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The BG News March 22, 2006

Bowling Green State University

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HOT START: Senior softball pitcher gets off to the best start of her career; **PAGE 12**

BGSU NEWS

Bowling Green State University

A daily independent student press

WEDNESDAY

March 22, 2006

....

PM SHOWERS
HIGH: 44 | LOW: 25

www.bgnews.com
VOLUME 100 | ISSUE 120

University has ways to curb costs of technology

Services are available to help students who need extra supplies

By Josh Comer
REPORTER

Faced with a difficult class schedule and a tightening bank account, University student Emily Carson had to choose between raiding her checking account for \$500, or risking failure for her first major assignment of the semester.

Traveling to a Best Buy electronics store in Toledo, the visual communication technology major searched a rack of digital camcorders for one with the precise requirements of a class project due two days later. Frustrated when she couldn't find the camera she needed, Carson fumed.

"Even if I can find it, how am I supposed to afford equipment like this?" Carson said.

As the time to register for Fall 2006 courses approaches at the end of March, students in a number of majors must look beyond just the publicized increased costs of housing and tuition, and consider what technology costs they will incur within the classroom.

For students like Carson in fear of being put in a financial pinch, the University offers services designed to narrow the gap between course requirements and dwindling cash.

Norm Bedford, associate director of the Student Financial Aid Office, estimated the average student pays \$1,140 per year on books and supplies. Bedford arrived at this figure based on a Fall 2004 survey of 500 students through MyBGSU.

This amount determines the limit of financial aid a student can receive for class materials.

Between her camera, recordable DVDs to backup her recordings and the software to render them, Carson said the cost of her supplies could rival that amount before she even steps foot in the bookstore.

"With a lot of little things on top of big ticket items, it adds up very quickly," Carson said.

In situations like Carson's, where the estimated amount doesn't meet a student's needs, Bedford encourages people to file a special consideration application with Student Financial Aid.

On the two-page form, students are asked to detail their needs and circumstances. This allows Bedford to determine if an

COSTS, PAGE 6



ANIMAL ANTICS: A high-school wrestling champion enters the ring with a 650-pound black bear at the annual Cleveland Sport, Travel & Outdoor show; **PAGE 9**

POPPING IN THE PUB



Pat Dorsman BG News

READY TO SERVE: Bill Sheehan III cooks up some popcorn at the Black Swamp Pub. Located in the Union, the Pub has different deals each night on food and drinks. It features a full service bar and the popcorn is always free. Its hours are 5 - 11 p.m. Monday through Wednesday, and 5 - 11:30 p.m. Thursday and Friday.

Trying to bridge the gap

Speakers address union, discuss importance of unity among students of different groups

By Johnny Payne
REPORTER

"What is race? What is gender? How do we make connections across cultures? Why is this work important?"

Joelle Ruby Ryan raised all these questions and more yesterday in an effort to cre-

ate a dialogue between different human rights groups on campus.

She was one of four representatives of separate University organizations that met in the Union to address the issue of intercultural cooperation in an event called "Working Across

Difference: Coalition-Building for Human Rights."

Guest speakers included Ryan, a graduate student and president of University organization Transcendence; Errol Lam, a retired University faculty member and political activist; Shaunte Rouse, an undergraduate member of the NAACP; and Dustin Tahmahkera, the graduate student advi-

sor for the Native American Unity Council.

Each speaker focused on their individual areas of study and experiences to stress the importance of unity between on-campus groups.

Ryan addressed the field of feminism, particularly what she felt was the domination of feminist organizations by

SPEAKERS, PAGE 6

Gas prices expected to reach \$3 per gallon

By Addie Curtis
REPORTER

Consumers could be paying as much as \$3 a gallon for gas by the time May comes around.

Over the weekend, gas prices hit a high of \$2.58 and now during the middle of the week, they are back down to \$2.47 around town.

Carl Hefferman, Bowling Green Jeep-Eagle dealer, said that in a normal week, the prices elevate by Friday and in turn are back down by Tuesday.

Consumers have paid \$2 a gallon or more for several years, making them numb to the prices, according to Hefferman.

"I've noticed that the public is more open to paying more for gas than last year because they have grown used to it," Hefferman said.

There isn't much consumers can do in order to stop this price inflation for fuel.

However, working at maximizing fuel economy can be done using small tactics.

"The pressure at the pump can be particularly difficult for drivers, but there are some easy ways to cut down the amount of fuel you're using without cutting down on the time you spend behind the wheel," said Kevin McCormick, manager of global sales and service communications of the Chrysler Group.

Simply slowing down, using cruise control and carpooling can be a start for improvement in fuel economy, according to Al Smith of Chrysler-Dodge.

"To save gas, drivers should try to carpool and drive only when they feel it is necessary

GAS, PAGE 2

Traveling cooking show comes to BG



Pat Dorsman BG News

BON APPÉTIT: Chef Kevin Roberts teaches students about nutrition and how to easily make cheap meals at home.

Chef shows how to make 'cheap, simple, tasty, healthy' meals

By Nikki Jardine
REPORTER

Eating healthy on a low budget may sound tasteless, but Kevin Roberts showed students tasty possibilities through his traveling cooking show, "Cook or Starve," last night in the Union.

Roberts began cooking at 8 years old, despite an explosion from a leaky gas stove. He didn't understand why there was a strange smell or why his frozen dinner was still cold after being in the oven for half an hour.

"Me being a cave boy, I lit a match and singed every hair on my body," Roberts said.

He didn't have the choice to quit cooking, despite his accident.

"Survival, otherwise I'd be starving to death — purely survival," he said.

Roberts' mother worked and went to college full-time, and he was left cook for himself in the evenings.

"I had nothing when I was growing up. I had to learn

how to cook and there was no food network or Google," Roberts said.

Based on the recipes in his cookbook, "Munchies," Roberts showed his talents for creating "cheap, simple, tasty and healthy" meals, modeling the motto of his cooking style last night at his show. Aimed at young adults just learning to cook, most of Roberts' collection of recipes have under eight steps.

Roberts entertained and interacted with the audience by asking them to name the top five best and worst foods for them. While audience members named what they thought are the worst foods, Roberts gave students information on why the food was unhealthy and what healthier options are available.

Soda was number one on the worst top five. Roberts demonstrated the amount of sugar in a 20-ounce bottle of pop by spooning 12 heaping spoonfuls of sugar into a clear glass next to the bottle. As a healthy alternative, he passed out bottles of Gatorade Propel to students.

A free buffet of healthy

COOK, PAGE 2

FOUR-DAY FORECAST

The four-day forecast is taken from weather.com

THURSDAY



Mostly Cloudy High: 43° Low: 27°

FRIDAY



Flurries High: 43° Low: 28°

SATURDAY



Rain/Snow High: 45° Low: 28°

SUNDAY



Partly Cloudy High: 47° Low: 32°

FOR ALL THE NEWS VISIT WWW.BGNEWS.COM

Cooking healthy food on a budget

COOK, FROM PAGE 1

munchies available to audience members started off the show, which included items such as yogurt, graham crackers, fruits, vegetables and more. Roberts also passed out samples of his creations as he made them during the show.

His show presents his motives for "back-door teaching," or the desire to inform people about being healthy, without standing in front of a class lecturing, he said.

"My mom's an inner city teacher and it's intrinsically in me," he said is the reason he has a traveling cooking show. "People have got to eat healthier."

The cooking show was sponsored by University Activities Organization. Da'Vina Ellens, member of UAO, first saw him at the National Association of Campus Activities.

"He had high energy, talked about healthy eating and was really entertaining," Ellens said.

Adam McCready, graduate adviser for UAO, said Roberts creations go beyond microwave cuisine.

"It's based on interesting and healthy meals that's easy for college students to make," McCready said.

The cookbook features single and multiple serving recipes and the basics of cooking, such as the proper way to prepare and cook food.

Roberts also gave advice during the show on food preparation, such as to wash all foods first, even raw meats and fish and how to cut foods without risking severed fingers.

His tips for healthier eating included what sugar-free can really mean. Roberts describes this as a "loophole with the FDA," that ingredients such as sucrose and fructose can be in sugar-free items, but are essentially still sugary ingredients.

Roberts has been featured in Men's Fitness magazine, on ESPN's Cold Pizza and has cooked for the cast of The Bernie Mac Show, which included Snoop Dogg. His cookbook is available at the University Bookstore.

Ecuador Indians protest free-trade deal with U.S.

By Gonzalo Solano
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

QUITO, Ecuador — The Ecuadorean government declared a state of emergency in four provinces yesterday to curb nine days of Indian protests against a proposed free-trade deal with the United States.

Television images yesterday showed riot police trying to clear rocks, tree trunks and burning tires from roadways north and south of Quito — in the Imbabura and Cotopaxi provinces — and firing tear gas to repel dozens of Indians, who responded by hurling stones. No serious injuries or arrests were immediately reported.

The state of emergency lifts constitutional rights to public assembly and gives police and the military broad powers to make arrests.

President Alfredo Palacio imposed the measure "to guarantee the free flow of goods and persons [and] permit citizens the right to work," said Interior Minister Felipe Vega. "We must find a way through this difficult situation we find ourselves in."

Roadblocks were paralyzing

traffic and commerce in the southern highland Chimborazo province. There, some 10,000 people opposed to the Indian protests marched peacefully in the provincial capital city of Riobamba, 100 miles south of Quito, demanding the government stop the roadblocks, local media reported.

Police said they were determined to prevent a threatened "takeover" of the capital by the left-leaning Confederation of Indigenous Nationalities of Ecuador, the nation's largest Indian movement. As of last night, only 200 Indian protesters had arrived in Quito, camped out in a city park.

The state of emergency applies to the provinces of Chimborazo, Cotopaxi, Imbabura and Canar, as well as the towns of Tabacundo and Cayambe.

The blockades began March 13 when several thousand Indians across the highlands

and parts of Ecuador's eastern jungle demanded that Palacio pull Ecuador's trade negotiators out of Washington and threatened to oust him from office if he signs a free-trade pact with the United States.

The Indigenous movement's political party, Pachakutik, has softened that position slightly — party coordinator Humberto Talagua said yesterday. "We don't want to overthrow any government."

But he warned that Palacio was setting himself up for a fall from power by insisting on the free trade deal. "The majority of the Ecuadorean people are with us. We're going to see that in the streets," Talagua told Radio Centro.

The Indians contend that Ecuadorean farmers and small-scale Indian producers would not be able to compete with cheap imports from the U.S.

"We must find a way through this difficult situation we find ourselves in."

ALFREDO PALACIO,
PRESIDENT

Proposed bill would filter Ohio adoption

New law could keep same-sex couples from adopting kids

By Jacqueline Rabe
REPORTER

There are not enough people willing to adopt foster care children in Ohio — and the Buckeye State is one of at least 16 in the nation where legislation is currently being proposed to ban same-sex couples from adopting or becoming foster parents.

State Representative Ronald Hood, R-91, believes only heterosexual people should be eligible to adopt or become foster parents, which is why he introduced and sponsored this bill in the Ohio House. Hood said that children raised by gay parents have increased risk of physical and emotional problems, and might question their own sexuality.

"Studies have shown that the optimal setting to raise children is in a traditional setting with a mom and a dad," Hood said in an Associated Press article. He did not respond to numerous calls from The BG News for this story.

The bill, which was introduced to the Ohio Legislature in

February, would ban any individual that is gay or lesbian from foster care and adoption. This is among efforts in at least 16 states, including Georgia and Kentucky, to put into law that children should be cared for by a mother and a father, or a heterosexual single.

There are currently 22,000 children in foster care in Ohio, of which about 2,800 are available for adoption. The Ohio Department of Job and Family Services is held responsible for finding these children an eligible parent.

Florida bans all gays and lesbians from adopting, but they can still be foster parents. Mississippi bans adoption by gay couples, though gay singles can adopt. Utah prohibits all unmarried couples from adoption.

Currently in Ohio, there is nothing on the adoption application that asks for someone's sexual orientation, and applicants don't have to be married to adopt. But if a couple want to adopt jointly, they must be legally married. In Ohio homosexuals are unable to marry, which means only one

ADOPTION, PAGE 6

McClatchy papers to be split up and sold

By Deborah Yao
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

PHILADELPHIA — The bloc of 12 newspapers being sold by the McClatchy Co. as part of its acquisition of Knight Ridder Inc. will likely be broken up and bought by several buyers, McClatchy said yesterday.

Elaine Lintecum, a spokeswoman for McClatchy, said there has been strong interest in the papers by several parties, although she declined to name them.

"It's not likely to be one transaction," she said. "It's not likely to be 12 transactions. It's somewhere in between."

The Akron Beacon Journal

in Ohio is among the newspapers to be sold.

Last week, McClatchy agreed to pay \$4.5 billion in cash and stock to acquire San Jose, Calif.-based Knight Ridder, the parent of The Philadelphia Inquirer and the Philadelphia Daily News.

The deal gives Sacramento, Calif.-based McClatchy 32 newspapers. Of those, 12 will be sold, including the two Philadelphia dailies and the Times Leader in Wilkes-Barre.

The papers are being jettisoned because they're in slower growing markets.

Analysts have cited industry leader Gannett Co. in McLean, Va., as a possible buyer.

Gas prices continue to rise

GAS, FROM PAGE 1

to drive," Smith said.

Using modest acceleration when possible, limiting extended warm up periods and diminishing idling time will add to increased fuel efficiency.

Another important tip is to check the condition of your vehicle regularly.

According to the car dealers in town, a noticeably out of tune engine can reduce fuel economy as much as 4 percent.

"Fuel conserving tips should all be common sense for drivers," Hefferman said. "The two main things I can offer to consumers is to not speed away from stops and keep your vehicle tuned properly at all times."

Consumers compare what

they pay monthly now as opposed to what they paid in the past.

Some find that the costs have risen by \$200 a month, Hefferman said.

Tire pressure makes a big difference in fuel economy as well. Tires under inflated can reduce fuel economy as much as 1 percent.

Eliminating excess weight, reducing the use of accessory components and making sure the car is properly serviced when necessary are very important to the output of the vehicle, according to local car dealers.

Smith suggests changing the spark plugs and filters in order to increase fuel efficiency.

The accelerating prices of fuel haven't hurt the truck industry nearly as much as the SUV industry because people who buy trucks usually need them specifically for hauling or for their jobs.

"I think it's ridiculous how the prices have increased," said Jenny Widman, senior. "I wait until the last possible minute to fill up my tank."

Widman ends up filling her tank once a week because of her 30 to 40 minute drive from Fremont to Bowling Green every day for school.

"I have changed my driving habits a little bit, trying not to drive other than when I have to," Widman said. "I traded in my Blazer for a Cobalt, which is a smaller car, in order to save on gas."

The Bowling Green Chrysler-Dodge dealer offers a range of products, several which include fuel-saving technologies such as Multi-Displacement System. This can improve fuel savings by up to 20 percent.

"Our country is not set up for mass transportation, it is meant for individual transportation," Hefferman said.

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CASE WESTERN GETS \$5.9 MILLION FOR LAB
 CLEVELAND (AP)—A husband and wife have donated \$5.9 million to their alma mater Case Western Reserve University to create a laboratory to train students to become technology innovators. The gift by Larry and Sally Zlotnick Sears is the largest donation from an individual or couple to Case's engineering school.

www.bgnews.com/campus

CAMPUS

get a life

calendar of events

11 a.m. - 2 p.m.
 DM Promotional Shirt Sale
 Sponsored by Dance Marathon
 Union Lobby

11 a.m. - 2 p.m.
 Public Health Recruitment MUO, along with Public and Allied Health Services, will be recruiting for Master level programs of the NW Ohio Consortium for Public Health and the Master of Science in Occupational Health.
 Union Lobby

11 a.m. - 3 p.m.
 Believe in BG Senior Gift Campaign Info Table
 Sponsored by the Alumni Assoc.
 Union Lobby

11 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
 Recruitment for Ameriprise
 Sponsored by the Career Center
 Union Lobby

Noon - 4 p.m.
 Summer Job Fair
 Visit the 25th Annual Summer Job Fair to find a summer job or internship. More than 50 organizations are hiring students for positions throughout Ohio and Michigan. For more information contact: Peg Bucksy 372-9294, or www.bgsu.edu/offices/sa/career/students
 Union Ballroom

Noon - 4 p.m.
 Geojourney Recruitment
 Sponsored by Geology
 Union Lobby

Noon - 1 p.m.
 Brown Bag Luncheon Series
 "Paving the Way: Sorority Life and Leadership Initiatives" In recognition of Women's History Month
 108 Hanna Hall

8 p.m. - 10 p.m.
 Dance Marathon Skate
 Come support this great cause and raise money for Children's Miracle Network. For the kids. For more information contact: 372-2264
 BGSU Ice Arena

Student models raise relief funds

CMU students kick off new business by supporting Katrina relief

By Brian Pauline
 REPORTER

Danielle Couturier, a student at Central Michigan University, posed in a swimsuit to raise money for the Katrina Relief Fund.

Couturier was one of twelve women who posed for the "Girls of Central Michigan" swimsuit calendar, which was put together by Shamrock Media Productions.

"When I first did it, I thought it was a joke. I liked it because the proceeds were going to a charitable event. I thought it was cool," Couturier said.

Shamrock is an independent business comprised of four Central Michigan students who donate some of the proceeds to the Katrina Relief Fund.

The calendars cost \$10 apiece. Shamrock has sold 4,000 calendars to date.

Shamrock was started in August, with the intent to produce college student-oriented media. Jeff Globish, a public relations major at CMU, started the business with his friends as a way to make money.

"We all have a good mind for business and wanted to go into business together, and that's why

we decided to start the business," Globish said.

The calendar was the group's first project, and Globish wants to start a magazine in the future. According to Globish, the calendar idea was born in an attempt to appeal to college consumers. The project was funded entirely by Shamrock, which paid for a hair and makeup artist, a graphic designer and the models.

"When I first did it I thought it was a joke. ... I thought it was cool."

DANIELLE COUTURIER,
 PRE-MED STUDENT

Globish said it was easy to find models. They ran an ad in the newspaper and posted flyers around campus.

Couturier had reservations but was surprised by Shamrock's professionalism.

According to Couturier she trusted the guys to be tasteful; the other models didn't have an issue with it either.

Globish was surprised at the number of girls who wanted to participate.

"The response was pretty overwhelming. We got almost 80 girls who sent in submissions, and from there we had to narrow it down," Globish said.

According to Globish, Shamrock

picked the Katrina relief fund because it was in the forefront of the public's mind at the time they made the calendar.

It was a matter of timing, Globish said. Shamrock came together after the Katrina disaster and thought it would be a good idea to donate a percentage of the proceeds to the Relief Fund. They also donated some proceeds to a scholarship fund.

According to Globish, the media response has been overwhelming. They have split the responsibilities between members in dealing with the media.

"It's great. Even though it started out to be a negative thing — the university felt it didn't serve the students or the school well — we've gotten nothing but positive feedback from other students," Globish said.

Couturier saw a lot of media attention herself in response to the calendar.

"A lot of people were e-mailing me, a radio station and MSNBC ... a lot of papers got ahold of the information," Couturier said.

While the town and the university had a problem with the calendar, she had fun with the whole process. She participated in calendar signings and plans to put it on her resume.

"I took it as a big, fun joke, some of the girls took it seriously,"



Anthony Ansara BG News
HELPING OUT: CMU students pose for the "Girls of CM" calendar.

Couturier said. BGSU junior Mario Slaughter said he thinks modeling is an individual choice. "It's their decision, it's their own path that they choose to go on," Slaughter said.

BG NEWS

BRIEFING

THE BG NEWS
UT, BGSU team up to solve problems

BGSU's Center for Regional Development and the University of Toledo's Urban Affairs Center will enter into a formal partnership today to help find solutions to challenges facing the region.

The Urban Affairs Center's mission is to enhance the economic vitality and quality of life in metropolitan Toledo, while BGSU's Center for Regional Development focuses on community and regional economic, social, cultural and environmental resource development.

A "memorandum of collaboration" will be signed today at 3 p.m. in 113 South Hall.

Participants will include Neil Reid, interim director of UT's Urban Affairs Center; Michael C. Carroll, director of the Center for Regional Development; Heinz Bulmahn, vice provost for research and dean of the Graduate College at BGSU, and Frank Calzonetti, vice provost for research and economic development at the University of Toledo.

Notre Dame professor again accused of plagiarism

In wake of dropped allegations, concerns over copying are raised once more

By Karen Langley
 U-WIRE

SOUTH BEND, Ind. — Only weeks after the theology department dismissed the Cardinal Newman Society's (CNS) complaint of plagiarism against Notre Dame theology professor Father Richard McBrien, the national conservative Catholic organization again presented the University with an allegation of plagiarism leveled against McBrien's work.

In a March 13 letter sent by fax to University President Father

John Jenkins, CNS president Patrick J. Reilly asked Jenkins to pursue an investigation into McBrien's 1997 book, "Lives of the Popes" — a work that Reilly said contains passages that paraphrase or directly copy portions of J.N.D. Kelly's 1986 work, "The Oxford Dictionary of Popes."

According to Reilly's letter, former professor Father Marvin O'Connell raised concerns regarding similarities between McBrien and Kelly's books in 1998 in a review of "Lives of the Popes" published in Books and

Culture magazine. University spokesman Dennis Brown confirmed Monday that Jenkins had received the CNS letter.

"We take such allegations seriously but we won't confirm whether an investigation is taking place," he said, noting that any such investigations are confidential.

The CNS raised its previous complaint of possible plagiarism by McBrien in a Jan. 19 letter to Jenkins. The letter focused on similarities between

a column by McBrien that appeared in the Jan. 6 issue of The Tidings of the Archdiocese of Los Angeles and an op-ed piece by Eileen McNamara that ran in the Dec. 11 issue of the Boston Globe.

According to an article in the Feb. 24 edition of the National Catholic Reporter, theology department chairman John Cavadini dismissed the accusation because the similarities were both unintentional and unprecedented.

In an e-mail sent to The Observer Monday, McBrien said the CNS "has a history of making unsubstantiated allegations against me, including the serious charge of heresy," and said only the hierarchical Magisterium of the Church is authorized to make such a judgment.

"To date [the University] has found this type of criticism of my work to be unsubstantiated," McBrien said. "I continue to have confidence in these University procedures."

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BGSU
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Arts Village Aviation Community Batchelder Music Community Chapman Learning Community in Kohl Health Sciences Residential Community Honors Housing IMPACT La Comunidad PCC ROTC Community	March 29 at 8 a.m.	April 16 at 11:59 p.m.
Open housing selection and room change period	April 17 at 8 a.m.	May 7 at 11:59 p.m.
Online Housing Sign-up by Class Rank		
Same room request	March 27 at 8 a.m.	March 29 at 11:59 p.m.
Seniors (90 hours and above)	March 29 at 8 a.m.	April 16 at 11:59 p.m.
Juniors (60 - 89 hours)	April 3 at 8 a.m.	April 16 at 11:59 p.m.
Sophomores/Cont. Freshmen (1 - 59 hours) MEN	April 7 at 8 a.m.	April 16 at 11:59 p.m.
Sophomores/Cont. Freshmen (1 - 59 hours) WOMEN	April 12 at 8 a.m.	April 16 at 11:59 p.m.
Open housing selection and room change period	April 17 at 8 a.m.	May 7 at 11:59 p.m.

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AN ARMY OF ONE

QUOTEUNQUOTE

"People who wear Christ on their sleeves and vote against helping people are the biggest hypocrites."

Charlie Melancon, Democratic Congressman from Louisiana
(time.com)

www.bgnews.com/opinion
OPINION

STAFF EDITORIAL

Penny-pinching pays off eventually

The government is spending less on funding for higher education, and in turn, the cost of college is increasing. If students aren't already, they need to start becoming savvy spenders.

You've probably complained about spending \$400 on books during a semester, but this is nothing compared to the costs students with art and technology majors incur.

On average University students pay \$1,140 for books and supplies, but some students

YOU DECIDE

Have you had to take out loans to cover supply costs? Send an e-mail to thenews@bgnews.com and tell us what you think, or post feedback on our Web site.

might spend this much on art supplies or technological equipment alone. Regardless of major, students with financial aid have the

option of appealing for additional funding.

If students are truly concerned about rising costs, they should make every effort to educate themselves on ways to help cut costs. For example, some students might not know about a second page in the financial aid form where they can appeal for additional funds.

The high cost of supplies for art and technology majors may come as a shock for new students. In order to prevent this,

students need to consider the cost of supplies when choosing a major.

We at The BG News hope it hasn't come to the point where students without financial aid need to take out a loan simply to pay for supplies. But we need to be prepared, because it looks like we're headed in the direction where more and more students need loans to pay for supplies.

If you don't know where to buy supplies cheap, then do some research!

All students may rent digital cameras, digital video cameras and lap tops from the Student Technology Center in the Saddlemill building for free.

Other places on campus also rent equipment to students for free. Amazon revolutionized the way textbooks are sold, and many students are utilizing it as a resource for textbooks outside of the University bookstore.

If it's necessary to buy camera equipment or pricey art supplies find out where to buy it cheaply

— the Internet is an invaluable resource for this.

Web sites such as Froogle and half.com all sell new and used items at comparably low prices.

If it's your own money you are spending, or your name on the loan, you should care about how much money you're spending on college.

We all dream of being rich some day but not everyone is wise with money. Make saving money a lifelong habit and you'll be better for it in the long run.

Feingold motion is irrational

TREY CALIVA

U-Wire Columnist
Daily T-eador
Texas Tech University

Last week, Sen. Russ Feingold of Wisconsin brought a resolution to the floor of the United States Senate asking for the censure of President George W. Bush. Feingold cited the president's "illegal use of wiretapping" as the main reason for bringing the resolution to the Senate floor.

To censure the president for something that helps maintain the security of this country is absolutely ridiculous. In the end, Feingold is merely Don Quixote fighting his imaginary giants, when in reality they're just windmills.

Censuring is a congressional procedure, which reprimands either the president of the United States or a member of Congress. No loss of power occurs when one is censured; it is merely used as a political tool to publicly condemn someone's actions. Only one president has been censured, Andrew Jackson, and his censure was overturned once Democrats assumed control of Congress.

Sen. Joseph McCarthy was censured following his reckless attempts to identify and expose Communists or Communist sympathizers in America. While on the surface, the McCarthyism of the 1950s and President Bush's use of the NSA to conduct domestic surveillance might appear similar, the intent behind

their actions are drastically different. McCarthy sought to use his position as a U.S. senator to tend to his own personal views without any thought of the consequences. On the other hand, President Bush used his domestic spying program to protect this country from those who would seek to destroy it and its citizens.

Do you really think President Bush's approval rating would be hovering in the mid-30s if he truly had access to his political opposition's communications?

If Feingold really believes this is the correct time to call for censure, and that he has a chance of succeeding in his resolution, he must really be nuts. It's perplexing that someone, let alone a senator, would drag this issue up again.

Democrats are on the heels of their biggest victory, which was largely self-appointed in national security in quite a long time. The Democratic Party, as of late, has been notoriously weak on national security.

Not even a month ago, the Democrats were condemning the decision to allow Dubai Ports International to manage several ports here in the states. Their use of covert bigotry and casual ignorance of American interests and international relations won over the American public, and Democrats finally had a victory in a national security matter.

Rehashing the topic, however, will do nothing more than help mobilize a faltering Republican base. After Feingold presented his resolution, the Republican National Committee subsequently sent it out to more than

15 million Republican supporters across the nation.

Support for the president was wide reaching and might help the Republicans gain some momentum in the coming months as the mid-term elections near.

I'm astonished at the amount of time our Congressional members have on their hands.

Evidently the problems of education, health care, crime, pollution, declining family values, the war on drugs, worldwide terrorism and a \$9 trillion dollar national debt all have been solved, so Congress can frivolously spend their time slapping wrists around Washington. I'd suggest his constituents in Wisconsin send him a few Sudoku books and a big block of cheese to help him pass the time until this session of Congress is over.

Besides the timing of his actions, I still find it absurd the lengths Democrats will go to hinder our national security. The domestic spying program was used to intercept communications from those in this country that contacted members or suspected members of al-Qaida.

Haven't talked to any terrorists lately? Then you have nothing to worry about. Republicans are against any repeat of the attacks of Sept. 11. Do we have to step on a few toes to maintain our security? I say, as does President Bush, that we should do whatever it takes to keep America safe. The time has come for Democrats to realize that as well.

Sen. Feingold, you and your party have beat this horse too many times. Enough is enough.

Prejudicial dog law banned in Toledo

Finally, animal activists in Ohio can celebrate a victory for the home team.

A few weeks ago, the Ohio 6th District Court of Appeals struck down the Toledo vicious dog ordinance, calling the law "arbitrary, unreasonable, and discriminatory." This was a great step forward in the fight against breed-specific legislation (BSL).

The case was brought to court by a pit bull owner who had one of his dogs seized and destroyed under the ordinance.

Only recently in America has the American pit bull terrier, or pit bull for short, been targeted as a "vicious" breed. Previously during the past two decades BSL targeted the Doberman Pinscher, according to the Humane Society of the United States.

The HSUS's official opinion is posted on their Web site: "The HSUS opposes legislation aimed at eradicating or strictly regulating dogs based solely on their breed."

Pit bulls have been unfairly singled out because of human tendencies to use them in illegal dog fighting and as guard dogs for drug dealers. The Ohio court recognized this as the fault of owners, not of the dogs.

All too often, people associate all dogs in a breed with the popularized concept of that breed. While there are certainly some breed-specific traits, they never apply to all, or even most dogs. For example, while collies are usually quite intelligent, not all of them can let you know if Timmy's fallen down a well. Not all Siberian Huskies live in Alaska and pull sleds, not all poodles are high maintenance, and not all pit bulls are mean.

It's time for the stigma of the pit bull to be lifted. Humans have a nasty tendency to believe that if they are bitten by a dog, it's the dog's fault. While this is sometimes the case with children and dogs who are wild, most of the time it is the direct result of human incompetency.

Some dogs develop aggression because their owner wants a "guard dog." The animal is trained to bark and bite at anyone who comes near, with the exception of the owner. These animals are usually kept outside, not walked and never socialized into the human environment.

Dogs are domesticated animals, yes, but this does not mean they are always trained. All dogs need training by their owners to teach them not to bite or jump. This training is very simple; it usually involves a rolled up



AMANDA HOOVER
Asst. Opinion Editor

newspaper and a few months of "swat the puppy on the nose," problem solved. Unfortunately, negligence is far more common. Animals, especially dogs, need to be welcomed as a part of the family. It's okay to keep them outside with proper shelter as long as they are properly cared for.

Neglect cases are very common in the United States. Common enough for the television station Animal Planet to have three separate cities of the show "Animal Cops." Animalplanet.com states that in Detroit, the members of the Michigan Humane Society "respond to more than 4,000 animal cruelty incidents a year." Now add to that the HSUS statistic that only 10 to 20 dog bites a year are fatal.

Last but not least, we come to the common sense of dealing with dogs so that you don't get bitten.

Number one: Never approach a dog you don't know without asking their owner if it's okay, and never approach a dog with no owner around.

Number two: Never try to catch a dog or otherwise corner a dog. Even the friendliest dogs will bite when they're scared.

Number three: Tail wagging is good. Growling or hair standing on end is bad.

Number four: Never try to break up a dog fight. Even if it's your own dog, you will get bitten. Call for help or find a hose, but never get between two fighting dogs. Unless they are Chihuahuas or any other ridiculously rat-sized breed of dog.

This should keep you from any unprovoked dog bites. The next step is to recognize that just like people, dogs have their own characteristics individual of the breed. Pit bulls can be good dogs or bad dogs, it all depends on how they're raised.

Help keep the ban on breed-specific legislation; fight against the Lucas County dog warden as he appeals his case to a higher court. A person who is hired to deal with dogs should not be ignorant of something as simple as treating each case individually, instead of trying to save time by seizing and killing hundreds of pit bulls every year.

Send comments to Amanda at hoovama@bgsu.edu

PEOPLE ON THE STREET

What have you spent a lot of money on in college that you didn't expect?



JOSEPH GORE
SOPHOMORE,
ACCOUNTING

"I didn't expect to spend so much on books."



SUBOMI ODUNSI
SOPHOMORE, ECT

"I wouldn't expect to spend money on parking tickets."



JOSH BARTHOLOMEW
SOPHOMORE, CRIMINAL JUSTICE

"Movies, that's about it."



NIKKIE MERTENS
FRESHMAN, MUSIC EDUCATION

"I spend too much money on musical instruments for CMA."



BGNEWS
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The BG News Submission Policy

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

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

POLICIES

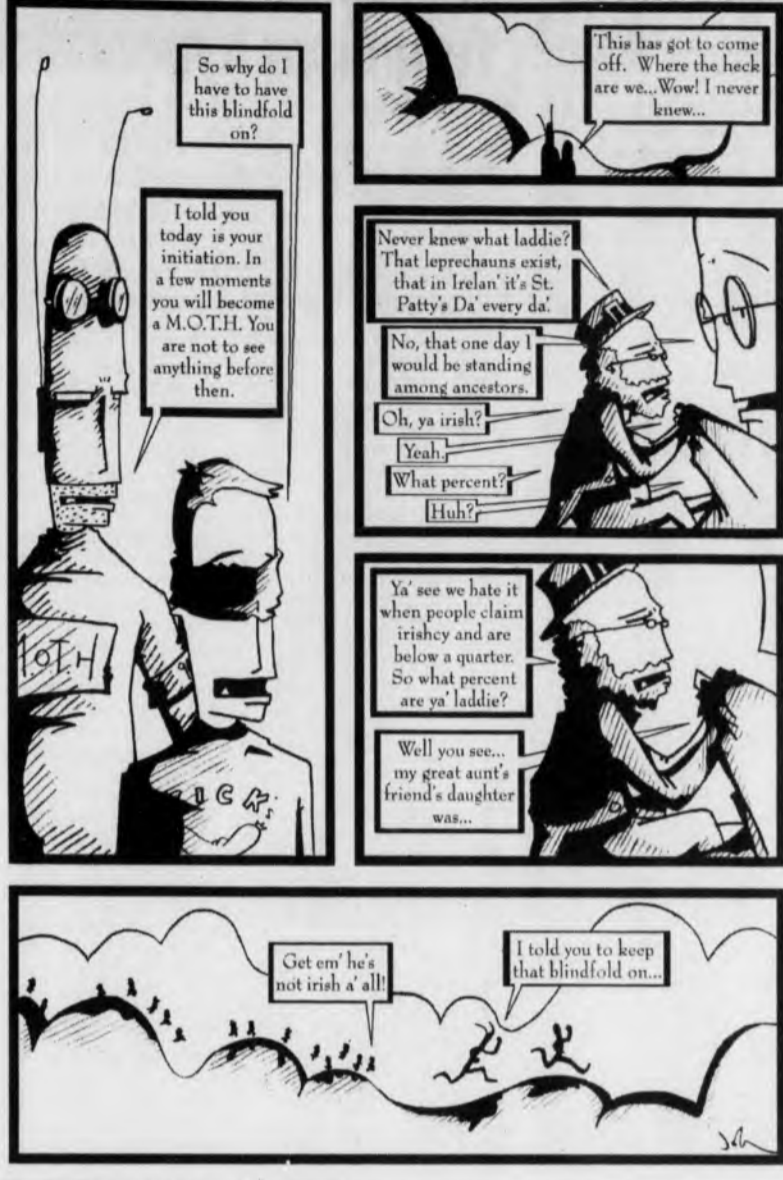
Letters to the Editor and Guest Columns are printed as space on the Opinion Page permits. Additional Letters to the Editor or Guest Columns may be published online. Name, year and phone number should be included for verification purposes. Personal attacks, unverified information or anonymous submissions will not be printed.

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

Man Of The House

john barkhimer, jr.



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

Laws don't apply to criminals

I read through quite a few news stories every week, and I thought it would be fun to switch things up and take a look at a few of the zanier stories from around the world.



JOSH BENNER
Humor Columnist

within 80 years of his death, the money should be turned over to the royal family of England (which is just plain crazy).

Long arm of the law

A teacher, Debra Lafave, who allegedly had sex with a 14-year-old student, will not have to stand trial. At the same time, last week The BG News reported that a former University employee who embezzled some \$60,000 from the Alumni Center will not have to stand trial if she pays the money back.

What in the world is going on here? Whatever happened to enforcing laws? Shoot, we might as well all try and embezzle money; worst case scenario, you'll get caught and just be back where you started.

Although with some of the shortcomings of the legal system, it's not hard to see why ridiculous situations happen from time to time. An Oklahoma judge recently went on trial under suspicion of fondling himself from the stand.

Several jurors and court officials from different cases in the past believe the judge had different "toys" he was using on himself from the bench. I guess that's why they call it "the right hand of justice."

Beer me

Haldis Gundersen, a 50-year-old Norwegian woman, had just finished up a quiet dinner with her husband last weekend when she decided to do a little bit of cleaning. She turned on the faucet and instead of water coming out, she found beer.

Now your initial reaction might be to head to Oslo on a pilgrimage because to some, this is as earth shattering as finding a vision of Mary on a violin.

Was it a miracle? It's debatable, but the real cause was a pipe that had been crossed between the plumbing and the tap of the bar two stories below. She said it wasn't even good beer ... in other words, it was Natty Light.

Try harder

A Seattle man tried to siphon gasoline out of a motor home. For those of you who are law abiding citizens, siphoning gas is when you take a length of hose, stick it into a gas tank, and then you suck to get a flow going. Ideally, you remove your

mouth from the hose before the gas really starts flowing, but this guy wasn't so lucky. The worst part is that it wasn't gasoline. He had accidentally put his hose into the vehicle's septic tank.

Pay it forward

The next one is actually a vintage story but you've probably never heard it: a man named Ernest Digweed died in 1977, according to the New York Times, and in his will he instructed for his money to be put into government bonds, to be paid to Jesus (of all people) upon his return.

Heirs of Digweed have tried for years to get the money, which is brazen. If I knew someone who was trying to give their money to a higher power, I probably wouldn't get in the way. What would possess a man to try and give money to a supernatural being is beyond me.

Sure, you could say it shows his faith, but come on, it was his will ... it wasn't that big of a sacrifice for Digweed to begin with.

His will then instructs that if the rapture hasn't occurred

Kids' math, hurt feelings add up

Attention deficit disorder: if you believe the statistics, approximately 127 percent of the world's population has it (except for Australians, because, really, they don't count).

This presents a problem for aging "journalists" like myself, who find it increasingly harder to connect with younger, hipper readers who learned how to use a computer while in the womb.

So in an effort to win over today's youth, I've switched my column format to a "three-dot buzz" style, which is fancy-speak for "unconnected ramblings." I hope you enjoy it (or at the very least, stop throwing things at me when I walk around the Union):

Hurt feelings

I know I'm a little late to the party with the whole "giving control of shipping ports to a Saudi company" thing, but I just find the whole situation very ironic.

Who could have predicted President Bush would stand up and say he's worried the port incident would hurt "relations" with the Middle East?

I mean, we're talking about the person who decided to invade a country — IN the Middle East — and a few years later he's worried they might get mad over



JIM LEVASSEUR
Not News Editor

a few ports? That's like killing someone's brother and then worrying about cheating them in a game of Parcheesi.

It all makes sense

Remember when you were a kid and you didn't really understand the concept of numbers (if you're like me, you still don't), and so your teacher gave you a book that tried to explain them?

It was called "How Much Is A Million Zillion?" Or something, and all it did was explain large numbers with stupid concepts.

For example, say you want to know how large around the Earth is; you could look it up in this book and discover that it only takes seven hundred million frog legs lined up end to end to go around the world once.

This, of course, is completely useless information, even though when you're a kid it seems to make complete sense.

I mean, can you imagine trying to give someone directions using that book? "Hey buddy, how far is it to Cleveland?" "Oh, I don't know, about three zillion toasters?"

THIS WEEK'S FUNNY WORD:
Flibbertigibbety



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

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Senator says bill has 'grown out of hatred'

ADOPTION, FROM PAGE 2

person will have legal guardianship of the adopted child.

Teresa Robinson, of Cincinnati, who with partner Kelly Robinson raises three daughters and two foster children, said she feels under attack by the proposed bill.

"All citizens in Ohio should be treated equally. Same-sex relationships should not be singled out because of a homophobic

fear," Teresa said. "Your sexual orientation and how God made you have nothing to do with your ability to take care of kids. What makes good parents are people who want to be good parents — nothing else."

Robinson said there are more important issues that politicians need to spend their time on, such as child abuse.

"Politicians need to stop the insanity of people who are hurting their kids, and not spend

their resources on those who are doing their job," she said. "The majority of kids who come from sexual and physical abuse come from heterosexual parents."

State Senator Robert Hagan agrees with Robinson that there are more important issues to deal with in Ohio than same-sex adoption.

"I believe that a union between two people in love should be allowed; we have bigger problems to deal with," Hagan said. "I

think this is a ridiculous proposal that has grown out of hatred, bigotry and homophobia. There is no scientific evidence that it negatively affects the children."

In 2004, Ohio, along with 10 other states, approved a constitutional amendment banning same-sex marriages.

If the bill fails to become law through the Ohio legislature, which Hagan predicts, the issue might be taken to Ohio voters on the next ballot.

Speaker: Exclusive feminism hypocritical

SPEAKERS, FROM PAGE 1

middle-class white women. She singled out and criticized the Organization for Women's Issues' decision to only let women living as women participate in this year's upcoming Take Back the Night march.

This means that men who identify as women and men in general will no longer be able to participate in the march at the University, despite the fact that they were allowed to participate in the past.

"In order to make the platform of feminism truly relevant and timeless, we need to make feminism acceptable, inclusive, and truly democratic," she said.

She went on to say that she found the "policy to be exclusive and insensitive," and that many men, as well as others who will not be able to march alongside women in the event, want to support ending violence against women.

But Lam — who taught one of the first ethnic studies classes at the University in the 1970s — gave women credit for being the primary protesters of the University's decision not to offer abortion coverage in its basic mandatory health care plan.

"Why are the women the only ones fighting against this plan?" he asked. "Where are the men?"

Through the lyrics of several musical artists, such as Bob Marley and Peter Tosh, Lam also spoke of the need for students to be active in organizations that might not directly deal with their own background, race, or heritage.

"We just do our own program and go home," he said. "What we're doing is working inside the box, and we haven't changed anything. You have to work outside the box to affect change."

In addition to Lam's reggae references, all four speakers cited a slew of pop culture figures, including the musical group Peter, Paul and Mary;

"Straight white people need to step out of their comfort zone to experience what it's like to be a minority."

JOELLE RUBY RYAN, PRESIDENT OF TRANSCENDENCE

feminists Audre Lorde and bell hooks; political pundit Anne Coulter; and Brazilian author Paulo Freire.

Rouse, a senior who has worked with Vision and the Latino Student Union in addition to the NAACP, agreed that intercultural cooperation would go a long way toward accomplishing many of the various organizations' goals. Participation from white students, she said, would also help many to gain a new cultural perspective while confronting racism they might not have previously recognized.

Ryan also encouraged white students to attend these meetings.

"America likes its people how it likes its teeth: straight and white," she said to a roomful of laughter. "Straight white people need to step out of their comfort zones to experience what it's like to be a minority."

Tahmahkera's sense of humor also amused the audience, which nearly filled the room to capacity.

"I can't tell you how many times someone watches 'Dances with Wolves' and thinks they know everything about Indian culture," he said. "I'm just waiting for 'Waltzes with Whites' and 'The Caucasian in the Cupboard' to come out."

But Tahmahkera, a member of the Comanche Nation of Oklahoma, treated the issue of intercultural unity with seriousness, especially the need to recognize differences between cultures while they work together.

In his speech, Lam echoed Tahmahkera's sentiments, speaking passionately from behind a dark-blue podium, beseeching those present to unify on-campus human rights groups.

"For Christ's sake, join an organization," he said. "Try to affect change, but do not fight alone. You don't have to fight in isolation, and you shouldn't have to. This is the thinking we would like to introduce you to."

Renting helps save students money

COSTS, FROM PAGE 1

increase to a student's financial aid package is appropriate and possible within the University's budget.

"Usually we can accommodate them," Bedford said.

Bedford said situations like Carson's are not unique. He typically sees 15 to 20 of the two-page forms each year.

"I see some very reasonable requests, and some that are not at all realistic," Bedford said.

For students whose legitimate needs exceed the capability of the financial aid office, or those with looming due dates like Carson, the Student Technology Center offers another way to keep the cost of course equipment from skyrocketing.

Kim Fleschman, director of the Student Technology Center, said the center is capable of

fulfilling many of the expensive equipment demands placed on students without them paying a cent out of pocket.

Emulated by other Ohio colleges, the center provides students with camera, video, sound and light kits worth up to \$1,200 at no charge. Students are required to return the kits to the center in the Saddlemere Building after three days, though they are free to check the equipment out again if it hasn't been reserved.

Jeff McManamon said he found himself making weekly trips to the center this semester to rent a still camera kit for his photography class.

The sports management major had no long-term interest in photography, so he preferred the frequent trips across campus to the cost of investing in his own equipment.

"I can not afford to drop \$200

on something I do not want or need," McManamon said.

Carson knew the equipment service existed, but worried the equipment would be in poor condition and only add to her heightened level of stress.

"I was warned by friends and professors that the equipment you rent there has a lot of wear and tear," Carson said.

Carson recalled an incident in a previous class where an instructor borrowed a sound kit from the center only to find pieces missing. The professor's frustration with the incomplete kit left an impression on Carson.

"I can not turn in something late because the microphone I rented did not have a cord, we are taught to be prepared for that," Carson said.

Fleschman defended the integrity of the center's kits, saying the equipment is checked each time it is returned, and stu-

dents are fined for any damaged or missing parts.

Aside from the possible condition of the equipment available for her to borrow, Carson said she believed the benefits of having her own camera outweighed the financial toll.

"I will learn how to do everything more quickly if I have my own camera to mess around with," Carson said. "It will be around whenever I need it, if I can ever find one."

The day after her fruitless trip to Toledo, Carson found the help she needed from a more familiar source.

"I called my mom to let her know I had no luck in Toledo, and she told me not to worry about it, she was already on her way," Carson said.

Driving 160 miles from North Canton to Bowling Green, Shelley Carson delivered a brand-new camera to her daughter with 16 hours remaining to complete the assignment.

Acknowledging not all parents can afford to offer the same assistance, the student's mother felt obligated to do so.

"I've always said her only job in college is being a student," Shelley Carson said. "It's worth me investing in the equipment if it helps her do the best job she can."

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Fill out the Web Based Version instead! It's so easy! Go to <http://bgsu.edu/offices/uaou> and click on "Take Survey."

UAO wants your input to help us plan our Fall 2006 event. UAO has brought such artists as Bush, Jason Mraz, Black Eyed Peas, Ludacris, and most recently, Dashboard Confessional. While the examples are artists from each genre are within UAO's budget and willing to play on college campuses, they merely serve as representatives of a genre, and may or may not be the actual artist selected to perform at BGSU. UAO's 2006 Spring Survey will run from Mar. 13th, 2006 to Mar 31st, 2006. Surveys can be turned in at the Union Info Desk or Union 408.

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Rap (ex. Ja Rule, Ying Yang Twins)

R&B (ex. Brian McKnight, John Legend)

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Rock (ex. Deftones, Our Lady Peace, Lifehouse)

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Indie (ex. Cake, Damien Rice, Deathcab for Cutie)

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Pop (ex. Ryan Cabrera, Guster, Gavin Degraw)

Gospel/Christian (ex. Reliant K, Switchfoot, Hezekiah Walker, Kirk Franklin and the Family)

Comedian

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IRANIAN LEADER SUPPORTS TALKS ON IRAQ

TEHRAN, Iran (AP) — Iran's Supreme leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei said yesterday that he approves of proposed talks between U.S. and Iranian officials on Iraq, but warned the United States must not try to "bully" Iran. It was the first confirmation that Khamenei supports the talks.

www.bgnews.com/world

WORLD

Palestinian bombers seized in high-speed chase

Results of the intercepted attack could have negatively influenced upcoming March 28 election in Israel

By Josef Federman
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

JERUSALEM — Police seized Palestinians with explosives who were on their way to carry out a bombing yesterday, officials said, capping a high-speed chase that brought large parts of the country to a standstill just days before national elections.

An attack could have deep repercussions for the election. The centrist Kadima Party, which holds a wide lead in opinion polls, has been accused by its hawkish rivals of being too soft on the Palestinians.

Past elections have been affected by violence.

Reflecting the jitters, Israel has banned Palestinians from entering the country until after the March 28 election and greatly restricted movement through the Gaza Strip's main cargo crossing. With the closure causing shortages of bread and other essential items in Gaza, Israel allowed the crossing to temporarily reopen yesterday.

Security officials declared a high alert at midmorning yesterday, warning that an attacker had infiltrated the country. Police beefed up forces and erected makeshift



ELECTION ANTICIPATION: Labor party leader Amir Peretz looks at a wall covered with electoral posters for his party during an election campaign in Jerusalem. Israel will hold a general election next Tuesday.

roadblocks in Jerusalem, then moved the alert to central Israel after determining a group of assailants had fled the city in a van.

Police erected roadblocks on the two major highways linking Jerusalem and Tel Aviv, snarling

traffic for miles. With sirens wailing, police chased the suspected van for several miles, as a helicopter followed overhead.

"We were traveling along the highway, on a beautiful spring day ... and suddenly we saw

a helicopter swoop down and anti-terror forces speed by," Yonatan Danino, a witness, told Israel Radio. "Suddenly we saw a car with security forces surrounding it. They even came out of the bushes."

The van was stopped at a roadblock near Latrun, located halfway between Jerusalem and Tel Aviv. Police removed the bomb from the car, setting off a panic among nearby motorists.

"People started to run away from the cars," Danino said. "Police were shouting into megaphones, 'live bomb, live bomb,' and people were running in every direction."

Jerusalem police spokesman Shmuel Ben-Ruby said the assailants were carrying 11 pounds of explosives and intended to plant a bomb in central Israel. He said 10 people were arrested.

There was no immediate claim of responsibility, but security forces have been on high alert ahead of the election, especially since Israeli forces assaulted a West Bank jail last week and arrested six wanted Palestinians.

Amid concerns of violence, Israel reopened the Karni crossing, the main gateway for Gaza's imports and exports, for a second straight day in an attempt to alleviate a food shortage in the area.

The crossing was opened on Monday, but closed after about 30 minutes due to Israeli secu-

urity concerns. Militants have attacked Karni in the past.

Israel has closed the Karni crossing for most of the past two and a half months, warning of more attacks. The closure has caused a shortage in Gaza of bread, dairy supplies and other essential goods.

The Palestinians hoped to bring into Gaza 100 trucks of food and medicine yesterday, about 20 of them carrying wheat, said the director of the Palestinian border authority, Salim Abu Safiah.

"I hope that the Israelis will stick to their promises and will open Karni totally in the coming days," Abu Safiah said. "Gaza is suffering with the shortage of foodstuffs."

Under an agreement brokered by Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice in November, Israel and the Palestinians agreed to boost cargo traffic through Karni. The accord was meant to give momentum to peace efforts after Israel's summer pullout from Gaza. But the deal was never implemented.

The United States, concerned about the humanitarian situation in Gaza, has been pressing the sides to work out an agreement on Karni's opening.

Prisoners freed by gunmen

Inmates were set free during attack on the Muqdadiya lockup

By Sinan Salaheddin
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

BAGHDAD — About 100 masked gunmen stormed a prison near the Iranian border yesterday, cutting phone wires, freeing all the inmates and leaving behind a scene of devastation and carnage — 20 dead policemen, burned-out cars and a smoldering jail house.

At least 10 attackers were killed in the dawn assault on the Muqdadiyah lockup on the eastern fringe of the Sunni Triangle, police said. The raid showed that the mostly Sunni militants can still assemble a

large force that is capable of operating in the region virtually at will — even though U.S. and Iraqi military officials said last year that the area was no longer an insurgent stronghold.

The insurgency's strength, spiraling sectarian violence and the stalemate over forming a government in Iraq have led politicians and foreign policy experts to say Iraq is on the brink or perhaps in the midst of civil war.

In all, 33 prisoners were freed, including 18 insurgents who were detained Sunday during raids by security forces in the nearby villages of Sansal and Arab, police said. It was the capture of those insurgents that apparently prompted yesterday's attack. The other 15 inmates were a mix of suspected insurgents and com-

mon criminals.

In an Internet posting last night, the military wing of the Mujaheddin Shura Council, a militant Sunni Muslim insurgent group, purportedly claimed it carried out the operation. The posting said the group killed "40 policemen, liberated 33 prisoners and captured weapons."

The claim was posted on the Iraqi News Web site. Neither the higher casualty toll among policemen nor the captured weapons could be independently verified.

The cutting of the telephone lines made it impossible for jailers or security men — who apparently did not have cell phones — to call other police for backup. Residents of the town informed authorities of the situation after hearing the firing.

North Korea boasts ability to launch nuclear attack on U.S.

By Jae-soon Chang
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SEOUL, South Korea — North Korea suggested yesterday it had the ability to launch a pre-emptive attack on the United States, according to the North's official news agency.

A Foreign Ministry spokesman said the North had built atomic weapons to counter the U.S. nuclear threat.

"As we declared, our strong revolutionary might put in place all measures to coun-

ter possible U.S. pre-emptive strike," the spokesman said, according to the Korean Central News Agency. "Pre-emptive strike is not the monopoly of the United States."

Pentagon spokesman Bryan Whitman declined to comment on the reports.

Last week, the communist country warned that it had the right to launch a pre-emptive strike, saying it would strengthen its war footing before joint South Korea-U.S.

military exercises scheduled for this weekend.

The spokesman also said it would be a "wise" step for the United States to cooperate on nuclear issues with North Korea in the same way it does with India.

Earlier this month, President Bush signed an accord in India that would open some of its atomic reactors to international inspections in exchange for U.S. nuclear know-how and atomic fuel.

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SEX CHARGES DROPPED AGAINST TEACHER

TAMPA, Fla. (AP) — Prosecutors in one Florida county decided yesterday to drop charges against a former Tampa teacher accused of having sex with a 14-year-old middle school student. The decision, announced hours after a judge rejected a plea deal for Debra Lafave, means the victim won't have to testify.

www.bgnews.com/nation

NATION

Defying critics, Bush says troops will stay in Iraq

By Terrence Hunt
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — President Bush said yesterday that American forces will remain in Iraq for years and it will be up to a future president to decide when to bring them all home.

But defying critics and plunging polls, he declared, "I'm optimistic we'll succeed. If not, I'd pull our troops out."

The president rejected calls for the resignation of Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld, chief architect of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

"Listen, every war plan looks good on paper until you meet the enemy," Bush said, acknowledging mistakes as the United States was forced to switch tactics and change a reconstruction strategy that offered targets for insurgents.

He also rejected assertions by Iraq's former interim prime minister that the country had fallen into civil war amid sectarian vio-

lence that has left more than 1,000 Iraqis dead since the bombing last month of a Shiite Muslim shrine.

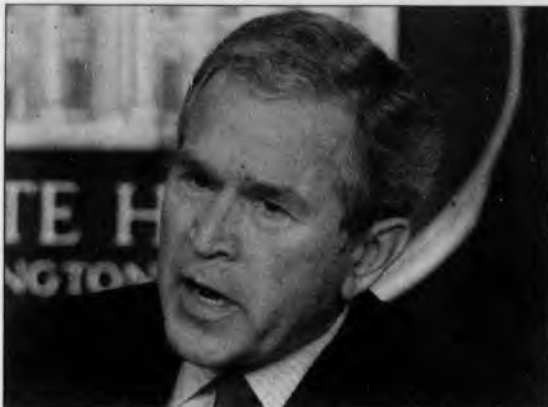
"This is a moment the Iraqis had a chance to fall apart and they didn't," Bush said, crediting religious and political leaders with restraint.

The president spoke for nearly an hour at a White House news conference, part of a new offensive to ease Americans' unhappiness with the war and fellow Republicans' anxiety about fall elections. He faced skeptical questions about Iraq during an appearance Monday in Cleveland, and plans another address soon on Iraq.

Public support for the war and for Bush himself has fallen in recent months, jeopardizing the political capital he claimed from his 2004 re-election victory.

"I'd say I'm spending that capital on the war," Bush said.

The White House believes that people appreciate Bush's plain-



Ron Edmonds AP Photo

ADDRESSING THE NATION: During a news conference yesterday, President Bush said there will be 'more tough fighting ahead' in Iraq.

spoken approach even if they disagree with his decisions.

"I understand war creates concerns," the president said. "Nobody likes war. It creates

a sense of uncertainty in the country."

Bush has adamantly refused to set a deadline for the withdrawal of U.S. forces from Iraq.

Asked if there would come a day when there would be no more U.S. forces in Iraq, Bush said, "That, of course, is an objective. And that will be decided by future presidents and future governments of Iraq."

Pressed on whether that meant a complete withdrawal would not happen during his presidency, Bush said, "I can only tell you that I will make decisions on force levels based upon what the commanders on the ground say."

White House officials worried Bush's remarks would be read as saying there would not be significant troop reductions during his presidency. They pointed to comments Sunday by Gen. George W. Casey, commander of U.S. forces in Iraq, who said he expected a substantial troop reduction "certainly over the course of 2006 and into 2007."

The Pentagon announced last December that U.S. force levels would be reduced from the base-

line figure of about 138,000 to about 131,000 by the end of March. The total currently is 133,000. In late February the Pentagon told Congress that "it will be possible to consider" additional reductions as the political process moves forward and as Iraqi security forces gain experience. No timetable has been set for deciding on additional cuts.

More than 2,300 American troops have died in Iraq. At home, nearly four of five people—including 70 percent of Republicans—believe civil war will break out in Iraq, according to a recent AP-Ipsos poll.

"I am confident. I believe, I'm optimistic we'll succeed," the president said. "If not, I'd pull our troops out. If I didn't believe we had a plan for victory I wouldn't leave our people in harm's way."

Bush said U.S. forces were essential for the stability of Iraq and restraining al-Qaida in the Middle East.

New Orleans prepared for hurricane season

City boasts improved evacuation plans, defense against floods

By Michelle Roberts
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW ORLEANS — New Orleans is better prepared for the upcoming hurricane season because of stronger flood walls and better evacuation plans since Hurricane Katrina, Mayor Ray Nagin said in an interview yesterday.

"We should be able to sustain another Katrina," the mayor said.

"If a Category 5 hits us, probably the city will be gone and the levees will still be standing. The work they're doing is just incredible," Nagin said of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

The Corps, which designed and built the city's levees, has been heavily criticized by residents who note the city survived the worst of the Aug. 29 storm, but then was swamped when flood walls broke — inundating 80 percent of the city with brackish water. Many have expressed fear about the condition of the levees as June 1 marks the start of hurricane season approaches.

Nagin told The Associated Press he's confident the Corps

is using better materials and designs on the levees.

He also said that evacuating the city in the event of another hurricane should be smoother. He said he would be in closer contact with forecasters at the National Hurricane Center so he'll know quickly whether a mandatory evacuation will be needed. The one ordered two days before Katrina hit was the city's first.

Nagin said he is concerned about the large number of travel trailers in which people are living while they repair their homes. Because

the trailers are not very secure in high wind, they may need to be evacuated faster than the rest of the city.

"They could turn into little missiles," Nagin said.

He predicted residents would be more likely to comply with evacuation orders now. In the future, he said, they will be bused away from the city rather than to shelters like the Superdome, where residents were stranded in hot, dank conditions for days after Katrina hit in late August.



RAY NAGIN
MAYOR

Abuser convicted

Dog handler at Abu Ghraib found guilty of five of 13 charges

By David Dishneau
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

FORT MEADE, Md. — An Army dog handler at Abu Ghraib was convicted yesterday of tormenting prisoners with his snarling animal and competing with a comrade to make the Iraqis soil themselves.

Sgt. Michael J. Smith, 24, of Fort Lauderdale, Fla., was found guilty at a court-martial of six of the 13 counts. The judge later dismissed one of those six counts, saying it duplicated another.

A sentencing hearing began in the afternoon. The five charges carried up to 8 1/2 years behind bars.

Prosecutors said Smith let his unmuzzled black Belgian shepherd bark and lunge at several prisoners for his own amusement. One of the photographs that led to the exposure of the scandal at the Iraqi prison shows his dog straining on its leash, just inches from the face of a cowering prisoner.

Smith had faced the stiffest potential sentence of any soldier charged so far in the Abu Ghraib scandal — 24 1/2 years



The Washington Post AP Photo

FRIGHTENING: A U.S. soldier, holds a dog in front an Iraqi detainee at Abu Ghraib prison on the outskirts of Baghdad.

in prison.

The defense maintained that Smith was a good soldier who believed he was doing what the government wanted canine handlers to do at Abu Ghraib: Provide security and frighten interrogation subjects. Also, defense attorney Capt. Mary G. McCarthy said all that Smith's dog did to prisoners was bark at them.

The defense further argued that Abu Ghraib was a dangerous, chaotic place where policies were so murky that even the colonel who supervised interrogations testified he was confused.

The jury deliberated for about 18 hours over three days.

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One Year - One Person Rate - \$350

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School Year - One Person Rate- \$460
One Year - One Person Rate - \$395

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School Year - Two Person Rate- \$580
One Year - Two Person Rate - \$480

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School Year - Two Person Rate- \$640
One Year - Two Person Rate - \$530

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School Year - Two Person Rate- \$560
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SMOKING TEMPORARILY ALLOWED INSIDE

AKRON (AP) — A countywide indoor smoking ban was put on hold by Summit County Council because of enforcement issues and a possible statewide ban that would supersede the county law. The county ban was opposed by mayors in Akron, Cuyahoga Falls and Barberton who said it did not apply to their cities.

www.bgnews.com/state

STATE

High schooler takes on 650-pound bear in match

State wrestling champ enters the ring in Cleveland with Ceaser Jr., a black bear, despite the outrage of PETA

By M.R. Kropko
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
CLEVELAND (AP)—Lance Palmer, a 140-pound high school wrestler and four-time state champ, taps into his substantial skills whenever he takes on Ceaser Jr.

Skill comes in handy when your opponent is a 650-pound black bear.

Palmer recently wrestled Ceaser at the annual Cleveland Sport, Travel & Outdoor Show, pinning the animal on its back.

Although he says he never hurts the bear, Palmer and the bear's owner have been criticized by animal rights groups.

Norfolk, Va.-based People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals has sought to make owner Sam Mazzola a focal point of its national efforts to ban bear wrestling.

PETA is demanding that the U.S. Department of Agriculture revoke Mazzola's license to exhibit exotic animals. For a small fee, Mazzola allows people to wrestle the bear or have a picture taken inside a cage with his other bears or a tiger.

"Sam Mazzola continues to flout federal regulations and expose the public to very real danger," said Debbie Leahy, PETA director. "Bear wrestling is as ludicrous as it sounds, and it's high time that it was relegated to the dustbin of history."

PETA said bear wrestling is banned in 20 states, but not in Ohio.

Mazzola said bear wrestling has been part of his business, World Animal Studios Inc., for over 20 years and he has no intention of



Andrea Yanak AP Photo

GOOD CLEAN FIGHT?: Lance Palmer, four-time Ohio wrestling champ, takes on Ceaser Jr. during an exhibition wrestling match in Cleveland, Saturday.

stopping now. Most of his shows are at county fairs in Ohio.

"To be able to bring an animal

out into the public and do what we do is not easy," Mazzola said.

"I mean we're talking about a bear!

Do you even realize how much work, time and love we put into that? It's like nobody stops to realize that."

Randy Coleman, a USDA inspector, attended Saturday's wrestling match but declined comment.

Palmer, 19, a senior at St. Edward High School in the Cleveland suburb of Lakewood, has been wrestling bears since he was four years old. His father is an animal trainer for Mazzola.

Palmer, who gets paid by Mazzola, said animal rights activists are misguided.

"Bears are probably eight times stronger than people," said Palmer, who is headed to the Ohio State University as a collegiate wrestler. "If they wanted to,

they could do a whole lot of damage to people. But if they are having fun, like Ceaser was, then they will play with you all day.

"To them it's just fun, because they are not using all of their strength," he said. "Maybe I might use all of my strength to pin him, but he's just playing around."

Palmer said he's had a few scratches and bruises wrestling bears, but no serious injuries. He views it as another training method, even if there's potential for danger.

Ceaser doesn't wear a muzzle during the wrestling matches with Palmer.

"It helps the bear out to not have to keep his mouth closed the whole time," Palmer said. "It's kind of unfair to the bear to keep him muzzled. We want it to be fun."

Noe coins on sale at auction

Collection centered around state scandal up to highest bidder

COLUMBUS (AP) — Hundreds of coins bought with state money by a coin dealer at the center of a state government scandal went up for auction yesterday.

The coins were seized by authorities as part of an investigation into whether Republican donor Tom Noe stole money from the state coin fund.

Among the 3,400 items for sale are coins from the 19th and 20th centuries and several \$10,000 bills, which are no longer made by the U.S. Mint.

Coin dealers will have until March 29 to submit bids for the entire lot that is being stored at a secret location in Columbus.

The coins and other items were liquidated last May after investigators began looking into whether Noe illegally took money from the coin funds.

Noe was later charged with stealing at least \$1 million from a \$50 million investment in rare

coins he received from the state insurance fund for injured workers. He has pleaded not guilty, and a trial is scheduled to begin in August.

Ohio Auditor Betty Montgomery said last month that the state is owed \$13.5 million from Ohio's investment in rare coins that Noe allegedly funneled into his own businesses.

About \$17 million in coins are expected to be sold this summer, said Bill Brandt, president of Development Specialists, Inc., the Chicago-based company overseeing the liquidation of the funds.

Extra chance to answer hidden test question could go uncounted

By Julie Carr Smyth
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

COLUMBUS (AP) — Many students who were offered a second chance to answer a hard-to-find writing question on Ohio's graduation test will find their answers disqualified on orders of the state.

Officials at the Ohio Department of Education are stopping short of recommending that the offending tests be entirely scrapped because they don't view the problem as a security issue. The question, worth 18 of 48 points in the writing section, was preceded

by a blank page — causing many students to think they were done with the test.

About 90 calls over the question have rolled into the department from school district officials, teachers and parents since testing began March 13, agency spokeswoman Tammy Ridout said yesterday.

School officials who gave the test allowed students to finish the question after they realized they'd missed it, which potentially violated testing rules if students left the room and then came back,

Ridout said. The department does not yet know how many students' tests might have been compromised.

Throwing out the students' tests could affect not only their individual scores, but the performance rankings of their schools and districts. Most of the students are sophomores and juniors who will have several more chances to take and pass the test, she said.

The high schoolers may be lucky compared to some other Ohio school children who are embroiled in testing controversies.

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Basketball player has top GPA in the MAC

BG junior center Matt Lefeld was one of ten athletes named to the Mid-American Conference All-MAC team. Lefeld's 3.96 GPA is the highest of any player in the MAC. The Coldwater native is majoring in business. Lefeld averaged 7.1 points per game and 3.4 rebounds per game for the Falcons this year.



SOFTBALL: VRABEL STARTS SENIOR SEASON ON FIRE. PAGE 12

SPORTS

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BOWLING GREEN STATE UNIVERSITY

GYMNASTICS

Guyer is a well-rounded success

Gymnast earns prestigious nomination with perfect 4.0 grade average



Neal Cropper BG News

CROWD PLEASER: Jessica Guyer competes in the floor exercise, earning a season high 9.850. Guyer, a biology major, was nominated for the Walter Byers Postgraduate Scholarship.

By Colin Wilson
REPORTER

Jessica Guyer is one of the most decorated athletes in the history of Falcon gymnastics. She has won many awards and has many high marks in the school's record books. It may have seemed that she had done everything possible to leave her mark at the University.

That was not the case. It was announced yesterday that Guyer was nominated for the Walter Byers Postgraduate Scholarship. Guyer, a biology major, has earned a 4.0 GPA and is a co-captain and a big contributor to the Falcons. The nomination was just as much of a surprise to Guyer as anyone else.

"I found out and I started jumping up and down right away," said Guyer smiling. "I called my parents, everybody was crying, it's a big deal."

The Byers Scholarship was introduced in 1988. It is given to student-athletes who combine their academic success with superior character and leadership and demonstrate that their athletic participation has been a positive influence on their personal and intellectual development.

"Gymnastics has been part of my whole life, to be able to take my athletics and my academics and use them together, it's my all-around life so it's just exciting," Guyer said.

A Columbus native and a product of Buckeye Gymnastics, Guyer has achieved many things in her career. Before wooing everyone at the University, she placed first on the bars at the 2000 Nationals and second in the

all-around. She also was the state champion on the bars, beam and all-around in 2001 at Level 10.

Guyer then came to the University and would leave a very good legacy. A scholar-athlete, Guyer was named to the Academic All-American Team in 2003 and 2005. In 2005 she was named to the All-MAC Academic Team and ESPN the Magazine Academic All-District Team.

In 2003 Guyer was named the Falcon Freshman of the year and voted Falcon Gymnastics MVP in 2005. For the Falcons she holds a tie for second place all time on the floor exercise with a 9.95 that she achieved in 2003 and in 2005. On the vault Guyer ties for the University's fifth all-time score with 9.825 which she also earned in both 2003 and 2005.

Guyer was also part of the school-record 196.100 total score that the team achieved against Southeast Missouri State in 2005 in which she achieved her highest score on floor and vault.

When asked if the scholarship was her greatest feat of all, "The biggest accomplishment we've had as a team is the school record that we broke last year," Guyer said. "That was the best meet I've ever had here, but just to be in the top three [for the scholarship] is one of the biggest accomplishments I've ever had in my life."

Medical school is the next step for Guyer, she has applied around Ohio and has interviewed at Wright State University and liked what she saw. She has not made a decision yet as to where she will attend. Guyer will interview in April for the scholarship with two other nominees in Boston to decide who will receive the top honor.

Browns make major moves



MATT RIDDLE
Sports Columnist

It's hard to imagine, but it's true. The Cleveland Browns will be the most improved team in the 2006-2007 NFL season.

The Browns have been acclaimed nationally in the past weeks for all the off-season moves that they have made.

The Browns have signed eight significant free agents and resigned our own top three free agents. Three impact players that hardly played last season are coming off injury, and the Browns have nine draft picks in the upcoming draft.

The two main reasons that the Browns were able to make such a splash in free agency is because they have been attracting talent with local ties and the reputation of head coach Romeo Crennel.

First off, the Browns have spent a remarkable \$100 million in signing free agents. The best free agent signing the Browns have acquired thus far is Pro-Bowl guard/center LeCharles Bentley. Bentley will replace Faine at center and become the leader of the offense.

A Super Bowl champion and leader of the New England Defense, Willie McGinest signed with the Browns to play outside linebacker in the 3-4. McGinest will immediately make an impact and help out the Browns' pass rush.

Also, the Browns have lacked a possession receiver since the departure of Kevin Johnson, but they found their guy in hometown boy Joe Jurevicius. Jurevicius should start the season as the number-one receiver until Braylon Edwards returns from surgery.

The left tackle position also saw an upgrade with Kevin Shaffer. Shaffer has a longer wingspan and is more athletic than previous tackle L.J. Shelton.

The Browns have had the worst running defense in the league since 1999 and the signing of mammoth defensive tackle Ted Washington should plug the middle and help the run defense.

Former Kent State guard Bob Hallen was signed as insurance just in case Faine is traded or Joe Andruzzi or Casey Coleman goes down with injury again this season.

Dave Zastudil is going to be a special teams stud next year for the Browns and was arguably the top punter in the free agent market.

The Browns have just recently signed tight end and special teams standout Darnell Dinkins, who played last season with the Ravens. Other free agents the Browns still might try to sign are WR Tim Carter and LB Matt Wilhelm.

The Browns also have re-signed their top three free agents: Reuben Droughns, Orpheus Roye and my favorite player on the defense, Leigh Bodden. Droughns was the pivotal signing because of his running power and veteran leadership in the backfield. He was the Browns first 1,000 rusher in almost two decades. Orpheus Roye is the captain of our defense and should combine with Washington and Alvin McKinley as a strong core on the D-Line. Leigh Bodden is going to be a Pro-Bowl cornerback in a couple years. This kid is full of potential and has the size and speed to

BROWNS, PAGE 12

CLUB LACROSSE

Parity reigns on the lacrosse field

UT, BG and Kent State all claim one victory in Sunday's matches

By Heather Riedel
REPORTER

Adrienne Borgstahl was surprised by the outcome of Sunday's club lacrosse games.

BGSU won against Kent State University (6-5). The University of Toledo won against BGSU (10-6). And KSU took the win against UT (7-6).

Both the KSU vs. BGSU and the KSU vs. UT games went into overtime.

"In the past six years that I have been playing lacrosse, I have never had to play overtime," said Borgstahl, a member of BG's club lacrosse team. "It was kind of fun but stressful."

She added that the win all depends on which team could score first in the five minutes of overtime. Borgstahl scored the winning shot in overtime against KSU.

With UT being the big rival, the Falcons said they matched up fairly equally from what they saw in the game. Megan Yodzis, freshman, said UT would score a point and then BG would come back and score, but couldn't keep up with them to

win the game.

"UT just beat us to the ball and showed they really did want it more," Yodzis said.

She said that the team, herself included, were tired from playing KSU earlier in the day.

Borgstahl agreed that the team tired out toward the end of the game but said she thinks the team did not play up to their potential.

"We had plenty of shots on goal in both games but just not a lot of good ones," Borgstahl said.

She added that the team was missing the strongest shooter, Kristina Savage, due to illness, and plans on practicing shooting skills for their next game.

Borgstahl gave a lot of credit to their defense, especially Shannon Burke and Michelle Valoris.

"They really held our defense together," Borgstahl said.

The team will progress and play better as a whole as the season continues, Borgstahl said.

Yodzis agrees that they are feeling more like a team and working well together. She is excited to see how they play the rest of the season.

The Falcons will travel to John Carroll this weekend and will face both JCU and Ohio State.

Area golfers ready for sun

By Chris Voloschuk
REPORTER

The first outing of the season is important to any golfer, for a variety of reasons.

For Cary Long, Manager of the Riverby Hills Golf Club in Bowling Green, the reasons are very much weather related.

"It's just being outside and having a break in the weather, and also seeing the end of winter," Long said.

For Scott Choura, general manager of the Stone Ridge Golf Club, a semi-private golf course also located in Bowling Green, the reasons are more people related.

"My favorite part is seeing all the faces you only see in golf season," Choura said. "Some people go to Florida for the winter or take up bowling, and you only get to see them during golf season."

March is the major month for most golf courses in which paying customers start coming out to play. The winter snow is hopefully melted away by this time, and temperatures start to become more tolerable for being outside. Unfortunately for the courses, the start of the 2006 season has been a chilly one.

The cold weather hasn't been doing any favors as far as bringing people out to hit the links. According to Long, who has been managing at Riverby Hills for two and a half years, some people have come out, but there hasn't been any really significant business since the course opened for the season earlier this month.

For Choura, who has been Stone Ridge's manager for six



BG News File Photo

TEE TIME: Jessica McCann, a BGSU golfer, putts last season. The Falcon golfers, as well as many others, look forward to hitting the links.

months, it's much of the same. "Some of the members have come out and played," Choura said. "But we still get a lot of traffic with our dining services."

While March can be a tough month to get out and golf, there is definitely a peak season for the outdoor activity.

According to Long, July is the month when the most people get out to play his course.

For Choura, there is a steady stream of business between a series of months.

"Most people come out between Memorial Day and

Labor Day," Choura said. "Then you have our shoulder season, which is 45 days before Memorial Day and 45 days after Labor Day. These are more weather dependent."

But with the first day of spring come and gone, and the wintery weather hopefully drawing to a close in the very near future, excitement to get out on the course for the first time in 2006 is building amongst golfers.

"The weather hasn't lended itself too well to golf," Choura said. "It's holding people back from playing, and it's definitely giving them the itch to play."

The BG News is published weekly on Wednesdays. It is published for the benefit of the community. It is published for the benefit of the community. It is published for the benefit of the community.

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These are part-time, temporary positions without fringe benefits. Must be able to work flexible schedule through August including evenings and weekends. Work hours are subject to change. There are no "vacations" or "long weekends"; please do not apply if you are not available for the entirety of the appointment. Interested persons must complete an application that is available in the City of Bowling Green's Personnel Department, 304 N. Church Street, Bowling Green, Ohio, 43402-2399. Telephone: (419) 354-6229, web www.bgo.org, email BGPersonnel@bgo.org. Resumes must be included with application. Office hours are Mon- Fri 8:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m. A copy of the job description will be provided to applicants. Deadline for making application: 4:30 p.m. Friday, April 21, 2006. EEO/AA

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 3 Prong
 4 Momentarily stunned
 5 Mass vestments
 6 Louise and Turner
 7 Death Valley ranty
 8 Third baseman Rodriguez
 9 Sea cows
 10 Caper
 11 Provocative look
 12 Patch up
 13 Pop-ups, e.g.
 21 are here (map info)
 22 Quotable catcher
 25 Trees of a region
 26 Error's partner
 27 One-named New Age musician
 28 Extinct birds
 29 Israeli statesman
 30 Gawk
 31 Major artery
 32 Carpus, commonly
 34 Salon sound

37 Slugger Hank
 38 Lively
 39 Likely winner, perhaps
 45 Packing cases
 46 TV alien from Meimac
 47 Exodus leader
 48 Mature
 49 Office folder
 50 March 15th
 51 Shell competitor
 52 High time?
 53 "Trinity" author
 54 Muslim leader
 55 Stun, with a gun
 56 Back of the Space Shuttle

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 16 Requirement
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 19 Sawbucks
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 23 Sock parts
 24 Gumshoe
 25 Engraver's instrument
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 33 "Dies"
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 35 Rocky peak
 36 Hunt
 40 Moving vehicle

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 43 The Greatest
 44 Tears
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 47 May celebrant
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 49 Apple
 56 Assists
 57 Speckled fish
 58 "la Douce"
 59 Run off
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 61 Aunts in Acapulco
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Senior pitcher gets off to a sensational start



NO SWEAT: Softball pitcher Liz Vrabel, this week's MAC Pitcher of the Week, has 79 strikeouts on the year.

Vrabel ranks first in BGSU history with 654 strikeouts

By Dan Wyrar
REPORTER

BGSU softball hurler Liz Vrabel is beginning her fourth and final season differently than her previous three on the Falcon squad.

At this point last season, Vrabel started off slow with a 4-6 record before ending the season with a 17-13 record. Her teammates hope her strong start this season will propel the team to a good home debut on Friday in a doubleheader against Detroit, as well as conference play that begins at the end of the month.

"She's been amazing and one of the main reasons why we've been so successful this year," said teammate Jeanine Baca. "She's a big part of the team and we all follow her. If she's having a great day, we're having a great day."

Vrabel, or Flaps as her teammates call her because of her vocal leadership, notched her eighth win

of the season over the weekend at the USF Speedline Invitational, the 57th victory of her career.

"You can see it in our eyes out there that we're playing for each other," Vrabel said. "Everything wouldn't be as good as it is without all 17 girls, three coaches and our trainer and our team wouldn't be so successful if it weren't for every single person putting in a 100 percent effort into it."

Vrabel was also named the Mid-American Conference Pitcher of the Week after posting a 3-0, striking out 23 batters while having a 0.40 earned run average (ERA) in just 17 and two-thirds innings last weekend in the sunshine state.

In 62 and two-thirds innings of work this season, Vrabel has already fanned 79 hitters, which defensively can bring mixed feelings from her teammates due to

the lack of action.

"Liz is more of a strikeout pitcher, so when she pitches it gets kind of boring out there because she strikes out so many people," said teammate Gina Rango. "But she's got amazing composure and she always come through when under a lot of pressure."

Vrabel ranks first in BGSU softball history in strikeouts with 654 after she passed former Falcon softball hurler Jennifer Wolf last season against Ohio State University and entered this season ranked third all time in wins (49) and ERA (1.46) and fourth all time in shutouts (18) and innings pitched (567).

If Vrabel were to win 20 out of the Falcon's remaining 30 games, she would finish her career tied for No. 1 all time in MAC history with Central Michigan's Tina Kinney and Ball State's Bernie Coffman career record 77 wins.

"I think it's an honor all the

awards that I've earned, but at the same time I don't really look at my statistics, I don't really know what my ERA is," Vrabel said. "The only statistic that really matters is if we're winning or not. My personal success was developed because of my teammates."

Vrabel's father was a former collegiate baseball player at Clarion University in Pennsylvania, and she believes she has inherited most of her athletic prowess from him.

"I never really got a chance to watch my dad play, but my mom wasn't involved in athletics, so I'm assuming I got it from him," Vrabel said. "I'm very thankful God has given me this ability and I'm very thankful I've been able to use it."

Vrabel and the Falcons will play their first home game all season on Saturday against Detroit.

"We're all really excited to finally be home on our ground," Vrabel said. "We're comfortable with it and used to it, so we're excited because we want to attract a lot of fans and everything because we're going to be awesome this year."

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Browns on the rise

BROWNS, FROM PAGE 10

cover top receivers.

Last year, the Browns' misfortunes were the injuries that occurred before the season, early in the season and midway through. Kellen Winslow has hardly touched a football field in two years, but has promised the fans of Cleveland that his rehab has been strong and that he is going to be back to his potential from 2004. Kellen is on track to start training camp healthy. The Browns' most significant free-agent signing of last season, CB Gary Baxter,

was injured early in the season, and the Browns missed his skills in the secondary. Braylon Edwards was on his way to having a great second half of the season until he tore his knee ligaments. Edwards should be out until October, but hopefully he can make it back quicker.

The AFC North is one of the top divisions in football, and it's a long shot that the Browns could overcome the Super Bowl champion Steelers. But any NFL fan can't deny that the Browns are on the rise and are in good shape to surprise the league next year.

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