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## The BG News April 25, 2005

Bowling Green State University

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**RACING FOR A CAUSE:** Around 120 runners participated to raise money for AIDS research.; **PAGE 13**

# BGSU NEWS

A daily independent student press

## Support group for smokers in action

By Bridget Sharp  
REPORTER

To quit smoking, start by switching to a lighter brand of cigarettes and smoke fewer of them each day.

But you can't do it alone. That's the theory behind a new study to begin on campus this Wednesday.

A doctoral student, Holly Cacciapaglia, wants to prove that with the support of a group quitting cigarettes is a reachable goal. The cornerstone of her program is to quit smoking will be group discussions.

Cacciapaglia will use the program as a study to complete her doctoral dissertation. She said she's worked before in similar programs at BGSU.

The quit smoking program will be similar to other health intervention programs on campus, like the annual weight management program, which the psychology department has sponsored for the last four years.

"It's not just a matter of getting them to quit, but giving them the skills that would help them to stay quit," she said.

Cacciapaglia describes the program as a "cognitive behavioral approach," which is a theory that people must actively change their own behavior.

"We're looking at a lot of things as far as helping them understand their own smoking behaviors," she said.

Often, the urge to smoke is stress-related, Cacciapaglia said. So the group will discuss alternative stress relief and relaxation techniques. Smokers will identify situations that might tempt them to light up.

"If you realize that you are in particular danger of having a strong urge to smoke while at happy hour on Friday with your coworkers, or after having a stressful day at work, or simply seeing someone smoke, you will be able to

SMOKING, PAGE 2



## Fact Line answers questions

By Holly Abrams  
REPORTER

When pondering dire questions like: How many Oreos does it take to get to the moon? What does the volcano at the Mirage casino in Las Vegas smell like? or How tall is a smurf? The answers may seem unattainable to some, but for over 30 years there has been one place to turn to for answers to these bizarre questions and more: the campus Fact Line.

What began the spring of 1971 in lieu of campus protests nationwide has since become a BGSU tradition. The Fact Line was originally intended to control and clarify rumors on campus regarding demonstrations, but as students began to call it for general information, its purpose transformed.

The first day of operation the line received 28 calls, which soon mounted to the thousands of calls it now receives each year.

Throughout the years Fact Line has seen many changes, among them the employees who work there, the references used to

answer questions and the number of calls received each year.

But one part of Fact Line has remained the same, the number: 372-2445.

Many alumni still call the number, said Steve Domachowski, assistant director for information services. Often times it's the only phone number they remember from their time spent at BGSU, he said.

Alumni lend operators some of the most interesting calls, said Chad Nichols, a Fact Line operator for three years and coordinator for Information Services.

"The neatest moment for me is when you get some older people who are alumni and they call and you answer and they're like 'Holy cow! This thing's still running?'" he said.

Workers at the Fact Line have utilized electronic resources extensively in the past few years, Domachowski said. With the Internet movement, workers are trained to obtain much of their information from the World Wide

Web, he said.

The Information Center eliminated a lot of unused print materials this year, moving in stride with the transition towards electronic resources, Nichols said.

"The first thing about Fact Line is really learning about all that is available in the info center," Domachowski said.

The student employees for the service all have one thing in common, Nichols said.

"The biggest thing with Fact Line is you have to be pretty computer and Internet savvy," he said. "We've gone from books and a lot of binders to computers and the Web. The people who are really good with Fact Line are good with a computer and understand search engines."

In addition to the Web, workers utilize EMS (Event Management System), which lists all events going on at the University, and Resource 25, which catalogs classes and their locations across campus, Domachowski said.

These programs have made working at Fact Line much

easier with faster service to callers, Nichols said.

"It used to be cat and mouse calling departments trying to find out what was going on," he said. "But now that we have those two programs it's very easy for us to pull it up and see what's going on."

All calls are logged in a computer system too, Domachowski said. The staff keeps records on how many calls are taken and how long each call lasts, among others.

Eighty percent of the calls workers receive are regarding phone numbers and events, Nichols said.

"Then you get your five to ten percent belligerent, totally out of control, totally random questions," he said. "And those are the fun ones that fill up the rest of the time."

The remaining calls depend on the season, but other common questions are for area movie times, sports scores and concert times and from people driving needing directions, Nichols said.

Employees have a list of bookmarked Web sites they commonly refer to and sometimes

they bookmark oddball sites in hopes they will reference them again, Nichols said.

During the end of the semester and scheduling times the line is quite busy, Domachowski said. And during graduation season the Fact Line staff will answer countless calls for last minute graduation tickets, where to get a cap and gown and where a good restaurant is for them to take their parents to, he said.

There will also be a fair share of students calling up to find out when their finals are, some of which miss them, Nichols added.

Two of the most common and humorous phone number questions are for 2-RIDE and the Fact Line itself, Domachowski said.

Some callers are regulars, Domachowski said. Such as a lady who calls about once a week for the answers to crossword puzzles.

Some people have even called more than once a day, said Lisa Milano, operator for two and a

FACT LINE, PAGE 2



## SNOW IN APRIL?



Ben Swanger BG News

**LET IT SNOW:** Jake Boyer tackles Derrick Caballero during a snowy football game yesterday afternoon outside Kreisler-Batchelor. Bowling Green was one of many areas hit by the April snow.

## Cherry blossoms observed by Ohanami

By Kara Ohngren  
REPORTER

Known in Japan as Ohanami, a celebration marking the beginning of the spring season was hosted by the University's Asian Studies department Friday night. The fourth annual event was held in the Mileti Alumni Center where students, faculty and community members gathered to observe the first cherry tree blossoms of the year.

During spring, cherry blossom viewing parties and cherry blossom festivals are held all over Japan. Cherry blossom viewing has been a Japanese custom since the seventh century when the aristocrats enjoyed looking at the cherry blossoms and wrote poems about them, according to about.com.

Several years ago the BGSU Alumni Chapter of Tokyo donated cherry trees to the University in hopes to mimic a similar gift given from the people of Tokyo to the United States in 1912. Soon there after, three of the trees that were planted in Washington, D.C. were given to the University, which are now planted on the north side of the Alumni Mall. BGSU is the only university in the country to have received cuttings from the original Washington, D.C. trees, according to Asian Studies supervisor Akiko Jones.

Despite the poor weather, Friday's event attracted a record number of guests, which was "a true delight" for Jones.

"The trees were blooming beautifully last weekend, but the rain and cold has not been good for them," she said.

During her opening remarks,

Jones stressed the way the cherry festival on campus brings members of the community and University together to celebrate Asian Studies. She also mentioned the way in which the flowers symbolize the strong relationship between the United States and Japan.

"There are more Asian Studies students at BGSU than philosophy majors," she said. "There's such a great relationship with the students and staff, that's why I couldn't retire."

The evening was opened with the singing of the official cherry blossom song by a group of Asian Studies students dressed in traditional Japanese kimonos.

"Spring has gone away for now," Jones said. "But hopefully singing this song will help bring spring back soon."

Also present was Bowling Green Mayor John Quinn.

"Ohio takes pride in its many ethnic backgrounds and we

salute Akiko Jones for her efforts and continued success with this event," Quinn said. Quinn said he always wants people to know about the great things the University is doing and this event was one of them.

Asian Studies student Beth Dutridge was pleased with this year's cherry blossoming festival.

"Everything is good," she said. "Each year more alumni come out and it's always great to see the community of Bowling Green supporting us."

Other festivities of the night included traditional Japanese games, calligraphy, origami, raffle drawings and two karate demonstrations.

*"There's such a great relationship with the students and staff, that's why I couldn't retire."*

AKIKO JONES, ASIAN STUDIES SUPERVISOR

## Snow creeps back into Ohio

By Andy Resnik  
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A rare late spring snowstorm dumped about a foot of snow onto parts of northeastern Ohio and knocked out power to about 18,000 electricity customers in the Cleveland area yesterday, officials said.

In temperatures about 25 degrees below normal, people had to shovel their driveways and snowplows were needed to clear roads.

The conditions made for a strange scene in one Columbus neighborhood, where automatic sprinklers spit water over shrubs that were blanketed by snow, which started falling Saturday.

About 18,000 FirstEnergy customers in the Cleveland area lost power yesterday and some might not have their electricity restored until today, said Mark Durbin, a spokesman for the utility.

"The snow is clinging to the buds on those trees and it's really pulling stuff down" onto the power lines, Durbin said.

It was 34 degrees in Cleveland yesterday and the normal high is 60, said Mike Abair, a meteorologist with the National Weather Service.

"It doesn't look like we're going to have too much sunshine tomorrow, so that will

STORM, PAGE 2



Vincent Gargiulo BG News

**SNOWY DAY:** The late spring snowstorm covered parts of Ohio yesterday.

### FOUR-DAY FORECAST

The four-day forecast is taken from weather.com

**TUE**  
Thunder Showers High: 60° Low: 41°

**WED**  
Few Showers High: 54° Low: 41°

**THUR**  
Few showers High: 56° Low: 43°

**FRI**  
Few Showers High: 59° Low: 46°



# Students try to stump operators of famed answer line

FACT LINE, FROM PAGE 1

half years. She answered the same question for the same caller twice in one day.

"It boggles my mind, the questions people come up with," she said.

In a reversed scenario one regular caller gives the workers random facts in hopes that they will use them to answer other calls in the future, Milano said.

"Not only are we giving facts, but we receive them," she said.

A memorable call for Milano came when someone called from a grocery store and asked where the sauerkraut was. She quickly referred them to ask an employee at the store.

There are a lot of questions received about celebrities, such as their height or how many movies

they have been in, said Rochelle Perez, operator of three years.

It's not only adults who call either, Milano said. She has received calls from children needing help on their homework.

Operators are trained to follow specific guidelines for answering calls, Domachowski said. They cannot answer any legal, medical or opinion based questions. Operators can also refuse to answer any uncomfortable questions. They cannot endorse any services or businesses.

While they are trained to do their best to answer all calls, there are some that are not possible to answer, Nichols said.

"It's very rare when we have no ideas. We almost always give some sort of info though," he said.

Operators usually check a few different Web sites to verify a fact

before telling the caller, Perez said.

In conjunction with the trend towards electronic resources, Fact Line will be starting a Web site, Domachowski said.

To be up in a few weeks, the site would include frequently asked questions, bookmarked Web sites operators frequently reference and possibly a way to submit questions to operators online, he said.

"It has a lot of potential and it will be a nice resource for us and also for the people calling to see what we do," he said.

Prior to mainstream use of the Internet the Fact Line was averaging 50,000 to 60,000 calls a year, but now they average around 20,000 to 30,000 per year, Domachowski said.

"The arrival of the Internet has taken the top off of some of our

calls," he said.

The record number of calls received to date is 10,500 during three days of the infamous Blizzard of '78, with the one millionth call reached that year also.

Regardless of technology, callers shouldn't worry about hearing a dial tone from the Fact Line, Nichols said.

"There's always going to be the people who are sitting next to the directory and will just pick up the phone and ask for the number," he said. "It's definitely staying and it's something that's really used."

Preceding to its location in the new student union, as of 2002, the Fact Line office was housed in a somewhat hidden location in the Administration building, Domachowski said.

Students who work for the Fact Line are those employed at the

front desk in the Union. The staff consists of 18 students working four hour shifts.

The Fact Line operates from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Saturday and Sunday 10 a.m. to 9 p.m., a far cry from the original hours of operation that kept students working until midnight or 2 a.m. on some nights.

"A lot of people call for jokes later in the evening," Milano said. "That's why we turn it off."

Many schools have information or help lines but few have a number with the history of Fact Line, Domachowski said.

"It's definitely one of the highlights," he said. "You never know what you're going to get. It's definitely cool to work here and you learn a lot."

Being of service to the campus and community is encouraging,

Nichols said.

"You do help a lot of people," he said. "There are those who are in a hurry and don't want to go through 14 voice prompts and three academic advisors. It's nice to have one number and an answer."

Working at Fact Line has been a rewarding experience, Perez said.

"I like the people I work with and it's fun and flexible," she said. "You learn a lot about the University and the city as well as random facts. It helps to keep you up to date on current events."

The staff encourages everyone and anyone to call Fact Line.

"Call it. It's what we're here for. We have fun with it," Domachowski said. "And be nice to us."

*Editor's Note: records kept by the Office of Marketing and Communications were used in research for this article.*

# Smokers try to kick the habit

SMOKING, FROM PAGE 1

anticipate those situations and the effect they may have on you," Cacciapaglia said.

In the program, smokers will not be quitting "cold-turkey."

"It's kind of individualized in a sense," Cacciapaglia said, "because they are reducing their smoking either by the number of cigarettes or the brand of cigarette they're smoking."

First, smokers will cut back by smoking fewer cigarettes daily. For people who may struggle with smoking less, there will be extra support from the group or individual counseling, Cacciapaglia said.

Next, smokers should consider switching to a cigarette brand with less nicotine. The Federal Trade Commission rates cigarette brands by the levels of tar and nicotine they contain.

For example, Merit Ultra Light and Now King cigarettes each have less nicotine than Marlboro, according to the FTC 1998 Tar, Nicotine and Carbon Monoxide Report. Switching to a lower level of nicotine may not always

be healthier.

"Smokers of cigarette brands with lower 'tar' and nicotine ratings who take larger or more frequent puffs may get as much 'tar' and nicotine as smokers of higher rated brands," according to the FTC report. "...There is no such thing as a safe smoke, no matter what the 'tar' and nicotine ratings are."

When a smoker tries to quit, relapses often happen. But the feelings of guilt that come afterward can be more dangerous than the relapse itself. Cacciapaglia calls the guilt that comes with a smoking relapse "abstinence violation effects."

"If you consider it from a psychological standpoint, feeling upset at yourself kind of increases the likelihood that you're going to continue to smoke," she said.

"So a lot of it is learning to control the way that you react and respond to things, and your emotional reaction."

Volunteers are screened before they may be invited to join the program. Cacciapaglia is screening smokers over the phone by asking about their

smoking history and how many cigarettes they smoke a day. Only volunteers who light up 10 or more times a day are eligible for the study.

The study will also exclude people who have a serious mental illness. So, those suffering from bipolar disorder or schizophrenia are not eligible for the program.

Also not eligible are those with substance abuse problems. To recognize a drug or alcohol addiction, Cacciapaglia asks four different questions. These questions are taken from the book, "Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders," which experts often use to diagnose psychological disorders.

Group sessions for the quit smoking program begin this Wednesday, April 27. The study is still accepting applicants who call by April 26. There will be other similar programs throughout the summer, Cacciapaglia said. For more information about this or future quit smoking programs at BGSU, e-mail quitnow@gmail.com or call Cacciapaglia at (419) 308-0445.



Nadi Mizban AP Photo

**MEETINGS:** Iraqi interim President Jalal Talabani gestures during a press conference in Baghdad, Iraq, where he announced that he had meetings with members of the National Dialogue Council.

# Bombs kill 21 people in Tikrit, including a soldier

By Thomas Wagner  
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

BAGHDAD, Iraq — An emboldened Iraqi insurgency staged carefully coordinated dual bombings in Saddam Hussein's hometown and a Shiite neighborhood of the capital yesterday, killing at least 21 people, including an American soldier. Lawmakers loyal to the new prime minister said he was ready to announce a Cabinet that would exclude his interim predecessor, Ayad Allawi.

An American soldier was killed in a separate attack.

Prime Minister-designate Ibrahim al-Jaafari had decided, some members of his political bloc said, to shun further attempts to include members of the party headed by Allawi, the secular Shiite politician who had served as prime minister as the country prepared for elections Jan. 30.

Members of Allawi's Iraqi List, which controls 40 seats in the National Assembly, said his party had not been officially informed of the development. Allawi loyalists were bidding for at least four ministries, including a senior government post and a deputy premiership.

"I heard from the media, and some of the other assembly members told me about it," lawmaker Hussein Shaalan told the Associated Press late Saturday. But he said the party would continue to support the government even if excluded from the Cabinet.

Al-Jaafari's list could be put to parliament as early as today, some of his bloc said. Others indicated the Cabinet announcement would be made tomorrow. Many such forecasts have proven wrong so far.

Many Shiites have long resented the secular Allawi, accusing his outgoing administration of having included former members of Saddam Hussein's Baath Party, which brutally repressed the majority Shiites and Kurds.

There had been intense pressure to end the political bickering after a marked recent uptick in insurgent violence that many in Iraq blamed on the continuing political turmoil nearly three months after the country's historic Jan. 30 elections, the first democratic balloting in a half century.

Insurgent attacks had dropped dramatically shortly after the vote, but spiraled upward in recent weeks as the politicians failed to name a government.

Militant violence over the weekend took at least 38 lives, including those of three Americans.

Also yesterday, the U.S. military said it had detained four more suspects in the downing of a civilian Mi-8 helicopter on Thursday. All 11 passengers and crew were killed, including a survivor gunned down by insurgents. Ten suspects have been apprehended in all, the military said.

A vehicle packed with explosives was driven into a crowd gathered in front of a popular ice cream shop in Baghdad's western al-Shoulah neighborhood yesterday, police Maj. Mousa Abdul Karim said. Minutes later, as police and residents rushed to help the victims, a second suicide car bomber plowed into the crowd. At least 15 people were killed and 40 wounded.

Shattered glass, pools of

blood, and pieces of flesh littered the scene.

Members of Iraq's Shiite majority have become a frequent target of Sunni-led insurgents. On Friday, a car bomb ripped through a crowded Shiite mosque in eastern Baghdad during midday prayers, killing 12 people and wounding 22.

In Saddam's hometown of Tikrit yesterday, two remotely detonated car bombs exploded in quick succession outside a police academy, killing at least six Iraqis and wounding 33, police and a hospital official said. The blasts occurred as recruits were about to leave the station and travel to Jordan for a training, said police Lt. Shalan Allawi.

Insurgents also attacked U.S. forces. A roadside bomb hit one convoy in eastern Baghdad, killing one American soldier and wounding two, the U.S. military said. Iraqi police said two civilians also were wounded in the attack.

An American sailor was killed Saturday when the Marine convoy he was traveling with was hit by a roadside bomb in Fallujah, 40 miles west of Baghdad, the military said.

At least 1,568 members of the U.S. military have died since the beginning of the Iraq war in March 2003, according to an Associated Press count.

Al-Qaida in Iraq, the country's most feared militant group, claimed responsibility for the Tikrit and eastern Baghdad attacks in statements posted on militant Web sites.

The group also claimed responsibility for a roadside bomb targeting a U.S. patrol near the Abu Ghraib prison, west of Baghdad. The U.S. military said no one was hurt in that attack.

South of the capital, three insurgents were killed Saturday as the roadside bomb they were trying to plant in the town of Mahawil exploded, said police in nearby Hillah.

In Pakistan, a government spokesman said a Pakistan embassy official who was kidnapped in Iraq two weeks ago was freed yesterday. Malik Mohammed Javed was abducted April 9 after he left his residence in Baghdad to attend prayers at a mosque. The Pakistani government said after his abduction he was in the custody of a previously unknown Islamic militant group, Omar bin al-Khattab that had demanded a ransom for Javed's release.

# Snow shocks Ohio residents

STORM, FROM PAGE 1

limit the melting," he said. Highs around 50 were expected today across northern Ohio, he said.

The west side of Cleveland got only a few inches of snow while some eastern suburbs had to dig out from 8 inches, Abair said.

In an area of northeastern Ohio known as the "snowbelt" because of its mountainous snowfall totals, Frank Hanley of Chardon was forced to shovel his driveway so he could drive to church and the store.

"It's deep and it's heavy, wet," he said in a telephone inter-

view. "I'm looking at a foot on my deck."

Hanley, 63, said he was a little upset because a friend a few miles away in Fairport Harbor reported getting no snow.

"My wife is livid because this was a long winter ... Even people who normally don't complain about it are at the end of their wits," Hanley said.

The sheriff's office in Geauga County, which includes Chardon, said the snow downed tree branches and power lines, but there were no reports of injuries. Snowplows were clearing the roads.

Kathy Carney, a waitress at the Maple Leaf Restaurant in Chardon, said it was busier than usual at breakfast yesterday.

"It's extra busy because people don't have power. It's like a blizzard out there. It's snowing like crazy," she said.

Spring began on March 20. On April 2, Cleveland exceeded its previous record snowfall of 101.1 inches in the winter of 1995-96, according to the weather service.

The latest measurable snowfall in Cleveland was May 10, 1907, when two-tenths of an inch fell, Abair said.

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# BG NEWS

B G S U

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## The BG News is now accepting applications for Summer & Fall 2005 Staffs

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• Applications are available in 210 or 204 West Hall.

• Interviews have begun, but applications are still being accepted.

Questions or further information? Contact The BG News at [thenews@bgnews.com](mailto:thenews@bgnews.com)



**HOLOCAUST SIGNIFICANCE DISCUSSED**

The Site Director of the House of the Wannsee Conference Memorial and Educational Site, Norbert Kampe, will discuss its significance and the tragedy of the Holocaust, beginning today. For more information, contact Beth Griech-Polelle at 372-9478 or Christina Guenther at 372-7589.

www.bgnews.com/campus

# CAMPUS

## get a life

The calendar of events is taken from <http://events.bgsu.edu/>

**10 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.**  
Smoking Cessation Program, Sponsored by the Psychology Dept.  
*Union Lobby*

**10 a.m. - 2 p.m.**  
Candy Bar Sale, Sponsored by Women's Soccer.  
*Union Lobby*

**10 a.m. - 3 p.m.**  
Capture the Flag Promotion and Registration Table, Sponsored by CRU  
*Union Lobby*

**10 a.m. - 4 p.m.**  
Beyond BG Info Table, Sponsored by University Ambassadors  
*Union Lobby*

**11 a.m. - 1 p.m.** - Council for Exceptional Children Info. Table  
*Union Lobby*

**12 p.m. - 1 p.m.**  
Caring For Yourself While Caring for Others Women's Center 108 A Hanna Hall Caring for Yourself While Caring for Others A Support Group Faculty, Graduate Students and Staff are invited to join us for resource information, support and coping techniques. Bring your lunch! Mondays at noon beginning January 10, 2005  
*Women's Center, 108A Hanna Hall*

**6 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.**  
Film: Well-Founded Fear: The Right of Asylum. Final Monday Night Film Festival explores

human rights issue--asylum. "Well-Founded Fear: The Right of Asylum" (2000, 119 minutes) will be shown from 6-8:00p.m. Monday, April 25, in the Bowen-Thompson Student Union Theatre. Presented by the BGSU Libraries' Multicultural Affairs Committee and the Human Values for Transformative Action group, this film gives us a rare glimpse inside the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service. For details about this film, please go to [www.humanrightsproject.org](http://www.humanrightsproject.org). The showing is free and open to the public. For more information contact: Mary Wrighten at 2-7897 or [mwright@bgsu.edu](mailto:mwright@bgsu.edu)  
*Union Theater*

### SNIPPETS



Vincent Gargiulo BG News

**COLD WEATHER CHORE:** Diane Ramos gets out of the rain and cuts up some negatives for her final project Saturday afternoon in the art building.

## Religion divides Iraqis

By Gaiutra Bahadur  
KRT CAMPUS

BAGHDAD, Iraq — Saddam Hussein's rules for young and ambitious Iraqis were clear: If you want a future, you must join the Baath Party.

Now, as the leaders of the new National Assembly parcel out Cabinet posts according to ethnic group and religious or political affiliation, students and recent college graduates worry that the government will become a collection of fiefdoms in which loyalties matter more than merit.

"I guess now with so many political parties, and the way the different ministries are divided according to sects, one doesn't know which party he should be a member in," said Haider Ali, 24.

Ali's worries are one reflection of the broader problems of making a democratic Iraq a unified nation and creating a national identity that supersedes ethnic and religious allegiances.

The Baghdad resident was part of a garlanded caravan of al-Rafidain college seniors who recently made their way, heads bobbing to Arab pop music, to a graduation party in Baghdad's Fardos Square. Despite their celebratory mood, several of them expressed anxiety about their career prospects.

They've reason to be pessimistic. Half of Iraqis are unemployed or underemployed, according to the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs, and recent college graduates already have been backed into jobs they think are beneath them.

An electrical engineer works in a plastics factory. A woman with a degree in business administration sews clothes to make ends meet. A would-be English teacher has cleaned streets.

They'd all like jobs in the government, which employed most Iraqis under Saddam and is now the hometown employer with the greatest stability and highest salaries. They complain that they've lost out in the competition for government positions because they haven't paid bribes or don't belong to the right political parties or ethnic groups.

Parties mostly break down along ethnic lines, with Shiite Muslims, Sunni Muslims and Kurds forming their own blocs in the National Assembly. Iraq's newly selected leaders have said they'll divide 31 Cabinet posts among those three major groups based on their numbers in parliament.

That's bad news for Sunni job seekers: Sunnis overwhelmingly stayed home from the polls in January's elections and hold only 17 assembly seats.

Students and job seekers swap tales of friends who were told by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to produce letters of recommendation from the Kurdish Democratic Party or the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan. Kurdish leader Hoshiyar Zebari runs the foreign ministry, which resonates with the sounds of Kurdish rather than Arabic. He's likely to retain the post.

"We know that ministry is for the Kurdish party," said Kareem

al-Saadi, 22, a graduating senior at Mustansiriyah University. "When you want to have a job in this ministry, you must get a notification from the Kurdish party." Al-Saadi said it happened in all the ministries.

Hamid al-Bayati, a deputy at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, said political parties had recommended candidates for diplomatic posts but he maintained that the ministry hasn't become a stronghold for any one group.

The hiring committee relies on the parties to know who is "trustworthy," he said, because "the last thing we want is infiltration from loyalists of the former regime."

"We try to make it a mix to satisfy all sectors of Iraqi society," said al-Bayati, a member of the Supreme Council for the Islamic Revolution in Iraq, a major Shiite party. "We always make sure there are Sunnis, Shias and Kurds. And we receive nominations from all different groups."

Still, perceptions of bias run deep.

In December, an internal auditor found that Health Ministry officials had hired widely on the basis of family, tribal or party ties. Adil Mohsen Abdullah, who was fired last month after making his report public, said there were thousands of unqualified employees throughout the ministry.

### DAILY ADVISING TIP

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**Bowling Green State University**

**BEYOND THE GAME**  
**BEYOND**  
**BIG** 2005  
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**BTSU Ballroom**

**What:**  
A CAMPUS-WIDE, YEAR-END CELEBRATION!  
Have fun with sports-related games, including "Score a Goal on Jordan Sigalet," baseball speed throw, Quarterback Challenge, putt-putt, and more!

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Free Food**

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QUOTE UNQUOTE

"A week ago we were wearing shorts and tank tops."

Misti Hunt, a bartender in Bad Axe, Mich. on the snow storm affecting the Midwest  
(Associated Press)

www.bgnews.com/opinion

# OPINION

U-WIRE EDITORIAL | MIAMI UNIVERSITY

## Breaking party lines admirable

Senator George Voinovich of Ohio is making news for one of the rarest of events in Washington these days — voting his conscience. Rather than simply toeing the party line, Voinovich, the former governor of Ohio, put the confirmation of John Bolton, President Bush's nominee for United States Ambassador to the United Nations, on hold.

The Senate Foreign Relations Committee, on which Voinovich holds a seat, had initially been

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scheduled to vote to recommend Bolton for approval to the Senate on Tuesday. Instead, Voinovich announced that he was not prepared to recommend

such action until he learned more about Bolton, saying, "My conscience got me."

While Voinovich will almost surely receive criticism from conservative constituents for not voting with the rest of his party, a senator who votes what he believes is worthy of commendation.

Serious questions have emerged regarding Bolton's past actions, including allegations that he attempted to intimidate

subordinates in the intelligence community who disagreed with him.

Allegations as serious as these must be fully entertained before a candidate for such an important position should be rubber-stamped by a partisan vote.

It is disheartening that the state of politics in this nation has eroded to the extent that when a senator chooses to break with his party on a single issue, the

decision is worthy of front page news.

If our political system truly worked the way it was intended, news that our elected representatives voted based on their beliefs instead of the edicts of their party leaders would be commonplace.

It is clear that Bolton's character needs additional scrutiny before he is recommended for approval. Despite the Bush adminis-

tration's assertions that Bolton is more than qualified for the position, even some Republicans have begun to have doubts.

While two other Republican senators expressed some concern, neither Lincoln Chafee nor Chuck Hagel were willing to stand in the way of Bolton's confirmation.

Chafee was right when he said of Voinovich's reversal, "The process worked. It's kind of refreshing." Let us hope that the process continues to work.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Supply and Demand of editorial off

I would like to point out some mistakes in your editorial of April 22.

First of all, it claims that "...a simple lesson from economics class 'As demand for a good or service increases, supply decreases.'" This statement is wrong, because

when demand increases (demand curve shifts to the right), then there is no change whatsoever in supply. Supply decisions are independent of consumption decisions by buyers. Further, increase in demand will raise price to instigate an increase in the quantity supplied.

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will decrease, which may bring down the price ceteris paribus.

Finally, I do not see why foreign dependence is necessarily a bad thing. Free trade makes all parties better off that I teach my undergraduate students, including a correct application of demand-supply analysis such as above. Hope the editor did not take my economic courses.

**KYOO H. KIM**  
PROFESSOR OF ECONOMICS  
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### Delay reaction to Delay's actions

**LINDSYE FORSON**

U-Wire Columnist  
The Battalion  
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House Majority Leader Tom DeLay, R-Texas, and former President Bill Clinton might have more in common than you think.

Their political philosophies are diametrically opposed, and they are on different sides of the party line; however, both claim to have been subjected to a witch hunt of sorts by the opposing party. As prominent Democrats accuse DeLay of a wide array of ethical breaches -- from resurrected charges of gerrymandering to newer charges of accepting illegal fiscal support from lobbyist groups -- Americans must bear in mind that it is their opinion

of DeLay which perhaps matters most.

DeLay's future as a politician lies in the minds and hands of voters. As jurors in the court of public opinion, it is important to remember that the rules governing conduct in a court of law in many ways represent the due process to which one should be entitled, and DeLay deserves a fair trial. As attorneys argue their cases before a judge, they must prove relevance to the case. Likewise, charges against DeLay must be relevant to the point in contest.

For many politicians and political columnists, the most serious charge leveled against DeLay has nothing to do with either ethics or politics and everything to do with aesthetics.

"In addition to the alleged ethical infractions that have

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DON'T JUDGE DELAY, PAGE 5

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### Adulthood not how it's advertised

AT ISSUE: No matter how old people get, the hang-ups that haunt people now will continue to haunt them

**JASON COX**

U-Wire Columnist  
Daily Collegian  
Pennsylvania State University

I used to have this really naive notion about the world.

I used to think that when people "grew up" and became adults, everyone sort of normalized out -- that all idiosyncrasies and emotional issues and shortcomings were purged and that (with the exception of extreme cases like criminals and savants) everyone lived out relatively normal lives with the same "EQ."

Oh man, was I wrong. I'd like to say there was some moment of magical epiphany where I came to understand the darkest secret the "real world" has to offer, but I won't pretend.

Instead, it was a gradual, reluctant dip into the cold, insipid pool of reality, which reaffirms that this is no temporary belief of mine.

No one major event erroneously jaded me for life, but simply a period of careful observation showed me how self-destructive and immature people can be.

The truth is, people are just as screwed up at the ages of 30, 40, 50 and so on as they are at 20.

Are you emotionally masochistic in relationships? Get used to it. Do you like to take advantage of people? You'll go far because you probably won't stop. Do you sleep with people to feel better about yourself? I hope your sex drive is high for years to come.

Do you think you're above everyone else and can tell a bunch of strangers what's wrong with their lives just because your newspaper allows you to write a senior column? Yup, that's me.

These problems don't go away on their own when we "grow up." There is no such thing as growing up, only growing older. Where did this cynicism come from?

Maybe it's because there are almost as many divorces in my family as marriages.

Maybe it's because my 40-something boss last summer giggled as he bragged about the two 24-year-olds he was

simultaneously dating in one sentence and then talked about his 17-year-old daughter in the next.

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Maybe it's because I know of a relationship where the guy actually spit at his girlfriend but shortly thereafter spent \$600 on her for Valentine's Day, making everything peachy keen.

Don't get me wrong, I'm far from innocent in this rant. I've got my own skeletons in the closet. I'm not saying whether they're any more or less severe than anyone else's, but just like anyone else, I've got them.

In fact, last semester I was forced to grapple with one that I had sufficiently locked up for about five years. It was then that I learned the key to escaping the endless loop of our emotional hang-ups -- just talk about it.

No one is harder to forgive than yourself but if you bare your soul to those you trust, you just might be able to do it if someone forgives you first. Unfortunately, people are usually just too afraid of themselves. They ignore and repress whatever they don't like about themselves however they can rather than simply accept it or do something about it. And so we grow older with all these unresolved issues that continue to toy with us till the day we die.

Some of us feel all alone because we think no one else has the same problems. Well, I've got news for you -- we're all f--ked up.

But with that in mind, we shouldn't simply take solace in that notion and let ourselves off the hook. It's time to take control of our lives and ourselves before it's too late.

It's sad that my parting thoughts are so morose, and yet I am hopeful that maybe a couple people out there will reevaluate where they are and what they want from their lives.

Of course, my arrogance in believing that people actually care about what I have to say is one of my hang-ups, so who am I to say?

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### The BG News Submission Policy

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.

**POLICIES**  
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](mailto: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.



# Today's music not what it used to be

JASON EDER

U-Wire Columnist  
Technician  
North Carolina State University

"When I'm walkin' in Memphis/ Walkin' with my feet 10 feet off of Beale/ Walkin' in Memphis/ But do I really feel the way I feel?"

That was the song my clock radio was playing when it went off at 7:15 this morning. My stereo immediately followed (it takes a small army to wake me up in the mornings sometimes) with: "I walk this empty street/ On the Boulevard of Broken Dreams/ Where the city sleeps/ And I'm the only one and I walk alone."

So I wake my computer up and my Winamp, which I always leave on, is playing, "You shinin' and lit up with diamonds as I stay grindin'/ Homie you can catch me swoopin' Bentley coupin' switchin' lanes/ You see me rollin'/ You know I'm holdin'/ I'm about my paper, yeah."

Now, I could very easily take these as "signs"

that I have a relationship issue that I need to sort out because I just "happened" to hear these three songs in a row. Which may be true, but this is no arena to air my dirty laundry — plus I was still groggy. I could also very easily decide I have an eclectic taste in music — but I knew that before I woke up.

I decided something else in this moment — music isn't what it could be.

I am a DJ on the weekends for a company and I do everything from weddings to frat parties to company parties to cookouts to whatever we get hired for. We also have about a 5,000-song selection to choose from — so I consider myself qualified and exposed to just about everything.

I listen to the music of the 60s and 70s, and you know what I hear? Passion. Purpose. Poetry in motion. I listen to Marvin Gaye and the Beatles and it will literally send chills down my spine. I listen to Funk and Disco and those songs are guaranteed to give people of all ages a good time. Even today's "younger generation" knows the music from back then. Why? Because it was good.

Sure music today can get people on the dance floor and it may send chills down spines, but not like it used to. The music from back then had a purpose and the people were behind it — that was enough to send a chill. Now, if someone gets a chill down their spine it was either because the drug just took effect or because the

air conditioning got turned on at an inconvenient time. Music today has no influence.

Well, that's not true. It exhibits an influence, but not the one that artists are probably hoping for. Seriously, is someone actually empowered when they listen to Green Day's "Boulevard of Broken Dreams" — or do they just feel better because there is a song they can relate to?

Honestly, I listen to Marvin Gaye and I am freakin' empowered to see my girlfriend, no matter how I feel.

Music back then was authentic. Today it is made for someone to feel good — usually the artist. There's a difference. The lyrical greats of the 60s and 70s used their music to make a difference — that's what makes them great.

Great musicians don't talk about how many streets they walk alone on, or how much money they can throw on a floor or even complain about how often the love of their life leaves or never comes (you would think they would learn rather than try to sell more records).

Great musicians come from great people. They just know how to play an instrument really well and impact and move people.

Who's great today? Not 50 Cent or Green Day or that chick from American Idol. Artists today are in it for themselves, not for the people around them, and that is the biggest difference. At some point along the way someone said, "Hey, I can make money doing this and I happen to have a talent."

And look what we got. We get artists who can sing but not think. We get musicians that can perform but not play. We get concerts that have no purpose other than the fans serving the artist — not the other way around. Musicians today often have problems coming up with their own music without sampling from something in the past. It's almost like artists today want the recognition and legend of the past without doing what it takes to be that way.

Let's take this whole illegal downloading deal. If artists were truly for the fans, then would they not care as long as their message was getting sent? And if fans were truly in it for the music then would 15 bucks not be that much money for something great?

I'm not saying we should all boycott the music industry. I'm not even saying we should stop buying their records or that artists should stop protesting KaZaA.

I'm saying that if music was what it is capable of being, issues like this wouldn't even exist.

*"We get artists who can sing but not think. We get musicians that can perform but not play. We get concerts that have no purpose other than the fans serving the artist."*

## CALIFORNIA CLOSE TO PASSING LAW ALLOWING DOCTORS TO HELP PATIENTS KILL THEMSELVES



# Obsessed with entertainment

JEFF WILSON

U-Wire Columnist  
Daily Egyptian  
Southern Illinois University

Americans are obsessed with news. Everywhere one looks, it's news, news, news. Yet somehow it's not the ongoing war in Iraq, the Sudanese genocide or the failing economy. It's the Michael Jackson trial and "Desperate Housewives." Why should we care what Britney Spears names her baby? Why should we care about why Brad and Jen broke up? More importantly, why do we care?

Watch CNN for about 10 minutes and you'll find that after you hear about the new pope, they'll switch gears to a big story about J-Lo or some other entertainment star.

Watch ESPN's "Pardon the Interruption," and one will get to hear what the two hosts think Britney Spears should name her baby. If all this isn't enough for you, just turn to the E!

Channel. On E!, all they talk about is entertainment news. That is if it even qualifies as news. They have a daily reenactment of what happened

during the Michael Jackson trial and countless shows about nothing but gossip.

Being charged with child molestation is serious business, but just because it's the King of Pop doesn't mean it's any more newsworthy than John Doe.

Most people will point at the media and say that they are the ones shoving all this down our collective throats. But they wouldn't show it if we didn't watch it. So why do we deem it necessary to find out where Cameron Diaz and Johnny Depp go shopping?

We want to be like them, that's why. Better yet, we want to be them. They're rich, famous, and beautiful, and we're not. So if a famous person buys Prada and Gucci, then you must buy Prada and Gucci.

If you dress and act like Brad Pitt, without cheating on her, you could get Jennifer Aniston to date you. If Britney Spears names her baby Gertrude, then you should name your first born Gertrude.

Without television, movie and pop stars, how would we know how to fix our hair? Would we be able to know what is cool to wear? How would we find out what married couples are supposed to be like?

Thankfully MTV has helped

us out with that last question. For any couples out there wondering what married life and parenting is supposed to be like, MTV has provided us with "Newlyweds: Nick & Jessica" and "Meet the Barkers." Because everyone knows that they live perfect, wonderful lifestyles.

Nick Lachey and Jessica Simpson are the perfect little couple that got this whole genre of TV. started. Travis Barker, the drummer for punk band Blink-182, and Shanna Moakler, a former Miss USA, show us how to get wasted one night and still be perfect parents the next.

MTV is also the station that blessed us with "The Osbournes," which was really just a tribute to how many times Ozzy Osbourne can say the f-word.

Don't forget Ashton Kutcher and his friends. There's nothing like watching famous people get "Punk'd."

In the long run, it seems we need famous people. We need them to point out all that we are not. We also need them to distract us from the real world. Gosh! It's almost time for "True Hollywood Story: Steve Guttenberg." Got to go!

The Minuteman circa 2005



# Don't judge Delay before given fair trial

DELAY REACTION, FROM PAGE 4

told, an exterminator by profession."

When it is not mentioned as the crux of one's argument against him, DeLay's former profession is often mentioned in passing. Apparently, entrepreneurship isn't admirable across the board; it's context-specific.

But owning a less-than-savory business isn't DeLay's only faux pas. A snide March 28 column in U.S. News and World Report reminds readers of DeLay's alleged past sins, both criminal and cultural.

"In the late 1970s, when he was still drinking, smoking and having a good old time as Hot Tub Tom, he ran afoul of the IRS, which placed several liens against his exterminator business," the column's authors sneer.

And they don't stop there; they go on to question DeLay's religious faith.

"By the next year he was wooing the conservative Christian vote, having become born again," the column glibly notes. "Not everyone got to see the softer side of the Christian spirit, however, and the Hammer continued to rack up personal and political troubles..."

Questioning the authenticity of DeLay's personal faith goes too far. Like insinuating that he is unfit for his office because of his supposed cultural lapses, it is completely irrelevant. However, unlike implying he's tacky, calling into question something as personal and unverifiable as his faith in God is highly inappropriate and ironically, in very poor taste.

The chairman of the House ethics committee offered Wednesday to investigate the charges against DeLay.

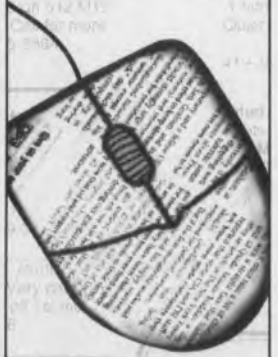
A hallmark of the American justice system states one is innocent until proven guilty. If DeLay is guilty of wrongdoing, it will soon be brought to light. Until then, though, it is only fair to give DeLay in practice what he is guaranteed by law: the presumption of innocence.

As jurors of sorts, Americans must remember to stick to the evidence presented and not be swayed by criticisms of DeLay that have nothing to do with the case at hand.

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QUOTE UNQUOTE

"A week ago we were wearing shorts and tank tops."

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Some of us feel all alone because we think no one else has the same problems. Well, I've got news for you -- we're all f--ked up.

But with that in mind, we shouldn't simply take solace in that notion and let ourselves off the hook. It's time to take control of our lives and ourselves before it's too late.

It's sad that my parting thoughts are so morose, and yet I am hopeful that maybe a couple people out there will reevaluate where they are and what they want from their lives.

Of course, my arrogance in believing that people actually care about what I have to say is one of my hang-ups, so who am I to say?

# BGNEWS

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**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.

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# Today's music not what it used to be

JASON EDER

U-Wire Columnist  
Technician  
North Carolina State University

"Then I'm walkin' in Memphis/ Walkin' with my feet 10 feet off of Beale/ Walkin' in Memphis/ But do I really feel the way I feel?"

That was the song my clock radio was playing when it went off at 7:15 this morning. My stereo immediately followed (it takes a small army to wake me up in the mornings sometimes) with: "I walk this empty street/ On the Boulevard of Broken Dreams/ Where the city sleeps/ And I'm the only one and I walk alone."

So I wake my computer up and my Winamp, which I always leave on, is playing, "You shinin' and lit up with diamonds as I stay grindin'/ Homie you can catch me swoopin' Bentley coupin' switchin' lanes/ You see me rollin'/ You know I'm holdin'/ I'm about my paper, yeah."

Now, I could very easily take these as "signs" that I have a relationship issue that I need to sort out because I just "happened" to hear these three songs in a row. Which may be true, but this is no arena to air my dirty laundry — plus I was still groggy. I could also very easily decide I have an eclectic taste in music — but I knew that before I woke up.

I decided something else in this moment — music isn't what it could be.

I am a DJ on the weekends for a company and I do everything from weddings to frat parties to company parties to cookouts to whatever we get hired for. We also have about a 5,000-song selection to choose from — so I consider myself qualified and exposed to just about everything.

I listen to the music of the 60s and 70s, and you know what I hear? Passion. Purpose. Poetry in motion. I listen to Marvin Gaye and the Beatles and it will literally send chills down my spine. I listen to Funk and Disco and those songs are guaranteed to give people of all ages a good time. Even today's "younger generation" knows the music from back then. Why? Because it was good.

Sure music today can get people on the dance floor and it may send chills down spines, but not like it used to. The music from back then had a purpose and the people were behind it — that was enough to send a chill. Now, if someone gets a chill down their spine it was either because the drug just took effect or because the

air conditioning got turned on at an inconvenient time. Music today has no influence.

Well, that's not true. It exhibits an influence, but not the one that artists are probably hoping for. Seriously, is someone actually empowered when they listen to Green Day's "Boulevard of Broken Dreams" — or do they just feel better because there is a song they can relate to?

Honestly, I listen to Marvin Gaye and I am freakin' empowered to see my girlfriend, no matter how I feel.

Music back then was authentic. Today it is made for someone to feel good — usually the artist. There's a difference. The lyrical greats of the 60s and 70s used their music to make a difference — that's what makes them great.

Great musicians don't talk about how many streets they walk alone on, or how much money they can throw on a floor or even complain about how often the love of their life leaves or never comes (you would think they would learn rather than try to sell more records).

Great musicians come from great people. They just know how to play an instrument really well and impact and move people.

Who's great today? Not 50 Cent or Green Day or that chick from American Idol.

Artists today are in it for themselves, not for the people around them, and that is the biggest difference. At some point along the way someone said, "Hey, I can make money doing this and I happen to have a talent." And look what we got.

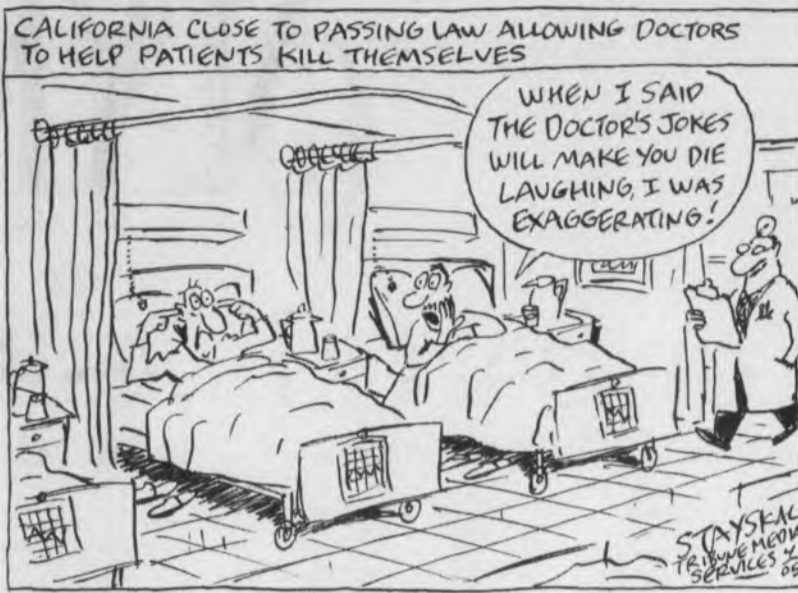
We get artists who can sing but not think. We get musicians that can perform but not play. We get concerts that have no purpose other than the fans serving the artist — not the other way around. Musicians today often have problems coming up with their own music without sampling from something in the past. It's almost like artists today want the recognition and legend of the past without doing what it takes to be that way.

Let's take this whole illegal downloading deal. If artists were truly for the fans, then would they not care as long as their message was getting sent? And if fans were truly in it for the music then would 15 bucks not be that much money for something great?

I'm not saying we should all boycott the music industry. I'm not even saying we should stop buying their records or that artists should stop protesting KaZaA.

I'm saying that if music was what it is capable of being, issues like this wouldn't even exist.

*"We get artists who can sing but not think. We get musicians that can perform but not play. We get concerts that have no purpose other than the fans serving the artist."*



# Obsessed with entertainment

JEFF WILSON

U-Wire Columnist  
Daily Egyptian  
Southern Illinois University

Americans are obsessed with news. Everywhere one looks, it's news, news, news. Yet somehow it's not the ongoing war in Iraq, the Sudanese genocide or the failing economy. It's the Michael Jackson trial and "Desperate Housewives." Why should we care what Britney Spears names her baby? Why should we care about why Brad and Jen broke up? More importantly, why do we care?

Watch CNN for about 10 minutes and you'll find that after you hear about the new pope, they'll switch gears to a big story about J-Lo or some other entertainment star.

Watch ESPN's "Pardon the Interruption," and one will get to hear what the two hosts think Britney Spears should name her baby. If all this isn't enough for you, just turn to the E!

Channel. On E!, all they talk about is entertainment news. That is if it even qualifies as news. They have a daily reenactment of what happened

during the Michael Jackson trial and countless shows about nothing but gossip.

Being charged with child molestation is serious business, but just because it's the King of Pop doesn't mean it's any more newsworthy than John Doe.

Most people will point at the media and say that they are the ones shoving all this down our collective throats. But they wouldn't show it if we didn't watch it. So why do we deem it necessary to find out where Cameron Diaz and Johnny Depp go shopping?

We want to be like them, that's why. Better yet, we want to be them. They're rich, famous, and beautiful, and we're not. So if a famous person buys Prada and Gucci, then you must buy Prada and Gucci.

If you dress and act like Brad Pitt, without cheating on her, you could get Jennifer Aniston to date you. If Britney Spears names her baby Gertrude, then you should name your first born Gertrude.

Without television, movie and pop stars, how would we know how to fix our hair? Would we be able to know what is cool to wear? How would we find out what married couples are supposed to be like?

Thankfully MTV has helped

us out with that last question. For any couples out there wondering what married life and parenting is supposed to be like, MTV has provided us with "Newlyweds: Nick & Jessica" and "Meet the Barkers." Because everyone knows that they live perfect, wonderful lifestyles.

Nick Lachey and Jessica Simpson are the perfect little couple that got this whole genre of T.V. started. Travis Barker, the drummer for punk band Blink-182, and Shanna Moakler, a former Miss USA, show us how to get wasted one night and still be perfect parents the next.

MTV is also the station that blessed us with "The Osbournes," which was really just a tribute to how many times Ozzy Osbourne can say the f-word.

Don't forget Ashton Kutcher and his friends. There's nothing like watching famous people get "Punk'd."

In the long run, it seems we need famous people. We need them to point out all that we are not. We also need them to distract us from the real world. Gosh! It's almost time for "E! True Hollywood Story: Steve Guttenberg." Got to go!



# Don't judge Delay before given fair trial

DELAY REACTION, FROM PAGE 4

told, an exterminator by profession."

When it is not mentioned as the crux of one's argument against him, DeLay's former profession is often mentioned in passing. Apparently, entrepreneurship isn't admirable across the board; it's context-specific.

But owning a less-than-savory business isn't DeLay's only faux pas. A snide March 28 column in U.S. News and World Report reminds readers of DeLay's alleged past sins, both criminal and cultural.

"In the late 1970s, when he was still drinking, smoking and having a good old time as Hot Tub Tom, he ran afoul of the IRS, which placed several liens against his exterminator business," the column's authors sneer.

And they don't stop there; they go on to question DeLay's religious faith.

"By the next year he was wooing the conservative Christian vote, having become born again," the column glibly notes. "Not everyone got to see the softer side of the Christian spirit, however, and the Hammer continued to rack up personal and political troubles..."

Questioning the authenticity of DeLay's personal faith goes too far. Like insinuating that he is unfit for his office because of his supposed cultural lapses, it is completely irrelevant. However, unlike implying he's tacky, calling into question something as personal and unverifiable as his faith in God is highly inappropriate and ironically, in very poor taste.

The chairman of the House ethics committee offered Wednesday to investigate the charges against DeLay.

A hallmark of the American justice system states one is innocent until proven guilty. If DeLay is guilty of wrongdoing, it will soon be brought to light. Until then, though, it is only fair to give DeLay in practice what he is guaranteed by law: the presumption of innocence.

As jurors of sorts, Americans must remember to stick to the evidence presented and not be swayed by criticisms of DeLay that have nothing to do with the case at hand.

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Supply ...

Crude oil price drop reflected in gas numbers

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CAMARILLO, Calif. — The average price for all grades of gasoline nationwide has fallen nearly 4 1/2 cents per gallon in two weeks because of a drop in crude oil prices and slightly lower demand, an industry analyst said yesterday.

The average retail price for all three grades dropped 4.46 cents to \$2.27 per gallon between April 8 and Friday, said Trilby Lundberg, who publishes the semimonthly

Lundberg Survey of 7,000 gas stations around the country.

The most popular grade, self-serve regular, was priced at \$2.24 a gallon, while customers paid \$2.34 for midgrade. Premium averaged \$2.44 a gallon for the period.

The drop comes after an average 19-cent jump in overall gas prices during the last survey, taken between March 18 and April 8.

"This is the first significant

price drop in retail gasoline this year," said Lundberg.

"It's not possible to quantify, but demand for gasoline is surely being dampened by high prices to a level lower than it would have been."

Lundberg also said the cost of crude oil fell several dollars last week, triggering the dip in pump prices.

She predicted that gaso-

OIL, PAGE 8

... and demand

Hybrid vehicle sales shoot up on gas worries

By Dee-Ann Durbin THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

DETROIT — Hybrid vehicle sales nearly doubled in the United States last year as gas prices soared and a wider variety of models attracted consumers.

New hybrid vehicle registrations totaled 83,153 in 2004, an 81 percent increase over the year before, according to data released last Monday by R.L. Polk & Co., which collects and interprets automotive data.

Still, hybrids represented less than 1 percent of the 17 million new vehicles sold in 2004. But the U.S. hybrid market has grown by 960 percent since 2000, when 7,781 were sold, according to the Polk data, and major automakers are planning to introduce about a dozen new hybrids during the next three years.

"What's different about this than other types of vehicles is that hybrids are about what people want to give back and what they want to feel they're doing with their vehicles,"

Lonnie Miller, industry analyst

Lonnie Miller, director of analytical solutions for Southfield-based Polk, said federal and state tax credits for fuel-efficient vehicles have helped spur hybrid sales. More people also are buying into the idea that driving a hybrid is socially responsible, he said.

"What's different about this than other types of vehicles is that hybrids are about what people want to give back and what they want to feel they're doing with their vehicles," Miller said.

Despite the arrival of Ford Motor Co.'s Ford Escape hybrid in showrooms last year, Japanese automakers continued to control the vast majority of the U.S. market, Polk said. Japanese brands accounted for more than 96 percent of the hybrid vehicles registered.

Toyota Motor Corp., which was the first automaker to commercially mass-produce and sell hybrid cars, continues to dominate the market. The Toyota Prius, which went on sale in the United States in 2000, occupied 64 percent of the

HYBRIDS, PAGE 8

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Leader hopes to push vote

Frist seeks cessation of a long debate over a controversial judge.

By David Espo THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — Majority Leader Bill Frist said yesterday it was not "radical" to ask senators to vote on judicial nominees as he hardened his effort to strip Democrats of their power to stall President Bush's picks for the federal court.

Frist, speaking at an event organized by Christian groups trying to rally churchgoers to support an end to judicial filibusters, also said judges deserve "respect, not retaliation," no matter how they rule.

A potential candidate for the White House in 2008, the Tennessee Republican made no overt mention of religion in the

brief address, according to a text of his videotaped remarks released before the event in Louisville, Ky.

Instead, Frist seemed intent on steering clear of the views expressed by House Majority Leader Tom DeLay, R-Texas, and other conservatives in and out of Congress who have urged investigations and even possible impeachment of judges they describe as activists.

"Our judiciary must be independent, impartial and fair," Frist said.

"When we think judicial decisions are outside mainstream American values, we will say so. But we must also be clear that the balance of power among all three branches requires respect — not retaliation. I won't go along with that," Frist said.

For months, Frist has threatened to take action that would shut down the Democrats'

practice of subjecting a small number of judicial appointees to filibusters. Barring a last-minute compromise, a showdown is expected this spring or summer.

"I don't think it's radical to ask senators to vote. I don't think it's radical to expect senators to fulfill their constitutional responsibilities," said Frist, whom Democrats have accused of engaging in "radical Republican" politics.

While a majority of the Senate is sufficient to confirm a judge, it takes 60 votes under Senate rules to overcome a filibuster and force a final vote.

Rather than change the rules directly, Frist and other Republicans have threatened to seek an internal Senate ruling that would declare that filibusters are not permitted against judicial nominees.

JUDGES, PAGE 8

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# Crime drops as inmate population skyrockets

By Siobhan McDonough

WASHINGTON — Growing at a rate of about 900 inmates each week between mid-2003 and mid-2004, the nation's prisons and jails held 2.1 million people, or one in every 138 U.S. residents, the government reported yesterday.

By last June 30, there were 48,000 more inmates, or 2.3 percent, more than the year before, according to the latest figures from the Bureau of Justice Statistics.

The total inmate population has hovered around 2 million for the past few years, reaching 2.1 million on June 30, 2002, and just below that mark a year later.

While the crime rate has fallen over the past decade, the number of people in prison and jail is outpacing the

number of inmates released, said the report's co-author, Paige Harrison. For example, the number of admissions to federal prisons in 2004 exceeded releases by more than 8,000, the study found.

Harrison said the increase can be attributed largely to get-tough policies enacted in the 1980s and 1990s. Among them are mandatory drug sentences, "three-strikes-and-you're-out" laws for repeat offenders, and "truth-in-sentencing" laws that restrict early releases.

"As a whole most of these policies remain in place," she said. "These policies were a reaction to the rise in crime in the '80s and early '90s."

Added Malcolm Young, executive director of the Sentencing Project, which promotes alternatives to prison: "We're working under the burden of laws and practices that have developed

over 30 years that have focused on punishment and prison as our primary response to crime."

He said many of those incarcerated are not serious or violent offenders, but are low-level drug offenders. Young said one way to help lower the number is to introduce drug treatment programs that offer effective ways of changing behavior and to provide appropriate assistance for the mentally ill.

According to the Justice Policy Institute, which advocates a more lenient system of punishment, the United States has a higher rate of incarceration than any other country, followed by Britain, China, France, Japan and Nigeria.

There were 726 inmates for every 100,000 U.S. residents by June 30, 2004, compared with 716 a year earlier, according to the report by the Justice Department agency.

In 2004, one in every 138 U.S. residents was in prison or jail; the previous year it was one in every 140.

In 2004, 61 percent of prison and jail inmates were of racial or ethnic minorities, the government said.

An estimated 12.6 percent of all black men in their late 20s were in jails or prisons, as were 3.6 percent of Hispanic men and 1.7 percent of white men in that age group, the report said.

Other findings include: — State prisons held about 2,500 youths under 18 in 2004. That compares with a peak, in 1995, of about 5,300. Local jails held about 7,000 youths, down from 7,800 in 1995.

— In the year ending last June 30, 13 states reported an increase of at least 5 percent in the federal system, led by Minnesota, at about 13 percent; Montana at 10.5 percent; Arkansas at 9



INCARCERATED: Nationwide, U.S. prisons and jails added nearly 1,000 inmates a week in the last year.

percent. Among the 12 states that reported a decline in the inmate

population were Alabama, 7 percent; Connecticut, 2.5 percent; and Ohio, 2 percent.

# Increasing tax breaks affect government revenue

President Bush looks to revise rules on number of tax breaks.

By Mary McDonough

WASHINGTON — As taxpayers recover from finishing their annual filing chores, a presidential commission studying the tax laws has reached the conclusion that there are just too many deductions and credits.

Two credits, a deduction and special savings plans help taxpayers cut college costs. Special urban and rural tax zones encourage investment and job creation. Dozens of other tax benefits help families raise children and save for retirement, encourage adoption, nudge drivers toward hybrid cars and push businesses to invest in new equipment.

"We have lost sight of the fact

that the fundamental purpose of our tax system is to raise revenues to fund government," according to President Bush's Advisory Panel on Federal Tax Reform.

The commission's chairman, former Florida Sen. Connie Mack, said its nine members have been surprised at the number of tax deductions and credits.

"It wasn't until we really had the opportunity to listen to so many different people talk about so many different aspects of the code that it really sunk in about how much and how often the code is being used these days to either create incentives or disincentives for either investment or behavior," Mack said in an interview with The Associated Press.

The White House budget office ranks the cost of a deduction for businesses that provide health insurance to employees as the top tax break, worth \$126 billion next year. Also high on the list are the popular mortgage interest

deduction, a capital gains break for home sales, a deduction for charitable contributions and the child tax credit.

The list includes many tiny tax breaks. Among them are ones that encourage biodiesel fuel, help the elderly and disabled, make interest on educational bonds tax-free and allow teachers to deduct the cost of school supplies.

The problem comes when taxpayers try to decipher the rules that govern those credits and deductions. The tax breaks often overlap and typically come with pages of instructions and qualifications.

"It was clearly stated that the level of complication has become so great that in many cases it ends up deterring the activity that you're trying to encourage," Mack said.

Bush has asked the panel to preserve tax breaks that promote homeownership and charitable giving.

*"They make it look like smaller government, when in fact it's actually bigger government."*

CONNIE MACK, FLORIDA SENATOR

Tax breaks started proliferating in the 1990s for two reasons, said Eugene Steuerle, a former Treasury Department official and co-director of the Urban-Brookings Tax Policy Center.

"There's always been this political reward for claiming to do something new rather than merely cleaning up or slightly expanding something that already exists," Steuerle said.

Lawmakers want to brand their own education tax breaks, for example, which means there are multiple deductions,

credits and special savings accounts instead of one tax break everyone can use.

Tax breaks also provide benefits without creating a government spending program. But the proliferation of tax breaks end up costing the public because they mean lawmakers cannot lower income tax rates, Steuerle said.

"They make it look like smaller government, when in fact it's actually bigger government," he said.

The tax breaks amount to billions of dollars.

Tax benefits that provide indirect subsidies to homeowners add up to more than the entire budget of the Housing and Urban Development Department.

The earned income tax credit for low wage workers is bigger than any welfare program, including food stamps.

The tax break for businesses that provide health insurance is growing faster than almost all

other domestic programs.

Some critics say no one tracks the tax breaks to find out if they succeed in promoting the behavior lawmakers want to encourage. Limitations often mean that some breaks are not available to wealthier taxpayers or poorer ones.

"It is worth noting that the deductions are of little or no benefit to the 40 percent of taxpayers who don't owe taxes," Fred Goldberg Jr., a former Internal Revenue Service commissioner, told the presidential panel.

Would taxpayers give up some of those deductions and credits to make the whole system simpler? Not likely.

"Anytime you've got a benefit, wherever it happens to be, whether it's spending or taxes, people don't want to give them up," Mack said.

This summer, the panel plans to recommend ways to make the tax laws simpler and fairer.

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# WORLD

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By Brian Murphy

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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The pope also extended a hand to all Christians, quoting Scriptures with images of a separated flock. "Let us do all we can to pursue the path toward unity," he said.

"Finally, like a wave gathering force," he added at another point in the 30-minute homily, "my thoughts go out to all men and women today, to believers and non-believers alike."

Here, too, the pope stepped gently onto sensitive ground. In 2000, while serving at the Vatican's powerful office that guides doctrine, he issued a document that angered other Christians and faiths by framing salvation in only Catholic terms.

But he went no further into church doctrine in his homily — unlike his pre-conclave comments that stressed obedience to absolute truths of morality and faith. Instead, he proclaimed



**REFORM:** Pope Benedict XVI pledged on Wednesday to continue the liberalizing reforms of the Second Vatican Council and to work to unify all Christians, as he outlined goals following an election that was expected the church was intent on sticking to tradition as it confronts 21st-century problems.

humility at facing "this enormous task, which truly exceeds all human capacity."

"Pray for me," he said several times.

The Mass — known as the Ceremony of Investiture — brought Benedict back to the steps of St. Peter's Basilica where he led the funeral rites for John Paul on April 8. Both events brought huge crowds and required sweeping security measures, including anti-missile

batteries on alert, no-fly zones over central Rome and police boats patrolling the rain-swollen Tiber River.

The list of dignitaries included German Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder, Prince Albert II of Monaco, Queen Sofia of Spain, and Florida Gov. Jeb Bush, the president's brother.

Archbishop of Cologne, Cardinal Ruffini, Archbishop of Canterbury, and others were among the 100 invited to the Mass. The pope's first public appearance since his election was the Mass, which began at 7 p.m. local time.



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- 4:00pm-5:30pm Q&A with Art LaFleur
- 6:30pm-8:00pm Open Forum Discussions
- 8:00pm-9:00pm Awards Ceremony

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In Israel, Foreign Ministry spokesman Mark Regev said the pope's words show his desire to continue John Paul's interfaith efforts and "forge even stronger ties between Israel and the Vatican and between Jews and Christians." Most Jewish leaders could not attend the Mass because it coincided with the weeklong Passover holiday.

The pope also extended a hand to all Christians, quoting Scriptures with images of a separated flock. "Let us do all we can to pursue the path toward unity," he said.

"Finally, like a wave gathering force," he added at another point in the 30-minute homily, "my thoughts go out to all men and women today, to believers and non-believers alike."

Here, too, the pope stepped gently onto sensitive ground. In 2000, while serving at the Vatican's powerful office that guides doctrine, he issued a document that angered other Christians and faiths by framing salvation in only Catholic terms.

But he went no further into church doctrine in his homily — unlike his pre-conclave comments that stressed obedience to absolute truths of morality and faith. Instead, he proclaimed



**REFORM:** Pope Benedict XVI pledged on Wednesday to continue the liberalizing reforms of the Synod of Bishops and to work to unify all Christians, as he outlined goals following an election that sent a signal the church was intent on sticking to tradition as it confronts 21st-century problems.

humility at facing "this enormous task, which truly exceeds all human capacity."

"Pray for me," he said several times.

The Mass — known as the Ceremony of Investiture — brought Benedict back to the steps of St. Peter's Basilica where he led the funeral rites for John Paul on April 8. Both events brought huge crowds and required sweeping security measures, including anti-missile

batteries on alert, no-fly zones over central Rome and police boats patrolling the rain-swollen Tiber River.

The list of dignitaries included German Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder, Prince Albert II of Monaco, Queen Sofia of Spain, and Florida Gov. Jeb Bush, the president's brother.

Among the religious leaders, Archbishop of Canterbury, Ronald Williams, Metropolitan Archbishop of New York, Timothy Dolan, Patriarch Bartholomew I, the spiritual leader of the world's Eastern Orthodox, and a representative of the Russian Orthodox Church, Metropolitan Kallistos



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**THE THIRTEENTH ANNUAL FILM MEDIA FESTIVAL**

**SATURDAY April 23**

- 2:00pm-5:30pm: Screening of Student Films. Introduced by guest speaker, Dr. Robert J. Johnson.
- 5:30pm-7:00pm: Dinner Break
- 7:00pm-9:00pm: Screening of Student Films. Continued screening of films at 10:00pm.

**SUNDAY April 24**

- 10:00am-1:00pm: **In the Company of Strangers**. Screening of feature film by director, Tom Hofbauer, followed by Q&A session about the film.
- 2:00pm-3:30pm: **Making the Move to LA**. Presentation by former MTV Producer, Jay Pinkus.
- 4:00pm-5:20pm: **Q&A with Art LaFleur**. Question session with guest speaker, film critic, Art LaFleur.
- 6:30pm-8:00pm: **Open Forum Discussion**. Open forum with Tom LaFleur and other speakers.
- 8:00pm-9:00pm: **Awards Ceremony**. Presentation of category prize winners and overall Best of Show winner.

<http://www.bgnews.com/2005/filmmedia>



## THIS WEEK IN BG SPORTS

### BASEBALL

Wednesday  
host Xavier, 3:00 p.m.  
Saturday  
host IPFW, 1:00 p.m. (DH)  
Saturday  
host IPFW, 12:00 p.m. (DH)

### SOFTBALL

Wednesday  
at Ohio State, 5:00 p.m. (DH)  
Saturday  
host Buffalo, 1:00 p.m. (DH)  
Sunday  
host Buffalo, 1:00 p.m.

### TRACK

Thursday and Friday  
Drake Relays in Des Moines, IA

### TENNIS

Thursday through Sunday  
MAC Championships at Toledo

## Sorry to be coming to Cleveland



**ELLIOT  
SCHREINER**  
Old Blue Eyes

Braylon Edwards, welcome to the hell that is being a Browns first-round draft choice.

There is select company in this hell, including the likes of "Touchdown" Tommy Vardell, Craig Powell and the man that led the franchise to where it is now: Tim Couch.

I must admit, I was glad to see Edwards wearing the brown and orange on Saturday, but I couldn't help but think he would be yet another player in the mess that is Cleveland's first round draft picks.

Since 1978, when Cleveland drafted Browns' greats Ozzie Newsome and Clay Matthews, the Browns selections have been a tragedy.

But it has really gotten out of hand since 1992, when they drafted "Touchdown" Tommy. In his final year at Stanford, Vardell solidified his name by scoring 20 touchdowns for the Cardinal. He continued down a different road once he hit the NFL, scoring three rushing touchdowns for the Browns in four seasons while racking up a miraculous 1,070 yards before moving on to San Francisco.

The Browns continued the trend in the ensuing years, drafting the likes of Steve Everitt, who ESPN.com's career highlight lists as being signed to a five-year contract with Philadelphia.

But it got worse as they drafted Derrick Alexander (two touchdowns in two Cleveland seasons), Antonio Langham (four picks in two seasons) and Craig Powell (my point exactly).

Luckily for first round draft picks, the Browns took the next few years off as they moved on to Baltimore, became the Ravens and won the Super Bowl.

But worry not detractors of first round picks, the Browns made a solid return to ruining hopeful, young football players when they returned in 1999 and drafted franchise-saving Tim Couch.

Couch was the can't miss kid out of Kentucky, who threw for more college touchdowns than you can shake a stick at. He then came to Cleveland and duplicated those numbers, but with a lot more interceptions. In his five years with the Browns he threw 64 touchdowns and 67 picks, setting the tone for Browns' picks to come.

After wasting their 1999 pick on Couch, they shored up their defensive line with all-time greats Gerard Warren and Courtney Brown. Now they both have a chance to be greats in Denver, where they are now playing for the Broncos and are likely to be selling used cars by the end of the season.

Through it all, the Browns have just two first round draft picks on their team — center Jeff Faine and tight end Kellen Winslow.

Faine is still the starting center and Winslow played just two games for the Browns before going down with an injury.

The verdict is still out on both of them. Faine isn't exactly a super star, but Winslow has the makings of a star, just like Couch, Brown and William Green.

The point I am trying to get across is this: Get out of Cleveland, Braylon, before you become part of the tradition.

CLARETT: DENVER TAKES CHANCE AND DRAFTS CLARETT. PAGE 11



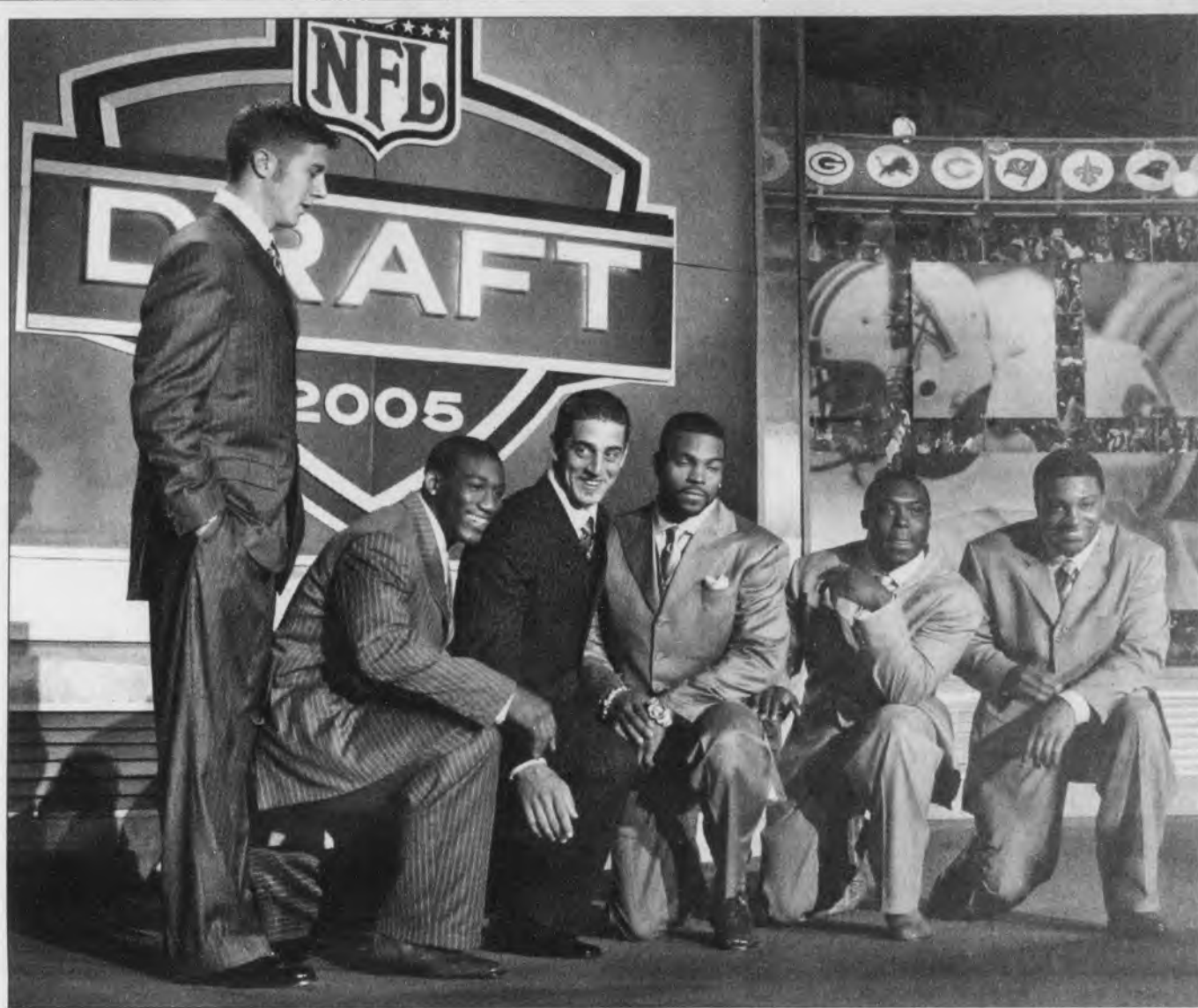
# SPORTS

MONDAY

April 25,  
2005

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BOWLING GREEN STATE UNIVERSITY



**FIRST ONE STANDING:** Alex Smith, left, a quarterback from Utah, pauses before kneeling with Antrel Rolle, a cornerback from Miami, Aaron Rodgers, a quarterback from Cal, Braylon Edwards, a wide receiver from Michigan, Ronnie Brown, a running back from Auburn, and Cedric Benson, a running back from Texas, attend the NFL draft Saturday in New York.

## Utah's Smith goes No. 1

Alex Smith was the only quarterback drafted in the top 20 and the Browns used their top pick to draft Michigan wide receiver Braylon Edwards.

By Dave Goldberg  
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

After a week of trade rumors and intrigue, the only drama in this NFL draft was the long wait for Aaron Rodgers.

With the top players considered relatively equal, quarterback Alex Smith went first as expected to San Francisco and the other dominoes followed more or less the way they were supposed to.

But Rodgers, the Cal quarterback who the 49ers had considered at No. 1, fell most of the way through the first round until he was taken 24th overall by Green Bay to the cheers of fans at the draft. He will be groomed to succeed Brett Favre, who will turn 36 in October.

"I had already prepared myself for things not going my way," said Rodgers, who had been invited to the

draft on the assumption he would be taken much earlier. "Things get a little screwy on draft day. We all know that."

The shortage of drama was in sharp contrast to last season, when San Diego took Eli Manning, who had expressed his desire not to play for the Chargers. They then traded him to the New York Giants for Philip Rivers, who the Giants had taken fourth overall.

"There's a lot of smoke this year, but very little fire," said Cleveland general manager Phil Savage, who entertained a number of offers before selecting wide receiver Braylon Edwards with the third pick.

In fact, the biggest fire may have come at the end of the evening at 11 p.m., when Denver used the final pick of the third round to select Maurice Clarett, the running back who led Ohio State to the 2002 national championship then left the Buckeyes.

He challenged the NFL rule requiring a player to be out of high school for three years a year ago and was eventually turned down by the courts, and was expected to go much lower after slow times in 40-yard dashes. The pick was 101st overall.

Edwards was part of a top nine that included three

running backs, three cornerbacks and three players from Auburn with quarterback Jason Campbell, taken by Washington with the 25th pick, the fourth Tiger taken. The three early Auburn guys were running backs Ronnie Brown, second overall to Miami, and Carnell Williams, fifth to Tampa Bay, and cornerback Carlos Rogers, who the Redskins settled for at nine when they couldn't trade up.

Smith, who is just 20, was considered the quarterback with the best chance to become a star, fitting for a team that had Hall of Famers Joe Montana and Steve Young but slipped to 2-14 last year. He was the fifth straight quarterback taken with the first pick.

"We felt that Alex was the one that most fit what we want our team to look like," said new coach Mike Nolan, who got decision-making power over personnel when he took the job. "He brings discipline, competitiveness and intelligence to the table. He is off the charts in all three areas."

Smith was off the NFL's charts until this year, when he led Utah to an unbeaten season and the

NFL DRAFT, PAGE 11

## Edwards No. 1 at UM, now Browns' top pick

By Tom Withers  
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Braylon Edwards wore No. 1 at Michigan, and he was second to none for the Cleveland Browns.

They picked the multitasking wide receiver with the third overall selection in the NFL draft on Saturday, selecting the highest rated player on their board — a player the Browns hope reverses their embarrassing run of taking first-round flops.

"This is a no-brainer pick," Browns rookie general manager Phil Savage said. "It's the best player. You take your highlighter and say, 'We just got the No. 1 player in the draft.'"

And, a new No. 17.

Although Edwards was unaware that 17 once belonged to Browns quarterback Brian Sipe, he wants to make it his.

"I want to make my own name," a stylish and confident Edwards said after arriving at Browns headquarters from New York to meet Cleveland reporters. "I'll go with 1-7. It's new. It's not out there yet. I've seen it. You guys will like it."

The Browns picked Oklahoma safety Brodney Pool in the second round and then snagged Akron quarterback and local favorite Charlie Frye in the third.

"Sometimes things in the draft are just meant to be," Savage said. "And I

BROWNS, PAGE 12

## UGA defense brings southern hospitality to Cincinnati

By Joe Kay  
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

That overhaul of the Bengals' defense has acquired a distinctive Southern flavor.

With their first two picks in the draft, the Bengals took Georgia's top defensive playmakers — a pass rusher and a run stopper who could get the chance to play side-by-side as linebackers in Cincinnati.

David Pollack, one of the highest-rated linemen in the draft, went to the Bengals with the 17th overall pick on Saturday. He'll move to outside linebacker and be used as an extra lineman in passing situations.

In the second round, the Bengals took teammate Odell Thurman, the Bulldogs'

immodest middle linebacker.

"I can honestly say that I feel Cincinnati has the best defense in the NFL right now, with two of the best defensive players in the draft," an ebullient Thurman said. "You got us. I'm trying to tell you, y'all got the biggest steal of the whole draft."

Coach Marvin Lewis will be pleased if these 'Dawgs bite like they bark.

The run defense was the main thing holding the Bengals out of the playoffs, finishing in the league's bottom fourth during each of Lewis' first two seasons. After a pair of 8-8 records, Lewis is looking for a breakthrough year — the franchise's first winning season and

BENGALS, PAGE 12



# WHITE SHUT-OUT



Ben Swanger BG News

**CHANGE OF PLANS:** Stellar Field, home of the BGSU Baseball team sits covered in snow yesterday. The baseball team, who was scheduled to host Kent St., and softball team, who was scheduled to play at Ohio, cancelled their games due to the changes in the weather. All cancelled games will not be rescheduled for the season and both teams will be back in action Wednesday.

# Broncos draft tailback Clarett

By Eddie Pells  
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The Denver Broncos have a history of taking less-than-perfect tailbacks and turning them into stars. On Saturday, they drafted the walking definition of the less-than-perfect tailback — Maurice Clarett.

Impressed by what he did as a freshman, and not as concerned with his sordid history since, the Broncos took the bait on Clarett, using a third-round pick to take a surprising gamble on one of the most divisive players in the history of college football.

"It's funny to finally get to this point," Clarett said.

The one-time Ohio State star led the Buckeyes to the 2002 national title, scoring the winning touchdown as a freshman in the Fiesta Bowl.

But his fortunes turned downward from there.

He got in trouble with the law, got suspended for the 2003 season, sued to become eligible for the draft and eventually lost that case. Then, he turned on Ohio State, alleging coach Jim Tressel arranged for him to get passing grades, cars and money for bogus summer jobs. The football program is under

investigation but has not been hit with NCAA sanctions.

Despite the problems, Broncos coach Mike Shanahan deemed drafting Clarett as a risk worth taking.

"First of all, I think you don't get too caught up in that," Shanahan said. "I know the situation, what's happened. His slate is clean and we're giving him an opportunity."

After sitting out two seasons, Clarett was a bust during NFL tryouts. He was unable to break 4.7 seconds in his 40-yard run at the scouting combine in Indianapolis, making his already cloudy draft future that much murkier.

Based on the speed, and the history, very few thought he was worth much higher than a fifth-round pick. Some thought he wouldn't be drafted at all. Clarett, meanwhile, conceded he was getting in the car as the Broncos were preparing to make the 101st and last pick of the first day.

Then, came the first real surprise of a relatively calm 2005 draft — a pick Shanahan made on the recommendation from running backs coach Bobby Turner, who stayed in touch



Ed Andrieski AP Photo

**TEAMMATES:** Denver Broncos NFL draft picks Maurice Clarett, left, Darrent Williams, center, and Kark Paymah, back right, clown around as they leave the team's headquarters in Denver yesterday.

with Clarett during his two years of inactivity.

"I think it's a clean slate," Clarett said. "Coach Turner knew me, went to bat for me. He told Coach Shanahan he would take a bet on me."

Denver has no pressing needs at tailback. They have Tatum Bell, Mike Anderson and Quentin Griffin and signed Ron Dayne during free agency.

CLARETT, PAGE 13

# Rodgers a steal with 24th pick

NFL DRAFT, FROM PAGE 10

first Bowl Championship Series appearance by a team from a non-BCS conference.

Rodgers' fall was one big surprise — even Matt Jones, the 6-foot-6, 240-pound Arkansas quarterback who runs the 40 in under 4.4 seconds, was taken 21st by Jacksonville.

He said that once he fell beyond 10, he knew the next run of teams didn't need a young quarterback, so he was prepared.

The Packers were, too.

"It just didn't make sense that a player like this would drop like this. As our pick got closer, we started to get serious about taking him," general manager Ted Thompson said. "We didn't go into the day looking to take a quarterback but we felt by the time by the time we picked Aaron Rodgers, he was the best player on the board."

Campbell's selection by Washington was a second surprise.

He was projected at best as a second-rounder after salvaging a mediocre college career with an outstanding senior season. It also shows less than a lot of faith in Patrick Ramsey, the Redskins' incumbent QB and their first-round pick in 2002.

Three more quarterbacks went in the third round: Charlie Frye of Akron to Cleveland, Andrew Walter of Arizona State to Oakland, and David Greene of Georgia to Seattle. The draft will continue Sunday with rounds 4-7.

The other first-round surprises were minor.

Minnesota chose Troy Williamson of South Carolina, a faster wide receiver than the highly rated but taller Mike Williams of Southern California. Williams, kept out of last year's draft by the Clarett ruling, went to Detroit at No. 10, the third straight wide receiver to be the Lions' top choice.

Similarly, Adam "Pacman" Jones of West Virginia was the

first cornerback taken — by Tennessee, with number six. Antrel Rolle of Miami, who was rated ahead of Jones at cornerback on many boards, went two picks later to Arizona, followed by Rogers to Washington at nine.

After Smith, Brown and Edwards, Chicago took running back Cedric Benson of Texas fourth. Then came Camell Williams, Jones, Williamson, Rolle, Rogers and Mike Williams.

Detroit needed defense, but Williams was too good to pass up.

"We ran a lot of scenarios and in all of those scenarios, we didn't believe that Mike Williams would be sitting there," Lions president Matt Millen said. "There are a lot of ways to help an offense and a defense. Scoring points is one of them. Mike Williams does that very well."

Dallas took defensive end DeMarcus Ware of Troy at 11; followed by linebacker Shawne Merriman of Maryland to San Diego; offensive tackle Jammal Brown of Oklahoma to New Orleans; linebacker Derrick Johnson of Texas to Kansas City; linebacker Thomas Davis, who played safety at Georgia, to Carolina; defensive tackle Travis Johnson of Florida State to Houston; defensive end David Pollack of Georgia to Cincinnati; defensive end Erasmus James of Wisconsin to Minnesota; offensive tackle Alex Barron of Florida State to St. Louis; and defensive end Marcus Spears of LSU to Dallas to complete the top 20.

The last pick of the first round was by New England, which chose little known guard Logan Mankins of Fresno State. Given the Patriots' past success, he could end up a Pro Bowler.

New Orleans and Houston swapped spots in a minor deal in which the Saints also sent the Texans their third-round pick next year. Oakland and Seattle also flip-flopped between 23 and 26.

That was a far cry from last year's dealing at the top.

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# Browns shore up offense in draft



Gregory Bull AP Photo

**ALL SMILES:** Braylon Edwards, above, holds up a Cleveland Browns jersey after they selected him third overall in the 2005 NFL Draft Saturday. Below, Akron's Charlie Frye answers questions at a news-conference yesterday. The Browns drafted Frye in the third round of the draft.



Tony Dejak AP Photo

**BROWNS, FROM PAGE 10**

think this is just one of them. He doesn't throw the prettiest ball, but he finds a way. It's a feel-good story. We'll see how it plays out. It's a good situation for him."

The 6-foot-2, 211-pound Edwards, whose father, Stanley, was a running back for Houston and Detroit during the 1980s, will immediately help the Browns' anemic offense, which ranked last in the AFC and No. 28 overall last season.

Cleveland envisions a passing game built around Edwards and tight end Kellen Winslow Jr., who played in just two games as a rookie last season before breaking his leg. Edwards can stretch defenses, outjump and outrun cornerbacks, and has a knack for making the big catch in the big game.

"He adds another dimension to our offense," Browns coach Romeo Crennel said. "Having both guys puts more pressure on defenses. They can't load up on one particular guy now. If they double cover both guys, that gives us a chance to open up the running game."

Edwards had 97 receptions for 1,330 yards and 15 touchdowns last season for the Wolverines. He shattered all the receiving records at a school that has produced NFL wide receivers Anthony Carter, Desmond Howard, Derrick Alexander, Amani Toomer and David Terrell — solid players but not stars.

Edwards, who has already purchased a Bentley GT coupe for \$140,000 before signing his rookie contract, wants to change that.

"I think I have a chance to be amongst those guys — or better," he said. "If I put in the hard work and have the work ethic, I can be a superstar."

With their second-round pick, the Browns selected Pool, a 6-foot-2, 208-pounder who skipped his senior season. Pool's versatility may allow Crennel to move him to cornerback.

"We felt like we needed to do something on defense in the second round," said Savage, who tried to trade back into Round 1 to get another defensive player. "This is a case where he was the best player available."

Pool was thrilled to be joining a team he's somewhat familiar with.

"When I was eight years old in Pee Wee ball, I played for the

Cleveland Browns," Pool said. "I just want to help this team get over the hump."

Frye was expected to go much earlier, following in the footsteps of Mid-American Conference quarterbacks Chad Pennington, Byron Leftwich and Ben Roethlisberger — all first-round draft picks.

However, Frye slipped back to the Browns, who plan to be patient and groom him behind starter Trent Dilfer.

Edwards saved his best games for Michigan's biggest games, and had one of his finest performances for with Savage in the stands. Against Michigan State, Edwards had 11 receptions for 189 yards and three TDs, two in the final seven minutes of regulation and the game-winner in triple overtime.

He immediately upgrades a Browns receiving corps that has speed in Antonio Bryant, Dennis Northcutt and Andre' Davis, but not the go-to target they can count on.

The Browns have gone just 30-67 with one playoff appearance since 1999, and their draft picks, especially at the top of the first round (see Tim Couch, Courtney Brown and Gerard Warren) have had little impact.

Edwards wants to fix that, too. "With me, you're going to get what is advertised," he said. "With me, you're going to get what I did in college."

His first draft in Cleveland couldn't have started better for Savage, who built his reputation as one of the league's top talent evaluators as Baltimore's director of player personnel. Savage helped the Ravens draft 10 Pro Bowl players from 1996-2003.

Shortly after making Edwards his first pick, Savage read from glowing reports submitted by Cleveland scouts. One of those endorsements came from Paul Warfield, the Hall of Famer who now evaluates wide receivers for the Browns.

One of Savage's goals this weekend is to earn back the trust of Cleveland fans, who have grown weary of the team's incompetence.

"We want the fans to walk around and say, 'You know what? That's a good pick instead of saying, who's that guy?'" Savage said. "If we didn't take him, I think everyone in Cleveland would have said, 'What are they doing?'"

# Pollack leaves an impression on Lewis

**BENGALS, FROM PAGE 10**

playoff appearance since 1990. To get there, he had to do something about that defense.

He formed a good impression of Pollack during a 45-minute chat at the NFL combine in February. During his two years in Cincinnati, Lewis has talked often about the importance of having vocal leaders like the ones he had in Baltimore, where the defense set records and won a Super Bowl during the 2000 season.

Lewis already knew about Pollack's reputation as such a leader when they sat down during the combine in Indianapolis.

"We had him spend extra time with us," Lewis said. "We had nobody to interview, so he spent about 45 minutes with us one night. His magnetism and everything kind of proceeds his play, which is great."

During his four seasons at Georgia, Pollack twice won the Ted Hendricks Award as the nation's top defensive end. He also won the Lombardi Award as the top lineman overall, and was the Southeastern Conference's top defensive player.

He set Georgia's sacks record and showed a knack for causing havoc.

"The versatility and the creativity that we'll be able to do with that really gets you excited," defensive coordinator Chuck Bresnahan said.

First, Pollack has to learn a new position.

He was scrambling to pack and head for the airport — and a trip to Cincinnati — a few minutes after he was picked. During a brief phone conversation with a Bengals coach — Pollack couldn't remember which one — the switch to linebacker didn't come up.

"That would be something that I would love to do," said Pollack, who played tackle and end in college. "But I haven't talked to the team enough to know position or anything like that. So your guess is as good as mine."

Pollack was on a plane to Cincinnati when his

teammate was chosen with the 48th overall pick. Thurman, a junior, planned to call him on his cell phone after he landed.

"It's been a thrill playing with Pollack for three years, and now I get to play with him for however long they have us now," Thurman said. "So it's going to be great."

Middle linebacker Nate Webster tore a tendon in his knee last year, and outside linebacker Kevin Hardy struggled at times. In the first two rounds, the Bengals could have found their eventual replacements.

"I never thought that both of these kids would fall into our laps," said linebackers coach Ricky Hunley, who was the Bengals' top draft pick in 1984.

It's the first time in franchise history that the top two draft picks came from the same school. The last time they went for linebackers with their first two picks was 1998 — middle linebacker Takeo Spikes and outside linebacker Brian Simmons.

The Bengals took a gamble in the third round, choosing receiver Chris Henry from West Virginia. Lewis wants another fast receiver to complement Chad

Johnson, and got one that is like him in other ways, too.

The 6-foot-4 junior was benched for half of a game because he got two unsportsmanlike conduct penalties. He's known for trash talking and emotional outbursts that raised questions about his maturity and lowered his value in the draft.

The Bengals were the only team to bring him in for a visit. He went to dinner and a comedy club with Johnson and receiver T.J. Houshmandzadeh.

"I really look up to Chad," Henry said. "On my visit, I hung out with Chad a little bit. I like him a lot."

Henry convinced Lewis that he won't be a problem.

"We have spent countless hours researching this and him, and spending time with him and what really happened in those situations," Lewis said. "A lot went into this. We really feel comfortable with him."

*"It's been a thrill playing with Pollack for three years, and now I get to play with him for however long they have us now."*

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# Mariners chop down Indians, 9-1

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

When Jamie Moyer arrived at the ballpark, he didn't even know he had a chance to put his name in Seattle's record book.

Moyer became the American League's first four-game winner and tied Randy Johnson's franchise record for victories, pitching the Mariners past the Cleveland Indians 9-1 on Sunday.

"I wasn't even aware of it," Moyer said, downplaying his accomplishment. "It comes from longevity. The only way you're going to accomplish things like that is to be around for a while and be healthy."

Miguel Olivo hit a three-run double in a six-run sixth inning for the Mariners, who snapped a three-game skid. Olivo entered the game with a .143 average and four RBIs.

Moyer, who joined Seattle in 1996, has won 130 games in a Mariners uniform. Johnson posted his total from 1989-98.

Moyer (4-0) pitched eight strong innings and allowed six hits, including Aaron Boone's third homer. The 42-year-old left-hander struck out five and is off to his best start since opening 5-0 in 2001.

"He knows how to pitch and he knows how to use his pitches," Cleveland's Victor Martinez said. "If he throws you a changeup and you swing, he is smart enough to keep throwing you the same pitch knowing you will chase it."

Moyer also moved into a second-place tie with Mark Langston on the team's career strikeout list with 1,078. Johnson is the club leader with 2,162.

The Seattle offense, which had scored only three runs in its

last three games, finally broke out for six runs in the sixth, keyed by Olivo's bases-loaded double.

"Hopefully, we primed the pump and we can start scoring runs like we should," Hargrove said.

While the Mariners have struggled with their bats lately, they have consistently come through in bases-loaded situations. Seattle is 11-for-20 (.550) with 30 RBIs with the bats full this season.

Cleveland starter Scott Elarton has lost 13 straight decisions away from home. His last road win was May 6, 2001, with Houston. Elarton (0-1) allowed five runs — four earned — and four hits in 5 1-3 innings. He walked three and struck out a season-high five.

The Mariners scratched out a run in the first off Elarton. Ichiro Suzuki singled, went to second on a balk and scored on Adrian Beltre's sacrifice fly.

After Suzuki's single, Elarton didn't allow another hit until Olivo's two-out double in the fifth.

"For the most part, I was making my pitches. I pretty much cruised until the sixth," Elarton said.

Beltre had an RBI single in the sixth, and Bret Boone drove in another run with a sacrifice fly. Beltre scored on a throwing error by shortstop Jhonny Peralta, and Olivo made it 7-0 when he cleared the bases with a double.

Seattle tacked on two more in the eighth when Jason Davis walked five straight batters. Twenty-two of the 27 pitches Davis threw in the inning were balls.



SIGNIFICANT AWARD: Mayor John Quinn, center, helps race organizers hand out awards after the 5K Benefit Run Saturday.

Photo Provided

# Race goes on despite weather

Around 120 runners participated to raise money for AIDS research.

By Danielle Tanner  
SPORTS REPORTER

Gusty winds, cold temperatures and a steady rain were not enough to stop Saturday's BGSU/Kenya 5K Benefit Third Annual Race Against AIDS from being a success. Although race organizers had doubts in the beginning, the race went on as planned.

"It got to the point when I told Josh [Otiso] and Bernard [Manyibe], 'we need to cancel this race,'" said Secretary James Karichu. "But then we saw everyone showing up and we knew we had to proceed."

While planned guest of honor, Kenyan Olympian Kipchoge "Kip" Keino, could not be present because of cancelled travel planes due to a busy humanitarian schedule, there were other prominent guests in attendance.

"I want to thank everyone who attended the race. I was really touched to see the [University] Vice President, the Mayor and track coach Cami Wells," Karichu said. Members from several campus groups also showed up to support the Race Against AIDS. Members of the BGSU water polo team raced wearing homemade "Team Kenya" t-shirts, while the Army ROTC finished the race as a

unit. Members of the swim team attended and supported the race, but the race was dominated by the members of the BGSU men's cross country squad, who were the first to cross the finish line.

The participants ran a course that outlined the perimeter of campus. The toughest part of the course was behind the football stadium, where gusty winds made running difficult, but everyone managed to pull through.

"I want to congratulate all the people who showed up for the run," benefit President Josh Otiso said. "It was windy, cold and rainy. Thank you so much. They not only participated in the run, they helped raise awareness for AIDS/HIV in Kenya."

Otiso also issued thanks to benefit faculty advisors Dr. Lorraine Haricombe and Travis Chapin, who is currently in Kenya.

After a grueling 3.1 miles, runners were greeted at the finish line by cheering students and other race supporters. Unlike many races, where competition takes precedence over anything else, the Race Against AIDS was surrounded by an

overwhelming sense of community and goodwill. Fellow racers cheered for and congratulated each other and then huddled together for warmth.

An awards presentation outside the football stadium followed the end of the race. The top three men and women finishers overall and in several age categories were awarded with "Kenya" t-shirts, wood carvings from Kenya and Kenyan necklaces.

Otiso estimated about 120 runners participated, which is close to last year's number. Considering last year's race was run on a beautiful sunny day, this year's race can certainly be considered a success.

"I would say the event was successful. We had pretty good media coverage. It's a fast growing race in Ohio," Otiso said.

Media members from the Sentinel and BG 24 News channel were among those in attendance to cover the race.

An event such as this is not just about running. To see so many people come together to support such an important cause warmed

the hearts of the race organizers.

"[It] was so touching. There was a sense of care. To me it means that there are people out there who care about people with HIV. That was awesome," Karichu said.

The money participants paid for entry fees and event t-shirts will be donated to Youth Vision International, a non-governmental organization that helps educate youth and prevent the spread of AIDS in Kenya.

The future for the Race Against AIDS looks bright and organizers are optimistic about next year's run.

"Everytime we have had the race, many people hear about it. We hope it will keep going," Otiso said.

*"[It] was so touching. There was a sense of care. To me it means that there are people out there who care about people with HIV. That was awesome."*

JAMES KARICHU,  
SECRETARY

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# Broncos have high hopes for choice

CLARETT, FROM PAGE 11

They have a history, though, of taking mid-round picks and turning them into 1,000-yard rushers. Anderson, Olandis Gary, Reuben Droughns and Terrell Davis all fit that bill. Davis was a sixth-round pick. He retired with 7,607 yards over eight seasons.

"Terrell Davis wasn't, so called, very fast," Shanahan said. "But he played very fast in games and had great cutting ability. So, speed isn't always a factor. He's got great elusiveness, the ability to make some big runs. Sometimes speed can be overrated."

Clarett rushed for 1,237 yards and 16 touchdowns as a freshman at Ohio State despite missing three games with injuries. After that year, he was considered one of the best college players in the game, but couldn't be drafted because of NFL rules stating players must be out of high school three years before going pro.

He challenged that rule in court and won, only to see the decision overturned by a higher court, leaving him with nowhere to play. During his time away,

he gained weight and took on more baggage by turning on Tressell. By the time draft day approached, Clarett was being roundly ripped by many of the so-called personnel experts.

"I'm in great shape right now," Clarett claimed. "I've been working out every day. I talked to Coach Turner and said, 'If you need me to lose more weight, I'll lose more weight. If you need me to run more, I'll run more.' Whatever they ask of me, whatever I need to do, is what's going to happen."

The Clarett pick immediately transformed Denver's draft from one of the league's most placid into one of the most intriguing. The Broncos had traded away their first-round draft pick, and used their second and two thirds on cornerbacks — Darrent Williams of Oklahoma State, Karl Paymah of Washington State and Domonique Foxworth of Maryland.

Then came Clarett — chosen with one of two picks the Broncos received from the league as compensation for lost free agents in years past.

"And you thought it was going to be a slow, slow third round," Shanahan said.

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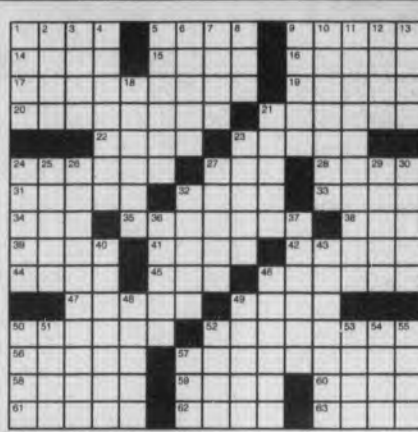
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