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BIG NIGHT: Both men's and women's basketball have a key MAC matchup against Eastern Michigan; PAGE 10



Bowling Green State University A daily independent student press

WEDNESDAY January 12, 2005

RAIN/THUNDER HIGH: 52 LOW: 48

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A NEW HOME: After the closing of Carnation Cafe, Dining Services has moved all the specialty drink equipment to The Underground, a new shop next to the Founder's Dining Hall, offering Grounds for Thought coffee. Above, Manager Flo Kleppanstein prepares a drink. Gail Finan, director or Dining Services, said Starbucks will open in March and in a few weeks Grounds to Go will open in Chily's Express.

Coffee finds new home

ago that

interest to

indentity."

By Carrie Whitaker

Starbucks opening expected in March, Grounds for Thought coffee keeps place on campus.

Carnation Cafe is now a memory for many, replaced in the Union by plywood and a sign proclaiming that Starbucks will be here soon.

But the goal for Gail Finan, director several years of Dining Services at the University, was not to take away there was an coffee options while students wait for Starbucks to open or develop an to butt out local coffee supplier Grounds for Thought. KELLY WICKS. OWNER Instead, the staff

of Dining Services wanted to offer options.

This was the inspiration for creating The Underground, a coffee and snack shop that can create cappuccinos, lattes and espres-- just like Carnation Cafe.

The Underground is located in the basement of Founders Residence Hall taking the place of Keeper's Snack Shop. Kelly Wicks, owner of Grounds

for Thought, said he is happy with the creation of The Underground because it is a way for their coffee to stay on campus. Grounds for Thought has been

sold at the University since 1991, when the coffee was sold in the old Union. Today, Grounds for Thought coffee is sold in the Falcon's Nest, in the McDonald Dining Hall and "We knew

athletic events. 'We knew several years ago that there was an interest to develop an identity in the Union for nationally branded products, so at that point we worked to strengthen our relationship with Dining Services to make sure that we offer the students a

choice," Wicks said. Another individual who is content with the decision to open The Underground is Daria

STARBUCKS, PAGE 2

FBI looks into laser targeting incidents

By Leslie Miller THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON - The FBI is investigating several more reports of lasers being beamed into aircraft cockpits following a rash of similar incidents at the end of 2004.

The most recent sightings of lasers, which can temporarily blind pilots, come as Transportation Secretary Norman Mineta planned to brief reporters today about the issue at the Federal Aviation Administration's aeronautical research center in Oklahoma

them to react when lasers are shined at their aircraft. He is also expected to outline ways to notify law enforcement investigators more quickly.

Cathy Viray, spokeswoman for the FBI in Los Angeles, said the bureau is looking into a report that a green light was beamed onto the nose of an aircraft last week as it was taking off from the Burbank airport.

"It's happening all over the place," Viray said yesterday.

Beginning on Christmas night, there were reports from all over the country of lasers ounted a aircraft cockpits: in Cleveland, Houston, Colorado Springs, Colo., Medford, Ore., and Nashville, Tenn. Many of

the reports described a green beam.

A New Jersey man was arrested and charged last week under the Patriot Act for aiming a green laser at a small jet flying over his home near Teterboro Airport.

The man, David Banach of Parsippany, said he had been using the device to point at the stars from his back yard.

The laser pointer, which sells for \$119, is the most powerful that can be used in a public place without government regulation, according to Bigha, the company that manufactures it. that can be seen up to 25,000 feet



City

Mineta is expected to announce new measures for alerting pilots and preparing

LASERS, PAGE 2

New prescription program to help nation's uninsured

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON - Millions of uninsured Americans could save money on prescriptions under a discount program that 10 major drug makers unveiled yesterday.

The Together Rx Access Card program allows those who meet income and age requirements to save 25 percent to 40 percent - and sometimes more - on more than 275 brand-name prescription drugs and a host of generic drugs.

The program is the latest in a

trend by drug manufacturers to offer their own discount cards to those without health care coverage who struggle to pay skyrocketing drug prices.

'It's free to get, it's free to use and the savings are real," said Roba Whitely, executive director of Together Rx Access

Consumer groups have called similar discount cards a way for drug companies, rather than the government, to control who saves money and how much is saved. The cards offer some savings from already high prices

while attracting new customers for the companies' products.

"I think what these drug companies are doing is very commendable and it will be of benefit to people who are uninsured," said Ron Pollack, executive director of the health care reform group FamiliesUSA. "Of course, it's nowhere near being an adequate substitute for our nation making a real commitment to expanding coverage for the 45 million who don't have

INSURANCE, PAGE 2

Ashley Kuntz BG News

PIPE DOWN: Workers try to fix the water main break that occurred at 2 a.m. yesterday morning. Water was restored to campus buildings in the late afternoon.

Water main collapse causes large inconvenience for most of campus

For nearly 14 1/2 hours yesterday, several residence halls and academic buildings were without water, causing students and faculty to find bathing and drinking facilities elsewhere.

According to Teri Sharp, director of Marketing and Communications, the water main broke after a support bracket failed.

Throughout the day, Rodgers and Kohl Hall residents were advised to shower in nearby buildings - there were no documented complaints about the lack of water. Moreover, the

Student Health Center's clinic remained closed during the out-age while the pharmacy stayed opened. Additionally, all emergenices were being sent to Wood County Hospital.

The Student Recreation Center was also affected by the water main break, though assis tant director Brady Gaskins said that he had not seen a decrease in patronage as a result of the lack of water.

The water main had been repaired as of 4 p.m. yester-day, though the water was not fully restored until 4:45 p.m. Members of Industrial Power Systems worked diligently to fix the water main "ahead of schedule" according to one of the workers.

Despite the main break's timing at about 2 a.m., some sources reported water pressure outages as early as 10 p.m. Monday night.

Jim Zentmeyer of the office of Capital Planning urged campus residents to make sure they close windows over the week end. Cold weather, he said, could cause problems by freezing pipes



Discount cards to reduce drug costs for Americans

INSURANCE, FROM PAGE 1

coverage today." Health and Human Services Secretary Tommy Thompson praised the program as "a commonsense, pragmatic way to give the uninsured access to prescription medicines" and said it may stem the tide of those looking to Canada for affordable prescriptions.

"I'm sure there are some cynics out there who will say 'It's not enough,' but it's a wonderful program," Thompson said at a news conference.

To qualify for the card, applicants must be under 65, not eligible for Medicare and have no other private or public drug coverage. They also must have incomes no higher than \$30,000 for a single person, \$40,000 for couples and \$60,000 for a family of four

Whitely said the benefits could cover 80 percent of the 45 million Americans who are uninsured and don't carry prescription drug coverage. That number has grown from 40 million just four years ago.

Many of the most popular drugs are included in the pro-

gram. Pharmaceutical giant Pfizer, for example, is discounting some of its best-selling drugs, including Lipitor, Zoloft and Celebrex. But card holders won't know the exact discount they get until they check at their local pharmacies

Discounts will vary based on the pharmacy a cardholder uses, said Patrick Kelly, president of Pfizer's U.S. pharmaceutical business. Pharmacies that cooperate with the program are also offering their own discounts for each drug and will add both reductions to reach a final savings amount.

Kelly also downplayed any effect the program might have on his company's earnings. "To us, I think, this is a net wash," he said.

The new cards join an ever-growing muddle of drug discount programs for the poor and elder-. Seven of the 10 companies also joined in 2003 to offer a discount card for low-income seniors, the Together Rx card, which has enrolled nearly 1.5 million cardholders. Since last year. Pfizer has offered its own Pfizer Friends discount card, offering savings of 37 percent to 50 percent on its products.

Some pharmacists say they are overburdened running price checks for customers to see which card offers the best discount, said Ernest Boyd, executive director of the Ohio Pharmacists Association in Dublin, Ohio.

Sometimes patients will walk into the pharmacy, it's like they have a deck of cards," Boyd said. "They'll say they just want prices on each of the drugs and ask which card is cheapest for each."

Busy pharmacies are beginning to limit customers to two requests for the best price per drug, he said.

Those who qualify for the new program can enroll by visiting the Web site, www.TogetherRxAccess com, or by calling 1-800-444-4106. The card will be effective by mid-February.

Companies participating in the program include Abbott; AstraZeneca; Bristol-Myers GlaxoSmithKline; Squibb; Pharmaceutica and Janssen Ortho-McNeil Pharmaceutical, Inc., part of the Johnson & Johnson family of companies; Novartis; Pfizer; Sanofi-Aventis Group; Takeda Pharmaceuticals North America, Inc.; and TAP Pharmaceutical Products, Inc.

Aircraft pilots report laser incidents to FBI

LASERS, FROM PAGE 1

away, and is used by bird watchers, astronomers and lecturers to point out faraway objects.

At least four more incidents have been reported in recent weeks, according to the FBI.

This past weekend, two pilots near Dulles International Airport outside Washington reported lasers beamed at them, according to FBI spokeswoman Debra Weierman.

The first incident occurred Saturday and involved the Fairfax County Police Department's helicopter; the other happened Sunday to a U.S. Airways Express flight. Weierman said the bureau was

investigating. There have been no arrests and neither pilot was affected by the laser light, she said

In Boise, Idaho, a pilot told the FBI that someone was possibly using a red laser on a small plane shortly after takeoff Friday evening, according to Dominic

Venturi, the FBI supervisor. "It did not injure the pilot or any of the passengers on board," Venturi said, adding the FBI believes it has identified the person responsible. "We feel confident it is not

related to terrorism," Venturi said.

In California, a pilot told law enforcement officials that a green light appeared on the nose of

his aircraft as it was taking off from the Burbank-Glendale Pasadena Airport on Jan. 5 around 5:45 p.m., the FBI's Viray said.

"To our knowledge there was no danger to the aircraft," Viray said

The FBI and Homeland Security Department sent a memo to law enforcement agencies in November saying they had evidence terrorists have explored using lasers as weapons. They have not linked the recent laser incidents to terrorism.

An FAA report released in June found that even the lowest-intensity lasers temporarily impaired the vision of most of 34 pilots who were studied in a flight simulator.

Speaker to shed light on current issues of obesity

THE BG NEWS

The first in a series of lectures sponsored by the President deal with issues of nutrition and health in the 21st Century. Steven Blair, Adjunct Professor in Schools of Public Health from the University of South Carolina, Health Center and the College of Education at the University of Houston will speak today in room 206 in the Student Union. The lecture series, designed with issues of health and nutrition in mind,

is key for students returning from break and needing help keeping their new year's resolutions.

Dr. Fiona MacKinnon Associate Dean of the College of Education hopes Dr. Blair will motivate students to start thinking about health and nutrition and change eating habits.

She reiterates exercise good stress reliever. a MacKinnon also hopes students will develop strong values and implement them into society by being healthy interns, student teachers, and educators.

Blair is the president and CEO of the Cooper Institute in Dallas.

He will be discussing the shift in thinking that will need to happen to bring change in an obese population.

The lecture series is titled "Major Health Problems of the 21st Century," and starts at 4:00pm.

U. tries to meet students' wants with Starbucks

STARBUCKS, FROM PAGE 1

Blachowski-Dreyer, general manager of Founders' Dining Hall. "We actually wanted it back, because when the Union was closed we housed all the coffee equipment here, Blachowski-Dreyer said. "Then when Starbucks came along they said, 'we need someplace for [the equipment] to go,' and we raised our hands first.

Selling specialty coffee had been a successful concept when housed in Founders, she said and she predicts it will again.

"It doesn't hurt that we are centered around several administration buildings," Blachowski-Drever said. "It is good for the faculty and staff to have someplace different to go

Students with Flexfunds will also benefit from this change giving them a place to spend their food plans on specialty drinks outside of the Union.

"For breakfast this is one-stop shopping," Blachowski-Dreyer said. "We serve hot break-

half.com"

by end

fast, we have a la carte things, yogurt, cereal bars, doughnuts and pastries.

Underground also The extended the former shop's hours and is open 7-10 a.m. Monday through Friday and 10 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. on weekends.

It is Dining Services' hope to have Starbucks open later this semester, Finan said. Although its opening had initially been much earlier.

"It is under construction now," Finan said. "We plan to open in March, but we had hoped to open by fall break. So we are not holding our breath." In a few weeks another loca-

tion will open up for coffee drinkers, carrying Grounds for Thoughts specialty drinks. The store called Grounds to Go will be located in Chili's where the Neighborhood Deli was last

The Neighborhood Deli has been moved to one of the lines in Common's Dining Center, unclogging Chili's during busy business hours.

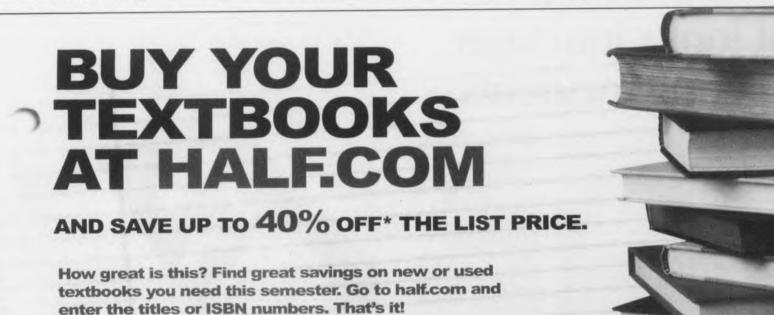
Wicks said he is equally excited about this second store opening and praises Dining Services for recognizing student's needs. He said he understands the desire for national brands, but is happy Dining Services will keep their local ties.

campus survey administrated by Dining Services a few years ago found that many students wanted a Starbucks on campus. Wicks said that although many argue against national chains, he thinks Dining Services has done the right thing. "A survey was done that

showed students wanted a Starbucks," Wicks said. "If there is any resentment towards the national player it certainly shouldn't be focused at Dining Services. The hard work by Dining Services is why we are still here.

This, said Finan, was the

goal. "Starbucks is a branded, nationally known concept. Grounds for Thought is a business that is supporting the community," she said. "So I think we are offering faculty, staff and students a few alternatives.



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STUDENTS DISCUSS BOOK-BUYING METHODS

According to the Student Monitor, a nationally syndicated market research study of the college student market, 67 percent of students say, "Instead of paying money for a new bundled version, I am more likely to buy a used copy of the book alone." For this survey 1,200 full-time undergraduates at four-year colleges and universities were interviewed.

(ANP

Popularity of business school increases with cash

By Justin Pope The Associated press

Venture capital is agony and ecstasy, bust and boom, the stress of gambling and the thrill of a front-row view on the latest technologies. And when real money is involved, it's also one of the hottest classes on business school campuses

In an effort to elevate their teaching beyond the usual case studies and guest speakers, a handful of schools are raising significant amounts of money to turn over to students who invest in real startups. The hope is to better train both aspiring venture capitalists and aspiring entrepreneurs, who will need to know what it takes to catch an investor's eye.

And while it hasn't happened yet, if a student venture fund happens to back the next Google and fills its university's coffers, so much the better.

I went around to different VC firms in the (Salt Lake) valley and said I'd sweep their floors for them if they wanted. Then I saw this opportunity," said Mark Campbell, a University of Utah student involved with the University Venture Fund there. "It just kills what the classroom has to offer."

Utah is one of at least three business schools where students essentially run venture capital funds, along with the University of Michigan and Cornell University. Others, including the University of Maryland, sponsor venture funds that involve students to varying degrees in evaluating investment prospects. Several considering starting student-run funds plan to attend a conference in Utah next month.

It's nothing new for students to play with real money. Dozens of schools let students advise and manage equity funds to learn about stock picking, and many run business plan competi-tions or "incubators" that fund student startups.

The schools say having students really get their hands dirty in the VC world is a challenge of a different order.

"Unless they're really putting hard dollars into it, they say, 'Oh, it's probably OK," said Timothy Faley. managing director of the Samuel Zell & Robert H. Lurie Institute for Entrepreneurial Studies, which oversees Michigan's fund. "The difference between, 'It's probably OK' and them staking their name on this deal is pretty significant.

Faley says the arrangement is also good for the companies. If they get turned down for funding they get better feedback than many professionals would bother to offer. And if they do get money, the businesses might also get continued help from students who advise them, and who may even come aboard for internships or full-time jobs

Most grants run five or six digits, and are a small part of a funding package with other VC firms. Utah's fund, which was founded in 2001 and plans to announce next month it has raised \$5

million, has backed one company with a \$100,000 investment, and plans to announce another deal soon. Cornell's BR (Big Red) Ventures Fund, which has raised \$500,000, has backed four busine

Michigan's \$3.5 million Wolverine Venture Fund recently saw one of its portfolio companies go public; Faley says profits from the stock sale mean the fund is earning a slight positive return for the university's endowment.

In some cases, like Michigan's, the fund is supported by donations and is essentially a sliver of the university's endowment that is farmed off to the students to manage. At Maryland, the university is one of many investors.

At Utah, the money comes entirely from outsiders, including individuals and large investment firms.

For students, the programs demand long hours outside of class and typically little course credit, but they are very popular: 60 to 100 students apply for eight slots each year at Michigan, while Utah selects five to 10 from 100 applicants. In some cases, engineers, lawyers and biologists participate, contributing their expertise. Utah accepts some undergraduates and students from other colleges

The popularity stems in part from the desirability of jobs in venture capital, a tough field to break into.

"Apprenticeship is still the career path of venture capital," said Michael Grenier, a second-year Maryland MBA student from Columbia Falls, Mont. "I passed up going to some of the other top schools to have a chance to come here and participate in this program."

The programs also show students who want to start companies how to view their businesses through the eyes of a venture capitalist. About two-thirds in Michigan's program are "entrepreneur wannabes" rather than "VC wannabes," Michigan's Faley said.

Some academics are skeptical of the program's value. Michael Morris, a professor at Syracuse University's Whitman School of Management, says his school has avoided a true student-run fund, partly because it would demand full-time professional guidance and partly because of potential conflicts.

"If it's a campus based venture fund, you've got other objectives, other than the pure financial objectives," he said. "You've got learning objectives

Maryland Professor Mark Grovic, who advises the \$20 million New Markets Growth Fund, says learning and earning go together. "The more successful we are from a financial or

community development perspective, the better it's going to be for the experience of the students," he said

GOT BOOKS?



Jenn Paal BG News BOOKSTORE BLUES: Students wait in long lines to buy their books at the University Bookstore. This is an all too familiar scene to them on the first week of classes.



Curated by BGSU UniGraphics director, designer, and instructor Paul Obringer, this exhibition will highlight current work by former student interns who are now establishing their own identity in the world of design. Arts Center Williard Wankelman Gallery

President's Lecture Series 2005 Advocates for change in the 21st century: Issues of Body, Mind &

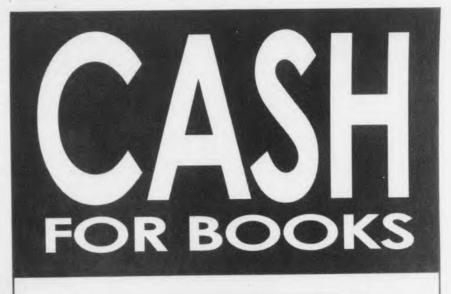
Spirit Dr. Steven Blair president and CEO of Cooper Institute in Dallas

Discussion emphasizes the shift in thinking that needs to happen to alter trends in an

increasingly obese population 206 Bowen-Thompson Student Union Theater

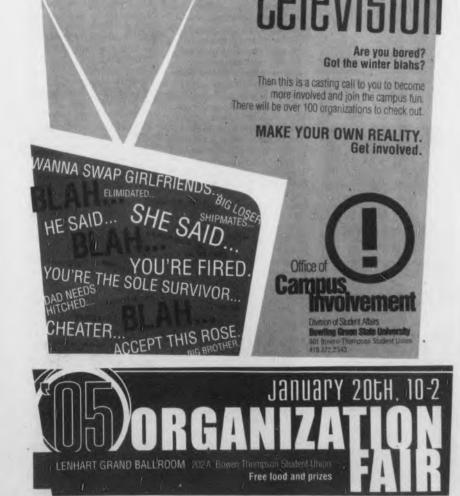
8 to 9:30 p.m.

Campus Worship Sponsored by Active Christians Today Prout Chapel





Wednesday, January 12, 2005 3



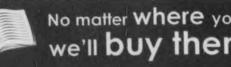
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QUOTEL NOTOTE "Let historians not record that when America was the most powerful nation in the world we passed on the other side of the road and allowed the last hopes for peace and freedom of millions of people to be suffocated by the forces of totalitarianism.." Richard M. Nixon

OPINION

Media's Asian focus misplaced

The tsunami tragedy has dominated all forms of media and continues to do so. While we commend the media for giving attention to such an important issue, we feel that they may be getting off-track in their focus.

It seems the news is focusing more on victims of the tsunami who are not even native to the areas affected, rather than those citizens who have been displaced permanently.

Moreover, the islands and countries that were hit hardest

YOU DECIDE

Do you think the media is focusing on Western deaths and ignoring Asians? Send an Email to thenews@bgnews.com and tell us what you think, or post feeback on our web site.

are big tourist attractions that draw many people from both Europe and western nations. By acknowledging this fact, we are left to ask ourselves if coverage would be as high if there were not citizens of those wealthier countries over there, or some of "our own." In more specific newscasts,

individuals have been featured as braving the disaster. But they too were foreign to that region and were thus able to gather themselves and their belongings, and go home.

Czech supermodel, Petra Nemcova is an example of this. Nemcova, who was vacationing in Phuket, had clung to a tree for hours while the water raged below her. In a headline on CNN.com, it dramatically stated Nemcova and her boyfriend's "search for peace and sun in tropical southern Asia was shattered by the tsunamis."

A second story that dominated the world, national and local news channels included a Swedish boy who was separated from his parents during the disaster and was then reunited with his father. But issues that were left to page 2 of most newspapers are that while authorities scrambled to locate this child's family, Indonesians were dealing with slow relief efforts. Maybe their focus should have

Maybe their focus should have been on relief efforts rather than this one case.

With a death toll exceeding 150,00, do only two individuals need this much coverage?

Hundreds of Americans are still missing due to the tsunami but should that take precedence over the number of Asians missing or killed in the in the tsunamis? Americans have been very compassionate in donating money and time to help survivors. They should be recognized for that. However, their media coverage is lacking a bit in some areas. Media priorities need to be re-organized when dealing with a serious issue like this.

The media's attention should be focused on those who have suffered such a tremendous disaster in their homeland. They are the ones needing the most attention right now.

Election not likely to fix Iraq's problems quickly

ROBERT

U-Wire Columnist Daily Trojan University of Southern California

t least one member of the Bush administration realized the consequences of a unilateral U.S. invasion of Iraq. Secretary of State Colin Powell called it the Pottery Barn rule: You break it; you own it.

Powell knows a little something about such matters. Unlike President Bush and many of his key advisers, Powell served in the Vietnam War. He saw first-hand the price in blood and treasure that America paid trying to fight counter-insurgency — a fight that was ultimately in vain.

Drawing from this experience, he outlined his vision for effective use of military power in a plan known as the Powell Doctrine, Basically, the plan calls for the use of military force only as a last resort and, when used, the force must be overwhelming. In addition, military action should seek to accomplish a clear goal, and there must be an exit strategy in place.

exit strategy in place. "We must not, for example, send military forces into a crisis with an unclear mission they cannot accomplish, such as we did when we sent the U.S. Marines into Lebanon in 1983," Powell said in a 1992 speech. "We inserted those proud warriors into the middle of a five-faction civil war complete with terrorists, hostage-takers and a dozen spies in every camp, and said, 'Gentlemen, be a buffer.' The results were 241 Marines and Navy personnel killed and a U.S. withdrawal '83, with the Pottery Barn rule thrown in to boot. The United States is responsible for Iraq and its 25 million people, even as a brutal insurgency murders and terrorizes Iraqis and American troops every day.

Bush's definition of winning seems to be to install a functioning, stable democracy into a country broken by years of Saddam Hussein's cruel misrule. Bush is at his most messianic when he speaks about liberal democracy being not just America's gift to the world, but God's gift to humanity. It remains to be seen if this goal is attainable in Iraq.

The key step in the administration's plan is the nationwide election scheduled for Jan. 30, less than three weeks away. Fourteen million eligible Iraqi voters will choose from more than 7,500 candidates for the 275-seat provisional national assembly, 18 provincial councils and a regional Kurdish parliament. Unfortunately, this incredibly ambitious exercise in democracy could make things worse, setting the wheels in motion for an all-out civil war.

First off, there is the small matter of the insurgency, which seeks to strangle Iraq's nascent democracy in its crib. The Islamists, led by the local affiliate of al Qaida, Abu Musab al-Zarqawi, oppose the theory and practice of democracy. They see it as a violation of Islam to govern by decisions of man over the rules of Allah, and desire an Islamic theocracy in the Taliban mold in Iraq. The insurgency also contains former Baathists, who are fighting to regain the power lost with the toppling of Husseins regime.

Both camps find an ample supply of foot soldiers in toll somewhere between 15,000 and 17,000 people. Friends and relatives of these innocent victims seek revenge by planting roadside bombs or strapping explosives to their chests. Because of this continuing

Because of this continuing insurgency, the commander of American ground forces said that four of Iraq's provinces, which account for nearly half of the Iraqi population, are unsafe to hold elections. Election organizers plan to transport 7 million pounds of equipment, including ballot boxes, ballots and 142,000 polling booths, in the week before election. The United Nations will observe the process — from the safety of Amman, Jordan.

While these are clearly not optimal conditions to hold an election, the story gets worse. The unsafe areas are all in the Sunni-dominated regions, which has prompted many Sunni groups to call for a boycott on the election. They fear a government dominated by Shiites that might exclude or oppress Sunnis. They also fear the establishment of an Iran-style theocracy, even though the most influential Shiite religious leader, Ayatollah Ali al-Sistani, rejects such an idea.

The underlying problem here lies with the divisions in the Iraqi population. Shiites, who were persecuted under Baathist rule, make up about 60 percent of the population. The Sunnis, who had been in power, make up about 20 percent, and Kurds make up the remaining 20 percent.

If the Sunnis fail to participate, they could rebel against the Shiite-dominated government with a deadly, orchestrated force that will make the current insurgency look like child's play. Meanwhile, the Kurds have been enjoying self-rule and relative peace in northern Iraq,

PEOPLE ON THE STREET How do you plan to

work off the weight you gained over winter break?



ERIC SIERRA SOPHOMORE, PSYCH "I like to keep my winter coat on all year."



MIKE "DEER" SHUE FRESHMAN, MECHANICAL

"Running around in the woods and open fields."



ANDREW MATKO FRESHMAN, UNDECLARED

Meet your 'quaint' new government

et me see: level three snow emergencies, indecisive weather, overflowing arking lots, and difficult road-

parking lots, and difficult roadways. Yup, it must be January in Bowling Green. Welcome back. But students aren't the only

ones returning from break. Hundreds of miles away, our government has cleared its collective head of the nog hangover and returned to work. And what a government it is.

Let's take a look at what we have. Returning is a Supreme Court that is one justice away from being decidedly conservative. The media is ready to pounce on any and all medical developments! The president is ready with conservative judges in the wing, waiting for their chance to shine! The activists are ready to protest any one of them he chooses! Do you feel that shiver of anticipation?

It's only the beginning. Already, the Republican-led 109th Congress has begun its tenure. Like any good soap, sitcom, or professional wrestling show, some of our favorites have returned while others have been written out (John Edwards, we barely knew ye). Meanwhile, we have new faces to come to love. Barack Obama, how does it feel to be a presidential candidate before you've been sworn in as a Senator? And look, there's Tom Coburn, ready to fight feminists, homosexuals, abortionists activists, the Fab Five, and any other agents of the "gay agenda." Move over network TV, I'll be glued to C-SPAN this year.

Last, but certainly not least we have the Executive branch, with the returning main man himself, President George W. Bush. Now, some might be apprehensive since all branches of government are solidly under the control of a singl arty, but not this columnist. It's obvious that this country voted for morality, and then went home to watch Desperate Housewives. Just remember, "fascism" and "fun" both start with "f"! Sadly, some other members of the Executive team won't be returning to Washington this season. The Secretary of Health and Human Services, Tommy Thompson is out. No more Orwellian gambits, I guess, like making fake news reports to support administration policies. Another sour face leaving the set is Attorney General John Ashcroft. From implementing the overzealous Patriot Act to covering up the bare breast of Lady Justice (there's a metaphor

J. MICHAEL Bestul

From the Pit of Insanity

there, methinks), Johnny-boy was a real character. Who could the president possibly find to replace him?

Enter Alberto R. Gonzales, nominee for attorney general. During confirmation hearings, he assured us that "torture and abuse will not be tolerated by this administration." This is an important sentiment, considering those Abu Ghraib trials are about to start. He also ensured us that "the Department of Justice aggressively pursues those responsible for such abhorrent actions."

These are essential stances for an attorney general to take. Let's hope that he doesn't undermine them by, say, writing memos that pull a Clinton on defining the word "torture" or pooh-pooh the Geneva Conventions. Oops.

Sometimes I wonder if this administration does stuff just to see if it'll go through. This is the same guy who wrote four pages stating that our War on Terror renders obsolete Geneva's strict limitations on questioning of enemy prisoners and renders quaint some of its provisions." Maybe it's me, but I think those pages undermine Gonzales when he expresses "outrage" and "disgust" at the Abu Ghraib scandal, or tries to tell the Senate that he considers "the Geneva Conventions neither obsolete nor quaint."

Granted, Gonzales mentions provisions such as providing athletic uniforms" as "quaint. And he may not be completely off the mark. But his word choice is a little problematic. I would never call such a set of guidelines, ones that might protect my friends and family in the armed forces, 'quaint." Or "obsolete." Really, though, you should check out this memo. Gonzales has written a real page-turner. You'll marvel at how he wonders what constitutes "outrages upon personal dignity" or "inhumane treatment." They're so undefined, who's to say if we've committed them? You'll laugh in hindsight at such sentiments as not needing to abide by Geneva because our "policy of providing humane treatment to enemy detainees gives us... credibility." Written two years before the Abu Ghraib story

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from the troubled area."

Fast forward to 2005, and the United States is locked in a military conflict sounds eerily reminiscent of Lebanon in disaffected, angry Iraqis looking for somebody to blame for their grief and hardship. The Web site www.iraqibodycount. net estimates the civilian death

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5

PLANES HIT BY LASER BEAMS WHILE ATTEMPTING TO LAND



"I will smother my body with vaseline, wrap myself in seran wrap, and take a cold bath."



DAVE STROCK FRESHMAN, PSYCH "Invite Dr. Phil over to whip me into shape."

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5



210 West Hall Bowling Green State University Bowling Green, Ohio 43403 Phone: (419) 372-6966 E-mail: thenews@bgnews.com Web site: http://www.bgnews.com ANGELA GORTER MANAGING EDITOR TIFFANI MCKENZIE CAMPUS NEWS EDITOR NICOLE DELISIO CITY NEWS EDITOR KARA HULL NEWS EDITOR MIRANDA BOND FEATURES EDITOR ASHLEY NEHLS DESIGN EDITOR PATRICK MAYNARD ONLINE EDITOR ELLIOTT SCHREINER SPORTS EDITOR BOB MOSER COPY CHIEF MATT SUSSMAN OPINION EDITOR SEAN CORP PULSE EDITOR BEN SWANGER PHOTO EDITOR KEN EDWARDS WEBMASTER

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR are to be fewer than 300 words. These are usually in response to a current issue on the University's campus or the Bowling Green area.

GUEST COLUMNS are longer pieces between 600 and 800 words. These are usually also in response to a current issue on the University's campus or the Bowling Green area.

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Letters to the Editor and Guest Columns are printed as space on the Opinion Page permits. Additional Letters to the Editor or Guest Columns may be published online. Name, year and phone number should be included for verification purposes. Personal attacks, unverified information or anonymous submissions will not be printed. E-MAIL SUBMISSIONS as an attachment to thenews@bgnews.com with the subject line marked "Letter to the Editor" or "Guest Column." Only e-mailed letters and columns will be considered for printing, All letters are subject to review for length and clarity before printing.

Opinion columns do not necessarily reflect the views of **The BG News**.

IRAQ ELECTION, FROM PAGE 4

a region that locals already call Kurdistan. The Kurds have their own disciplined, 80,000-member military, the Peshmerga. Should the Sunni and Shiite Arabs begin tearing themselves apart in southern and central Iraq, the Kurds could take the oil-rich city of Kirkuk, then formally secede. So a great deal rests on the

election at the end of the month. The Bush administration has rejected postponing the election, probably because it realizes there is no real way to make the country any safer without bringing in another 100,000 or so American troops. However, if the election

makes things worse, our troops could be stuck in the crossfire between warring factions. Given the situation, it is due time for a well defined — and realistic — definition of what exactly "winning" is in Iraq. And, as horrible as it sounds, let's hope Pentagon planners are working on some sort of exit strategy should we fail to reach that goal.

NEW GOVERNMENT, FROM PAGE 4

broke, perhaps these words define Gonzales' outrage and disgust.

Why, this memo is so amazing, it inspired one critic (Sen. Lindsey Graham, R-South Carolina) to remark, "When you start looking at torture statutes and you look at ways around the spirit of the law, you're losing the moral high ground. I do believe that we've lost our way." Remember kids, he's going to be our "top cop." All in all, this stands to be

one exciting political season. The lone dud is the return of Press Secretary Scott McClellan.

He's so inept, his reaction to the presidential Guard service story was more flawed than **CBS** News

Miss something over break?

Check out bgnews.com to catch up.

Oh, well. I guess they can't all be gems.

OPINION

Academic choices should not be major problems

MATTHEW

U-Wire Columnist Daily Trojan University of Southern California

elcome back from the much-needed winter holiday. If you're reading this, you have surprisingly managed to survive the fiery gauntlet of first semester — either that or you're desperately in need of some help for this semester. Well, look no further, for I, your friendly neighborhood procrastinator-in-reform, am here to make sure you will do well and get what you paid for.

I'm sure that by now, many of you have already chosen a major and are undergoing freshman year crises because of it. Others are frantic about minors and the classes you will need for your special programs.

Or, if you're like me, you might be worrying about how you're going to graduate in four years with a (not recommended) combination of majors in aerospace engineering and theatre, minors in biotechnology and business, a pre-med emphasis and participation in the honors in Multimedia Scholarship program.

The most important piece of advice that I can give follows this sentence, so please make a note of it and repeat it to yourself as often as you need to make decisions regarding choosing a major in college. Are you ready? The golden rule of surviving college: Don't panic.

Its easier said than done, but it's possible, and if you can keep a level head on your shoulders. you'll have a much easier time getting through your crises. If there's anyone who knows the truth behind this statement

it is me. Remember that old saying that "no matter how bad your situation is, there's somebody who is worse off?" That would be me. If you think 18 units and Writing 140 is bad, try 20 units during your first semester of freshman year, plus worrying about getting articles in for three publications and actually having a social life.

So, returning to the topic of majors, yes, there may well be some students who arrive on campus and know what they want to major in and what they want to do with it, but if you don't, its all right. There is no need to rush into the decision during your first year (although engineering and architecture usually take four years). Most students change their major at least once, so it's OK if you made a mistake with your major — don't be pressured into remaining in a track you cannot deal with.

If most or all of the courses required for a major look cool, then go ahead and take it (unless, of course, you're like me, in which case, it is good to have a few friends give you a reality check). If you feel that you can handle a double major and the extra courses (which include the pressures of extra units, lack of time, more work, etc.) it requires -- and you can fit all your requirements in before you graduate in however many years you want - then go for that, too. But if it looks like it's going to be a tight squeeze, or you're afraid of burning out or sacrificing too many non-major classes, don't bother.

The great military strategist Sun Tzu once wrote "Know yourself, know your enemy. Fight a hundred battles, win hundred battles." In the same way, before you choose a major, know yourself. Follow

your interests, not your concern about job prospects, because the truth is that many people go into professions that have nothing to do with their majors. Alan Greenspan, the chairman of the Federal Reserve Board, was a music major, of all things. Mick Jagger majored in econom-ics. The lesson here is that you have more options than you think. Do what you're passionate about, not on the assumption that it's the only fast track to your lucrative dream job. If you choose a major just for a job, you might hate that major, do badly in it and subsequently rule out a career you might

have been great at. Don't spend all your energy deciding on a major. After all, there's still the little matter of actually surviving your next few years here at USC. For that, a few tips: Don't overburden yourself with classes, have enough time for yourself and get some sleep. I am perhaps not the best example of this, but even I have survived to write this article, though how long I will remain living, I can't say.

Now it's time for one of those periodic reality checks you'll need to make every once in a while, when you need to honestly evaluate your options. If you're a pre-med student, how are you doing in your science classes? Have you discovered a strong interest in the arts? Are you overloaded with units, and burning out too quickly? Is your bank account hemorrhaging from the strain you've put on it?

These answers might help you choose your path, but remember that for most students, picking a college major is not the same as picking a career. In the end, it will be up to you to decide what to do with your life.

Let's get rid of text-books forever

JASON Roberts

Guest Columnist Daily O'Collegian Oklahoma State University

t's textbook buying time once again, and I'm sure more than a few people are as amazed at how much the dang things cost. Even though it's always like this, year after year, that number you never thought could fit on a cash register always takes me by surprise.

Everyone has these woes, but there's nothing we can do about it. We're required to have these treekillers, so we can be charged as much as publishers want.

Many books aren't even used, and I'm not just talking about by people who never show up to class. One year, my whole class bought a "required" book, only to find out halfway through the year that the professor didn't even know the book existed.

It sucks, but there's nothing we can do about it. Or is there? Giant tomes of indecipherable

text are a thing of the past. I suggest we scrap the whole thing and adopt a new, technologically advanced system: The eBook.

The way it would work is pretty simple. Everyone at the univer-sity would be required to buy an eBook reader, basically an inexpensive handheld computer. You can get one for under \$200, well under the average cost of a single semester's texts. And if you have a personal digital assistant to begin with, you're already set.

When it comes time to buy our books, just download them from the Internet at a fraction of the cost of a book. I'd be willing to bet you could do this for under \$100.

Now there's no lugging heavy books to class every day! Simply put your reader in your pocket and you're off! Now sure, it

- reading on the small screen and everything — but the money saved and other benefits will make up for it.

Need to find a certain word? Just search your book like you would a Web page! The possibilities are endless.

Now there may be a few drawbacks. Can't get used to reading the reader? Just look at ou your home computer! Still want a few pages? Print them! You'll kill a few trees, but not nearly as many as printing the book would.

"Sounds like a great plan, Jason, so why aren't we doing it?"

I'm not such an egomaniac that I think I'm the first to think of this. The problem, then, lies with the publishers, who don't want to release their stranglehold on our wallets

I think the eBook would be in the publishers best interests

A great part of a book's expense must be the printing. With this system, that's completely gone. Once a book is ready for print, that's the end of expenses every digital copy costs nothing more to make than the original. So while the publisher makes less on individual title sales, their overhead is cut drastically. They would be crazy not to.

What about the bookstore? To that I say, someone has to sell the readers, right? Not only that, but the stores could just have a smaller physical locations, and provide download centers for books, in store and online.

I'll do whatever needs to be done to make this happen. I think we should all throw our support behind the eBook before heavy bags throw out our backs.

Learn where your ROTC buddies are headed.

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Wednesday, January 12, 2005 5



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SEPT. 11 PRISONERS TO BE RELEASED

The last four Britons held at Guantanamo Bay and an Australian will be released within weeks after months of appeals to the United States, the three said yesterday. They were among 550 prisoners from 42 countries being held at the U.S. naval base in Cuba after being detained during the Afghanistan war.

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www.bgnews.com/world MOR,

Israel and Palestine come closer to peace

By Ramit Plushnick-Mastik THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

IERUSALEM - Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon called Mahmoud Abbas yesterday to congratulate him for winning the Palestinian presidential elections, the latest sign the two sides are eager to restart peace efforts after years of stalemate.

Abbas' landslide Since victory Sunday, Israel and the Palestinians have signaled their readiness to return to the negotiating table. The election and the formation of a new Israeli government that includes the dovish Labor Party have raised hopes around the world that talks might soon resume.

Yesterday's phone call, onfirmed by Israeli and confirmed by Israeli and Palestinian officials, was the first direct contact between the two leaders since the election.

Sharon "congratulated him on his personal achievement and his victory in the elections and wished him luck," said a statement issued by the prime minister's office. "They agreed they would continue talking in the near future.

Earlier yesterday, Sharon told his new Cabinet he hoped to meet Abbas in the "near future." He told the ministers the meeting would focus on security issues. especially efforts to "halt terrorism," according to participants.

Abbas widely is considered more moderate than his predecessor, Yasser Arafat, who died Nov. 11. Israel refused to negotiate with Arafat, accusing him of encouraging violence

during the past four years of fighting between the two sides. The last meeting between Israeli and Palestinian premiers was in August 2003, when Sharon

met Abbas during his brief term Palestinian prime PROFILE

Abbas known as a pragmatist

Mahmoud Abbas, the man who exit polls said overwhelmingly won Sunday's Palestinian presidential election, is well liked at home and stands in sharp contrast to Arafat's theatrics. Birth - Born in 1935 in Safed, now in Israel; family later fled to Syria Political career – Chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organization; former Prime Minister; secondranking PLO leader to Arafat and helped found the organization: led

Palestinian negotiators in peace talks in 1990s; helped found ratat's Fatah party in 1965 Family - Married, has two sons Sunday's elections were



well-prepared meeting. We will not go just for a meeting, but for a useful one," he said. In another development,

Palestinian National Security over all West Bank cities since launching a large offensive in April 2002 in response to a Adviser Jibril Rajoub resigned yesterday. In a statement, he said he was giving a chance to Abbas suicide bombing that killed to appoint his own adviser, Netanya. But it eased its mili-tary presence ahead of Sunday's leaving open the possibility he would return to

the post. Rajoub one of the

West

was Arafat's

securityadviser

for the last year

After shun-

ning Arafat for the last four

years, Israeli

officials have

said they are

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to work with

Israeli Defense

Ministry offi-

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The offi-

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a more permanent pullback. Israel has said progress in peacemaking will be linked to Abbas' ability to take on most powerful figures in the Bank, Palestinian militants

29 people in the coastal city of

election, raising the possibility of

The Hamas and Islamic Jihad militant groups have said they are ready to work with Abbas, but so far they have resisted his calls for a cease-fire.

Hamas militants fired several barrages of mortar rounds and homemade rockets at Israeli towns and Jewish settlements in Gaza yesterday. No one was wounded, but several buildings were damaged.

An Israeli wounded Jan. 2 in a Palestinian rocket attack on the Erez crossing died of his injuries vesterday.

has Abbas criticized militant attacks as damaging to the Palestinian cause. But he is reluctant to openly confront the militants, hoping instead to persuade them to accept a cease-fire.

Sharon could face difficulties holding together his fragile coalition long enough to implement his plan to withdraw from the Gaza Strip and four West Bank settlements by year's end. Sharon formed the coalition with the dovish Labor Party late

Monday after narrowly winning a 58-56 vote in parliament. Defense Minister Shaul Mofaz

told the Cabinet yesterday that he expects the pullout, initially envisioned as a unilateral initiative, to be coordinated with the new Palestinian leadership. The pullout is scheduled to begin in July. The Defense Ministry has



SHOWING THANKS: Interim Palestinian leader Mahmoud Abbas greets his supporters while visiting Al-Najah University, Thursday, Jan. 6, 2005.

isked Attorney General Meni Mazuz to review the legal implications of a plan to build a trench along a key patrol road on the Israel-Gaza border.

Defense officials, speaking on condition of anonymity, said digging the trench would require demolishing as many as 3,000 Palestinian homes in the border town of Rafah.

Military planners say the trench is the best way to prevent weapons smugglers from digging tunnels under the border. Militants have used

tunnels to plant explosives under Israeli military installations. Palestinian Cabi Cabinet minister Saeb Erekat condemned the idea, calling it "a catastrophe and a disaster for the Palestinian people."

The Israeli army has demolished hundreds of homes in Gaza in the past four years, saying the structures are used for cover by militants.

The Palestinians and human rights groups have condemned the practice, which has left thousands of Palestinians homeless.



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on condition of anonymity, said discussions with the Palestinians on the issue likely would begin within days Israel has had security control





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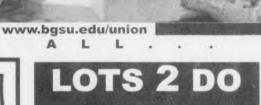
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We've hatched some new options over winter break. Come see what's new!





8 Wednesday, January 12, 2005

GLOBAL TSUNAMI HELP EFFORTS CONTINUE BISMARCK, N.D. (AP) - The North Dakota Grain Growers is asking farmers to donate the gross revenue from one acre of wheat or barley to tsunami relief efforts. "We've had disasters in North Dakota, and the rest of the country has stepped up for us," President Greg Daws said Monday in Bismarck.

Muddy strife continues in California

By Chris Nguyen

LOS ANGELES - Scattered rain showers lashed waterlogged Southern California again terday, hampering efforts to find survivors buried by a mud slide in a coastal community and prompting hundreds to flee a mountain town below a rain-swollen reservoir and along rising streams.

The succession of storms that have brought heavy snow to the mountains of Northern California and astonishing amounts of rain in the south was blamed for the deaths of at least 19 people. The National Weather Service

said vesterday that downtown Los Angeles had recorded its wettest 15 consecutive days on record, with a total of 17 inches of rain falling in the period ending Monday.

The storm was forecast to taper off late Tuesday or early Wednesday and no new system is expected through the coming Martin Luther King Jr. holiday weekend. More snow fell in the Sierra Nevada, but the mountains were expected to get a break in the weather this weekend with rising temperatures

In La Conchita, a small community on a spit of land between the hills south of Santa Barbara and the Pacific Ocean, a massive mudslide Monday killed four people, injured 14 and left up to 27 unaccounted-for.

Some of the missing may have been out of town, but firefighters were certain at least some were trapped in the 15 homes that were crushed under a pile of mud 30 feethigh, said Keith Mashburn, the Ventura County Fire Department's chief investigator.

Rescuers using hand tools resumed their search before daybreak Tuesday when they detected what appeared to be slight movement in the mud and debris. Fire officials advised them to "look for small hands and small fingers" because three children were among the missing, said department spokesman Joe Luna. Joining the search was Jimmie Wallet, who said he had left his

wife and three daughters to buy ice cream and was leaving the store when he saw the river of earth curve toward his block. He ran toward his home but it was buried.

Wallet, 37, told The Associated Press he worked alongside firefighters to rescue two people from the debris Monday, and saw one of his neighbors pulled out dead

Early yesterday, Wallet's face and clothes were caked with mud but he said he had not given up

releasing water," said Rod Megli, division chief for the Ventura County Fire Department. "That hope of finding his family. "I know they've got to be there. I'm not going to stop," he said. However, he said, there were

volume of water could affect a number of residents. We'd rather be safe than sorry.

Some Piru residents, however, refused to leave. "God is with me and I'm not afraid of anything," said Moses Hernandez, refusing to abandon his Elva's Center Market even

though others waiting out the storm had cleaned out most of his supplies. "I'm out of everythingeggs, milk, potato chips.'

Southeast of Los Angeles, Orange County sheriff's personnel evacuated hundreds of people yesterday along a three mile stretch of swelling San Juan Creek in San Juan Capistrano. The storm also forced the evacuation of an apartment

complex in Alhambra, suburb on the edge of Los Angeles, where authorities feared a rain-saturated hill might give way, and a man was trapped vesterday in a cave in San Bernardino County. It was not immediately known how long he had been in the cave.

COMMUNITY TEAMWORK: Rescue personnel move a victim rescued from a house in La Conchita, Calif., Monday, Jan. 10, 2005 after a massive mudslide swept into the community covering at least a dozen homes trapping many residents.

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NATION

Merger creates largest Union membership

By Charles Sheenan THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

PITTSBURGH - The United Steelworkers of America and International Union PACE announced a merger yesterday that will combine more than three-quarters of a million workers

The combined force will

have more political clout and broader coverage of workers in the industrial sector, union officials said. While the

most recent filings with the U.S. Department of Labor show the combined union would have about 776,000 members, union officials say those 2003 labor figures are

outdated. Even using conservative estimates, the officials said, the new union will exceed membership of other large industrial unions such as the United Autoworkers of America and the International Association of Machinists.

no longer screams coming from

beneath the debris, as there had been Monday. Some 20 miles away, about 350 people in Piru

took shelter overnight at a school

after the entire town of 2,000

residents was advised to evacuate.

"Lake Piru is filling faster than it's

PACE and the Steelworkers members will vote on the proposed merger at concurrent conventions to be held in April. The unions formed an alliance last year and it was anticipated that a formal merger would be forthcoming. The Nashville, Tenn.-based PACE, or the Paper, Allied Industrial, Chemical and Energy Workers International

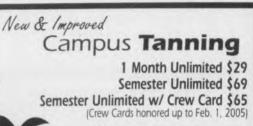
Union, was created in 1999 through the merger of the United Paperworkers and Oil, Chemical and Atomic Workers unions.

The Steelworkers, based in Pittsburgh, merged with the United Rubber Workers in 1995. Steelworkers President Leo Gerard said the union's goal

is to "challenge anti-worker forces bent on undermining the futures of our active and retired members.'

The new entity has a large pool of cash to draw on, a \$150 million defense fund and an organizing budget of \$30 million per year, said Boyd Young, PACE president.





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Wednesday, January 12, 2005 9

Venture capital gains interest nationwide

By Justin Pope THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Venture capital is agony and ecstasy, bust and boom, the stress of gambling and the thrill of a front-row view on the latest technologies. And when real money is involved, it's also one of the hottest classes on business school campuses.

In an effort to elevate their teaching beyond the usual case studies and guest speakers, a handful of schools are raising significant amounts of money to turn over to students who invest in real startups. The hope is to better train both aspiring venture capitalists and aspiring entrepreneurs, who will need to know what it takes to catch an investor's eye.

And while it hasn't happened yet, if a student venture fund happens to back the next Google and fills its university's coffers, so much the better.

"I went around to different VC firms in the (Salt Lake) valley and said I'd sweep their floors for them if they wanted. Then I saw this opportunity," said Mark Campbell, a University of Utah student involved with the University Venture Fund there. "It just kills, what the classroom has to offer.

Utah is one of at least three schools where essentially run business students venture capital funds, along with the University of Michigan and Cornell University. Others, including the University of Maryland, sponsor venture funds that involve students to varying degrees in evaluating investment prospects. Several considering starting student-run funds plan to attend a conference in Utah next month.

It's nothing new for students to play with real money. Dozens of schools let students advise and manage equity funds to learn about stock picking, and many run business plan competitions or "incubators" that fund student start-ups.

The schools say having students really get their hands dirty in the VC world is a challenge of a different order. "Unless they're really putting

hard dollars into it, they say, 'Oh,

it's probably OK," said Timothy Faley, managing director of the Samuel Zell & Robert H. Lurie Institute for Entrepreneurial which Studies, oversees Michigan's fund.

"The difference between, 'It's probably OK' and them staking their name on this deal is pretty significant.

Faley says the arrangement also good for the companies. If they get turned down for funding they get better feedback than many profes-sionals would bother to offer.

And if they do get money, the businesses might also get continued help from students who advise them, and who may even come aboard for internships or full-time jobs.

Most grants run five or six digits, and are a small part of a funding package with other VC firms.

Utah's fund, which was founded in 2001 and plans to announce next month it has raised \$5 million, has backed one company with a \$100,000 investment, and plans to announce another deal soon. Cornell's BR (Big Red) Ventures Fund, which has raised \$500,000, has backed four businesses

Michigan's \$3.5 million Wolverine Venture Fund recently saw one of its portfolio companies go public; Faley says profits from the stock sale mean the fund is earning a slight positive return for the university's endowment.

In some cases, like Michigan's, the fund is supported by donations and is essentially a sliver of the university's endowment that is farmed off to the students to manage At Maryland, the university is

one of many investors

At Utah, the money comes entirely from outsiders, outsiders. including individuals and large investment firms. For students, the programs

demand long hours outside of class and typically little course credit, but they are very popular: 60 to 100 students apply for eight slots each year at Michigan, while Utah selects five to 10 from 100 applicants. In some cases, engineers, lawyers and biologists participate, contributing their exper-tise. Utah accepts some

undergraduates and students from other colleges The popularity stems in part from the desirability of jobs in

venture capital, a tough field to break into. "Apprenticeship is still the career path of venture capital, said Michael Grenier, a secondyear Maryland MBA student from Columbia Falls, Mont.

"I passed up going to some of the other top schools to have a chance to come here and participate in this program.

The programs also show students who want to start companies how to view their businesses through the eyes of a venture capitalist. About twothirds in Michigan's program are "entrepreneur wannabes," rather than "VC wannabes," Michigan's Faley said.

Some academics are skeptical of the programs' value. Michael Morris, a professor at Syracuse University's Whitman School Management, says his school has avoided a true student-run fund, partly because it would demand full-time professional guidance and partly because of potential conflicts

"If it's a campus based-ven-ture fund, you've got other objectives, other than the pure financial objectives," he said. You've got learning objectives." Maryland Professor Mark

Grovic, who advises the \$20 million New Markets Growth Fund, says learning and earning go together.

"The more successful we are from a financial or community development perspective, the better it's going to be for the experience of the students, he said.



Susan A. Walsh AP

BUSH CABINET: President Bush. left, faces federal appelas court judge Michael Chertoff, right, during the news conference to announce Chertiff as his new secretary of the Department of Homeland Security.

New Homeland security Chief named by President

By John Solomon THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON - President Bush yesterday chose federal appeals court judge Michael Chertoff to be his new Homeland Security chief, turning to a former federal prosecutor who helped craft the early war on terror strategy.

"Mike has shown a deep commitment to the cause of justice and an unwavering determination to protect the American people," Bush said.

"Mike has also been a key leader in the war on terror." Chertoff headed the Justice

Department's criminal divi-sion from 2001 to 2003, where

he played a central role in the nation's legal response to the Sept. 11 attacks, before the president named him to appeals court position in New Jerse

Chertoff, a federal appellate judge with the 3rd U.S. Court of Appeals in Philadelphia, would replace Tom Ridge, the department's first chief.

"He leaves some very deep shoes to fill," Chertoff said. "I don't pretend to know him

well. I know him by reputation." Ridge said of Chertoff. "He's got great intellect, great energy. He has been an extremely successful lawyer both in the

public private and sector. Chertoff, who rounds out

Bush's second-term Cabinet, is actually the president's second pick for the job.

Former New York City police chief Bernard Kerik withdrew as nominee last month, citing immigration problems with a family housekeeper.

After failing to disclose the nanny problem during an initial screening, Kerik acknowl-edged it during a subsequent vetting phase as he filled out a clearance form.

Bush said that Chertoff has "been confirmed by the Senate three times," signaling that he should have no problem surmounting the advise and consent process.

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Wednesday, January 12, 2005, 2:00-5:00 pm, Thursday, January 13, 2005, 2:00-5:00pm and Tuesday, January 18, 2005, 2:00-5:00pm

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BG SPORTS BRIEFING Tickets going fast for **BG-UT** hoops game

The Bowling Green men's basketball team's January 22 game against the University of Toledo is quickly becoming a sell-out.

Less than 700 tickets remain as of now.

There will also be a student ticket pick up for the game. A total of 1,400 tickets will be available starting at 9 a.m. on Tuesday, January 18, at the BG athletic ticket office at Anderson Arena. Students with a valid ID card can pick up one ticket at this time.

Big week ahead for BG hoops



It's a good time to be a basketball fan in Bowling Green.

The men are playing well and the women are playing even better.

And there may be no better time for each team to prove themselves than this week

The men's basketball team has a rather large task coming up this week in battles with directional Michigan teams Eastern and Western.

The Falcons have yet to take a big-time road win and Ypsilanti would be a great place to start. The Eagles are 6-0 this season and are deeper than Lake Superior (the deepest lake in the U.S - it's the best I could do). The Falcons will get a chance to display their skills Wednesday and continue their momentum into the grand daddy of them all (for the week) this weekend when they welcome Western Michigan to town

The Broncos are 10-1 on the season and feature the league's best player in Ben Reed. On top of this they are the defending MAC champions and the road the Falcons will have to travel to win the MAC this season will most likely go through Kalamazoo.

And most importantly, this will be the make-or-break week for me

All season long, I've had to hear my friends tell me how bad the Falcons would be this

FALCONS, PAGE 12

MLB: RANDY JOHNSON HAS A SCUFFLE WITH A CAMERAMAN. PAGE 11

www.bgnews.com/sports **BOWLING GREEN STATE UNIVERSITY**

Women's hoops set for EMU showdown

By Elliott Schreiner

It's not every day a team can say they are playing their biggest game of the season but it appears as if the Bowling Green women's basketball team has earned that right.

Falcons welcome The Eastern Michigan to Anderson Arena and there are plenty of reasons for BG to look forward to this one.

The Eagles are arguably the best team in the Mid-American Conference this season and currently sit at 11-2 on the season

On top of this they are the defending MAC champions.

And to make matters worse, they have knocked BG out of the MAC tournament each of the past two years, including last year's MAC title game.

"Their top seven is loaded," BG head coach Curt Miller said. "They're big, athletic and deep and that is what sepa rates them from the rest of the league

And for Miller, this assessment goes beyond just this season.

"On paper they're one of the best MAC teams ever assembled," he said.

They're led by senior guard Ryan Coleman, one of the best players in the MAC.

She leads the team with 16 points, 3.2 assists and 6.7 rebounds per game and will provide headaches for BG.

She is flanked by eight other players that average over 10 minutes per game. They've defeated their

opponents by an average of 16.6 points per contest and have beaten the likes of Missouri and Michigan on the way to showing why they are favored to win the conference.

And they've found a way to take advantage of their often overmatched opponents from

every conceivable angle. "The one major strength **BG News File Photo**

DON'T RECKON WITH HER: Bowling Green forward Liz Honegger has been a force for the Falcons this season.

of Eastern is their inside and outside scoring," Miller said.

But the Falcons have looked every bit as good recently. In their last six games they

have beaten opponents by an average of 16.6 points per game and have won their first two MAC road games by an average of 19 points.

They've been just as strong as Eastern, but Miller is certain as Eastern, our vince e the best is yet to come. "We're becoming more efficient on offense," he said. "But we're still not playing our

best basketball."

The one aspect of the game that may be bothering the Falcons is the lack of atten-

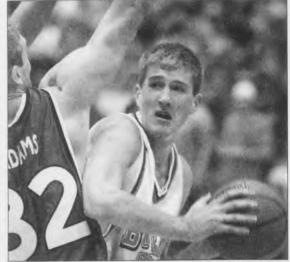
dence they've seen in their only two home games this season, in which they've drawn an average of 558 fans.

This may be the game the team gets a chance to blow the roof off Anderson Arena with a David and Goliath type matchup in which the David

"I'm hoping our momentum urns into people coming out and seeing the Falcons," Miller said

The table is set for a great game, now all the two teams can do is sit down and enjoy the meal.

The game is slated to start at 7 p.m. in Anderson Arena.



WEDNESDAY

January 12,

2005

BG News File Photo ON THE ROAD AGAIN: BG freshman center Scott Vandermeer and the Falcons hit the road to take on Eastern Michigan tonight.

Men's hoops set for rough week

Men getting back to business as school reconvenes at BG.

Hey, even though they're taller than everyone and stronger than everyone and dunk a basketball better than everyone, the Bowling Green men's basketball team is

with the same transitions every BG student is going through as spring class begins.

Dakich said. "Now, schools is starting, girlfriends are back, girls you want to be your girlfriends are back and girls you don't want to be your girlfriend are back So it is a less total basketball environment."

The Falcons have thrived in a total basketball environment in the past weeks as they've used their concentration - and shooting skills — to start 3-0 in the Mid-American Conference.

But the Falcons have more

MEN'S HOOPS, PAGE 11

Johnson, Beltran make big debuts in Big Apple

By Ronald Blum ASSOCIATED PRESS three years), then agreed to pay Zambrano, avoiding arbitration. \$9 million to Arizona as part of

In a trade agreed to on Dec. 30, the Yankees are sending pitchers

On the way to his physical Monday, Johnson got into a con-

By Elliott Schreiner

only human. That is why they are dealing

"Over break every day was basketball," BG head coach Dan

Now that they have come

the Falcons have an even more daunting task standing in their way than professors and love interests and it comes in the form of Eastern Michigan. The Eagles have been a bit of a surprise in the MAC this season

as they've jumped out to a 9-4 start and 3-1 in conference play. Post player John Bowler leads

out of the total basketball zone.

the Eastern attack in the paint and is averaging 15 points and 6.5 rebounds per contest. He gives Eastern their sturdy mentality.

"They're a very physical and tough team," Dakich said. They've got a tough guy with Bowler inside.

But it doesn't stop there, the Eagles have a few veterans to keep their motor running. "Their seniors [Michael] Ross

and [James] Jackson are having senior-type years," Dakich said.

Ross' senior-type season has him averaging 11.8 points per game and four assists per

game while Jackson comes into

tonight's contest averaging 8.9 points, 7.8 rebounds and around

a block and a steal per contest.



NEW NEW YORKER: Carlos Beltran addresses reporters during a news conference yesterday announcing his signing by the Mets.

Carlos Beltran opened a unique doubleheader yesterday by finalizing his \$119 million, seven-year contract with the New York Mets, while the Yankees prepared across town to complete their acquisition of Randy Johnson.

"I feel proud to be part of a new family: the New York Mets. The new Mets," Beltran said at a news conference at Shea Stadium. "I call it the 'new Mets' because this organization is going to a new direction, the right direction, the direction of winning.

Before their deal with Beltran, the Mets gave three-time Cy Young Award winner Pedro Martinez a million, four-year contract and kept Kris Benson for \$22.5 million over three years.

'When we started putting our team together ... I didn't think we were going to be able to sign a Carlos Beltran on top of that, after signing a great pitcher like Pedro Martinez," general manager Omar Minaya said.

The Yankees, who turned down the chance to sign Beltran to a \$100 million, six-year deal, focused on pitching this offseason after wasting a 3-0 lead against Boston in the AL championship series. They signed pitchers Carl Pavano (\$39.95 million over four years) and Jaret Wright (\$21 million over

the Johnson trade and give the Big Unit a \$32 million, two-year extension through 2007. In

other baseball news yesterday, third baseman Tony Batista's \$15 million, two-year contract was final-

ized by Fukouka in "I feel proud Japan's Pacific League, to be part of which also agreed to a deal with infielda new family: Jolbert Cabrera. the New York Reliever Dan Miceli agreed to a one-year Mets. The new deal with the Yomiuri Mets. I call it Giants worth about \$2 the new Mets Monday, because this Toronto agreed

million.

On

\$900,000, orgranization one-year contract with is going reliever Billy Koch. Los Angeles reached in a new a preliminary agreedirection." ment on a \$650.000 deal with catcher Paul Bako, Florida gave a

CARLOS BELTRAN, NEW \$475,000 deal to left-YORK METS hander Matt Perisho. Pittsburgh agreed to a

minor league contract with pitcher Todd Ritchie and Cleveland closed in on a minor league contract with outfielder Juan Gonzalez.

The Mets finalized their \$900,000, one-year deal with infielder Miguel Cairo and agreed to a \$2.1 million, one-year contract with right-hander Victor

Javier Vazquez and Brad Halsey catcher Dioner Navarro and \$9 million to Arizona.

Vazquez passed his physical with the Diamondbacks

on Monday night. Navarro had to take two physicals one for Monday -Arizona and one for Los Angeles, which is acquiring him as

part of a separate

deal. Los Angeles is receiving Navarro and three other prospects from the Diamondbacks for outfielder Shawn Green and \$10 million. Green also passed his physical with Arizona and was scheduled to be introduced at a news conference on

> Tuesday. He and

Diamondbacks the reached reached an agreement in principle Sunday on a \$32 million, three-year contract, which allows that trade to be finalized. Then the Dodgers plan to com-plete their \$36 million, four-year contract with free-agent pitcher Derek Lowe.

frontation on a Manhattan side walk with a television cameraman.

He put his long right arm up to block a camera from WCBS-TV after he left his Manhattan hotel.

Johnson, who was accompanied by Yankees director of team security Jerry Laveroni, made contact with the camera, station spokeswoman Audrey Pass said.

"Get out of my face, that's all 1 ask," Johnson said, according to a video posted on the station's Web site.

"No cameras," Laveroni said.

"Don't get in my face," Johnson then said. "I don't care who you are. Don't get in my face.'

"I'm just taking a picture," said the cameraman, identified by the station as Vinny Everett.

Responded Johnson: "Don't get in my face, and don't talk back to me, all right."

Johnson issued a statement through agent Alan Nero that was distributed by the Yankees.

"Regarding the unfortunate incident that happened this morning as 1 was on my way to take a physical, 1 hope that everyone will understand that the past few days have been a bit overwhelming and I wish I had handled the situation differently,' Johnson said. "I am very sorry it happened."

GET IN ON THE ACTION AT WWW.BGNEWS.COM/SPORTS

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SPORTS

15 finalists named for NFL Hall of Fame

Marino and Young featured as best finalists from quarterback position while Irvin makes move towards Hall as wide out.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Dan Marino and Steve Young set dozens of NFL passing records in the 1980s and '90s, some of which Peyton Manning is erasing now. Marino and Young soon might have something else in common: membership in the Pro Football Hall of Fame

The two retired quarterbacks are among 15 finalists for the hall announced yesterday. The class of 2005, which will have from three to six members, will be announced Feb. 5, the day before the Super Bowl in Jacksonville, Fla.

"It's an honor to get to this stage of the selection process and to be considered along with 14 other deserving candidates," Marino said in a statement released by CBS, where he is a commentator on its NFL pregame show. "I've always said that election

to the Pro Football Hall of Fame was the greatest individual achievement in the game and it would be one of the highlights of my career to join the sport's greatest players in Canton.

Marino, who holds many of the NFLs career passing records, and Young, who led San Francisco to the 1995 Super Bowl title, are among four finalists who made the list in their first year of eligibility.

The others are Michael Irvin, a member of the Dallas teams that won three Super Bowls between 1992 and 1995, and the late Derrick Thomas, the Kansas Citylinebacker who died in 2000 after a car accident.

Marino completed 4,967 of 8,358 passes for 61,343 yards and 420 touchdowns from 1983-99 with the Miami Dolphins. He passed for 3,000 yards 13 times in a season, including six seasons in which he reached 4,000. The native of Pittsburgh, who played for the University of Pittsburgh, passed for 300 yards in a game 63 times and 400 vards 13 times.

He held the record of 48 touchdown passes in a season until Manning threw 49 this

Falcons bring talent to the court tonight

season for the Indianapolis Colts

Young, one of the top-rated passers in NFL history, was the 1995 Super Bowl MVP after throwing six touchdown passes in the 49ers' 49-26 win over San Diego.

"It's a huge honor to be considered with the names on this list, some of the all-time greats," Young said in a state-ment issued through ESPN, where he is an NFL analyst. "I have always had enormous respect for the Hall of Fame and all it represents, and should this come to pass it would be the capstone to my athletic career."

The left-handed Young threw for at least 3,000 yards in a season six times and had 20 or more touchdown passes in a season five times. Adept at avoiding onrushing defenders and scrambling for yardage, he rushed for 4,239 yards and 43 touchdowns.

His league record passer rating in a season - 112.8 in 1994 - was also shattered this season by Manning, who finished at 121.1.

Two of the finalists had already been determined: senior nominees Fritz Pollard and Benny Friedman.

Pollard, who played in the 1920s, was the first black coach of an NFL team. Friedman played for several teams from 1927-34.

The other nominees are linebacker Harry Carson, who played for the New York Giants in the 1970s and 1980s and was a member of the 1987 Super Bowl champions: defensive end Richard Dent, MVP for the Chicago Bears in the 1986 Super Bowl; defensive end L.C. Greenwood, a member of Pittsburgh's "Steel Curtain" teams of the 1970s; guard Russ Grimm, a member of Washington's famed "Hogs"; defensive end Claude Humphrey, who played for Atlanta and Philadelphia between 1968-81; guard Bob Kuechenberg, who played on Miami's 1972 undefeated Super Bowl champions; wide receiver Art Monk, a member of three Super Bowl winners with Washington; Roger Wehrli, a cornerback for the St. Louis Cardinals from 1969-82; and the late George Young, who built two Super Bowl winners as general manager of the Giants.

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Big Unit having problems in Big Apple with NYC media

Tim Dahlberg SPORTS COLUMNIST

Welcome to the Big Apple, Big Unit. The honeymoon sure didn't last long, did it?

With the ink barely dry on the contract that will pay Randy Johnson \$48 million over the next three years, he's already had his first skirmish with the New York media.

As blowups go, this one wasn't much, lasting a few seconds on a Manhattan street while Johnson was on his way to take a physical for the Yankees. Seems Johnson was unhappy with a television cameraman who dared to take video of George Steinbrenner's latest gift to New York fans.

If Johnson hasn't figured it out already, the next three years of his baseball life will be spent under the relentless microscope that is the New York media. And it won't be just his pitching that will be scrutinized 100 different

Everything Johnson does in public - like walking down a Manhattan sidewalk — is now fair game for the writers, television talking heads and radio talk shows that feed the voracious appetite New Yorkers have for their sports teams.

That's part of the price of playing for the Yankees. That's also the reason a pitcher who will be 44 when his contract expires will make \$16 million for each of the next three years. If the media doesn't pay atten-

tion to the Yankees, Johnson doesn't get a half-million dollars every time he takes the mound for his new team. No buzz, no \$5,000 or so a pitch.

Johnson's been around long enough to know that, though in the insular world of baseball's spoiled multimillionaires sometimes things do take longer to sink in. They can't be bothered because they're stars, then they

club

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CONNETIONS

Midwest's Premier Con

wonder after retirement why no one cares anymore. Johnson was to put on

pinstripes for the first time vesterday, meeting the assembled media at Yankee Stadium as Steinbrenner's latest trophy catch. He already met one reporter Monday as he and a Yankees security official walked out of a Manhattan hotel.

The cameraman, identified as Vinny Everett of WCBS-TV, was just trying to do his job, which on this day meant giving New Yorkers a glimpse of the towering left-hander acquired from Arizona to prevent the kind of collapse that occurred against the Red Sox last October.

Everett wasn't trying to sneak into Johnson's hotel room, or even accost him at a restaurant Johnson was walking down a public sidewalk in broad daylight when he put his right hand on the camera and ordered Everett to stop taping.

Everett dared to protest, which drew another rebuke from Johnson "Don't get in my face, and

don't talk back to me," Johnson said Nice. Way to treat the

common man with respect It will be three months before

Johnson takes the mound on opening day against Boston. There's plenty of time for the mutual love affair with demand-ing New York fans to develop. But if Johnson goes apoplectic over a camera on a public sidewalk, what's going to happen when he gives up five runs in the first inning of a critical September game against the Red Sox? What's he going to

he doesn't like by some poor member of the media? Johnson has always been wary of reporters, and detests stupid

SMIT

O admission



APOLOGY ACCEPTED: Randy Johnson has already had problems with the New York media but was quick to apologize for his actions.

hounded, preferring to be left alone

That might have worked in Phoenix, where his scowling presence intimidated some. It won't in New York, where the media can be equally as intimidating.

If Johnson needed to be reminded of that, he needed only to look at the season that wasn't for the New York Giants who have been ripped by both fans and the media for mortgag ing their future on Eli Manning Or ask new teammate Kevin Brown, who made a career out of acting surly, arrogant and condescending to anyone who came near him, only to find the act doesn't work in New York. Brown actually choked up and spoke contritely after coming back from a self-inflicted injury to pitch in the playoffs for the Yankees, though fans might have liked the crotchety Brown of old who could win games

Luckily for Johnson, he's playing on a team of superstars who will deflect some of the spotlight from him. And if he pitches anything like he did last year, when he was 13-2 each time the offensively challenged Diamondbacks scored more than two runs, Johnson won't have many tough questions to answer.

To Johnson's credit, he was quick to apologize, or at least his agent was. Alan Nero issued a statement quoting Johnson as saying "the past few days have been a bit overwhelming and I wish I had handled the situation differently.

Johnson will get a pass on this one, and he should. Nothing was hurt except his image

And, really, New Yorkers see a lot worse every time they climb down the subway stairs.

But if he's going to survive three years in the media jungle of New York, he'd be wise to smile at the camera next time



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MEN'S HOOPS, FROM PAGE 10

do when he is asked a question questions. He doesn't like to be

enough weapons than to compete with a team like Eastern.

Forward Josh Almanson is one of the most improved players in the MAC and is 19.1 averaging points rebounds and five rebounds per game. Not to be outdone is fellow forward John Reimold, who is continuing his domination of opponents this season, averaging 16.5 points, five rebounds, 2.1 assists per contest all while shooting 51.6 percent from the three-point line.

And while these two and the rest of the Falcons have had some solid showings on the road they have yet to take down a team as talented as Eastern away from Anderson Arena.

"Eastern is a game that if we can win we, will show ourselves we can win a big game on the road," Reimold said.

The Falcons will get a chance to get a big win away from home tonight when they take on Eastern Michigan.

"Eastern is a game that if we can win, we will show ourselves we can win a big game on the road." JOHN REIMOLD, BG FORWARD

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Colts chasing NFL title dreams

By Barry Wilner THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Peyton Manning knows his NFL history. He sees his name among the great quarterbacks who have won league MVP honors: Joe Montana, John Unitas, John Elway, Steve Young, Terry Bradshaw.

He also knows something is missing. Is this the year Manning gets

that elusive championship ring to accompany his second straight Most Valuable Player award? Could be

In none of Manning's previous six seasons with the Colts has his team been so well-positioned to challenge for a title. The offense is performing at an almost unfathomable pace, thanks to Manning's precise passing and the superb skills of receivers Marvin Harrison, Reggie Wayne and Brandon Stokley, plus running back Edgerrin James and tight ends Marcus Pollard and Dallas Clark.

The defense, while hardly in the class of the other three remaining AFC contenders, has improved. It has enjoyed the advantage of playing from ahead because of how prolific Manning and company have been. It has two playmakers in Dwight Freeney and Rob Morris, and a terrific coach in Tony Dungy

The Colts also are not a "dome



Tom Strattman AP Photo TITLE BOUND ?: Reggie Wayne and the Colts are trying to make their rise to the top of the

National Football League. team," as Dungy readily points

out.

"We don't subscribe to the indoor-outdoor theory," Dungy says. "We have a better record on the road than at home since I've been here.

Actually, it's the same 17-7 at home and away. Where they have a terrible record, however, is against New England. And that's where

the Colts (13-4) play Sunday,

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versus the defending champi-on Patriots (14-2), a club that often befuddles Manning with intricate defensive alignments and shifts.

Forget the weather, which hasn't necessarily been the problem for the Colts. Their failures against the Patriots, including a defeat at the RCA Dome in the 2003 season, are due to Bill Belichick's schemes that have thrown off the always-prepared Manning. But this edition of the Colts

seems to possess a different mind-set than the team that claimed it could handle the Patriots in recent meetings, then failed.

"Your confidence has to be that you're playing well and we're playing more consistently at the end of the year than last

year," Dungy says. "At New England," said Manning, referring to last January's AFC championship game, "I played like an absolute dog. There's no question about

"We have to play great up there against a great team.

So are they capable of doing so, of eliminating a team that has won all six of its playoff games with Belichick as coach and Tom Brady as quarterback?

Yes. Here's why: - The Patriots, even with a

week off, are not completely

Information Technology Spotlight

healed. They are hurting most in the secondary, a very bad situation when facing Indianapolis And their best lineman, Richard Seymour, has an injured knee.

 Manning is operating on an unprecedented level, and he has more weapons to choose from than ever. Wayne has become a premier receiver, not just a complement to the brilliant Harrison. Stokley is a perfect slot man. Both tight ends are especially dangerous near the end zone. The offensive line gives Manning enough time to

go through his progressions. "Tve never left the field saying I could have done more to be ready," Manning says. "I don't think I do more than any unatterback should L trive it the quarterback should; I give it the attention it deserves."

The officials' stronger emphasis on not allowing receivers to be mugged downfield, a direct result of last year's AFC title game, favors the Colts.

The Colts aren't intimidated by the Patriots. "I don't think anybody in our

building would say we can't go up there and beat them," Dungy says. "Part of what we have to do is realize it is just football, even if it's the playoffs and New England. We make the big plays, we'll win.

Few teams have made more big plays this season than the Colts

return trip to Tribe By Tom Withers THE ASSOCIATED PRESS Free agent outfielder Juan Gonzalez, whose production

Gonzalez makes

has plummeted in recent years because of injuries, is close to signing a minor league contract with the Cleveland Indians. If the two-time American

League MVP makes the Indians' 25-man roster in spring training, he would get \$600,000 and would have a chance to earn another \$1.65 million in bonuses based on plate appearances and \$300,000 based on time on the active roster.

We have no deal yet, but remain hopeful that we can get something done soon," Indians general manager Mark Shapiro said Monday night.

Once one of baseball's most feared right-handed power hitters, the 35-year-old Gonzalez has been limited to just 185 games the past three seasons with Texas and Kansas City because of a variety of injuries.

A lower back problem hampered him last season when he played in just 33 games with the Royals, batting .326 with five homers and 17 RBIs.

Gonzalez hasn't played a full season since 2001, when he had one of his best all-around years as a pro with the Indians. In 140 games, he batted .325 with 35 homers and 140 RBIs - the third most of his career - and helped Cleveland to the AL playoffs.

If he's healthy, Gonzalez would give the Indians some much-needed pop from the right side. He would also alter Cleveland's plans in the outfield.

Gonzalez could take the right-field job away from Casey Blake, who is moving there from third to make room for Aaron Boone. Blake could then go to left and Coco Crisp to center. Grady Sizemore, projected to be Cleveland's starter in center field, would likely begin the season at Triple-A Buffalo.

"There's a comfort zone for him and us," Shapiro said of Gonzalez. "If he's healthy, he's not a bench player.'

Gonzalez has hit 439 career homers for Texas, Detroit, Cleveland and Kansas City.

Lots to play for on court for BG

FALCONS, FROM PAGE 10

season after suffering some losses in the offseason. If BG can pull of two wins this week, my (former) friends can have a large slice of I told you so pie. The only way basketball could

get more exciting in BG is if the women were playing defending MAC champion Eastern Michigan and following it up with a game in Toledo this

weekend. That just so happens to be the case

Eastern is arguably the Falcons' number one enemy this

season. On top of being the

defending MAC champions, they took down BG in the MAC title game to win that championship. Mix in the fact that they

knocked out BG from the MAC tourney two seasons ago and you have a team that has been a rather large pain in the neck,

back and kidney for the Falcons. Eastern would make a great rival if it weren't for those rascals from the city that brings the IQ of Ohio down dramatically

Toledo (please make them part of Michigan).

As usual, the Rockets are and will always be the Falcons biggest rivals. After all, driving down I-75 are the only directions they can remember well enough to play enough games to establish a solid rivalry with anyone.

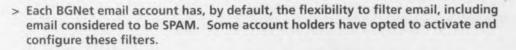
Add in the ever present "BG girls are ugly" shirts and chants of BGSU ... CKS and this becomes the strongest rivalry in the conference and the girls will be right in the middle of it when they travel to Savage Hall this weekend.

The Rockets have had troubles this season but as sual are solid.

BG head coach Curt Miller said they were the sleeper team in the conference and have plenty of talent to take this year's MAC title.

To say the least, if any game has a chance to be bigger than the game against Eastern, it is the game against the Rockets.

And to say the least one more time, this should be the biggest week for BG basketball this season.



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MAN ACCUSED OF RAPE PLEADS GUILTY

COLUMBUS, OH - A man accused of raping 37 women since 1987 pleaded guilty yesterday to 135 charges of rape, kidnapping, burglary and robbery. Patton was known as the "Linden-area rapist" and has confessed to news agencies and police that he has raped several dozen women in Columbus.

Supreme Court drops lawsuit

By Andrew Welsh-Huggins

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP) — Three dozen voters challenging the presidential election results in the Ohio Supreme Court asked to drop their lawsuit yesterday, saying it is moot with last week's certification of the electoral vote and the upcoming inauguration.

Citing fraud, lawyers representing 37 voters on Nov. 2 had asked the court to examine several problems with voting procedures in the hopes of overturning President Bush's victory in the state.

The election turned on Ohio's 20 electoral college votes, and not until preliminary results were available early on the morning of Nov. 3 did Democratic presidential candidate John Kerry concede.

Chief Justice Thomas Moyer of the state Supreme Court must still rule on the motion to dismiss the

Why did BGSU switch from semesters to

case, and is expected to go along with the request.

In a ruling last month declining a request that he remove himself from the case, Moyer, a Republican, called voters' evidence "woefully inadequate." Without giving specifics, attorney Cliff Arnebeck said

challenges of the results would continue in state or federal courts. But he conceded that there was nothing available now to try to prevent Bush's inauguration.

"We are not quitting. We are going on to any other forum that's available and we intend to pursue those avenues aggressively," Arnebeck said.

The Bush campaign welcomed the announcement.

"This lawsuit was going be dismissed by the Supreme Court because it has no merit — it looks like the people who filed it understood that," said Mark Weaver, an attorney representing the Bush campaign.

Bush defeated Kerry by about 118,000 votes, according to a recount of the official results paid for by two independent party candidates.

In their lawsuit, voters pointed to longlines, a shortage of voting machines in predominantly minority neighborhoods and problems with computer equipment.

The Rev. Jesse Jackson backed the lawsuit, alleging what he called "high-tech vote stealing" and holding rallies in Ohio and Washington in support of the effort.

In a quadrennial joint session, the House and Senate on Thursday tallied the electoral votes and affirmed Bush's victory over Sen. John Kerry, D-Mass.

Before the final verdict was in, some Democrats angry over the Ohio irregularities forced a challenge to the vote count for just the second time since the 19th century.



www.bgnews.com/state

SA

FRAUD: The Rev. Jesse Jackson and Rep. Stephanie Tubbs Jones, R-Ohio, of Cleveland, rally at the Riffe Center in Columbus, Ohio. The rally was held to support a challenge to President Bush's Nov. 2 election.

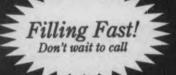




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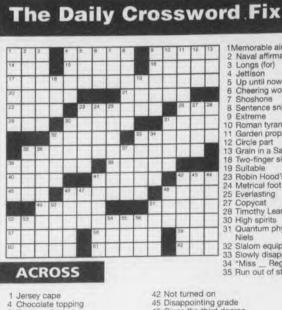
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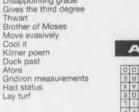
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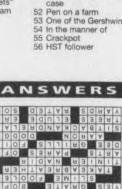
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