling Green isn't as open minded and is far from as progressive as other cities around the world, but they look optimistically on the town's future for their lifestyle.

I would love to see this become mainstream...
I would love to see it be not weird for me to talk about polyamory.

— Heather Ware BGSU Senior

STAYING QUIET

Part of the reason members of the poly community stay quiet is because others don't always view their lifestyles in a positive light.

Shrout said the poly community in the area is very secretive because people are afraid to be ridiculed or looked down on when they come out. She lost friends and has been bashed by coworkers for her choice.

"We live in a very closed society in terms of being able to express ourselves, what you're feeling," Light said. "We live in this patriarchal culture that basically tells us to 'suck it up.'"

Even in Light's spiritual circles, those who say they're open-minded, polyamory is an almost taboo topic, one that's too radical to touch. She said old religious concepts that sex is bad are still embedded.

'CLEANSING' THE STIGMA

"Patriarchy still has a very strong hold on the planet in general," Light said. "However, I see that shifting and changing very quickly right now."

Light said that since the United States has a president "who is clearly insane," people might say things are getting worse, but she thinks they're getting better.

She related the situation to health. When people get sick, they have to get worse before they get better. There's usually a period of detox where the ill feel worse, but when they stick it out, they'll feel better. The United States is "cleansing out the old crap," she said.

"In ten years, I think we'll be at what Seattle is like now," Ware said.

As of April 1, a closed Facebook group called Toledo/BG poly has about 60 members. Light said that's nothing

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compared to the thousands of out poly people in Boulder, Colorado.

While it's hard for Light to live in the Bowling Green area since it's not as progressive as other communities, she sticks it out. In January, she had no mentors in Bowling Green, but now there are a couple—one sign that the Bowling Green community is moving in a more progressive direction.

While those in the poly community see the move toward a more progressive nation as a step in the right direction, many outside that group continue to question the lifestyle.

THE CASE FOR MONOGAMY

When Bowling Green priest Father Jason Kahle counsels couples in their pre-marriage stages, he tells them communication is key.

"You don't need a poly relationship in order to share your feelings, whether its jealousy or greed or affection," he said. "That's perfectly capable of a monogamous relationship."

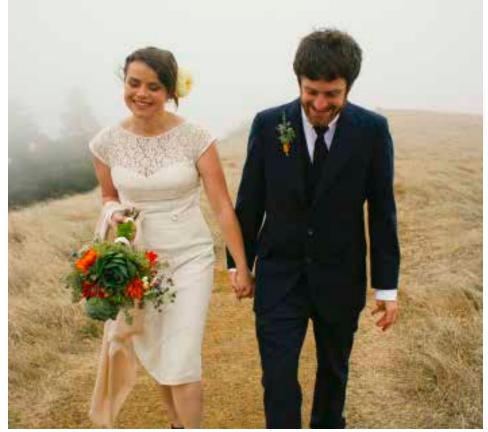
The concept of monogamy comes straight from Genesis when God created Adam and Eve, Kahle said.

"It's those two—a male and female who he joined to be as one," he said. "Both made in his image and likeness."

This transfers to all other areas of faith, Kahle said. Priests stay celibate men to take the church as their brides. One priest, and one church, "a sense of two becoming one."

Practically speaking, it's just hard to give yourself completely to more than just one person.

Father Jason Kahle
 Bowling Green Priest



Google Images

"Practically speaking, it's just hard to give yourself completely to more than just one person," he said. "I don't want to downplay the role of community because community is important...but when it comes to something more intimate, more romantic, more unifying, it's hard for more than two people to enter into a relationship."

Instead of in a monogamous relationship, where someone can give themselves 100 percent to another person, Kahle sees poly relationships resulting in giving a fraction of self to the others in the relationship. Instead of 100 percent, it may end up a 35 percent/65 percent split.

"We're designed, we're created, to give ourselves completely to one other person in a monogamous relationship," he said.

A BRIEF HISTORY

Monogamy has been the norm for as long as the world has existed, but second wave feminism began to challenge gender and cultural norms in the 1960s. Throughout the following decades, more people began to explore alternate sexualities, separated sexuality from procreation, embraced the sexual revolution and joined the free love movement.

This is where polyamory finds its roots. It took several decades to mature into the version it is now—a transition from "pleasure seeking" to building long-term committed relationships with multiple people, Light said.

"Historically, everything has gone more progressively," Ware said. "The fact that I can say I'm polyamorous as opposed to in the '70s I would have said 'oh. I'm a swinger. It would have been a totally different thing."

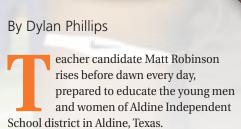
Even as culture continues to progress, Light sees monogamy and religious concepts about sex ingrained deeply into society.

CONDITIONED FOR MONOGAMY

"Monogamy as a conscious choice can be beautiful," Light said. "[But] most of the time people don't choose monogamy, they just default to it."

Kaisor and Shrout agreed that people have been conditioned to see monogamy as the only option.

"Monogamous people can freely talk about their relationship," Shrout said. "Why can't I talk about it?" ■ KEY



It was a frigid December day in 2014 when the 23-year-old Mansfield-native found out that he was to become a father. This would be the moment that would transform Robinson from student to student parent.

"I didn't believe it at first," said Robinson, who had just finished his first semester at BGSU and his first season on the University's football team. Though his initial reaction was shock, Robinson immediately accepted the responsibilities he had gained.

Robinson said he decided that in order to support his child and his fiancée, it was imperative that he get his bachelor's degree in special education.

"That's when everything turned around for me honestly. It turned a light on inside of me. I did the best that semester and every semester after," Robinson said.

Robinson is finishing his final semester of student teaching with the University's partner-school in Aldine, Texas.

Robinson said the early days of parenthood were never simple. He would take classes in the morning and spend the afternoon at football practice. Immediately after, he would rush home to give his exhausted fiancée a break and spend time with his son.

Robinson's son, Levi is now 2 years old and never stops moving—not even for "Bubble Guppies," his favorite TV show. Robinson referred to him as a ball of energy and a future football player. Levi joins him when he spends time with his friends, and Robinson described the experience as enjoyable.

For now, Robinson is in Texas teaching while his fiancée and Levi live near Bowling Green to be close to her family. They plan to marry in June.

Prospective English teacher Gabrielle Taylor is a mom and has been since her sophomore year at Bradley University in her home state of Illinois. Her son, Bane, had been planned for by Taylor and her fiancé, Brad Day. The day Taylor found out she was pregnant, she was ecstatic.

"I balled my eyes out. I had wanted this child so much," Taylor said.

She attributed a great deal of her excitement to Day who enthusiastically said, "That's my baby! You're carrying my baby!" when he found out.

Though happy at the prospect of becoming a mom, Taylor said panic quickly set in, and she was unsure of her next steps. How would this new responsibility affect her collegiate efforts?

She decided to take time away from college and spent a year at home, dedicated entirely to her family. After that

she decided she would return to school.
Taylor and her family moved to Bowling
Green to be closer to her family in the
Perrysburg area. She would continue her
degree at the University.

That's when everything turned

around for me honestly. It turned

a light on inside of me. I did

the best that semester and

every semester after.

- MATT ROBINSON

Being a Parent in

"School has affected me. I don't know that it has affected my parenting," Taylor said. "I have this incredible sense of guilt all of the time because I'm here and I enjoy being here."

She went on to say the guilt she was feeling was unnecessary.

"I don't need to feel bad because I want a life outside of being a mom," she said.

Taylor said she has learned how to balance parenthood with the responsibilities of school and the desire for social interaction.

Her message to others experiencing college alongside parenthood is this:
"Don't stretch yourself too thin, but don't purposefully miss out on things—don't feel bad about wanting to be here."

Taylor plans to be married in November and will graduate in May of 2019.

Robinson and Taylor are two of 4.8 million undergraduate students in America who are parents, according to a 2014 report from the Institute for Women's Policy Research. While both future teachers admit their lives were changed by parenthood, both will tell you this change has been positive.

KEY

Students who are parents have resources available to them on and off campus.

The Woman's Center, which is located in Hanna Hall, offers support and access to all resources relevant to woman's health. The BGSU website lists the locations and phone numbers for various off-campus services including the Wood County Department of Job and Family Services and the federal program Women, Infants, and Children.

The App Venmo Rises in Popularity with Groups of People

Venmo is a popular app that allows any user to easily pay or request money from another user by using their bank accounts.

By Kari Toncre

an I Venmo you? is a phrase you may overhear between friends as they are paying for something at the store or a restaurant, but what does it mean?

Being able to do everything from a smartphone is becoming easier for smartphone owners, including having the ability to pay back their friends using an app called Venmo.

Venmo is a smartphone app that allows someone to pay or charge money from another person. It is linked with Wenmo makes it really easy to pay for things when you can't get to the person in time.

Sydney DellaBGSU Sophomore

the user's bank account, so the money is withdrawn or deposited directly in and out of the bank account without needing to physically go to the bank.

"The odds of future generations having to physically step into a bank is probably low," finance professor Roc Starks said. "As the population ages, fewer people step into banks. Banks are closing branches because there just isn't much traffic anymore. I would say only about 10 percent of the population will still be going to a bank in the future."





Send money and make purchases.

So how does it work? First, download the app and create an account. After the account is created, it will allow the user to submit their bank information. Venmo has multiple security steps to make sure the account is protected and belongs to the person trying to use it.

As Venmo and more apps like it become popular, banks will have to increase their security and improve it.

"Each application has different security issues with how it secures your data," Starks said. "That problem is one of the things banks have already addressed and will have to continue to address."

According to Investopedia.com, "Venmo uses bank-level security and data encryption to protect users against unauthorized transactions and allows users to set up PIN code for mobile application use additional security."

If someone is paid a certain amount, that money goes to their Venmo balance, which can be used for future payments. Or the person can deposit the balance into their bank account.

Venmo is popular among Greek Life, like with the sorority Chi Omega.

"I've only used Venmo once so far for Chi Omega for an event, but I plan on using it again," junior Elise Beaudreau, sisterhood director of Chi Omega, said. "It makes it very convenient for me because when I have to collect money from our members; it saves me a lot of time as opposed to meeting with every sister that owes money. It also allows me to get the money faster than I would in person."

••••• Verizon 🤝

It is not only helpful and convenient for people in leadership roles to collect money but also for members of Chi Omega.

"Venmo makes it really easy to pay for things when you can't get to the person in time," sophomore Sydney Della, a member of Chi Omega, said. "For example, if we order a sweatshirt, instead of hunting down the person who is in charge, we can easily just send them money quick and simple!"

Another way Venmo is useful is for collecting rent between roommates.

"My roommates and I use Venmo for rent and utilities," sophomore accounting major and Falcon's Pointe resident Haley Doski, said. "My three roommates Venmo me their share of the rent and utilities and then I write a check and give to Falcon's Pointe. It makes it so much easier to collect our money and it's all in one place."

To begin paying and receiving money, the user taps the icon in the top right

corner of the screen, picks the person they are paying or charging and then enters in the amount of money. The person they are paying or charging must also have a Venmo account.

Chelsey Wells paid Alex Thaboua

Alan Trimakas paid Matthew G Bull on the beach

The user taps on pay or charge and it immediately sends a notification to the other person's phone.

The app is free to download, and most services are free. The company charges a 3 percent free for paying with a credit card and a 25 cent fee for Instant Transfer of a balance into a bank account.

Venmo is growing in popularity, seeing as it increased from around \$7 billion in the beginning of 2017 to over \$10 billion by the end of 2017. It makes managing finances easier and is a safe way to transfer money between two people. • KEY

It also allows me to get the money faster than I would in person.

Elise Beaudreau
 BGSU Junior and

 Sisterhood Director of
 Chi Omega Sorority



he recent influx of the term "fake news" and the spreading of scientific denial in the media may have some educators and students disgruntled. Here at the University, professors are teaching achieved without destroying freedom of

This is not a new issue: Thomas Jefferson was a main proponent of freedom of the press. He knew that freedom of the press was paramount. It does not mean, however, that there will not be media outlets that abuse this

power and propagate falsehoods. There is a self-regulatory factor to news, false news gets criticized, but so does factual news.

The fairness doctrine introduced in 1949 encroached on freedom of the press in hopes of making a fair and balanced students how honesty in the media can be media system. It allowed direct government intervention by mandating news outlets cover both sides of controversial issues.

> Dr. Saif Shahin is an assistant professor of journalism at the University. He has 10 years of experience in journalism writing in India, England and the Middle East and continues to globally contribute his writings today.

"It was an important measure that institutionalized the public service aspect of journalism, encouraging broadcasters to cover issues of public importance and be balanced in their coverage," Shahin said, describing the fairness doctrine.

It was a controversial piece of legislation at the time, but one could see the utility in it. It has not always been that the press could say whatever they wanted. The press has always been able to criticize the government, which is what was in mind in the phrase, "abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press."

The aim should be to strike a balance between not encroaching upon press freedom and ensuring the idea of press freedom is not abused to spread lies.

— Dr. Saif Shahin —

Asistant Professor of Journalism Kuhlin Center, BGSU



removed during Obama's presidency in 2011. Its dilution coincides with the blatant partisanship in news that we started seeing more of since the 1990s," Shahin said.

Ami Palmer, a doctoral student in philosophy at the University, shared his thoughts on the fairness doctrine, as well.

"The Fairness Doctrine is a doubleedged sword," Palmer said. "On the one hand it can ensure politically marginalized views [receive attention]. However, on the other hand it gives the public a false sense of balance of the legitimacy of views."

This is still a problem today with reporting on climate change. Having two sides equally debating the legitimacy does not represent the scientific consensus of climate change.

It is possible to be for freedom of speech but also want media outlets to receive criticism for spreading blatant misinformation. Shahin does not think the solution is in allowing the government to directly regulate the media. Shahin, in his opinion, has a solution.

"[Government] can mandate, say, a council that includes journalists, media scholars, and other stakeholders who could listen to complaints about unfair coverage and advise news organizations on how to make their coverage fairer," Shahin said.

The exact details of how to implement this is unclear, so there is a possibility of overshooting power in favor of media

"The aim should be to strike a balance between not encroaching upon press freedom and ensuring the idea of press freedom is not abused to spread lies," Shahin said.

Offering government broad, unspecified regulatory power is vehemently fought against by most first amendment supporters. It is much likened to using a hammer for a job that requires a scalpel.

In Shahin's approach, a council of professionals who are familiar with the field and determining what is "fair and balanced" is a less invasive way of mitigating unfair news than direct government intervention because it is not mandating speech, it is advising it mostly.

"It's better to err on the side of too much liberty than not enough. The cost of being under that bar are so great to an accountable democratic government that it is not worth the risk," Palmer said.

Perhaps a solution to this is in reclaiming public trust in experts. Most of the climate change doubt lies on the Republican side of the aisle, according to an article titled "The Politics of Climate" from the Pew Research Center.

"If you ask [liberals and conservatives] who are the experts on climate science, they will point to the same people. The difference is the conservatives don't trust the scientists because they are part of a liberal institution," Palmer said.

This seems to be looked over in most discussion of climate change denialism. Lack of trust seems to be a problem, If solved, it will quell a lot of the science denialism.

"Knowledge claims and social trust run together. If somebody is an expert, it doesn't matter what they say if you don't trust them. Part of solving the problem is restoring and reinforcing social trust in

our Universities and experts," Palmer said.

American Republicans are more likely to doubt scientists than Democrats. This solution is from the inside rather than by policy or abridging the media in some way. This method is more noninvasive, but the problem of the media being able to propagate false claims is left untouched.

This whole problem comes down to wanting policy to be married to the expert consensus. However, , if solved it will provide us a better map to navigate our society through. Just like you would not want to use a GPS that lacks knowledge of a road that is under construction, - or worse, it knows but hides that from you willingly - we do not want our government making policy that does not represent our best informed, most likely picture of the world.

"Think of it this way, suppose one fact is 85 percent likely to be true, and 15 percent likely to be false, which view are you going to adopt if you have to make policy?" Palmer

Of course, it could be wrong. Science is always being superseded by better science. But a change of perspective when viewing science could offer a solution.

"Conclusions are expressed probabilistically," Palmer said. "But the media and the public understand science in terms of absolutes." ■ KEY



"It's better to err on the side of too much liberty than not enough. The cost of being under that bar are so great to an accountable democratic government that it is not worth the risk

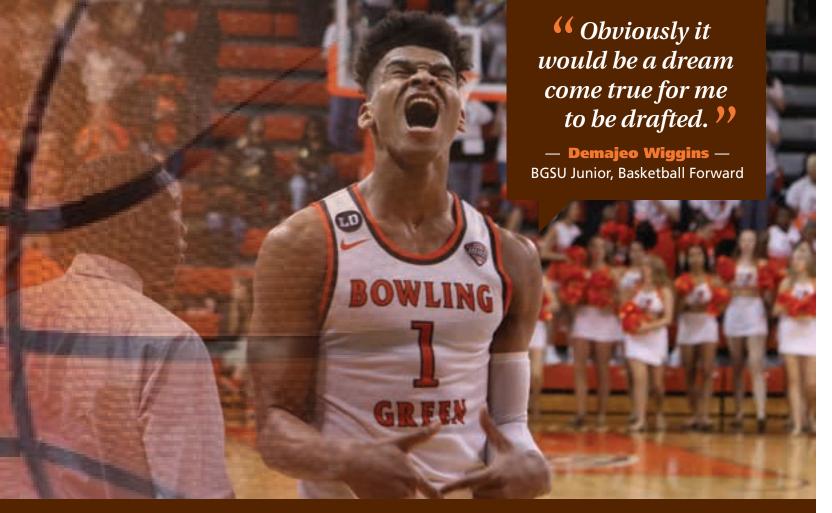


— Ami Palmer —

BGSU Ph.D. Student, Philosophy

By Brandon Long

the press.



FROM THE STROH TO THE ASSOCIATION:

WIGGINS EYES

By Chase Bachman

n March 22, Bowling Green State University forward Demajeo Wiggins entered his name in the 2018 NBA Draft. Wiggins averaged 14 points and more than 10 rebounds a game in his junior season for the Falcons and landed a spot on the All-MAC second team. Wiggins's size and ability on the court have some speculating whether or not there could be a spot for him in the NBA which would no-doubt be a remarkable achievement in his basketball career.

Since he was little, Wiggins has always been one of the tallest and most talented kids on the court; even if his skills and mentality did not always reflect that.

"It was tough," he said. "I was always the tall kid, and everyone expects you to be good and to come into your body, but

that wasn't necessarily the case. I didn't even really love playing basketball until my freshman year of high school. I was playing it because my friends were doing

Eventually, Wiggins came into his own. His playing ability increased, and schools began to take notice.

"From my sophomore to senior year, I grew 5 to 6 inches," he said.

He started to attract interest from schools like Cleveland State and Western Kentucky. Demajeo Wiggins soon became a lanky, 6'8" headband-wearing high schooler playing for the Springfield Blue

It also helped that Wiggins was coached

by Stan Joplin. Joplin is the former head men's basketball coach of the University of Toledo. Wiggins noted how demanding Joplin could be as a coach.

"It was never easy," Wiggins said. "But it was really beneficial to my development as a player. Just from the terminology he used to the way we did things in games. It was a really great benefit to have him."

Following the firing of Falcon men's head basketball coach Chris Jans in March 2015, the University hired former Falcon Michael Huger to be their next head coach. Wiggins committed to the University exactly one week after the hiring. Wiggins admits he did not know much about Huger, who played at the University from 1992-1996, before the hiring move, but that didn't stop the two from connecting right away.

"When I found out Coach Huger became the head coach, I only knew he coached at Miami," Wiggins said. "He actually watched me work out the day after my senior prom. After getting to talk to him, I knew he knew what he was talking about."

Following his high school graduation, Wiggins spent the entire summer getting himself acclimated to his new school located only a half hour away from Springfield High School.

"With me being so close to home, I wanted to tell myself that I was in a new environment just like a lot of recruits are," Wiggins said. "That first summer I never went home."

At the end of last year, this realization came about fast that I could be playing professionally one day.

— Demajeo Wiggins — **BGSU Junior, Basketball Forward**

Despite the devotion, Wiggins confesses it was an arduous process advancing to the collegiate level.

"For me, it was a hard transition," Wiggins said. "Guys are bigger, stronger. The curriculum is new. Everything is new."

It didn't take long though before Wiggins made his impact on the Falcons. twenty-five games into his freshman year, Huger made the decision to start Wiggins for the final seven games of the season. Wiggins finished the season leading the team in field goal percentage, with 56.4 percent.

His sophomore season, Wiggins played and started all 32 games for the Falcons. His scoring and rebound averages doubled from the previous season. He even led the team in double-doubles. It was near the end of Wiggins' sophomore year that the conversation arose over whether or not he had NBA potential.

"At the end of last year, this realization came about fast that I could be playing professionally one day," Wiggins said.

People thought that perhaps with another year under his belt, Wiggins

could be looking at a roster spot in the Association.

In his third year, Wiggins' numbers rose again, this time to the point where he averaged a double-double on the season. His minutes increased. He finished second in the conference in rebounds per game. There was legitimate interest in Wiggins, not just for his playing ability but also for his leadership. Demajeo's teammate and roommate Jeffrey Uju has said a lot of the team's success occurs when Wiggins plays well.

"Being one of the best players in the MAC, we're gonna look up to him," Uju said. "If he's not at 100 percent, then we're not at 100 percent."

Wiggins' size and rebounding ability must certainly have some NBA scouts talking. Even if he isn't a professional basketball player yet, that does not stop people from looking at him and wondering if he is.

"It's fun," Wiggins said, amused. "You get people staring at you. You hear people whisper things. I always get asked two questions: 'how tall are you?' and 'do you play basketball?"

Soon, Wiggins will be able to add the word 'professionally' to answer the second question. The draft is set to be held June 21, but because he did not sign with an agent, Wiggins can withdraw his name from the draft as late as June 11 and return to the University for his final year of eligibility. If Wiggins makes the decision to return, he's made it clear he would like to build upon last year's team that finished 16-16.

"If I could wrap it all up in one word, it'd be winning. That's not a secret. It'd be about winning and building that brotherhood that we've worked to create," he said.

It's been a long basketball journey for Wiggins. He was once playing because his friends did, and now he could soon be playing for a contract. Wiggins acknowledged how big of a night the draft could be.

"Obviously it would be dream come true for me to be drafted," he said, "You'll never know what emotions you'll feel until you experience it. What happens is what God wants to happen, and if I heard my name on draft night, I'll cherish that moment forever." ■ KEY



What happens is what God wants to happen, and if I heard my name on draft night, I'll cherish that moment forever. ""

Demajeo Wiggins —

BGSU Junior, Basketball Forward



- USING -TO COPE: **How Social Media Presents Mental Health**





Anonymous No.44906305 04/20/19/Fn)06:16:33 >You will never have a meaningful >You're biding your time until your parents die in order to commit suicide without remorse. No one likes you for who you are. 3 replies



By Stepha Poulin

o you ever see a Facebook friend joking about committing suicide? Do you get concerned they aren't really joking? This is just one instance of how social media users encounter mental health memes.

Modern trends can be difficult to understand due to their ever-changing nature, but one trend is growing in popularity and simultaneously raising concern: mental health memes.

So, what are mental health memes? The term describes a multitude of memes that center around people relating to their own, or other people's, mental health problems. Often, the issues discussed are highly specific, yet there are still many people seeking out this content.

More specifically, these posts include content regarding: alcoholism, substance abuse, disassociation, self-harm, hypersexuality, social anxiety, depression and suicidal ideations.

The popular subreddit "2meirl4meirl" provides hundreds of pages of examples of this kind of content. Users post relatable content and often poke fun at their own mental health or other people's mental health. At the top of this subreddit, there is a pinned post urging people with suicidal ideations to get help.

A mental health meme can include some humor. Those who are not dealing with mental issues may fail to see the humor in them at all. However, even those who are not diagnosed with a mental

health disorder find humor in this online content.

"I'm a very sarcastic person. Almost all the time I am sarcastic," Jacob Clary, junior multiplatform journalism major, said. "I don't really want to kill myself. It's the joke that every college student has where they imagine they're going to be hit by a car. It's funny in a way."

Clary says he does draw the line once things seem to be getting serious, though. He still looks for signs of depression or other mental health issues in his friends.

"I joke about myself because I know I'm not actually depressed. I won't joke about that kind of stuff with people I don't know, though, because I don't know where their 'line' is," he said.

Sometimes, the line between "joking" and "not joking" can be difficult to discern. Especially when someone makes light of their mental health state in an everyday conversation.

"Most of the time I really can't, but I try to judge by what their demeanor is. Sometimes, it can be difficult to tell if someone is joking or not," Clary said. "If they make it seem like a joke, most of the time, I'll think of it as a joke, too."

Sometimes, the line between "joking" and "not joking" can be difficult to discern.

Jokes about mental health have made their way into everyday conversation but the darker humor is found online. The popular image-sharing social media platform, Instagram, has thousands of pages devoted to mental health memes. These Instagram pages have a large following, and their followers tend to engage with the account holders frequently.

Younger people most often manage these accounts, usually those who fall into the millennial age range. The millennial generation is usually defined as those born between 1980 and 1996. Some of these accounts are operated by those who fall into "Generation Z," which includes people born after 1996.



04/19/18(Thu)02:51:32 No.11025519 >>11025299 (QP) # a pizza elicits a more intense emotional

and sensual response in girls than I ever

and to think there are people who will be shocked by my suicide

"I'm a very sarcastic person. Almost all the time I am sarcastic.

> – JACOB CLARY **BGSU Junior** Multiplatform Journalism Major

The account owners may reveal their real-life identity, but most choose to post content anonymously.

The Instagram account "drunkaunt420" is run by a 15-year-old high school student who has remained anonymous ever since she created the account during the summer of 2017. She uses her Instagram account to post highly-specific, relatable memes about her own mental health and her experiences with therapy.

Her Instagram bio reads as follows: "Sad Virgo - Personal Blog. Oversharing!!!!! A lot !!!!!!" This Instagram account had a goal in mind when it was first created.

"I thought that this would be a good way to relate to other people with mental health issues and help myself through a sort of online diary, because a lot of people say that making mental health memes about themselves is therapeutic, and I've found that to be true," drunkaunt420 said.

Drunkaunt420 doesn't adhere to any specific posting guidelines, so there isn't necessarily a line for her to cross when making content.

"I honestly don't have any rules when it comes to making memes, as long as I'm comfortable with what I'm posting," drunkaunt420 said. "If my content is extremely graphic or detailed, I put a trigger warning on my posts."

A "trigger warning" is a disclaimer put before a post, or in the description of a post, that lets readers know disturbing content is about to appear. This allows people to avoid content they may find disconcerting, like posts containing self-harm, depicting symptoms of eating disorders or suicidal ideations.

Trigger warnings can extend to a host of other types of content, but usually it is reserved for the aforementioned "extreme" content.

Drunkaunt420 has 1,318 Instagram followers, and her account is continuing

"I think memes about mental health are so popular because, frankly, there are a lot of people with mental health issues. Of course, there are followers who haven't experienced mental illness, but they're pretty rare in my experience," she said.

While drunkaunt420 produces a form of media that revolves around mental health issues, she does see some issues with the way mental health is portrayed in the mainstream media.

"Making media about mental health as a whole is tricky because there is always bound to be people who romanticize these things or criticize the ways you're handling your mental health issues."

After several months of creating and curating memes about mental health, drunkaunt420 is happy with what her account has become. For her, confronting her mental illness with humor has been beneficial, despite criticism.

"I've found making these memes has helped me and made me feel a lot better about the situations I'm in," she said.

Among the thousands of mentalhealth meme accounts on Instagram, there are some with a larger following than drunkaunt420, like "GarbageCanAesthetic."

"I've found making these memes has helped me and made me feel a lot better about the situations I'm in.

— DRUNKAUNT420

Anomymous Meme Instagram account

This account has over 26,000 followers and its bio states "Queens of the Sewer: the female versions of Holden Caulfield and Hamlet – serving hot memes." Holden Caulfield is a fictional character in the novel "Catcher in the Rye" who is best described by his teenage angst.

GarbageCanAesthetic is run by two 18-year-old girls who felt like Instagram's ... continued on page 24



Child At That Awkward Age Where No One Cares What He Thinks And He's Constantly In The Way



I don't think I ever out grew that stage...







USING MEMES TO COPE: ... continued from page 23

content was something they could both relate to, however, they both wanted to create more specialized content. Their reasoning behind creating this account is similar to drunkaunt420, and they enjoy the interaction they get from their users.

I honestly view memes about mental illness as methods of coping for a lot of people.

— GARBAGECANAESTHETIC
 Anomymous meme Instagram account

"I honestly view memes about mental illness as methods of coping for a lot of people," GarbageCanAesthetic said. "Mental illness can be gross, and cause people to do gross things, so it's really comforting to see what you believe is unspeakable put in a comedic light with a bunch of people commenting 'same' underneath."

Dakota Rench, a senior communications major, believes these memes do create the sense of community GarbageCanAesthetic speaks of. It may be as simple as someone commenting "same" on an Instagram post yet he believes that sense of community is still valid, since the internet provides its users with a way to quickly and cheaply communicate.

"In this day and age, we have had

a rise in evidence for a lot of mental health illnesses that weren't previously recognized," Rench said. "When this is established in a society that is able to now accept that and be open about it, the internet is a free way for people to do that."

Despite talking about such dire issues, memes about mental health are most likely here to stay. In 2017, we have seen a shift from previous societal perceptions of mental health. People are speaking up about what used to be deemed as unspeakable problems.

For example, in the 1990s, gothic culture was often equated with feelings of sadness or apathy. Today, we have seen a resurgence of this culture. Mainstream artists often use this aesthetic to appeal to their audience, such as Melanie Martinez's album "Crybaby."

Drunkaunt420 recognizes how some of this content may perpetuate mental illness, but regardless, she believes we can find fault in most things on the internet. Content such of this deserves the same sort of speculation as any other "fact" on the internet.

"If someone hasn't experienced the things they're writing about they're bound to get some facts wrong no matter how extensively they've researched it," drunkaunt420 said. "The same goes for trauma and mental illness."

Joking aside, it is important to get help if one feels like their mental health

is deteriorating, and there is no shame in asking if your friend is in need of help. The American Foundation of Suicide Prevention offers online chat services and a phoneline where people can reach out for help in their time of need: 1-800-273-8255. • KEY

In this day and age, we have had a rise in evidence for a lot of mental health illnesses that weren't previously recognized.

DAKOTA RENCH
 BGSU, Senior
 Communications Major



A COLLEGE STUDENT'S GO TO

amazon echo

Amazon's Echo intelligence systems are becoming more and more popular with college students.

By Meredith Troxel

ello, My name is Alexa. I am an Amazon Echo, designed around your voice. I can provide music, news, weather and more." says Alexa, the voice behind Amazon's Echo intelligence system.

Amazon Echos, which were introduced to the public in 2014, have become the latest hit in digital voice assistant products. With the release of the Echo, Amazon personified its voice by naming it "Alexa." Alexa has become the new voice that can be heard in many homes including dorm rooms on university campuses.

"All of the echo devices are popular, however, among them the Echo and Echo Dot are the most popular devices," Vinay Shivani, a customer service representative from Amazon said. "We recently had a promotion going on for the Echo Show device, so we are getting a lot of people buying those right now."

One of the popular features with students is the ability for their Echo to be a bluetooth speaker.

Brooke Surface, a freshman inclusive early childhood education major, uses her Amazon Echo Plus in that way.

"It is the best bluetooth speaker I have used," Surface said. "It's sound quality is really good and it can get super loud. All other bluetooth speakers are about the same price as my Echo, but don't have the features that Alexa adds to it."

The Amazon Echo Dot was selling for \$29.99 during the holidays which is the main reason why it is the most popular model with college students. The Dot is

now back to its base price of \$49.99.

In addition to using her Echo as a speaker, Surface uses it to check the weather, to tell the time and to set her alarm.

According to an infographic by Statista using the Echo to set the time is the number one feature.

Although Surface first used it right after she got it for Christmas, she has still not been able to get it to connect to BG's Wi-Fi after bringing it back from break.

"It's annoying that I can't even use it here because no matter what I try, it won't connect to the University's Wi-Fi," Surface said.

The University's ITS center, which does not service or help with outside devices, does have a video on its site video explaining how to connect every Amazon Echo to Wi-Fi for personal devices.

Sophomore Jake Maley, had no issues connecting his Amazon Echo Dot and asks Alexa questions almost every day.

"I mainly use it to ask questions about sports or weather and to play specific songs or artists," Maley said.

Maggie Marcum, a sophomore VCT major, said she was able to get her Echo connected to the Wi-Fi when she first set it up, but now it will not stay connected.

"The Res-Media Wi-Fi never lets it stay connected," Marcum said. "I have to reconnect it every time and it is a long process."

Amazon and Arizona State University teamed up in 2017 and gave out 1,600

I can provide music, news, weather and more.

— ALEXA

Echos for incoming students to use in their dorm room, according to an article in EdSurge.

Amazon made the Echos for college students in mind. Officials are hoping for a time where Echos are "woven into student life" and students can use them for "ordering transportation and setting homework reminders," an Amazon spokesperson said.

John German, an Arizona State University spokesman, told the EdSurge reporter "ASU's main motivation was to develop an opportunity for its engineering students to gain skills in voice technology, an emerging field."

With four and a half stars and over 10,000 reviews on almost every Echo model, it is clear many people love the Echo and everything Amazon has put into their product. • KEY

2.4



By Thomas Ziegler

hirty-five years ago, Tom Mauk opened the doors to Colonial Barbers and the journey of creating a legacy began.

"I have always loved cutting hair, it is truly my passion. I wanted to take a chance and open my own business, I have been lucky enough to have success over the years," Mauk said.

Like most barbers, Mauk's goal has always been to create a close relationship with every customer that walks through the door.

"I am old school. For me there is something special about getting to know your customer on a personal level. There are grown men that come in here and I have been cutting their hair since they were in fourth grade."

Mauk grew up in Bowling Green and has always loved the community.

"It's a great place to be, nice downtown, tight-knit community, and now that the college has grown this place is buzzing during the school year," Mauk said.

Colonial Barbers, located on North Prospect street next to the courthouse, is a well-established barber in Bowling Green. Mauk keeps things simple and takes care of business. The shop has two barbers, music and walk-in times and appointments.

One unique thing about Colonial is Mauk's co-worker and son, Kyle.

"It is a special thing to work with your dad," Kyle said. Honestly, I did not know if I wanted to cut hair for a living. Things changed for me as I got into high school, watching, and learning from my dad (Tom) was awesome. I was able to come in and help my old man out and when the time comes it will be my pleasure to take over,"

The father-son duo has created a unique and diverse crowd of customers.

"I have always had my steady group of customers and we have always had a good number of locals throughout the years," Mauk said. "Although, when Kyle started working here the college guys really started to pour in."

Kyle cuts the majority of college students hair and he has made quite a name for himself around campus.

"Kyle is just an awesome dude. I love talking to him when I am getting my haircut," student Ryan Lau said. "It is amazing that he cuts hundreds of guys each week and still remembers me. I can go in talk to him about sports, school, the weekend, just life in general and he genuinely cares about what I am saying. Obviously, they cut good hair, but I just love the fact that my barber enjoys talking to me instead of just rushing me in and out the door like some of the other places."

Lau said he was referred to Colonial by a friend on campus.



We are just doing our best, nothing crazy, nothing fancy.
I love what I do and it is great spending time with my son.

TOM MAUK

"I just enjoy talking to my customers, majority of the time I am cutting college guys hair, so usually we just talk sports or their weekend plans," Kyle said. "Making the guys feel at home is important to me. I have been in their shoes and it is fun to hear where these guys are from, their major and their stories. Sure, talking for a few extra minutes could cost me a haircut or two but it is worth getting to know my customers."

Colonial Barbers continues to use their old school style to bring in community members and college students, Tom Mauk said, "We are just doing our best, nothing crazy, nothing fancy. I love what I do and it is great spending time with my son."

KEY

Non-Traditional

STUDENT ORGANIZATION

By Cheyanne Eagy

niversity students are proud to be a diverse bunch, but one aspect of diversity is often overlooked: life experience.

The Non-Traditional Student
Organization provides support and opportunities for campus involvement, career development, and peer engagement to students who are also active military, veterans, over the age of 23, or identify as nontraditional.

"I wanted to create a group for students who had experiences that set them apart from the typical college student," organization founder Lori Fox said. "With the increasing number of nontraditional students entering BGSU, this organization provides a place that encourages connections and involvement."

The organization publishes a newsletter, "The Falcon Prime," and hosts monthly meetings where nontraditional students can catch up with peers and talk about the various campus activities.

Tracie Compston, 26, said her experience with the organization has been beneficial.

As a student who works two jobs and commutes, Compston said, "I am as involved as I can possibly be. I've met some really decent people since I started going to non-trad meetings."

Fox founded the student group in 2017. The idea stemmed from her own experience as a nontraditional student who came to the University following a 20-year break.

"I realized how different I was from the traditionally aged student," Fox said. "My perspectives were different and it was a challenge to find anyone who could relate to what I was going through. I felt like I didn't belong."

Fox thought other students might share her sentiment. She created NTSO with the goal of creating a space in which nontraditional students could find representation and voice their needs or concerns. The need for this organization and support programs on campus reflects the growing population of nontraditional students in higher education.

According to an article in The Atlantic, 38 percent of those enrolled in higher education are over the age of 25 and one-fourth are over the age of 30. The article states the share of all students who are over age 25 is projected to increase another 23 percent by 2019.

The presence of nontraditional students on campus benefits traditional students, Fox said.

I wanted to create a group for students who had experiences that set them apart from the typical college student.

LORI FOXOrganization Founder

"Being in a class with nontraditional students provides other students a chance to learn compassion, understanding and empathy," she said. Fox said nontraditional students have something called "lived experience" that sets them apart and makes them a great asset to the campus community.

In addition to the student organization, nontraditional students can get assistance through the Office of Nontraditional and Military Student Services located in the College Park building. Fox said the majority of the staff members in the office have been nontraditional students themselves and have a deep understanding of the feelings and the obstacles nontraditional students are facing.

As for the student group, Fox wanted to create something that would be a positive addition to a college experience not be another chore on a very long list of things to do."

The Nontraditional Student
Organization wants to continue to serve
a growing population of students with life
experiences that can be shared with the
students and faculty who seek to further
the diversity of our campus.

Don't hesitate to talk to us. I promise we're all nice," Compston said. ■ KEY



Women in Aviation

BGSU Chapter of Women in Aviation International takes Flight this Year



Far left photo: These women, mostly freshman aviation majors, make up the executive board of the University's chapter of Women in Aviation. I Photo credit: Catherine Smith

Because we're such a minority in the aviation program, we thought why not come together and be stronger. On our own we each have a certain power, but when we come together to get things done and empower one another, it's amazing

> Paige Billetz **BGSU Freshman**

By Katie Dushek

the University's chapter of Women in Aviation International is taking flight this year. The growth in the number of females enrolled in the aviation program prompted the formation of the organization, as 26 women are currently enrolled—a drastic difference from the mere two women enrolled five years ago.

"Typically in my aviation classes, there are only about three girls out of 25 people. That's just a normal thing," said Paige Billetz, a freshman aviation major and chapter president, sid. "A big part of Women in Aviation is attracting girls to these STEM fields."

Billetz set the wheels in motion for the organization in November, collaborating with the international organization and as the Office of Campus Activities. The women chapter held their first meeting

WAI has two main goals: to create connections and networking opportunities for women in the aviation industry and to promote the field to more women.

The Federal Aviation Administration reports that as of 2016 only 6 percent of pilots were female. Women make up 28 percent of non-pilot jobs, but after removing the number of flight attendants, it drops to 4.4 percent.

"What's important to me is to promote not only flying, but the engineering and mechanic aspect as well," Billetz said. "I want girls to know more about aviation management and operations. You don't always have to be in the cockpit."

The group's purpose is to encourage women in STEM fields and bring them together to break the stereotypes placed on them in the aviation field.

Mayra Kodman, a freshman aviation major and vice president of the organization, said most of the male aviation instructors have been supportive of the group and of women in the field in general.

"Some people are still really old school about aviation, though," Kodman said. "They don't want women in the field because they don't feel that they're able to be in it, whether intelligence-wise or whatnot.'

Billetz said the biggest supporters of the organization are the female faculty at the flight center.

"Pretty much every woman over there is on board with it," she said.

These are some of the same women who, more than 20 years ago, started their own Bowling Green chapter of Women in Aviation at the University. It fizzled out over the years because of the declining enrollment of females in the aviation program.

"They're all really excited for our chapter to start and to see what we're able to do with it," Kodman said.

A six-person executive board, made up mostly of first year students, is running the organization. They plan on fundraising for the chapter, getting more involved in the community with service events and raising money for battered women's shelters in the area.

Additionally, Kodman said two of their main goals are to go to the WAI convention and getting involved in local high schools to promote aviation to more girls.

The University chapter wants to be involved with numerous networking opportunities provided by the international organization. They want to connect with other campus chapters, such as the ones at Kent State, Ohio University and The Ohio State University.

Both Billetz and Kodman said they hope this organization will attract more attention to the aviation program.

Russell Mills, a professor in political science, is the group's faculty adviser.

"This organization is vital to the future of the industry, given the major shortages of female pilots and maintenance technicians," he said. "I strongly believe the founding of this organization will spur additional women in aviation efforts across Northwest Ohio."

Though still relatively new, the organization has been approached to assist with the Girls in STEM Conference to be held at University on May 18 through the 20. The women also plan to participate in WAI's fourth annual Girls in Aviation day in October.

"Promotion-wise, it looks a lot better when you can have 12 girls stand up together instead of just one," Billetz said. "Because we're such a minority in the aviation program, we thought why not come together and be stronger. On our own we each have a certain power, but when we come together to get things done and empower one another, it's amazing." ■KEY

They don't want women in the field because they don't feel that they're able to be in it, whether intelligence-wise or whatnot.

> Mayra Kodman **BGSU Freshman**



August 12 Neo-Nazis gather for the "Unite the Right" rally in Charlottesville, Virginia.



September 3 North Korea conducts its sixth (and most powerful) nuclear missile test.



October 2017 Harvey Weinstein accused of "sexual misconduct".

October 2017 #MeToo movement begins.





December 5 Russia is banned from the 2018 Winter Olympics after

an investigation into government-sponsored doping.



January 20-22 U.S. government shuts down due to debate over DACA.



February 9-25

The 2018 Winter Olympics are held in Pyeongchang, South Korea.



March 9

President Donald Trump accepts an invitation from North Korean leader Kim Jong-un to discuss denuclearization in North Korea.

WORLD YEAR MREVIEW

2017 AUGUST SEPTEMBER OCTOBER NOVEMBER DECEMBER JANUARY FEBRUARY MARCH 2018



August 25-30 Hurricane Harvey hits the southern coast of the U.S.



September 6-10 Hurricane Irma Strikes the Caribbean and the U.S.



November An armored shooter enters a church in Texas, killing 26 parishioners and injuring at least 19 others.

October 1

killed, 851 injured

in Las Vegas.

Fifty-eight people are

when Stephen Paddock

opened fire on a crowd



February 6 SpaceX tests its most powerful rocket to date.



A 19-year-old man kills 17 students and staff with a rifle at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida,

February 14

March 18 nearly 75 percent of



Vladimir Putin is elected for a fourth term, winning the vote.







August

Collab Lab opens

The Collab Lab is a space for students, faculty and community members to think creatively and build collaborative projects.

August 21

On the first day of

fall semester classes,

students and others

looking up at the sky

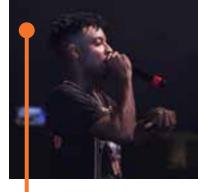
though filter glasses

to view the solar

eclipse.

campus was full of

Solar eclipse



September 16

#NoSleepBG

Rapper 21 Savage, dancers and DJs kept attendees in the Stroh Center entertained well into the night with this event.



October

50th anniversary of **Jerome Library**

Events such as passing out T-shirts at Homecoming and speakers such as astronaut Mark Kelly led to a re-dedication of Jerome Library in honor of its 50th anniversary.



Hillbilly Elegy author speaks

J.D. Vance spoke about Appalachia and his family's story as told in this school year's common read, Hillbilly Elegy.



New Women's Center director chosen

Angela Clark-Taylor began her role as the Women's Center director at the beginning of the spring semester.





February 5

Teaching Kitchen opens

The Teaching Kitchen at the Oaks serves to engage students in an educational culinary experience.



February 23

Rodney Rogers named president

The University board of trustees unanimously confirmed Rodney Rogers as the 12th president.



2017 AUGUST SEPTEMBER OCTOBER NOVEMBER DECEMBER JANUARY FEBRUARY MARCH APRIL MAY 2018



SICSIC gains new members

Hulk and Frosty the Snowman joined Scooby-Doo, Captain Planet, Groot and Michelangelo as the faces of SICSIC.





September 3

Juicy J performs

October 12-14

Homecoming

This weekend full of events which connected alumni with current students culminated with the crowning of seniors Kody Korbas and Rebecca Irwin as Homecoming King and Queen.



quarter.



President Mazey resigns

In a surprise announcement at a board of trustees meeting, President Mary Ellen Mazey told the University she was resigning and Provost Rodney Rogers would become interim president.



January 24 Shuttle services

outsourced

The University shuttle services will be run by **Groome Transportation** next school year, leaving many student shuttle drivers without their jobs.



March 23

New USG leadership elected

Hannah Cubberly and Marcus Goolsby were elected by the student body to become president and vice president, respectively, of Undergraduate Student Government.



February 3

Freddie and Frieda unmasked

Brian Chaney, Spencer Lockwood, Christine Nelson and Bailee Jesse were revealed as Freddie and Frieda.



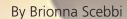


The University Activities Organization

passed the aux cord to rapper and

Differences Students Embrace Contrary

Cultural Communities



"We have differences, but we treasure difference," Abdel En nasry said.

This sentiment was also expressed by Abby Paskvan, even though she is a Christian from Ohio and En nasry is a Muslim from Morocco. Their faith journeys could not be more different, but the support they received in their college experience from spiritual organizations on campus could not be more similar. One looks to Jesus Christ as the model for how to live her life, while the other looks to prophet Muhammad for guidance in his life. However, the values they share as human beings—showing love, kindness and acceptance toward others—surmount their cultural and religious differences. These are their stories.

As a Muslim international student who has spent nearly three years in Ohio, Abdel En nasry is well aware he is not in Morocco anymore.

In Morocco—where 99 percent of the population is Muslim, according to World Atlas—the school and work day carves out time for its citizens to practice their religious duties, En nasry said. However, as a graduate student studying cross cultural and international education and a graduate assistant for the Global Village learning community here at the University, he has to work around his classes and office hours to pray five times a day, as Islam requires.



44 Ask me about my religion. ??

> - Abdel En nasry -**BGSU** International Muslim Student

"It's really hard sometimes to belong to a religious group and then when you move somewhere else, specifically when you are out of your own culture, your own community," En nasry said.

The challenges presented by this shift go beyond the classroom and workplace. Islam has guidelines about alcohol consumption; it generally forbids intoxicants based on verses in the religion's holy text, the Quran. En nasry lives in a college town full of bars—and people to invite him to bars-but most Friday nights he chooses to spend his time with the family he has found in the Muslim Students Association.

The Muslim Students Association gathers for prayer and a sermon every Friday afternoon with a potluck social every other Friday night in Hanna Hall. At the socials, members of MSA play table tennis, charades or trivia games after sharing Pakistani, Moroccan, Bangladeshi, Indian, Azerbaijani and American food representative of the diversity within the Muslim community.

"Say I'm from Morocco and another is from India, the culture is totally different, totally different. Even we speak different languages, but we have that one religion that united us as one, as one community," Abdel said.

This atmosphere of unity is one he tries to create for other international students through his work with the Global Village as a graduate assistant. Since Islam emphasizes building relationships with and accepting others regardless of differences in race or religion, En nasry's goal is to connect international and American students to foster lifelong friendships and break down barriers.

The supportive communities of MSA and Global Village echo that of the University. Despite the tense political climate, students, and Ohioans in general, have been understanding and welcoming to him as a Muslim international student, En nasry said.

However, not everyone is as tolerant as those on a Midwestern college campus. People often make assumptions about what Muslims believe or have



We're different, and that's okay. ??

- Abby Paskvan -BGSU Student, H20 Church

misconceptions about the cultures of countries with high Muslim populations, he said. The solution is communication and education.

"Muslims like to be asked—not to be told—about their religion. Come and ask me about my religion, or read about my religion; don't just assume or have those misconceptions," En nasry said.

Now in her senior year, Abby Paskvan cannot imagine how her time at the University would have been spent if it was not for H2O Church. A marketing student with a long record of involvement on campus, she described H2O as the start of it all.

"That planted my roots, and from there I branched out...It made all the difference for me to be rooted and then have those branches be wherever and still know what my purpose was," she said.

Paskvan's freshman year was a challenging one, and transitioning into college without being a part of an oncampus church community made it one of the hardest periods in her life, she said. While she saw H2O around campus that first year and felt how inviting the community was, it was not until her sophomore year she started getting involved.

"That became a giant part of my life. Music is how I teach others about what God can do in their life and how he can affect people," Paskvan said.

Finally finding a religious community to support her and her relationship with God, she joined one of H2O's Life Groups. Life Groups consist of conversation about faith topics and socialization with other members of H2O. These groups are meant to build fellowship in the church and provide spiritual support for students.

"Having a community of people who believe the same thing that you do is the most empowering thing," Paskvan said.

H2O has also encouraged her to branch out to other organizations such as Kappa Phi and CHAARG.

Paskvan is the president of Kappa Phi, a Christian sorority which seeks to deepen its members' beliefs and act on those beliefs through service. She is also the membership chair for CHAARG, a women's fitness organization. Paskvan's core beliefs of love, kindness and intentional relationships apply most to her involvement in CHAARG.

"Loving on a bunch of girls who have no idea where they fit in on this campus or no idea what the next step looks like for them, it's just I want to love on them. I want to show them that there's so much more to life than just where they're at right now," she said.

As a member of the CHAARG leadership team, she became close friends with senior Emily Fitch, who both challenged and strengthened Paskvan's faith as they differed religiously.

"To be able to act on a team together and even go beyond that and be really, really good friends, I think says a lot about just how religion can play a huge part in how you treat others no matter what their beliefs are," Paskvan said. ■KEY

It's really hard sometimes to belong to a religious group ... when you are out of your own culture, or your own community. "

> - Abdel En nasry -**BGSU** International Muslim Student

Spiritual On-Campus Organizations

If you are looking for spiritual or cultural organizations on campus that offer opportunities to learn more about different religions or worldviews, check out the following list of on-campus organizations. See Orgsync for more details.

ORGANIZATION	RELIGION	ORGANIZATION PRESIDENT	CONTACT INFORMATION
Active Christians Today	Christian	Katelyn Lang	langkl@bgsu.edu
Campus Outreach	Christian	Danelle Bruggeman	brugged@bgsu.edu
Catholic Falcon	Christian - Catholic	Hunter Sluss	hsluss@bgsu.edu
Chinese Outreach	Christian	Fengdan Zhao	fzhao@bgsu.edu
Cru	Christian	Benjamin Daneker	bdaneke@bgsu.edu
Disciples on Campus	Christian - Non-	Mesa Snell	msnell@bgsu.edu
Fellowship of Christian	Christian	Jane Uecker	juecker@bgsu.edu
Flint	Christian	Josh Slembarski	jslemba@bgsu.edu
H2O Church & Lifegroups	Christian	Nick Mazza	nmazza@bgsu.edu
Habitat for Humanity	Christian	Jordan Arrington	arrinjm@bgsu.edu
Hillel	Jewish	Shayna Swerdlow	swerdls@bgsu.edu
Kappa Phi	Christian	Abby Paskvan	apaskav@bgsu.edu
Kingdom M'Powerment	Christian	Shelesha Evans	scevans@bgsu.edu
LCMS U at BGSU	Christian - Lutheran	Michaela Jones	michjon@bgsu.edu
Muslim Students	Muslim	Toghrul Alakbarov	alakbat@bgsu.edu
St. Mark's DNA Bible	Christian - Lutheran	Katheryn Mason	kemason@bgsu.edu
The LIGHT	Christian - Presbyterian	Melissa Karpuszka	mkarpus@bgsu.edu
United Methodist Student	Christian - United	Nathan Kester	nkester@bgsu.edu
Way Campus Fellowship	Christian	Rachel Renou	rrenou@bgsu.edu
Young Life	Christian - Non-	Gail English	gaile@bgsu.edu











Business and Bowling Green

Small Businesses Thrive in a Small City ownies and University students alike create a place for local businesses to succeed. Consumers can enjoy a variety of niche shops and restaurants that make the small city of Bowling Green a goto place for prospective businesses. The city has welcomed multiple new businesses over the past year, including Cameron's Comics and Rapid Fired Pizza. Small boutiques, like Mode Elle, or antique shops and eateries line Main Street – a rarity for a city with just over 30,000 inhabitants.









We want them to be able to apply what they're learning in the classroom to a community context so they have these skills to be able to participate in whatever community that they go to.

By Annie Miesle

rominent service opportunities, such as Martin Luther King Jr. Day and Expand Your Horizons Fair, are organized through the Center for Community and Civic Engagement, but do you know who plans them? Students.

The students who plan and execute events for the Center are called "Civic Action Leaders." They help educate the campus community on social issues so individuals can become active citizens in their community.

"I think the Center is a valuable resource for the university," civic action leader Hannah Finnerty said. "We're not just saying this is good for you to get involved in for these four years, but ideally we're creating students who care about their communities beyond BGSU."

Finnerty, a junior journalism major, is also is the editor in chief of the BG News.

To better serve the community, changes were made within the civic action leader program this year. After eight years, the program switched from a three-year cohort model to a one-year commitment with specialized roles.

"The first year working with the civic action leaders was kind of like the Wild West," Paul Valdez, associate director of the CCCE, said. "As we continued to evolve we became more and more structured. I think the students appreciate the clear expectations and being more specialists."

For senior applied health science major Amy Holthaus the specialized model has given her the opportunity to be one of the coordinators of Bowling Green Alternative Breaks. Holthaus has a history of serving with the program where students volunteer with a community partner and learn about a specific social issue during their academic breaks.

"A lot of people come back from the trips with a different mindset and a different outlook on life," Holthaus said. "Hearing some of these testimonies from other BGSU students that they have had these transformative experiences, that they can do work outside of the alternative break experience to really impact the community every day, has been really great to hear."

Junior public health major Jacqui Campbell, a Community Engagement Specialists, has seen the impact of this program through her one-on-one consultations.

"Those one-on-one consultations are honestly the most rewarding, especially when the student does actually end up running with the opportunities they are presented with," Campbell said.

One successful experience she recalled was when she connected a student needing tutoring with an organization that works with Latino and recent immigrant children.

Valdez said the civic action leader program has transformed into a more visible resource on campus.

"I think that's critical because at BGSU part of the larger piece of why we exist as a Center is that we don't want students to come here and just get a degree," Valdez said. "We want them to be able to apply what they're learning in the classroom to a community context so they have these skills to be able to participate in whatever community that they

As these student leaders help students become actively engaged citizens they grow from the opportunity as well.

"I definitely have seen lots of students become more confident in their ability to do complex, collaborative tasks," Valdez said.

Finnerty said, "We all independently, and as a group, successfully planned a massive

event, and we keep the office running all year. So, I definitely have gained a lot of confidence in my ability to do things without somebody looking over my shoulder. It's a good stepping stone into an actual workplace."

Along with confidence, Campbell said she has learned to collaborate with different personalities and community partners that vary in size. For Holthaus, other life skills stand out. "I think that experiences go beyond from what I have learned in textbooks in the classroom," she said. "A lot of that can come from talking with others and engaging with the community. Being able to communicate with others and listen especially, is really important with community based work." ■ KEY







This summer's demolition of the Harshman Quadrangle signals the end of traditional housing.

It has an incredible amount of long-term, deferred maintenance needs that the university cannot support.

— BARB SHERGALIS

By Kailynn McComas

his summer's demolition of the 53-year-old Harshman Quadrangle residence hall signals the demolition of traditional housing

"In general, campuses across the country are going to the suite style," Barb Shergalis, director of design and construction, said.

Shergalis said Harshman is being demolished because "it has an incredible amount of long-term, deferred maintenance needs that the university cannot support."

Though the closing of Harshman is necessary, the loss of traditional housing comes with a mix of emotions.

"I like traditional housing," former Harshman Hall director Allison Adkins said. "The environment structure is important in how we create community. It is more difficult for people in the suites to meet other residents in other suites and so that community is not there as easily."

Sophomore workforce education major Kaylee Robins has experienced both housing styles, having lived her first year in Kreischer and now in Falcon Heights.

"It's really nice to have your own space to do things and not feel like you are living in the same space as somebody else," Robins said. "I think that is more of a benefit than the traditional style."

Over the last couple of years, the University's housing style has moved in a new direction. Adkins is currently the Hall Director of Founders Hall which was converted into suite style in 1993.

"We have our all-gender floor in Founders and that is specifically for residents who either don't identify on the spectrum or don't identify on the binary of gender or sexual orientation," Adkins said. "The need for a private bathroom is higher. I would like to see the private bathroom piece available to all residents."

Newer housing on campus deters from traditional housing. In Centennial, which was built in 2011, roommates share a bathroom as opposed to sharing a communal bathroom for the entire floor. Falcon Heights, built in 2011, has both double room and single room suites with private bathrooms.

"Where I have seen traditional styles work better on other campuses is where they have

pods, the privacy of the toilet and the shower, but there is a community sink," Adkins said.

No plans have been announced about construction on new housing on-campus. Building projects on the books, however, do include utility upgrades to heating, air conditioning and lighting for residence halls.

"We have a lot going on, Shergalis said. "We are the implementors of the things the senior leadership decides on."

Although there no specific construction plans for residential buildings, University officials continually evaluate housing needs.

"With having to rent off-campus housing for students that really wanted to live on campus, shows there is a need and students would like to be on campus," Shergalis said.

Whatever the plans are for new residence halls on campus, Robins said the future of University housing should be suite style. She

According to Kirksey, an architecture firm in the Houston area that specializes in student housing, "Today's typical college student desires more privacy, independence and technological convenience than ever before." ■ KEY

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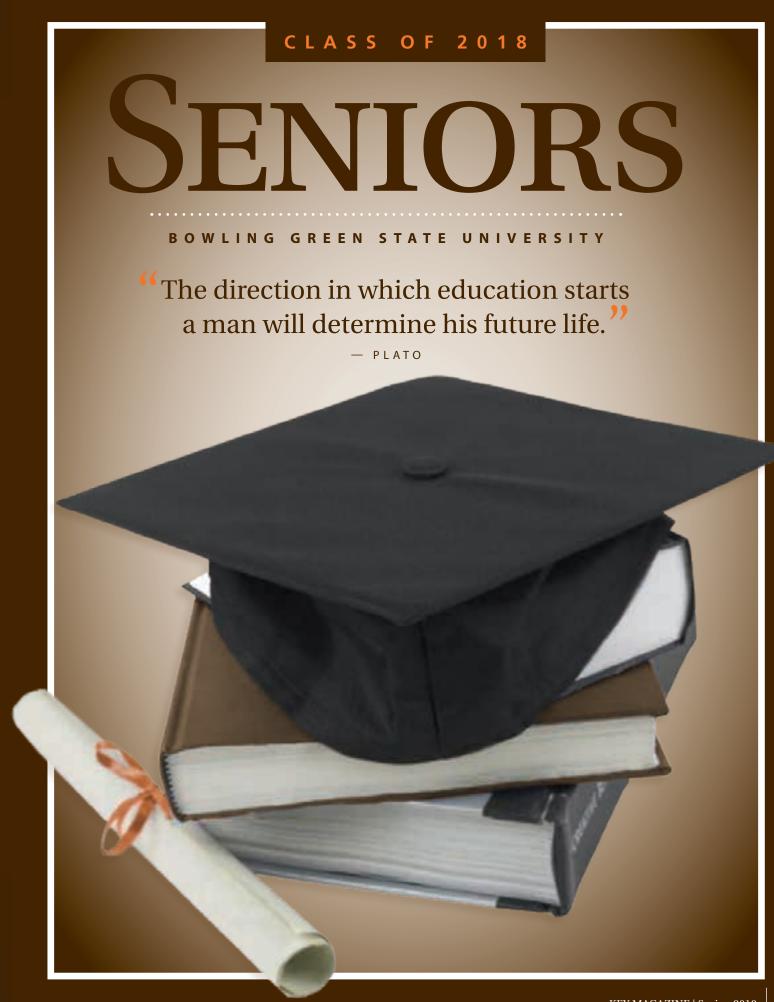
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Acheampong, Peter
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Alolaywi, Mousa Anderson, Chuma Engineering Technology



Andjelkovic, Connor Adolescence to Young Adult Education



Bailey, Timothy Sport Management



Baldwin, Arielle Political Science



Bidlack, Treanna BS in Interior Design



Dendinger, Gabrielle Adolescence to Young Adult Education



Donahue, Morgan Doughty, Sarah Criminal Justice Graphic Design



Dowell, Avery Visual Communication Technology



Duke, India Multiplatform Journalism



Eisenhauer, Tara



Elbert, Aliah





Bishop, Golda Aviation Studies



Biology

Black, Bethany Asian Studies



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Communication



Brown, Parker Sport Management



Media Production and Studies



Ely, Jenna Inclusive Early Childhood



Erwin, Rebecca Public Relations



Microbiology

Evers, Joshua Supply Chain Management



Fantozzi, Elizabeth Farabaugh, Mallory







Burns, Trenton
Health Care Administration

Caesar, Javania
Apparel Merchandising
& Production Dev.



Human Development & Family Studies



Criminal Justice



Cameron, Jelynne Carrington, Tajonae Carter, Christopher Centlivre, Matthew Adolescence to Young Adult Education



Supply Chain Management



Chafee, Rachel Biology



Fark, Kourtney Biology



Liberal Studies

Farrell, Trevor Biology



Fisher, Andrea Biology



Flasher, Helena Middle Childhood Education



Foli, Anthony Pre-Aviation Studies



Foor, Serena



Cirino, Michael Digital Arts



Clifford, Cody Accounting



Coleman, Kandann Liberal Studies



Coleman, Taylor Communication



Construction Management & Technology



Counterman, Jacob Mathematics



Counterman, Jessica Two-Dimensional Studies



Foster, Brittany Accounting

Garlitz, Rachel



Foust, Charles Biology



Fowls, Samantha Middle Childhood Education



Fraker, Nathanael Criminal Justice



Floehr, Sophia

Communication

Graphic Design

Fullove, Jayna



Garber, Lily



Crouse, Alexandra



D'Amore, Miranda

Middle Childhood

Davis, Bryce Psychology & Sociology





Studies



Environmental Policy & Analysis



Technology







Adult Education

Gire, Elijah

Health Care



Gosser, Jillian



Graham, Shauntai



Gray, Jasmine Health Science



Green, Dorresha Exercise Sciencet



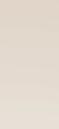
Green, Natalie Communication



Gresh, Rebekkah Adolescence to Young Adult Education



Griffin, Natasha Interior Design



Jones, Kyra Psychology



Juhola, Emily Julian, Ashley Accounting Art Education



Kalnasy, Brianna Biology



Klein, Matthew Adolescence to Young Individualized Studies



Klusmeyer, Raelyn Human Development & Family Studies



BS in Human Development



Technology

Visual Communication



Gupta, Monica Social Work



Inclusive Early Childhood

Hale, Benjamin Management



Haney, Jesse Communication Information Systems Business Analytics Disorders & Marketing



Inclusive Early Childhood



International Business & Intervention Specialist Marketing





Lanier, Mykayla Lavette, Naomi Mild-Mod Mod-Intensive Intervention Specialist



Intervention Specialist Music Performance Flute

Mathematics

Adult Education



Adolescence to Young
Adult Education Public Health



Hartman, Chad



Harvath, Katherine Sport Management



Hays, Alexander Aviation Management



Heideloff, April Adolescence to Young Adult Education



Heishman, Samantha Film Production



Henceroth, Emily Psychology



Henderson, Jacqueline



Lloyd, Sha'lori



Locke, Nathaniel Psychology & Biology



Lubrano, Alyssa Marketing



Luckring, Nicholas Health Science



Lutz, Caylee Criminal Justice



Communication



Hercules, Sarah



Hogg, Benjamin Supply Chain Management



Holt, Erin Mild-Mod Intervention Specialist



Hopkins, Beth Management



Howard, Ann Adolescence to Young Adult Education



Hu, Xiaoyu Geography



Huff, La'shaibrielle Middle Childhood Education



Martin, Samantha Music Education



Dietetics

Martinez, Briana



Matthews, Amarie Maurer, Thomas Health Care Administration



Maxfield, Bailey Music Performance Vocal



McElrath, Chelsi



& Family Studies



Hunt, Alan



Husk, Timothy

Liberal Studies











Education









Education







Adolescence to Young Adult Education



Accounting & Information Systems Auditing & Controls



Moody, Thomas Sales and Services Marketing & Finance



Murray-Lavette, Kameron Psychology



Natal, Michaela Communication Disorders



Nauertz, Mitchell Communication



Nicholson, Taylor Adolescence to Young Adult Education



Sakairoun, Anastasia Political Science



Sara, Bethany Gerontology



Schapker, Luke Schmidt, Zachary Philosophy Politics Economics & Law Sport Management



Schoen, Natalie Schommer, Patrick Workforce Education and Development

Psychology



Sport Management



Scott, Lamont Criminal Justice



Nolan, Tyler



Biology



Digital Arts



Nabay, Isha

Health Care

Administration

Norton, Madaline Orbanic, Catherine Panko, Tiffani Intervention Specialist



Parks, Lauren Nursing



Exercise Science

Paster, Kyla Exercise Science



Psychology



Shininger, Margo Adolescence to Young Adult Education



Shively, Holly Multiplatform Journalism



Human Development & Family Studies



Apparel Merchandising & Product Development



Media Production and Studies



Pelphrey, James



Pilli, Radha Phani



Poling, Randi Pre-Middle Childhood Education



Pope, Austin Portera, Allison Apparel Merchandising Communication & Product Development



Pou, Kerstyn Communication



Smiley, Brittany



Middle Childhood

Education

Smith, Tamara Film Production



Snyder, Anna Individualized Studies



Spencer, Emily Intervention Specialist



Spratling, Diamond Stacy, Jenna Health Care Environmental Policy



Presson, Jack



Pritchett, Derwin



Racette, Richard



Rauterkus, Walter



Reinhart, Madeline BS Human Development & Family Studies



Rich, Anthony



Stanton, Courtney Middle Childhood Education

Individualized Studies



Steffancin, Bethany Supply Chain Management



Steigerwald, Amy



Sou-Ah-Y, Alexis

International Business

Steinberger, Amelia



Stokes, Jayana Inclusive Early Child-







Roth, Jordan Computer Science





Redding, Teo

Rutschilling, Nicole Apparel Merchandising & Product Development







Middle Childhood Education

Pre-Liberal Studies

Tate, Kaitlin

Journalism









Thomas, Mathew Health Science



Thomas II, Talmadge Sociology



Towchik, Joscelyn Individualized Planned Program



Trautman, Shelby BS in Interior Design



Tromler, Abigail
Communication



Turner, Derek Adolescence to Young Adult Education



Turner, Lariel Communication



Turner, Shannon Biology



Unnerstall, Samuel Media Production and Studies



Valdez, Shayna Biology



Verhotz, Allison Middle Childhood Education



Vivo, Victoria Psychology



Waldron, Hannah Inclusive Early Childhood



Watkins, Taylor Health Science



Wheatley, Kimberly Middle Childhood Education



Willis, Brianna International Business



Wilson, Rachel Classical Civilization



Winner, Alex Supply Chain Management



Wojcik, Kristina Psychology



Worsham, Thomas Biology



Wright, Shauntel



Wrighten, Reauna Media Production and Studies



Yarbrough, Gabrielle Finance



Young, Brandon Criminal Justice



Young, Corey Psychology



Young, Quan Criminal Justice

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to all the seniors
of the graduating class of 2018