**Concerning numbers**

DeWine does NW Ohio media tour to talk coronavirus, promote masks

By Sentinel-Tribune Staff

SWANTON — Ohio’s governor came to Northen Ohio on Friday to personally address the bad news.

Coronavirus cases in the state are climbing at an alarming rate and the rural areas, such as Wood County, are to blame.

Gov. Mike DeWine, in a plane stop at Eugene F. Kratzel Toledo Express Airport for the media, also mentioned Bowling Green State University as a factor in higher cases.

“These are very, very concerning numbers,” he said. “We’re seeing bad trends.”

In Wood County, most cases are out of Bowling Green, DeWine said. “Students are getting together outside of the classroom and causing a lot of spread, he said. “We’re seeing kids go in groups of 10 or less to a house party, stay- ing for a few minutes, then traveling to another house party,” DeWine said. “Those students are traveling through the community and are likely passing it on.”

His Friday press con- ference wasn’t just to cause alarm. DeWine said the spread can be controlled.

“We can stop it. Or, we can let the spread continue,” he said. “We can stop it the way we did in the spring, or we can allow it to escalate, just like it did in the fall.”

DeWine said he is working with the State Health Department to “slow it down if people want to come together.” He said the key is to “wear a mask again.”

“I’m going to also emphasize the need for real-life skills students can’t get being online,” he said. “We can’t keep them in a groove with online learning. It’s really important to get people vaccinated.”

**Ramping it up:** COVID testing is improving

By Debbie Rogers

DeWein is improving

Geer and Jill Carr voted to keep teaching online.

By Marie Thomas-Baird

COVID testing

"Ramping it up:"

will continue

BG students will continue online learning

Board votes 3-2 to not do hybrid

By Thomas-Baird

Bowling Green City Schools students will not be returning to the classroom this month.

The school district’s board of education made its decision Thursday with a 3-2 vote to keep teaching online.

A schedule for when the teaching model will be reevaluated was not finalized.

Board members Ganny Stacy, Norm Goor and Bill Care voted in favor of staying online with the understand- ing that improve- ments are necessary to address the social and emotional needs of students.

“We have the ability to come up with some forms of in-person help for those who need it,” Goor said.

Board member Bill Clifford and Tracy Horn-

st voted against the motion.

Horn said she was concerned about the emotional, social and academic needs of students.

“Many of that, etc. We were stressed the need for real-life skills students can’t get behind a computer,” she said. “We can’t live in this in what if… what if COVID never goes away. Are we just going to keep doing remote?”

Stewart, who is board president, said that a lot of teachers have said they are finally getting to do what they are supposed to do, this, Stewart said.

“Contractually, this is so See ONLINE | 7

**Jones reflects on incredible coaching moments**

Otsego volleyball was state champs in ’92

By Jack Carle

Jones reflects on incredible coaching moments

Otsego head volleyball coach Cheryl Jones talks to players during a hard-fought final round during Friday’s match against Lucas.

Instead she played basketball for four years, as the only freshman to make the varsity team, and ran track for four years.

After starting her col-

lege studies at Defiance College and then finishing at Bowling Green State University, Jones was ready to be a teacher. Being a volleyball coach

was not on her radar at that time.

That changed with William Hale, who at the time was the principal at Grand Rapids Amir College, suggested that Jones would be a good volleyball coach.

"Volleyball was the last thing that I thought I

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**J.D. Pooley | Sentinel-Tribune**

**Ohio Gov. Mike DeWine speaks to members of the media at the Eugene F. Kratzel Toledo Express Airport Friday morning. Visit www.sent-trib.com to watch a video.**

**By Jack Carle**

**OTSEGO — As a student in high school, volleyball was not on the list of sports for Cheryl Jones.**

**Instead she played basketball for four years, as the only freshman to make the varsity team, and ran track for four years. After starting her college studies at Defiance College and then finishing at Bowling Green State University, Jones was ready to be a teacher.**

**Being a volleyball coach coming from weddings, coming from funerals. They’re coming from parties. They’re coming from social gatherings,” he said. “It’s a rare occa- sion that it occurs in a classroom.”

“The colleges, for example, are doing a good job in the class- room, doing a pretty good job even in the dorms, but where we’re seeing the spread is the outside — that people get- ting together.”

DeWine also stopped Friday in Youngstown, Lima and Dayton.

“We don’t want to shut this state down again,” he said. “I don’t want to be an alarmist … but what I am saying is, just if you want your kid physi- cally in school, we’ve got to share —

On Monday, the 113