Rock-and-roll scholar analyzes Beatles’ White Album as psychedelic music

By Christine Billau

To mark the 50th anniversary of what is widely known as the White Album, an English literary and rock-and-roll scholar at The University of Toledo argues the 30-song double album released in November 1968 titled “The Beatles” coherently showcases the fruits of shared psychedelic experiences between John Lennon, Paul McCartney, George Harrison and Ringo Starr.

Dr. Russell Reising, professor in the UT Department of English Language and Literature and original member of the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum’s Educational Advisory Board, wrote a 22-page lyrical analysis, “Where Everything Flows,” to be published next year in a collection of essays about the record.

“Tense, yes. Clashing, yes. Disconcerting, yes. Incoherent and lacking any kind of unity, no. ‘The Beatles’ is that place we can go, where everything flows. And flow it does through the broadest possible range of musical styles, lyrical evocations and emotional extremes,” said Reising, who has published books about The Beatles’ “Revolver” album and Pink Floyd’s “Dark Side of the Moon.”

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Trick play scores love of a lifetime for UT alumni

By Vicki L. Kroll

It’s not something you see every day: A baseball player striding to the Rocket logo in the center of the Glass Bowl and hitting it out of the stadium. But that’s exactly what Josh Johnson did.

With the help of Rocky and Rocksy, the former UT outfielder surprised his girlfriend, Cara Wasserman, by popping the question Oct. 20 and sliding a diamond on her finger.

At 8:30 a.m. on game day, the couple met their friends, Eric and Neena Mossing, in lot 10.

“We played it off as a contest, that Neena and Eric won passes to tour the Glass Bowl, and they asked Cara to go as she’s a huge Toledo football fan,” Johnson said.

After the Rocket Marching Band finished rehearsing, Rocky and Rocksy met the four fans in the center of the stadium, posed for photos, and began handing out prizes. Eric received a UT beer stein and said, “I can use this today!” Neena, a 2011 UT alumna, got a Rocket coffee mug. And then the mascots unfolded a blanket with a photo of Johnson and Wasserman in their Rocket gear with the words: “Cara Lynn, will you marry me?”

Johnson dropped down on one knee and opened a ring box.

“What the — oh my god! Yes, I will! What the heck, Josh?” Wasserman said. “Oh my god, that is so awesome!”

As the couple embraced and kissed near the 50-yard line, Wasserman’s parents came on the field. After a round of hugs, Rick Wasserman, who played tight end for the Rockets and graduated with a bachelor’s degree in business administration in 1979, said, “It’s time to start the tailgate.”

“We popped champagne,” Wasserman said, adding she had no clue what was going to happen. “Even when we walked on the field, I still thought we won a contest. It didn’t literally dawn on me until he got down on one knee.”

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Cover Story: Cara Wasserman and Josh Johnson held the UT blanket while posing for a photo with Rocksy and Rocky after the couple became engaged Oct. 20 in the Glass Bowl.

Psych up for basketball! Women’s and men’s previews — pages 6 and 7

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Review the insurance options offered to The University of Toledo employees at utoledo.edu/depts/hr/benefits.

SEE PAGE 9
State honors UT algae expert for leadership of Ohio Harmful Algal Bloom Research Initiative

By Christine Billau

Ohio Department of Higher Education Chancellor John Carey visited The University of Toledo Lake Erie Center Oct. 22 to honor UT’s harmful algal bloom expert for his role leading the state’s Harmful Algal Bloom Research Initiative, which consists of more than 30 science teams at universities across the state seeking solutions to address toxic algae in Lake Erie.

Carey recognized Dr. Tom Bridgeman, ecology professor and director of the UT Lake Erie Center, with the Chancellor’s Award, which honors exemplary faculty, administration and students who have gone above and beyond the call of duty in using the power of higher education to impact the communities where they are located and for the greater good of all of Ohio.

“I’m proud of the work that has been done thus far, and of the example of effective collaboration that has been set thanks to Dr. Bridgeman’s leadership and expertise,” Carey said.

“It has been an honor to help lead the Harmful Algal Bloom Research Initiative for the Ohio Department of Higher Education,” Bridgeman said. “The chancellor recognized that Ohio’s university researchers had the potential to contribute to solving the harmful algal bloom problem. Since the start of the initiative, researchers have been working hard to provide science that can be used by state agencies in designing solutions. Not only are we providing answers to the pressing questions on how to manage and prevent harmful algal blooms now, we are training the next generation of scientists who will be called upon to help solve future environmental problems.”

Bridgeman has monitored, tracked and studied algae in the Great Lakes for nearly two decades. He created a new method to measure how much harmful algae there is in the lake during the course of the summer and has compared the bloom from one year to another since 2002.

He helps sound the early warning for water treatment plant operators throughout algal bloom season, which recently ended for the year.

Bridgeman also connects with legislative policymakers to raise awareness about his research exploring ways to protect the lake and ensure communities continue to have access to safe drinking water.

The Lake Erie Center is UT’s freshwater research and science education campus focused on finding solutions to water quality issues that face the Great Lakes, including harmful algal blooms, invasive species and pollutants.

‘Regional Water and More’ topic of Great Lakes Water Conference Nov. 2

By Diana Case

Regionalization of water and sewer systems will be the prime focus of the 18th annual Great Lakes Water Conference this week at The University of Toledo College of Law.

The conference titled “Regional Water and More” will take place Friday, Nov. 2, from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the Law Center McQuade Auditorium.

“Regionalization of water services is an important issue across the nation,” said Ken Kilbert, UT professor of law and director of the Legal Institute of the Great Lakes. “And locally this conference could not be more timely, in light of the ballot question facing city of Toledo voters on Nov. 6 regarding a regional water commission.”

The keynote speaker will be Darren Nichols, executive director of the Great Lakes Commission, at 8:45 a.m.

The first panel at 9:15 a.m. will concentrate on Ohio, including a possible regional approach to drinking water among the city of Toledo and nearby communities.

The second panel at 11 a.m. will discuss the trend toward regionalization of water and sewer systems beyond the Buckeye State, including the new regional authority in the Detroit area.

A third panel at 1:30 p.m. will address the rights of recreational paddlers versus private landowners, developments in the legal fight against algae in Lake Erie, and regulation of discharges of pollutants to groundwater under the federal Clean Water Act.

The one-day conference sponsored by the UT College of Law and its Legal Institute of the Great Lakes is free to the public. Registration is $75 for attorneys seeking 4.5 hours of Continuing Legal Education credit.


For Continuing Legal Education credit or a box lunch, register at https://secure.touchnet.net/C20238_ustores/web/store_main.jsp?STOREID=10&SINGLES TORE=true.
‘The Crime of Complicity’ topic of Stone Law Lecture

By Diana Case

Dr. Amos N. Guiora, professor of law at the University of Utah, will present the David S. Stone Law Lecture Monday, Nov. 5, in the Law Center McQuade Auditorium.

The title of his talk is “The Crime of Complicity: The Bystander From the Holocaust to Today.” There will be two opportunities to attend this event: a lunch and learn lecture from noon to 1 p.m. and an evening lecture from 7 to 8:15 p.m.

If you are a bystander and witness a crime, should intervention to prevent that crime be a legal obligation? Or is moral responsibility enough? In his 2017 book, “The Crime of Complicity: The Bystander in the Holocaust,” Guiora addresses these profoundly important questions and the bystander-victim relationship from a deeply personal and legal perspective, focusing on the Holocaust and then exploring cases in contemporary society.

Sharing the experiences of his parents, who were Holocaust survivors, and his grandparents, who did not survive, and drawing on a wide range of historical material and interviews, Guiora examines the bystander during three distinct events: death marches, the German occupation of Holland, and the German occupation of Hungary. He explains that while the Third Reich created policy, its implementation was dependent on bystander non-intervention.

Bringing the issue of intervention into current perspective, he examines sexual assault cases at Vanderbilt and Stanford universities, as well as other crimes when bystanders chose whether or not to intervene, and the resulting consequences.

Guiora is a recognized scholar on national security and terrorism. He teaches criminal procedure, international law, global perspectives on counterterrorism, and religion and terrorism — incorporating innovative, scenario-based instruction to address national and international security issues and dilemmas.

Guiora earned his AB in history from Kenyon College, his JD from Case Western Reserve University School of Law, and his PhD from Leiden University.

The evening lecture is approved for 1.0 total Continuing Legal Education credit hours, with book sales and signing to follow, as well as a special tribute to Judge David Katz by U.S. District Judge Dan Aaron Polster.

“We are glad to continue our collaboration with the Toledo Jewish Community Foundation on this lecture series,” said D. Benjamin Barros, dean of the UT College of Law. “The issues surrounding the obligations of bystanders are important and difficult, and I look forward to learning from Professor Guiora’s talk.”

This free, public lecture is co-sponsored by the UT College of Law and the Toledo Jewish Community Foundation of the Jewish Federation of Greater Toledo.

UT to bring award-winning poet and activist to campus Nov. 4

The University of Toledo College of Arts and Letters is bringing award-winning poet and activist Dr. Mohja Kahf to campus as the speaker for its 18th Annual Maryse and Ramzy Mikhail Memorial Lecture.

She will speak at the free, public lecture Sunday, Nov. 4, at 3 p.m. in the Law Center McQuade Auditorium.

The title of her reading is “I Want Milk, I Want Honey: An Afternoon of Poetry with Mohja Kahf.”

Kahf is professor of comparative literature and Middle East studies at the University of Arkansas, where she has taught since 1995.

Her book titled “Hagar Poems” was described by Booklist (2016) as “Forthright and fearless poetry. Kahf brilliantly transposes the disorienting experience of life in the U.S. for many immigrant and marginalized women with the rich history of the Abrahamic religions.”

For her work, Kahf has won numerous awards, including a Pushcart Prize for her essay, “The Caul of Inshallah.” In 2017, her novel, “The Girl in the Tangerine Scarf,” was chosen for the 2017 One Book Project by Indiana University East.

“We are honored to welcome Dr. Mohja Kahf to our campus,” said Charlene Gilbert, dean of the UT College of Arts and Letters. “Dr. Kahf is a talented poet whose work challenges stereotypes while simultaneously exploring the cultural nuances of both her home and adopted countries.”

The Mikhail Lecture Series is sponsored through the Mikhail Endowment Fund, originally established through a donation from the Mikhail family to honor the work and contributions of Maryse Mikhail and her involvement in educational, philanthropic and interfaith organizations.

The fund supports an annual lecture dealing with Arab culture, history, politics, economics and other aspects of life in the Middle East, including issues of peace and justice.

More information about the Mikhail Lecture Series is available at mikhaillecture.wordpress.com.

Those who wish to make a tax-deductible contribution to the fund can go to give2ut.utoledo.edu.
**UT researcher links public health of communities to likelihood of mass shootings**

By Tyrel Linkhorn

The overall public health of a community appears to correspond with the likelihood of mass shooting events, while many gun control laws do not, according to preliminary research out of The University of Toledo College of Medicine and Life Sciences.

Dr. Stephen Markowiak, a general surgery research fellow at UT, found mass shootings tend to happen more in communities that have issues with overcrowding, higher rates of income inequality, lower rates of socialization, and a disconnect between mental health needs and mental health providers.

"The communities that have suffered through mass shootings tend to be much less healthy than the national average, both from a standpoint of physical health and mental health," Markowiak said. "We need to think about this problem through the lens of public health and encourage more objective research."

He presented his research findings Oct. 23 at the American College of Surgeons Clinical Congress 2018.

Markowiak used data from the Federal Bureau of Investigations, U.S. Census, Robert Woods Johnson Foundation and Giffords Law Center for Gun Violence to develop a slate of common characteristics of communities where 186 mass shootings have occurred.

For the purpose of the study, a mass shooting was defined as a single incident in which four or more people are killed, not including the gunman. Researchers excluded shootings that had a clear motive.

One of the intriguing findings of the research is that six of the 11 common state gun control measures Markowiak examined did not correspond with a lowered occurrence of mass shooting events. In fact, some pointed to a higher incidence.

"While the data show stricter gun control laws are associated with lower levels of overall violent crime, mass shootings appear to be the exception to the rule," Markowiak said. "That sort of supports our notion that these are a different phenomenon than your average everyday crime."

Five gun control measures, however, did correlate with a lower incidence of mass shootings — mandatory reporting of mental health records to the National Incident Criminal Background Check System, bans on open carrying of firearms, laws preventing child access, laws disarming dangerous persons, and mandatory waiting periods.

Markowiak and research collaborators did not seek to promote any political position on gun violence, but rather show it is possible to study mass shootings in a way that’s objective and apolitical.

The researchers did, however, say they believe Congress needs to take more action to ensure there is solid data available to researchers looking at the issue and to clarify that the U.S. Centers for Disease Control (CDC) can investigate gun violence as a public health issue.

Although the last congressional spending bill specified the 1996 Dickey Amendment was not an outright ban on the CDC researching gun violence as it had widely been understood, the amendment remains on the books. There’s also the so-called Dickey Amendment that restricts the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives from releasing much of its data to researchers.

"From a public health study standpoint, those amendments need to be revised if we’re going to ever address this issue in a more comprehensive way than we’ve done,” Markowiak said.

Co-authors include Dr. Philip Welch, assistant professor in Bowling Green State University’s Department of Public and Allied Health, and Dr. David Heidt, a trauma surgeon formerly of The University of Toledo Medical Center who now works at St. Joseph Mercy Health System in Ann Arbor, Mich.

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**UT research links states’ medical marijuana laws with increased use among college students**

By Tyrel Linkhorn

A University of Toledo study has found college students in states that have legalized medical marijuana are twice as likely to use the drug than students living in states that broadly prohibit marijuana.

Those students also are more likely to use marijuana on campus and believe their peers would be more accepting of their use of the drug than their peers in states that do not allow medical marijuana.

"Medical marijuana laws have to some extent normalized marijuana use," said Dr. Tavis Glassman, a professor in the UT School of Population Health and one of the study’s authors. "The presence of permissive laws may lead some people to believe incorrectly that the drug is not harmful."

Glassman worked with Dr. Amy Thompson, interim associate vice provost of faculty affairs and a professor in the UT School of Population Health, and Dr. Alexis Blavos, who earned her PhD at The University of Toledo and is an assistant professor at the State University of New York, to analyze a 2013 survey of more than 34,000 college students from 37 states about their drug usage.

The UT researchers separated out the approximately 3,100 students who were attending school in states with legalized medical marijuana to compare their experiences against those students who did not reside in states with medical marijuana laws.

They identified a number of correlations between more permissive marijuana laws and increased drug usage. Among their findings:

• Students attending college in states that allow medical marijuana were twice as likely to have used marijuana in the last 30 days than those in states without medical marijuana laws.
• Students attending college in states that allow medical marijuana were significantly more likely to use tobacco, cocaine, opiates and synthetic designer drugs.
• Students attending college in states that allow medical marijuana reported higher rates of negative consequences associated with their substance use, regretting their actions, and suffering academic challenges.

The study was published recently in the Journal of Student Affairs Research and Practice.

"There’s this momentum to pass medical marijuana laws throughout the country, and there’s often not enough research being done on what the side effects can be," Thompson said. "However, there is some related research by others that has found an increase in emergency room visits and mental health issues."

The researchers said the findings highlight the need for more robust programming on drug and alcohol education and prevention on college campuses, as well as for state legislators to more deeply consider the direct and indirect health outcomes associated with passing medical marijuana laws.

"The take-home message of this is that, in some ways, when people have more access to marijuana, it creates more of a social norm that it’s OK to use it, so we see usage go up as a result," Thompson said. "Just because something is legalized or considered to be a prescription-type drug doesn’t necessarily mean it’s good or healthy for recreational use. There are health risks associated with its use.”
through the unique, unprecedented scope of diverse subject matter and varied songs like “Ob-La-Di, Ob-La-Da,” “Helter Skelter,” “While My Guitar Gently Weeps,” “Back in the U.S.S.R.” “Happiness is a Warm Gun,” “Blackbird,” “Rocky Raccoon” and “Revolution 9,” Reising said. The album reveals the transformations of The Beatles’ philosophical point of view and psychological insights after undergoing LSD experiences resulting in psychedelic music.

“Even after 50 years, the critics’ view of the White Album remains contested,” said Dr. Mark Osteen, professor of English and director of the Center for the Humanities at Loyola University Maryland, who edited the book. “Given the disparity in response ranging from ‘the product of a band in disarray’ to ‘a rich tapestry of musical textures,’ we believe that this landmark record — still one of the top-selling rock albums of all time — deserves reconsideration.”

Reising’s essay fits into the book’s first section, which outlines the personal, musical and political contexts for the album. The other chapters focus on the music, musicians, lyrics and the album’s legacy. The songs travel time and space all over the globe. They feature animals such as McCartney’s dog in “Martha My Dear,” as well as different kinds of people like Chairman Mao, Bungalow Bill and the dentist who will pull Eric Clapton’s teeth. The songs have musical and sonic effects from Western and Eastern traditions, reverse tapes, dainty piano pieces, and religious songs.

“No two songs are the same,” Reising said. “You have everything from musical simplicity to incredible complexity. It’s offering the broadest possible range of ideas, attitudes, emotions and sounds that a day in the life might contain.”

Reising evoked James Joyce’s “Ulysses” and Herman Melville’s “Moby Dick” in his commentary on the Fab Four’s songs written between meditative sessions in India a quest to find inner peace.

“It is commonplace among Melville scholars to refer to the Pequod in ‘Moby Dick’ as a microcosm of the entire world,” Reising said. “We can see ‘The Beatles’ in similar terms.”

“The Beatles’ might not exactly be an album whose songs encompass the interconnectedness of all things, but the range of musical styles, of vision, even of length represent something that no other album has even remotely approached, something akin to what James Joyce attempts in ‘Ulysses’ or ‘Finnegan’s Wake.’”

The band became open in the White Album to inviting other significant contributors to their musical efforts.

“They deploy a significant number of ‘partners’ in an unprecedented way,” Reising said. “Either the wife or girlfriend of each Beatle performs on at least one song: Patty Boyd on ‘Piggies,’ Maureen Starkey on ‘The Continuing Story of Bungalow Bill,’ Francie Schwartz on ‘Revolution 1,’ and Yoko Ono on ‘Birthday.’ Never before had wives or girlfriends been present in the recording studio.”

Other artists, including Clapton, Jackie Lomax and Nicky Hopkins, were included. “Never before had any such independent or otherwise group-affiliated musicians graced Beatles’ recordings,” Reising said.

He said the album is almost like a day in the life, from sleeplessness to insomnia to gentle easing to sleep. The first song, which starts with screaming jet engines, has a lyric, “Didn’t get to bed last night”; the album has a middle song titled “I’m So Tired”; and the last song is called “Good Night,” ending the album with Starr singing, “Good night, sleep tight,” and then whispering, “Good night… Good night, everybody… Everybody, everywhere… Good night.”

The 50th anniversary of “The Beatles” is Nov. 22, 1968.
Men’s hoops schedule set for 2018-19 campaign

By Steve Easton

The University of Toledo men’s basketball program will open and close its Mid-American Conference campaign inside Savage Arena. UT will open its league slate Jan. 5 vs. Ball State before closing its regular-season schedule with home matchups against Western Michigan March 5 and Eastern Michigan March 8.

“I think the MAC is going to be really competitive and strong from top to bottom again this season, and there are a number of teams that will challenge to win the league title,” Head Coach Tod Kowalczyk said. “I think we took some huge steps last year. Our goal was to win the MAC Tournament, but we fell just a little bit short. That is serving as great motivation for our entire program as we try to take the next step.”

Kowalczyk and the Rockets will play defending league champion Buffalo, a team UT dropped a narrow decision to in the 2018 MAC Championship Game. Toledo will visit the Bulls in Alumni Arena Jan. 8 before hosting UB in Savage Arena Feb. 16.

Toledo also will face East Division foe Miami on two occasions, hosting the RedHawks Jan. 15 prior to visiting Millett Hall two weeks later Jan. 29.

The Rockets’ remaining East Division contests will be single meetings at Bowling Green (Feb. 9) and Kent State (Jan. 22) and home matchups vs. Akron (Feb. 5) and Ohio (Jan. 29).

The remainder of Toledo’s conference home games will include matchups vs. Central Michigan (Jan. 26) and Northern Illinois (Feb. 23). The Rockets also will play at Western Michigan (Jan. 12), Northern Illinois (Feb. 2), Eastern Michigan (Feb. 19), Ball State (Feb. 26) and Central Michigan (March 2) in their conference schedule.

Kowalczyk has guided the Rockets to three 20-win campaigns in the last five years, marking the first time for this accomplishment since Bob Nichols recorded five straight seasons of 20-plus victories from 1976 to 1981. UT registered a 23-11 record in league play last year and its 55 MAC victories over the last five seasons rank second in the league.

The Rockets will return four starters in the 2018-19 campaign, led by seniors Jaelan Sanford and Nate Navigato. Sanford, a second-team All-MAC selection last year, ranked ninth in the league with 16.3 points per game and a 40.3 three-point shooting mark. Navigato set a school record last year with 94 three-pointers and led the MAC last season with 2.8 treys per game and ranked second with a 42.7 three-point percentage.

Also returning for Toledo will be the junior duo of center Luke Knapke (10.8 points per game, 6.3 rebounds per game) and forward Willie Jackson (7.6 points per game, 5.6 rebounds per game), as well as All-MAC Freshman Team member Marreon Jackson (8.0 points per game, 2.7 assists per game).

Marreon Jackson (8.0 points per game, 2.7 assists per game).

The MAC Tournament will begin with first-round games at campus sites March 11 with the quarterfinals, semifinals and championship game March 14-16 at Cleveland’s Quicken Loans Arena.

Toledo will open its 2018-19 campaign at Oakland Friday, Nov. 9, as part of a non-conference schedule that will see UT face a minimum of three 2018 NCAA Tournament squads in addition to perennial Conference USA frontrunner Middle Tennessee (Dec. 15). Toledo also will compete in the top mid-major tournament in the country when it travels to Estero, Fla., for the Gulf Coast Showcase Monday through Wednesday, Nov. 19-21.

For ticket information, stop by the UT Athletic Ticket Office in Savage Arena, go online at utrockets.com, or call 419.530.GOLD (4653).

Full-time UT employees and retirees may purchase up to two season tickets at half-price. Additional season tickets may be purchased at the full price. UT students are admitted free to home games with ID.
Women’s basketball team ready to hit the hardwood

By Brian DeBenedictis

The women’s basketball team will play two contests against each of the five other Mid-American Conference West Division schools, as well as 2018 Postseason WNIT participant Miami (Jan. 9 on road, Feb. 20 at home) and archival Bowling Green (Jan. 19 on road, Feb. 2 at home) from the East Division as part of its 18-game league schedule.

“Last season proved to be one of the best in MAC history, as our league was rated the eighth-toughest in the country by season’s end,” said Head Coach Tricia Cullop, a three-time MAC Coach of the Year honoree. “With two members advancing to the Sweet 16 of the NCAA Tournament and three others gaining berths to the Postseason WNIT, it was obvious just how strong our teams were. We had six league members finish in the Top 100 Ratings Percentage Index. This season should once again prove to be a great one.”

Toledo also will tangle with the remaining East Division teams once, with Kent State (Jan. 12) and Ohio (Feb. 13) visiting the Glass City, and the Rockets traveling to Akron (Jan. 26) and 2018 NCAA Championship Sweet 16 participant Buffalo (Feb. 6).

“Our fans will be thrilled to see us face BGSU twice, and we will also play Miami home and away,” said Cullop, who ranks ninth in MAC history in conference winning percentage (116-54, .682). “Toledo faithful will also recognize the new BG coach as a former Rocket assistant, Robyn (Flewelling) Fralick.”

The Midnight Blue and Gold will commence league play against division rival Ball State (Jan. 5) at home. UT and BSU have squared off in the conference opener six occasions with each team winning three matchups.

“We will open up MAC play against Ball State for the fourth time in my 11 years at UT,” Cullop said. “I can’t wait to see our amazing Toledo fans at that game. We’re so grateful for their amazing support, as we ranked 31st in the country last year and tops in the MAC for the 28th straight year.”

Toledo is slated to return nine letterwinners in 2018-19, including four starters, from last year’s squad that posted an 18-15 overall record and an 8-10 ledger in the MAC.

The Rockets, who finished fourth in the MAC West Division standings, made their 11th overall appearance in the 2018 Postseason WNIT and sixth in 10 years under Cullop. UT defeated Horizon League member Wright State, 64-50, in the first round before falling at Big Ten foe Michigan State, 66-66, in the second round.

Two-time All-MAC honoree senior Mikaela Boyd (12.1 points per game, 8.0 rebounds per game, 4.2 assists per game), 2017-18 third-year All-MAC selection senior Kaayla McIntyre (16.0 points per game, 7.7 rebounds per game, 2.4 assists per game, 1.4 blocks per game) and 2016-17 All-MAC Freshman recipient junior Mariella Santucci (6.4 points per game, 2.5 rebounds per game, 4.1 assists per game, 1.6 steals per game) will be the focal points of UT’s offense in 2018-19.

As far as numbers go, the Rockets welcome back 66.7 percent of their scoring, 69.3 percent of their rebounding, 76.0 percent of their assists, 78.2 percent of their blocks, and 83.5 percent of their steals.

Toledo will open its 2018-19 season at NCAA Championship participant Maine Saturday, Nov. 10. Less than one month later, UT entertains 2018 NCAA Champion Notre Dame Saturday, Dec. 8. Toledo will welcome the Fighting Irish to Savage Arena for the second time in the last three years.

For season tickets information, go to utrockets.com, call 419.530.GOLD (4653), or stop by the UT Athletic Ticket Office at Savage Arena.

Full-time UT employees and retirees may purchase up to two season tickets at half-price. Additional season tickets may be purchased at the full price. UT students are admitted free to home games with ID.
And when she saw the blanket?
“...It took me a minute because I saw the mascots take it out of the bag. I saw it was a blanket, but it was turned around, so I saw the backside of it. And I thought: That’s cool, it’s a Toledo blanket,” she said. “And then Rocky and Rocksy were holding it, and I’m like, Oh my gosh, that’s our picture on the blanket!”

Keeping the plan under cover was easy for Johnson — until Saturday morning.
“She kept pushing the snooze button, and I kept looking at the clock,” he said. “I basically pushed her out of bed so she’d get up. And then on the drive there, it started to hit me quite a bit. Most times, I’m not really driving that fast, but I felt like I was going 85 miles per hour to get there.

“It really kicked in when we got there at 8:22, and Eric and Neena weren’t there yet at the tailgate. So I started freaking out: Oh my gosh, they’re going to be late, and everything’s going to be thrown off. I started getting really nervous. And then on the walk in, I’m surprised Cara didn’t notice because I felt like I was having seizures I was shaking so bad.”

Johnson started planning to ask the big question in the spring.
“...With her dad being a former football player, she grew up a huge Rocket fan. And being a former UT athlete myself, with the last home game on a Saturday, that was the perfect time,” he said.

“We’ve been going to Toledo games since I was super-little; we love Toledo football,” Wasserman said. “We always tailgate. That’s another reason I didn’t think anything of it because our friends were down there setting up their tailgate, and they usually get there pretty early. So when he said 8:30 we need to be down there, I was like, OK, make sure my parents know what time we’re tailgating.”

Johnson played baseball for the Rockets from 2007 to 2010 and graduated with an individualized degree from University College in 2014. He is the recreation program specialist at the Village of Archbold’s Department of Parks and Recreation.

Wasserman received a bachelor of education degree in 2011 and is an intervention specialist in special education and math teacher at Fassett Junior High School in Oregon. She is pursuing a master of education degree in curriculum and instruction at the University.

They are looking for a home in between Archbold and Oregon, and discussing wedding plans for next year.
“We both knew we wanted to be together and get married, but it was always like the future — I did not think it would be now. I am super-thrilled that it is now, but I had no idea,” Wasserman said. “I am super-excited! I just keep thinking about Saturday.”
Young adult author to visit UT to sign books, lead writing workshop

By Bailey Sparks

“If you put work on a page, you are a writer,” said Leslie Welch, dispelling the notion of an aspiring writer.

The young adult author will share insights and provide encouragement when she visits the University Tuesday, Nov. 6, for a book signing and writing workshop.

Welch is the author of the acclaimed debut novel “The Goodbyes.” The 2016 book is about unrequited love that inspires a musician to stardom — and the power of goodbye.

She will sign books at the Barnes & Noble University Bookstore from noon to 2 p.m.

Following the book signing, Welch will conduct a writing workshop in Carlson Library Room 2024 from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. on “How to Draft Your Novel.” She will discuss starting a log line, building a plot, creating memorable characters, developing a platform, and finishing your first draft.

The book signing and workshop are part of the University’s involvement in National Novel Writing Month (NaNoWriMo). The November event is a challenge to write 50,000 words in 30 days.

“NaNoWriMo is a fantastic resource for all writers because you have to make a lot of compromises to get it done, and it forces you into a creative state you couldn’t otherwise access with unlimited time,” said Welch, who has participated in the event the past 13 years.

“The Goodbyes” was written on NaNoWriMo,” she continued, “and I was 10,000 words short on the last day. I sat in Panera Bread for 10 hours, my butt was numb, my hands were sore, but I finished that book. If I can do it, you can, too.”

Welch was born in Toledo and moved to Philadelphia in her preteen years. She graduated from Penn State and resides in the Washington, D.C., area.

She offered advice for authors hailing from the Toledo area: “Write what you know. I know you think your setting is boring; it isn’t. It will feel real if you write from your daily experience in the Midwest.”

More information about NaNoWriMo and Welch’s visit can be found at libguides.utoledo.edu/nanowrimo. Visit lesliwelch.com to learn more about the author.

To register for the writing workshop, or to participate in NaNoWriMo, contact Lucy Duhon, associate professor in University Libraries, at lucy.duhon@utoledo.edu or 419.530.2838.

New cafe featuring Starbucks now open at UTMC

By Tyrel Linkhorn

Just in time for the pumpkin spice latte, the Starbucks drink menu has arrived at The University of Toledo Medical Center.

The Market Cafe, which opened Monday in the hospital’s lobby area, is now offering the regular Starbucks drink menu and a selection of bagels and pastries. Over the next two weeks, the cafe will roll out an artisanal menu that features frittatas, craft burgers, pizza and a custom bagel sandwich bar.

Preliminary hours of operation will be from 6:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. The cafe intends to add Saturday morning hours and expand its weekday hours to 8 p.m. at a later date.

“There has been a lot of excitement about us bringing a full-service coffee house to the hospital campus, and I’m proud to say it’s finally here. The Market Cafe is going to be a great addition to the dining options we already offer at UTMC,” said Mario Toussaint, chief experience officer for UTMC.

The new cafe was installed by the Bureau of Services for the Visually Impaired, a division of the Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities. It will be managed by one of the state agency’s business enterprises.

“This is a fantastic modern space that will enhance the services we provide our patients, students and guests during their time here at their University of Toledo Medical Center,” said Joshua Krupinski, director of food and nutrition services. “I also want to thank our staff and visitors for their patience during renovations.”

Complete open enrollment by Oct. 31

All benefit-eligible employees should complete open enrollment by midnight Wednesday, Oct. 31, with elections becoming effective Jan. 1.

To complete open enrollment, log in to your account on myUT using your UTAD and password. In the Employee tab at the top of the screen, under My Toolkit on the left side, scroll down to Benefits Information and click on 2019 Open Enrollment.

If you have questions or need help, contact benefits@utoledo.edu or 419.530.1470.
In memoriam

D. Meredith Allsop, Toledo, died Oct. 18 at age 88. She received a bachelor of arts degree in 1952 and a law degree in 1977 from the University. Allsop was an editorial assistant and account clerk in the Law Review Department in the College of Law from 1971 to 1975.

Maria H. Contreras, Toledo, who taught Spanish from 2008 until May 2018 at UT, died Aug. 7 at age 57. She received a master of arts degree in Spanish from the University in 2007.

Bruce A. Cramer, Fort Myers, Fla., died Oct. 13 at age 82. He received a bachelor’s degree in business administration in 1958 and a law degree in 1967 from UT and later taught night classes at the College of Law.

Donna L. “Donnie” Linehan, Toledo, who was a paralegal for Student Legal Services on campus for more than two decades, died Oct. 16 at age 64. She received associate’s and bachelor’s degrees from the University in 1991 and 1995, respectively.

Barbara J. Padgett, Toledo, a secretary at MCO from 1979 to 1990, died Oct. 15 at age 63. A UT alumna, she received bachelor of arts and master of arts degrees in history in 1976 and 1979, respectively.
The University of Toledo Department of Theatre and Film will present the premiere of a new adaptation of Erich Maria Remarque’s “All Quiet on the Western Front” in November in the Center for Performing Arts Center Theatre.

Created with permission from the Remarque estate, this production will be performed during the 100th anniversary of the end of World War I.

Performances will take place Friday through Sunday, Nov. 2-4 and 9-11. Curtain time is 7:30 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays, and 2 p.m. on Sundays.

The production follows the story of a lost generation facing many of the same lessons of today and the lessons history continues to challenge us to learn. It is adapted and directed by Dr. Matt Foss, UT assistant professor of theatre.

“Our adaptation preserves the familiar and famous characters and events from Remarque’s novel, while employing a kind of transparent theatricality as this company of soldiers navigates the last year of the war,” Foss said.

“We’re excited to have a special performance on Nov. 11, the actual anniversary of the armistice 100 years ago.”

In honor of Veteran’s Day, the Department of Theatre and Film will offer two free tickets to veterans and current military service members to attend the show’s final performance Sunday, Nov. 11. Those interested should contact the Center for Performing Arts Box Office at 419.530.2787 or thearts@utoledo.edu to reserve seats. Tickets are subject to availability.

The cast features Emily Damschroder, a freshman majoring in theatre, as Detering; Kurt Ellering, a senior majoring in religious studies, as Ginger; Bailey Flint, a junior majoring in theatre and media communications, as Westhus; Bryan Harkins, a junior majoring in theatre with a minor in legal specialties, as Himmelstoss; Jackson Howard, a sophomore majoring in film studies, as Kemmerich; Imani (Mo) Hudson, a sophomore majoring in theatre, as Tjaden; Gillian Martin, a junior majoring in media communications with a minor in theatre, as Kat; Faith Murphy, a sophomore majoring in theatre and creative writing, as Mueller; Shaquirra Jackson, a senior majoring in theatre, as Bertin; and Carlos Washington, a sophomore majoring in theatre, as a soldier.

Helping Foss behind the curtain are Dr. Edmund Lingan, professor and chair of theatre and film, as Leer; Justin Petty, a junior majoring in theatre with a minor in film, as Paul; Austin Rambo, a sophomore majoring in theatre with a minor in media communications, as Kropp; Alexandria Rayford-West, a sophomore, majoring in theatre and creative writing, as Mueller; Stephen Sakowski, assistant professor of lighting and sound design, as the lighting designer; Ryan Peters-Hieber, a senior majoring in theatre design technology, as the sound designer; Faith Pegus, a junior majoring in art with a minor in theatre technology, as the assistant scenic designer; Logan Fleming, a sophomore majoring in theatre, as the associate costume designer; Katelyn Justice, a sophomore majoring in theatre, as the assistant light designer; Addison Toth, a freshman majoring in theatre, as the stage manager; and Victoria Diesing, a sophomore majoring in theatre, as the assistant stage manager.

Tickets are $10 for students; $12 for UT faculty, staff and alumni, and military members and seniors; and $18 for the general public. Call 419.530.ARTS (2787) or order online at utoledo.tix.com. Tickets also will be available at the door.
Events to spotlight Native American Heritage Month

A talk by a modern medicine woman, a chance to make a dream catcher, and a film screening are some of the events that will take place at The University of Toledo in November for Native American Heritage Month.

“We are thrilled to host Deborah ‘Eagle Cloud’ Ayres, who will share her experience as a medicine woman,” said Dr. Michele Soliz, associate vice president for student success and inclusion in the Division of Student Affairs. “Other events this month will celebrate the contributions and cultural richness of Native Americans.”

Ayres will give the keynote address, “Indigenous Healing for Modern Times,” Wednesday, Nov. 14, at 5 p.m. in Thompson Student Union Room 3018.

“Healing is the inward journey back to your divine self: The body, mind and heart are various paths to your center,” Ayres wrote on her Facebook page.

She is an expert in Native American spirituality and runs a healing practice in Sylvania, Ohio.

Listed by date, other events taking place will be:

- Monday, Nov. 5 — Native American Heritage Month Kickoff: Three Sister Soup Tasting, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Thompson Student Union Trimble Lounge. Stop by to sample the soup that is a combination of beans, corn and squash, foods traditionally grown by many Native American tribes.
- Wednesday, Nov. 7 — Native American Heritage Month Diversity Dialogue, 5:30 p.m., Thompson Student Union Room 2584. The discussion will focus on issues that affect Native Americans and how these issues are relevant today in multiple marginalized communities.
- Thursday, Nov. 15 — Create Your Own Dream Catcher, noon to 2 p.m., Thompson Student Union Trimble Lounge. Learn the symbolism of the dream catcher and make your own protective charm.
- Wednesday, Nov. 28 — Film Screening, “Reel Injun,” 6 p.m., Memorial Field House Room 1200. The 2009 Canadian documentary explores the portrayal of Native Americans in film. The 85-minute film traces how images of Native Americans in cinema have influenced understanding and misunderstanding of their culture and history.

For more information on these events, contact the UT Office of Multicultural Student Success at 419.530.2261 or omss@utoledo.edu.