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Bowling Green State University

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SLAMMED: Samarco misses 3 at buzzer as Falcons fall 76-73 to Buffalo; **PAGE 10**

BGSU NEWS

Bowling Green State University
A daily independent student press

WEDNESDAY

January 25, 2006

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www.bgnews.com
VOLUME 100 ISSUE 86

GOD

VS



Intelligent design not finding a place in classrooms

By Holly Abrams
CITY NEWS EDITOR

Local science teachers are firm in their stance that intelligent design does not belong in the classroom, despite a recent failed motion by the Ohio Board of Education. The motion, rejected 9-8, was to remove references to intelligent design from a state lesson plan.

The 10th grade science lesson in question is titled "Critical Analysis of Evolution," and is optional for teachers to use in their curriculum.

The plan makes reference to intelligent design, or the creation of the universe and humankind by a higher being. Part of the wording in the

lesson plan being questioned by the board asks teachers to "Describe how scientists continue to investigate and critically analyze aspects of evolutionary theory."

Talk of intelligent design should not be in the classroom, said Kimberly Knepper, a 10th grade biology teacher at Bowling Green High School.

"I do not talk about intelligent design," she said. "I don't talk about how life began, just how life changes."

A colleague and biology teacher of ten years, Gloria Schuman, has similar views about intelligent design and the science curriculum.

"Science is based on things

you can observe with any of your five senses, and intelligent design does not fit in," she said.

Neither teacher has used the lesson plan in question. However, both say they adhere to state standards and legislation for the curriculum.

"We need to make sure we are requiring what is covered by the state and what's covered in our school district as well," Knepper said.

The other areas of the lesson plan under debate are five aspects of evolution theory, according to Martha Wise, member of the state Board of Education for District 2.

Among those five areas are homology (the likeness of

organisms in structure) and endosymbiosis (the formation of cellular organelles).

The motion to delete the "religion based" lesson plan was brought to the board by Wise, who now hopes the issue will be resolved during her final term on the board.

"The whole issue has been contentious since the beginning," she said. "I would certainly hope that we would be able to take care of this matter this year."

Other board members do not think the wording is an issue.

"I don't see anything in our standards or lesson plans about intelligent design or creationism," said Martha Westendorf,

president of the Ohio state board of education.

In the meantime, local teachers continue to set forth their own personal standards in the classroom. For Knepper this means handing out an evolution survey to students each semester to gain their feedback.

"I just make it clear what I teach in here," Knepper said. "I really do think it's [intelligent design] a disguise for creationism. I don't really feel comfortable teaching it. To me it's not science."

Bowling Green city schools received a curriculum revamp in July 2004, patterned after the

Illustration by Brandon Noble

SCIENCE, PAGE 2

BG Charge may not be an option next year

New card company may lead to change in payment options

By Cassandra Shofar
REPORTER

Slide ID card, receive item, pay account at the end of the semester.

Seems like a simple process, but behind the scenes the bursar system isn't so simple. That's why the BG Charge may not be an existing process after this semester.

The University's contract with the current system, Diebold Series 5, is up by July 1 and the University Committee has decided to change companies.

The University will use a company called Blackboard, which currently provides the internet course portal. Blackboard will soon host the campus meal plan payment options as well as other services.

This new system's details, which may include scrapping the bursar option, are still up in the air, said Jeff Nelson, director of the University bookstore.

"All I can say for certain is no decision has been made," Jeff Nelson said.

The new program could be a debit card plan which would mean students must put money into their account to use later. That would be very different from the current credit-based option, which allows students to bursar items and pay for them later.

Now that the Undergraduate Student Government and the Graduate Student Senate are aware of the change, the groups say they are taking every step

BURSAR, PAGE 2

Resident travels for trial

Woman accused of trespassing during military school protest

By Dan Myers
REPORTER

Yesterday morning, Bowling Green resident Anika Cunningham left for Georgia where she will stand trial next week on charges of trespassing on military property. She joined 19,000 people to protest a school she said teaches torture and extortion.

Cunningham, 26, was arrested with 39 other protesters last November for crawling under the fence of Fort Benning, which is located three miles from the school. She could face fines and up to six months in jail.

"I felt like it was the right thing to do because of what I'd read about Latin American history how the School of the Americas — I guess the role that it played in Latin American history," she said.

Cunningham said the

school, which changed its name from School of the Americas to the Western Hemisphere Institute for Security Corporation in 2001, teaches its students counter-insurgency techniques like torture, extortion, black mail and targeting of civilian populations.

Lee Rials, public affairs officer for WHINSEC, said the school teaches courses about command and leader-

ship, counter-drug operations and disaster management.

"There's no indication whatsoever that they were taught anything illegal, immoral and unethical," Rials said.

Since its original incarnation began in the 1960s, WHINSEC's mission has been to train and teach democratic



ANIKA CUNNINGHAM

PROTESTER, PAGE 2

Key to business is knowing gamers

Speaker: bosses need new plans for video game generation

By Dave Herrera
REPORTER

Hey you, reading this right now. Were you born after 1970? Did you grow up playing video games?

John Beck calls you a gamer, and he thinks he knows you.

And he thinks he knows what schools and businesses — and you young gamers that are, and will be, staffing them — need to know to learn or succeed: Strategy guides.

Beck, the co-author of "Got Game: How the Gamer Generation is Reshaping Business Forever," spoke yesterday in the Union Ballroom on why understanding video games is crucial to understanding how the mind of almost anybody under 35 works, and how businesses can capitalize on that knowledge.

"This generation's growing up with the notion that bosses are an obstacle ... something to slay, if you have to," Beck said. "Perhaps you could be a strat-

egy guide ... somebody that the gamer comes to when they're stuck."

The speech, "Capturing the Value of the Gamer Generation," was part of the University's Presidential Lecture Series.

"There is a significant generation gap," he said. "[It's] different than any generation gap, we would argue, before, in the history of the United States."

Beck said video games are part of a youth culture of which the older generations are clueless about.

That, he said, is a different kind of gap than what baby boomers and their parents dealt with as youths when they still viewed the mostly the same content.

"In every house, there was basically one television, there were three channels ... and everybody watched it together," Beck said.

Growing up playing games, Beck said, "creates completely a new way of thinking about the world."

"This is not passive, baby boomer behavior," he said. "This is doing. This has a trel-

GAMERS, PAGE 7

BGSU alumna to run for Ohio representative

By Dave Herrera
REPORTER

When she first ran for the House of Representatives in 2004, Robin Weirauch, a BGSU graduate, found herself handily defeated at the hands of then 16-year incumbent Paul Gillmor (R).

Now, 10 months away from the Nov. 7 ballot, she's ready to give the race for Ohio's 5th District spot — the seat which covers Bowling Green — another shot. She is currently the unopposed Democratic nominee.

Weirauch, 49, was born in Dayton, and completed her master's degree in Business Administration at the University in 1980. She described her work since then, including time as the University's Center for Regional Development, as focused on local communities.

When pressed, she described herself as most often a "moderate liberal."

But said she would rather shun

those everyday political naming devices.

"We have so many labels for each other, and frankly I would rather label myself as someone with good old common sense as opposed to swinging [from one] end of the pendulum or not," she said.

In 2004, during their first electoral



ROBIN WEIRAUCH

ALUMNA, PAGE 7

FOUR-DAY FORECAST

The four-day forecast is taken from weather.com

THURSDAY



Mostly Sunny
High: 34°
Low: 27°

FRIDAY



Cloudy
High: 40°
Low: 34°

SATURDAY



Few Showers
High: 43°
Low: 38°

SUNDAY



Showers
High: 45°
Low: 31°

School protest could lead to jailtime

PROTESTER, FROM PAGE 1

principles to "eligible personnel" of nations in the Western Hemisphere — primarily members of Latin American militaries.

"This is professional education," Rials said. "People come and take one class."

A U.N. truth commission identified that army officers who took classes at WHINSEC killed a 14-year-old girl, her mother and six Jesuit priests in El Salvador in 1989, according to the Web site of School of the Americas Watch, a non-profit watchdog group.

Every year since that massacre, SOA Watch has organized a protest at Fort Benning, said Christy Pardew, the group's communication coordinator.

"It's become a whole weekend of events," Pardew said. "Starting on Thursday night, people came into town. There were workshops, a caucus of

union organizers from Latin American countries, film events, concerts."

Among the actions SOA Watch planned was the act of civil disobedience. Cunningham participated in.

As has been a yearly tradition, Pardew said SOA Watch makes a space for people to gather the night before the civil disobedience would be carried out.

At this meeting, a legal team is provided by SOA Watch to answer protesters' questions about the possible consequences of their actions and the history of what happened to people who trespassed on Fort Benning in previous years.

The next day, the protesters are left to decide if they want to carry out the civil disobedience.

"It was something I could do and I wanted to do it," Cunningham said. "[It was] an act of civil disobedience for positive change."

"It was something I could do and I wanted to do it. [It was] an act of civil disobedience for positive change."

ANIKA CUNNINGHAM

Rials said he thinks the SOA Watch is a political organization that protests U.S. foreign policy, rather than protesting the school itself.

"It's not civil disobedience in the Gandhian sense or even the Martin Luther King sense because it's a law to keep the military out of politics," he said.

While Rials admitted that some of the "massacres" outlined on SOA Watch's Web site are indeed massacres, he said the connection drawn between them and WHINSEC "would be humorous if it weren't so offensive to the people who taught

here."
"If you don't know what courses they took, how can you make the connection between the two?" he said.

Pardew said SOA Watch has seen a pattern of countries with the most human rights abuses in the Western Hemisphere sending the most students to WHINSEC, with Colombia leading the pack.

"They're coming from countries where, in a lot of times, the military is one of the strongest state forces," she said. "They're coming to the U.S. and where are they gonna use these skills they learn — which are primarily combat training skills?"

If Cunningham is given probation rather than jail time she said she's undecided whether she'll return to Fort Benning.

"It's been a learning experience," she said. "I would encourage any students that are thinking about getting involved in a cause to really go for it because I really feel like it's been worth it."

PASS THE TIME



Pat Dorsman BG News

TIME TO SPEND THOSE PENNIES: Junior Psychology major Dan Solganik looks for a new videogame at the Book Store to entertain him on the rainy day. Rain is predicted for the rest of the week.

Anti-war groups suspect spying

ACLU works to help those put on list of 'suspicious people'

By M.R. Kropko
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CLEVELAND — The American Civil Liberties Union of Ohio requested information yesterday from the government about whether it spied on two anti-war groups and an attorney for a man suspected of terrorism connections.

ACLU officials said at the news conference that members of the anti-war groups want to know whether two meetings were attended by government agents. One meeting was last year in Akron by the Northeast Ohio American Friends Service Committee, a Quaker organization, and the another was in 2004 in Cleveland by the Northeast

Ohio Anti-War Coalition.

The ACLU filed Freedom of Information Act requests with the Department of Defense, Justice Department, the FBI and police seeking records that document any collection of information about the groups.

Gary Daniels, the ACLU's litigation coordinator, said the ACLU became involved because the groups were included on a Defense Department classified database of information about suspicious people and activity inside the United States as reported by NBC News.

The ACLU also requested information about several people, including Akron lawyer Farhad Sethna, based on his association with the American Friends Service Committee. Sethna said he hopes the request will shed light on whether the government spied on his conversations with a client, Ashraf Al-Jailani, who recently was sent back to his native Yemen after being jailed three years on suspicions that he associated with suspected terrorists.

"The only way we would be involved in gathering specific or credible information was if a group was involved in criminal activity," FBI spokesman Bill Carter said.

A message was left for Department of Defense spokesman Greg Hicks. Justice Department spokesman Brian Roehrkasse declined comment.

New card system could be helpful

BURSAR, FROM PAGE 1

they can to meet with the University Committee within the coming weeks to discuss the matter.

"Students will have a say," said Nancy Colman, of the Bursar's Office.

Despite some students' negative reactions to the idea, Colman believes this new system will benefit students in a couple of ways.

"People are starting to bursar things they can't afford," she said, explaining that at the end of the semester, many students accounts must be frozen because they can't pay their

bills.
This debit-card system will prevent students from overcharging, Colman said.

However, not all students think that it's up to the University to handle this problem.

"I don't think everyone else should suffer because a person can't afford what they're purchasing," said junior Divia Nelson, who added that she believes students need to learn on their own how to safely spend their money.

Students like Divia Nelson may also be concerned with how they are going to afford books that they previously

would bursar.

"I bursar my books and any other little gadgets that are needed for the class," Divia Nelson said. She added that she gets her books before her first class and may not have enough money to put in her account beforehand.

However, the University Committee is considering issues like these, Jeff Nelson said.

"There has been an ongoing discussion about the types of credit-based charges which are billed through the Bursar's Office and how these could be affected by the new system," he said.

Another issue with the current system is the way student

organizations use bursar for fund raisers. Colman said it takes student groups a lot of time and tedious work to keep bursar records. Sometimes student groups cannot collect all the money they raise because some bursar bills are not paid.

"With the debit card way, student organizations' treasurers and other involved individuals will not have to do all the bookkeeping necessary to maintain the current system of 'bursarables,'" Colman said. "The organization will receive their entitled fund raising monies with the assurance that the money is there, and they will get it."

Local teachers choose not to use religion

SCIENCE, FROM PAGE 1

state standards.

"It leaves it kind of open to the school district," said Craig Mertler, president of the Bowling Green schools board of education. "In my mind it leaves it open to the individual district and individual teacher. They are left that freedom to teach that content as they see fit."

Questions over the use of intelligent design in the school curriculum is not limited to the high schools.

"We have to deal with it on the college level; they [high school teachers] are the ones

that are on the front line," said Moira van Staaden, associate professor in the biological sciences department.

Karen Sirum, an assistant professor in the department, also believes intelligent design is not science.

"We talk about what science is and its realm in the natural world," she said. "It [intelligent design] is not testable and does not belong in a science classroom."

However, Sirum sees intelligent design as an appropriate topic for non-science courses such as philosophy.

For Staaden, the issue has become too political.

"If it were up to the scientists and educators it wouldn't be a problem," she said. "Because it's not science, there is a lot of political influence in this whole issue."

Although the recent failed motion hasn't changed anything on the local level, if changes are made in the future, they could affect local schools.

"If there are changes that come about from the state legislation, they are also going to funnel down to the district level," Mertler said.

While the issue of intelligent design has not been large on a local level, other states have faced issues — namely

Pennsylvania, where a judge rejected the teaching of intelligent design in the classroom.

"It really hasn't been that big of an issue yet," Mertler said. "It hasn't been an issue in our school district and, frankly, I hope it doesn't become an issue."

Regardless of state standards, a teacher's job is to peak students' curiosity, giving them the option to do further research on their own, according to Doug Garman, superintendent of Wood County Educational Service Center.

"I think our job is not only to teach but instill the inquisitive attitude to learn more," he said.

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Lease May 13, 2006 to May 5, 2007.

712 Second, #A - 2BR duplex. Limit 2 people.
Limit 2 cars. \$690.00 per month plus utilities,
deposit \$690.00 Lease August 17, 2006 to August
4, 2007

714 Eighth, #A - 2BR duplex. Limit 2 people.
Limit 2 cars. \$680.00 per month plus utilities,
deposit \$680.00 Lease August 17, 2006 to August
4, 2007

232 Lehman - 3BR 1 1/2 duplex. Limit 3 people.
Limit 3 cars. \$620.00 per month plus utilities,
deposit \$620.00 Lease August 17, 2006 to August
4, 2007

327 E. Evers, #A and #B - Duplex. 2BR each unit.
Limit 3 people . Limit 3 cars \$690.00 per month
plus utilities. Lease May 13, 2006 to May 5, 2007.

432 S. College, #A and #B - Duplex Limit 5 people
total. Unit #A - \$690.00 per month plus utilities.
Unit #B - \$480.00 per month plus utilities. Garage
is shared between the units. Lease August 17,
2006 to August 4, 2007.

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Lease May 13, 2006 - May 5, 2007

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FLU SHOTS COULD PROTECT BGSU STUDENTS

Dr. Glenn Egelman urges all students to get flu shots, available by appointment at the Student Health Center for \$15. He worries after this month's announcement that a widespread strain of influenza is resistant to two popular drugs. "If you have flu symptoms, come get it checked out to be sure it isn't a nasty strain," he said.

www.bgnews.com/campus

CAMPUS

BG NEWS

BRIEFING

THE BG NEWS

Hungry? Win a trip

WBGU 88.1 FM is hosting a wheat bread eating contest today from 2-4 p.m. in the Falcon's Nest. Four eaters can win tickets to see the band "Whole Wheat Bread" play in Cleveland Jan. 27.

Sign-ups begin in the Falcon's Nest at 2 p.m.

Thefts rattle dorms

At least four computers were stolen from dorm rooms around campus Monday evening, according to the campus police blotter.

One laptop was taken from Stephanie Boyle's room in McDonald Hall. Boyle, an RA, hopes the campus police will be able to recover the laptop after watching video from the cameras in her residence hall.

Batchelder resident Tyler Thomas was out of his room during the theft, studying in a hall computer lab. His roommate was also out, he said. Both of their computers were missing when they returned.

The Batchelder pair may have been an easy target for theft, because their room's door was unlocked.

"Everyone's locking their doors now," Thomas said of the other residents on his floor.

Some resident advisors on campus think dorm residents should learn from the thefts.

"The only thing I can say about it is to remind people to lock their doors," said Aysen Ulpinar, a Batchelder RA. Police reports for the thefts were unavailable at press time.

Sony ads drip controversy

By Ben Marrone
U-WIRE

PHILADELPHIA — With a strange mix of art, crime and money, a Sony ad campaign has managed to spark outrage in Philadelphia. The ads — graffiti-esque cartoons of bug-eyed children playing with Playstation Portables, Sony's new game system — have been spray-painted on walls throughout the city. Without the Sony logo or name appearing anywhere, they are almost indistinguishable from regular graffiti.

Mary Tracy, who heads Society Created to Reduce Urban Blight, which aims in part to combat excessive outdoor advertising, was especially upset to find that Sony was behind the cartoons.

"It's extremely egregious for them to come into Philadelphia and ignore our laws," Tracy said. "They're putting these up in poorer neighborhoods and what it says

YOU DECIDE

Was Sony in the wrong to spray-paint 'graffiti' ads in Philly? Send an Email to: thenews@bgnews.com

is, "They don't know better."

Sony spokesman Woody Mosqueda said that Sony felt this campaign was the "best fit for the urban nomad," city-dwellers constantly on the move who constitute Sony's target group. He also defended the legality of the ads, saying that property owners were paid for the use of their walls.

However, since 1991, Philadelphia has had a cap on outdoor advertising, meaning that anyone wanting to put up an ad in the city must remove an equal amount of ad space or apply to the Department of Licenses and Inspections for

special permission.

Sony did not alert the city of the new advertisements or apply for a license, according to SCRUB.

When SCRUB alerted the city to the ads, officials took quick action to have them removed.

Philadelphia Managing Director Pedro Ramos sent a letter to the Sony Corporation ordering it to stop the ads and fined Sony and the property owners. The fines are currently in the process of being paid or contested.

The penalty — \$150 for each violation — is a drop in the bucket compared to Sony's reported profit of \$246 million for the quarter that ended Sept. 30, but the company removed the ads before the Dec. 29 deadline.

"We took it very seriously very early on because of all the city's done to fight blight over the years," Ramos said. "Pretty much they're gone. They were run out of town."

Event provides major options

By Morgan Cassidy
REPORTER

Some students stress about classes, homework and jobs, but those without a major have added pressure.

They have to decide what they want to do for the rest of their lives.

And Major Mania, sponsored by the Office of Academic Enhancement, helps to ease students' worries by exposing them to the more than 200 undergraduate majors in one room.

Today in Olscamp 101 from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m., representatives from each of the University's

seven colleges will be available for questions.

"Students can really find out about any major or minor they'd be interested in," said Mary Lynn Pozniak of the Office of Academic Enhancement.

Pozniak estimates there will be 55 tables at the event, each with a representative of the various majors.

Members from the Study Abroad offices and summer programs will also be at the event, along with the Career Center representatives.

Even those with a major can benefit from the sixth annual event: The event can offer stu-

dents information about career opportunities in a variety of fields and options for areas of minor study.

In addition, students have the chance to win prizes like t-shirts, gift certificates, flash drives and an iPod Nano.

The grand prize is a flight over Bowling Green, sponsored by the College of Technology and aviation studies.

Last year, more than 400 students attended Major Mania, and Pozniak hopes to reach even more students this year. For more info call the Office of Academic Enhancement at 372-8943.

get a life

calendar of events

8 a.m. - 8 p.m.
Tech Info Table
Union Lobby

10 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Pizza Hut Coupon Sale
College Republicans will be selling Pizza Hut coupons as a fundraiser and also soliciting donations for care packages for military troops.
Union Lobby

11 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Sale of Miracle Quilt Squares,
Sponsored by Dance Marathon
Union Lobby

11 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Literacy Caravan Info, Sponsored
by Asian Communities United
Union Lobby

11 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Hospice Fundraiser, Sponsored
by Air Force ROTC
Union Lobby

11 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Dance Marathon Shirt Sales
Union Lobby

11 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.
Major Mania Promotion,
Sponsored by Academic
Enhancement
Union Lobby

1-4 p.m.
Major Mania
See story on this page

1:30 - 3:30 p.m.
Kappa Alpha Order Recruitment
Union Lobby

1:30 - 4:30 p.m.
Outreach @ Union, Sponsored by
the Career Center
Union Lobby

2 - 4 p.m.
Black Student Union
Membership Recruitment
Union Lobby

2 - 5 p.m.
Healing a Campus 2006
Info, Sponsored by Kingdom
M'Powerment
Union Lobby

8 p.m.
Faculty Artist Series: Katherine
Oliver, bassoon. Free.
Bryan Recital Hall, Moore
Musical Arts Center

**National Speaker
TIM AUGUSTINE**



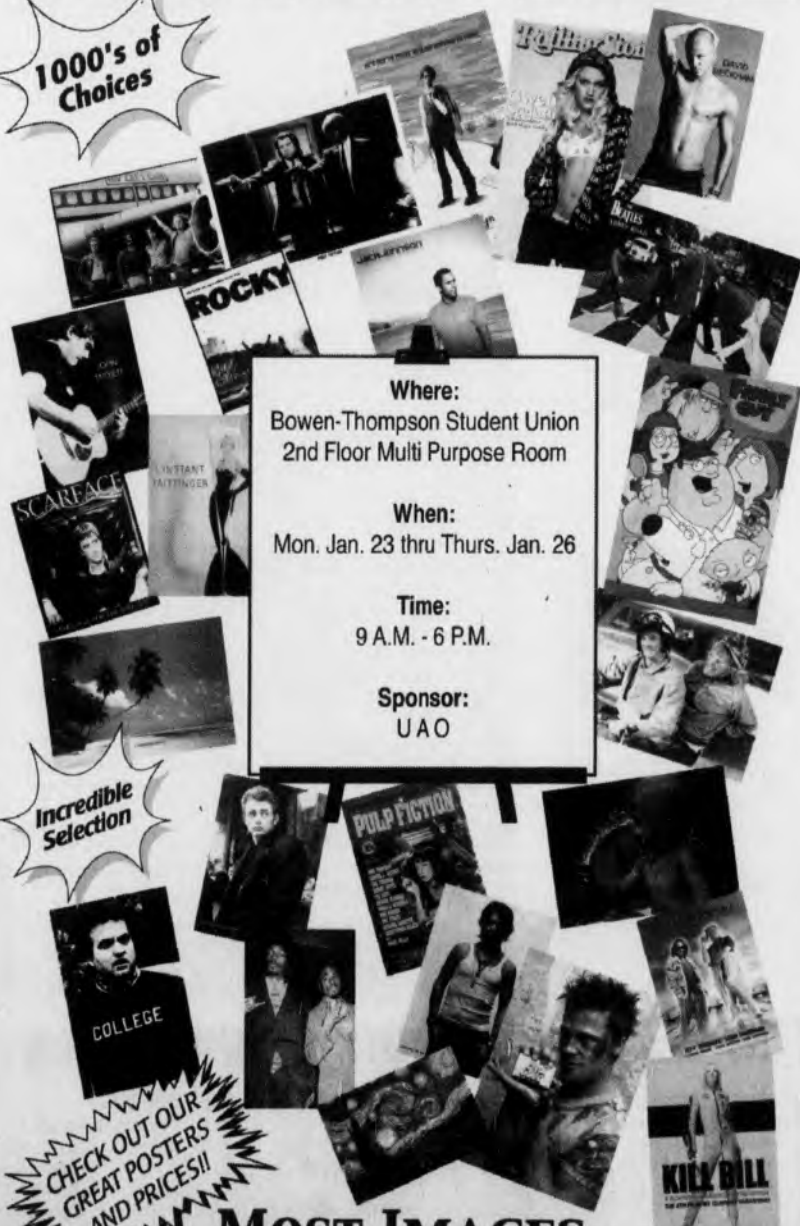
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QUOTEUNQUOTE

"My goal is to fight Toyota and everybody else and come out on top. I'm not ceding anything to Toyota."

Bill Ford
(Time.com)

www.bgnews.com/opinion

OPINION

STAFF EDITORIAL

Buy now, pay later relieves stress

Debit cards and credit cards and BG Charge — oh my!

Don't students have enough worries?

The University is in the process of making changes to the BG Charge process.

No decision has been made yet either way, but the University's contract with the current system, Diebold Series 5, expires July 1.

A University committee has decided to change companies, which could completely change the current system in place.

YOU DECIDE

Would the debit or credit system work best for you? Send an E-mail to thenews@bgnews.com and tell us what you think, or post feedback on our Web site.

Right now, BG Charge — which is different from having a University dining plan — works on a credit based system.

Students are able to go to the bookstore and charge an entire semester of books without receiving the bill or paying it off until the next month.

The University is looking at changing companies and using Blackboard, the same company that currently hosts the Internet portal.

If the University chooses to use Blackboard to handle BG Charge, it would become a debit-based system — meaning students would have to deposit

money into an account before charging anything to the BG Charge account.

This system would be similar to purchasing meal plans.

We at the BG News believe switching from a credit- to a debit-based system, would be detrimental to the student population.

If example, a student puts \$300 into the BG Charge account and books for the semester cost more than that, the student is forced to wait to buy the rest of their books until they are able to

deposit more funds into the BG Charge account.

Students have concerns about how they would afford the high cost of textbooks if the University switches to the new system.

By the time a student is able to deposit more funds, the textbook for Biology 100 might be all sold out — a common occurrence — and the student must wait until new books are ordered.

Another concern we have with the debit system is the possibility of fees for overdrawing the BG

Charge account.

The new system on Blackboard, would however ease transactions for University organizations and make the process of collecting money from donations easier.

Because student incomes are small and sometimes unreliable, we believe the current buy now, pay later system is the most conducive for the student lifestyle.

The University must consider the needs of the people who are paying the University's bills — students.

Pageants cost small fortune



AMANDA HOOVER

Opinion Columnist

We've all had to deal with the hassle of applying for scholarships. All the essays and all the questions; what's your name, GPA, college, major, gown size, measurements.

At least that's what it looks like if you're applying for money from the legendary "Miss America Pageant."

Saturday, I got sucked into the phenomenon of the "Miss America Pageant."

After a futile attempt to modernize the pageant, which included such faux pas as renaming it the Miss America "Competition," and including a casual wear competition and the game show style quiz portion, Miss America has jumped back to its feet as the degrading and embarrassing spectacle it began as in 1921.

The name was changed back to the "Miss America Pageant," which was a slap in the face to feminists everywhere, a slap which the pageant backed up with the metaphorical "na-na na na na-na, we're a beauty pageant and there's nothing you can do about it."

They even brought back the tradition of naming "Miss Congeniality", lost since 1975, and certainly having nothing to do with the ever-popular movies of Sandra Bullock.

Yes, indeed, Miss Hawaii, Malika Dudley was named "Miss Congeniality", the most likable and respected contestant, who, incidentally did not even make the top ten.

The producers of this year's pageant decided that, despite the elimination of 42 women in the first ten minutes of the show, all 52 women would participate in the swim suit competition. Each of the contestants were escorted out in their formal wear by the most important person in their life. Not surprisingly, all but one contestant chose their dad.

The fathers smiled the smiles of men who were calculating the cost of every competition it took to get their little girls to this point, and how, in the end, \$30,000 might almost cover the long term investment.

Pageant money certainly isn't the only luxury these contestants were awarded in their younger years, as we saw the immense and certainly expensive talents that each showcased.

Viewers were graced with new and original talents from the top five as they performed singing, ballet, tap dancing, piano playing and ballet.

In a disappointing twist, no one did a flaming baton act.

After the final televised competition had come to an end, host James Denton asked them some tough questions.

Miss Oklahoma, the new Miss America, laid it all out on the table when Denton asked her "what is the first thing you are going to do when this competition is over?"

Oklahoma replied that she had been waiting months for French fries dipped in ranch, but had been unable to have them because she was "preparing" for the swim suit competition.

Sorry, Oklahoma, you now have the crown, the sash, and the contracted duty to stay thin

for the next 12 months. That means no fries for you.

In a "special twist" the top five women were then narrowed down to three and Denton asked them all to talk about a significant childhood experience that really shaped them.

In this touching moment, so many options loomed before them: should they talk about the support their family had shown them, the ridicule they had endured in high school or maybe an accident close to them that showed them how fragile life really is.

After the ladies had finished, we were left with these three life-changing moments: "When I was in ballet..." "I grew up Asian American," and my personal favorite, Miss America herself, who had to learn to accept herself for who she was, big glasses, bushy hair and all. (At this point, I would like to direct my readers to notice that Miss Oklahoma has long, wavy hair and no glasses to speak of).

It really was refreshing to see that these women are judged according to who they are and what they can offer to society upon their graduation from college, instead of how much money was already available to them to enter beauty pageants and take ballet lessons.

I'm sure that these women are really hard up for college money.

In the end, only Miss Oklahoma could wear the crown of Miss America 2006, and stand for the next year as a symbol of what can be accomplished with money, good looks, and too much free time.

Send comments to Amanda at hoovama@bgsu.edu.

PEOPLE ON THE STREET

Do you think the Miss America Pageant is outdated?



SARAH BRADLEY SENIOR, FRENCH & HISTORY

"A little bit, because it shows women in stereotypical roles."



ASHLEY RODEBAUGH SOPHOMORE, PSYCHOLOGY

"It's interesting, but I don't see why certain categories are in it."



DAVID PHILLIPS FRESHMAN, AVIATION

"I enjoyed watching it."



STEVE STEWART SOPHOMORE, NURSING

"I don't think it's outdated, people enjoy watching it still."

Mine production vital to economy

The recent Sago and Alma mine tragedies have shined the national spotlight on America's aging coal industry, and have raised valid concerns that mining companies aren't doing all they can to protect their workers.

The National Coal Council has been trying to improve the public's "October Sky" impression of coal mining for years, citing its cleanliness, safety, and necessity. All of which is debatable, mind you.

On their Web site they have a document entitled "Vision 2020," which explains their industry's prospected growth and development between 1997 (when it was written) and, oddly enough, the year 2020.

They cite how large the industry is — and how much America depends on it — as the major reasons for their continued growth.

By continued growth, they mean gaining a larger share in the energy market and increased revenue.

Such growth would be detrimental to the lives of coal workers, the environment and would quicken the disappearance of the already limited resource.

Actually, several documents on their Web site discuss issues related to the growth of the industry. None of them discuss advancements in safety or even concerns about safety in coal mining.

Imagine what it would be like working underground in a dark, damp tunnel doing back-breaking labor for hours on end. And, throw in the fact that the industry you depend on for your livelihood considers your safety a low priority.

The whole idea sounds far less appealing then the NCC would have you believe.

It's generally agreed that we will reach the peak for all fossil fuels by the end of the century.

Some say as early as 2010 global oil reserves will reach their peak, others say 2050. Whenever it happens, coal will not be a good alternative.

Physicist David Goldstein explains in his book "Out of Gas" that oil's primary use is gasoline, and liquefying coal is extremely inefficient.

With resources dwindling, it's a wonder why the coal industry is too preoccupied with expanding



ANDREW FLAVAHAN

Opinion Columnist

their production to care about the safety of their own workers.

The Sago mine in West Virginia is an excellent example of the stresses the coal industry is under.

The mine literally has had hundreds of safety violations since it opened in 1999, many related to failures to adequately detect rising levels of deadly explosive gases, and for repeatedly failing to implement a ventilation system — crucial to quell fires and cycle the air in the mine.

The mine's violations and safety concerns have been called "unusually high", which begs the question — what level of danger is considered normal and acceptable for a mine shaft?

Failing to protect miners is not only West Virginia's problem, mines all over the nation are

repeatedly violating safety protocols. They are accidents waiting to happen, including the mines in Ohio.

According to a recent Columbus Dispatch article, the Powhatan mine — made infamous by a devastating fire in 1944, which killed 66 people — in the

Ohio valley had 494 safety violations last year and was charged \$147,431.

That's almost triple the amount every other underground coal mine in Ohio was charged for safety violations that same year, combined.

Ominously, many of the violations looked exactly like the Sago mine's safety record: failure to properly vent explosive gasses, buildup of coal dust etc. In many parts of the mine, the ceiling was even cited as having a "substantial" risk of collapsing.

Coal mining by its very nature is a dangerous profession; needlessly adding to the danger by ignoring federal safety guidelines is inexcusable.

The coal mining industry should move its focus of concern away from protecting and expanding its interests in the modern age of dwindling resources, and towards protecting its workers.

Send comments to Andrew at andrew@bgsu.edu.

Denial clouds Lott's judgement

CAMERON JOHNSON

U-Wire
Daily Mississippian
University of Mississippi

Throughout high school and some of elementary, I justified my existence by flying and flipping through the air.

By the time I was 18 my gymnastics career was over, but for a few years I continued to train as though an Olympic medal might be around the corner despite my modest skills. I was aware that I would never be in any serious competition again, but I didn't

know anything else.

Training was intense, year-round and occupied most of my free time for a decade. Some of us are reluctant to hang up what for all practical purposes amounts to a lifetime's efforts. I finally got the message when a girlfriend began ribbing me and suggested I actually liked wearing a leotard.

Most of us have to do it sooner or later. Whether it is letting go of high school athletic glory days, accepting that she has indeed fallen out of love with you or selling off the family business when retirement is at hand, it's never easy. We have to let go.

However, some of us linger

until it is embarrassingly obvious, and until we realize we're doing more harm than good by persisting.

Last Tuesday, Sen. Trent Lott announced his intent to linger by running for a fourth term.

Lott has enjoyed four decades of strong influence in our federal government, particularly as the Senate GOP leader. To the delight of conservatives nationwide, he functioned as a thorn in Clinton's side throughout the '90s.

He also takes credit for bringing us Nissan and its mother lode of jobs. Because of him, this

LOTT, PAGE 5

BG NEWS

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

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

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 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.

Israeli rulers face many challenges

ADAM YOFFIE

U-Wire
The Chronicle
Duke University

Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon suffered a massive stroke over break that has left him in a coma. Although Sharon has since exhibited limited movement in his extremities, it is unclear the extent of brain damage or whether he will survive.

Israelis, meanwhile, are trying to cope with the end of his controversial political career, which included combat in every major Israeli war, attacks on Palestinian refugee camps and the recent disengagement from the Gaza Strip and parts of the West Bank.

Regardless of what one may think about Sharon's past, he was clearly the best leader for Israel's present and future.

Yet the current Prime Minister's incapacitation has left his deputy, Ehud Olmert, in charge and added new fuel to former Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu's quest to regain the top position in the Israeli government.

I find it sadly fitting that during what may turn out to be Sharon's final days, his justification for unilateral withdrawal is being vindicated. Sharon repeatedly explained to President George W. Bush and the more left-wing factions in Israel that the Palestinians are not a credible partner for peace.

Abbas has tried to play every side of the coin and has in the process lost the respect of Israel, the United States, and worst of all, his own people.

As a left-leaning supporter of the Labor Party, I always liked to believe Sharon was wrong and just not giving enough credit to the Palestinians. Yet the moribund left in Israel can only hope to win on domestic economic issues since it can no longer afford to put any faith in the Palestinians.

The current chaos in Gaza, where Palestinian factions are killing one another in a bloodthirsty quest for power, only affirms Sharon's position and the increasingly vocal centrist factions in Israel. The Palestinians lack any organizational structure capable of governing independent territory, let alone a sovereign state.

There have been reports of continued financial improprieties, and there appears to

be little if any transparency with regard to the financial affairs of the now Abbas-led Palestinian Authority.

I know and fully expect the hardened anti-Israel Left to blame the Jewish state for the current disarray in Gaza.

The anti-Israel activists will point to the recent disputes over access to Egypt, the West Bank and the rest of the world.

But the reality is that these "pro-Palestinian" supporters will always find a way to blame Israel for the shortcomings of the Palestinian leadership and will never admit to the current disarray dominating the Gaza Strip, which is quickly turning into a war zone.

The lack of order that has included the death of Egyptian soldiers guarding the border between Gaza and Egypt demonstrates the instability and uncertain future of the current Palestinian government.

The upcoming Palestinian parliamentary elections offer some hope for internal reform. But the leading Fatah candidate, Marwan Barghout, is in jail and Hamas is making major inroads in the West Bank with the ambiguous campaign slogan, "Reform and Change."

I actually believe that Hamas, the political party, will lead to positive changes within the Palestinian Authority since the terrorist group at least offers some form of political competition.

Israel will never and should never negotiate with Hamas. The United States and the European Union, meanwhile, have threatened to withhold financial aid should Hamas enter Parliament and then failing to renounce violence and recognizing Israel's right to exist.

Thus Hamas' recent electoral victories only underscore the sad state of Palestinian politics and lead me to believe that the best the Israeli Peace Camp can hope for is future unilateral withdrawals from the West Bank.

All of Israel is praying for Sharon's recovery. But if the Palestinians really want to rue his legacy, they need to form a legitimate governing body capable of restoring order and negotiating with Israel in good faith. And the current state of affairs unfortunately leads me to believe that Sharon may never be proved wrong.

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Career as knife salesman ends abruptly



JOSH BENNER
Opinion Columnist

I had really needed a job. A couple of weeks ago as I walked into the Union, and I saw my roommate filling out an application, I thought to myself, 'Hey, I'll fill one out too.'

And so I do it, and the guy invites me to a group interview later that night in Maumee. But he didn't say what the job was. He basically said, 'We're a company, and we sell stuff.' Logically I assumed, 'Ah, it's some sort of organized crime syndicate.'

Now I would bet most of us have come across a job like this at some point in our life.

One that seems way, waaaaay too good to be true.

When the company is like, 'You'll make a million dollars an hour. You're your own boss. You set your own hours. It's the greatest job in the world. If LeBron James could do this, he would.'

And they practically get you thinking, 'Wow, I'm going to be rich. Why am I even in college?'

You talk to your friends about your new job, and you almost pity them that you have found the career of a lifetime and they haven't. 'Those losers.'

You think, 'Look at them in their meaningless little lives. I'm going to make more in five hours of work, then they will in...well their entire lifetime.'

Back to me though, I'm pretty excited about this job interview for the mystery company that I'm going to make \$12.95 an hour for.

I walk into this dumpy looking room at Stautzenberger College, and to say the least, I was a little disappointed by the initial appearance.

Also at this point, I still had no idea what exactly the company did.

It wasn't until the man who invited me to the interview gave his presentation that I found out they sold knives.

He's showing us these things, and he's like 'Oh yeah, these things sell themselves, just watch me cut through this shoe. And we're going to pay you \$12.95 an hour.'

And I basically witness an infomercial for these knives.

He's cutting through rope and pennies, and a bunch of other things that no normal person would ever use a knife on.

The guy finished his presentation. He said, 'I can't hire all of you, so now I'm going to meet

with each of you one on one, and tell you if you were picked.

I wish you all the best of luck, I'll give you my business card, etc. etc.' At this point, I'm totally fired up about the company.

I'm thinking 'My ship has arrived. This is my new calling in life.'

He calls me into his office. I'm thinking to myself, 'Oh I got this.' And he gives me the job.

Honest to goodness one of the first things that raised a red flag in my mind was that he didn't actually have a business card.

He gave me a sheet of paper with all of his contact info on it.

I get back home, and I start doing research on the company and I see all of these lawsuits

against it.

I'm talking about states that have sued them, as well as the country of Australia. You know that's not a good sign.

My roommate was hired, and any company that would hire him also makes me suspicious of them possibly being desperate.

Also, how do you even get your foot in the door. Cold calls? Oh yeah, because if there's one thing that people love, it's the

idea of a total stranger coming into their home with a briefcase full of knives.

Maybe next I can become a traveling rope and gag salesman. People just love that stuff.

So I eventually decided to pass on the job, but it was hard. People should always use common sense.

If a company is making you pay to start working for them, which the company in my case was asking for — even though they promised not to cash the check which may or may not have been truthful — it might not be a legitimate business.

Check with places like the Better Business Bureau, and even the Internet.

Also, take notes. Listen for credentials they have.

Don't be fooled by something like 'Yeah, here's our certificate from the Legal Business Association.' People can easily make up the name of an organization that sounds real.

It all goes back to the saying of 'if something seems too good to be true, it probably is.'

Really there are only a few things that are always as good and even exceeding expectations. The only ones I can think of are my column and...

Send comments to Josh at jbenner@bgsu.edu.

"It all goes back to the saying: 'If something seems too good to be true, it probably is.'"

"I always liked to believe Sharon was wrong and just not giving enough credit to the Palestinians."

Senator can't accept his time might be up

LOTT, FROM PAGE 4

state has enjoyed a disproportionate amount of influence in the affairs of our country, and for that Mississippi can take pride in some of Lott's achievements.

However, in 2002 his glowing track record came to a screeching halt. True to his Council of Conservative Citizens ties, he foolishly suggested that it would be a better world had Strom Thurman been elected and the institutions of white supremacy preserved.

He was forced to step down from Senate leadership and has been abandoned by both the legislative GOP and the White House since then.

He has even gone so far as to suggest in his book, "Herd Cats," that his apprentice and successor, Bill Frist, betrayed him.

Most importantly, his participation with influential committees has become laughably meager for someone with his seniority.

In short, Trent Lott is a has-been.

Why, then, is he choosing to perpetuate our state's compromised representation rather than gracefully stepping aside and allowing someone else to take a swing at it?

Lott's response to this question is that Mississippi needs him most in the wake of Katrina. I think there's a little more to it than that.

Bush, Barbour and Lott have engaged in frequent bouts of back-slapping after each relief package was passed (never mind the reality of the recovery process). The chumminess has emboldened Lott to humor the possibility that he's back in the fold.

He believes Senate leadership is again within grasp. He is trying to realize that vision in which he and Bush are swinging on his newly rebuilt porch, sipping sweet tea and discussing the nuances of their power.

There have also been gossipy whisperings of his delight when the embattled Frist was forced to step down, and that Lott is motivated by revenge to seek leadership again.

Most importantly, Republican National Chairman

Ken Mehlman got on his knees and begged Lott to run again, upon rumors of Lott's retirement, lest he risk losing the seat to a Democrat.

It is not a very significant risk for our state, but why sweat it if reality hasn't yet caught up with Lott's reputation?

In other words, the GOP's majority is more important than the quality of Mississippi's representation.

Since his fall from grace, Lott has not been entirely in lock-step with the White House.

He has suggested Donald Rumsfeld resign, and he battled the president in vain over military base closures.

I don't believe the GOP would allow Lott to ascend to leadership again, or even to influential positions within committees; there is no shortage of kowtowing younger senators groomed for such positions.

The combination of his

embarrassing past remarks, his recent opposition to the White House, his age, and most importantly, rumors of his animosity toward some of his peers, do not bode well for his future on the hill.

Lott is acting like the estranged ex-boyfriend.

He is certain that the GOP still loves him, so he calls frequently, leaves messages, coincidentally shows up at the same places and makes everyone nervous.

At the moment it appears that the GOP has a need for him, so they are teasing him along with hope of a renewed relationship.

Whether for revenge, with delusions of leadership, as preservation of the party's majority or like a washed-up gymnast who doesn't know anything else, Lott is no longer acting in the best interest of our state.

Lott's capacity to represent Mississippi will continue to diminish, and we need fresh representation.

"He has suggested Donald Rumsfeld resign, and he battled the president in vain over military base closures."



TRENT LOTT
SENATOR

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**THIS WEEK'S
BAD JOKE:**

Q: Where do generals keep their armies?

A: In their sleeves.

NOT NEWS

www.bgnews.com/notnews

You could tell yourself that it's news, but it's just not.



Written and Illustrated by Jed Davis, jadavis@bgsu.edu

Million little lies no big surprise



JIM LEVASSEUR
Not News Editor

The other day I was making a list of things to accomplish before I die (or graduate from college, whichever comes first), and just as I was wondering if I'd ever learn to breakdance, I came to the one realization that every man must face sooner or later: I've never watched Oprah.

It's sad but true: according to a recent survey of my roommates, 97.3% of all men have never seen Oprah — and the other 2.7% don't count because they were actually my pet fish.

But secretly, all of us men wish we could experience just one Oprah episode in our lifetime.

Imagine if it was socially acceptable for a guy to even know what time the show airs every day (4 p.m.). A conversation like the following might take place someday:

GIRL 1: Like, ohmygod, did you see the latest Oprah?

GIRL 2: Like, totally.

GUY: Excuse me, I couldn't help but notice that you were talking about the woman known as Oprah. I, too, am a fan of her television show, and I must agree with you that her latest episode was indeed most excellent.

Perhaps we could talk about this over dinner.

GIRL 1: Like, totally.

So you see, my interest in Oprah was not entirely unwarranted, and neither is my fascination with the recent controversy surrounding one of her latest Book Club picks, James Frey's "A Million Little Pieces."

Apparently someone found out Frey had "made up" some "facts" about his drug-induced "adventures," and now people are furious.

And this is understandable because, as we all know, no one in the history of the world has ever exaggerated even a tiny bit just to make their story better (especially not when writing their memoirs).

Maybe I'm just sympathetic to Frey because I get paid to make things up, but let's be honest: a big reason behind the book's success is the excruciatingly graphic detail Frey goes into while describing the uplifting events of his life (for example, waking up on an airplane with half his mouth shot off and not remembering how he got there).

We all know the book wouldn't have sold half as well if, instead of writing a harrowing account of his spiral into despair and destruction, Frey had talked about the time he won a chess tournament in sixth grade.

I can't be the only person who

looked at Frey's book and said, "That could be me someday; good thing I now know what to do if I ever need to have my teeth pulled by an unlicensed dentist while hanging off the edge of the Grand Canyon with a crocodile biting off my legs."

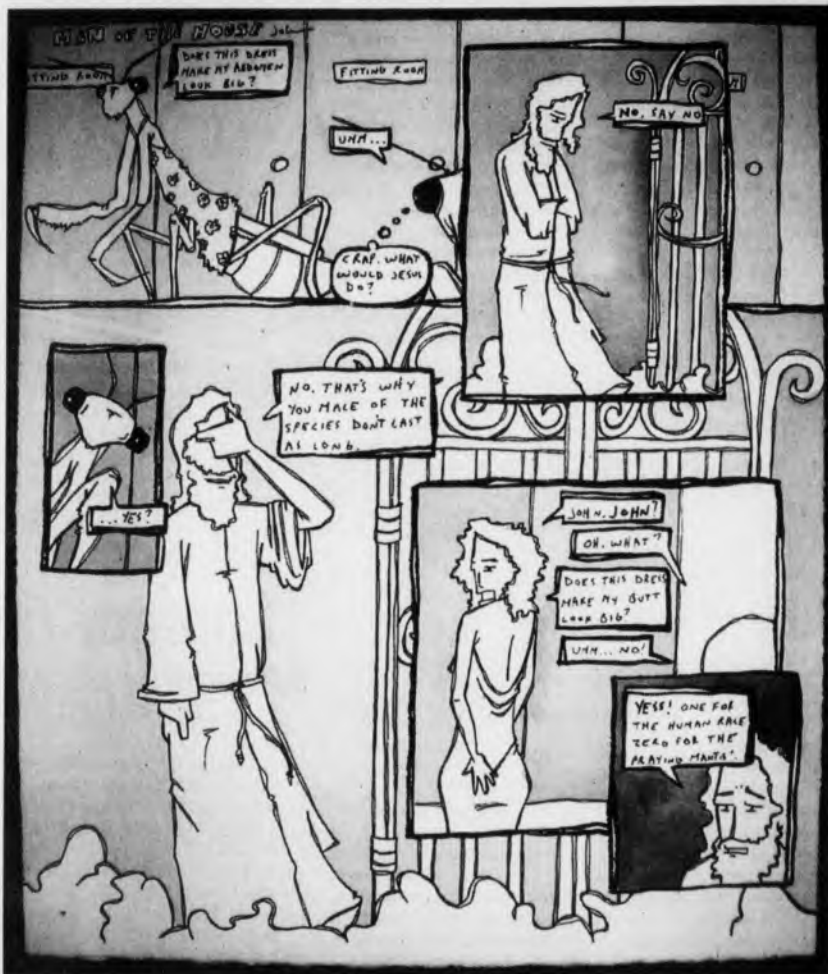
But we believe Frey because we want to believe him, and despite our public outcries of indignation (because what other kind of public outcries are there?), we don't really mind his exaggerations for one reason and one reason only: we're liars too.

The difference, of course, is that instead of lying about shooting up pure heroin and beating the crap out of someone, we lie about kinder, gentler things, like stealing bananas and borrowing t-shirts and "forgetting" to give them back for six months.

It is not uncommon for me to say something like, "Yeah, sis, sorry about forgetting your birthday for the third year in a row. My goldfish knocked over his bowl and it totally soaked my calendar, and then I ran out of paper towels because I lent them to my neighbor because HER goldfish is rambunctious as well."

Don't believe me? Buy my book.

Jim is busy writing his own memoirs, soon to be published under the title "Awesome Man." E-mail him comments at jlevass@bgsu.edu.



Written and Illustrated by John Barkhimer, Jr., johnkb@bgsu.edu

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Private jet overshoots landing, kills four

CARLSBAD, Calif. (AP) — A private jet overshoot a runway and crashed in flames yesterday, killing all four people aboard, authorities said.

The Cessna 560 came in for a landing at Southern California McClellan-Palomar Airport on a flight from Hailey, Idaho, but went about 150 yards beyond the runway, smashing through scaffolding and slamming into a commercial storage facility, said Bill Polick, spokesman for the San Diego County Department of Public Works.

It was not clear if the plane ever touched down on the runway, he said.

The cause of the crash was not immediately known. Polick said the weather was clear and sunny with only light wind.

The National Transportation Safety Board sent investigators.

The victims were not immediately identified, but authorities said the plane was registered to Goship Air LLC of Ketchum, Idaho. Idaho business records show it is owned by Ketchum City Councilman Steve Shafran and Kipp Nelson, an investment banker and a trustee of the U.S. Ski and Snowboard Team Foundation.



Paul Sakuma AP Photo

NICE DOING BUSINESS: Steve Jobs, left, shakes hands with Disney CEO Robert Iger in this Oct. 12, 2005 file photo. The Walt Disney Co. said yesterday it is buying Pixar Animation Studios Inc. for \$7.4 billion.

Disney pays \$7.4 billion for Pixar

By Gary Gentile
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES — The Walt Disney Co. said yesterday it is buying longtime partner Pixar Animation Studios Inc. for \$7.4 billion in a deal that could restore Disney's clout in animation while vaulting Pixar CEO Steve Jobs into a powerful role at the media conglomerate.

Disney will buy the maker of the blockbuster films "Toy Story" and "Finding Nemo" in an all-stock transaction that makes Jobs Disney's largest shareholder. Jobs, who controls more than half of Pixar's stock and also heads Apple Computer Inc., will also join Disney's board.

"With this transaction, we welcome and embrace Pixar's unique culture, which for two decades has fostered some of the most innovative and successful films in history," Disney Chief Executive Robert Iger said in a statement.

Disney has co-financed and distributed Pixar's animated films for the past 12 years, splitting the profits. But that deal expires in June after Pixar delivers "Cars."

Disney, the theme park owner that also owns the ABC and ESPN TV networks, and Pixar have been talking for months about a new relationship.

Pixar Executive Vice President John Lasseter will become chief creative officer of the animation studios and principal creative adviser at Walt Disney Imagineering, which designs and builds the company's theme parks.

Pixar President Ed Catmull will serve as president of the new combined Pixar and Disney animation studios, reporting to Iger and Dick Cook, chairman of The Walt Disney Studios.

"Disney and Pixar can now collaborate without the barriers that come from two different

companies with two different sets of shareholders," Jobs said in a statement. "Now, everyone can focus on what is most important, creating innovative stories, characters and films that delight millions of people around the world."

With Pixar, Disney gains a company that has produced a long-running string of animated blockbusters, including "The Incredibles."

Through Jobs, Disney will tighten its link with Apple Computer, the innovative technology company behind music and video iPods.

Disney is not acquiring a direct interest in Apple, but Jobs could help Iger push his plans to marry films, TV shows, video games and other content to computers, iPods, handheld game consoles and even cell phones.

Pixar has served as Disney's de facto animation unit for a decade.

Changing the game

GAMERS, FROM PAGE 1

mendous impact on what people retain and what gets built right into the brain."

Attempting to bring the interactivity of games into his lecture, Beck bounded up onto the stage and immediately dove into audience participation — a level of energy that remained even after his computer failed to play the song he had hoped to use in his game of "Name That Tune." He would appeal to audience participation several more times during his speech.

Citing his research, Beck said gamers are more competitive and consider themselves more important than non-gamers. They often picturing themselves as knowledgeable as the "heroes" they control in the virtual world.

"So here's 20-somethings saying 'I'm a deep expert,'" and they're doing so more than even people over 50 years old, he said. "That's a little self absorbed, wouldn't you say?"

Responsibility then falls on managers and instructors, Beck said, to learn how to work with the attitudes of gamers.

"Gamers want to be heroes, and you build projects ... to make them heroes," he said. "Something that's difficult enough to do that when they do it, they know they've overcome something."

Bruce Petryshak, the University's chief information officer, attended the speech and said he could see

similar traits in the younger members of his office.

He also said the University had been "looking at some ways to [integrate] the gaming experience" into classrooms, or possibly developing a gaming degree, but that no specifics were available yet.

Beck also said that gamers have different definitions and ideas of the role of business internationally, sociability and responsibility that are significantly influenced by their years of game playing.

Even psychologically, gamers have become wired differently, Beck said. For example, gamers function much better with an

array of tasks to do at once rather than with a single, focused task.

"The implications for business here are just tremendous," he said.

At one point, Beck featured a Powerpoint slide listing games that are probably well known to most students at the University, including the Sims, Mortal Kombat, Zelda, and Super Mario Bros.

Each game, he said, provides gamers with a perspective that they can incorporate into the real world.

"This generation knows Mario," he said. "Once you collect enough gold pieces, you could fly — in this case, in your own corporate jet!"

"Gamers want to be heroes, and you build projects ... to make them heroes."

JOHN BECK

Past loss won't keep graduate from running in November

ALUMNA, FROM PAGE 1

She also recognizes the significant undertaking that is running for a second time.

"If I didn't think that there were some chance that I could win, I wouldn't put myself through this again," she said. "It is a lot of hard work, but it's also very rewarding."

Weirauch accuses Gillmor, currently in his 18th year as Representative, of falling out of touch with the community, something she says most of her career to date has helped her with.

"The way I see it," she said, "he has become disconnected from the voters, in terms of working alongside folks, being accessible to them, having sufficient time spent in the district to really let people get to know him."

"I went back to school for a master's degree in public administration based on my desire to work to improve local communities, particularly rural communities," she said. "I've gotten to know people."

Bradley Mascho, communications director for Gillmor, said although the representative has not officially declared himself a candidate for November, he will run again "on his record."

"He's proud of his fiscal record," Mascho said, "of not only the money that he's able to bring back to the 5th District but being conservative and holding off spending in Congress, while keeping programs funded."

At the time of the interview, Mascho said he wasn't aware of Weirauch's platform. He could not be contacted for later comment in time for this article.

"A representative has to gain a certain amount of political clout ... to be able to sway things the way you want. Hopefully you can do that by doing the job well, not by finding huge ... sources of money."

ROBIN WEIRAUCH, CANDIDATE

Politically, Weirauch lists Abraham Lincoln and former presidents Jimmy Carter and Bill Clinton as her ideological idols, of sorts, often describing their work using the same words she used to describe her own.

"[Carter and Clinton] focused so much so, again, on the needs of people, improving the quality of life for folks," she said, "paving the way so that folks can reach their full potential."

Weirauch seems to have the same frame of mind when it comes to politics circa 2006.

She often described her stance toward issues like minimum wage and education as revolving around the need for workers and families to be able to "get ahead."

On minimum wage, she called it a "moral responsibility" to "raise the minimum wage to a level that a person [or] a family can work a full time job and not be living in poverty."

On energy: "It's a very, very important issue of us weaning ourselves off of fossil fuels and ... putting that good old American ingenuity to work."

"In northwest Ohio we've got a lot of resources at our fingertips," she said.

"We could have new economy," she said. "If we put our minds to it."

Weirauch also stressed the importance of education in improving worker skills and ensuring that businesses will remain in the region and the country over the next generation.

When it comes to the high cost of education, she said that government has "to invest directly into our people."

Before coming up with concrete solutions, however, she said that officials need to find the "root problem," rather than "making political decisions like No Child Left Behind that sound good."

But she insisted on singling out Gillmor's support of "huge tax cuts."

"That money is much better invested in our young people and the future of education," Weirauch said. "The trickle-down business isn't working, and we have to recognize that."

Weirauch has made her history in the 5th District — and not in Washington — a central part of her campaign as one aspect she hopes voters find appealing.

"I'm not a professional politician," she said. "I'm a person who was raised in this community and I'm a person who has committed her blood, sweat and tears, literally, to this area," imitating nearly word for word the

biographical information on her campaign Web site.

Weirauch said that even as a politician, she's not "seeking political power" or the "big dollars" she said drive Washington politics today.

But she realizes that it might be difficult to keep that position while gaining a significant position within the party.

"A representative has to gain a certain amount of political clout, if you will ... to be able to sway things the way you want," she said. "Hopefully you can do that by doing the job well, not by finding huge, larger and larger sources of money."

"No one person can go in and

change the whole system, okay? But we can resist the old ways [and] the money interests having so much power," she said.

Dealing with certain social issues, Weirauch was hesitant to come down in a firm ideological spot, owing, she said, to the "strange wording" that often comes with government bills.

On gay marriage, she said that the issue "boils down [to] civil rights."

"My measuring stick is, does the particular bill that comes before me protect or promote civil rights, and if it doesn't, it's not one I can support," she said. She listed taxes and emergency room visitation as two examples

of the civil rights she focuses on. She is also willing to allow abortion in certain situations.

"Let's just agree that we'd all want to see the number of abortions reduced," she said, but that while abortion is sometimes necessary, "we have to ensure that a safe medical procedure is available to women."

She also said intelligent design was not scientific and should not be taught in public school biology classes.

"We need to keep science in school and religion in church," she said.

She wouldn't yet take a stance on teaching intelligent design in a separate class.

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STILL NO WORD ON ABDUCTED U.S. REPORTER

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — Efforts continued to rescue Jill Carroll, the American freelance reporter kidnapped Jan. 7 in Baghdad. Carroll's appearance last week on a silent videotape aired on Arab TV marked the only sign of her since her abduction. Also yesterday, armed men seized two German engineers from a car.

www.bgnews.com/world

WORLD

Canada turns Conservative

New leader raises hopes for better relations with U.S.

By Beth Duff-Brown
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

OTTAWA — Stephen Harper and his Conservative Party won national elections Monday and ended 13 years of Liberal rule, a victory expected to move Canada rightward on social and economic issues and lead to improved ties with the United States.

The Conservatives' winning margin was too narrow to avoid ruling with a minority government, a situation that will make it difficult to get legislation through a divided House of Commons.

The triumph for the Conservatives came with many Canadians weary of the broken promises and corruption scandals under the Liberal Party, making them willing to give Harper a chance to govern despite concerns that some of his social views are extreme.

"Tonight friends, our great country has voted for change, and Canadians have asked our party to take the lead in delivering that change," Harper told some 2,000 cheering supporters at his campaign headquarters in Calgary.

Relations with the Bush administration will likely improve under Harper as his ideology runs along the same lines of many U.S. Republicans.

Harper has said he would reconsider a U.S. missile defense scheme rejected by the current Liberal government of Prime Minister Paul Martin. He also said he wanted to move beyond the Kyoto debate by establishing different environmental controls, spend more on the Canadian military, expand its peacekeeping missions in Afghanistan and Haiti and tighten security along the border with the United States in an effort to prevent terrorists and guns from crossing the frontier.

With nearly all votes counted in the race for the 308-seat House, officials results showed Conservatives with 123 seats; Liberals with 103; Bloc Quebecois with 50, New Democratic Party with 28; and one seat to an Independent. Three seats still haven't been determined.

Prime Minister Paul Martin conceded defeat and said he would step down as head of the party, though remain in Parliament to represent the Montreal seat he won again. It was an unusual move to do both on the same night, but Martin appeared upbeat and eager to continue to fight the Conservatives from the opposition benches of the House.

"I have just called Stephen Harper and I've offered him my congratulations," Martin told a subdued crowd at his headquarters in Montreal. "We differ on many things, but we all share a

believe in the potential and the progress of Canada."

The Conservative victory ended more than a decade of Liberal Party rule and shifted the traditionally liberal country to the right on socio-economic issues such as health care, taxation, abortion and gay marriage. Some Canadians have expressed reservations about Harper's views opposing abortion and gay marriage.

During the campaign, Harper pledged to cut the red tape in social welfare programs, lower the national sales tax from 7 percent to 5 percent and grant more autonomy and federal funding to Canada's 13 provinces and territories.

The Liberals have angered Washington in recent years, condemning the war in Iraq, refusing to join the continental anti-ballistic missile plan and criticizing President Bush for rejecting the Kyoto Protocol on greenhouse gas emissions and enacting punitive Canadian lumber tariffs.

Martin, 67, had trumpeted eight consecutive budget surpluses and sought to paint Harper as a right-winger posing as a moderate to woo mainstream voters. He claimed Harper supports the war in Iraq, which most Canadians oppose, and would try to outlaw abortion and overturn gay marriage.

Harper denied those claims and said Sunday that Martin had failed to swing voters against him.

PRIME MINISTER, PAGE 9



Risto Bozovic AP Photo

DEADLY ACCIDENT: People search for names of their loved ones on lists of killed and injured passengers of the derailed train, in Podgorica hospital yesterday. The wreck killed at least 43 people and injured 198.

Bad brakes may be cause of wreck

By Predrag Milic
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

BIOCE, Serbia-Montenegro — Brake failure may have caused a passenger train to plunge into a ravine outside Montenegro's capital, killing at least 44 people and injuring 198, officials said yesterday.

Rescuers were scouring the wreckage for survivors and not all passengers aboard had been accounted for by yesterday afternoon.

At least 250 passengers were believed to be aboard.

The train derailed Monday near Bioce, a village about nine miles northeast of Podgorica, as

it emerged from a tunnel above the Moraca River. It plummeted into a 330-foot ravine.

Interior Minister Jusuf Kalamperovic said initial reports indicated brake failure may have been the cause. The injured train driver was being held under police custody in the hospital on suspicion of negligence.

Health Minister Miodrag Pavicevic said at least 44 people died and 198 were injured. The death toll could soon rise to 45 because rescuers said they had discovered one more person crushed in the wreckage who had not yet been counted in the official tally.

There were 90 children among the injured, said Miodrag Djurovic, the head of the main Podgorica hospital.

Serbia-Montenegro President Svetozar Marovic said the accident was a "great tragedy" for Montenegro. A three-day mourning period was declared for the victims.

A 17-year-old passenger gave birth to a boy at the hospital yesterday after her injuries induced premature labor.

Overnight, darkness in the densely forested area hampered rescue efforts. Victims had

ACCIDENT, PAGE 9

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Saddam's trial delayed by conflict

Pressure faced by chief judge provides lawyers with foothold

By Hamza Hendawi
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

BAGHDAD, Iraq — Judges in the trial of Saddam Hussein tried to remove a newly appointed chief judge yesterday, a dispute that forced an abrupt postponement of the proceedings and deepened the turmoil in what was supposed to be a landmark in Iraq's political progress.

Saddam's lawyers were quick to capitalize on the disarray, saying the confusion provided fresh evidence the former leader could not get a fair trial in Iraq. Former U.S. attorney general Ramsey Clark, a member of the defense team, said the trial should be abandoned.

Since its Oct. 19 start, the trial has been defined by delays, chaotic outbursts by Saddam, the assassination of two defense lawyers and a judge's decision last month to step down after learning that one of the defendants may have been responsible for his brother's execution.

After the trial's last session on Dec. 22, the confusion worsened.

The chief judge resigned, complaining about criticism by politicians that he was not doing enough to rein in Saddam. Saeed al-Hamash, the member of the five-judge panel initially named to replace him, was suddenly

removed, and a new chief judge, Raouf Rasheed Abdel-Rahman, was brought in.

After a nearly five-hour delay Tuesday, court official Raid Juhi told reporters the hearing had been put off until Sunday because several witnesses and complainants were performing the hajj pilgrimage in Saudi Arabia and could not appear in court.

The annual Muslim ritual ended nearly two weeks ago, and Tuesday's session had been scheduled more than a month ago. Juhi refused to take questions.

But two judges involved in the case told The Associated Press the real reason for the delay was disagreement over who should replace chief judge Rizqar Mohammed Amin, a Kurd who had shown patience and composure in dealing with repeated attempts by Saddam and others to delay the proceedings.

According to one judge, some judges wanted al-Hamash reinstated while others supported Abdel-Rahman's appointment.

The second judge appeared to complain about outside interference with the court. When asked what the problem was, he replied: "Matters are not in our hands," — a possible reference to the influence of U.S. officials providing legal and logistical support to the Iraqi High Tribunal set up to try crimes committed by Saddam and officials of his



FALLEN DICTATOR: A photographer takes pictures of a Saddam Hussein bust lying face down in Baghdad, Iraq. Saddam's trial was delayed yesterday due to opposition of the new chief judge.

23-year regime.

The two judges were members of the tribunal, though not necessarily sitting on the panel hearing the current case. They spoke on condition of anonymity since court rules bar most judges from being named or speaking to the media.

"There's too much violence in the country, there's too much division and too much pressure on the court," Clark told CNN after Tuesday's postponement. "The project ought to be abandoned. It was a creature of the United States in the first place."

He said political pressures on the court "make it impossible for fairness" and warned failure to hold a fair trial will "lead to more war, no possibility of reconciliation."

Saddam, his half brother

Barzan Ibrahim and six other defendants are on trial in the killing of more than 140 Shiite Muslims after a 1982 attempt on Saddam's life in the town of Dujail. They could face death by hanging if convicted.

U.S. and Iraqi officials had hoped the trial would mark a political turning point for the violence-torn country, helping it deal with its past and look forward to a new political system.

Instead, it has heightened divisions. Sunni Arabs sympathetic to the former leader, their patron, were heartened by Saddam's outbursts during the hearings, which are televised nationwide.

But Shiites and Kurds, who make up about 80 percent of Iraq's estimated 27 million people and bore the brunt of

Saddam's oppression, found the relative freedom he has had in the courtroom an affront.

"This doesn't serve the people, it serves the dictator Saddam," said school teacher Abdul-Waheed Shawkat, a 28-year-old Shiite from the northern city of Mosul.

"It's a political game," said Khaled Khalil Mohammed, a Sunni Arab construction worker from Fallujah, west of Baghdad.

"This trial is a farce... Its final verdict already has been made and it's in the hands of the Americans," said Aqeel Omar Mohammed, a retired Sunni Arab lecturer from Tikrit, Saddam's hometown.

The Dujail case is one of several being prepared against Saddam and members of his regime.

Canada votes for right-wing prime minister

PRIME MINISTER, FROM PAGE 8

"Canadians can disagree, but it takes a lot to get Canadians to intensely hate something or hate somebody. And it usually involves hockey," Harper quipped.

Voters cast ballots at 60,000 polling stations amid unseasonably mild winter weather. Turnout from the country's 22.7 million registered voters was expected to be better than the 60 percent of the June 2004 election, the lowest number since 1898.

William Azaroff, 35, voted for the left-of-center New Democratic Party but conceded a Conservative government was likely to win.

"I think it's a shame," said the business manager from Vancouver, British Columbia. "I think the last government was actually quite effective for Canadians. I think a Conservative government is just a backlash against certain corruption and the sense of entitlement."

Martin's government and the House were dissolved in November after New Democrats defected from the governing coalition to support the Conservatives in a no-confidence vote amid a corruption scandal involving the misuse of funds for a national unity program in Quebec.

An investigation absolved the prime minister of wrongdoing but accused senior Liberals of taking kickbacks and mispending tens of millions of dollars in public funds.

Just as campaigning hit full swing over the Christmas holidays, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police announced they were investigating a possible leak by Liberal government officials that appeared to have influenced the stock market.

When the 38th Parliament was dissolved, the Liberals had 133 seats, the Conservatives had 98, the Quebec separatist party Bloc Quebecois had 53 and the New Democrats had 18. There also were four Independents and two vacancies.

Derailed train survivors mourn for those lost

ACCIDENT, FROM PAGE 8

cried for help from the deep ravine and emergency workers removed bodies tangled in the four smashed train cars and strewn around nearby patches of woodland.

"The train simply went wild, out of control," a male survi-

vor said, as blood poured down his forehead.

"I was fine because I was in a back compartment, those in the front got the worst of it."

Grieving relatives lined up outside an improvised tent at the Podgorica hospital morgue to identify the dead and take the bodies home.

"I lost my whole life in this tragedy," sobbed Radomir Cobarkapa, 50.

His wife and son were killed and two of his other children were injured in the crash.

Tarzan Milosevic, mayor of the northeastern town of Bijelo Polje, came to claim the bodies of 20 of his townspeople who

were killed. The train was en route from Bijelo Polje to the Montenegrin coastal city of Bar when it derailed.

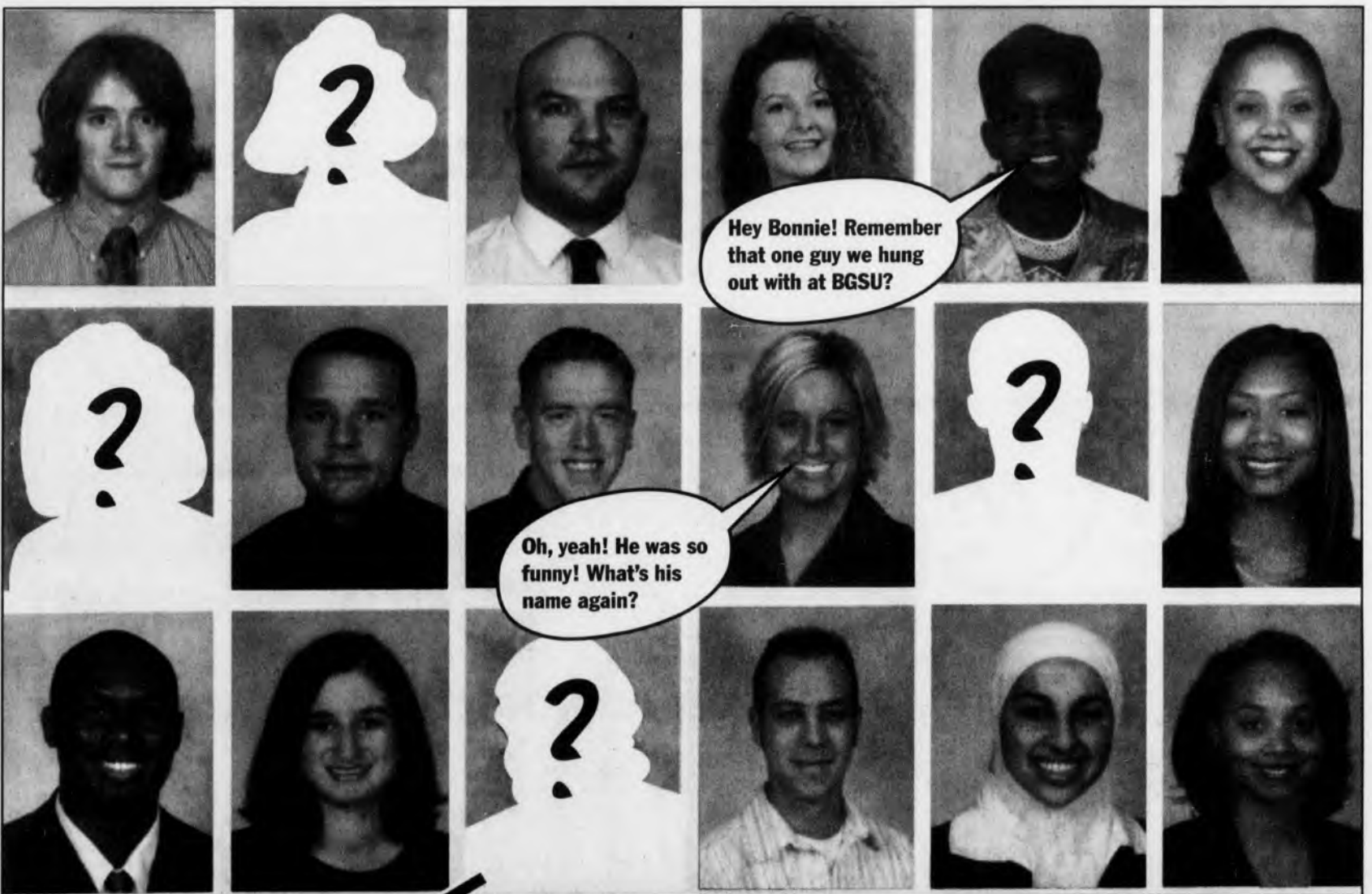
"There are no words to describe this," he said through tears.

Montenegrin Prime Minister Milo Djukanovic visited the Podgorica hospital where many

of the injured were taken.

He said emergency crews had "reacted as well as could be expected in such a harsh and inaccessible terrain."

"We did all we could, but in many cases that was not enough to save those tragically killed," he said.



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I dunno, I looked in The Key yearbook, but he didn't get his picture taken. What a flippin' idiot!

BG's Kenel caps off special week

BGSU gymnast Bethany Kenel has been named Mid-American Conference Specialist of the Week for her efforts in the team's victory over defending league champion Central Michigan on Saturday.

Kenel won the balance beam competition with a score of 9.825, tying her personal best that was set March 25, 2005.



SPORTS

WEDNESDAY

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MEN'S BASKETBALL

Falcons can't fight off Buffalo

Samarco misfires at buzzer as BG loses another close game



Sean Pierson BG News

OVER THE TOP: BG's Martin Samarco shoots over Buffalo's Darwin Young in the Falcons' 76-73 loss to the Bulls last night at Anderson Arena. Samarco scored a game-high 30 points and missed a 3 at the buzzer.

By Ryan Artullo
SPORTS EDITOR

Ordered by its coach to put up a fight, the BGSU men's team clawed — and even antagonized — its way into Buffalo's commanding lead.

But the last blow thrown by the Falcons was just a little too strong — by mere inches.

Martin Samarco's open three-point look at the buzzer hit back iron and the Falcons were dealt another crushing league defeat last night, 76-73. It was Buffalo's first win ever at Anderson Arena.

"I told the kids at halftime I'm not going down without a fight," said BG coach Dan Dakich. "And we fought, but unfortunately for us, we weren't able to overcome Buffalo."

The Falcons' last three losses have all been decided by one possession. They are now 7-10 overall and 3-4 in the MAC. Buffalo, which was the Falcons' first of four straight MAC East opponents, improves to 14-4 (4-3).

The Falcons cut the lead to 73-70 on a 3 by Mawel Soler with 30 seconds remaining before a technical foul sent Buffalo's Justin Cage to the free-throw line. After Cage split the pair, BG got off a quick shot as an unbalanced Martin Samarco hit a 3 from the right wing to make the score 74-73.

BG's Moon Robinson then fouled Cage, who made both attempts from the line with :10 left. Without a timeout remaining to draw up a final play, the Falcons looked for Samarco whose good look from atop the key sailed just long.

"That's a pretty good look for Samarco," said BGSU guard John Floyd, who nearly got an assist on the shot. "Without having a timeout, I think that's probably as good of a look as you're going to get."

The way Samarco was shooting, it's probably a surprise it didn't go down. He scored a game-high 30 points on 11-for-18 shooting, including 6-of-10 from 3-point range.

"A straight on look with him making 6-of-9, what the heck," Dakich said. "I thought he drilled it, it was just a little bit too hard."

With a little more fortune, the Falcons could be 6-1 in the conference and not in last place. But in all four league losses, the Falcons were out-rebounded — and last night was certainly not an exception.

The Bulls grabbed 35 boards to a measly 20 by BG. When the Falcons needed stops late in the game, Buffalo routinely came down with rebounds off their own missed shots.

"I think it was a question of us turning the ball over a lot [30 times] and whether we

could make up for it by getting rebounds," said Buffalo coach Reggie Witherspoon.

Buffalo, with a +3.4 margin, is the best rebounding team in the MAC. BGSU, contrarily, is last.

"I thought in the last four minutes our problem was we were getting stops, but we gave them too many offensive rebounds," Floyd said. "We have to come up with those rebounds in close games."

The Falcons couldn't grab boards, but they did rebound — so to speak — to start the second half. Trailing by 14, the Falcons saw their deficit continually dwindle as seldom-used Patrick Phillips came off the bench to play stiff defense on Buffalo's leading scorer Calvin Cage. Cage led the Bulls with 24 points, but looked very pedestrian when being checked by Phillips, who also scored four points in 10 minutes.

"I thought Pat was great," Dakich said. "I got tired of watching all the other guys come in there and look scared. He came in and was fantastic, and I'm really happy for him."

BGSU finally made it a two possession game when Floyd made six points in a span of 28 seconds, the last three coming on a 3-pointer with 13:09 remaining.

But Buffalo scored the game's

REBOUNDS, PAGE 11

PEG classes offer welcome respite

Physical education classes give credit, break from busy life

By Dan Wyar
REPORTER

Bowling, golf, modern dancing and even ice skating are all great things to do over the weekend or on a date. But at BGSU, students can actually receive credit for doing these things. And for some majors, they are required.

Physical education courses, or PEG courses, are one credit-hour courses offered to BGSU students to maybe give them a break from their normal schedule.

"The PEG courses really have something for everyone," junior Kristen Roth said. "From horseback riding to bowling and from golf to weight training, everyone can find something they have a passion for, or maybe want to learn more about."

Roth is currently enrolled in two PEG classes, aerobic dance and tension management, which are required for her major.

"In tension management, you learn how to relax, and in college that is something that I think every student should want to learn especially with projects and exams," Roth said. "Each class has an aspect in it in which you learn how you could instruct the activity that you are doing because sometimes that is the reason the person is taking the course."

The University offers more than 70 PEG courses, however bowling appears to be the favorite of students.

"It was amazing. All I had to do was show up and bowl twice

a week," junior Dave Forrester said. "I found a partner with a car, which was cool because he could take me to class. And after bowling a strike I always loved talking trash to the other team."

Bowling not only teaches students the proper "back-straight, up-straight" form needed to be a successful bowler, but students also learn how to keep their own score, which is vital when bowling at an alley that doesn't have electronic score-keeping to do it for you.

Students planning on taking bowling should know the course, depending on which semester it is taken, is done off-campus at either Al-Mar Lanes on N. Main Street or Varsity Lanes on S. Main Street. Students must provide their own ride to class or carpool with another classmate.

"I strongly recommend this class to anyone who has a passion for bowling," Forrester said. "It was an educational experience that everyone should get the chance to do."

Students looking for a slightly more challenging PEG course may want to consider exercise walking, jogging or exercise and conditioning, all taught by instructor, Tammy Sheets.

Sheets has been teaching students proper fitness and nutrition techniques at BGSU for four years. Prior to teaching at BGSU, Sheets was a registered dietitian for 20 years, but retired in 2002 to teach at BGSU where she could combine all her passions into teaching the PEG courses.

"I enjoy each course differ-

PEG, PAGE 11

Lemieux retires once more

Owner and player claims he can no longer play the game

By Alan Robinson
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

PITTSBURGH — Penguins star and owner Mario Lemieux, one of hockey's greatest players, retired yesterday for the second time.

Lemieux, a Hall of Famer who won Stanley Cups and scoring titles and then battled through cancer and heart problems in a comeback, announced his decision at a news conference.

"If I could still play this game I would be on the ice," Lemieux said.

The 40-year-old Lemieux learned in early December

he has atrial fibrillation, an irregular heartbeat that can cause his pulse to flutter wildly and must be controlled by medication.

Lemieux, the NHL's seventh-leading career scorer with 1,723 points, tried to return a week after being hospitalized with the problem, but it flared up again during a Dec. 16 game against Buffalo and he has not played since.

"This is always a difficult decision for any athlete to make," he said.

Lemieux has been practicing the last several weeks with the intent on returning this season but, with the Penguins stuck in a 10-game losing streak and with no

LEMIEUX, PAGE 11



Keith Srakocic AP Photo

RETIRING AGAIN: Mario Lemieux, one of hockey's greatest players, retired yesterday for the second time from the Pittsburgh Penguins.

NBA prospects draw thousands to Xavier

High-school players display potential, drawing big crowds

By Dan Sewell
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CINCINNATI — The arena packed with more than 10,000 fans is rocking to pregame music while outside, scalpers demand \$25 to \$50 for tickets with face value of \$10, and frantic motorists scramble for rapidly disappearing parking spaces all day.

All this for a high school basketball game.

The drawing card for the Jan. 16 game at Xavier University was North College Hill High's Trojans. Featuring prospective NBA players O.J. Mayo and Bill

Walker, Ohio has another high school dream team, three years after LeBron James joined the Cleveland Cavaliers after leading Akron St. Vincent-St. Mary High School's "fab five" to national prominence.

Big crowds and big games are nothing new for North College Hill, which has also played in large arenas in Columbus, Kentucky and West Virginia and as far away as California.

"It's very intense. You just have to be prepared and don't look ahead," coach Jamie Mahaffey said of his team's schedule. "But our players are very mature

about it. They stay focused."

Mayo, a smooth shooting and ball-handling guard, and Walker, a powerful, inside-dominating player, are widely considered the nation's top two juniors. They are joined by 6-11 junior Keenan Ellis and a strong supporting cast on a team that lost only one game last season and headed into this weekend unbeaten.

"They're a great team," said Cincinnati Taft coach Mark Mitchell, whose team lost 82-70 at that Jan. 16 game for its first loss and earlier beat three teams from other states in a New York

MAHAFFEY, COACH

tournament. "The difference in knowing that you're good and being arrogant about it is that they know they're good and they play together. Everybody works for the common good."

After losing to the Trojans in last year's Division III state championship game, Ironton coach Roger Zornes commented: "It was like playing an all-star team out there."

The Trojans have won most games by lopsided margins, beating Wellston by 104 points and avenging last season's lone loss to Cincinnati St. Xavier with an 87-49 victory.

The players have been low-key in assessing their standing. After their closest call this season, a 69-67 victory over

HIGH SCHOOL STAR, PAGE 11

Injuries, illness force Lemieux into retirement

LEMIEUX, FROM PAGE 10

hope of them making the playoffs, decided to quit playing for a second time.

He also retired after the 1996-97 season following years of back problems and a 1993 cancer scare in which he was diagnosed with Hodgkin's disease, but he returned midway through the 2000-01 season and has played since.

However, he has again fought through injuries — including two major hip problems — that caused him to miss most of the 2001-02 and 2003-04 seasons. He had seven goals and 15 assists in 26 games this season.

"I have two main reasons for retiring here today," Lemieux said. "The first one is I can no longer play at the level that I was accustomed to in the past and that has been, very, very frustrating to me throughout this past year. The second one is realizing that my health, along with my family is the most important thing in the world."

"I also realized that the new NHL is really for the young guys and I think we have a lot of them now in the league. Some young guys that are dominating — we have a few here in Pittsburgh — and I think these young guys are really the future of the NHL."

Lemieux, a first-ballot Hall of Fame inductee in 1997, led the Penguins — the NHL's worst team before he was drafted in 1984 — to successive Stanley Cup championships in 1991 and 1992. He won six NHL scoring titles, three MVP awards and two Conn Smythe awards as the Stanley Cup playoffs MVP.

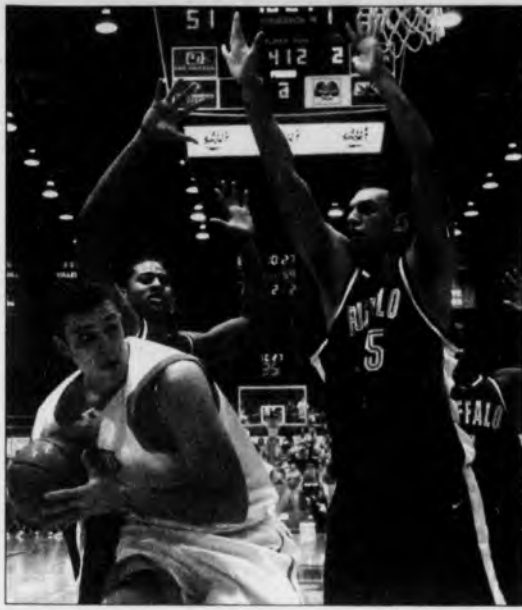
Lemieux, who wore No. 66 throughout his career, scored 690 goals and had 1,033 assists in 915 career games. He also became the first major pro sports star to buy the team for which he played, assembling a group that bought the team in federal bankruptcy court in 1999.

Lemieux's group has owned the team since but announced last week it is selling — a possible prelude to the team leaving Pittsburgh in June 2007. The team has partnered with a casino company that is promising to build the Penguins a new \$290 million arena if it obtains a slot machine parlor license for downtown Pittsburgh, but there appears to be little hope the team will stay if there is no new arena.

One reason Lemieux is selling is because he doesn't want to be the owner who relocates the team from Pittsburgh.

After his stunning return in December 2000, which surprised even his close friends, Lemieux helped the Penguins to the Eastern Conference final that season but the team has not made the playoffs since.

BG lacking on boards



Sean Pierson BG News

HELP WANTED: Patrick Phillips looks for a teammate to pass to last night in BG's 76-73 loss to Buffalo. Phillips scored four points.

REBOUNDS, FROM PAGE 10

next eight points, pushing its lead to 10 with 10:14 to play.

A huge break was sent the Falcons's way with 1:25 left when Mario Jordan simultaneously committed an intentional foul and a technical foul.

Samarco made both free throws for the technical, and Soler, who had a career-high

19 points, connected on both for the intentional, knifing the Bulls' lead to 70-67. But BGSU turned the ball over on the inbound pass and found itself down six with :40 remaining.

"I was really proud of our guys the way they battled, but when we don't come out and play [in the first half] the way we're capable of playing...we get beat," Dakich said.

Back from west trip, Cavs defeat Indiana

By Tom Withers
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CLEVELAND - The Indiana Pacers may have bigger problems than just finding a new team for Ron Artest.

With a proposed trade sending Artest to Sacramento apparently on hold, the Pacers scored just 28 points in the second half, lost Jermaine O'Neal to another injury and were drubbed 96-66 by the Cleveland Cavaliers yesterday.

"We sure have had enough bad luck for a year," said O'Neal, who may have torn a groin muscle in the fourth quarter. "I'm really, really concerned. I heard it pop. Hopefully, I won't need surgery."

O'Neal, who said he has felt tightness in the groin for weeks, also hurt his right shoulder and was playing on a tender left ankle. He limped to the locker room with 9:30 remaining, but by then the Cavaliers were ahead by 20.

LeBron James met with Oscar Robertson before the game and then flirted with a triple-double in front of the man who patented them. James scored 23 points with eight assists and seven rebounds for the Cavaliers, just back from a 1-5 trip to the West Coast.

Before the game, Pacers coach Rick Carlisle and CEO

Donnie Walsh said that no trade involving the volatile Artest was imminent.

"There is no trade right now and there may not be a trade," Carlisle said. "There's nothing to talk about because there is no trade."

The Pacers could have used Artest, a defensive stopper who held James to 19 points on 6-of-20 shooting earlier this season. But they couldn't do much to slow Cleveland's All-Star in the third when he scored 12 points — one less than the Pacers — and the Cavs outscored Indiana 27-13.

Indiana shot just 11-for-38 in the second half and lost its fourth in a row.

"We're not a very good basketball team right now," said Carlisle. "This was very disappointing. We couldn't hit a ball in the butt with a bass fiddle. The ball not going in in the third was key."

O'Neal, who has been outspoken about Artest's uncertain future, refused to use it as an excuse.

"I don't care about distractions or trades," O'Neal said. "We are missing one player. Anybody who says that both of them, they have to be a better pro. This is the hand we've been dealt, and we go play it."

Steelers to be away at Super Bowl

Although officially home team, coach decrees away colors

By Alan Robinson
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

PITTSBURGH — To coach Bill Cowher, the Pittsburgh Steelers simply look right in white.

The Steelers will buck years of tradition and wear their white away uniforms in the Super Bowl against Seattle, even though they are designated by the NFL as the home team and could wear their more imposing black jersey tops.

The black jerseys and gold pants are the Steelers' traditional look, and numerous sports teams have switched to black uniforms in recent years because they believe it creates a more intimidating presence.

Cowher made the choice by himself and without consulting with ownership, saying, "We're not playing at Heinz Field so, in my mind, it's an away game."

The Steelers' unprecedented success as a road team no doubt factored into Cowher's decision to wear white for the fourth con-



Gene J. Puskar AP Photo

RIGHT IN WHITE: Steelers Coach Bill Cowher decides his team will wear their white away uniforms in the Super Bowl.

secutive game. The Steelers are the only sixth-seeded team to reach the Super Bowl and the first to knock off the No. 1, No. 2 and No. 3 teams in a conference to get there.

Their choice will put the Seahawks in their metallic blue "home" jerseys. Seattle was 10-0 in the regular season and playoffs while wearing blue at home. But they were 0-2 away from Qwest Field with them, losing

at Jacksonville in Week 1 and at Washington in Week 4.

The Steelers also will go against another tradition by not flying to Detroit until Monday — normally, teams travel to the Super Bowl site on the Sunday before the game. With Pittsburgh located so close to Detroit, Cowher said there was no reason to go any earlier since the first big Super Bowl-related event is Tuesday's media day.

Cincy prep squad getting national pub

HIGH SCHOOL STAR, FROM PAGE 10

defending Division I champion Canton McKinley in Ohio State's Value City Arena, Mayo wouldn't offer an opinion on whether the Trojans are best in Ohio.

"The main thing was to get the win," Mayo said.

A big test, and big crowd, will come Feb. 18 when they play perennial national powerhouse Oak Hill Academy of Virginia at the U.S. Bank Arena here. A sell-out crowd of more than 16,000 is likely.

USA Today's rankings have Oak Hill and North College Hill as Nos. 1-2 nationally.

"We know it's out there," Mahaffey said. "But if you start focusing on stuff like that, we told the kids, then you're like the Indianapolis Colts. They were supposed to be the team to beat (in the NFL), and they're gone."

The school's athletic director, Joe Nickel, says much of his time is taken up fielding requests for tickets. In the third season for Mayo and Walker, the school beefed up its schedule

and arranged with its league, the small-school Miami Valley Conference, to not play a full league schedule this year or compete for the league title.

As it was with James' team, there is no shortage of schools and venues that want to take on the Trojans and their fan-pleasing show of powerful dunks, alley-oop plays and fast breaks. Nickel even called Akron St. Vincent-St. Mary officials for advice on scheduling.

"That was a difficult issue," Nickel said. "We were looking to find competition that would help us get better. Our league stepped in and helped us. It's still a learning process."

Akron St. Vincent-St. Mary athletic director Grant Innocenzi agreed that it's a challenge to balance demand to see the team against what's best for the students. He said the players wanted to face a national schedule, and unlike the NBA-bound James, most wouldn't get another chance to play on some of the nation's storied basketball courts.

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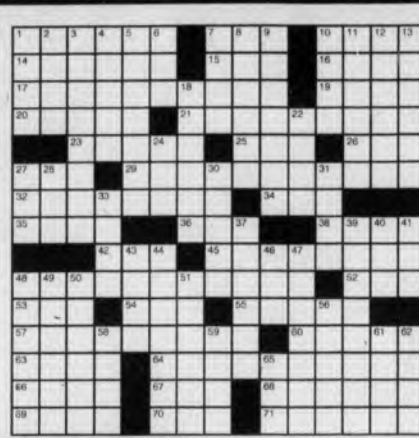
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 - No-seats-available letters
 - Cockeyed
 - Palmeiro of baseball
 - XV
 - Up to it
 - Fruity cocktail
 - Select for duty
 - Cool dude
 - Abdul-Jabbar
 - Aspire
 - Part of IRA
 - Specific task
 - End of some URLs
 - Quaffed
 - Writer Wister
 - Legendary tale
 - Big plane name
 - Woven fabrics
 - Shatner novel "War"
 - Application
 - French cleric
 - Creates again
 - Atlas abbr.
 - 1964 Roy Orbison hit
 - Moved upward
 - "Lawrence of Arabia" star
 - Subordinate bureaucrat
 - Urban centers
 - Benefactor Yale
 - Lend a hand
 - Writer Ferber
 - Enormous
 - Picnic invaders
 - Opening letters

ACROSS

- Traffic tie-ups
- Doggish comment
- Eastern nursemaid
- Not so tough
- Chou En-
- Military post
- Certain culinary contest
- Speech therapist's concern
- Refrigerant gas
- Lacking interest
- Make cloth gathers
- Fairness-in-hiring letters
- Turkish title
- New York griddler
- Embroidery like tapestry
- Mileage recorder
- Original
- Occupied
- Fairy queen
- Caesar's question to Brutus
- Viscous liquid
- Election slate
- 2003 World Series MVP
- Classic Jag
- Actress Hagen
- ASCAP rival
- Map feature
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