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Bowling Green State University

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NIGHTTIME NUISANCES

Underage drinking can be a problem for bars. See what some businesses do to prevent it from happening on **PAGE 2**.



Rumors about liquor store proven untrue

BG Liquor Outlet expanding, not closing

By Alex Alusheff
City Editor

Recent rumors have circulated that the BG Liquor Outlet would close or lose its liquor license, but the store is actually in the beginning stages of expansion.

The outlet will actually be increasing its floor space to accommodate more selections of beer, wine and liquor and adding a "growler station," said Manager Mario Kiezi.

A growler station is a bar with 12 taps of popular craft beers in which customers can buy 64-ounce containers of freshly tapped beer, Kiezi said.

The extra floor space will also accommodate more room for wine tasting events, he said.

"We've had record sales in the last year," Kiezi said. "If we were going out of business, you wouldn't see our shelves fully stocked."

The origins of the false rumor stem from a ballot that passed on Election Day allowing Kroger to sell alcohol on Sundays and the ability to obtain a contract to sell spirituous liquor, meaning liquor above 21 percent alcohol. Some rumors suggested Kroger may eventually take over the outlet's license.

As of now, Kroger has no immediate plans to obtain a contract, but is exploring all options, said Kroger Spokesperson Jackie Siekman.

For Kroger to obtain a contract to allow it to sell spirituous liquor, it would have to apply for a contract or buy another business with a contract and apply for a license transfer through the Ohio Division of Liquor Control, said Division Spokesperson Matt Mullins.

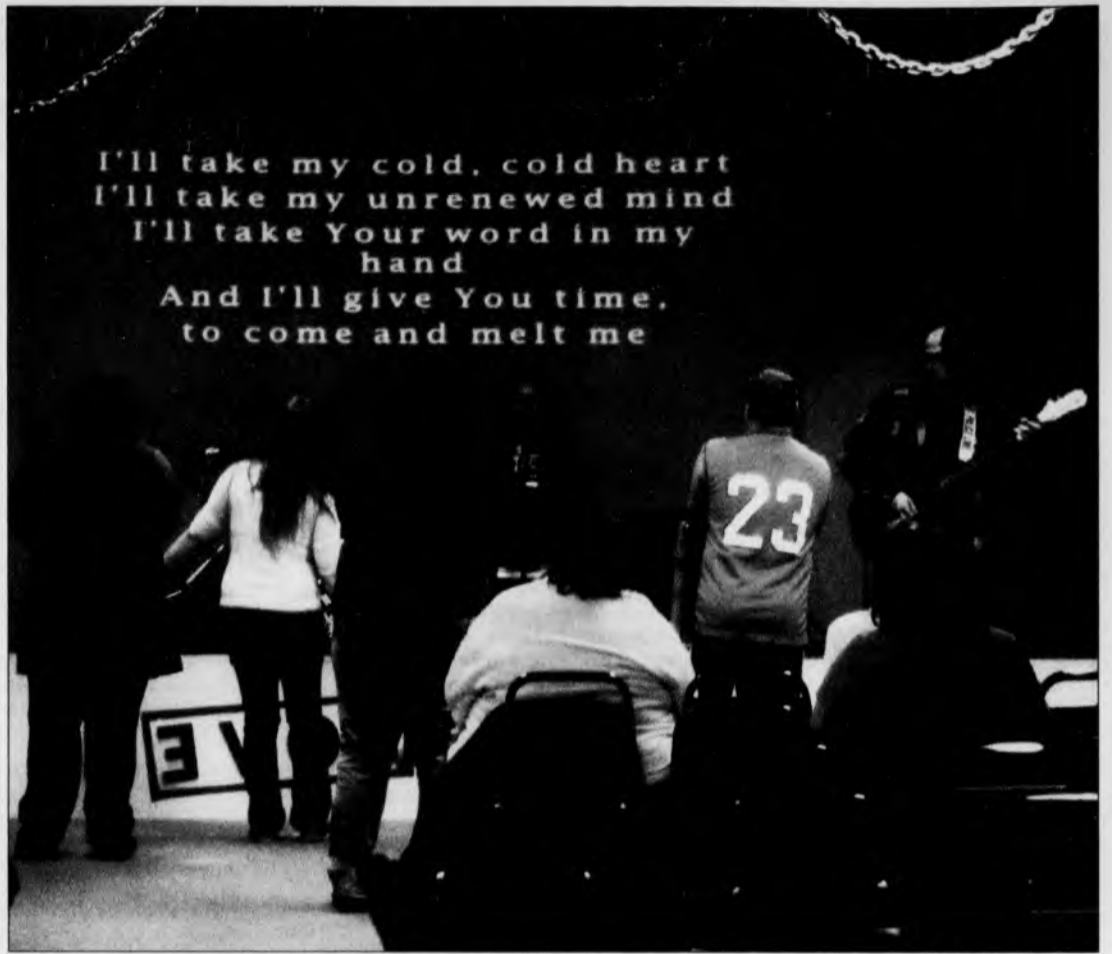
A transfer of a contract to a different location takes roughly 10 to 12 weeks, Mullins said.

Wood County has and, is only allowed, five carry-out spirituous liquor stores, he said. The five in the county are BG Liquor Outlet, Cork's Wine and Liquor in Rossford, a Rite Aid in Northwood as well as a Rite Aid in Perrysburg and Woodbury Market in Millbury.

The county is allowed an additional liquor store based on a population ratio of one store per an additional 20,000 people with a base of 40,000, Mullins said. To have six stores, a county would

See **RUMOR** | Page 2

a church that rocks



RYAN BARKAN | THE BG NEWS

MEMBERS OF Broken Chains Church participate in a Christian rock opening hymn Tuesday night at Woodland Mall. The church was inspired by the atmosphere of a Christian rock show.

Non-denominational church offers unique 'rock 'n' roll' experience, 'Come As You Are' mentality

By Zach Knapp
Reporter

Broken Chains Church offers attendees a new take on the traditional church with its heavy music-centric religious services.

Pastor Bob Lamb said that offering a different experience was the plan ever since he got the idea to start the church while at a Christian rock show.

"I was watching this show and kids were jumping around and having a good time and I thought that 'this is what church should be like,'" Lamb said.

Lamb along with his wife Deanna, who is also a pastor, wanted to offer a different experience at their church.

From the heavy music, to the murals of flames and graffiti message of "Messiah's Misfits." They made sure the church had a unique look.

"We were going for something different," Lamb said. "It is not like I ever wanted stain glass windows like you would see in other churches."

University senior Morgan Ward has passed the church in the Woodland mall, but has never been in.

"It seemed weird when I first heard it was a church," Ward said. "It looks more like a club than a church."

People who have never attended the church may be confused

See **CHAINS** | Page 2



KATIE LOGSDON | THE BG NEWS

CONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT lies in wait to clear wreckage of the Heinz Ketchup factory on the corner of Ridge Street and North Enterprise Street.

CAMPUS BRIEF

University converts factory site to 'green space'

Students will soon see a change on the corner of Ridge Street and North Enterprise Street.

The University is demolishing what is left of the former Heinz Ketchup Factory at the intersection with plans to transition it into a green space.

"We wanted to give the community something that is more aesthetically pleasing," said Mike Schussler, manager

for the project.

In the new green space, the University may also put in a walkway and some park benches, but nothing has been finalized yet, Schussler said.

In the future the University may also use the space for a building. While constructing a new parking lot was talked about early on in the project, Schussler believes it unlikely the space could eventually be used as a lot, due to its location relative to campus.

Parts of the old plant, including bricks and steel, may also be recycled by the company demolishing the building. Along with turning the site into a green space, the recycling of old building materials is just another way

for the campus and community to continue going green.

"We're trying to become a greener campus," Schussler said. "They actually already have a buyer for the brick."

Before the demolition started, the building was previously occupied by a group of renters who left during summer, Schussler said. A majority of the building was actually not usable for anything, because of its condition, he said.

"This project should remove a blemish from the community and hopefully we can turn it into something nicer," Schussler said.

The project is scheduled to conclude sometime in January 2013.

Students plan workouts through mobile site

Recstats provides hourly updates of availability at Rec

By Eric Lagatta
Reporter

Before senior Jesse Denick comes to use the free weights at the Student Recreation Center, he likes to know if the weights are actually free.

Thanks to a mobile website called Recstats, which provides hourly updates on the capacity of all the areas in the Rec, Denick is able to know the best times to workout.

"I've used it since it came out," Denick said. "It makes it easier for me, it lets me know when I should rest and when it's a good time to come."

Eric Teske, a staff assistant at the Rec, came up with the website's concept as a way to integrate technology into the Rec Center.

"I wanted to play around with ways to get this info out to students," Teske said.

The site, which launched this semester, allows people to check how busy the Rec is so they can plan their workouts accordingly, he said.

"It's interesting because if you wanted to plan your workout,

just changing the time you come by an hour can make a big difference," Teske said.

The site features a gauge, similar to that of a gas gauge in a car, which measures how full each area of the Rec is. Employees at the Rec update the site from iPads every hour with precise numbers of how many people are in each area.

Senior Leah Martin, a center manager at the Rec, is one who makes the hourly updates.

"I've shown [the site] to a lot of people," she said. "All my friends use it, my roommates use it, I think it's been great."

Teske monitors trends on the site with Google Analytics. The site gets 1,000 visits a month, 33 percent of which are new visitors, he said.

"People are still discovering it," he said, "[but] there's still a group of students who use it all the time."

Mondays tend to be the busiest day for the Rec, Teske said.

"After the weekend, they've been

See **REC** | Page 2

FALCONS SET PAST DETROIT

The BG men's basketball team defeated Detroit Wednesday evening, 70-65 at the Stroh Center. Senior Point Guard Jordon Crawford led the way for the Falcons with 26 points and three rebounds. | **PAGE 5**



THE END IS NEAR

Columnist Emily Gordon reminds us all that the semester is winding down and offers tips about how to retain your cool under the pressures that can occur during finals week. | **PAGE 3**

WHAT OTHER PLACE IN BG SHOULD HAVE ATTENDANCE MONITORING TECHNOLOGY?



"Marco's for those 1 a.m. visits."

Christina Hurst
Sophomore, Psychology

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RUMOR
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The division would have to be willing to put out a contract and pick a location before it can accept bids from companies, which would then have to meet certain requirements from the division, Mullins said.

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While Kroger can still buy a business with a contract and request a transfer, Siekman said nothing has been discussed as of yet. Kroger has transferred licenses and contracts before and the closest Krogers that sell higher proof liquor are in Toledo, she said.

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BG Liquor Outlet will not lose any of its licenses or permits, he said.

"We've got a 10-year lease left, we're not going anywhere," Kiezi said.

REC
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"It gets the job done but it could be a lot more than what it is," he said.

Teske encouraged user feedback on features of the site that could be worked on.

"We're looking for ways to make the Rec Center a little more state of the art," he said.

Anyone can access the site at bgsu.edu/recwell or by QR codes located on posters in the Rec.

Bars combat underage drinking with preventative measures

Staff members look for fake IDs, use stamp system to curb illegal consumption

By **Yalona Blair**
 Reporter

Local bars try to regulate the amount of sneak-ins, underage drinking and use of fake IDs by patrons and students.

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"It was fairly easy, I just did an ID switch with a friend," Dye said.

Bars like Downtown and Nate and Wally's Fish Bowl allow only 21-year-olds to enter, but Cla-Zel, Beckett's and Tubby's Tavern allow 18-year-olds to enter even though alcohol is served.

Sophomore **Kristen**

Burns said alcohol should not be served if 18-year-olds can enter because they will discover a way to obtain it.

However freshman Gregory Shaw said if students are 18 and choose to drink, they should be aware of the consequences.

"If you're 18 and decide to drink in the bars and you get caught, it's your fault, you knew what could happen," Shaw said.

Some bars have reasons behind offering alcohol even though underage patrons are allowed.

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"We have a DJ on the weekends, giving a place for people to dance because obviously people are going to go out, we try to give them a safe place to come," Gibson said.

University student Jazzmin Hill, 21, said the bars should be more strict with security to prevent underage drinking and the use of fake IDs.

However, bars do take preventative measures to stop people from sneaking in, using fake IDs and

drinking underage. David Burkle, daytime manager of Downtown, said creativity plays a part in sneaking in.

"We have a door that isn't an exit or an entrance, and sometimes people's friends will let them in, but we have a lot of bouncers walking around so usually they catch that," Burkle said.

Chris Gallagher, bartender of Nate and Wally's Fish Bowl, said sneaking in is possible if someone is not at the door.

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See **UNDERAGE** | Page 6



RYAN BARKAN | THE BG NEWS

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CHAINS
 From Page 1

by its appearance, but the message should be familiar, Lamb said.

The non-denominational church's weekly services, on Tuesdays and Fridays, are described as rock 'n' roll based worship with live, heavy music, he said.

"We focus on problems that are relevant to today through studying the Bible and prayer," Lamb said. "It is just a bunch of freaky people coming to church trying to live a good life."

Lamb has embraced this "freaky crowd" of tattooed and pierced attendees who have embraced the church since the beginning and helped it grow.

Starting as a Bible study in his basement, high attendance to the first sessions forced Lamb to look for a permanent location at the Woodland Mall, where the church holds services for approximately 150 people a week, he said.

"We have a 'Come as You Are' policy, because we don't want to change you," Lamb said. "We get a lot of people coming in from the Goth Night at

"We focus on problems that are relevant to today through studying the Bible and prayer."

Bob Lamb | Pastor

Uptown Night Club and a lot of kids coming from an ICP [Insane Clown Posse] background. They are just normal kids trying to fit in somewhere."

Junior Chas Williams was drawn to the church in 2006 after a rough period of his life and

has been attending the church ever since.

"I was hanging out with the wrong kids in high school before I joined the church," Williams said. "Pastor Bob took me under his wing and opened the doors of his church to me. I felt very comfortable and the support system helped me through difficult times."

Being a non-traditional church was a big draw for people, Williams said.

"The music, lights and smoke are different and really draw people into the church—people that would not typically think about going to church," he said.

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PEOPLE ON THE STREET What other places in Bowling Green should have attendance-monitoring technology?



"The Oaks and Conlon"

GREG SOUTHARD
Sophomore,
AYA Math



"Grounds For Thought because there are never places to sit."

ANDREW MILLER
Sophomore,
Human Development



"Pollyeyes on gamedays."

KELLY SIPKO
Senior,
English



"The Union."

COURTNEY GISSENTANER
Sophomore,
Nursing

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Have your own take on today's People On The Street? Or a suggestion for a question? Give us your feedback at bgnews.com.

Life is like a Texans' football game



PHILLIP MARTIN
COLUMNIST

Not everyone is into football, but the dramatic Houston Texans' win over the Detroit Lions made me think of a beautiful analogy for life.

The score — 34 to 31 — is not really important to me. The real story was the combination of crucial plays and the emotions involved.

Both teams entering the game reminded me of two people with different life circumstances.

Although the Texans are young—the NFL's most recent expansion team in 2002—life has gone their way. The franchise has been blessed with a prolific offense and defense. The team has been given their best chance this year to win the Super Bowl. They made the playoffs last season, and now the team has a one-loss record. They are serious Super Bowl contenders.

The Texans are like a person who has endured hard times but seems unfazed, focused on a prize.

You also have the Detroit Lions.

The Lions haven't been so lucky in the recent past. For crying out loud, they had the first 0-16 season in league history four years ago.

They were also seeking their first Thanksgiving Day victory in nine years. Sadly, they'll be searching for their first in 10, come next November.

The Lions reminded me of a person who looks good from the outside but has serious problems on the inside along with misfortune.

Quarterback Matthew Stafford did his best, completing several difficult passes to Calvin Johnson and other receivers when he needed to, but it wasn't enough.

The Lions also showed they had serious holes in their defense, allowing a 97-yard touchdown drive late in the fourth quarter.

These defensive holes are not only something that will cost any team a game but reminds me of something deeper a lot of people deal with.

A lot of people have huge voids of insecurities and confusion they struggle every day trying to fill up or cover up that only Jesus can help with.

The Lions also had a chance to win the game in overtime with a Jason Hason field goal.

Seems like an routine thing a long-time veteran could accomplish, right?

"DOINK," the football went as it ricocheted off the right upright and back into the field of play.

Hason's missed field goal made me think of people who are still fighting to overcome adversity in their lives. They're doing everything they can to better themselves, but they're just not there yet. They need help from Jesus and support from other people.

The Texans, however, proved they can succeed by winning their second consecutive game in five days, both games in overtime.

Despite fatigue, the Texans remind me of a person seasoned for tough times. Trials are going to send them falling flat on their back. Then, they are blessed when a few situations favor them and help them fight their way back to victory.

Everyone loves to win, right? That's every NFL team's goal each season — win as many games you can, including the Super Bowl. Now, I kind of compare winning a football game to being reconciled with God and having a good relationship with him.

The goal is to get to Heaven, not only to avoid Hell but to be permanently in union with God and under his protection and showered with his glory. Think of winning the Super Bowl as getting to Heaven.

Before we can get to the Super Bowl, teams need to learn how to win.

Teams need to build themselves from the inside out, starting with ownership and working themselves down to the placekicker. Teams also need to learn how to fill inadequacies on their rosters and overcome adversity in a season.

Before we can get to Heaven, we need to learn how to win. We need to know what we're playing for. Why do we need God? Why do we need a relationship with Him?

We need to know how to maintain a relationship with God. We need to know how to live for Him, give our all for Him. We need to fill up the holes and cracks in our lives and within ourselves so we enjoy a good relationship with Him.

Then, we need to find a way to endure pain so we can reach our goal.

Respond to Phillip at thenews@bgnews.com

THANKSGIVING LEFTOVERS



SHELBY SWEINHAGEN | THE BG NEWS

Finals are coming, prepare for the end



EMILY GORDON
COLUMNIST

It's the beginning of the end.

No, I don't mean the end of the world (although I definitely plan on attending one of those fun survivor-themed parties come December 21).

I'm talking about the first few days marking the end of the semester.

I'll admit, I hated the thought of coming back to school after a much appreciated Thanksgiving Break. While I like most of my classes and enjoy learning, I'm really not looking forward to all of the upcoming quizzes, presentations, papers and, of course, the dreaded exam week.

But as I dragged myself out of bed for class Monday morning, a voice in my head said clearly and strongly, "Come on. You can do this."

It kept me going all day. By the end of the year, it's common to feel tired, stressed and totally unmotivated.

To give up and call it a day

is a tempting option, but give my end of the semester survival tips a try first. They may give you enough extra oomph to help you power through.

Don't go sleepless. I'm not going to suggest going to bed early, because I know for a lot of students, it's simply not an option. There's just not enough time in the day to get everything done. Instead, I'm suggesting you nap. Even if it's just a 20-minute one, a short nap can go a long way.

Do not fake energy. Energy drinks like Monster and Red Bull may seem like a quick fix for having zero energy, but it may be a better idea to skip them. There are articles about their negative side effects such as stomach problems, anxiety and cardiac arrhythmias.

Instead, keep yourself hydrated and when you need an energy boost, take a quick study break and grab a Jamba Juice or some yogurt with granola. The quick break and short walk to the Union or corner store will wake you up.

See **GORDON** | Page 4

'Invisible power brokers' hold control



MATTHEW THACKER
ASSISANT FORUM
EDITOR

We all vote for who we want to represent us in Washington D.C., but often times it's the people in Washington who are not elected who impact our lives by way of our elected representatives.

These are the "invisible" power brokers working behind the scenes to either exploit our decisions for national elected office, or negate them altogether.

I call these power brokers invisible because the average person doesn't see them, and that is just the way they like it for the most part.

Lobbyists are hired by every imaginable industry — and those who stand to gain by that industry's success or failure—to influence our elected officials to vote how the lobbyist would like them to. This is done usually through

campaign donations or promised electoral support of those working in the industry.

According to Opensecrets.org, this year there are 12,016 lobbyists in the nation's capital. With 100 Senators and 435 members of the House of Representatives, that means that lobbyists in Washington outnumber elected legislators by a ratio of approximately 22.5 to 1.

This is a perversion of our democracy to say the least. Is it any wonder that legislators from opposing parties don't agree on anything?

Both sides have groups, which support the side of the issue that is more in line with their party's platform, throwing "incentives" at them to keep them from even considering the other side of the issue.

Some of the invisible power brokers who influence our elected representatives are not just lobbyists

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THE BG NEWS

MAX FILBY, EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

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THE BG NEWS SUBMISSION POLICY

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letters are generally to be fewer than 300 words. There are usually in response to a current issue on the University's campus or the Bowling Green area.

GUEST COLUMNISTS

Guest Columns are generally longer (more between 400 and 700 words). There are usually also in response to a current issue on the University's campus or the Bowling Green area. Two submissions per month maximum.

POLICIES

Letters to the Editor and Guest Columns are printed as space in the Opinion Page section. Additional letters to the Editor or Guest Columns may be published online. Name, title and phone number should be included by reflection copies. Personal attacks, unverified information or anonymous submissions will not be printed.

E-MAIL SUBMISSIONS

Send submissions as attachments to thenews@bgnews.com with the subject line "Letter to the Editor" or "Guest Column." All submissions subject to review and editing. We reserve the right to edit and not return and publish or not publish.



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From Page 1

by its appearance, but the message should be familiar, Lamb said. The non-denominational church's weekly services, on Tuesdays and Fridays, are described as rock 'n' roll based worship with live, heavy music, he said. "We focus on problems that are relevant to today through studying the Bible and prayer," Lamb said. "It is just a bunch of freaky people coming to church trying to live a good life."

Lamb has embraced this "freaky crowd" of tattooed and pierced attendees who have embraced the church since the beginning and helped it grow. Starting as a Bible study in his basement, high attendance to the first sessions forced Lamb to look for a permanent location at the Woodland Mall, where the church holds services for approximately 150 people a week, he said. "We have a 'Come as You Are' policy, because we don't want to change you," Lamb said. "We get a lot of people coming in from the Goth Night at

"We focus on problems that are relevant to today through studying the Bible and prayer."
Bob Lamb | Pastor

has been attending the church ever since. "I was hanging out with the wrong kids in high school before I joined the church," Williams said. "Pastor Bob took me under his wing and opened the doors of his church to me. I felt very comfortable and the support system helped me through difficult times." Being a non-traditional church was a big draw for people, Williams said. "The music, lights and smoke are different and really draw people into the church—people that would not typically think about going to church," he said.

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PEOPLE ON THE STREET What other places in Bowling Green should have attendance-monitoring technology?



"The Oaks and Carillon."

GREG SOUTHARD
Sophomore,
AYA Math



"Grounds For Thought because there are never places to sit."

ANDREW MILLER
Sophomore,
Human Development



"Pollyeyes on gamedays."

KELLY SIPKO
Senior,
English



"The Union."

COURTNEY GISSENTANER
Sophomore,
Nursing

VISIT US AT
BGNEWS.COM

Have your own take on today's People On The Street? Or a suggestion for a question? Give us your feedback at bgnews.com.

Life is like a Texans' football game



PHILLIP MARTIN
COLUMNIST

Not everyone is into football, but the dramatic Houston Texans' win over the Detroit Lions made me think of a beautiful analogy for life.

The score — 34 to 31 — is not really important to me. The real story was the combination of crucial plays and the emotions involved.

Both teams entering the game reminded me of two people with different life circumstances.

Although the Texans are young—the NFL's most recent expansion team in 2002—life has gone their way. The franchise has been blessed with a prolific offense and defense. The team has been given their best chance this year to win the Super Bowl. They made the playoffs last season, and now the team has a one-loss record. They are serious Super Bowl contenders.

The Texans are like a person who has endured hard times but seems unfazed, focused on a prize.

You also have the Detroit Lions.

The Lions haven't been so lucky in the recent past. For crying out loud, they had the first 0-16 season in league history four years ago.

They were also seeking their first Thanksgiving Day victory in nine years. Sadly, they'll be searching for their first in 10, come next November.

The Lions reminded me of a person who looks good from the outside but has serious problems on the inside along with misfortune.

Quarterback Matthew Stafford did his best, completing several difficult passes to Calvin Johnson and other receivers when he needed to, but it wasn't enough.

The Lions also showed they had serious holes in their defense, allowing a 97-yard touchdown drive late in the fourth quarter.

These defensive holes are not only something that will cost any team a game but reminds me of something deeper a lot of people deal with.

A lot of people have huge voids of insecurities and confusion they struggle every day trying to fill up or cover up that only Jesus can help with.

The Lions also had a chance to win the game in overtime with a Jason Hason field goal.

Seems like an routine thing a long-time veteran could accomplish, right?

"DOINK," the football went as it ricocheted off the right upright and back into the field of play.

Hason's missed field goal made me think of people who are still fighting to overcome adversity in their lives. They're doing everything they can to better themselves, but they're just not there yet. They need help from Jesus and support from other people.

The Texans, however, proved they can succeed by winning their second consecutive game in five days, both games in overtime.

Despite fatigue, the Texans remind me of a person seasoned for tough times. Trials are going to send them falling flat on their back. Then, they are blessed when a few situations favor them and help them fight their way back to victory.

Everyone loves to win, right? That's every NFL team's goal each season — win as many games you can, including the Super Bowl. Now, I kind of compare winning a football game to being reconciled with God and having a good relationship with Him.

The goal is to get to Heaven, not only to avoid Hell but to be permanently in union with God and under his protection and showered with his glory. Think of winning the Super Bowl as getting to Heaven.

Before we can get to the Super Bowl, teams need to learn how to win.

Teams need to build themselves from the inside out, starting with ownership and working themselves down to the placekicker. Teams also need to learn how to fill inadequacies on their rosters and overcome adversity in a season.

Before we can get to Heaven, we need to learn how to win. We need to know what we're playing for. Why do we need God? Why do we need a relationship with Him?

We need to know how to maintain a relationship with God. We need to know how to live for Him, give our all for Him. We need to fill up the holes and cracks in our lives and within ourselves so we enjoy a good relationship with Him.

Then, we need to find a way to endure pain so we can reach our goal.

Respond to Phillip at thenews@bgnews.com

THANKSGIVING LEFTOVERS



SHELBY SWEINHAGEN | THE BG NEWS

Finals are coming, prepare for the end



EMILY GORDON
COLUMNIST

It's the beginning of the end.

No, I don't mean the end of the world (although I definitely plan on attending one of those fun survivor-themed parties come December 21).

I'm talking about the first few days marking the end of the semester.

I'll admit, I hated the thought of coming back to school after a much appreciated Thanksgiving Break. While I like most of my classes and enjoy learning, I'm really not looking forward to all of the upcoming quizzes, presentations, papers and, of course, the dreaded exam week.

But as I dragged myself out of bed for class Monday morning, a voice in my head said clearly and strongly, "Come on. You can do this."

It kept me going all day. By the end of the year, it's common to feel tired, stressed and totally unmotivated.

To give up and call it a day

is a tempting option, but give my end of the semester survival tips a try first. They may give you enough extra oomph to help you power through.

Don't go sleepless. I'm not going to suggest going to bed early, because I know for a lot of students, it's simply not an option. There's just not enough time in the day to get everything done. Instead, I'm suggesting you nap. Even if it's just a 20-minute one, a short nap can go a long way.

Do not fake energy. Energy drinks like Monster and Red Bull may seem like a quick fix for having zero energy, but it may be a better idea to skip them. There are articles about their negative side effects such as stomach problems, anxiety and cardiac arrhythmias.

Instead, keep yourself hydrated and when you need an energy boost, take a quick study break and grab a Jamba Juice or some yogurt with granola. The quick break and short walk to the Union or corner store will wake you up.

See **GORDON** | Page 4

'Invisible power brokers' hold control



MATTHEW THACKER
ASSISSANT FORUM
EDITOR

We all vote for who we want to represent us in Washington D.C., but often times it's the people in Washington who are not elected who impact our lives by way of our elected representatives.

These are the "invisible" power brokers working behind the scenes to either exploit our decisions for national elected office, or negate them altogether.

I call these power brokers invisible because the average person doesn't see them, and that is just the way they like it for the most part.

Lobbyists are hired by every imaginable industry — and those who stand to gain by that industry's success or failure—to influence our elected officials to vote how the lobbyist would like them to. This is done usually through

campaign donations or promised electoral support of those working in the industry.

According to Opensecrets.org, this year there are 12,016 lobbyists in the nation's capital. With 100 Senators and 435 members of the House of Representatives, that means that lobbyists in Washington outnumber elected legislators by a ratio of approximately 22.5 to 1.

This is a perversion of our democracy to say the least. Is it any wonder that legislators from opposing parties don't agree on anything?

Both sides have groups, which support the side of the issue that is more in line with their party's platform, throwing "incentives" at them to keep them from even considering the other side of the issue.

Some of the invisible power brokers who influence our elected representatives are not just lobbyists

See **THACKER** | Page 4

THE BG NEWS

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THE BG NEWS SUBMISSION POLICY

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letters are generally to be fewer than 300 words. These are usually in response to a current issue on the University's campus or the Bowling Green area.

GUEST COLUMNS

Guest Columns are generally longer pieces between 400 and 700 words. These are usually also in response to a current issue on the University's campus or the Bowling Green area. Two submissions per month maximum.

POLICIES

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

E-MAIL SUBMISSIONS

Send submissions as an attachment to thenews@bgnews.com with the subject line marked "Letter to the Editor" or "Guest Column." All submissions are subject to review and editing for length and clarity before printing. The editor may change the headlines to submitted columns and letters at his or her discretion.

Opinion columns do not necessarily reflect the view of The BG News.



JORDAN CRAWFORD, BG point guard, drives to the rim against a Detroit defender Tuesday night at the Stroh Center. Crawford led BG with 26 points.

Crawford's 26 points lead Falcons past Detroit, 70-65

By Alex Krempasky
Assistant Sports Editor

The Falcons premiered new black uniforms as they defeated the Detroit Titans 70-65 on Tuesday.

Senior Jordan Crawford recorded a career-high 26 points against the Titans, which includes five three-pointers. The win brings BG's record to 3-3 on the season.

The Falcons had a rough first half on the offensive side. They had nine turnovers, 10 player fouls and only had three offensive turnovers. The defensive side of the ball was more efficient, only allowing Detroit make 28.6 percent of their shots, including no three-point shots.

The second half was more successful on both sides of the ball for the Falcons. BG hit 12 of 13 free throws and made 45.8 percent of their total shots on the game.

"The second half was a back and forth game," said head coach Louis Orr. "The way we closed the game out, I thought it helped build character and substance for us."

Though Crawford had a great offensive game, the Titans silenced senior A'uston Calhoun on Tuesday night. He was only able to score nine points and five rebounds during the game, which marks season lows in both.

Junior Cameron Black and sophomore Richaun Holmes recorded

more blocks than the whole Detroit team did during the game. Black had three blocks and Holmes had two, while Detroit only recorded four.

Tuesday's game marked the first time in BG history that the men's basketball team suited up in black uniforms.

"They might've brought a little fire to us," Crawford said. "They got us excited before the game."

The Falcons will be back at the Stroh Center Saturday for the second game of a five-game home stand. Their opponent will be another team from the Horizon League, the Youngstown State Penguins. The game is slated for a 2 p.m. start.

BG football has several bowl game options



RYAN SATKOWIAK
SENIOR REPORTER

At 8-4, BG is likely returning to a bowl game for the first time since 2009.

However, that likelihood is not a 100 percent certainty, even with eight wins. Since BG falls outside of the top-three in the Mid-American Conference, it will not have the security of making one of the MAC's three guaranteed bowl games: the Little Caesar's Bowl in Detroit, the GoDaddy.com Bowl in Mobile, Ala. or the Famous Idaho Potato Bowl in Boise, Idaho.

Fortunately for the Falcons, the MAC has secondary bowl agreements with five bowls in the event that the particular bowl's normal conference tie-in is not bowl eligible, a MAC school would likely be selected as the replacement.

Those bowls are the New Mexico Bowl — normally the No. 4 or 5 team in the Mountain West vs. the No. 7 team in the PAC-12 — the Beef O'Brady Bowl — No. 6 Big East vs. No. 4 Conference USA — the BBVA Compass Bowl — No. 5 Big East vs. No. 8 or 9 SEC — the Heart of Dallas Bowl — any eligible Big 12 vs. No. 7 Big Ten — and the Poinsettia Bowl — No. 2 Mountain West vs. any eligible WAC or BYU.

Of those bowls, the New Mexico Bowl, the Heart of Dallas and the Poinsettia Bowl will be filled, as there are enough bowl eligible teams in the respective conferences. However, the other two will need filling, as there are currently only four bowl eligible Big East teams.

That leaves two potential spots open for the Falcons: the Beef O'Brady Bowl in St. Petersburg, Fla. and the BBVA Compass Bowl in Birmingham, Ala.

Either scenario would create an intriguing matchup for BG. In the Beef O'Brady Bowl, the opponent would be either Rice or SMU. The two tied for fourth in Conference USA, but Rice would hold the tiebreaker due to the head-to-head win.

In the BBVA Compass Bowl, the opponent would be either

Ole Miss, Mississippi State or Vanderbilt. Mississippi State and Vanderbilt tied for seventh in the SEC, but did not play each other this season. Ole Miss finished ninth.

Another potential option is the Military Bowl in Washington, D.C. In past years, when the No. 8 ACC team was not eligible for the game, the bowl took a MAC school, such as Toledo this past season. The reality of that bowl will lie on this weekend's Georgia Tech — Florida State game.

If Georgia Tech wins, there will be eight bowl eligible ACC teams. If it loses, the Yellow Jackets will be 6-7 and will need to gain an NCAA waiver to be bowl eligible. Since there are more than enough bowl eligible teams, the success of that waiver would be in doubt.

One other thing that could throw a wrench into things is Kent State. If the Flashes defeat Northern Illinois in the MAC Championship game and then get some help — meaning Stanford dismantles UCLA in the PAC-12 title game — then Kent State will make a BCS Bowl.

Yep, you heard that right. If Kent State, currently No. 17 in the BCS standings, cracks the top-16, it will automatically qualify for a BCS bowl by virtue of finishing in front of the Big East champion (which still hasn't been determined) in the BCS standings.

It would be the first time in the history of the BCS that a school from a non-automatic qualifying conference made the BCS with a loss on its record.

However, Kent State moving into the BCS would not likely affect BG in terms of bowls with guaranteed MAC tie-ins, as Northern Illinois, Toledo and Ball State all finished ahead of the Falcons in the MAC.

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But things are looking good for BG to make a return trip to the postseason.

BG women's basketball falls to Villanova, takes on Temple

By The BG News Sports Staff

The woman's basketball team just can't get Philadelphia off their brains as Temple travels to BG Wednesday.

Temple is located in the Philadelphia metropolitan area, the same area as Villanova whom the Falcons played just five days ago.

The Falcons lost to the Wildcats 53-42 as part of the Lady Rebel Round-Up in Las Vegas. The team also lost to then 14th ranked Purdue 59-45 and defeated UNLV 64-54 in the invitational.

This will be the third home game of the season and will open up a three game home stand for the Falcons. The team is 3-2 so far this early season.

Already the team is off to a solid start and are really showing it from the free-throw line. The ability to force fouls and make the free-throws are a reason why the Falcons have kept all their losses close, especially nationally ranked Purdue. The Falcons have made 72 shots from the stripe so far which is four more than the Falcons opponents have even attempted.

Leading the way for the Falcons has been Chrissy Steffen with 12.2 points per game. The senior is also averaging 4.8 rebounds and 1.8 assists. Steffen has been the shot taker from behind the

three-point line as she has made a team high nine three-pointers this season.

Danielle Havel is the other Falcon with double digit scoring. Havel, a fifth-year senior, is averaging a even 10 points a game. She leads the team in shot blocks with just under one a game and is tied for the lead with steals.

Temple, from the Atlantic-10 conference is 3-2 like the Falcons. The Owls have defeated Montana, Seton Hall and Northeastern while dropping games against Nebraska and Rutgers. The Owls are 1-1 on the road.

The Owls leading scorer is senior center Victoria Macaulay. The six-foot-four shooter is averaging 15.2 points a game with 10 rebounds a game.

The match-up should prove tough for both teams as the Owls have struggled on offense but been strong on defense much like the Falcons. The Owls rely on specialist players like Macaulay while the Falcons balance the play around the starting five. Temple leads all Atlantic-10 teams in field goal percentage defense and second in defensive rebounds.

This will be the third meeting between the Falcons and the Owls with Temple winning the most recent 70-55 in 2008 at Temple. The game is set for tip-off at 7 p.m. with all kids admitted free.



DANIELLE HAVEL, BG forward, plays the ball past a Central Michigan defender during the MAC Tournament semifinals this past season.

FILE PHOTO | THE BG NEWS



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FILE PHOTO | THE BG NEWS

CAMPUS CLEANUP



KATIE LOGSDON | THE BG NEWS

JANELLE HORSTMAN, junior, and chief sustainability officer of Net Impact, sorts through trash gathered from various places on campus to find recyclable items. Net Impact helps the trash audit in the Union Oval Tuesday to raise awareness about recycling.

UNDERAGE

From Page 2

problems with people sneaking in, Gibson said. "We don't really have a problem with people sneaking in because we only have one entrance and it's staffed by a bouncer and a door girl," Gibson said.

Other bars use other preventative measures.

Cla-Zel not only checks IDs, it uses a stamp system to prevent underage patrons from drinking, said Banan Alkilani, general manager of Cla-Zel. "We have a stamp system for over and under," Alkilani said. "We have quite a bit of our staff security walking around and making sure that everybody is having a good, safe environment as well as underagers are not drinking."

Both Beckett's and Tubby's Tavern mark the hands of underagers and bartenders are required to check every ID when someone orders alcohol,

said Mason and Gibson.

Mason, Gibson, Alkilani, Burkle and Gallagher all said they have confiscated fake IDs.

There's a few ways you can tell an ID is not real, Gibson said.

"Sometimes the picture, obviously somebody would be using somebody else's ID, or other people have gone online and purchased IDs and the background of the picture doesn't match up," he said.

Mason said she compares the height and weight and if it doesn't seem to match up she will ask for another form of identification to match the names.

Alkilani said they check the color and picture.

Most of the bars have confiscated fake IDs, and some won't get past the door.

"A lot of the times they'll just get turned away at the door, we won't even let them in," Gibson said.

Gallagher said Nate and Wally's confiscates about 20 fake IDs a month.

"We have quite a bit of our staff security walking around and making sure that everybody is having a good safe environment as well as underagers are not drinking."

Banan Alkilani | General Manger

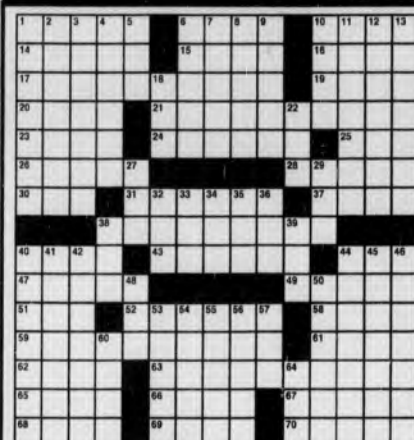
If caught drinking, both Tubby's Tavern and Cla-Zel confiscate the drinks from the underage patrons and give warnings before asking them to leave, Gibson and Alkilani said.

Beckett's confiscates drinks as well, Mason said.

However for both Nate and Wally's and Downtown, no warnings are given, Gallagher and Burkle said.

"No warning. It's breaking the law. The bar can get in trouble," Burkle said.

The Daily Crossword Fix brought to you by The Tanning Center



- DOWN**
- 1 TV's teenage witch
 - 2 Mutineer
 - 3 Earthenware makers
 - 4 Autumn bloomers
 - 5 ___ Aviv
 - 6 In accordance with
 - 7 Mediterranean island country
 - 8 Scruggs's bluegrass partner
 - 9 Impressionist Edouard
 - 10 At hand
 - 11 Really angry
 - 12 Like triangles with unequal sides
 - 13 Crisp fabric
 - 18 Tidal movement
 - 22 Ham sandwich choice
 - 27 Brit. recording giant
 - 29 Kid-___: tots' TV programming
 - 32 NFL fifth periods
 - 33 ABA member
 - 34 Michelle Obama ___ Robinson
 - 35 Mess up
 - 36 Place for thieves
 - 38 Sox from Mass.
 - 39 Refusals
 - 40 University in Tuscaloosa
 - 41 1987 title law-enforcing cyborg
 - 42 Buffing results
 - 44 Bringing up
 - 45 Che Guevara's first name
 - 46 Box office smash
 - 48 That, in Tijuana
 - 50 Word with Joe's or Vic's
 - 53 Fireplace bit
 - 54 Get away from
 - 55 Protest on the floor
 - 56 Tossed in a chip
 - 57 Little, like laddies
 - 60 Daly of "Cagney & Lacey"
 - 64 Victrola company

ACROSS

- 1 Mar. parade honoree
- 6 Switch for frequency choices
- 10 Cheep source
- 14 "___ / By any other name ___": Juliet
- 15 Room in la casa
- 16 Ancient Peruvian
- 17 Military strategy
- 19 Tennis great Steffi
- 20 Bar mitzvah, for one
- 21 Wife, to a humble husband
- 23 Old Roman road
- 24 Like an ill-mannered kid
- 25 "Wow"
- 26 Like Leif Ericson
- 28 It happens
- 30 ___ gratia artis: MGM motto
- 31 Made a haunted house sound
- 37 Brainchild
- 38 Final unpleasant moment
- 40 Folk singer Guthrie
- 43 Canned cooking fuel
- 44 Sleep stage letters
- 47 No-goodnik
- 49 Icy look, perhaps
- 51 Tummy muscles
- 52 Playground apparatus for two
- 58 Phone sound
- 59 Net profit or loss
- 61 Sailing, say
- 62 ___-deucey
- 63 Rectangular server with a dull-edged knife
- 65 Eve's opposite
- 66 Songstress Adams
- 67 Prefix meaning "hundred"
- 68 Church recess
- 69 Tear to bits
- 70 Specialized idiom

ANSWERS



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Holiday Gift Guide

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Pandora Bracelet

Perfume or Cologne

Music

Greek Wear



Buying that Gift for Your Significant Other!

By Jake Amstel and Kelsey Rentner

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Then the big struggle is figuring out what to buy our significant other. It can't be the same as last year, cannot be cheap, and has to show that we care enough about the individual that we did not slop something together last minute.

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And now gentlemen, it's time for you to redeem yourself from the last bad gift that you gave her. Give her jewelry. It shows that you care and are committed to the



relationship. And in Bowling Green you have Klevers Jewelry Store, 1039 Haskins Road, one of the oldest businesses in the city; and in downtown Bowling Green Mills Jewelry and Waddington Jewelers and Engraving, all good shops to start your jewelry expedition. Do not be a hero, men. Ask the sales associate for the best jewelry to accessorize your girlfriend.

When shopping for that perfect gift, keep in mind to keep it simple. Do not go overboard with gifts.

Another idea is to show your creative side. Find the cutest picture of your girlfriend and yourself and put it in a hand-decorated picture frame. Ben Franklin Crafts in downtown Bowling Green gives a variety of picture frames and decorations. Any craft item you need, they will have it. By giving her a hand-made gift, you can show your sentimental side, which could possibly earn you bonus points.

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SHOP DOWNTOWN BG!

Locally owned shops offer unique gifts for everyone!

BY DANAE KING

When some people do their holiday shopping, their first thought may be to visit the large shopping malls or shopping centers in the area. Often overlooked are the smaller, locally owned stores in Bowling Green. But a walk down Main Street of Bowling Green shows scores of local stores that offer unique items that won't be found in many other places.

"We have stuff you're just not going to see anywhere else," said Amy Craft Ahrens, owner of For Keeps on Main Street. "It's all the things that make you smile."

If you're shopping on a budget, local stores might be the best place to shop, as they are close-by and offer items for almost any budget.

"We're very cognizant of the fact that budgets are very tight," said Maryann Gibson, owner of the Flower Basket. "You'll get the best price for your money."

Shopping local also gives people the opportunity to support the community.

"We have locally-made products," said Carmen Smith, store clerk at the Happy Badger. "It would directly benefit someone you meet on the street."

Many local stores offer a large selection to holiday shoppers.

"We have a wide variety in both prices and selection," said Ben Waddington, owner of Waddington Jewelers and Engraving.

Stores like For Keeps, the Flower Basket, the Happy Badger, Finders Records and Waddington Jewelers offer holiday gifts at a price that will satisfy any budget.

For Keeps offers a wide range of seasonal gifts and decorations for several different prices. If you're looking for something for a co-worker, a good gift might be products from The Naked Bee company, which offers organic lotions and lip balms for around \$3.50 to \$15, Craft Ahrens said.

Another great gift, is the dammit doll, Craft Ahrens said. The dammit doll is a stuffed doll with a poem on it,

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The store also offers special deals each weekend, Craft Ahrens said.

"A bouquet of flowers is always perfect no matter what," Gibson said. But the Flower Basket doesn't just offer flower arrangements; they also have home décor items that can be given as gifts.

For \$25 and up, the store offers ivy rings, which are living wreaths, Gibson said.

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"We'll help you put together something that's neat and fun and different," Gibson said. "We'll wrap it up for you and make sure to take off the price tag."

The Happy Badger offers an assortment of items that are environmentally friendly, organic, all-natural and fair trade. Several of their items are also made in the United States and in Bowling Green.

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Cherie O bracelets, the equivalent of a Pandora bracelet, are popular, so if you've had your eye on one for someone special, head over to Waddington Jewelers on Main Street.

Waddington has falcon beads available for the bracelets. The store does all the work in the store and offers sterling silver earrings, pendants and bracelets for approximately \$100.

"We have jelly watches for \$20 and two carat diamonds for \$20,000 and everything in between," Waddington said. *

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Everyone wants the gifts they give to stand out, to be something different than all of the other gifts. Maybe you've got the perfect present planned out, but if you don't, there are many unique, local ideas for just about everyone that can be found in Bowling Green.

On The Edge Body Art Studio presents, Ink Mafia Tattoo Company and Studio 14 Tattoos and Body Piercings both offer gift certificates. On the Edge will be doing a Toys-for-Tots toy drive, where people who donate a new, unopened toy will get a discount off of any tattoo that is \$50 or more.

Studio 14
has many buy two get one free specials.

Studio 14 also runs a back-to-school special in January. It features a buy two, get one free piercing special; a buy two, get-one-free jewelry special; and a 10 percent off tattoos \$50 or more special. Take advantage of this after-holiday special with your friends you won't see until you get back from break.

Finders
houses a wide variety of genres, so there is something for everybody.

Finders Records has a unique assortment of options. It features CDs, DVDs, vinyl records, and accessories for all these items. Finders, a long-time music store in downtown Bowling Green offers a wide variety of genres, so there is something for everyone.

Coyote Beads
a place to buy handmade jewelry or create your own

Coyote Beads has unique holiday gift options, where you can buy handmade jewelry or create your own. The store will be offering free "Holiday



workshops" open to the public. People will purchase their supplies needed and then create the jewelry of their choice. The workshop dates and times can be found at www.coyotebeads1.com. Owner Gayle Walterbach asks that people register ahead of time by calling or visiting the store because space is limited.

For a crafty gift, the Busy Thimble is the place to go. It has fabric, sewing supplies and yarn, quilting supplies, crocheting supplies, latch hook kits and many more craft-related items.

If your craft needs are not met there, walk right next door to Ben Franklin, which also has a variety of craft supplies.

Art A Site!
Gallery and Studio has different, unique art pieces

Squeakers Café and Health Food Store is a vegetarian and vegan cuisine and café. It added the Akimbo gallery to the back of the café, which sells fine art and gifts.

The Happy Badger is a fair trade general store. It has a café with wraps, sandwiches, soups and salads.

Squeakers and Happy Badger are both great options for naturalistic friends.

For the artsy friend, Art A Site! Gallery and Studio has different, unique art pieces that were created by artists of different experience levels. It has a wide variety of mediums and styles.

Divine Interiors
offers free gift-wrapping and bridal and gift registry

Divine Interiors is a complete interior decorating firm, art gallery and home boutique, located downtown Bowling Green. Owner Mojabeng Kamala offers hand made products that are individually signed by the artisans, providing for many creative and useful gift items. According to Kamala, no items are alike, assuring guests that each purchase is unique and exclusively their own.

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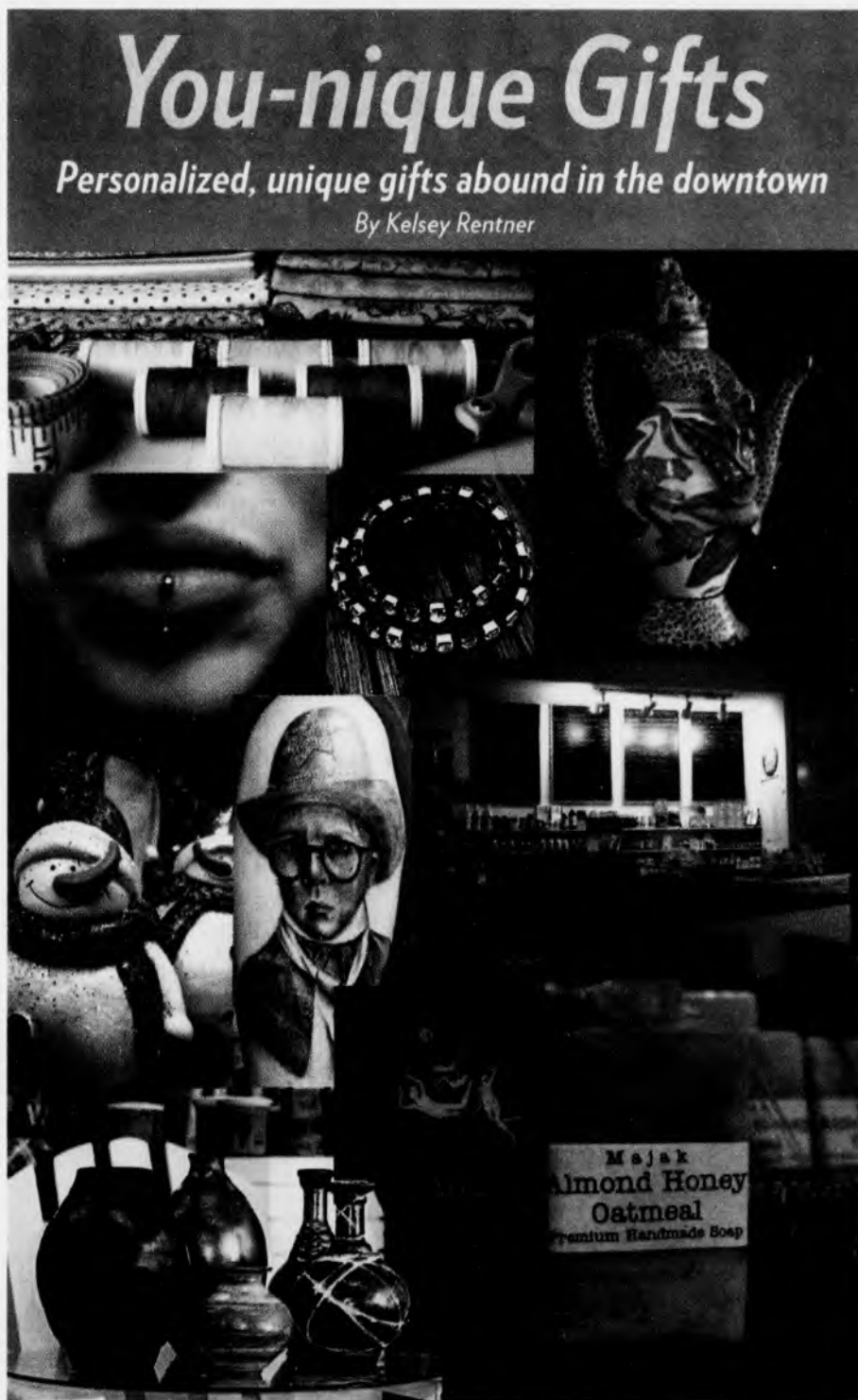
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Gift Cards Make Great and Easy Gifts

By Rachel Ausperk

It's that time of year again when people get caught up in holiday cheer. And it could be a stressful time back where they put together their Christmas lists and shop for friends and family. But there are always those people that are difficult to buy for. If you are unsure what to buy for someone, an easy solution is to purchase gift cards. Gift cards are perfect when you know what type of gift you would like to get for them, but are unsure of exactly what. For example, if you know that you really want to get someone a new outfit but do not know their sizes, you could get them a gift card to their favorite clothing store. They really keep things

simple and make things less stressful for the shopper.

"No one wants to get something for someone and have them not like it," said University senior Christine Burger. "I like to get people gift cards because it shows that I put thought into what I want to get them, but allows me to make sure it will be something that they want."

Many places in Bowling Green sell gift cards that have a great selection of Christmas gifts for both men and women. For Keeps, located at 144 S. Main St. has all kinds of gifts such as candles, jewelry, monogram gifts, purses, and seasonal gifts and décor. Some of the most popular items at





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UNIVERSITY SENIOR | CHRISTINE BURGER.

For Keeps are Vera Bradley, jewelry and Yankee candles. The store sees an increase in gift certificates and sales this time of year, often bought by husbands or boyfriends since they find themselves getting lost in the large variety of items. Essentially, it is an easier decision to go with a gift certificate. Women and girls of any age could find something at For Keeps.

Close by is Coyote Beads and Jewelry, owned by Gayle Walterbach. She offers gift certificates for her merchandise and said that her client base is mostly community members, since her shop requires a lot of hands-on work, creating unique jewelry. The certificates are often bought for friends. She also offers free Holiday Workshops during the holidays, which allows for instruction, and the only fee is for the supplies. Since each individual creates everything, it really makes things personal and a great experience for those involved.

Shopping for guys is difficult for most people, but most guys would be satisfied with a gift card to their favorite restaurant. Located at 1558 E. Wooster St., Chipotle is a popular Mexican grill that both guys and girls seem to love. Chipotle is featuring a deal this season where if you purchase a gift card, you get a free Burrito.

"I'd love a Chipotle gift card for Christmas," said senior Bob Burns. "It is one of my favorite places to eat and it would save me a few bucks if I had one. Plus their burritos are off the chain."

Directly next to the Chipotle in Bowling Green is Starbucks. If you know that the person you are shopping for likes coffee, get them a gift card to Starbucks so that they can treat themselves. Starbucks also sells non-coffee drinks such as teas, smoothies, and even a bakery.

So if you are unsure what to get a friend, family member, or significant other this holiday season, you surely can't go wrong with a gift card! *

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— WOODLAND MALL —

offers holiday activities and gifts for Everyone

By Kathryn Krakoff

The Woodland Mall is spreading holiday spirit with a variety of events and deals this holiday season. If you travel to the Woodland Mall, located on North Main Street, you can find everything from Santa Claus to great gift ideas for the special people in your life. There are even holiday inspired sweet treats.

Whether you are looking for a way to entertain your kids or save some extra cash around the holidays, the Woodland Mall is the way to go

Santa Claus is back to town. He started at Woodland Mall Nov. 23, which was also Black Friday. Younger kids, as well as any age, are welcome to stop down for a picture with Santa. Hours vary depending on the day of the week.

A lot of what the mall has to offer involves activities that go beyond your every day shopping experience. Holiday Corner is offered on the weekends. It has storefront crafts and various items for sale that people can check out. The mall also offers Super Saturday on December 1st from 9 to 10 a.m. with vendors setting up to sell miscellaneous items at reduced prices all throughout the mall. The items include new and homemade antiques. There is also a holiday dance put on for the public, performed by students of Julie's Dance Studio. They will be performing *The Nutcracker*, which will take place Saturday Dec. 8th at 10 a.m.

With the recent Black Friday officially kicking off the holiday season, the Woodland Mall will be a place to get great sales. Stores such as Elder Beerman and Dunham Sports are all offering sales throughout the shopping season.

You can get your holiday baked-goods such as pies, cakes and cookies, as well as enjoy daily specials at A Taste of Amish Deli. They are also



A lot what the Mall has to offer involves activities that go beyond your every day shopping experience.

offering gift basket wrapping services when you bring your own basket in and fill it with items bought from their store.

If you're hosting a holiday party, a good idea may be to purchase peppermint or pumpkin spice cupcakes from Little Miss Cupcakes for your guests. Another gift to get someone for the holidays may be a gift card to the Cinemark Theatre, located inside the Woodland Mall. You could also purchase new appliances for someone very dear to you at Sears.

Whether you are looking for a way to entertain your kids or save some extra cash around the holidays, the Woodland Mall is the way to go. With events and sales starting now and continuing on all through December, you are guaranteed to find something great no matter when you do your holiday shopping. ✨

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DECK the HALLS

Things to keep in mind when decorating your room.

By Allison Basile

As the holidays get closer, you can expect to see the residence halls on campus brighten up with a bit of holiday cheer.

Students living on-campus have the option to decorate any way they'd like to but they must be mindful of University policy and fire code, before they dive in and decorate for the holidays.

Students can decorate their hall rooms and the outside of their rooms, putting small artificial trees and holiday lights up, and even covering their doors with wrapping paper and bows, giving the appearance of a Christmas present. But there are some specific guidelines that need to be followed:

Students living on-campus have the option to decorate any way they'd like to but they must be mindful of University policy and fire code, before they dive in and decorate for the holidays.

All decorations must be fire resistant or noncombustible; decorations must have the label of Underwriters Laboratory (UL) or similar standard; and no decorations may be hung from the ceiling, placed in offices, rooms or lounges in a manner that will interfere with safe passage or evacuation.

Only use lighting sets that show Underwriters Laboratories, Inc. (UL) or Canadian Standards Association (CSA) label. Decorative lights used inside buildings must be "miniature"

types. And extension cords are not permitted in student residences and they should not be run through open doors where they might be pinched.

Lighted decorations must not be left unattended. And if students want to have a tree, live or cut are not permitted and it must be an artificial tree of a certified slow burning or fire-resistant material. Artificial trees in student rooms must not exceed two feet in height. Metallic trees can only be lit by indirect lighting. Lighting sets are not to be hung on them for danger of a possible shock hazard.

Founders Hall Director Bryan Austin said that the inside of the residence hall room should always feel like "a home," and that the only time residence life would get involved would be to deal with roommate issues or safety concerns.

"There's a lot of lights, some residents even have messages right now on their door saying 'come in and see our winter wonderland,'" Bryan said.

Interactive message boards sporting holiday messages and decorations that are visible from the outside of the buildings are some other ways students spread holiday cheer, according to Bryan.

Resident Advisors change their bulletin boards once a month, Bryan said, and they can feel free to incorporate a holiday theme with the changing boards. "Usually when we do something incorporating the holidays, we try to make it a floor program where various students can attend," Bryan said.

The floor program allows for students to create decorations for the holiday they celebrate, and this gives students a chance to also share

information about their culture and holiday traditions with others.

This also allows for more creativity and feedback from residents, and is much more interactive than one resident advisor

posting something for the entire floor. This way all holidays and customs are celebrated, and every student feels included on their floor. ✪



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Grounds for Thought

offers Seasonal Drinks and Music for the Holidays



By Phil Martin

Grounds for Thought, the oldest and the downtown's only locally owned coffee shop, is offering special drinks, gifts and is hosting musical events during the 2012 holiday season.

Grounds for Thought began serving special holiday drinks the week of the city's annual holiday parade, which this year was Nov. 17, said Laura Wicks, wife of co-owner Kelly Wicks.

Special drinks to help warm the holidays at the coffee shop include s'mores lattes (made with Hersey's chocolate and toasted marshmallow), peppermint mochas, candy cane lattes and Christmas cookie lattes (made with vanilla and ground cinnamon). The shop will also serve flavored hot cocoa.

The Christmas cookie latte is one of the shop's annual best sellers, Wicks said.

In addition to the holiday drinks served in the shop, Wicks said that Ground for Thought offers a selection of four Christmas blends of whole bean coffees. Flavors in the selection include: Christmas Spirit, Peppermint Mocha, which is the most popular, Toasted Chestnut and Cranberry Cream.

The whole bean blends are also great gifts that the buyer can take home and prepare, Wicks said.

In addition to the special seasonal blends, Grounds for Thought will also host one free public concert in the back of its shop during the month of December, Wicks said.

Americana super group, Wheels, will be performing Saturday, Dec. 15, at 8 p.m. Wheels was the surprise hit of this year's Black Swamp Arts Festival.

Also on Dec. 15, from 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Grounds will be hosting a Christmas Boutique where students can purchase unique holiday gifts made by local artists.

Other gifts the shop offers are gift certificates for stocking stuffers. Stocking stuffers include Grounds for Thought T-shirts and the shop's premium packaged cocoa mix, coffee and teas. Customers will be able to purchase Christmas presents under \$20, Wicks said.

Grounds for Thought is located at 174 S. Main St. in the city's historic downtown.

The shop is a quick 15-minute walk from the campus for students who don't have cars. But, Wicks said that students can catch a University shuttle to the intersection of Main and East Wooster streets and walk to the shop. *

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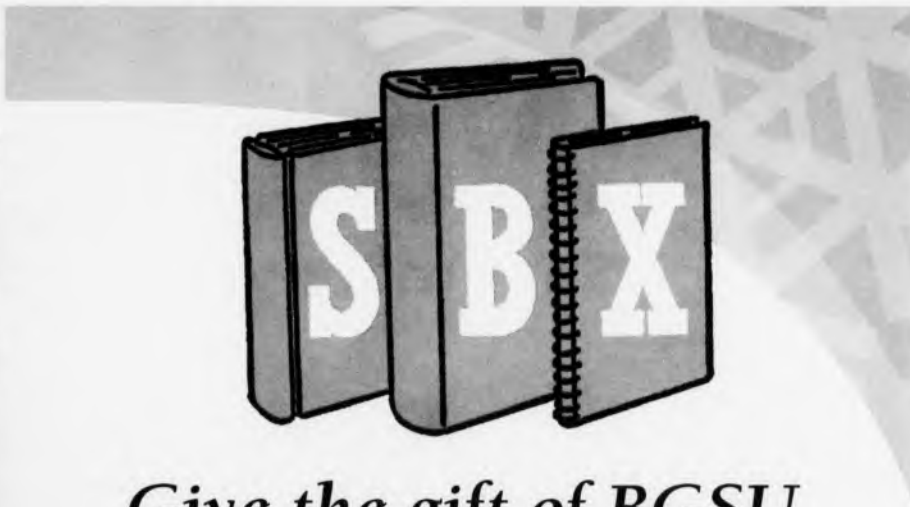
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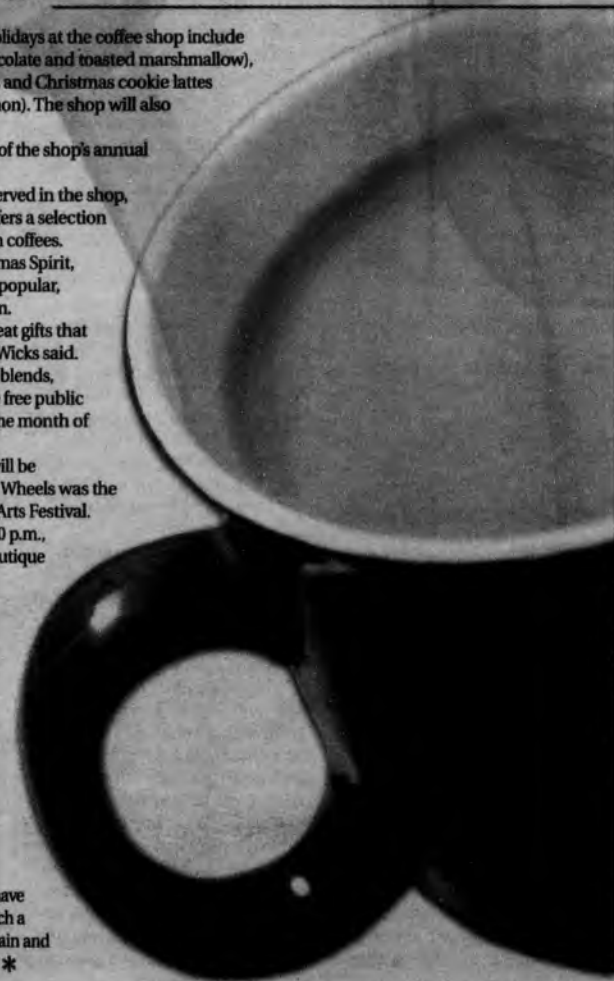
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