

Witmarsum

The Bluffton University
Weekly news from a community of journalists



A capital experience, Page 5

Volume 91
Issue 12

Bluffton, OH 45817
www.bluffton.edu/witmarsum

Friday, Feb. 3, 2006

The cheaper way out More students buy textbooks online

Amanda Eubank, Staff
Writer

When it comes to money, most college students have little. But when it comes to buying textbooks, spending money is a necessity.

How much they spend is negotiable.

Tom Truman, manager of the campus bookstore, experimented fall semester and found that most books, in new condition, are cheaper if bought in the bookstore, rather than on sites such as Amazon.com.

But if the newness of a book isn't essential for students, Amazon.com might be the best place to go.

For example, the book *Communicating for Life*, when purchased new in the bookstore, cost \$18.95. On Amazon.com, however, the

same book can be purchased used for \$4.00.

Many students seem to be taking the cheaper way out.

Jenna Begg, a senior post-secondary student from Bluffton High School, said "If I had to buy books, I would definitely go online or to second hand stores."

She is fortunate, in that Bluffton High School pays for any book she needs.

Senior Alicia Stanko said, "I purchase my books at Campusbook.com where they are much cheaper... but I also will buy books and split the costs with other students."

Sophomore Gina Elsea agreed that online is the way to go.

"I shop online at Amazon.com," she said. "I normally compare... to see how much I will save at Amazon.com."



Photo by Melanie Murray

Refund: Junior Lauren Bailey returns a book to the campus bookstore. Bookstore manager Tom Truman is pictured to the far left and student worker Matt Thomson is shown completing the transaction. More students are attempting to save money by buying textbooks online.

No more hand-cramps Some prefer laptops

Rene Inniger, Staff Writer

For most college students, technology is everything. Life without a computer or a cell phone is thought to be a tragedy.

Many students have even begun taking their laptop computers to classes and using them while the professor is lecturing. Students are finding it beneficial.

"I prefer taking my laptop to class because, for me, it makes note-taking much easier," said sophomore

Ron Denney. "I like to structure my notes in outline form, and my computer makes it easier to do that. Also, I'm not the greatest speller in the world, so my computer helps me correct errors... not just in spelling, but other note-taking errors as well."

Professor Dan Fultz thinks laptops can be both beneficial and distracting in the classroom.

LAPTOPS,
continued on page 3

Like it or not Closed-dorm hours

Pia Wendorff and Phillip Birkey, Staff Writers

When it comes to closed-dorm hours, Bluffton students have varying opinions.

Known among students as "Gay Day," Monday is controversial because members of the opposite sex can not be on the same floor or in the same dorm room. They can be in the same hall together, but only in the main lobby.

Some students dislike the rule so much that they simply disobey it. According

to the Student Life Office, 31 closed-dorm hour violations were reported last year.

There are some students who don't mind the rule, though.

"I like how quiet it is on Mondays," senior Brittany Kuszmaul said. "I actually get a lot more done or bond with the girls on my floor when there isn't the option of hanging out with guys."

CLOSED-DORM HOURS,
continued on page 3

Top 10

Most Annoying Things to do in Wal-Mart

10. "Go to the aquarium section, take out all the goldfish and put them on the floor."
- Tad Geus

9. "Change the prices on all the items."
- Jon VanHouwe

8. "Run around the aisles, screaming and knocking things off the shelves."
- Leandra Thomas

7. "Try on all the free cosmetic samples."
- Tiffany Carnes

6. "Playing Wal-Mart tag at 2 o'clock in the afternoon."
- Patrick Cooley

5. "Hide in a rack of clothes, and when someone starts looking through them, yell out, 'Pick me, pick me!' in a high-pitched voice."
- Dawn Burden

4. "Race your friends in the handicapped carts."
- Sipsem Maldonado

3. "Pay with pocket change during Christmas."
- Daniel Hughes

2. "Ride around on the shopping carts saying, 'Excuse me, thanks, excuse me, vroom!'"
- Hillary Shilosio

1. "Turn on all the toys at the same time."
- Andy Ferguson

Chat with Nat

All in good fun?

Natalie Troyer, Editor

I sat on the Founders stage last Saturday afternoon with a weird feeling in the pit of my stomach.

Shouts of "Hey, Hannibal, don't eat anyone!" and "Number 14, you're gay!" echoed through the gym as the men's basketball team took on Hanover College. "Hannibal," as Bluffton students referred to him, was a Hanover player wearing a protective face mask. And number 14 was apparently guarding his Bluffton player too closely, therefore, he was deemed "gay."

As a former athlete, I understand how meaningful it is to have a good fan base at your games. Hearing cheers and shouts of encouragement from the crowd seems to build up a player's confidence. It lets the team know that others support and admire what they're doing.

But I think there's a way to be supportive of Bluffton athletics without humiliating players on the opposing team with unnecessary, degrading comments. There's a difference between teasing a player about his socks being too high versus publicly mocking another's sexual identity.

I know, I know. Most would say it's all in good fun, and that the ultimate goal is just to distract the other team.

But can't we do this with a little dignity and respect?

Frankly, I was embarrassed by the majority



of shouts and cheers coming from the Founders stage. Just by sitting there, I felt like I was associated with them. One of my friends was so offended that she actually got up and walked out.

Another friend assured me later that "it's not like that every game." Well, Saturday, the bantering had gone too far.

Other schools should be able to tell that we're a Christian institution by our words and our actions. I'm not making the false assumption that everyone who goes to basketball games is a Christian. But, by attending athletic events as a fan, you are representing the university as a whole, which prides itself on being a Christian institution that revolves around a community of respect.

I think we can be supportive of Bluffton athletics without laughing at the expense of others, cracking immature jokes and personally attacking players on opposing teams.

We can be fans without embarrassing our school, our community and our Christian values in the process.

Moments with Mary

Vocation

Mary Walker, Columnist

What should I do with my life? This is the question that seems to haunt many of us, beginning in elementary school with projects that make us choose a life-long dream at the age of seven. At this age, I decided I wanted to be a pediatrician. This dream followed me up until junior high school when I realized I really did not like science.

This then follows us up to high school when we write papers on what college we want to go to and what we want to major in. I wrote papers on why I wanted to go to Wittenberg. Wittenberg had a dance program and offered French as a foreign language. I wanted to double major in French and international business and work for a make-up company.

Then I came to Bluffton. I started my freshman year as

a double history and music performance major. Then I switched to music education since I thought I could make a living being a teacher. I went to Northern Ireland the fall of my sophomore year and practiced my flute maybe once. This made me reconsider my major again and I decided to switch to communication the spring of my sophomore year (I've actually kept with this one.)

When I look back on the seemingly odd array of dreams I had growing up, the choices actually make sense. I wanted to help people and both my parents have a job dealing with science, so I wanted to be a doctor. I really like to travel and I have more of a logical mind, so I thought international business would be a good way to go. I love to learn about the kind of people who impacted history, so ma-



joring in history sounded like fun.

With communication, I learn how to relate with people better and find out their stories. So no matter what you say you're going to do, look at what is behind your desire. Do you really want to be a doctor, or is there something else that motivates you?

Letter to the Editor: *Thin is in*

Bethny Ricks

Turn on the television, open any magazine, go to the mall or grocery store and it is thrown in your face. "Thin is in." Lose just five more pounds. Learn to better suppress your appetite.

Yet, these statements are more than just statements. They have become the American ideology, and women, young and old alike are embracing it in droves. Curves have become a shameful burden. Rarely do we find women within our generation who are willing to embrace every aspect of who they are, and it appears that the mentors, female leaders, academic instructors, mothers, and counselors are unable to stay ahead of or catch up to the curve.

Should we not raise the question as to why it is ok for

women to workout to the point of death, pop diet pills like candy, starve, binge and purge, but she dare not engage in a regular eating ritual without having to feel as though if she gains a pound she will be seen as unattractive by larger society. We live in a culture that both directly and indirectly reiterates the point that if a woman is not a size 5/6 or smaller (smaller being better) they are unworthy; devalued. If you are heavier, you are frowned upon for ordering a value meal and super sizing it, and laughed at for ordering a diet coke to drink.

I myself am guilty of this judgment placed upon those who are "heavier" and by no means am I prideful of it. If you are a student at Bluffton University of a larger stature eating a chicken wrap with the works in Bob's Place

you may be harassed, glared at, or mocked. And there is the problem! When did we reach the point as a society or as a campus community that it is acceptable to treat those who do not fit into these misconstrued social norms with lesser value?

It is becoming more difficult to overcome an eating disorder in this country and easier to fall into its death grip. The appeal being that if you are thin, the sex is better, more people like you, men will flock, you will be happier, clothing looks better, you have more friends, you will love yourself more, you will look smarter, so on and so forth. As a woman who is in the midst of a losing battle with an eating disorder, I can say first hand that none of the above myths are true.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR,
continued on page 2

LAPTOPS,
continued from page 1

"I am certain that, at times, some computer usage is completely unrelated to class, but that is not specific to laptops – at least on some level, the same can be said for pencil and paper," Fultz said.

Denney admitted that while typing his notes makes the process easier, he does

sometimes find himself doing other things on the laptop – for recreational purposes.

Many places around campus have wireless connection. Denney mentioned that his favorite spot to use his laptop is in Bob's Place.

"I use my laptop there to study if I want to get out of my room for a while," he said. "I use it whenever I can."

CLOSED-DORM HOURS
continued from page 1

Open-dorm hours are Tuesday through Thursday, 3 p.m. to 12 a.m., Friday, 12 p.m. to 2 a.m., Saturday, 11 a.m. to 2 a.m., and Sunday, 11 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Senior Jaclyn Finn sees something positive in the closed-dorm hour rules.

"It's not that we can't ever have guys on the floor," she said. "It just makes it so that there is a separation. I like not having to worry about a guy walking down the hall at 9 a.m. when I am walking to the shower."

But Micah R. Frankenfield does not approve of the separation.

"People talk so much about equality between the sexes and how we should be seen as the same these days," he said. "Having this rule divides men from women."

Open hours for members of the opposite sex used to only exist on Sunday afternoons back in the seventies. Then students started to push for extended hours, and since then requests have been made through Student Senate. The Student Life administration has then approved some or all of the requests. Hours have been changed continually over the past years to become the present day hours.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR,
continued from page 2

None of it! No, you are not happier. No, you do not gain this undying appeal from others. The sex being better is wishful thinking. And, most importantly, you do not love yourself more or even at all. Something has to change, for America is losing its women to Hydroxycut (diet pills), treadmills, laxatives, anorexia, bulimia, and the ever evolving diet fads.

We as women must learn to embrace every part of our being and applaud those who do. I admire any woman who lives in this society and has not bought into the "Thin is in" ideology. You should be the women adorning the magazines, television commercials, speaking to the females of younger generations; you should be the role models. Bravo to the ladies who

will sit and eat a meal and remain content with themselves; who can look in the mirror afterward and love what they see. Anyone above a size 6, who truly adores who they are, you deserve a standing ovation because your strength is unwavering in my eyes.

I, Bethny Ricks, am envious of you. More importantly to those women, young and old alike, who have taken on the painstaking task of trying to help those of us who have fallen into the trap, as an earnest plea, keep pushing because your work is not in vain.

There was a point in times past where the saying "beauty is found within" was embraced. My heart's desire is sooner rather than later that we as a society, as women, and as a campus, can return to that philosophy.

Mystery within the pages Buckell's science fiction novel

Andrew Ferguson, Staff Writer

Tobias Buckell has a life outside the technology center. One that involves mystery, adventure and exotic travels.

All at the touch of a keyboard.

In January 2002, Buckell began writing a Caribbean-based science fiction novel entitled, *Crystal Rain*. This adventurous novel follows the character of John deBrun as he travels and unlocks the mysteries of his past.

Born in the Caribbean, Buckell said, "I wanted to

bring out the real culture and portray it as something more than just a tourist attraction."

One of Buckell's inspirations for writing this book was not only his love for science fiction, but also author Bruce Sterling, who writes a lot about third world nations and how people portray them.

Crystal Rain will be released Feb. 7 in stores such as Barnes & Nobles and Borders. It will be published in four different languages. The book will also be available through online sources. Musselman Library will be holding a book



release party on Feb. 9 in Buckell's honor.

Further information regarding either Buckell or *Crystal Rain* can be found online at TobiasBuckell.com.

Mailroom madness Workers compete in Olympics

Adina Schultz, Staff Writer

Between Maypole dancers and the thong run, Bluffton is full of annual campus traditions. And the mailroom is no exception.

This year marks the second annual Marbeck Mailroom Olympics.

The "Opening Ceremony" took place the first week of spring semester and will end when every participant has completed each of the events. The events included in this year's Olympics are mail sorting, mail distributing, speed stuffing, package retrieval, mailroom knowledge, mailbox recall, mail toss, ping-pong toss, who's who, and who are they now.

Each event winner receives three points for first place, two for second and one for third. They are also awarded ribbons that they hang on self-created flags. The participants strive to receive the most points when



Photo by Sandhya Prakash

Going for the gold: Mailroom worker Patsy Short is in the process of speedily stuffing mailboxes for the Olympics.

the games are over and to be elected "All-Around Marbeck Mailroom Champion."

Mark Bourassa and his mostly-veteran team of mail clerks joke around in the mailroom, seeing who has the most knowledge of students' or faculty's names and box numbers.

"These games signify the importance and high regard held for postal services on the campus of Bluffton University and around the world," said Bourassa in his open ceremony speech. "It's really a fun way to gain more knowledge of the work being done in the mailroom."

Hammocks, fish and social justice A semester in Latin America

Melanie Murray, Assistant Editor

Jenny Mierau's fall semester was not typical.

From living with the Kuna, an indigenous group, on the island of Nubadup to studying Spanish in Costa Rica, her semester consisted of one adventure after another.

Mierau, a junior Psychology major with minors in Spanish and TESOL, began her journey on Aug. 30. By the time she arrived home on Dec. 18, she had lived in four distinct places.

She chose to take classes in Costa Rica as a participant in the Latin American Studies Program (LASP), sponsored by the Council for Christian Colleges & Universities (CCCU). Through a competitive admission process, she was accepted into the program as one of 48 students from the United States.

The cost of the program was approximately the same as Bluffton tuition for a semester, but Mierau also paid for her plane ticket and program fee.

"It was worth every penny and I would highly encourage anyone to go," she said.

During the first few weeks of her experience, she attended classes in Costa Rica. In the morning, she learned about the history, religion and politics of Latin America. She took Spanish classes in the afternoon. Additionally, she lived with a host mom, a 21-year-old host sister and a 16-year-old host brother.

Following this experience, she lived in Nicaragua where she experienced life among the impoverished. She lived in a small house with her host family and members of their extended family. She became accustomed to seeing



Photo submitted by Jenny Mierau

Learning and Serving: Jenny Mierau (bottom right) and Nate Irvine, another college student in the Latin American Studies Program, take time out for a photo with Cesar and Yuli, siblings at Agua Viva, a children's home in Guatemala.

the family's pig sleep in the kitchen.

In reference to her host family, she said, "We shared a lot with each other and we learned a lot from each other."

When she returned to Costa Rica, she became a student in the Advanced Language and Literature (ALL) concentration. For this particular concentration, she read literature of the oppressed and was required to write all of her papers in Spanish.

She said, "A huge part of the program was learning about solidarity, about walking with the oppressed, the marginalized and excluded from society."

As a component of the program, the students in the concentration were given a rare opportunity.

She said, "My concentration went to Panama. It was the highlight of my semester...I lived on an island in the Caribbean for five days

with indigenous people. It was straight out of *National Geographic*."

On the island of Nubadup, she lived with a Kuna family in a bamboo house, slept in a hammock and was served fish with eyes still intact. She was also surrounded by mountains and would frequently see people going by in canoes.

"It was the most incredible experience of my life," she said.

After returning to Costa Rica, she then traveled to Guatemala to provide volunteer service at a children's home. Following two weeks in Guatemala, she returned home.

Mierau's experience taught her countless lessons about life, but one element of the experience stands out as essential for her future.

"My heart is a lot more passionate about seeing social justice come and being a part of that process," she said.

Perk your ears

Committee is ready for Spiritual Life Week

Amanda Eubank, Staff Writer

Bluffton students are invited to hear God's call and have some fun during Spiritual Life Week (SLW) Feb. 5-10.

This year's theme "Can you hear me now?" encourages students to listen to God in a new way. Sarah Straks, the assistant campus pastor and junior Carrie Cutlip, the SLW coordinator, are very excited this year.

"The hope of the committee is that people will hear their own call during the week," Straks said.

The committee is hoping Bluffton students will participate in many of this year's events.

The week's guest speaker Shun Lee Fong, actor, writer and program coordina-

tor for Hollywood Connect, will present "Living the Adventurous Life" during forum on Tuesday, and will speak at several other SLW events. Booklets of devotions written by students and faculty will be handed out in chapel on Thursday, and will be available afterward in Marbeck Center.

Activities scheduled include a Super Bowl party in Bob's Place on Sunday, a coffee house in Ropp Pitt on Monday, a film and game night in Bob's Place on Tuesday, a service project day on Wednesday, a prayer labyrinth on Thursday and a sunrise devotional in the Nature Preserve on Friday.

The committee has also arranged for the band Every Day Sunday to perform on the evening of Feb. 26.

Scholarship Opportunity

Submitted by Deb Niswander, Assistant Director of Financial Aid and Learn & Earn Coordinator

USA Funds, the nation's leading education-loan guarantor, has announced that applications are now available for \$3 million in scholarship opportunities. To qualify for these scholarships, to be awarded up to \$1500, applicants must be enrolled or plan to enroll at least half-time beginning with fall 2006, must have annual adjusted gross family incomes of \$35,000 or less, and must be U.S. citizens or eligible non-citizens. Additionally, up to 50 percent of the scholarship awards will be targeted to applicants who are members of an ethnic-minority group or have a documented physical disability.

Applications are available on-line at:

http://www.usafunds.org/planning/access_to_education_scholarship/index.html

Applications must be postmarked by March 1, 2006

A semester in the Capital Student gets a taste of big city life

Rene Inniger, Staff Writer

Bluffton senior Mary Walker was given the chance to experience city life in Washington, DC last semester. Walker joined 41 other students in The American Studies Program where she took classes in international and domestic policy while trying to apply biblical truths to the issues.

"This was the most interesting part of the semester, trying to figure out how my faith impacts my ideas on these public policy issues," Walker said.

Walker also interned at the U.S. Department of Labor's Center for Faith-Based and Community Initiatives where she was able to work hands-on with some serious national issues such as Hurricane Katrina.



Photo submitted by Mary Walker

"My first big project I worked with non-profit organizations providing relief for the victims of hurricanes Katrina and Rita. I tried to find out what they were doing as far as relief efforts and made sure they knew what

services were available through the Department of Labor," she said.

Walker was also able to enjoy some of the sights and sounds of the city.

"One of the most exciting things that I had the chance to experience was the National Christmas Tree Lighting. We waited all night for tickets, so we had pretty good seats. I also was able to hear President Bush speak while I was there," she said.

While Walker enjoyed the city, she is glad to be back in the Midwest.

"The city was great. I do miss walking everywhere, being able to see the Capitol Building from my window, and all of the coffee shops. Maybe I'll go back eventually, but right now, I like Ohio," she said.



Photo submitted by Mary Walker

City life: Mary Walker, left, enjoys a moment with her roommates in Washington, D.C.

Keeping Score Credit scores and your future

Shannon Hadding,
Financial Aid Officer

Think of a credit report as a school report card for your financial and bill payment history. Instead of getting high grades for class participation, you get "A's" by making your payments on time, maintaining low balances, and not having more debt than your income can handle. Any time you go to a bank to ask for a loan, the banker will pull your credit report to determine whether they should lend you money.

The higher your credit score, the nicer the banks will be. The lower your credit score, the higher your interest rate will be, and the less likely you are to get the loan you need.

And if you have a negative credit history, it will stay with you. If you default on student loans or declare bankruptcy, that negative credit history can remain on your credit report for seven years (sometimes 10) making it virtually impossible to borrow money.

If your credit report is like your report card, then your credit score is your GPA. For example, your credit report keeps track of a lot of

things about you, such as how well you pay your credit card bills, student loans, utilities, and mortgage loan. It also includes personal information, public records, and inquiries (how often other companies pull your credit report). Lenders use all of this information to grade you on how well you keep your promise to pay.

The result is your credit score, your financial GPA for the last seven years. Lenders heavily base their decision whether to lend you money, how much, and at what terms on your credit score.

It's possible for credit reports to have errors, too. Check your credit report annually to make sure it's error-free and that no one is fraudulently borrowing money using your name and credit history. You can get a copy of your report for free once a year from each of the companies listed below.

- Transunion Corporation
800-888-4213
- Experian
888-397-3742
- Equifax
800-685-1111

Preparing for the future Job fairs and mock interviews

Rachel Cooley, Staff Writer

Life after college can be intimidating.

But, this semester, Bluffton is giving students the opportunity to sharpen up their interview skills and learn about the availability of different jobs in their field.

Bluffton is holding mock interviews in the Marbeck Commons for both general and education majors this month. The first session of interviews for general majors is Feb. 16 and for education majors, it's March 16. This will be a workshop and practice interview where students will go over questions and interview expectations.

The actual mock interviews will be held Feb. 23 for general majors and March 23 for education majors. Accord-

ing to Kathy Dickson, vocational development specialist, this part of the workshop, "consists of scheduled interviews with community leaders who do a real sample interview with students and provide feedback on what they did well and what can be improved on."

Dickson also said that mock interviews are a "great way to practice and prepare."

Bluffton also has three on-campus interviews coming up, where companies come to Bluffton, specifically to fill a position within their organization. The first is with Auto-Owners in Lima for a branch management trainee position. The interview will be in February. On March 21, Sherwin Williams will be on campus and on March 29, Enterprise

Rent-A-Car will be in Bluffton, interviewing for management and trainee positions.

To participate in these on-campus interviews, students should send their resumes to the Career Development Center (CDC).

For students still exploring job opportunities, there are two upcoming job fairs. Collegiate Employnet will be holding a fair at the University of Toledo on March 31. And on April 5, the Education Expo will be having a fair at the University of Findlay. Interested students should contact the CDC.

Students with specific questions can contact Jacquie Slinger or Kathy Dickson through e-mail or by calling extension 3247.

Early risers

Softball team begins conditioning

Bethany Rayle, Staff Writer

Ladies of the softball team are getting a good look at the sunrise each morning.

Last Monday, the team began its 5:30 a.m. conditioning.

When asked why practices are held so early, Head Coach Holly Spann said, "Logistics is the bottom line."

The team is currently practicing in the gymnasium and had to schedule around other teams' practices.

Some players don't seem to mind the early-morning practices. Freshman Gretchen Handley said, "I like them. I can get them done and out of the way."

But other players disagree.

Senior Kate Barringer, who had to get seven stitches on the first day of practice,



Photo by Sandhya Prakash

Warming up: Sophomore Catie Richman, left, and freshman Kellie Kenney, right, stretch before a morning practice last week.

said, "After three years of early morning practices, I'm still not used to them."

Right now, the ladies are working on sprint and core work, which works the upper body from the shoulders to the hips. Spann said she is pushing the team as hard as they need to be pushed.

"I'm working them to the best of their abilities," she said. "Everyday we work towards excellence."

Handley said she's been pleased with Coach Spann thus far.

"I complain a lot, but [she] does a good job," she said.

Coach Spann predicts that the team will fare well this season.

"I think we have a lot of potential," she said. "Right now we have nothing to lose."

She expects the conference game against Transylvania to be one of the toughest games this season. Using their strengths will be the key. Spann identified the team's current strengths as, "youth, motivation and being able to move things to the next level."

She added, "We're young and athletic. It should be an exciting season for us."

Room for improvement

Women's basketball sets short-term goals

Daniel Austin, Staff Writer

The Bluffton University women's basketball team is not having the season they had hoped for.

With a record of 2-18 and 0-9 in the HCAC, the Beavers will have another losing season. The team's two victories were home games versus Oberlin College and Tri-State University in November. The Beavers are currently on a 16-game losing streak.

First year Head Coach Chad Shutler said, "We've played hard every game and showed effort."

Shutler said the season has been challenging and, at times, frustrating. He is encouraged, however, by the effort his players put into every game. He also enjoys going to practice and interacting with the players on a daily basis.

"If you don't enjoy teaching and improving your players, coaching is not a job for you," Shutler said.

Shutler knows his team has a lot of room for improvement. With the season half over, the team wants to set some short-term goals. Of course, they want to win a few more games before the season concludes, but they also want to improve on turnovers and cutting down opponents' offensive rebounds. The Beavers average 22 turnovers a game and have turned the ball over 100 more times than their opponents this season.

Improvements come with experience, which is something the Beavers do not have. The team only has two upper-classmen, senior Karen Schaller and junior Tanya Rickenberg.

Founders, on your feet

Baseball team wants to boost morale at basketball games

Kellie Kenney, Staff Writer

The baseball team has overtaken the Dam to show their support for the men's basketball team.

The men are at every home basketball game with loud chants, homemade t-shirts and other random cheering instruments, such as Eric Schwieterman's mug shot on a stick.

According to head baseball coach James Grandey, the idea for a cheering section began last year when he watched the basketball team beat a conference opponent "...in a hard-fought game...

hardly any students were excited about the win."

"We initially started cheering for the basketball team in hopes to get all students involved," Grandey said.

Senior baseball player Riordan McClain said the guys take pride in firing up the team and creating an intimidating environment for opposing teams to come into.

"[Our goal] is to get the entire stage to be as vocal as we are," he said.

When the Beavers played Mount St. Joseph on Jan. 18, the baseball men had everyone in Founders stand-

ing and cheering with shouts of "On your feet! On your feet!" The baseball team not only encourages the men on the court, but they also provide laughs for the audience with screams of "Sit down coach!" and "It's all your fault!"

Grandey said his team is trying to "boost morale and school spirit in general." He hopes that the baseball team's support will encourage other teams and groups to cheer on other sporting events.

The Beavers next home game is at 3 p.m. tomorrow against Transylvania, another HCAC competitor.

Upcoming Events

Saturday, February 4

Men's basketball vs. Transylvania at 3 p.m. (Home)

Conference game

Women's basketball at Transylvania at 3 p.m.

Conference game

Wednesday, February 8

Women's basketball vs. Mount St. Joseph at 7:30 p.m. (Home)

Conference game

Men's basketball at Mount St. Joseph at 7:30 p.m.

Conference game

Dear Pseudo...

Dear Dr. Pseudo:

My roommate keeps coming back to the room drunk every Wednesday night. I'm not much of a drinker myself, so I don't know how to handle it when she comes back to the room like this. And, to be honest, it makes me mad when she comes stumbling in, rambling on about nothing when I have work I'm trying to get done. What do you suggest I do?

- Annoyed in Bren-Dell

Dear Annoyed:

I think it's important for you to tell your roommate how her actions make you feel. Let her know that it bugs you when she comes back drunk. Let her know that your studies are important and that her actions

make it hard for you to concentrate and be productive.

But, perhaps there's something deeper going on with your roommate. Maybe she's depressed or maybe she has family issues back home. Let her know that you are here to talk if she needs someone. She's more likely to open up to you if you show that you are genuinely concerned about her and her health. It's easy to get mad in a situation like this, but try to be sensitive because you don't know if there are deeper issues involved.

In all reality, it is her room, too. But she should realize this and be respectful of you, as well.

The last thing you want to do is start an argument or yell at your roommate. Tell her that you want to talk sometime and then bring it up with her. Maybe she'll open up to you, or maybe she'll just agree to sleep elsewhere for the evening and leave you your privacy. Either way, communication is key.

- Dr. Pseudo



Robb Stutzman, Cartoonist

The Bluffton University Witmarsum

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The Witmarsum is a weekly publication produced by student journalists and published during the fall and spring semesters. The Witmarsum is printed at The Newscolor Press in Ottawa, Ohio. The views reflected are those of the author and do not necessarily represent those of the Witmarsum, student body, the administration or the university. The editor reserves the right to edit letters for length, clarity and appropriateness of content. All letters must be signed by the author.

Contributions from the faculty, staff and students are encouraged. All articles must include the author's name or they will not be published. Letters to the Editor are also encouraged. Submissions must be sent to witmarsum@bluffton.edu the Sunday before publication by 6 p.m.

Occupations

M	A	S	O	N	D	N	A	I	C	I	T	R	O	M
L	R	U	R	G	E	O	L	O	G	I	S	T	I	E
O	T	F	D	O	M	T	C	J	K	R	E	L	C	R
G	I	A	E	I	T	A	C	T	O	R	L	E	A	C
G	S	R	N	H	T	I	I	O	O	E	R	D	S	H
E	T	M	O	R	C	O	D	D	R	R	E	O	H	A
R	M	E	E	E	Y	Q	R	E	O	O	I	M	I	N
E	I	R	G	G	N	V	M	A	S	L	R	E	E	T
H	N	E	R	N	N	M	G	R	S	I	R	C	R	R
S	I	L	U	A	A	E	M	J	E	A	A	H	E	E
I	S	B	S	R	N	I	M	S	F	T	F	A	K	B
L	T	B	G	T	N	C	K	O	O	C	N	N	A	M
B	E	O	T	E	A	C	H	E	R	J	W	I	B	U
U	R	C	R	R	E	T	N	E	P	R	A	C	A	L
P	O	L	I	C	E	M	A	N	R	E	T	T	O	P

ACTOR	FARMER	NANNY
AGENT	FARRIER	PAINTER
ARTIST	GEOLOGIST	PLUMBER
AUDITOR	LOGGER	POLICEMAN
BAKER	MAID	POTTER
CARPENTER	MASON	PROFESSOR
CASHIER	MECHANIC	PROGRAMMER
CHEF	MERCHANT	PUBLISHER
CLERK	MILLER	RANCHER
COBBLER	MINER	RANGER
COOK	MINISTER	SURGEON
DOCTOR	MODEL	TAILOR
EDITOR	MORTICIAN	TEACHER

“What kind of sandwich would you want named after you?”



“The knuckle sandwich”
Jessica Aybar



“Peanut butter and pickle”
Danielle Nuzum



“The Kweeburger”
Brandon King



“The Chicken Patty Sandwich”
Jenna Patty



“The McDonald’s double cheeseburger”
Tim Tennant



“Pastrami and Rye”
Jon VanHouwe

Brought to you by The
Lauren Satchmo with
Cheese and The Johanna
Bontrager with extra pickles