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The BG News February 9, 2000

Bowling Green State University

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WEATHER

Partly Cloudy
High, 43
Low, 30

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The BG News

A daily independent student press

WEDNESDAY

February 9, 2000

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Volume 88, Issue 21

Dobb appointed executive vice president of University

JENNIFER LULEY

STAFF WRITER

In a move that will restructure the University's administration, Linda Dobb, currently serving as interim provost, has been named the University's first executive vice president.

The move is designed to unite eight related departments at the University, in order to encourage greater collaboration and increased success between them.

The departments involved are: Northwest Ohio Educational Television Foundation, Information Technology Services, Libraries and Learning Resources, Continuing

Education, International and Summer Programs, WBGU-TV, Affirmative Action and Human Resources.

"I love it, I'm very excited about it," Dobb said about the creation of her new position. "It combines a lot of areas that naturally go together."

All of the areas use a combination of human resources and technology in the dissemination of information to the University community. According to a statement from University president Sidney Ribeau, the creation of an executive vice president will provide all of the areas involved with maximum support for the greatest effectiveness, growth and enhancement.

Part of the new focus will continue to explore the possibilities involved in distance learning and continued education.

"It's kind of neat because the University wants to put a renewed emphasis on distance learning," Dobb said, adding that many of the areas she will oversee can be involved in this.

Suzanne Crawford, dean of continuing education at BGSU, said her organization is looking forward to the possibilities the creation of this position will bring.

"CESIP looks forward to this exciting collaboration with WBGU,

Libraries and Learning Resources, ITS and HR in developing populations and programs which will meet the learning styles of the 'new traditional' students, especially those who want to learn through distance," Crawford said.

"Dr. Dobb is the perfect person to bring the synergies of these units together," she said.

Likewise, Dobb said she too is very excited about working with people in the various departments.

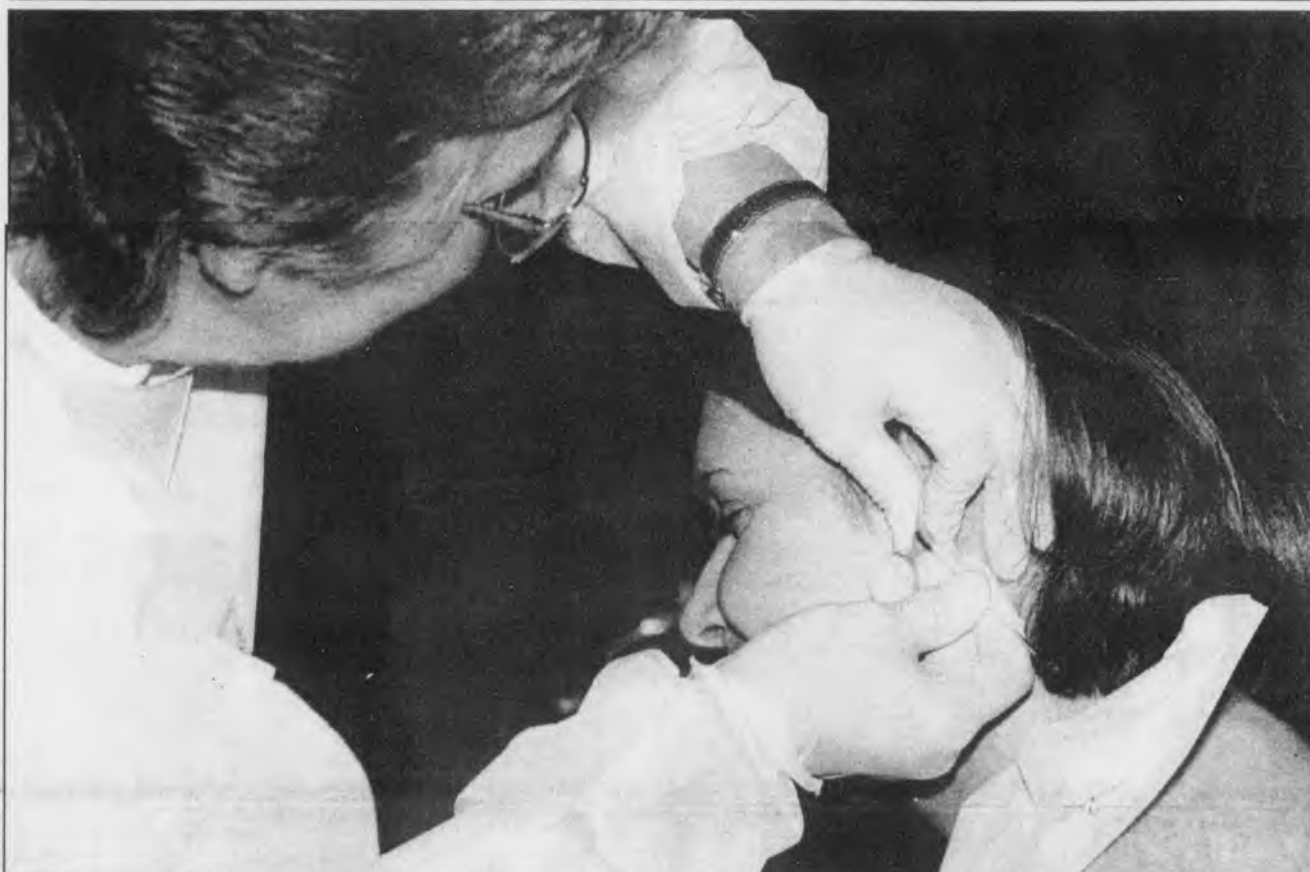
"We have wonderful people in all of those areas," she said. "What I hope is people are as excited as I am."

Dobb will leave her position as interim provost May 1 to assume the responsibilities of her new position. She came to BGSU in 1995 as dean of Libraries and Learning Resources. As dean, she was instrumental in creating Jerome Library's Electronic Reading Center and Ramona Cormier Faculty Reading Room.

Most recently as a result of her efforts, the University received a \$131,674 grant of state and federal funds to operate a center at Jerome Library that will help northwest Ohio businesses pursue government contacts.



Linda Dobb



MIKE LEHMKUHLE/
The BG News

Jill Boginski (left), freshman nursing major, gets pricked in the ear by nurse Barbara Lashaway, Tuesday, before giving blood in Olscamp.

Volunteer Rodney Vernon (below) comforts six time veteran blood donor, Betsy Wagener, junior psychology major, through the donation process.



Doctor uses own techniques to cope

NICOLE VALEK

STAFF WRITER

Examining yourself is one of the most important factors in achieving a good relationship, according to Dr. William Chesier.

After suffering from five years of mental anguish from battling accusations of planting false memories of sexual abuse in court, Chesier has discovered a lot.

"Open your eyes and realize it is just you," said Chesier.

By adhering to his own advice, "If there is only one thing you can count on it is your own behavior," Chesier was able to overcome his hardship.

After the five year battle, the jury found him innocent.

Chesier, a Ph.D. in philosophy and psychology, is a licensed psychologist that does public service announcements for college radio stations. He has a reputation for being disgustingly frank and for using extreme profanity in his PSAs.

According to Chesier, his clients and patients appreciate his frankness because he is not condescending when he talks to them. One of his PSAs was the only one that has ever been censored.

The reason he got involved in his career because he wanted to talk about reality particularly issues that affect university students.

One of his favorite topics to discuss is relationships. According to Chesier, communication is the key to a successful relationship.

His advice for young couples is not to dwell on the faults of your significant other.

"Listening and paying attention," are important in the success in any relationship, according to Chesier.

"Life is about survival and self-realization," he said.

He also stated that he learned the importance of living from his daughter.

"If you are going to do anything in life, have a child," said Chesier.

Red Cross hopes slogan will motivate students

MARISSA RUBIN

STAFF WRITER

Students are being encouraged to open their hearts this week for the American Red Cross Blood Drive.

The American Red Cross hopes that the theme, "Have a heart to help fill a heart" will motivate students to donate blood.

The blood drive will continue for the rest of this week. Students can donate 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. today in

Olscamp Hall and Thursday and Friday in the Student Services building.

"It makes you feel good, like you're helping," said Andrea Niese, a junior who donated blood yesterday. "The people make you feel comfortable. They talk to you so you're not scared."

But more blood donors are still needed.

"Demand for blood is so high right now," said Amanda See, University Blood Drive coordinator.

"We could use some more donors. We can give another person a chance at living an entire lifetime for an hour of our time. We have an equation, one hour of your time plus one unit of blood equals four lives saved."

Six hundred and thirty productive units of blood are needed this week. Every unit of blood could theoretically save four lives. If they reach their goal, 2,520 lives could be saved. This blood will be sent to 11 counties and 18 major hospitals.

The name of every donor will be placed on a paper heart and added to a large heart chart. Each heart represents a student's donation and the four possible lives he or she may have saved.

However, Jane Fruth, a blood drive team supervisor, said some people have reservations about giving blood because of safety issues.

"Blood testing is the safest it's ever been," Fruth said. "The blood collected is tested for things includ-

ing HIV I and II, Hepatitis A, B and C, as well as Syphilis. It also includes other antibody testing and a liver enzyme test."

The American Red Cross recommends that people don't give blood if they've gotten a tattoo recently. Donors must also be at least 17 years of age and weigh at least 100 lbs.

If students would like to donate but are not currently able, the bloodmobile will visit once more this semester April 10-12.

Student apathy hinders presidential race

AMYJO L. BROWN

ASSISTANT MANAGING EDITOR

The March 7th primary approaches and soon the presidential candidates will arrive in Ohio to begin campaigning for votes. But will anyone notice?

Most students will probably be on their spring break or out of the state at the time. Those that do stay in Ohio must have already registered to vote, but there's no guarantee that those registered will go to the polls. Most students, who are usually in their late teens and early twenties,

just aren't that concerned about politics.

"There is a cynicism among college students about politics," said Scott McClellan, a spokesperson for the George W. Bush campaign.

Why has this generation of students become so distanced from the political process? Have politicians alienated the student vote, or have <None>students become ignorant about the candidates?

"A lot of the issues the politicians care about don't affect students," said Jeff Peake, an associate political science professor. "They're [the

politicians] concerned about tax cuts and health care. Most students already have health care and most of them don't pay taxes."

On the other hand, students just may not be worried about tax cuts and health care. With a flourishing economy, today's college students might not see a need for change.

"Our generation is profoundly lucky," said Allison Friedman, National Students for Gore coordinator. "Students today have the privilege of entering into an economy

that will accommodate them."

However, those that are campaigning for the presidential nominations do feel students care about their issues.

"Students want to improve schools, save social security and change culture," said McClellan, who stressed that these were concerns Bush addresses.

Friedman said presidential hopeful Al Gore is trying to bridge the gap between the students and the candidates. Friedman, herself a student, took a year off from Stanford University to work on the Gore cam-

aign.

"Gore is fighting to make schooling more affordable," Friedman said. "He has four children our age who advise him on our issues. I feel like he's fighting for our future."

The McCain and Bradley campaigns did not return repeated calls for comments.

While the politicians believe they are attacking students' issues, the lack of student interest may also be frustration with politics in general.

"We're battling apathy in a disil-

● See APATHY, page 6.

Bowling Green State University
Undergraduate Student Government
Mission Statement

Our mission, as the Undergraduate Student Government of Bowling Green State University, is to act as an influential governing force, furthering the needs of the student body. We are entrusted to accurately represent these needs and initiate any action necessary to meet them. We will act with vision, and meet not only the current needs, but the future needs of the students as well. We will provide opportunities for students to learn, grow, and lead in an environment that promotes cooperation, respect for one another, intellectual and spiritual growth, creative imaginings, pride in a job well done, and any other values the student body holds dear.

USG decides on mission statement

BGSU core values central in heated debate

SARA GRAZIANO

STAFF WRITER

USG defined itself by enacting a mission statement at Monday's meeting.

The mission statement says USG will act as an "influential governing force, furthering the needs of the student body."

It goes on to state that it will provide opportunities to lead in an environment that promotes the University's core values.

Some members of USG opposed including the University's core values in the mission statement.

"Fundamentally, the core values are great things, but maybe there are loners who don't agree," said Ashley

Elder, at-large representative. "We need to represent the entire student body."

Kate Newnam, one of the bill's sponsors, was surprised by the debate.

"I was shocked," Newnam said. "These core values are a fundamental part of being a student at the University. If you knew these were the core values when you came, and you disagree, you shouldn't be here."

Elder disagreed, saying, "These aren't necessarily the values of everyone at the University. Anybody can establish core values, it's an individual process. I can establish core values for my apartment."

To help overcome opposition to

the core values being included in the bill, the bill was amended to add that USG will promote "any other values the student body holds dear."

USG also decided to freeze its budget for one week to clarify some budget problems. Day-to-day operating costs will still be paid, but no other expenditures will occur.

Joe Stuart, chair of the Finance Committee, said that the week will be put to good use.

"I'm going to launch an investigation to find out the exact situation of the budget, and determine steps to take to remedy it," Stuart said. "I want to overhaul the complete bud-

● See USG, page 6.

ON THE WEB

Should gay marriages be legal?

- Yes
- No

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View Results

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Give us your comments and vote about gay marriages at our site

WORLD

www.bgnews.com/ap

The World In Brief

Milosevic's government pledges to fight terrorism

BELGRADE, Yugoslavia (AP) — The government of President Slobodan Milosevic, whose key figures have been indicted for war crimes, pledged an all-out campaign against terrorism Tuesday after the defense minister became the latest prominent person assassinated in Belgrade.

The ultranationalist Serbian Radical Party accused American, French or British intelligence agents of being behind the murder of Pavle Bulatovic, who was gunned down Monday in a Belgrade restaurant. The party has been close to Milosevic's government for years.

"Serbia seems to be moving close to a sort of long-knives confrontation" brought about by discontent, instability and a lack of control in the country, U.S. Under Secretary of State Thomas Pickering told reporters in Spain.

As with so many of the assassinations in Yugoslavia in the past decade, the motive and possible perpetrators of Bulatovic's killing remained unclear Tuesday.

Regardless, the killing of the Milosevic ally from the smaller Yugoslav republic of Montenegro struck at the very heart of the Yugoslav president's government, stunning a public still reeling from last year's defeat in Kosovo and 10 years of blood and suffering.

The Nation In Brief

Students protesting sweatshops occupy Penn lobby

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — About a dozen University of Pennsylvania students occupied the lobby of the school president's office for a second day Tuesday to press for closer scrutiny of working conditions in factories that produce clothing with the Penn name.

After meeting with the students, President Judith Rodin said she still planned to wait for a report from a committee that will recommend how such labor conditions should be monitored and propose a code of conduct for manufacturers.

She said she expects a report by the panel of students, faculty and administrators on Feb. 29.

The members of Penn's chapter of United Students Against Sweatshops crowding the couch and carpet of Rodin's reception room said they would continue the sit-in to push for faster action.

"We'll see if we can make more headway," said Anna Roberts, 18, one of 13 students who had occupied the office since noon Monday, eating food brought in by supporters, napping in sleeping bags and blankets and listening to members of the group play bongo and recorder music.

Lawmakers back bill to suspend Belfast's powers

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LONDON — Lawmakers overwhelmingly passed a bill Tuesday that would allow the British government to strip Northern Ireland's fledgling administration of its powers this week — an emergency measure meant to prevent its total collapse.

The 352-11 House of Commons vote came after Britain's Northern Ireland Secretary Peter Mandelson warned that legislators had no choice following the Irish Republican Army's refusal to disarm in support of the province's 1998 peace accord.

There remained only one step before the bill passed to the upper House of Lords — a ceremonial final "reading" required under British law that does not necessarily entail a recorded vote. The measure is expected to become law Thursday once it goes through the House of Lords.

The major Protestant party within the power-sharing Cabinet, the Ulster Unionists, agreed to form the four-party coalition — which includes the IRA-linked Sinn Fein — only on condition that IRA would begin to disarm.

A disarmament commission's report last week said the IRA had made no concrete commitments, triggering the current crisis.

Mandelson, who transferred considerable responsibilities to the Belfast administration only two months ago, said in these circumstances it was "clearly foreseeable" that the body "will simply fall apart" if powers weren't immediately taken back.



Associated Press Photo

BOMB — Royal Ulster Constabulary forensic experts examine the scene of Sunday night's bomb attack at Mahon's Hotel in Irvinestown, Northern Ireland.

Crashes suggest Audi roadster too much

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

FRANKFURT, Germany — The sleek, ground-hugging Audi TT won acclaim for its futurist design and responsive handling when the German roadster came to market in 1998 — selling nearly 55,000 worldwide and 6,000 in the United States since.

But what was once a driver's dream machine has been tarnished by a series of deadly crashes in which speed-loving Germans pushed the high performance car to the limit, lost control and rocketed off the autobahn.

Panic over the car's safety peaked when the former East German road rally champion Peter Hommel totaled his TT and died last month.

Now Audi is responding to a

wave of consumer concern with a voluntary recall to retrofit the cars with the latest braking technology called ESP, or Electronic Stability Program. It's the second stage in a recall program that earlier upgraded the car's suspension and installed a rear spoiler.

"I wish to apologize formally to our TT customers for the uncertainty which has emerged in the last few months," he said. "Our initiative is intended to put an end to the uncertainty."

Audi is still haunted by memories of the sudden acceleration allegations that nearly extinguished the brand in American markets in the 1980s. Investigators eventually cleared the carmaker of wrongdoing, but Audi is moving quickly this time to refit the \$31,000 car despite its claim there are no design or manufacturing flaws.



Associated Press Photo

CRASH — The wreckage of an Audi TT car stands on a road near Eisenach, Germany. Audi TT owners have complained to the cars manufacturers about alleged design problems.

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FEBRUARY

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
9 Hamell On Trial Thrash Folk w/POE DITCH & PISS ELLIS	10 MIRTH W/SOLACE *Rock	11 Ray Fuller and the Bluesrockers *Blues	12 Lady Sunshine and the X-Band *Blues
16 JukeBox Soul BG's New Sound	17 EVOLOTTO W/Lazy American Workers *Hard Rock	18 The Reverend Right Time and the 1st Cuzins of Funk	19 60 Second Crush w/ Simple Neptune *Fast Driving Rock
23 EKOOSTIK HOOKAH OHIO'S #1 JAM BAND	24 The Sprags *Rock	25 MAGIC SLIM Blues Legend Black Swamp Arts Performer	Motor City Sheiks *Blues

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PAGE 3

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Denise Domanski columnist

NEEDLE HAYSTACK

This whole Valentine's Day business is a pain in many people's tushies. Mine included. But not because I'm all anti-relationship or something. I'm not. I just think it's really difficult to meet people around here.

I'm not going to complain about commuting and how much of a pain it is sometimes. Nope, this is about the plight of some of my friends and trying to meet people. Actually, not people, per se, but people of the opposite sex who they would consider more than a friendship with.

Take my friend Rhonda*. She is a lovely young woman. Studies biology and might want to work for the Peace Corps or the EPA or something. Really smart. Works out at the Rec. Works for Intramurals. Sees lots of people every day. Hasn't had a good date in months. It just seems like a fluke.

Or how about my friend Barbara Anne. She's a journalism kid. Works really hard at class but has an affection for having fun too. Writes for a paper. Another person who meets lots of people every day. She's such a great girl that she seems to have a problem getting rid of the guys that she dates. They just don't want to let go.

Another example of this is my pal Leroy Brown. He isn't bad at all. Not into superficial things. Really a deep thinker when you bypass the first impression of big dumb guy. We had a long conversa-

tion about waiting to see where a new relationship is going before engaging in anything majorly physical.

The whole thing I'm trying to get at here is that no matter how much all of these people are looking for an affection thing, they are having a hard time finding it.

Maybe it has something to do with no love lost for the bar scene. Honestly, think about how you dress to go to the bar. Ladies, I'm talking to you. I admit to wearing the black pants. But in my day (geez, how old do I sound), we wore shirts to the bar. We didn't wear handkerchiefs tied with strings and no bras. We didn't wear short skirts and dresses so drunk men could try to grope something they have no business touching. But that's another column. Okay, you're all tarted up for the weekend. But how do you look on Monday morning? Jeans, a long-sleeve tee shirt and your Adidas. Which one is the real you? Or is it somewhere in between?

We were sitting around the Newsroom one afternoon and stumbled into a discussion about the concept of six degrees of separa-

ration here at BG. We've determined that it simply can't be that many degrees. We were thinking more like two degrees. Especially if you've been around for a while. If you're a freshman, you may be up to three or four degrees, but you're never coming close to six.

What is all this about? I'm not sure. I suppose I'm trying to encourage you to expand your horizons. Geez, I sound like my mom. Say hi to that girl that sits next to you in that huge lecture. Ask the guy who you see every day in the computer lab how his day is going. Go to a party and take a friend with you. One never knows when the next amusement is sitting right next to you.

*All names have been changed to protect the innocent. But all the stories are true.

Denise Domanski is a junior TCOM major. If you are intrigued by any of the descriptions of her friends or just want to tell her what a lovely girl she is, e-mail her at ddomans@bgn.net.bgsu.edu.



This is Cupid, son of the Roman love goddess Venus. We here at Page 3* know that he can't aim his Bow of Love.

Click This! Sites that make Page 3 laugh

Has the constant barrage of hearts, valentines and chocolate made the destruction of Hallmark, Inc. your only real desire? Are you cynical? Jaded? Bitter? Depressed? As software entrepreneur Ron Avitzur says, "It's time to revel in it!"

CAPTAIN RIBMAN BY JOHN SPRENGELMEYER AND RICH DAVIS



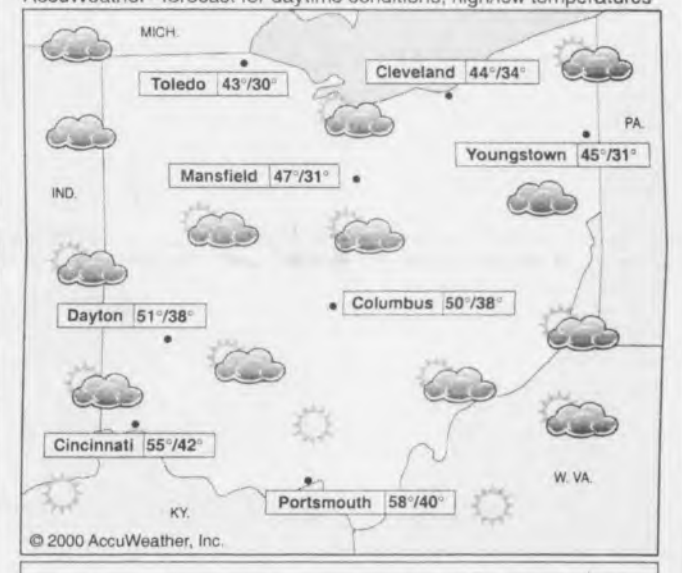
Comic strip panels for Captain Ribman featuring Meatco Jerky Crisps. Includes dialogue about 'SERIAL KILLER' and 'CEREAL KILLER'.

Crossword puzzle grid with clues for Across and Down.

CROSS word

- LOOKING FOR ANSWERS IN ALL THE WRONG PLACES? GET SOME HELP FROM THE ANSWER KEY — www.bgnews.com

Ohio weather Wednesday, Feb. 9



Weather forecast for Thursday (Haze), Friday (Rain), and Saturday (Snow) with high/low temperatures.

TV GUIDE SECTION

Table with columns for time slots (6:00-11:30) and rows for different TV channels (ABC, CBS, FOX, etc.) listing programs.

2000 FRATERNITY RECRUITMENT PRESENTS... The Ideal Fraternity Man. Includes list of traits and 'YOU MAKE THE CALL!! TONIGHT' advertisement.

OPINION

www.bgnews.com/opinion

Yoga helps reach serenity, feet

The life of a college student simply couldn't be more rigorous.

You have to attend classes, you feel compelled to try to pass them, and on top of all that, there's scrounging up spare change for beers on Fridays.

That's a heck of a lot of stress. What you need is yoga.

In fact, I don't think there's anything you need more urgently. Yoga has been the backbone of internal harmony for thousands of years and there's no reason it can't bring you harmony as well.

Last semester I attended yoga classes right here in Bowling Green. It burst my previous misconceptions of yoga, which involved a lot of nudity and humming, often in the middle of a bloody riot you might see on TV.

Wherever you find bad karma, you'll find some nut reaching around for inner peace while everyone else is sensibly cracking one another open with tire irons.

But here in Bowling Green, you can find inner peace right at the Woodland Mall. No matter how many times you've passed through the Woodland Mall on the way to JC Penny, you have probably not noticed rows of people curled into fetal positions only feet away. That's because they're behind a silver partition that says "Lifepaths: a Journey to Wellness" on the outside.

On the inside, Dr. Lori Willmarth-Booth is leading them to a state of serenity.

To achieve serenity — yoga-style — Lori plays relaxation tapes.



Michelle Reiter
Columnist
OPINION

Of course, things can distract you from achieving inner peace. Somebody might be beside you who has not twisted properly, and thinks you're an imposter who's probably lying around having the nerve to suffer inner turmoil.

He or she will say, "Psst." You'll probably think this is a rare tropical bird from the relaxation tape and think nothing of it. Then they'll tug on one of your improperly twisted limbs.

"You're doing it wrong," someone will hiss, and you'll look over to see a woman who has molded herself into a proper receptacle for inner peace.

She is breathing in a steady, obedient manner and is emanating the general feeling that if there was a riot she'd be right, smack in the middle of it humming serenely.

"Your foot needs to be turned more to the left, not the right," she'll say kindly.

Boiling over with inner turmoil, you'll thank her profusely and attempt to make the suggested corrections.

Soon she'll be physically molding you into a proper yoga position with her own hands, yanking your limbs into peaceful knots. At this point, you might start to feel like achieving inner peace is not one of your talents.

But don't give up, because at the very end will come the fetal position, and you'll be a whiz at that.

The fetal position is the most attractive part of yoga.

It's a position I can relate to, and

the position I would surely assume if a riot actually did break out. Instead of humming I would just whimper pitifully.

The people with tire irons would probably take me hostage, and carve hostile messages into my forehead. But I would feel very harmonious about that.

Yoga is a warm, soft way to dispel the inner turmoil within, if only for an hour. It may not inspire ardent pacifism, but it will teach the very things that are crucial to inner peace: lying on your back and staring at the ceiling.

If you don't think it's true, try it sometime. Everyone needs some time in their day to think, or not think, whatever the case may be.

Eventually, most people become disciplined enough to practice yoga in the privacy of their own homes and no longer need to do it at the Woodland Mall.

I myself now spend an even larger percentage of my life in a fetal position. Until you reach that state, you can be guided into a variety of serene yoga positions for your spiritual pleasure two nights a week. After it's over, there's a Greek restaurant where you can supplement your inner peace with some greek pastries.

Nothing could be more harmonious than that.

Michelle Reiter is a BG News columnist. She can't be reached by phone because she is currently in the fetal position, but leave her an e-mail at reitem@bgnet.bgsu.edu

PEOPLE on the street

Question: What do you think the USG's mission should be?



Cari Prunty
Sophomore
Social Work
"Fight for smoking lounges in dorms."



Jessica Miller
Sophomore
International Business
Marketing
"We need better food on campus."



Nick Lewis
Freshman
Business
"Lower the drinking age."



Mike Drane
Sophomore
Computer Science
"Work on getting classes cancelled when it gets cold."



Dave Simon
Sophomore
Business
"Add a statue of Chad Niemic."

Letters to the Editor

Exposing the 'real truth' about 'The Real World'

I guess everyone knows that Puck said some non-choice things to me out at a press conference following "The Real World" show that was brought to us by our infamous UAO.

I have heard a lot of rumors surfacing from the incident that I would like to clear up, while answering my other favorite question, "What is it like to meet a real celebrity?"

Puck is not a celebrity — he is a small, dirty man.

Now, for an explanation of the events. Puck seemed to me, to enjoy attention a bit too much. He lavished in the spotlight of everyone that would come up to greet him.

I have heard that he made appearances in BG and Toledo bars over his two day stay here and drew attention to himself if no one recognized him immediately.

He also made an appearance to Kreisler quad Wednesday night at 9:30 p.m.

Why?

I asked for an interview with him and instead of us meeting in South Hall, where the UAO offices are, or in a private room, or anywhere else on or off campus, Puck chose the lobby of Ashley Hall.

A cry for attention? Perhaps.

While there, his voice and disgusting appearance (Yes, he must look better on camera) attracted an audience, of course.

He then quit his meandering, which involved saying anything offensive, while not answering a single question. He did work the crowd showman style, signing autographs with large, shooting penises and skateboards and telling everyone to stop f*cking.

He then decidedly did not show up for a personal interview that did not involve a public place or screaming fans.

Next time we met was after the show. The show itself turned from a positive discussion about college life to embarrassing questions directed to the cast.

Puck, of course, made sure most of the attention focused on him, interrupting fellow cast mates and saying anything disgusting to get attention.

The press conference that followed proved to be full of the same sophomoric attention grabbers by Puck, which is why I think our little dispute occurred.

After asking a question of the entire cast, Puck chose not to answer because he said I was 'lame'. After directing the question back to everyone on the panel, Puck attempted to make sure I received no answer by yelling and letting fly a string of obscenities.

After being ignored, he attacked me personally and I did respond with, "Do you crave media attention?"

Unprofessional, I know. So he attacked me personally, tried to kick me out of the press conference and then left himself.

The end.

So, what do I think of Puck? I think he must crave attention, which was why he went on the show in the first place. He was exploited and he was the only one that savored every minute of it.

And, why not? He was paid over 20,000 dollars to appear on the Real World-San Francisco to be offensive and rude. He earned every penny.

Chasity Lester
cl Lester@bgnet.bgsu.edu

Fellow Falconers, lend me your ears! Today I bring you into the world of make-believe. I am going to tell you how people dissected fictional heroes and tell you about their hidden messages.

I personally don't believe in these messages, but though they would provoke thoughts in your own head.

Next time you see these characters, you may think of them differently. I will cover Tinky Winky, Snow White, Bert and Ernie, Star Wars, Archie and Batman, but not literally cover.

First off there is the Teletubbie named Tinky Winky.

According to Rev. Jerry Falwell, Tinky Winky is gay. He says this because Tinky Winky carries a purse, has an unmanly voice, and blah blah blah! It doesn't matter what Jerry has to say!

I say that Tinky Winky is just a big purple piece of monkey crap that talks for the use of educating young kids. Tinky Winky is not some gay person walking our streets, he isn't teaching our kids to be gay. He is educating kids with skills they will need in school.

Next is Snow White. People say that it is pretty shady that Snow White is in the middle of the woods — living alone with seven dwarfs.

Are these people just suggesting that Snow White is some who is having an orgy with seven sex-hungry midgets? Once again, I must disagree with this.

Snow White is just as she is in the story plot. She isn't there for sex on the side. I'm sure that there is probably a porn made after it, but you won't be finding that here in BG!

Then there are always Bert and Ernie from Sesame Street.

People say that these two are gay. Just because they are always seen together and live together, even sharing moments with rubber ducky in the tub. Well damn, college students must be gay because in dorm rooms, people are supposed to be with the same sex.

BGSU has a majority of gay people according to the Bert and Ernie theory. Why must we be gay if we



Brian Ranzenberger
Columnist
OPINION

live with a person of the same sex? Aren't we allowed to hang around with friends who are of the same sex? I just wouldn't be singing rubber ducky with anybody though.

Bert and Ernie were just best of friends; they aren't gay or even part of an evil cult. Don't forget they these two are also fictional, just like the minds of some people.

I will now explain "Star Wars" and the comic Archie which I got from watching "Chasing Amy." In the movie Star Wars was being discussed in racial terms.

Lando Calirissian is viewed as a black hero according to whites. Don't forget that Lando turned his back on Han Solo when Vader was in town. To the blacks, Star Wars is about how whites keep the black man down. Luke Skywalker, a blonde, blue eyed white is pitted against the black Darth Vader. Luke gets a clan of whites and goes to break up Darth Vader's party. Luke Skywalker is making the world safe for whites.

The whole Jedi business is also a big insult to the blacks. When Darth Vader took off his helmet it revealed that he was a crusty old white man in which tells us that deep inside all blacks want to be white.

This is all bullshit! It is only a fictional sci-fi story in which it is good versus evil, nothing else.

Now as for Archie and his comic book friends, it is another sexual matter.

Archie was labeled by one person as a pussy-hungry male, and as homosexual by another person. The

argument on behalf of Archie being gay is based on his relationship with Jughead. Archie was the "bitch" and Jughead was the "butch."

This is said because Jughead wore a crown meaning that he was king of Archie's world. Mr. Weatherbee was also said to have been boning Archie.

Archie also couldn't settle on Betty or Veronica. On the other hand Archie may not have settled on Betty or Veronica because he possibly wanted both of them in a three way. This would make him an experimental sex-hungry man.

The way I see Archie and his crew is that they are a fun loving bunch who live the everyday stereotypical high school life of the past times.

Finally, from my pop culture class, I learned the idea of Batman and Robin being gay.

I never had the idea of Batman and Robin being gay until the reading from that class. As a kid watching the re-runs of the black and white, and also the color version of the Batman TV series.

Batman and Robin would always say campy things in their show, especially right after a scene with a woman. They needed the comfort of one another. Also, who would go around wearing ridiculous outfits and expect to be taken seriously?

You have to be a little fruity to do that. Batwoman and girl were only brought in to try and throw off the view of Batman and Robin being gay. There were just too much info giving tips that Batman and Robin were possibly gay to cover in my column so check it out yourself.

Batman and Robin are not gay; they were just weirdos fighting super-villains who posed little threat. I don't go viewing everything as if it contains homosexual content or racial content and I hope you don't either.

Brian Ranzenberger writes for The BG News and likes to wear spandex tights and moo around campus like Supercow, e-mail him at dranimal7@collegeclub.co

What is your opinion of gay marriages?

Should they be legal?

Yes / No

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Letters to the Editor Policy

Do you agree with all of this? We doubt it. Write us and let us know where you stand.

■ **Letters to the Editor.** Letters are to be less than 500 words (less than two typed, double-spaced pages). These are usually in response to a current issue on the BGSU campus or Bowling Green area.

■ **Guest Columns.** Longer pieces (between 600-800 words) can be submitted as Guest Columns. Guest columns will be subject to space limitations and considered based on topic relevance and quality. To submit a Guest Column or Letter, bring a copy on a labeled disk (Microsoft Word, Mac compatible) to 210 West Hall and leave it in the Opinion Editor's mailbox. Or, send it on e-mail to tran@bgnet.bgsu.edu and give it the subject, "Letter to the Editor".

Also, you can check out back issues of the Opinion page on the web at www.bgnews.com.

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210 West Hall
Bowling Green State University
Bowling Green, Ohio 43403
Phone: (419) 372-6966
E-mail: bgnews@listproc.bgsu.edu
Website: www.bgnews.com



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NATION

www.bgnews.com/ap

Medical examiner says Diallo hit while on ground

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

ALBANY, N.Y. — Several of the police bullets that hit Amadou Diallo struck him as he was falling or was on the ground, with one slug entering the bottom of his shoe, a medical examiner testified Tuesday at the murder trial of four New York City officers.

The trial of the four white officers has focused on whether they thought the unarmed West African immigrant was a threat when they fired at him in the vestibule of his apartment building in the Bronx last year.

Using morgue photos and testifying in sometimes gruesome detail, Dr. Joseph Cohen showed jurors how the 19 bullets crisscrossed Diallo's body from chest to toe.

Cohen said Diallo would have been paralyzed early in the shooting by a bullet that pierced his aorta and damaged his spinal cord. He said the same bullet would have caused Diallo to fall within two seconds.

By the time the last of 41 shots had been fired, another bullet had entered the bottom of Diallo's right shoe and exited the top of a toe, Cohen said. He said several other bullets entered Diallo's body while he was falling or already down.

"You couldn't be upright to sustain [the toe wound], unless someone was underneath the floor shooting upward," Cohen said.

Cohen, who now works with the Riverside County, Calif., medical examiner's office, was the last of 12 prosecution witnesses. The defense was expected to begin its case today.

Kenneth Boss, 28, Sean Carroll, 36, Edward McMellon, 27, and Richard Murphy, 27, could get

25 years to life in prison if convicted.

Their lawyers claim Diallo ignored police orders to halt, then pulled out a black wallet that appeared to be a gun.

They also say the bullets from the officers' high-powered semi-automatic weapons were fired fast enough for Diallo to stay on his feet, possibly up against a wall, throughout the shooting.

Three other prosecution witnesses testified hearing a pause of up to a few seconds in the barrage of gunfire.

Of the 19 bullets that hit Diallo, only three remained in his body, Cohen said.

He focused on a bullet that hit Diallo in the chest, tore through his aorta — the main vessel carrying blood to the heart — hit his spine and exited his back. Because there was little or no bleeding from other wounds, Cohen said he believes the aortic wound was "inflicted early in the sequence."

Another bullet hit the lower part of Diallo's right leg and lodged behind his knee, Cohen said. For it to enter at that angle, Diallo must have been down, he said.

On cross-examination, defense attorney Stephen Worth accused Cohen of "grasping at straws."

Cohen admitted he could not be certain which bullet hit Diallo first. He also conceded he made up to 20 revisions in his autopsy report.

Diallo's mother, Kadiatou Diallo, who has attended the trial each day since it began last week, was not in the courtroom during Cohen's testimony. At one point, Justice Joseph Teresi barred a crime scene photo of the body from being shown on television; the trial is being broadcast live.



Associated Press Photo

PLANE — A Los Angeles City firefighter examines one of two small airplanes that collided in the air yesterday in the San Fernando Valley region of Los Angeles.

Plane collision kills 4 over Los Angeles

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

ZION, Ill. — Two small planes collided Tuesday over a hospital parking lot, and one plane crashed onto the roof of the medical center.

There were no survivors on either plane, said Zion Fire Chief David LaBelle, but he did not know how many people were on the planes.

Some employees of Midwestern Regional Medical Center suffered minor burns, but no patients or workers were killed, said Roger Cary, the hospital president. He would give no further information.

Les Mussared said he was standing in a parking lot near the hospital when the planes crashed.

"I looked up because I heard a

gurgling noise. I saw two small planes collide in the air — they pulled away from each other," Mussared said.

One plane started diving like it had no power and then crashed into a nearby street, Mussared said. The other came down on the hospital's roof, blowing out windows on the top floor and creating billows of smoke, he said.

One plane was a Zlin, a small low-wing aircraft, and the other was a Cessna 172. Preliminary reports indicated both planes were approaching the Waukegan Airport, near the site of the collision, said FAA spokeswoman Elizabeth Isham Cory.

Zion is about 45 miles north of downtown Chicago, near the Illinois-Wisconsin line.

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CITY

www.bgnews.com/city

Prescribed burn helps local wildlife

KIMBERLY DUPPS
STAFF WRITER

Monica Ostrand, naturalist for Bowling Green City Parks and Recreation, addressed Bowling Green City Council Monday for permission to conduct a prescribed burn at the Oak Savannah Nature Preserve.

The prescribed burn will be used as a management tool for the park. Ostrand said a prescribed burn will help ward off species that are a threat to the indigenous plants of the preserve.

"Prescribed burning helps to control the invasive species that we want to maintain and keep out of the area in order for the native plants and animals to flourish," Ostrand said.

A prescribed burn will also stimulate the growth of native plants, help grass to form a thick sod and takes the nutrients from dead matter and puts it directly into the soil.

"It also helps restore the area after farming because by burning it, it opens up the ground so sunlight reaches the ground," Ostrand said. "It heats it up more quickly, which helps the plants to germinate and grow more quickly. So it's actually a stimulant."

Ostrand wants to stimulate the growth of the two state-listed endangered wild flower species that are indigenous to the area.

The area is one of the few original prairies in Ohio and prescribed burning would allow wild flowers and prairie grasses to grow that are often inhibited by woody species at the preserve.

The woody species, however, will help the prescribed burn from getting out of control, according to Jennifer Lindon, research administrator for the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, division of natural areas and preserves.

Lindon would also lead the burn

team that would conduct the one-half acre burn at Oak Savannah Nature Preserve.

The burn would take place at the latter end of the burn season, which is from the end of February to mid-April. The burn would happen this late because of the 30-day waiting period mandated by the city and the time needed to obtain the necessary permits, including one from the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency.

With permits and permission from the city, the "burn boss," Lindon, will choose a date that would have desirable weather conditions. Such conditions would be, according to Lindon, a breezy day and a humidity level that does not constitute as low.

Once a date is picked, park officials, the fire department and residents in the vicinity will be notified.

Citizens were concerned that nearby residences could be at risk of damage if the prescribed burn were to get out of control. However, Lindon reassured that the burn team is prepared to contain and extinguish a fire, if it goes outside the perimeters of where the burn is taking place.

The area chosen by Ostrand was selected because it was managed by high school students last year and is the best candidate. The students managed the area with other tools that the preserve currently uses.

Among the methods are mowing, pulling and herbicide, but they are not as economic or time-efficient as burning.

The burn will be conducted at no cost to the City and will take approximately an hour, including set up and clean up, according to Lindon.

"This is an exceptional opportunity to demonstrate Oak Savannah for Bowling Green," Ostrand said. "It's a unique site throughout the area."

Local auto repair shops, dealers, large chains compare

ANNE MOSS
STAFF WRITER

These days cars are a necessity, and when something is not right with the car then it becomes necessary to fix it. Where is the best place to get a car fixed?

Would it make more sense to take a car to a large automotive repair chain, the dealership from which the car was bought or a local trustworthy repairman?

In recent years, large auto repair chains have entered Bowling Green hoping to increase business for the corporation that they work for. But on side streets and main roads in Bowling Green, independent, local car service technicians have been in business far longer than these chains.

Of course, every business thinks that theirs is the best, but customers are the final judge.

In Bowling Green most of the repair shops maintain business from both seasonal University students and permanent residents.

Jim Freeworth, owner of Jim's Automotive Service, has been running his business since 1964.

"I have customers that have come to me since the first year I was open," Freeworth said. "So I would say that a higher percentage of my customers are residents."

Owen Spencer, owner and operator of Spencer Automotive Service, has built a large clientele of permanent residents since he opened his business in 1955.

"I have customers' cars that I've worked on, and I have worked on their kids' cars," Spencer said.

Procare and Midas, both in Bowling Green, say that they have an equal mix of business from both students and permanent residents.

"Business picks up among students right before it is time to go home for breaks," said Stacy Willis, manager of Procare.

This may be because many students trust large chain repair shops as opposed to local businesses. But Dennis Johnson, assistant manager of Midas, thinks that trust in automotive repair is learned through first-hand experience and by exploring the options available. Permanent residents have only had about ten years to become familiar with the people and techniques at Midas, which opened in 1989.

Many people would rather go to a dependable shop that has a reputation for excellent service and experienced workers, according to Dave Sippel, owner of University Honda, which opened in 1988.

"Students with Hondas would more than likely go to the dealership

rather than go to a large chain or a local shop," Sippel said.

Combined, Spencer and Freeworth have close to 100 years of experience. Spencer, 77, has been doing automotive repairs since he was 18. Freeworth has over 36 years experience with auto repair.

Spencer thinks that there is no comparison between the workmanship of his shop and a large chain because the large chains hire mostly beginners. Although Spencer and Freeworth started working on a different class of cars, they both said that they have been keeping up with trends and advances within the automotive industry, and that their skills are just as good as another's.

"Considering that I have [worked on] cars that Procare has worked on, I don't think that they are any better than me," Freeworth said.

Procare hires their technicians based on Automotive Service Excellence (ASE) certification. Each repairperson has to be certified for at least three years and have some extra experience.

Midas, however, will hire anyone that can do "the Midas job," and can supply their own tools, according to Johnson. He said more experienced applicants are more likely to get hired, but Midas does not depend on ASE certification.

A dealership, such as University Honda, prides itself on an excellent reputation for service. Its workers are experienced in all aspects of car repair, said Sippel.

"We were rated best dealership and best service technicians in 1996," he said.

Sippel said the dealership only does the necessary work, and does not search the car for other problems.

Most of the repair shops charge on an hourly rate. The amount of time is determined by the Approved Motorists flat rate. While most shops charge by the book, Honda has rates based on specific work that is done.

Freeworth charges between \$40-\$50 an hour based on manufacturers' criteria. Spencer also goes by the Approved Motorists flat rates per hour.

"We are not the cheapest in town, but we are also not as expensive as a dealership, and we offer the best warranty around," Willis said of her Procare shop.

Johnson said Midas can be higher or lower than their competitors, based on its car repair database.

"We are more concerned with doing the job right the first time," Johnson said. "If you do it right the first time, price shouldn't matter too much."

City Blotter

Compiled by Stephanie Sizemore

Thursday:

Carol Reed reported that someone tried to break into Burger King north Thursday. One of the drive-thru windows was broken but nothing was missing.

Lynda Hunter reported that someone took her wheelchair from outside her apartment on Clough Street.

Jamie Giambone was issued a parking ticket for parking across the sidewalk on South College.

Kathy Koons reported that she is being harassed by Kelly Mull. Koons claimed that Mull told her she was going to make her life miserable.

Mark Anthony was arrested for theft at Krogers.

Officer Brian Crites reported that he found a bag of marijuana under his passenger seat. He reported that he had transported a subject that had been arrested for trafficking marijuana earlier that day.

Sunoco food mart reported that a maroon vehicle failed to pay \$11.50 in gasoline. Police were unable to locate the vehicle.

Keri Marten reported that she left her residence locked and when she returned home her door was wide open. Police checked her apartment and found nothing suspicious.

Friday:

Brian Bihn was arrested for underage consumption of alcohol on the 900 block of Thurstin.

Eric Henschel reported a domestic dispute at the 600 block of Frazee. Michael Murray was cited for

public urination outside Dairy Mart east.

Joshua Byers was cited for underage consumption and disorderly conduct while being intoxicated on S. Main Street.

Jeff Householder was cited for DUI and reasonable control after fish-tailing his vehicle in the parking lot of BW3's.

Matthew Wayne was cited for underage consumption at Mark's Pub. He claimed to be holding the beer for a friend.

Josh Spurgeon was cited for public urination in campus Lot 2.

Stardust employee, Matt Buckland, reported that a female was stranded at the club. The female made arrangements for her sister to pick her up.

Tony Villarreal reported a loud party and possible hazing on the 100 block of S. Enterprise. When police arrived there were no signs of a loud party or hazing.

Kathy Dieterich, Bowling Green, reported that someone drove through her yard on S. College, hitting a large bush valued at \$50.

Mark Parnell reported that his bike had been stolen from a house on the 800 block of N. College. The bike was valued at \$500 and has 13 water bottles and three baskets.

Chris Neifer requested a trap for his backyard to capture opossums.

Kirk Koble was cited for DUI, open container and speeding on the corner of Napoleon and Cherry Hill.

Patsy Lambert requested a trap

for an opossum under her back deck on the 200 block of S. Prospect.

A hit-skip was reported in campus Lot 2.

Richard Rose reported that the gas cap was off of his car and the inside smelled like gasoline. He told police that someone had set his other vehicle on fire a couple of weeks ago and requested extra patrol for the night.

Nicholas Rizzardi was cited for DUI, reasonable control, and underage consumption on the 100 block of Napoleon.

Rodney Hancock was cited for open container at Dairy Queen.

Ben Aaron was cited for DUI and underage possession on the corner of Frazee and N. Summit.

Saturday:

Kim Hefflinger reported a hurt rabbit at Lamplight Court Apartments. The rabbit had paralyzed back legs.

A hit-skip was reported on the 300 block of N. Prospect.

Donald Weaver was caught trying to pass bad checks at Marco's Pizza.

Zach Smith was cited for underage possession of alcohol on the corner of E. Wooster and State.

Brent Bell was cited for disorderly conduct while intoxicated on the 100 block of E. Wooster.

Seth Roberts was cited for public urination on the corner of N. Enterprise and E. Evers.

Eric Miller was cited for underage consumption. When police found him he was unable to stand or

talk.

Dan Klanac was cited for open container and underage possession on the 100 block of E. Court Street.

Kris Roth reported two males fighting in the parking lot and swearing on S. Summit.

David Carrier was cited for underage possession on the 900 block of Thurstin.

John Mazarella was cited for underage possession on the 900 block of Thurstin.

Matt Arnold reported that someone broke into his truck and took over \$1000 in property.

A black wallet was lost at Mark's Pub Sunday morning. The wallet contained a checkbook, debit card and \$2 in cash.

Melvin Gribble reported that someone damaged the library drop box Saturday night.

Shannon Lozada reported that someone broke her windshield during the night. The damage was estimated at \$300.

Melissa Blum reported that someone stole a check for \$140 from her apartment on E. Merry.

Matthew Cooper was cited for disorderly conduct on the 400 block of Lehman.

Ryan Powers was cited for underage possession and open container on E. Wooster.

Matthew Crouse was cited for speeding, underage possession and carrying a concealed weapon.

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Flashing Our Briefs

BG News Briefs

Blood mobile rolls into BG

It's time to donate again. The BGSU bloodmobile will be here today at Olscamp Hall 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The bloodmobile will also be taking donations Thursday, Feb. 10 and Friday, Feb. 11 at the Student Services building 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Musical faculty sponsors composers' forum

The BGSU Faculty Artist Series continues with a Faculty Composers' Forum starting at 8 p.m. Feb. 9 in Bryan Recital Hall of the Moore Musical Arts Center. The program will feature works by BGSU music composition faculty. The event is free for all who attend.

"Accidental Death of an Anarchist" performed in University Hall

Anarchy hits stage

The controversial comedy "Accidental Death of an Anarchist" will be staged by the BGSU Theatre at 8 p.m. Feb. 9-12 and at 2 p.m. Feb. 13 in the Joe E. Brown Theatre, located on the first floor of University Hall. Tickets are \$4 each.

SRC offers class for women

Recreational sports is offering a class for women to learn the basics of weight training. "Women on Weights" will be held Feb. 9, 23 and March 1 from 12 p.m. to 1 p.m. in the Student Recreation Center weight room.

The cost of the series is \$20. To register, call the recreation center at 2-2711 or sign up at the center's main office.

Seminars on library offered

Sixty-minute seminars on library research will be offered through Feb. 18 in the Jerome Library Electronic Reading Room (Room 125).

Campus fraternity sings song of love on Valentine's Day

DUSTIN WHITE

STAFF WRITER

Looking for a different approach to gift-giving this Valentine's Day? The music fraternity has an answer, or in this case, a song.

The Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia fraternity is selling Valentine's Day serenades for loved ones that can purchased up until Thursday. The cost is

\$10.

They will be venturing around Bowling Green on Thursday night from 8-10 p.m. delivering singing serenades.

The serenades themselves are part of a long tradition in the fraternity.

"The serenades actually serve three purposes — they are a way for people to show their loved ones how much they care, the fraternity is able

to share their music, and it acts as a fundraiser for music activities," said Graham Raulerson, a junior education major and president of the fraternity.

Twenty men from the fraternity, clad in tuxedos, will grace any young lady, or man for that matter, with two or three "love" theme songs and a long-stemmed red rose.

Jeff Clark, junior music education major and music director of the

fraternity, said, "We also serenade the sororities on Sweetest Day. It is always great to see the look on a girl's face when we show up on their doorstep bearing a rose in hand.

"The Valentine's Day serenades are one of the highlights of the year," Clark said. "The guys really enjoy the fact that they have made such an impact by simply singing a song."

Phi Mu Alpha works to promote

music in the Bowling Green community. One of the group's primary goals is to help everyone have an understanding of music's important role in the enrichment of the human spirit.

Serenade bookings are still being accepted. The cost is \$10 and is bur-sarable. For more information on how you can give your sweetheart something to remember, call Jeff at 372-4271.

USG

Continued from page 1.

get process and make us fiscally responsible and efficient."

Andy Tremsky, the newly sworn-in chief of staff of USG president Clint Gault's cabinet, also has suggestions about the budget.

"Both the Senate and the cabinet are working together as a team to solve these problems," Tremsky said. "Those problems resulted from the organization learning to work together as a team."

Tremsky advocated a new

process for USG's spending.

"We're trying to implement a procedure where cabinet members work to get items donated by the community or the University. If they are unsuccessful, they can come to me or Clint to have their expenditures approved."

USG also passed a bill to add a shuttle stop at the Technology Building. Originally the bill also called for a shuttle route running in the opposite direction as the current route, but research showed this plan has been unsuccessful in the past.

"According to Stacie Enriquez from the office of parking and traffic, when they did this in the past, they had a down year between two progressive years," Elder said. "Ridership picked up again when they switched it back."

Jason Sobota, sponsor of the bill, admitted he didn't research the proposal before writing the bill.

"The reason is, I wanted to have USG backing me when I went to Parking and Traffic with this proposal," Sobota said. "This was something my constituents said they

wanted, so I tried to get it as soon as possible."

Elder said it is important to research bills before writing them.

"We should consult the people who are hired to be experts in these things," Elder said. "To just push ahead with this bill would be sacrificing all the students for a few of them."

APATHY

Continued from page 1.

lusioned time," Friedman said.

Between corruption and scandal, current political leaders may be the cause of frustration.

"You've had a Washington D.C. mindset that has been more about tearing people down and pinning people," McClellan said.

As a result, students seem less concerned about politics and more concerned about the character of their leaders, according to Peake.

Lack of student interest in politics may also be a negative stigma given to the younger generation. It's still early in the presidential primaries, and according to Sarah Tomeshefski, student city council

representative for Bowling Green, students tend to vote more in presidential elections.

"They'll hear a lot more about it because it's covered nationally, unlike state and local elections," she said.

As students gain more information about the candidates, they may be encouraged to nominate or elect

one into leadership.

One thing is for sure, though.

"If they vote, students have the ability to be extremely influential.

We're such a large group,"

Tomeshefski said.

Budget of \$1 million may be increased

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

COLLEGE STATION, Texas — The \$1 million budgeted for the investigation of the deadly Texas A&M bonfire collapse already has been allocated and more funds likely will be needed.

A breakdown released by A&M on Monday shows the biggest allocation is \$450,000 for Kroll Associates, one of five companies assisting the independent commission investi-

gating the Nov. 18 accident which killed 12 and injured 27.

New York-based Kroll is coordinating the inquiry into the collapse of a 50-foot tower of logs and will interview more than 250 officials, participants and witnesses.

The commission should be prepared to request additional funds, Kent Lietzau, one of two chiefs of staff for the bonfire commission, told the Bryan-College Station Eagle.

"The budgets for each team were based on the bare essentials," Lietzau said.

A&M already has spent more than \$292,000 on costs related to the accident, including overtime for emergency workers and plane tickets for students to attend out-of-state funerals.

A&M President Ray Bowen has said all investigation costs will be covered by A&M's reserve fund and no taxpayer money will be used.

College blaze destroys artifacts

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

DAYTON, Tenn. — Rare books, computers and a natural history collection were destroyed in a fire at tiny Bryan College, but few papers tied to the famed Scopes "Monkey Trial" were damaged, the curator said.

"We have probably lost no more than 5 percent, if that much," Richard Cornelius said Monday of the college's memorabilia from the 1925 trial of John Scopes, a science teacher prosecuted for teaching evolution.

The most significant loss: William Jennings Bryan's personal copy of Charles Darwin's "Origin of Species."

Bryan, namesake for the non-denominational Christian college, argued in support of Tennessee's ban on teaching evolution in public schools. Clarence Darrow argued against it in the celebrated trial in Dayton, 35 miles north of Chattanooga.

Scopes was convicted, but the verdict was overturned on a technicality.

Bryan College, founded in 1930, kept portions of its "Monkey Trial" collection of photos, recordings, newspaper clippings and other library materials on all three floors of the campus' main building.

The building caught fire Sunday, but only the top floor burned. Smoke and water damaged the other floors, but the severity was not known.

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ENTERTAINMENT

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Hamell on Trial at Howard's

KEVIN AEH
ENTERTAINMENT WRITER

When Rolling Stone says a musician is "bald, bold and superb," chances are the musician puts on a good show.

You can be the judge this Wednesday when the superb Hamell on Trial plays Howard's Club H.

Hamell on Trial is the name of a band that consists of one man, Edward Hamell, and his guitar. That type of combination could get one accused of being a folk singer, but Hamell on Trial is a touch of folk with a punk edge.

The Dallas Morning News once described Hamell on Trial as the "Natural Born Killers" set to an acoustic guitar.

The acoustic guitar probably gets Hamell a reputation of being a folk singer, but his story-telling style of song writing also helps feed into the assumption. He draws inspiration from what's going on around him. In his songs, he tells things they way there are with a bit of humor and irony.

The inspiration from his latest CD, *Choochtown*, came when Hamell was working in a bar in New York. The characters in the songs



Photo Provided

HAMEL— Edward Hamell and his guitar will both be performing tonight at Howard's Club H

include drug dealers and regular thugs. He tells their stories in the character's voice with own his distinctive singing/talking style.

Because the same characters on CD appear in different songs and the songs tell one big story, *Choochtown* can be considered a concept album.

Unlike other concept albums, the songs on *Choochtown* can stand alone and don't necessarily need to be heard in a certain order.

Hamell on Trial will bring *Choochtown* to Bowling Green tonight at Howard's.

In the Dead Silence

In the dead silence, awkwardness will pile the pressure of pyramids on the bare backs of reluctant people.

Warmed words will be buried beneath each second of sifting sand, suffocating the unborn phrases.

Dead dirt will decorate stubble on hesitant lips.

An entombing cavity, will echo heavy claustrophobic breaths in the permanent closure of a stillborn mouth, dried.

Laid to rest in a pharaoh's sarcophagus reserved for royal prose.

In the dead silence,

Fear, doubt, and courtesy will take turns strangling the esophagus, choking the air, trapping intimate thoughts.

Egyptian treasures will be mummified in an umbilical tongue that will no longer nurse a warrior's forgotten courage, asphyxiating truths in a muscular bandage, laying to rest the words that can never be recovered.

-David Tran
Senior
Nied 'n' Recznik
3:16

No Beauty in "Eye of the Beholder"

DUSTIN WHITE
ENTERTAINMENT WRITER

It has been said many times that beauty is found in the eye of the beholder. The beholder in this case would be the viewer, and it would be hard for any viewer to find this nonsensical movie as something deserving of a second glance.

"Eye of the Beholder," based on the acclaimed 1980 novel by Marc Behm, is a tale about intense obsession. An intelligence agent, (Ewan McGregor), is so smitten by a beautiful killer (Ashley Judd) that he cannot apprehend her. Instead, he watches her every move like a true voyeur and follows her like a lost puppy dog across the country.

Ewan McGregor, known only as "The Eye," first encounters Joanna Eris (Judd) when she is suspected of blackmailing the son of a senior British official. McGregor is sent to track her down, and sees her brutally stab the very man he was to look out for. While it would seem that killing would be a definite turn off, "The Eye" finds her intriguing and feels a certain amount of sympathy for her, when she cries "Merry Christmas, Daddy" after the first murder she commits on



Photo Provided

BEAUTY OR BEAST— Ashley Judd (above) becomes the object of affection for "The Eye" played by Ewan McGregor (below).

screen.

"The Eye" is then hooked. He has lost his wife and daughter because of his continued absence due to his job, and throughout the film, we see many images of his long-lost daughter, Lucy. One of the images comes to him when looking at a surveillance photo of Joanna.

It is insinuated that he sees in the puzzling Joanna something that he lost when he no longer had his family. This time, he is determined not to lose someone important to him. He watches Joanna commit murder after murder, and in a special way, looks out for her in a guardian-angel fashion.

Ewan McGregor says only a few words throughout the whole movie; the rest of the action is all what he sees through his eyes, which is very lack-luster.

The movie moves from one unbelievable scene to the next,

without any focus. So many questions brought up are left unanswered, that the viewer leaves the movie wondering what exactly happened. There is definitely something to be said for a movie that makes you think afterward, but this movie takes that principle to the extreme and proves only to cause aggravation rather than intrigue.

Throughout the entire movie, nothing seems to mold together, so it is hoped that somewhere before the concluding scenes that a resolution will be made. The viewer is not that lucky.

Jason Priestley graces the movie with his greasy presence, playing a drug-using, woman abuser who beats Ashley Judd relentlessly. Ewan McGregor, of course, rescues her and saves the day.

The actual performances themselves are quite commendable. Judd and McGregor both play their roles well, but unfortunately, nothing can save this floundering story line and overall choppyness of the plot.

This film, advertised as Ashley Judd's best film to date, is definitely one to avoid. It will just make you wonder why you wasted your money and two hours of your life.

The Eye of the Beholder'
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Ashley Judd
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2 Stars = Better off watching ears on Wooster.
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Don't just remember Thomas

Sometimes sports must move aside. Sometimes it has to accommodate life, which is, after all, more important than the Bowl Championship Series and 34 Superbowls combined.

Men's Basketball

Falcons face Buffalo today, Miami Saturday

PETE STELLA ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR The BG men's basketball team has had a severe case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde this season.

5-17 overall and a 3-10 Mid-American Conference mark, which gives them the worst record in the conference.

have seen in MAC play." Miami is in the midst of a three game losing streak, which has depleted their record to 10-10 overall and 6-6 in the MAC.

Men's Basketball Bowling Green (16-6) vs. Buffalo (5-17) 7 p.m. @ Anderson Arena Radio: 88.1 WBGU Key stat: BG is 9-0 in Anderson Arena this season.

Monday night, Mr. Hyde emerged as the Falcons were defeated by the Toledo Rockets 78-69 in Savage Hall.

"We definitely got dominated on the backboards," Falcon forward Anthony Stacey said.

Today, BG entertains the Bulls of Buffalo in Anderson Arena at 7 p.m. and the Falcons won the last meeting 96-90 January 8th.

Saturday, the Brown and Orange travel to Oxford to do battle with the dangerous Miami RedHawks for a noon match-up.

"They are led by a bunch of five year seniors," BG coach Dan Dakich said when Miami came to BG.

Next week, the Falcons conclude the home portion of their schedule with contests against Eastern Michigan and Kent.

See FALCONS, page 11

Hockey

Adams silent but deadly

DAN NIED SPORTS EDITOR

You may not know B.J. Adams. The name may sound familiar, but you probably don't know why.

And, in comes the dream—the dream that always comes up in stories like this, for every young hockey player.

As those scouts file into the Ice Arena to watch Adams go unnoticed in a remarkably graceful and effective way, they are taking his dream one step closer to reality.

And when he got enough balance to stand on his own, he took that stool and raised it above his head, brought it down, wrapped his arms around it and kissed his makeshift championship trophy.

B.J. Adams had just won the Stanley Cup.

"I had my arm around that stool and it was the Stanley Cup," Adams says.

The path that Adams has taken to Bowling Green, and maybe eventually the dream, has mirrored another BG great in the NHL.

"My past kind of mirrors Mike Johnson's," Adams said, referring to the Toronto Maple Leafs forward whom Adams played with in 1997.

See ADAMS, page 11



ADAMS—Falcon defenseman B.J. Adams has drawn several NHL scouts to the BG Ice Arena the past couple of weeks.

Women's Basketball

BG still adds to record books

G. MICHAEL GRAHAM SPORTS WRITER

This may sound like a broken record but the Bowling Green women's basketball team continues to add to its three-point record book.

Fans will probably hear a lot about three-point records in the future as well because Falcon coach Dee Knoblauch encourages her players to shoot three's.

With at least six games left in the season, the Falcons continue to add to the school single-season records for both three-point field goals made (192) and attempted (522).

"That is kind of how our team works," BG junior guard Angie Farmer said.

The MAC record for successful treys in a season is 234 set by the Toledo (32 games) and Kent teams of the 1993-94 season.

Knoblauch described her team's performance as Jekyll and Hyde.

"We're the kind of team that when we shoot well, we look really good," Knoblauch said.

In the two wins, Bowling Green was able to take advantage of man-to-man defenses since the drivers such as Afra Smith and Jaymee Wappes drew some attention and allowed the bombers some wide-open attempts.

"To be honest, I always found it hard to shoot it against a man-to-man until this year," Farmer said.

Farmer listed two keys to the three-point game. The first is rebounding.

Individually, Farmer made 2-of-7 attempts in the NIU win to push her record-breaking total of threes made in a season to 60.

See WOMEN, page 11

NFL

Thomas dies of heart attack at 33

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Associated Press Photo

THOMAS—Kansas City Chiefs defensive end waives to the crowd after a Chiefs' victory. Thomas died of a heart attack yesterday, a result of his car accident last month, at the age of 33.

MIAMI — NFL star Derrick Thomas died Tuesday in a hospital where he was being treated for injuries from a car crash that left him paralyzed from the chest down.

Doctors were expected to give details about the death later in the day, Jackson Memorial Hospital spokeswoman Lorraine Nelson said.

"He said Derrick was very upbeat yesterday and felt so positive," Hunt said.

The 33-year-old linebacker was injured Jan. 23 when the speeding car he was driving flipped on an icy road.

Thomas and two companions had been heading to the Kansas City airport to fly to St. Louis for the NFC title game.

"It is a devastating tragedy to the Kansas City Chiefs family, the people of Kansas City, the fans of the National Football League, and also to me, personally," Peterson said.

Thomas broke his spine and neck in the crash and wound up semiconscious with no feeling in his legs. He

was flown to Miami, his hometown, for surgery and rehabilitation.

Doctors decompressed his spinal cord and stabilized the spinal column with screws, rods and hooks and implant bone grafts from Thomas' hip.

The hospital is the home of the Miami Project to Cure Paralysis, the world's largest spinal cord injury research center, and its surgeons have operated on race car driver Emerson Fittipaldi and other athletes.

Thomas and passenger Michael Tellis, 49, of Kansas City, Kan., were not wearing seat belts and were thrown from the car, police said.

Thomas, a nine-time Pro Bowl player, was one of the game's most feared pass rushers and a popular athlete in Kansas City.

He holds the NFL one-game record of seven sacks and ranks ninth on the career list.

"He has done so much for this team and our city during the time that he had with us," Peterson said.

Dan Niede is the sports editor for the BG News. He can be reached at dniede@bgn.net or dniede@bgsu.edu.

SPORTS

www.bgnews.com/sports

WOMEN

continued from page 9

Tournament Outlook
For the first time, all 13 Mid-American Conference schools will qualify for the conference tournament. The top three seeds will earn a bye into the quarterfinals to be played Thursday, March 2. Seeds 4-8 will host first round contests Monday, Feb. 28.

Bowling Green is gunning for the eighth spot and helped itself out a lot by beating Northern Illinois to move into the ninth spot. Both teams are 4-7 in the conference. A win over Eastern Michigan, who is 5-7 and does not play again until invading Anderson Arena Saturday, would move the Falcons into the eighth spot. Since they have defeated Central Michigan and Northern Illinois, they would win the tiebreakers.

FALCONS

continued from page 9

Falcon Notes
BG forward Len Matela was named the MAC Player of the Week Monday. He netted 24 points and 16 rebounds in the Falcon loss to Ball State and then totaled 17 points and nine boards in the win over Ohio. He shot 68 percent from the field (17-of-25) to earn him the top spot in the conference for field goal percentage (64.3 percent).



STACEY—Falcon forward Anthony Stacey dribbles the ball last Saturday.

ADAMS

continued from page 9

Like Johnson, Adams got cut from a AAA bantam team because he wasn't big enough. It seems the hulking defenseman was a late bloomer. He then went down to an AA team for a few years until he moved to the next level, junior A tier 2. Essentially, the top level you can play at while maintaining college eligibility.

While with the North York Rangers, Adams was drafted by the Oshawa Generals of the Ontario Hockey League, a major junior operation that is one step below the NHL.

He decided to take the college hockey route instead.
"I wanted to go to school," Adams said. "I decided that would be the best direction for me so I'd have a degree to fall back on."

Adams went from North York to the Stratford Cullitans when Wayne Wilson, then Bowling Green assistant coach, made a call to former BG assistant and Stratford coach Terry Flannigan. One game into the season with the Cullitans, Adams visited BG and committed to play here the next season.

The rest has been defensive history.

He played on his best college team when he was a freshman. That year the Falcons knocked off Lake

Superior State in the playoffs at Joe Louis Arena.

The next season, he was forced to be one of the top defensemen on a team that won a paltry eight games. Since then he has been stuck on a .500 team.

"That was a tough situation to put him in," Powers said of Adams' second year. "For a sophomore to be one of the top guys is hard."

But, like everything else, Adams just plugged away and filled his role.

Filling his role may be his top strength. He understands the idea of leaving the scoring to Edinger, Day and Murphy. He kills penalties and roughs up the other team's best player. He does the stuff that goes unnoticed, but is imperative to the outcome of the game. The attention and applause can be absorbed by the scorers. He'll be happy in the back-ground.

"I'm not about attention, I just have a pretty good grasp of my role," Adams says. "If attention comes along with it then that's OK. But I don't strive for attention, I just play my role to help the team win."

But that's not to say that he never gets any recognition. In last week's 7-4 win over Northern Michigan, the BG student section started chanting his name...B.J. Adams...B.J. Adams...

"That kind of surprised me," Adams says "I'm not used to that—I don't like all the accolades, I didn't know if they were joking around or what."

So, it's OK if you don't know B.J. Adams.

You're not supposed to.



BEN FRENCH/The BG News

PRACTICE—Adams skates during the Falcons practice yesterday.

MLB

Rocker's suspension asked to be overturned Tuesday

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

ATLANTA — With history on its side, the players' association on Wednesday will attempt to overturn John Rocker's suspension for offensive comments against homosexuals, minorities and foreigners.

Baseball commissioner Bud Selig banned Rocker until May 1, saying the Atlanta Braves' top reliever "offended practically every element of society" with his comments in a December issue of Sports Illustrated.

The players' association quickly appealed the decision, setting up the hearing in New York before Shyam Das, baseball's new arbitrator.

Das will hear testimony from Selig and Braves president Stan Kasten. Gene Orza, the union's chief lawyer, will argue on Rocker's behalf, and union head Donald Fehr is expected to testify on past suspensions.

Rocker will attend the hearing, but it's unclear if he'll be asked to testify. He told Sports Illustrated in December that he would never play for a New York team because he didn't want to ride a subway train "next to some queer with AIDS." He also mocked foreigners and called a black teammate a "fat monkey."

Time and time again, the players' association has convinced arbitrators to reduce or overturn suspensions imposed by baseball.

In 1981, St. Louis shortstop Garry Templeton was suspended and fined \$5,000 after making a series of obscene gestures toward heckling fans at Busch Stadium. Two days later, an arbitrator ruled the suspension should be lifted when Templeton checked into a hospital for treatment of depression.

In 1992, Yankees pitcher Steve Howe was suspended for life after pleading guilty to attempting to buy a gram of cocaine. An arbitrator ended the suspension later that year, saying Howe had attention deficit disorder.

Minus Rocker, the Braves are holding a pre-spring training pitching camp at Turner Field.

Kerry Ligtenberg, who held the closer's job in 1998 and is trying to

"It's (Rocker's situation) a big distraction for the team."

Kerry Ligtenberg
Braves pitcher

come back from an elbow injury that kept him out all of last season, hopes the Rocker situation will be settled quickly.

"It's a big distraction for the team," Ligtenberg said Tuesday. "We need to get this resolved sooner rather than later. If we push it to the side and bring it up two months later, it's not going to be any better. We need to deal with John as a team and go from there."

For now, the Braves are facing the possibility of heading to Florida next week without the pitcher who saved 38 games last season, one short of the franchise record.

Selig's suspension covers all 45 days of spring training and the first 28 days of the season. He also fined Rocker \$20,000 and ordered him to undergo sensitivity training.

There's no indication how quickly the arbitrator might rule, but the union will likely ask for a decision by the start of spring training. The Braves' pitchers and catchers report to camp at Kissimmee, Fla., on Feb. 17.

Richard Moss, the association's top lawyer for 11 years, predicted last week that Rocker's punishment is likely to be reduced.

"For the commissioner's office to just do something without consulting the players association, without consulting Rocker and without reaching agreement on what was acceptable to everybody was kind of stupid," Moss said.

According to research by the players' association and the commissioner's office, this is the first time a player was disciplined for speech since 1938.

MLB

Griffey Jr. given permission for Reds meeting, could make \$8.25 million

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CINCINNATI — The Seattle Mariners gave Ken Griffey Jr.'s agent permission Tuesday to talk directly with the Cincinnati Reds, apparently breaking baseball's rules in an attempt to end a trade impasse.

Until now, the Mariners had insisted that Griffey's agent, Brian Goldberg, could not talk to the Reds about contract matters. Griffey will make \$8.25 million this season, then become eligible for free agency.

With trade talks stalled and the start spring training approaching, Mariners president Chuck Armstrong changed the team's position. "Chuck Armstrong was nice

enough this morning to give me permission to generally speak to the Reds to try to bring some closure to Junior's situation prior to spring training," Goldberg said.

Under baseball's rules, teams may not talk with players under contract to other clubs. Baseball's procedure calls for teams to agree to the players who would be involved in a trade, then ask the commissioner's office for a 72-hour window to allow the acquiring team to negotiate a new contract with the player.

Baseball said permission had not been granted to the Mariners and Reds for a window involving a Griffey trade and that contact between

Goldberg and Cincinnati was not allowed.

"If that, indeed, did happen, then we're going to have to investigate it," baseball spokesman Rich Levin said.

Baseball said it was stepping up enforcement of the rule after it was broken in the Roger Clemens trade from Toronto to the New York Yankees.

Commissioner Bud Selig, Armstrong and the two general managers involved — Seattle's Pat Gillick and Cincinnati's Jim Bowden — did not return telephone calls seeking comment.

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Drink Specials
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Ohio State

Bucks on huge roll

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

COLUMBUS — Defending national champion Connecticut and No. 15 Kansas both learned the hazards of taking Iowa lightly.

But as with most young teams riding a teeter-totter season, it's difficult to gauge just who Iowa is or how it will play.

That's the dilemma facing No. 5 Ohio State as it hosts the Hawkeyes Wednesday night: Will it be the Iowa that knocked off a couple of the nation's best programs, or the one that was blown out 84-58 at home by Purdue last Saturday?

"They've been a little inconsistent, beating Kansas and then getting hammered at home right after that by Purdue," Ohio State coach Jim O'Brien conceded. "They've been a little bit up and down."

Ohio State (16-3, 7-1 Big Ten) has been up for the last month. The Buckeyes are riding an eight-game winning streak and have won 12 of their last 13. Coming off their strongest offensive showing of the year, an 88-67 rout of Michigan in Crisler Arena on Sunday, they share the top spot in the Big Ten with Michigan State.

"They're a team that can pose a lot of problems," Iowa coach Steve Alford said. "They've had their

wakeup calls during the year and now they're hitting their stride."

Iowa (10-11, 3-6 Big Ten) was outrebounded 45-29 yet stunned then-No. 15 Kansas 77-69 Thursday. Then the Hawkeyes followed that with a lopsided loss.

Alford said that's just another step in the learning curve for a young team.

"It's not just how you handle losses," he said. "It's how you handle the wins as well."

Ohio State was also on fire a year ago when Iowa came to Value City Arena, having won its first three Big Ten games and seven of its last eight overall. But Dean Oliver's off-balance 3-pointer with 23 seconds left led to a 71-68 Iowa win and one of the few disappointments in Ohio State's 27-9 season.

Suffice it to say that O'Brien hasn't forgotten.

"Oliver has always played very well against us," O'Brien said. "In fact, the only time we lost at home last year was to Iowa and he had his hand involved in that big-time."

Iowa center Jacob Jaacks' physical style also concerns O'Brien, since Ohio State can ill afford to have its center, Ken Johnson, drawn into foul trouble. Johnson is one of Ohio State's difference-makers, Alford said.

"We've got 46 blocked shots on the year and Johnson's got 103," he said. "We don't have that — a shot-blocking presence."

While Iowa returns only 24 points a game from last season, Ohio State has almost everybody back from last year's team that got hot at almost this same point in the season and went all the way to the Final Four.

O'Brien said veterans discover ways to save their best for the finish, while young players frequently hit a wall, both physically and emotionally.

"The older teams have a way of pacing themselves, of knowing what it's all about," O'Brien said.

The Buckeyes have shortened their practices to 75 to 90 minutes a day.

"My philosophy always has been that fresh minds and fresh legs are more important at this stage than running your offense for another 15 or 20 minutes in practice," he said.

It is teams stocked with upperclassmen who usually win the biggest trophies in the conference, said Alford.

"I can't recall the last time somebody in the Big Ten has really performed well and won a championship with a lot of inexperienced players," he said.



Associated Press Photo

CELEBRATION—Ohio State Buckeyes' Scoonie Penn, left, and Slobodan Savovic celebrate the Bucks' victory over Michigan State. Ohio State are on a eight-game winning streak and have won 12 of their last 13.

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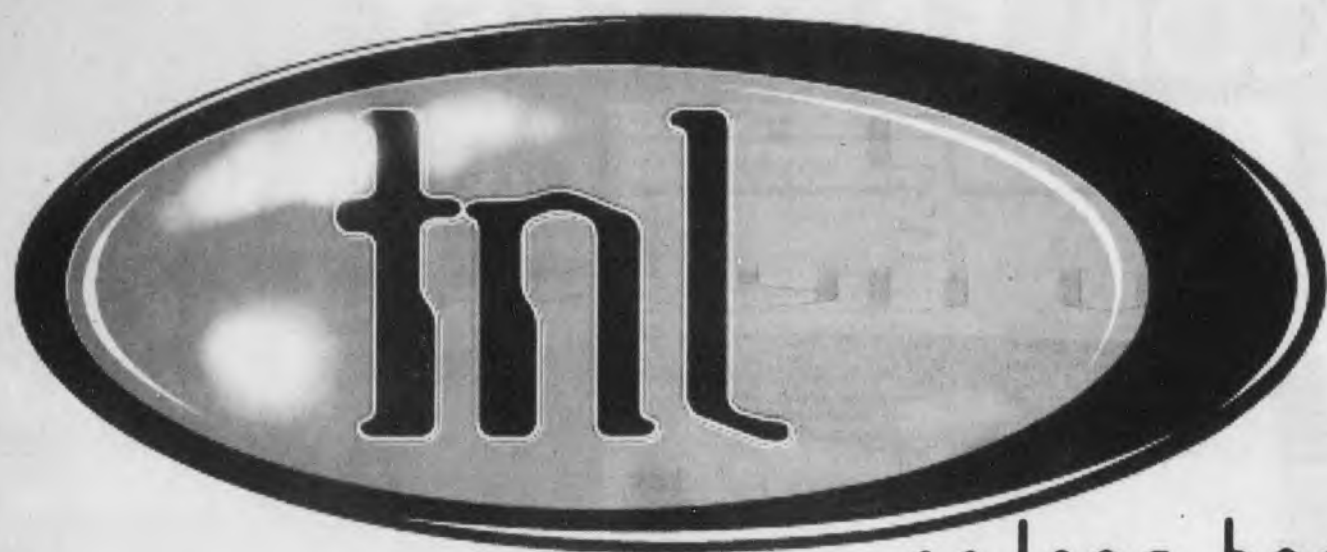
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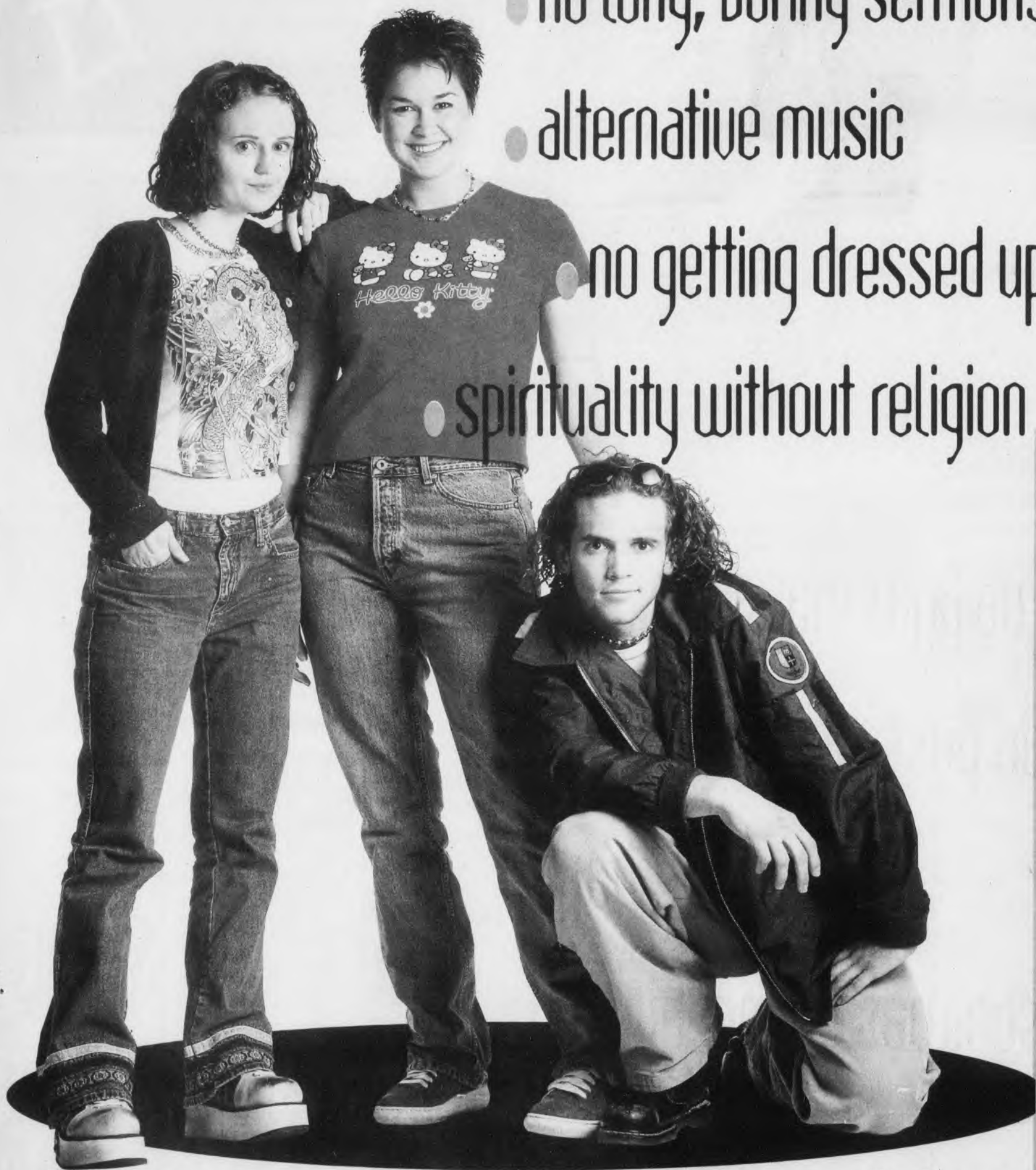


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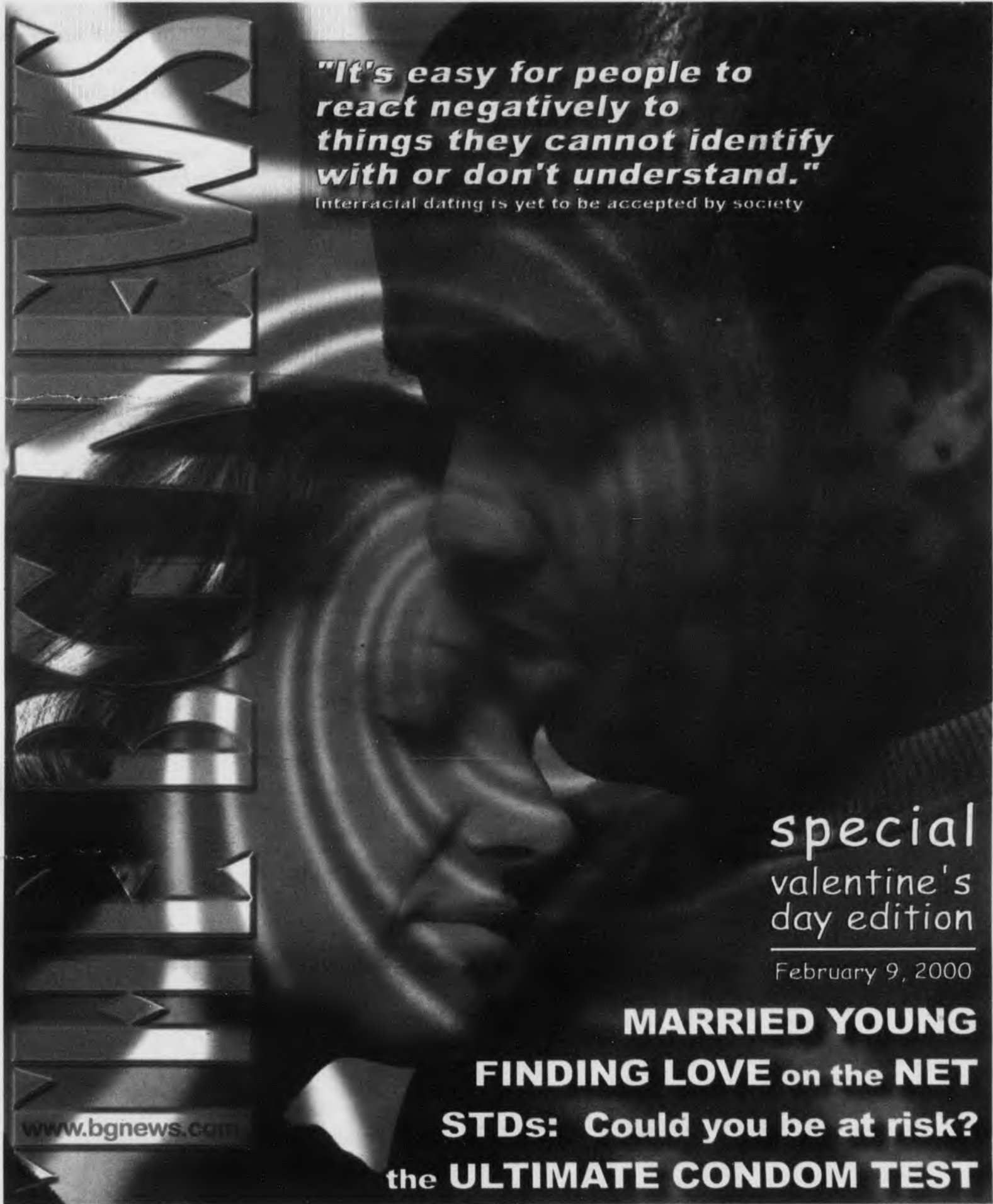
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SHOULD men take charge of taking THE PILL

Stefanie Sizemore

Last September, a researcher at New York University announced she had discovered a drug that, taken once a day, will render a man infertile.

The male birth control pill may seem like a good idea but the bad news is that no pharmaceutical companies plan to produce it in fear that men will not want to take it or will not be trusted to take it.

BGSU students agree.

Chris Blasdel, senior journalism major, is not presently in a serious relationship, but agrees that males will not take the pill.

"Guys have condoms and girls have the pill," he said. "I am not the one who is going to have the baby so I do not think I should have to take the pill."

Blasdel admits that he thinks girls are more responsible about sex and therefore the pill is the best idea for them.

"I think females take sex a lot more serious because it is them who will have to carry the baby," he said. "I do not think a male birth control pill is a good idea at all."

Stacy Shapira, junior IPC major, thinks that a male birth control pill is a good idea, but she agrees that it probably will not work.

"I have been in a relationship with a guy for almost a year and I trust my boyfriend completely, but I still would not have him take the pill," she said. "It is not that I would not trust him with the pill, it's just that I would trust myself a lot more."

Shapira thinks that females are raised with more of a sense of responsibility concerning sex because females actually carry the baby.

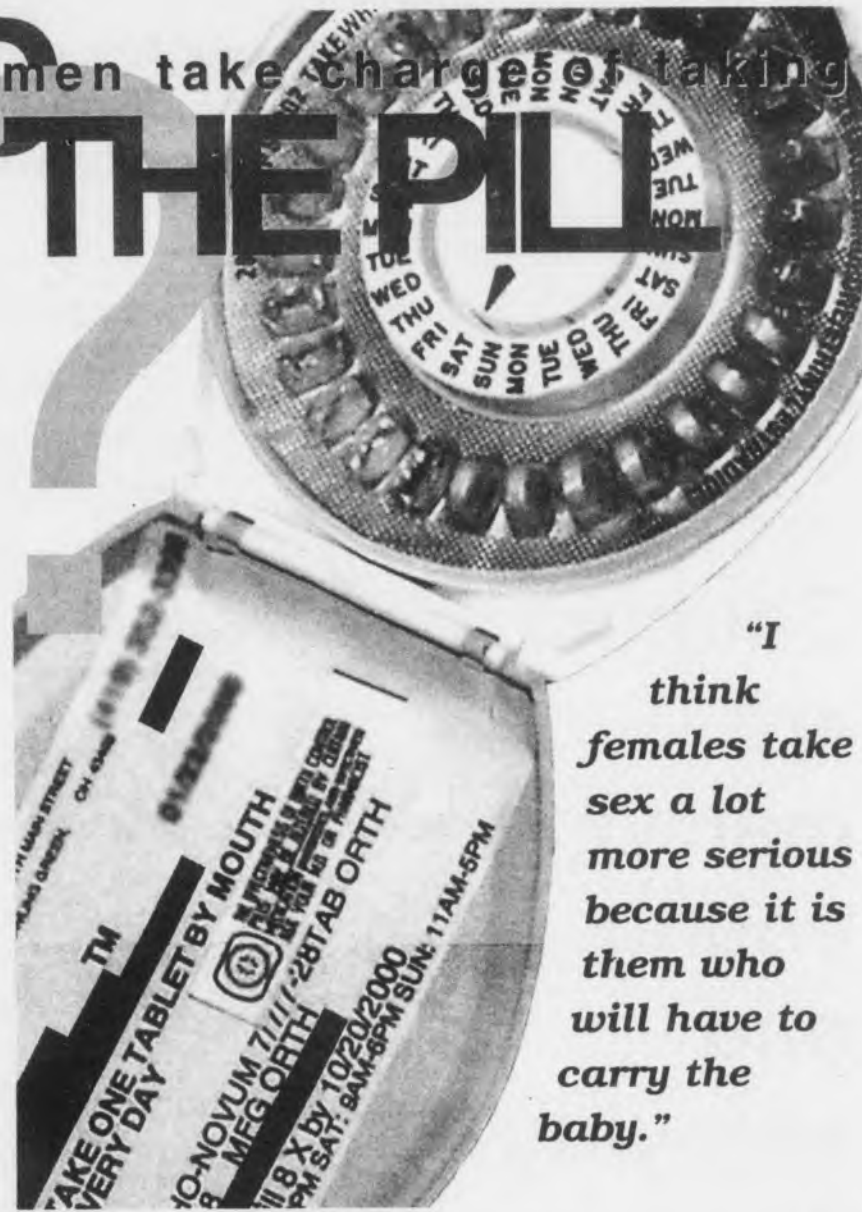
"Sometimes I think females are more careful because even though it takes two people to make a baby you are only going to notice the girl who weighs a lot with a big belly," she said.

Liz Robarge, junior journalism major, had another outlook on the male birth control pill.

"I do not think guys will take it because guys are very self conscious when it comes to stuff like this," she said. "Without any research on the long term effects, I doubt any man will take the pill."

Robarge does not think that the male birth control pill will ever replace or even come close to the female version.

"Look at the female condom. Nobody uses that and the same will happen with this pill," she said.



"I think females take sex a lot more serious because it is them who will have to carry the baby."

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"One problem with marrying young is the fact that individuals may have to compromise especially when it comes to careers."

Couples are marrying young and enjoying life more

Brandi Barbite |

The big day is nearing for some college students and it isn't just graduation.

It is their wedding day.

Recently engaged, Amy Miller, senior pre-law major, will attend graduate school with her fiancé next fall and will marry him soon after. Melissa Naymik, senior journalism major, will be married in August.

Both are part of the growing trend of young adults choosing to tie the knot while in school or right after graduation.

According to Gary Lee, University sociology professor, this trend may continue, especially in the next few years.

"The culture is becoming much more conservative and with that, people view marriage as more desirable," said Lee, who has taught the course *The Family*.

Lee also attributed the good economy for making marriage a popular option.

"There is less of a risk to get married when the economy is doing better," Lee said. "People are less concerned with where the next meal will come from. They don't need as sound of a financial basis before they get married."

In 1997, the average age a woman married was 24 years old and the average marriage age for a man was 27.

Lee said he does not consider getting married out of college to be too young.

In the last 25 years, the average marriage age has

increased dramatically. In the 1950s the average age of marriage for men and women was at its absolute lowest. Men typically married at 22 and women married at 20 years old.

In the 1980s and early 1990s careers were encouraged before marriage, which reflected the trend of getting married later in life, yet Lee said he sees this trend changing, particularly on college campuses.

Naymik, who has been engaged almost two years, said she chose to marry directly after college because her fiancée is 24 years old and she thought it would be unfair for him to have to wait until she was older.

"Some people are surprised that I am getting married right out of college, but getting married is different for everyone," she said.

She said many people think she is going to lose her freedom and limit her

fun, yet Naymik said she has been on her own for four years and has had her fun. She believes she made the right decision.

Naymik also said she is not concerned about hampering her career ambitions. Despite her fiancé, Seth, already having a steady job, she said he is willing to move when she finds a job.

"We are not really worried about it," Naymik said. "He is an accountant and will be able to get a job wherever we move."

Trent Brown, a BGSU alumnus, had similar thoughts when he married two weeks after he graduated last May, yet believes he made the right decision.

"I can't imagine my life without her," he said.

Yet Brown said talking about career aspirations was important before their marriage.

"Basically, I am not that concerned with my career and as a computer science major I can find a job anywhere," Brown said.

Another couple who got married last April said compromising for each other is what love is all about.

Jason Kramer, an Air Force pilot who lives in Virginia and got married last April, said he had no concerns about marrying at age 20. He and his wife, Casey, former BGSU student, decided to get married so they could be together.

"If we were both in college, we probably wouldn't get married, yet since I travel a lot with my job, I want her to travel with me," he said.

He also said he much rather share his experiences with someone than to live his life without the love of his life.

"Getting married opened doors for us," he said. "I wanted to share our adventures."

Kramer said the age one gets married doesn't really matter. He said it is more important to measure the time the couple has been together.

"We have been together for four years and know everything we could possibly know about each other," he said.

Miller had similar thoughts and said that although she will only be 23 when she gets married, it is the right decision for her.

"I just happened to get lucky and I'm not going to live my life without the love of my life," she said. "The way I see it we can explore together."

Yet not all couples have had such an easy time taking the plunge. One couple, who married last May, said getting engaged caused problems when they began to look for jobs.

Scott and Darla Brown, both University alumni, said they had to compromise in order to get married and start their journalism careers.

"With us being in the same field, we knew it would be hard to stay close if we weren't married, so we decided it would be a lot easier to plan our future together," she said.

Mrs. Brown said when her husband graduated in 1998 he limited his job search to around the northwest Ohio region so he could be near her until she graduated the following year. After she graduated they moved to Vermilion, Ohio, and both got jobs at *The Elyria Chronicle*.

Lee, sociology professor, said one problem with marrying young is the fact that individuals may have to compromise, especially when it comes to careers. Yet he said it is not healthy for anyone to think they are "missing out" on life when they get married.

"If you feel you are going to have to give up too much to get married than you should not get married," he said.

One recently married couple said they were lucky enough to get jobs at the same company.

Eric Matz, University alumnus married last June, said at first they thought they were limiting their job selection, but they decided to look for jobs in the same area.

He also said getting married doesn't mean his life is over.

Yet people who get married young are more likely to get divorced due to a lack of maturity because they do not know how to play their marital roles responsibly, according to Lee.

However, there are couples who defy the odds.

Gaye and Jeff Boggs, who got married when they were 19 and 20, respectively, celebrated their 25th anniversary this past August. They said they had their problems, yet if they had to do it over again, they would do it exactly the same way.

"Age doesn't really matter to us because we were so much in love and wanted to be together," Gaye said.

She said in 1974 it was not uncommon for couples to marry young and they encountered no opposition to their decision.

Although they had initial difficulties,



they were committed to working through them.

"We had to mature a lot, but we did it together," she said. "We had the same goals in life and worked to stick it out."

Despite the problems a young couple might face, in the end Lee said getting married could have its advantages.

"People who are married are generally better adjusted and happier," Lee said. "Being married gives you a regular companion and someone who cares about what happens to you."

STDs range on campus

Beth Shoemaker

his Valentine's Day, there is one gift that no one wants to receive. Yet at least one in four Americans will get it at some time in their life.

There is an epidemic of sexually transmitted diseases in the United States, especially in the 15 to 34-year-old age group. College campuses are generally hit hard.

According to Joanne Navin, associate director of Student Health Service, the University has been lucky.

"We rank just the same or lower than major campuses across the country in terms of cases of STDs," she said.

But that does not make University students immune. Everyone who is sexually active can get or transmit an STD.

There are more than 20 STDs in existence. All are infections transmitted or received during unprotected sexual contact—usually through the exchange of bodily fluids such as semen, vaginal fluid and blood.

STDs can range in consequences from discomfort to permanent damage, such as blindness or brain damage, to death.

The most common STDs include genital herpes, chlamydia, gonorrhea, syphilis and genital warts.

The three most prevalent on campus last year, according to Student Health Service, were chlamydia, gonorrhea and herpes.

Chlamydia is the most common venereal infection in the United States, with an estimated incidence of at least four million cases annually.

At the University during 1998-99, 33 females and 15 males tested positive for chlamydia, according to statistics provided by Student Health Service and the Wellness Connection.

Tests for gonorrhea at SHS revealed only two positive cases among those tested. Eight students tested positive for herpes.

All three of these STDs are difficult to recognize. Some symptoms could include abnormal discharge from the genitals or pain and burning during urination. Women may experience lower abdominal pain or pain during intercourse.

Generally, though, chlamydia and gonorrhea have mild or completely absent symptoms.

That's why officials at SHS recommend routine testing for these venereal diseases.

"I strongly encourage even those students who aren't having any symptoms to come in and be tested," Navin said. "And definitely come in if you're having unprotected sex or sex with more than one person."

The early symptoms of herpes are more obvious and may include a burning sensation or pain while urinating and small red sores in the genital area. Like chlamydia and gonorrhea, herpes' symptoms can be very mild, even unnoticed at first.

All three of these STDs are treatable. Chlamydia and gonorrhea are both curable infections.

Just because symptoms may be mild or absent, they should never be ignored.

Left untreated in women, chlamydia and gonorrhea can lead to Pelvic Inflammatory Disease (PID), which can prevent them from having children. Herpes outbreaks will recur and get progressively more painful.

However, the best approach to STDs is prevention.

According to the American College Health Association, risks can be lowered in the following ways:

- Form a monogamous relationship in which both partners make an agreement to be faithful sexually and stick to it.

- Use condoms made of latex or polyurethane. They do not provide 100 percent protection, but they do provide the best protection now available. Birth control pills do not protect against STDs.

- Do not use drugs, including alcohol, in potentially intimate situations. Drugs inhibit the ability to make decisions.

- Learn the common symptoms of STDs and seek medical help immediately if any suspicious symptoms, even mild ones, develop.

- Include STD testing as part of a regular medical checkup.

"This is the only body that you're ever going to have," Navin said. "You need to take the very best care of it possible."

University students with concerns can rest easy. Student Health Services is designed to alleviate the stress associated with an issue as sensitive as STDs.

"We provide confidential visits with a caring and knowledgeable staff," she said. "We're open to meeting and talking with anyone who has questions. And we have the most current treatments available."

Bowling Green State University Student Health Service			
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negative	1820	125	
GONORRHEA			
positive	2	0	
negative	1832	110	
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positive			8
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You can do it

Sara Graziano

It's hard to make a guy say "I love you." That's the problem faced by some couples this Valentine's Day as they try to express their love for the people they know through the Internet.

People already shop, bank, and do research on the Internet. Now they are starting to find lovers there as well.

"We have had a few more people in Internet relationships lately," said Barbara Kalman, counseling psychologist at the Counseling Center.

"It could be fun to meet a guy or girl on the Internet," said junior marketing major Corey Morris. "The problem is, you're not sure which is which sometimes."

Meeting potential lovers on the Internet can present both advantages and disadvantages.

"The Internet gives you a chance to make new friends, and could assist in finding that perfect guy or girl that we are all searching for," said Paul Rados, senior political science and philosophy major.

Kalman believes Internet relationships can present some disadvantages as well.

"I've seen a couple of situations where the other party has set up a love relationship and suddenly cut it off," Kalman said. "Some people out there like to play with other people's emotions."

Some of the disadvantages of Internet relationships stem from being so far apart.

"If you meet a guy on the Internet, he could be a psycho or a pervert," said Michelle Corron, sophomore computer science and math major. "Or, he could be lots older than you are, and you couldn't tell."

"They could be lying to you or cheating, and you wouldn't know it," said sophomore MIS major Stephanie Lanese. "Of course, that could happen in real life too."

Rados once met someone in person who he had previously talked to through the Internet, but it wasn't a wholly positive experience.

"Sometimes there's a tendency to exaggerate when you're talking through the Internet, since you think you won't get caught," said Rados.

Rados added, "I think society has placed such a stigma on this kind of thing because they think people who use Internet personals can't find a date in real life. That is so not true."

Most students say they wouldn't consider being in an online relationship, but others think it's a possibility. Kalman believes students should be cautious if they start an online relationship.

"One thing students need to be careful about is meeting somebody in a potentially unsafe situation," Kalman advised.

"It's a good idea not to give out your personal information over the Internet, if you don't trust the person," Corron said. "You just have to be careful."



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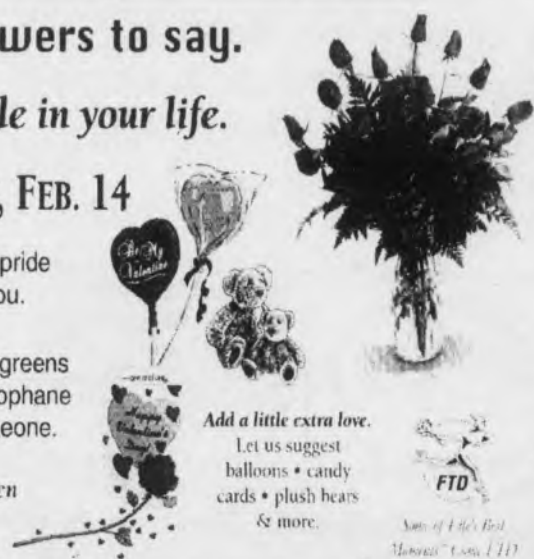
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RACE & LOVE

Is it still an issue?

Kristalyn Shefveld

Historical baggage stemming from exploitative relationships between white men and minorities hinder modern interracial couples in their quest for acceptance.

According to Jeannie Ludlow, Undergraduate Coordinator for American Culture Studies, the actions of our forefathers to their slaves and to native people created the social constrictions we now deal with.

However, in the dawn of a new century are interracial couples becoming more socially acceptable?

Interracial relationships are a topic of discord because "It's easy for people to react negatively to things they cannot identify with or don't understand" said one University staff member. A 28-year-old caucasian male, he has been dating a Korean female for three years and recently became engaged.

Since living in Bowling Green he has noticed that it is a nice quiet town with a conservative attitude.

This attitude, he believes, leads to racial behavior.

He hasn't recieved negative feedback personally but can recall several instances where his friends were "harassed just walking down the street to class."

Conversely Kristopher Gutierrez, senior environmental science major, feels that ignorance is the reason behind racial or negative feedback to interracial relationships. Gutierrez is of a Hispanic background but has dated Caucasian females in the past with no negative reactions.

However on the other side of the spectrum, one Caucasian University female stated that she's single right now because of a recent breakup with her African American boyfriend at home.

"You'd think that in Cleveland people would have a more open minded approach to things. That's not necessarily true," she said.

They had been dating for close to six months when pressures from their friends and family finally came to a head over break.

Personal preferences and social norms are still the orders of the day. Until an education or broadening of what is deemed normal is reached, tensions will never be relieved.

"People are comfortable with what they know to be normal," said the female student and in the end what is considered normal are same-race relationships.

Jeannie Ludlow shared these sentiments by saying that interracial friendships and relationships are hampered by the historical facts. These facts "limit the ability to fully understand and relate to one another."

Although there were healthy relationships in the past, Ludlow stated that the ones that were exploitive "helped to establish the racist society" that we now live in.

According to Ludlow, cultural change could not come about without historical change and that didn't happen until the laws preventing such relationships were struck down in the 1970s.

The legal aspect is only the first step though.

Cultural attitudes are formed by historical actions. And until those actions are truly a thing of the past, culturally, what is different will still be subject to debate by those who aren't prepared for change.

"People are comfortable with what they know to be normal."



FINDING THE PERFECT FIT

CONDOMS



Tony Recznik & Erik Pepple

With Valentine's Day around the corner, the thoughts of most college students are focused on one thing. Hot, wet sex.

As editors of the **NOW** entertainment section we feel it is our responsibility, nay it is the foundation of our journalistic integrity, to help inform the sex crazed student body of their best safe sex options.

We decided on condom field testing.

Since we're entertainment writers the chances of us actually hooking up with a desperate lady are about as likely as John

Rocker being asked to speak at a GLAAD Convention in New York City. (Basically, our past conquest(s) don't like the high critical standard to which all NOW entertainment writers hold. That and we're not exactly tigers in the sack.) So we did the next best thing, we shoved stuff into profos'. The goal was to test girth, durability and absorption.

So, here are the completely non-scientific (and obscenely Freudian) results of the **NOW** Entertainment Section's Great Condom Test of 2000.

Girth

For our first test we focused on girth, or the ability of a condom to handle a penis size most men merely fantasize about.

We first experimented with a Trojan-Large prophylactic. Taking four red, ripened, tender and juicy hot tomatos, we slowly inserted each into the tight condom.

The Trojan-Large made an impressive showing managing to take on all four tomatos with nary a crack or tear.

Dutifully noting the victory of the Trojan-Large, we moved onto the Class Act Ultra Thin and Sensitive Condom.

Taking a summer sausage with approximately a four inch diameter we slid it, with

the greatest of ease, into the condom.

The Class Act more than lived up to its name, proving that it could indeed hold such a diametrically processed sausage.

As for the sensitivity of the condom, it did not call us back the next morning.

Therefore we give the edge to the Trojan-Large.

However, we were most impressed by the astounding performance of the Trojan Ribbed brand (which proved to be as girtharific as a regular Trojan).

We gently crammed a juicy, moist three pound ham into the condom.

Surprisingly the Trojan Ribbed held up magnificently—not spilling an ounce of the mechanically processed pig meat.

But the Trojan Ribbed was soon to let us down.



Durability



Even though the Trojan Ribbed could masterfully encase the hot ham, it eventually burst under the immense pressure of the pork product.

So if you have a large penis, you could certainly wear the Trojan Ribbed, just don't ejaculate as the pressure will probably cause the condom to explode like the Death Star at the end of Star Wars.

For our next durability test we returned to the Class Act Ultra Thin and Sensitive.

The sausage still snugly sacked away, we proceeded to twist and turn the meat stick, recreating the viscosity the condom would encounter when actually used for the ol' slap and tickle. Unfortunately the Class Act snapped like Crispin Glover in a barroom brawl.

Our ultimate durability test pitted the Shiek Ultra Thin condom against the Class Act Ultra Thin and Sensitive.

Whipping out two long, ripened bananas we slid them into the condoms.

The bananas fit perfectly in each condom, but then came the real test. Tossing them on the floor and stomping on them like plates at a Greek Wedding, we found the Shiek to break quite easily, spilling chunky banana gut onto the floor while the Class Act held up for an additional two to three minutes before breaking.

The final durability test compared the Trojan-ENZ brand and a Durex Ultra Thin. We placed a tomato in each condom and then topped it off with a fistful of light bulbs.

The condoms each held the bulbs and tomatoes and didn't brake until we tossed them on the ground.



Absorption

Our final area of testing revolved around absorption. For those who've had painfully embarrassing spillage accidents, it's valuable to know just how much semen a condom can hold.

So instead of wrapping yourself with a Bounty paper towel (it may be the quicker picker upper, but its porous surface does not bode well for ejaculate retention. Believe us, we speak from experience.) use a Trojan.

In a comparison, Trojan handily beat Class Act.

The Trojan gobbled up not only chocolate pudding, but extra creamy whipped cream. The Class Act's reservoir tip burst after a little bit of water was poured into it.

ERIK PEUPLE & TONY RECZNIK still have 48 unused (well, some) condoms to split between them, but sadly both do not have Valentines this year (besides each other).

Both are willing to receive offers @ crikp@bgsu.net and tyrone1117@hotmail.com.

Conclusions

So what have we learned from our quasi-Mr. Wizard experiments? Basically not much. One thing we know for sure is that in our tests Trojan proved to be most reliable. Another was that when two men purchase large amounts of condoms with various phallic edibles and objects, store clerks tend to stare and snicker.



ONE *foot* in the closet:

the misadventures of a SWF

Kristalyn Shefveld

S

ome people are so beautiful they drive you to their hearts in a manner that changes your life completely.

While other people are so wretched and vain they create a maelstrom. Their being mortally wounds each heart that touches it.

Marie had dealt more with the latter in her quest for that supposed ideal mate. Her raven hair, cobalt eyes, and a somewhat stern expression at times gave hints into her history. Though it was hard to pick out from a first glance, she was easy to laugh, but even happier to just be.

"Baggage in relationships has a tendency to come with the territory," reflected Marie as she sent the dishes through the washer before clocking out for the day at the restaurant.

Categorizing the opposite gender in any way is as farfetched as saying that all people of a race are the same. Nowadays especially, there are no rules for dating and a girl can get mixed up pretty easy. Liberal education has this tendency to create arguments between the sexes, whether just or not. It also destroys all the old standbys in relationships like a tidal wave. To call or not to call? Some guys stick to their guns and say that a MAN should do the calling and then you've got the sensitive souls who'll say that they want the GIRL to call. Things can get really confusing pretty quickly.

Once the call thing is resolved there's the question of how quickly things progress. Inevitably, someone gets confused and ends up relying on the other more than they'd wish or vice versa. So, couple months pass and the boy coughs it up that they're actually dating rather than just a repeat booty call. Three months is the official "weird" time. According to most college students (an expert in the field) it is at this point that you decide it's over or you're gonna get married.

"Uh Marie, it's 2 a.m., you can go home now," snapped some busboy as he took the trash out. She nodded slovenly as she continued to reflect on the trivialities of her relationships.

Innumerable other nasty and bad things can happen to just make a girl go wacko. Possessive, jealous boyfriends for example do wonders to mess up a girl's self esteem. Inattentive, cheating bastards also wreak havoc on the fragile sense of worth a college girl carries on her sleeve. Needless to say, lots of girls have screamed in desperation that they hate men. Some have gone as far as to say in jest that they'll become lesbians if this doesn't stop. The extreme will state that they'll become non-practicing lesbian nuns.

She snapped out of her thoughts for a moment and put her coat on to make the long

haul to her apartment down the street.

Once inside she lit up a cigarette and burrowed into the couch to start on her homework. Rather than focusing on the studies of the day she continued to reflect on her past.

Marie's menagerie of friends included all sorts of random people. In short, she was no stranger to the perils of dating through her own experiences and that of her friends. From early childhood girls receive training in the arts of the ideal mate and are sent on a quest to find their match. Criteria can include physical appearance, sense of humor, style, and in a lot of cases monetary worth.

In Marie's case, guys gravitated to her self determination and sharp wit and then balked when she disagreed with them. It was a catch twenty-two. They liked her for it, but dumped her for it too.

A couple of months back a girl named Lee became a regular around the restaurant. It didn't seem to be a big deal at the time but she always requested Marie's section around the same time daily.

Marie ended up looking forward to the end of the monotony. Lee's quick witted sarcasm usually had the entire smoking room peeling with laughter.

Sometimes she left a note, other days she stayed after hours to just chat with the other waitresses and soon became well known to the entire staff.

One day a busboy made a rank comment when Lee didn't show up at 4:30 p.m. like usual. "So where's your little girlfriend today? Or didya tell her you didn't swing that way finally?"

Marie's face fell as she realized the truth in the offhand remark. The evening passed slowly, agonizingly as she ripped her feelings apart inside in analyzation.

Lee didn't come in for several weeks and Marie was left to silent contemplation as to where her feelings stood and tonight of all nights she was alone again in her apartment smoking cigarette after cigarette in a vain attempt to make sense.

"Why not? Why shouldn't I try this? Why should I limit myself when all my other relationships have gone so bad? Who's to say that this isn't real?" she whispered aloud without realizing it.

The night passed slowly and classes the next day weren't much better. She'd been making jokes to friends about the girl who had a crush on her and they kept riddling her with questions. "Has she come in?" her roommate asked innocently as Marie shook her head, almost sadly.

It seemed like 4:30 p.m. would never come and the hike to the restaurant had never been longer. The dinner rush passed and as things settled down she found herself in the back run-



nirg
the silverware through with the busboy. "So where's your girlfriend?" he grinned through his pockmarked face. Rolling her eyes she walked away, angry and humiliated.

Tears squeezing through the corners of her eyes she stormed into the restaurant ready to walk. It was now 8:30 p.m. and another rush came through keeping Marie's mind off her questions. "You don't look happy", a gentlemen remarked as she set down his drink order. "I'm sorry sir, its just that I'm having a bit of a rough day, thats all." she smiled back and walked away.

11:30 p.m. rolled around and Lee slid in grinning brightly at Marie's surprised expression. "What's the matter?" she asked as Marie only nodded in response. "Nuttin."

"Hey, I can tell you're lying but here's a question. What time do you get off? We could go out get some real food and talk about it then if you want?" Lee interjected.

Marie closed her eyes, breathed in deep, glanced around and said, "Yeah, I'd love that."

Valentine's Day HOROSCOPES

Brought to you by...
H. Philip Lovecraft
Prognosticator and
Shambler amongst the Stars

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20) —

Don't get upset when a fail-safe solution goes awry today. There's no way you could have foreseen that rabid wombat in her basement.

Taurus (April 20-May 20) —

You will hit a period of enlightenment today. For a few brief moments, all will be revealed to you and everything will make sense. Except for the reasoning behind your current selection of a significant other.

Cancer (June 22-July 22) —

This sign is temporarily out-of-service. If you believe you have reached this message in error, please direct your comments and concerns to that brick wall behind you.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) —

History repeats itself today when your Valentine's date goes the way of the Hindenberg. Somewhere you hear a voice screaming, "Oh, the humanity!"

Scorpio (Oct. 24-Nov. 21) —

You will have the opportunity to patch things up with an ex who cheated on you. If you two get back together, there's a good chance you'll become soul mates. The next day, he/she will get hit by a truck.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) —

The stars suggest you get that rash looked at. Pronto.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) —

Don't worry about drinking, staying out all night and sleeping in someone else's bed tonight. You were going to fail tomorrow morning's exam, anyway.

Aries (March 21-April 19) —

The presence of Jupiter in your sign portends big things in your love life. Too bad you didn't use birth control.

Gemini (May 21-June 21) —

The Gemini horoscope will self-destruct in 5 seconds. If it does not, don't expect to live through the night.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22) —

Love will be on the playing field today. Enjoy being a spectator.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) —

Be careful what haystack you roll around in tonight. You might wake up to find that your pancreas was stolen by a disgruntled bovine.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) —

Avoid those love surveys today. The people who are giving them are actually government agents trying to fill a quota. You'll never be seen again.

No, these aren't real horoscopes.

The **BG News** doesn't believe in astrology, anyway.

If something does happen...

blame that guy from Page 3*.

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Putting age limits on LOVE

Nicole Valek

According to University students, as long as the age difference between a couple is not too extreme, relationships can work.

"I don't think age difference matters as long as there aren't major differences in maturity and emotional involvement," said Brooke Peeples, junior education major.

Freshman Patrick Monnolly agrees and feels age shouldn't matter at all.

Most students agree that as long as the age difference is within legal limits, age shouldn't be an issue.

"I think when you are in your 20s it is acceptable, but when a 15-year-old dates a 23-year-old, that's when there's a problem," said Cameron Walton, sophomore business major.

According to Ryan McKean, sophomore business major, "Once you are older and married it's not going to matter when you started going out."

However, Amanda Opfer, a junior psychology major, has a boyfriend who is three and a half years older than she is, and believes that age does matter.

"I'm still in college and he's already started his career; therefore, I have to sacrifice my career options if I don't want a long distance relationship," Opfer said. "I either have to go to graduate school or find a job near Bowling Green to stay with him."

Sean Daugherty, sophomore, believes that it depends on the person. "Everyone is different.

What may work in one relationship may fail in another."

Freshman Kim Fields, a computer science major, agrees with Opfer that an age difference can pose problems in relationships. "When getting into a relationship with someone older, you need to be very cautious because that person has more experience and could be trying to manipulate you."

"I think it is a hoax when people date out of their range. One person obviously wants something," said Joe Balish, junior business major.

One question that often arises is why do women go after older men, and men tend to pursue younger women?

According to the University's psychology department, over time women have preferred men who are older because they are able to provide more security than younger men. Men prefer younger women because they have more child-bearing potential.

"It may sound silly, but there is a lot of research to support these notions," said Michael Zickar, assistant professor of psychology. "Of course now with the destruction of traditional family structures and women entering the working world more often, it will be interesting to see if behavior patterns start changing."

"I think there is only one true love for each person and if that person is 50 years older, than so be it," said John Seitz, sophomore visual communication technology major.

The power of flowers

Nicole Valek

Flowers have always played a significant role on Valentine's Day, and over time, certain colors have come to signify many things.

According to Deborah C. from Flowers.com, flowers, no matter what color or type, express love, thoughtfulness and appreciation.

Before sending flowers, BG students seem to pay attention to the flower's color.

"I definitely consider a flower's color. Red means love, pink is like a subliminal message of love and yellow means friendship," said Brian Roberts, junior history major.

"Once, on Valentine's Day, I gave my girlfriend a red and yellow rose intertwined," said Mike Srp, sophomore business major. "I wanted her to know that I appreciated both her love and friendship."

However, some students don't seem to take a flower's color seriously. "The color of a flower doesn't mean anything because guys don't think about it," said Jen Lehetta, integrated mathematics and education major.

"I'm happy just to get flowers; color isn't an issue," said Michelle Gura, senior education major.

"When buying a girl a flower, I just go by her favorite color," said Lee Kucinski, junior computer animation major.

Tara Tierney, sophomore middle education major, agrees and doesn't think the color of a flower is significant.

"I don't read into the meaning. I just like the thought of getting flowers," said Jenny Wolfert, freshman telecommunication major. "One time I got red, yellow and pink and loved them all."

"Women have preferred men who are older because they are able to provide more security than younger men. Men prefer younger women because they have more child-bearing potential."

RED: love, passion, respect, courage
PINK: grace, gladness, joy, thankfulness, romance, young love
CREAM: gratitude, appreciation, admiration, sympathy
YELLOW: joy, gladness, friendship
LAVENDER: enchantment, love at first sight
WHITE: innocence, reverence, purity, secrecy
MIXED: celebration, friendship, appreciation

Livin' it *single*

Jennifer Luley

Ah, Valentine's Day. The holiday for lovers, loved ones and those involved in potential relationships. But what about the rest of us?

Many single University students say although they are not involved in a relationship they will not let the day get them down.

"I'm not going to do anything special because I have a very busy day," said senior Spanish education major Susan Warger. "I don't care about it anyway because it's just a commercial holiday."

Similarly, busy schedules and work conflicts seem to have some single students unable to participate in traditional Valentine's Day activities.

"I'm working," said sophomore biology major Shannon Page. "But even if I weren't I'd probably just ignore it."

Page, like many students said she feels Valentine's Day is mainly a

commercial holiday, but said for some it can be a special occasion.

Other students, however, have had more creative ideas in mind for their Valentine's Day activities.

"Having nothing better to do, I was going to dress up in a diaper and shoot people with arrows, but my roommates convinced me otherwise," said Nick Pearson, a senior physics major.

This year, senior math major Pam Richardson said that she doesn't have any alternative ideas in mind for celebrating Valentine's Day, but has participated in such activities in past years.

"Three of my single friends and I got all dressed up and went out to eat at a nice restaurant and had a good time," she said.

Still other students said they may be taking Valentine's Day as a single a little bit harder. Tiffany Brunett, a junior art major said because Valentine's Day falls on a Monday this year she won't be able to celebrate it

as if she would were it on a weekend. But, that won't stop her the weekend before.

"I'm probably going to go out and get drunk the weekend before and hopefully meet some hot stud in the process," Brunett said.

Unlike Brunett, Brian Seymour, a junior education major said Valentine's Day won't find him drowning his single sorrows in alcohol, but this Valentine's Day will mark a first for him.

"This is the first Valentine's Day since my sophomore year of high school that I haven't had anyone," Seymour said.

Some singles haven't given up their Valentine's Day quest for someone yet, however.

Tom Erlenbaugh, a junior general business major, said he still has hopes for the big day. "I'm single, but I'm still looking for a hot girl to celebrate with. So if there are any who are out there reading this, feel free to give me a call."

"Having nothing better to do, I was going to dress up in a diaper and shoot people with arrows, but my roommates convinced me otherwise."

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Irene Sharon Scott

A couple sits in front of a fireplace, their shrimp dinner left forgotten. Two half full wine glasses sparkle as the candlelight strikes the dark red liquid. The lights are dimmed and soft music is coming from the stereo. After talking, kissing, and cuddling for a while, the candles are blown out and the couple then retreats upstairs...

"The right time for me to have sex is when we both have the right look in the eyes and Barry White is on the stereo," said Liza Kattoe, a senior creative writing major.

Trisha Reed, a freshman undecided major, said the perfect time for her to have sex is when she can give herself completely without any misgivings.

"I don't want to wake up in the morning regretting it," she said. "I would have to be in a monogamous relationship and I would just have to feel right."

She added there also would have to be mutual feelings between her partner and her about sex.

Katie Kessing, a freshman recreation major, said sex should be held off until marriage, period.

"The right time to have sex is when two people feel it is right, no one can really tell," said Cameron Shrophsire, a freshman political science major. "It varies from person to person."

A majority of the students said the best time to have sex is when they were in love and have the consent of their partner.

"Love is having a strong attraction for a person that includes sexual desires," said Chris Benton, a sophomore technology education major.

Reed defined love as an emotion that is complex with many components.

"Love is faithful, forgiving, happy, and trustworthy," she said. "Love is one of the best things in the world to have, if you are lucky enough."

Shrophsire said love is giving total dedication to one person, body, mind and soul.

"Love is a two part effort, when two people are ready to be committed to each other for a long time and express feelings to each other that they would share with no one else," said Jeremy Garcia, a freshman undecided major.

Benton said too often people don't appreciate the preciousness of giving of the self completely to one person.

"Some people brag about having sex and then there are others who keep quiet," he said. "Sex should be held off for that one special person."

He added that the media glamorize it with lustful girls in tight bikinis. He feels sex



Deciding on the right time to give up your virginity

shouldn't be flaunted in the public's eyes.

So what has influenced these students' views on sex?

Reed said her conscious is what has had the most effect on her decisions.

"If I was not totally ready, I don't think I could forgive myself," she said.

Kattoe said that her parents and her upbringing have the most affect on her and the decisions she makes in life.

"My parents were great," she said. "They taught me to respect other people and

myself."

In a **BG News** survey of 20 random students, 40 percent of those questioned were still virgins. The reasons given for waiting varied from religious values to not having found the right person.

Others who had already had sex were then questioned as to whether they regret it or not. Only 20 percent regretted it, because it was painful their first time.

Others said they didn't regret losing their virginity, because they were well satisfied and felt intimate with the person they loved.

"Love is a two part effort, when two people are ready to be committed to each other for a long time and express feelings to each other that they would share with no one else."

Your parents are shocked... your friends think it's risky... should you move in together?

"I'd much rather move in with someone and make sure before I am married. Maybe a lot of people do that. They either need to be a couple and grow up or part."

Kimberly Dupps

It's safer.

It's cheaper.

Some may call it better.

Cohabitation.

The United Census Bureau defines cohabitation as "two members of the opposite sex sharing living quarters" and three and a half million Americans are doing just that.

Why?

"I think a lot of people do it because it's cheaper. It costs a lot less than living apart," Becky Schneider, a graduate marine biology major, said. "I think some people do it to spite their parents, but probably because they really like that person and they want to be with that person. It's one step closer to getting married."

Abbi Wade, a junior IPC major, thinks that people live together because they need to move forward or separate.

"I'd much rather move in with someone and make sure before I am married. Maybe a lot of people do that," Wade said. "They either need to be a couple and grow up or part."

Wade is taking her own advice and moving in with her boyfriend of a year.

Like Schneider said, Wade wants to be with her boyfriend.

"It's the separation thing. It is very hard not having him there at night," Wade said.

Having someone there is beneficial according to Robb Schneider, a neurobiology graduate student and Becky's husband.

"By living together you are starting your own home life. You come home and somebody is there," Robb said.

Involved in home life are chores, bills and grocery shopping.

"When you live with someone you have to deal with all these pragmatic concerns," Jeannie Ludlow, American Culture Studies undergraduate advisor, said.

Wade thinks planning helps relieve the stress of the pragmatic concerns couples living together face.

"I think we are being smart about it. We each have money set aside planning to move in. That way when we move in it's not like we owe \$3000

all at once," Wade said.

Becky and Robb found that one of the most beneficial parts of living together before their wedding were the pragmatic concerns.

"We had our routine down. So when we got back from the honeymoon we didn't have to fight about who did what," Robb said.

Becky agrees with her husband.

"It let us know each other's quirks before we got married," Becky said. "It let us get chores worked out before the big day."

The quirks and habits often come into consideration when people decide to move in together. Whether or not the male in the relationship puts the toilet seat down or not could cause problems within the relationship.

Wade is not worried about the potential problems.

"We fit in pretty good together," Wade said.

If little problems do lead to bigger problems, it is much easier to get out of a cohabitation situation than a marriage situation.

"I think it is more dangerous to go into marriage as playing house than living together," Ludlow said. "It's fairly easy to get out of the situation. You deal with the least; you don't have to go through a divorce and dealing with the problems of custody and property."

Wade would much rather see living together to test the waters, rather than marrying a person and seeing the marriage end up in divorce.

The cohabitation numbers have increased from 523,000 in 1970 to three and a half million in 1993. Wade expects these numbers to grow because of the rising divorce rates.

"I think it may go up because of the divorce

rates, which are so high," Wade said. "I think it will also go up because getting married is expensive."

Splitting rent, utilities and the grocery bill is much cheaper than the traditional wedding, but is it the best?

The general consensus is that cohabitation is a step forward for most relationships. However, one should not step into a cohabitational situation blindly.

"I definitely advise people moving in together to obviously think about it, but plan it too," Wade said.

⊗ **By the early 1990s, according to the Census Bureau, more than half of all marriages now follow cohabitation, with the number of people living together without marriage having increased some 80% between 1980 and 1991.**

⊗ **29% of those surveyed said they had, indeed, lived with their eventual spouse prior to marriage.**

⊗ **50% of those identifying themselves as members of the lower class had cohabited, compared with 32% of those from the working class, 26% of middle class members, and 23% of those claiming to be upper class.**

⊗ **Those in their first marriage are less than half as likely to have cohabited (23%) than those who had previously been divorced (54%).**

Ludlow advises to be aware of a person's behavior and personality before moving in with them.

"Be very careful about going into a cohabitational situation with a man who is possessive or angry because of the possibility of violence," Ludlow said.

Ludlow also advises to avoid trying on intimacy.

However, living together seems to be a good experience for many.

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