

## What Matters

### Why Transgender Matters to You

By Joelle Ruby Ryan

Transgender refers to a range of behaviors, identities and expressions which challenge the rigid bipolar gender system in our society. In our culture, people labeled "male" at birth are expected to conform to masculine stereotypes, identify as heterosexual and be content with the category "man." People termed "female" are required to be "feminine" straight women by conventional society and are bound by a patriarchal system which systematically devalues and oppresses women. Anyone who strays from the strict categorizations of gender traditionalism and heterosexuality are often called "freaks," "perverts," and "deviants" and are considered outcasts by mainstream society.

Since the early 1990s, the Transgender Liberation Movement has been fighting back against conservative gender ideology and is attempting to cast gender as a civil rights issue on both the national and international stage. Many people reading this column may know little about Transgender people's lives, and may wonder: what does transgender have to do with me? There are many reasons why Transgenderism matters to you. Here are some important ones to reflect upon and to begin the conversation:

1. You may be transgender. Approximately 5% of the population have gender identities or expressions which place them into the Transgender population. Transgender refers to people who do not fully identify with the gender assigned to them at birth. This includes folks who permanently cross the gender divide as well as people who "trans" it occasionally and who blur the categories altogether. Transgender is an umbrella term which includes cross-dressers, transsexuals, transgenderists, drag queens, drag kings, gender queers and a plethora of other gender-diverse constituencies. If you experience a frequent discomfort with your assigned sex or if you desire to dress in clothing associated with the "opposite" gender, you may be Transgender. While it is difficult to come out as Trans, there are many people out there to support you in your unique gender journey. Stand tall and be proud of who you are; revel in your gender expression and realize that you are not alone.

2. You probably know someone who is Transgender. SOFFA refers to Significant Others, Friends, Family and Allies of the Gender Community. Even if you yourself are not Trans, the chances are strong that you will discover that someone in your circle of friends and families identifies as gender-different. As more and more Trans people bust open the closet door, their friends and family members undergo a "coming out" of their own. As a persecuted minority, us Trannies need the support, loyalty, love and compassion of those close to us. If you are the Loved One of a Trans person, examine your own fears and biases and increase your cultural competency of gender issues. Reach out to Trans friends and family members and offer them your unconditional love, even if you do not fully understand. Too many Trans people lose their family members or partners when they come out or are thrown out of the house; this needs to change and starts with each SOFFA taking a stand and deciding to stand by the Trans Loved One.

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### What is an Ally?

The ally is the touchstone of the GLBT individual; the ally is the parent, the supportive coworker, the friend. These cherished few, over the course of the last decade, have blossomed into a great mass of people-and it is easy for the 'Out' GLBT individual to take the ally for granted.

However, this word takes on a special significance with me.

For the purposes of my personal definition, an ally can be of any orientation: gay, straight, or anything in between.

To me, it is not the sexual orientation of the ally that matters, but rather it is the intent. The intent to support GLBT individuals and causes. The intent to enlighten others about what it is to be gay'. The intent to provide assistance where there is a void.

- Justin Wong

# National GLBT News

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## *Lesbian Named College Homecoming King*

Hood College is reviewing its homecoming rules after a lesbian was crowned king, a college official says. But Jennifer Jones, the 21-year-old senior who beat out three men for the honor, says her victory last month was a plus for the private liberal-arts college.

"It is cool that Hood allows people to be themselves," Jones, of Newark, Del., told The Frederick News-Post. "If people didn't want me to be king, they wouldn't have nominated me and voted for me."

Waves of discontent are still rippling through the 2,100-student campus in western Maryland more than two weeks after Jones was crowned at the Feb. 18 homecoming dance, the News-Post reported Monday.

"She is not a man," said Singleton Newman, a 22-year-old senior who was among the queen candidates. "It is a gender issue, and she is a woman."

Santo Provenzano, 21, who competed for king, said Jones' selection made the event seem like a joke. "It discourages guys from wanting to take part in the future," he said.

Donald Miller, Hood's student activities director, said all homecoming events will be reviewed and possibly changed. "We will look at what students want Hood's homecoming to be," he said.

Jones, who is openly gay, received 64 of 169 votes cast, the News-Post reported. She is known on campus as a multi-sports athlete, member of the Student Government Association's executive board and president of Tolerance Education Acceptance, a support group for gay and bisexual students.

It was only the second annual homecoming at Hood, which didn't allow male students to live on campus until 2003. In 1912, the school's board of trustees changed its name to honor a wealthy benefactor. The institution became fully coeducational in 2002.

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## *V for Vendetta Powered by Gay Love Story*

Heading into *V for Vendetta* over the weekend, I was expecting mindless action – a fun enough sci-fi thriller with a kick ass heroine in the lead that would allow my brain a much needed break from thinking for two hours while I was able to sit back, relax and unwind.

Boy was I wrong.

Ordinarily, when a movie asks my mind to work when all I really want to do is veg out, I'm pissed. But from the get-go, *V for Vendetta* challenges you to think – it dares you to take your eyes off what's happening, and when you can't, it pushes further.

Set in a not too distant future in which America, ravaged by war, is destroyed and England is under the watchful of a ruthless dictator, *Vendetta* opens as Evey (Natalie Portman, finally and officially a woman in her most emotionally complex role to date), encounters V (Hugo Weaving), a rebel who blows up a historic monument as a symbol of a world in need of change.

England is corrupt. The news has exactly one channel, one voice, and you know who controls it. Minorities, gays, and thinkers and carted off to death camps while the rest of the city's sheep have fallen into line to obey a government that rules with fear.

The next day, V ups the ante. A call to arms for all of England to hear. In one year's time, on the 5th of November (pay careful attention to the prologue and you'll understand why) he plans to blow up parliament.

Who V is or exactly why he's decided to rise against the system unfolds throughout the film. We know he's badly scarred ("There's a face under here, but it isn't me," he tells Evey as she asks for a peek beneath his theatrical mask), likely as the result of something the government did to the people during the "uprising". We know he's an intellectual: His way with words and collection of works of art and religious artifacts banned by the government tell us that.

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## *College Military Recruiting Outweighs Equality For Gays*

A scattered handful of independent law schools can afford to take a stand. But for most, tied to universities that depend heavily on federal research dollars, protesting the Pentagon's "don't ask, don't tell" policy on gays by refusing to cooperate with military recruiters is no longer an option.

If schools do, in the wake of Monday's 8-0 Supreme Court ruling, they could give up federal money that in some cases amounts to hundreds of millions of dollars per year.

Those who opposed the policy acknowledge they will have to take their fight against "don't ask, don't tell" to other fronts.

"No law school is going to continue to deny the military access if it means putting the medical schools and science departments out of business," said Larry Kramer, dean of Stanford Law School, where a faculty group joined in the case challenging the 1994 recruiting law known as the Solomon Amendment.

Opponents of the law said the only possible silver lining is that it could help them better focus on their real goal -- persuading Congress to abolish "don't ask, don't tell" in favor of allowing openly gay men and women in the military.

"Now that the Supreme Court has handed down its decision, I really hope universities, not just Harvard, will be more aggressive (contesting the policy)," said Jeffrey Paik, co-president of the Harvard Law School chapter of Lambda, a gay rights group. "Now that this strategy has fallen down, I hope they'll work to come with new strategies."

The ruling was expected on college campuses. Some universities, though opposed to the Solomon Amendment, declined to sign on to the case, correctly predicting it wouldn't hold up in court.

Others took a different legal approach, arguing they hadn't discriminated against the military but had treated it like any other employer with such policies. But the Court rejected that argument, too.

Jay Sekulow, chief counsel for the American Center for Law and Justice, called the decision "an important victory for the military and ultimately for our national security." And Anne Neal, president of the American Council of Trustees and Alumni, said the decision ends "the blatant hypocrisy of institutions which deny military recruiters while accepting billions in federal funds."

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## *Gay Protest Group Allowed On Christian College Campus*

Lee is the third school to be targeted by the Equality Ride, a 51 day cross-country trip organized by the nondenominational group Soulforce to draw attention to colleges and military academies that discriminate against LGBT students.

When the riders got off their bus on Thursday they were told that would be allowed onto the campus, unlike similar stops at Regent University in Virginia Beach and Liberty University in Lynchburg, Virginia where members of the group were arrested when they stepped onto school grounds.

But the riders were told they could not carry signs, hand out literature or hold a prayer rally while at Lee University.

Jacob Reitan, one of the organizers of the Equality Ride immediately went to the office of Lee president Dr. Paul Conn.

"It was a cordial meeting," Reitan told 365Gay.com. "We had a long discussion, but it was obvious he was not going to change the rules.

Nevertheless, Reitan said, it was encouraging that Conn at least allowed the group on campus.

Among those who turned out to support the riders was Matthew James. He said he was kicked out of Lee University a year ago because he's gay.

Lee University President Paul Conn said the school respects the right of this group to form their own conclusions about their lives and their sexuality, but he made it clear in a letter to the student body earlier this week that Lee University doesn't allow "homosexual conduct."

Tuesday seven riders were arrested as they tried to enter Regent University in Virginia Beach, Virginia.

Regent, which is affiliated with Christian Broadcaster Pat Robertson, says it does not bar gay enrollment, but its student handbook states "...homosexual conduct or any other conduct, which violates Biblical standards, is prohibited."

Last week Last week 24 members of the group were arrested when the entered Jerry Falwell's Liberty University in Lynchburg, Virginia.

*Adapted From: <http://365gay.com/Newscon06/03/031606soulforce.htm>*

## *Gay activists arrested at Falwell College*

More than 20 gay rights activists were arrested on trespassing charges Friday as they tried to step onto the campus of Liberty University, the school founded by the Rev. Jerry Falwell.

Many of the activists were part of Soulforce, an LGBT group on its first stop of a nationwide "Equality Ride" tour of the nation's conservative Christian universities and military academies.

Invoking the memory of the civil rights movement, Soulforce member Jacob Reitan said, "We want to come to the school today to say, 'Learn from history.' "

"We have a right to be here, because this school teaches that being gay is being sick and sinful," said Reitan, co-director of the Equality Ride. "We have a right to question and to show how we are children of God."

Reitan and other Soulforce members said they did not intend to be arrested at the campus, but just hoped to talk to Liberty students.

Some 60 people, including 35 members of the Equality Ride bus tour, gathered for the late-morning rally on a sidewalk outside the school's main entrance. A music group played guitars and sang 1960s peace songs.

Several Liberty students spoke to the Soulforce members. But the group didn't always find support.

Comparing homosexuals to drug users and adulterers, Liberty senior Tray Faulkner said the university disapproves of any alternative lifestyle. "I know you guys don't think it's a sin," he said. "We do."

Campus police charged all those arrested with trespassing, and two faced additional charges of inciting trespassing. They were restrained in plastic handcuffs before being taken to a local magistrate.

Falwell, the university's chancellor, had warned the group that it would not be permitted on campus, saying he would not allow his school to be used for a media event aimed at raising money for gay rights.

"Neither will we permit them to espouse opinions or otherwise suggest beliefs or lifestyles that are in opposition to the morals and values that this institution promotes," he said in a statement issued earlier.

*Taken From: <http://www.gay.com/news/article.html?2006/03/10/5>*

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We also know he's come to rally the people to stand up against Adam Sutler (a frightening John Hurt), the Hitler – and some would argue Bush – like monster who has taken over the people. In a time when free thought is grounds for death and the government maintains control through fear – when news stations are eerily one sided and the news you see is not exactly as it took place – the public is scared. They need a hero.

*V for Vendetta* paints a world the gay community remembers all too vividly. In World War II, though Hitler is most infamous for attempting to do away with the Jews, he considered homosexuality one step lower. In the '60s, homosexuals were deemed as dangerous as communists. And as recently as a couple of years ago, it was still technically illegal for gay men to engage in sexual relations in several of the United States.

In the future director James Mc Teigue and writers Andy and Larry Wachowski (the *Matrix* series) have imagined, homosexuality is again grounds for death. We first see it in Dietrich (Stephen Fry, *Wilde*), Evey's office mentor who warns that her hiding out with him is "the least of my worries" after she stumbles upon his collection of male nudes. It's further illustrated through the life story of Valerie (the stunning Natasha Wightman), a woman persecuted for her love of another woman, a story Evey reads nightly by a small light in the floor; one that touches her so deeply it's one of the final straws in convincing her to stand up and fight.

I don't want to go too much further into detail because *V for Vendetta* unwraps like a well prepared history lesson ... only set in the future and eerily familiar in a time when we have to tune in to the BBC and Oprah Winfrey's on the ground coverage for the most accurate news on Katrina, Iraq and all the other ongoing crisis on which CNN and Fox News can't seem to report correctly.

As a political statement, it's powerful. As a love song to the many minorities who've suffered and will continue to suffer at the hands of narrow minded leaders, it's unforgettable.

*Adapted From: <http://www.lesbianation.com/article.cfm?section=2&id=8792>*

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BGSU's LGBTQA-Q Resource Center  
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3. Discrimination against any human being is wrong. Transgender people face employment discrimination, are denied housing, are the victims of hate crimes, and are laughed at, derided and degraded on the streets and in the community. Approximately two transgender people are viciously and brutally murdered every month in this country in horrific violent attacks. Transphobia refers to the irrational fear and hatred of folks who cross, blur or transgress the traditional gender categorizations of male and female. Transphobic attitudes lead to institutional discrimination that oppresses Trans people and causes much undue physical, economic and emotional distress and suffering. The hopeful news is that it doesn't have to be this way! Each and every one of us has the power to make a difference and to improve the world for all our fellow human beings. Take a stand against transphobia and work to challenge your own assumptions around gender.

4. The Transgender Liberation Movement is a fight for freedom and justice which intersects with other social justice struggles. Feminism, the anti-racism movement, the LesBiGay Movement, the movement for Economic Justice and the Disability Rights Movement (to name but a few) are all deeply intertwined with the movement for Gender Freedom. The powers-that-be succeed because they count on oppressed people fighting against each other, squabbling over a sliver of the pie while the ruling class enjoys the lion's share of economic power and institutional resources. By pitting us against each other, they prevent us from organizing and winning real social change. In order to be victorious in our movement for Gender Liberation, we must unite and learn to link our diverse struggles for emancipation. We must stand shoulder-to-shoulder in solidarity and realize that NONE of us are free until ALL of us are free.

5. The Transgender Movement is fundamentally about GENDER and thus it is an issue which affects ALL of us. Is anyone really 100% male or 100% female? Doesn't everyone, in one way or another, differ from the socially-constructed notion of a "real man" or a "real woman?" Every person I know has felt limited, constrained or devalued for exhibiting "opposite" gender traits, behaviors or mannerisms at some point in their life, and what a shame that is! Each and every one of us are a complex mixture of male and female, masculine and feminine. No one should be made to feel shame or guilt for expressing the full range of human emotions and behaviors, for they are our unique and Goddess-given birthright. Gender is not a black-or-white proposition; rather, there exists an infinite rainbow of innovative options. I urge you to bravely stretch and discard outdated gender roles, requirements and expectations and open yourself up to the full and vibrant spectrum of human freedom.

I hope that you after reading this you look at "Transgender" in a slightly new way and that you challenge yourself and others to become a "Gender Defender," a person who celebrates gender diversity, speaks out against transphobia and other forms of bigotry, and realize how we as human beings, all of us, are in this struggle together.

*Joelle Ruby Ryan is a Ph.D. Candidate in American Culture Studies and the President of Transcendence.*

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Jones tried to run last year for homecoming prince but the student committee wouldn't let her on the ballot, even though she had gathered the required number of signatures on nominating petitions.

"We were trying to be inclusive of the male population and felt that because of this, we shouldn't allow a woman to run for the position," said Cheryl Banks, a committee member last year and this year's homecoming queen.

Miller said a rule change this year abolished the petitions and required that candidates be nominated by student ballots.

Jones said she didn't even know she was nominated until she saw her name on the final ballots that were distributed Feb. 13. Those ballots had been reviewed the night before by only half of the homecoming committee members at a hurriedly scheduled meeting, the News-Post reported.

Sophomore Giovanni Mahonez, who chaired this year's committee, said that before the ballots were distributed, she told both Miller and Olivia White, dean of students, that Jones was a king candidate.

Miller said the meeting was "more of an FYI than for her asking our permission."

*Taken From:*

*<http://www.planetout.com/news/article-print.html?2006/03/07/1>*

## *Gay Activists Find Slur Painted on Their Bus*

Gay activists on a traveling outreach to religious and military colleges discovered an anti-gay message painted on their bus Thursday night during a stop at Lee University in Cleveland, Tenn.

The words "Fag Mobile" were painted in pink letters on the side of the Soulforce Equality Ride tour bus, according to the group's press release.

Jacob Reitan, co-director of the Equality Ride, said the bus driver saw a "middle-aged woman and a teenager" driving away from the scene. He added that Cleveland police are investigating the incident.

"The attack on the bus is hate speech, plain and simple, spelled out for everyone to read," said Reitan. "But a more subtle form of hate speech happens when students at the schools we are visiting are told they are sick and sinful just for being the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people God made them to be."

The young activists from the Equality Ride -- a bus trip to 19 schools -- met with students Thursday at Lee, a conservative college affiliated with the Church of God, before the vandalism occurred.

On Friday night students from Lee washed the anti-gay message from the side of the bus.

The Equality Ride is sponsored by the Virginia-based group Soulforce, an organization dedicated to ending spiritual violence against LGBT people.

During the previous week, the Equality Ride participants were not allowed on the campuses of Liberty University, founded by the Rev. Jerry Falwell, and Regent University, founded by televangelist Pat Robertson. In fact, some of the activists were arrested and cited with trespassing at each campus.

Taken From: <http://www.gay.com/news/article.html?2006/03/18/1>

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## *Minnesota College Bars Gay Couples from Staying Together on School Trips*

A disagreement over a University of St. Thomas policy that bars unmarried couples from staying together on school trips has grown beyond a simple debate about the rule. Staff members and some students at the St. Paul, Minn., school are now wearing black-and-red anti-"UST discrimination" buttons as well as buttons that symbolize support for a gay student group.

More than 130 faculty members signed a letter opposing the policy, and a dozen faculty members showed their displeasure by skipping an event where they were to be honored.

The snafu has intensified into a larger debate about tolerance at Catholic universities. Like many of them, St. Thomas has balanced its Catholicism with a desire to be open. It recognizes a gay and lesbian campus group, for instance, though members say their group has restrictions on activities that others do not.

"Things are incredibly tense here," said David Landry, a theology professor who signed the letter.

The unwritten trips policy was imposed last year after a lesbian choir director wanted to take her partner on a school trip to France. St. Thomas said that was inappropriate. The issue surfaced again in November when two longtime professors who have been a couple for more than a decade were asked to rent separate rooms on a student trip to Australia.

University officials acknowledge the travel policy was unclear and are working on a more detailed rule, and they are planning several forums at which the university president, the Reverend Dennis Dease, will listen to concerns. But they're also defending the decisions, arguing that St. Thomas must model Catholic values in interactions with students.

"We believe in diversity of people and ideas," school spokesman Doug Hennes said. "At the same time, we need to balance that with being a Catholic university. That can create tension and can create issues such as this one."

Landry plans to offer resolutions at a faculty senate meeting Tuesday regarding the travel policy and concerns about the climate for gays and lesbians on campus.

"I think there's at least some indications that the university is moving in a more conservative direction, and that might be part of a broader trend within Catholicism," he said. "A lot of people who have been here for quite some time and are not Catholic, or support a more progressive form of Catholicism, are concerned."

On the other side of the argument is Robert Kennedy, professor and chairman of the Catholic studies department. "No Catholic university could properly endorse or plead indifference to unmarried partners sharing a room," he said. "It's reasonable to expect faculty at a Catholic university to meet certain expectations."

Sleeping arrangements for gay and unmarried professors on trips with students had not been an issue until last year, when several students raised concerns about the choral director bringing her lesbian partner.

Taken From: [http://www.advocate.com/news\\_detail\\_ektid27805.asp](http://www.advocate.com/news_detail_ektid27805.asp)

## *Suffolk Extends Health Benefits to Trans Students*

Beginning this August, transgender Suffolk University students on the university health plan will receive medical coverage for hormones and psychological treatment related to transitioning, a major step forward in the university's treatment of the health needs of transgender students.

Sharon Yardley, director of Suffolk's health services, said the university is currently renegotiating its insurance policy, and the two health insurers that have made it to the top of the selection process, their current insurer Nationwide and Aetna, have both agreed to remove the standard exemption in most university health plans for treatment related to gender identity disorder. Yardley expects the university to sign a contract soon, and the new plan will go into effect August 15.

Until a student notified her about the exemption in the university's current plan, Yardley was not even aware of it. "It was brought to my attention in September by a transgender student on campus that we had an exclusion in our policy [that I hadn't noticed]," said Yardley. "And once it was brought to my attention I felt it was discriminatory because it names a whole class of people who can't get hormone benefits."

The new policy does not remove the exclusion on transgender-related surgeries. It is uncertain if any other universities in Massachusetts offer coverage for hormone treatments and psychological services to transgender students. Yardley said in conversations with colleagues at other schools many were unaware of the exemption, and none said that they had worked to end it.

Brett Genny Beemyn, a board member of the Transgender Law and Policy Institute who monitors transgender-related policies at colleges and universities across the country, said there are few universities anywhere in the country that cover hormone treatments and psychological services for transgender students in their health policies.

"From what I've been able to tell from talking to people there are few institutions that have changed around the country. There are three or four schools that I'm aware of that have changed their policies, but it's something that is just being done"; Beemyn explained. Beemyn was unaware of any schools in Massachusetts that changed their policies but said that as schools work to become more trans-inclusive many are starting to examine their insurance policies.

While Suffolk will not cover surgery, Beemyn still sees the change in its policy as a positive step and expects that in time universities will understand that transgender surgeries are medically necessary and that they will have little impact on the cost of health insurance.

"I think that certainly it is an incomplete measure, but I do think in time that schools will start providing coverage for surgery as they recognize that it is a legitimate need of a very small number of students," said Beemyn.

Taken From: [www.baywindows.com](http://www.baywindows.com)

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"It's a sorry statement when it takes a Supreme Court decision to show why our colleges and universities need to give students basic information about possible careers and the defense of our country," she said.

Most schools already were allowing military recruiters full campus access as they awaited the Supreme Court decision. At Stanford, for instance, Kramer said the military must demonstrate like any other recruiter that at least a few students are interested to be invited on campus, but after that has been given full access.

A handful of law schools independent of larger universities -- Vermont Law School, New York Law School and William Mitchell College of Law in Minnesota -- previously had said they would forfeit access to federal funding.

William Mitchell's president and dean, Allen Easley, said Monday the policy would continue. Rick Matasar of New York Law, said the faculty there would likely consider whether -- in light of the decision -- that was still the best way to register opposition to "don't ask, don't tell."

At Golden Gate University School of Law, another member of the core group of 36 institutions and faculties that challenged the Solomon Amendment, dean Frederic White said there is no option now but to openly welcome the military, though he said there will continue to be protest and debate.

The ruling noted students and institutions remain free to exercise their rights to protest the military's policies.

"We'll probably continue to talk about it, but at the same time, we are a law school, so we'll respect the decision of the supreme court of the land," he said.

Taken From: <http://www.outinamerica.com/Home/news.aso?articleid=10890>

## Interns Wanted: the LGBTQA-Q Resource Center, Fall 2006

Do you need credit for an Academic Internship?

Are you interested in furthering the rights for LGBT Folks at BGSU?

Are you interested in learning skills for your future career?

The LGBTQA-Q Resource center is currently looking for Interns for the Fall 2006 Semester. If you are interested, or have any questions, contact the resource center at Nickyd@bgnet.bgsu.edu

### *A Couple of Guys*

He Hasn't Got a Prayer by Dave Brousseau



Taken From: <http://www.planetout.com/entertainment/comics/guys/archive/bone.html>

## What's Happening in BG

### Magdalen Hsu-Li

Monday 27<sup>th</sup> @ 9pm

Where: BTSU Falcon's nest

Magdalen Hsu-Li A is a rising Asian singer whose voice and provocative lyrics appeal to a diverse audience. The genre of music has an edge and a lively feel to it with messages relating to issues from feminism and racism, to political issues and self-empowerment.



### Is Race a Factor?

Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> @ 4pm

315 BTSU

Ethnic Minority Panel. Learn more about sexual ethnic minorities from a panel of your peers. (set-up like a standard Vision Classroom Panel with question and responses).

### Open Mic Night

Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> @ 8pm

El Mercado Downtown BG

Express yourself with discounted food. Bring friends and family. Give yourself a voice.

KEYNOTE SPEAKER!!!

### Billy Bean:

### Going the other way

Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> @ 8pm

Olscamp 101

Former Major League

Baseball player

Billy Bean will be sharing his experiences he's gone through and hardships he has faced because of his profession and sexuality.

