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Bowling Green State University

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HONOR ROLL: BGSU softball player Ashley Zirkle is our Athlete of the Week; **PAGE 14**

BGSU NEWS

Bowling Green State University

A daily independent student press

THURSDAY

April 20, 2006

T-STORMS
HIGH: 74 LOW: 49

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VOLUME 100 ISSUE 140

Controversial topics at hand

Speaker not afraid to delve into war on terror, Bush's actions

By Stephanie Spencer
REPORTER

No one really expects political analysts to be frank, conversational or even jokey.

But former Reagan senior policy analyst Dinesh D'Souza was just that when he spoke in the Union last night.

D'Souza was invited by the Young America's Foundation and the College Republicans to comment about controversial subjects such as U.S. occupation in Iraq, misconceptions about Islamic fundamentalism and homeland security.

Best known for his role in the Reagan White House, D'Souza has also written several New York Times bestsellers including "What's So Great About America," "Letters to a Young Conservative" and the more controversial "The End of Racism."

D'Souza did not waste time during his speech addressing uncomfortable subjects concerning the war on terrorism.

"In response to 'Isn't the U.S. in Iraq for oil?' I would say 'I certainly hope so. I can't think of any other reason the U.S. would be there,'" D'Souza said.

Islamic fundamentalism, the term the U.S. government has coined for traditional Muslims, was also discussed as the

primary reason that the U.S. entered the war.

D'Souza dispelled rumors about why the middle east "hates America" and the origins of the Iraq war.

Audience members shifted in their seats when D'Souza talked about American concern that "the government is fighting a losing battle." He said the fate of the war lies in the American people, and if apathetic the U.S. would lose a war that most of the Iraqi population supports.

"In Iraq, 60 percent of the population is Shia, which is for the U.S., and 20 percent is Kurdish, also pro U.S.A., the Sunni people, which are the remaining percent of the population are the only ones that oppose the war," he said. "This would be like the U.S. going to war and only the Mormons are fighting."

After D'Souza finished his speech he accepted questions from the audience who was prompted to be "accepting and open-minded."

This was the result of last year's spring speaker David Horowitz, when members of the audience overturned chairs and openly boo'd the speaker prompting him to write an article in *Front Page* magazine about "Bowling Green Barbarians, claiming that among his tour of liberal colleges, BGSU was the most disrespectful.

SPEECH, PAGE 2

FUN AND GAMES



Colleen Redmond BG News

IT'S ALL IN THE ARM: Bill Daugherty (left) and Kent Barns (right) compete in a game of cornhole outside of the Offenbauer Towers. "If it wasn't for cornhole, I would have gone to my four classes today," said Clayton Moore (not pictured).

Graduate students admit challenges

Instructors must prove authority over students in classes

By Cassandra Shofar
REPORTER

Some get nervous jitters, others just strive to maintain their confidence and engage their students, while others take a few deep breaths to calm any intimidation they initially feel.

These are graduate teachers or teaching assistants and examples of ways they cope with anxiety when they first dip their toes in the water of their new teaching career.

"I think when I first started teaching, the biggest challenge I faced was my own level of confidence and feeling as though I was qualified to be there," said Graduate Assistant Molly Frendo. "Though I knew I was qualified to teach the material, being that I had a bachelor's degree and an extensive knowledge of the material, it was still very intimidating to stand up in front of a room full of students who are not that much younger than me."

Frendo is a second year master's student at the University and teaching her own section of Intro to American Culture Studies for the second time. Although she said her confidence level has improved greatly over time, she still has days where she feels uncomfortable with presenting the material for that day and she has to put herself in check.

"I have to remind myself that I'm the teacher," she said.

Getting students to take her seriously isn't as much of a challenge to Frendo. She believes that students know that BGSU wouldn't put her in front of them unless she was qualified to be there. However, she admits that there are always those students that try to push the envelope with her.

"There are always students who like to push the boundaries to see what they can get away with," Frendo said. "When comparing notes with older instructors, they definitely push the envelope more with me... but the trade off, I feel, is that I am able to develop a different kind of rapport with students."

Frendo said that the best way to prove her authority over her students is to simply not try too hard to be in control.

"That is, never let the students see you sweat," she said. "The way to prove your authority is to be confident and firm."

While telling her students

GRADUATE, PAGE 2

Group tries to help senator see differently

By Addie Curtis
REPORTER

A Toledo-based organization is urging Senator Mike DeWine to withdraw his sponsorship from a constitutional amendment banning gay marriage.

EqualityToledo is a community educational organization aiming toward equality, just as VISION does on campus.

VISION provides an opportunity for members and guests to catch up on current events on campus, help plan and organize future events, view films of homosexual interest, play games, participate in workshops, learn from speakers and much more.

"If an amendment was approved to ban homosexual marriage, it would be the first time in history the Constitution would

be putting limits on people," said Kim Welter, executive director of EqualityToledo.

According to The Associated Press, DeWine has jumped into the driver's seat of a Federal Marriage Amendment to exclude all gay Americans from the right to form a legal union.

For years, DeWine has opposed marriage for gay and lesbian couples, however now he is co-sponsoring the amendment to ban gay marriage altogether.

"DeWine believes marriage is strictly between a man and a woman," said Mike Dawson, communications director for DeWine.

Welter seemed frustrated with DeWine's decision to co-sponsor

the Constitutional amendment banning gay marriage.

"I don't think it's too much to ask politicians not to use gays and lesbians as a tool to write discrimination into the U.S. Constitution, which is a document designed to protect the rights of citizens," said Welter.

She said passage of the amendment would deny gay and lesbian couples and their children the opportunity to receive the same privileges and protections afforded to heterosexual couples.

DeWine is among more than 20 co-sponsors who are pushing for the U.S. constitutional amend-

ment to ban same-sex marriages.

EqualityToledo attempts to contact DeWine have been unsuccessful, according to Welter.

Welter said they simply desire a meeting with DeWine for him to listen to stories from homosexual families.

Last Tuesday Welter hand delivered a letter to DeWine's Toledo office and held a press conference on Wednesday, publicly inviting DeWine to meet with them.

According to the AP article, Rob Salem, a lawyer who is a member of EqualityToledo, gave examples at the news conference to show how the amendment would discriminate against gay and lesbian couples, including family law, custody of children, adoption and estate planning.

"The impact will be drastic,"

said Mr. Salem, who teaches at the University of Toledo College of Law.

Welter is convinced the main reason DeWine won't get into contact with EqualityToledo is for political reasons.

DeWine is facing re-election in 2006 and Welter believes he has swung to the right on this issue in order to get the conservative vote.

Officials will vote on this issue some time in June.

EqualityToledo is inviting DeWine to a Lobby Day on May 17 in Columbus and asking him to sit down with a homosexual family.

EqualityToledo mission is to serve as an advocate and champion for fair treatment and equal opportunity for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender citizens.



MIKE DEWINE
SENATOR

sexual couples.

Resistance against Earth apathy is key

Speaker shares how to get active, get others active with the planet

By Melissa Topey
REPORTER

Ask most anyone if they favor environmental protection and most will answer "yes." And attendance at an environmental talk may be an indicator the University supports environmental causes in principle, but will the students and faculty donate their time and money?

Brent Blackwelder, president of Friends of the Earth, spoke on

campus yesterday to help celebrate Earth Week. He talked of the assault on rivers and what positive actions people have done to help the rivers.

"Purchases in energy, transportation and food send a decisive signal to the market," Blackwelder said. "Put these in action at the local, state and federal level."

He gave various examples of how people can take charge—some as simple as making smarter food selections.

"Look at the food choices you make. There is organic food at the markets or go to farmers markets," he said. "Half of the states exempt fertilizer from taxes. Why reward someone for using poison?"

Blackwelder also encouraged people to start asking questions of candidates, even at the local government level, such as council commissioners.

"Call them on it. I think that's what needs to be done," he said.

In the Ohio Basin there is legislation to meet water quality standards by lowering the standards, Blackwelder said.

Friends of the Earth, which is an environmental activist group, has stopped over 200 bad dams and water projects from being built. This has at times saved areas and lives from flooding, along with taxpayer money and local ecosystems.

Blackwelder explained that dams displace the people living in the area. The dams pollute the water, lower the oxygen content

EARTH, PAGE 6



PERPLEXED BY PRAYER: City meetings in Hartville traditionally have started with a spiritual moment, and some council members are not pleased with the situation; **STATE, PAGE 12**

NOT THE MOMMY: This woman pretended to be pregnant with sextuplets — and she's not alone in her deceit, as a recent slew of hoaxes around the nation have shown; **CAMPUS, PAGE 11**



FOUR-DAY FORECAST

The four-day forecast is taken from weather.com

FRIDAY



Mostly Cloudy High: 73° Low: 51°

SATURDAY



Few Showers High: 67° Low: 47°

SUNDAY



Showers High: 62° Low: 47°

MONDAY



Party Cloudy High: 66° Low: 40°

Just put your feet up for the gyno

Knowing what's going on under the sheet may help calm nerves

By Nikki Jardine
REPORTER

Knowing the facts about gynecology and what happens during a pelvic exam could help women feel more comfortable during their first visit.

Elayne Jacoby, nurse practitioner at the student health center, answered questions about gynecology during her

lecture, "Demystifying the GYN Exam," at the brown bag luncheon series, sponsored by the Women's Center.

Jacoby went through the step-by-step process about what a woman can expect during her first pelvic exam and pap test. Jacoby gave the facts, showed all the instruments used, what they are used for and where they go, to the all-female audience yesterday.

"The more information you have and the more you understand, the more comfortable you

are going to be," Jacoby said.

Brittany McDonald, freshman, said having the knowledge beforehand would be beneficial for women going through their first exam.

"Being informed about what they do, I think women would feel more comfortable," McDonald said.

Jacoby said she hoped her presentation would help women, especially those who have never had a pelvic exam or pap test, feel more comfortable when the time comes.

Jen Cradlebaugh, freshman, said knowing what happens would probably help women through their first exam.

"It is a lot more helpful to know about what she's doing and how the whole procedure goes," Cradlebaugh said. Jacoby's knowledge and experience with women's health seemed to gauge the same response from audience member - that knowing about the procedure would make the first exam easier.

"I am a true advocate for women's health care. I really feel

that women need to be empowered to be able to take care of themselves," Jacoby said. "The way to become empowered is to have knowledge, and this is one of the ways to obtain knowledge."

Jacoby assured that only qualified female nurse practitioners do this examination at the Student Health Center. The nurse practitioners are very sensitive about the fears and concerns women may have during

GYNO, PAGE 6



EYE ON THE SKY:

Antarctica will be home to a giant array of Neutrino sensory devices, forming a gigantic new telescope;

PAGE 10

Students struggle with teaching peers

GRADUATE, FROM PAGE 1

upfront that she expects a lot from them and that the class will be working hard, Frendo also lets her students know that she wants them all to have fun as well.

"I let them know that I'm on their side and will do anything to help them out, but they have to be willing to put in the work," Frendo said. "We work hard but have a good time."

When first starting out, however, Frendo was overwhelmed by the maternal feeling she had towards her students.

"In a strange way, I felt as though they were my children and I wanted to see them do well," Frendo said. "I still take it a bit personally when students don't seem to be motivated to try hard."

On top of taking some things more personally that she should, Frendo said she was also overwhelmed by students who confided in her about crises they were going through in their own lives.

"I wasn't prepared emotionally for students to reveal very personal information and it affected, and continues to affect me, deeply," Frendo said. "In a way, it made me feel very good about myself as an educator that they trusted me with such personal stories, but on the other hand, it

was a little hard not to feel overwhelmed."

Reminding herself that she is an instructor and not a counselor, Frendo knew that all she could really do was direct the students to the appropriate services available on campus.

However, subject material also plays a part in which challenges each graduate assistant faces. In Frendo's case, her subject deals with issues such as racism, sexism or homophobia, which may bring more students to confide in her about their personal issues.

But in other cases, these challenges may not be the same.

Confidence comes easily to graduate teacher Brad Gosche, who teaches in the Romance Language Department at BGSU.

"I have never had a problem in any of the classes that I have taught with students my age, younger than me or older than me taking me seriously," Gosche said. "I do my best to set a standard in the first week of classes and go from there with it."

Gosche said that authority doesn't need to be proven, it needs to be obtained.

"In respecting ones students, you earn their respect," he said. "I don't prove an authority, I expect that my students will respect me as the teacher simply because I am in front of the classroom and that I have studied the subject I am teaching them much, much longer than they have."

Gosche's challenges had to do more with prioritizing his time than preparing himself emotionally.

"My biggest challenge was balancing the time it took me to plan for a class that I teach, with the rest of my course work," Gosche said. "Teaching a class takes a lot of preparation and in doing that, I found that I was letting some of my own course work slide."

Whether a graduate student's challenge is internal or external, there are graduate programs for these students aimed at preparing them for these kinds of challenges.

"Programs vary ... there's a course that grad teachers take before they teach their class," said Donald McQuarie, director of the American Culture Studies Program. "Some departments devote more attention to training graduate assistants than other departments."

McQuarie said that past student dissatisfaction with how each department prepared them for teaching lead to the University creating programs specifically aimed at preparing students better.

"The University has really pushed these departments to create these kinds of training programs in the last 10 years or so," McQuarie said.

McQuarie agreed that some graduate assistants may have bigger challenges emotionally than

with the material when facing their first class to teach. However, he said that the course they take that prepares them for teaching aims at helping them through the internal challenges as well as the external ones.

"The biggest job of the teaching course is not so much to prepare students for teaching the material [which they already know] ... it's more to teach them how to handle the class, how to get students active in the classroom," McQuarie said.

He also said it's normal to be nervous the first few days of teaching because no matter how prepared a graduate student is, it's still a tremendous adjustment.

"That's a tough day for even the best trained person," he said.

McQuarie said he greatly enjoys working with the graduate assistants and teachers because they're very dedicated to their work and truly enjoy what they're doing.

"All the teaching assistants I've ever worked with were so excited about teaching the class and prepared way more for the class than an older, more experienced teacher would because everything's new to them," he said.

However, McQuarie said that as the director of his program, he has seen some graduate students who weren't as successful as he would have wanted, adding that it's all about the attitude of the person.



Nathaniel Myers BG News

BITS OF HISTORY: Dinesh D'Souza speaks on international politics concerning Islamic policy worldwide.

Regan aide speaks

SPEECH, FROM PAGE 1

D'Souza also peppered his speech with important bits of history, saying the middle east was not angry at the U.S. for the crusades, and the rumor that Nazi Germany had created the atom bomb resulted in the horrific bombings in Japan during WWII. "Some might ask 'Isn't it contradictory to use coercion to start democracy?' Whenever freedom has come to be, it has been forced," he said.

He went on to say that even though some are concerned the U.S. is "pushing democracy" on foreign countries, democracy has always been forced, going back to the Civil War and post-WWII Germany.

"The U.S. does not have a model country in the middle east that they would like to see spread," he said. "The real question is, 'Can the alien seed of democracy take root in a part of the world that has never known it.'"

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DEADLINE APRIL 21, 2006

STUDENTS HOLD RELIGION WITH HIGH VALUE
 WASHINGTON (KRT)—A majority of college students say religion is important in their lives and they're concerned about the country's moral direction, a finding that could influence the way they vote in upcoming elections, according to a Harvard University Institute of Politics poll that was released Tuesday.

www.bgnews.com/campus
CAMPUS

Learning assessment

Student panel evaluates programs at University; successes

By Brian Pauline
 REPORTER

Dan Stypa feels a success of the University is that he learns through integrating his course material. He and other panelists shared their thoughts on this and other achievements of the University during a panel discussion yesterday.

The panel of 11 was made up of students, faculty, graduate students and former students. Some members of the Board of Regents were in the audience along with Sidney Ribeau and other members of the faculty.

The panel discussion started with a ten-minute video of successful students and projects they are working on. The video chronicled the success of University students and what programs they were in to help them be successful.

When asked how an individual assess their own learning, panel member Asia Johnson, senior, said it is by how much information you retain.

"A lot of times students fall into the trap of just wanting to get a good grade. You may cram a lot of times to get the 'A' but you don't remember anything you just read," Johnson said.

Panelist Dan Stypa, sophomore, said it comes down to all of the things he's learned coming together, how information overlaps in classes and how he retains what he has learned.

"Like in your freshman year when you're taking all those general education requirements and then how all those come together and are part of the bigger pic-

ture," Stypa said.

Panelist Nicole Messmore, junior, agreed that all the information is integrated together. She said her political science class overlaps in almost all her other classes and by seeing how her classes can overlap, she can assess how much she is learning.

Another way she can see she is learning is being able to apply her knowledge to real life situations and questions.

As a graduate student, Deanna Vaden Woodhouse also applies what she's learned in real life with her students.

She learns by "seeing all those theories that I read and write about and bringing them to life with my students," Woodhouse said.

As a faculty member, John Farver, associate professor of geology and the director of the Office of Undergraduate Research, assesses his growth by feedback from his students. He does this through mentorship and friendship with his students. When Farver got invited to a student's wedding and had a fun time,

and knew he made an impact on that student's life.

"Student's may hate you when they're taking that course, but they do come back and tell you that was the most meaningful course," Farver said.

What is key, according to Farver, is maintaining high standards with your students because when you lower standards for students, you are selling them out.

Joe Phillips, junior, did not find it interesting listening to the panel discussion.

"I really didn't learn anything. It was interesting listening to what people were saying though," Phillips said.

"A lot of times students fall into the trap of just wanting to get a good grade."

ASIA JOHNSON, SENIOR

ASIA JOHNSON SENIOR



JESSICA COATS FRESHMAN



JOHN FARVER ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR



DONNA NELSON-BEENE DIRECTOR



ZACH HILPERT GSS PRESIDENT



NICOLE MESSMORE JUNIOR



get a life

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 E-mail thenews@bgnews.com at least four days in advance. Events taken primarily from <http://events.bgsu.edu/>

8:30 a.m. - 3:15 p.m.

The Social Contexts of Adolescence
 The Center for Family & Demographic Research presents a conference, "The Social Contexts of Adolescence." Guest speakers are: Jacquelynn Eccles, McKeachie collegiate professor of psychology, University of Michigan; Ronald Simons, distinguished research professor, University of Georgia; Robert Crosnoe, associate professor of sociology, University of Texas at Austin; and Peggy Giordano, distinguished research professor of sociology, BGSU. No registration fee.
 206 Union

9 - 11 a.m.

Football Ticket Sales
 Athletics will be selling tickets for the Sept. 2 BGSU-Wisconsin Football Game.
 Union Lobby

9 - 11 a.m.; 3 - 6 p.m.

"Race Matters" Petition
 Sponsored by Ethnic Studies
 Union Lobby

9 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Book Scholarship Raffle
 Sponsored by Men's Chorus
 Union Lobby

10 a.m.

BGeXperience Introduction, Campus Wide
 BGeXperience Introduction is mandatory for all new freshman. Sessions begin on Friday, August 18, 2006 at 10 a.m. and conclude on Sunday, August 20 at 5:30 p.m. Please refer to the BGeXperience Web site at <http://www.bgsu.edu/bgexperience> or check your MyBGSU account for specific times and location meetings. For more information contact: BGeXperience, 419-372-7247
 Department of Theatre
 Union Lobby

10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Beyond BG Info Table
 Sponsored by Student Alumni Connection
 Union Lobby

10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Pizza Hut Fundraiser
 Sponsored by College Republicans

Union Lobby

10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Ticket and T-shirt Sales
 Sponsored by African People's Assoc.
 Union Lobby

10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Race Against AIDS Info Table
 Sponsored by Kenya 5K Benefit Run
 Union Lobby

11 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

2006 BGSU Rock, Paper, Scissors Championship
 Sponsored by Creed on Campus
 Union Lobby

11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Raffle of Omar Jacobs' Autographed Football
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 Union Lobby

11 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Believe in BG Senior Gift Campaign Info Table
 Sponsored by the Alumni Assoc.
 Union Lobby



Gamma Sigma Alpha - National Greek Academic Honor Society

Office of Residence Life/Greek Affairs congratulates the following 30 Spring 2006 inductees representing the top 3% of BGSU Greeks academically

MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENTS
 Junior or Senior Status

3.50 cumulative GPA or achieve a 3.50 semesterly GPA

- | | |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Ashley Box | Chi Omega |
| Aliya Beavers (graduate initiate) | Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. |
| Colleen Burke | Chi Omega |
| Kelly Clarson | Alpha Phi |
| Brandy Churney | Delta Gamma |
| Matthew DeStephen | Delta Chi |
| Nicole Drum | Delta Gamma |
| Steven Dutton | Alpha Sigma Phi |
| Kathleen Fish | Sigma Kappa |
| Elizabeth Fraley | Pi Beta Phi |
| Emily Garrett | Chi Omega |
| Aimee Golub | Alpha Phi |
| Ashley Harper | Alpha Chi Omega |
| Katherine Hartman | Alpha Phi Omega |
| Maegan Horinek | Delta Gamma |
| Daniel Konopinski | Sigma Phi Epsilon |
| Kenneth Kozlosky | Alpha Phi Omega |
| Joseph Litzinger | Kappa Alpha Order |
| Vanessa Malone | Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. |
| Katie Mathies | Chi Omega |
| Amber Nelson | Alpha Omicron Pi |
| Kyle Pechak | Pi Kappa Tau |
| Alana Price | Alpha Gamma Delta |
| Lindsay Roadruck | Alpha Chi Omega |
| Meredit Sayre | Alpha Omicron Pi |
| Douglas Slovak | Delta Chi |
| Rebecca Sponseller | Alpha Gamma Delta |
| Jennifer Steelman | Alpha Chi Omega |
| Kevin Thompson (graduate initiate) | Cleo Literary Society |
| Erin Wells | Delta Gamma |

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Congratulations to the 2006 Greek God and Goddess:

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Erin Kirk
 Alpha Chi Omega

On behalf of the sisters of Delta Zeta, thank you to all of the chapters who participated in the event.

Thank you!

St. Thomas More University Parish Catholic Newman Club thanks all of the sponsors for Spring Break 2006! Without your generous support, BG students would not have had the opportunity to give a week of service in Naugatuck, West Virginia. Thank you!

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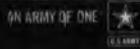
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QUOTE/UNQUOTE

"We ... served under a secretary of defense who didn't understand leadership, who was abusive, who was arrogant, and who didn't build a strong team."

Maj. Gen. John Batiste, calling for Donald Rumsfeld's resignation
(newsweek.com)

www.bgnews.com/opinion

OPINION

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA LOS ANGELES | THE DAILY BRUIN

LGBT history to be in textbooks

Where did you first learn about the Civil Rights Movement or Native Americans? The answer for many of us is similar. We learned history in schools and from our textbooks.

History could soon become more complete, pending a decision by the California State Senate.

A bill sponsored by Sen. Sheila Kuehl, D-Santa Monica, would require publishers to include gay and lesbian history in public school textbooks.

YOU DECIDE

Do you think LGBT history should be included in textbooks? Send an e-mail to thenews@bgnews.com and tell us what you think, or post feedback on our Web site.

The bill would be an addition to the current state law, which requires that "men, women, black Americans, American Indians, Mexicans, Asians, Pacific Island

people and other ethnic groups" be included in textbook descriptions of "the economic, political and social development of California and the United States, with particular emphasis on portraying the role of these groups in contemporary society."

Though it's always preferred for social change to be initiated by the people, rather than mandated by the state, curriculum guidelines already exist and efforts to make them more inclusive shouldn't be pushed to the wayside.

The LGBT community has been a prominent part of recent history, and many have gone as far as comparing the magnitude of the gay rights movement to that of the Civil Rights Movement.

Textbook publishers say they'll make books inclusive of LGBT history for California, which represents 12 percent of the national textbook market. But they'll also continue to make textbooks that don't include it for states that choose to deliberately exclude it. We can't erase a group and their

relevance to our society from history. This omission gives legitimacy to stereotypes and marginalizes a group still struggling to gain rights in society.

Opponents of the bill are scared there's more to this bill than teaching history. They're worried their children will be indoctrinated to become proponents of gay rights as a result of such curriculum changes. They contend the bill is the result of the LGBT community pushing their agenda, rather than the

need for a more honest portrayal of American history.

On the other hand, the American Academy of Pediatrics policy states that environments critical of gay people interfere with the development of gay youth.

For parents who are worried homosexuality will become "mainstream," we are more worried about how their kids will treat kids who are different from them once they leave the arms of their parents.

Participation grades don't help

CEZARY PODKUL

U-Wire Columnist
Daily Pennsylvanian
University of Pennsylvania

Raise your hand in a classroom with 70 students and chances are you won't get called on.

Rewarding students a percentage of their grade for class participation is a great way to encourage lively class discussion. But many professors fail to realize there is a hard limit to the effectiveness of class participation grades: In lecture classes of 50-70 students, large class participation requirements are both unfair and detrimental to quality class discussion.

Despite their differences in size, there is a bias which exists in both seminar and lecture settings when it comes to class discussions: Professors tend to call on the same person.

Just ask Ray Win, a senior who spent several semesters as a

teaching assistant for a large lecture course. Every time a student raised her hand, he would mark it on the class participation sheet and award points for the quality of the comment made.

"There is that tendency for professors to call on the same people, but it is not done purposefully. The professor sees their hand go up while everyone else is silent, and it just happens," said Win.

When, on a good day, 20 out of the 70 people get called on in class, it's unfair for the professor to let the guy in the front of the room talk three or four times.

The sheer size of class participation requirements makes it worse. When it's a mere 5 percent, it's no big deal; but when it counts for 25-30 percent of the grade in a lecture hall filled with ambitious minds, it encourages a rat race more than an intellectual class discussion.

Raise your hand and say something — anything — just to get your points in for the day. That's when you get profound classroom comments that are

simply regurgitations of previous comments, followed by some kind of tangent.

Having a TA count the number of times people speak up in class results in a preference for quantity over quality. Even when people are rated on the quality of the comments, it is exceedingly easy to game the system: If a quality comment counts for two points while an average comment counts for one point, just keep raising your hand to say gibberish, and you'll end up on top.

Clearly, class-participation schemes are not scalable to a large classroom. They work well in foreign-language classes and small seminars where it is easy for the professor to keep track of faces, names and comments made, but there is a limit. So perhaps it is best to keep class participation requirements small when applied to large lectures.

And if you agree, then raise your hand — you might get some quality participation points for bringing this topic up for class discussion.

PEOPLE ON THE STREET

What's your plan for studying for finals?



JULIE HACK
JUNIOR, ENGLISH & HISTORY
"I only have one final, so I'm not."



MIKE PLENSLER
SENIOR, ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE
"What finals?"



MEGAN GAJEWSKI
SENIOR, GRAPHIC DESIGN
"There's no studying involved."



LEWIS SMITH
SENIOR, HISTORY
"Upside down, by osmosis."

Criticism against Rumsfeld unfair



DAN LIPIAN
Opinion Columnist

In "The Godfather," Don Vito Corleone tells his son he wants him to be the person "pulling the strings," controlling the masses like puppets, too blind to realize they're being subverted.

In light of recent events, it seems as though the military is engaging in this puppetry, obfuscating fact in favor of playing politics.

A few days ago, former Clinton CENTCOM (United States Central Command) commander Anthony Zinni criticized Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld's handling of the Iraq War, decrying "We grow up in a culture where accountability, learning to accept responsibility, admitting mistakes and learning from them was critical to us. Poor military judgment has been used throughout this mission."

Zinni further elucidated "What bothered me...[was that] I was hearing a depiction of the intelligence that didn't fit what I knew. There was no solid proof, that I ever saw, that Saddam had WMD."

Zinni's statement is merely one of numerous anti-Rumsfeld tirades that have come to light from ex-generals the past week.

What's so interesting about Zinni's remarks is that in early 2000, he told Congress "Iraq remains the most significant near-term threat to U.S. interests in the Arabian Gulf region," adding, "Iraq probably is continuing clandestine nuclear research, [and] retains stocks of chemical and biological munitions...Even if Baghdad reversed its course and surrendered all WMD capabilities, it retains scientific, technical, and industrial infrastructure to replace agents and munitions within weeks or months."

Why would an ex-general, who pledged to be honorable, contradict his own statements knowing his current assertions are mere folly?

The most probable reason would be that, in their intense disdain towards Rumsfeld, a small group of individuals are plotting an all out assault, engaging in false rhetoric to further their absurd claims.

Think I'm crazy? Think again. In Sunday's Washington Post, Richard Holbrook, a former Clinton ambassador to the U.N. and a very well-connected individual, published an article titled "Behind the Military Revolt." In

it, Holbrook asserts there will be an increasing number of retired generals speaking out against Rumsfeld. Then he goes on to remark "If more angry generals emerge—and they will—if some of them are on active duty, as seems probable...then this storm will continue until it consumes [Donald Rumsfeld]."

Holbrook suggests there may be a "revolt" of several generals against the Secretary of Defense in what he calls "the most serious public confrontation between the military and the administration since...Harry Truman fired Gen. Douglas MacArthur."

Holbrook's musings show the scope of politics extends to all corners of the social spectrum, even into the military, which purportedly is unbiased.

While Holbrook's article could be dismissed as hearsay, the possible validity just makes too much sense to dismiss as conspiratorial.

After all, the constant stream of attacks against the Bush Administration has been at a fever pitch for months and it seems too convenient that all of the sudden high ranking military officials want to join the charge.

Upcoming "revolts" described by Holbrook would implicate "so-called patriots" in a clear violation of the Uniform Code of Military Justice. According to Article 94—The Mutiny and Sedition Text, "Any person...who, with intent to cause the overthrow or destruction of lawful civil authority, creates, in concert with any other person, revolt, violence, or other disturbance against that authority is guilty of sedition."

Hopefully, the appropriate action will be taken.

Yet, there's even more at stake here. If we cannot trust officers in our military, then who can we trust?

This is a dangerous time for our country, which sees radical fascists wanting to kill Americans. The obfuscation of facts by those who purport to protect us will only lead to further bloodshed and confusion here at home. Worse still, everyday Americans are not being told this type of activity is occurring. If Americans want this to stop, we must avoid blindly accepting this duplicity as substantive. If we do not, then the analogy of "The Godfather" may hold true for us. We may simply become puppets on a string, too blind to understand we are being subverted.

Is that what we want?
Send comments to Dan at dli pian@bgsu.edu.

Exam week not all about studies



TAYLOR COPELAND
Opinion Columnist

Benjamin Franklin once said, "In this world, nothing is certain but death and taxes." But he forgot another inevitable part of life for college students: finals.

They are right around the corner and that means some students are in serious trouble.

Don't panic yet. There's still some hope for those who haven't opened a textbook all semester.

If you spend a few hours the night before an exam cramming, you should be able to retain some important information — if you're lucky.

Who am I kidding? If you haven't kept up with the main concepts covered in your notes, all the studying in the world isn't enough to save you.

Studying for finals is about as exciting as getting a root canal. In many cases, cram sessions can prove to be as pointless as Braille on drive up ATMs.

I mean, you can't learn the complete works of Shakespeare in one night. So you're better off putting your time to better use.

I understand studying is an important part of finals week. Why else would residence halls adopt 24 hour quiet hours? I also

know there comes a point where your brain just can't take anymore. Odds are, if you didn't learn it in hour seven of studying, there's no way you'll suddenly get it during hour 23. Everyone needs to set aside some time to relax and, trust me, when it comes to finals, you'll be amazed at all the possible ways you can come up with to avoid studying.

Just in case you find yourself at a loss for ideas on how to not study, I'll offer some suggestions.

You can take part in the Ben and Jerry's one-gallon challenge. This is where you consume eight different flavored pints of Ben and Jerry's ice cream by the time you finish your last exam. If you complete the challenge, walk down to the Marble Slab Creamery and reward yourself with another cone.

If that doesn't interest you, try celebrating summer birthdays early. Throw surprise parties for all your friends whose birthdays you'll miss over summer break.

Other ways to keep from studying include teaching yourself stupid tricks. They may be ridiculous, but boy are they impressive. Who wouldn't want to learn how to do a back flip or burp the entire alphabet backwards?

Of course, there's always Web sites such as Facebook.com and Myspace.com to distract you from your studies. When you're done updating your profile to include your newest friends, be sure to

write a blog about it, even if you did just write one an hour ago.

If you make it through all those ideas, you can always avoid studying by brushing up on your pig latin. O nay Tudyng say Or fay E may, Hanks tay.

But on a more serious note, finals week is the opportune time to pack for home, de-loft your bed and give back any silverware that you may have accidentally acquired from Dining Services.

Your last week at the University should be a time to reflect on how you've changed over the year and reminisce with others about the great times you've shared. You shouldn't be stressed out about another test you have to take.

So take it from the girl who took an eight hour final her first semester of college — you won't remember what questions are on your exam. What you'll remember are the deep conversations you've had with the people across the hall. When you look back on this year it won't be the hours of studying for your chemistry final you recall, but rather the hours spent laughing with friends.

Enjoy your finals week and don't spend it all studying. Exams may be inevitable now, but they will soon be over and it will be the beginning of a brand new academic year.

Send comments to Taylor at tdcopel@bgsu.edu.

BG NEWS

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

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

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

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

MERCK'S VIOXX PROVES COSTLY FOR COMPANY
 RIO GRANDE CITY, Texas (AP) — state judge yesterday refused a plaintiff's motion to lift a Texas cap on jury awards for punitive damages in a lawsuit over Merck & Co.'s once-popular painkiller Vioxx. State District Judge Alex Gabert ruled in the lawsuit brought by a family of a retired 71-year-old man seeking \$1 billion.

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NATION

Trade deficits keep growing



I. Scott Applewhite AP Photo
OVAL OFFICE: Bush names his top economic adviser, Ben Bernanke, right, to become the new chairman of the Federal Reserve Board.

By Jeannine Aversa
 THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
 WASHINGTON — Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke is warning anew of the potential risks to the economy posed by persistent and large trade and budget deficits.
 Bernanke's comments came in a written response to questions on these matters by Rep. Brad Sherman, D-Calif.
 The United States racked up a \$723.6 billion trade deficit last year, the fourth in a row where the annual shortfall set a record.
 "Although U.S. trade deficits cannot continue to widen forever, these deficits need not engender a precipitous decline in the dollar, nor should such a decline, were it to occur, necessarily disrupt financial markets, production or employment," Bernanke wrote in a letter released Wednesday.
 "However, the possibility of a future disruptive correction of the U.S. trade deficit cannot be ruled out," he said. The letter was

dated Tuesday.
 Bernanke has urged policy-makers to take steps to trim both the trade deficit and the budget deficit, which reached \$319 billion last year.
 This year, the White House is projecting the deficit will swell to \$423 billion, which would set a record in dollar terms.
 "I believe that reducing the federal deficit is very important especially in the light of the need to prepare for the retirement of the baby boom generation," Bernanke wrote.
 "I urge Congress to proceed on that effort in a timely manner and to pay particular attention to how its decisions on spending and tax programs will affect the U.S. economy over the long run."

Violence in Iraq will end slowly, says Rice

By Tara Burghart
 THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
 CHICAGO — Even assuming Iraq forms a national government, there will be no sudden stop to violence such as the V-E Day that formally marked the end of World War II in Europe, Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice said yesterday.
 Speaking to the Chicago Council on Foreign Relations, Rice said peace would come gradually to Iraq, which the United States invaded more than three years ago. Efforts by Iraqi leaders to form a national unity government have been stalled.
 "Americans must be prepared for violence to continue in Iraq, even after a government

is formed. There will be no Iraqi equivalent of V-E Day or V-J Day," Rice said, referring to the days of Victory in Europe and Victory in Japan in 1945.
 "Rather, peace will be secured as more and more Iraqis recognize that the democratic process is open to them and that politics, not violence, is the best way to achieve their interests and redress their grievances," she said. "This is how democracy will conquer terrorism, but it will do so gradually."
 Under U.S. pressure, Iraqi leaders said they would convene parliament today in hopes of jump-starting the formation of a new unity government.

IRAQ, PAGE 9

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Health center can help make exam visit relaxing

GYNO, FROM PAGE 2

an exam, whether or not it is the first time they have had the exam.

Being honest about medical history, sexual history and family history is important for the nurse practitioners to know and Jacoby emphasizes that they do not pass any kind of judgment about any questions or answers you have.

Cradlebaugh has used student health services and said the nurse practitioners have made her feel more comfortable than doctor's.

"They're more personal and you can relate to them better than a doctor," Cradlebaugh said.

McDonald's said the nurse

practitioners seems to be very helpful which makes going to the Health Center easier.

"There's so much that they do- anything that you need, they're there," McDonald said.

As a registered nurse, with certification in adult health, Jacoby has over 20 years of experience as a nurse practitioner, but reminds the audience she goes through the same experience, being a woman.

"They're more personal and you can relate to them better than a doctor."

JEN CRADLEBAUGH, FRESHMAN

"Remember, I'm on the table myself every year, so I know what it feels like," Jacoby said.

Aside from explaining the details of the exams, Jacoby gave the new recommendation for when women should get

their first exams. While it used to be once a year from the time women turn 18 or after the first sexual intercourse, it is now recommended to go three years after first intercourse or at the age of 21.

While this is only the recommendation, women should know it's perfectly OK to go anytime before that.

The importance of having a yearly exam, especially for sexually active women, is to monitor any changes that may occur with sexually transmitted infections or even just vaginal infections. Sexually transmitted disease such as the high-risk HPV can cause abnormal cells on the cervix and should be monitored or treated.

The exam isn't necessarily focused on reproductive health, as Jacoby said they check the skin, ears, thyroid, lungs, glands and other body parts, to make sure nothing seems abnormal.

Solutions for planet found everywhere

EARTH, FROM PAGE 1

and release major greenhouse gases due to vegetation jamming up and decaying.

"I saw an engineering threat with all the damming and dredging and that moved me to start American Rivers to conserve these beautiful rivers. Today 33 states have Scenic Rivers programs in place," Blackwelder said.

Sylvia Lindinger-Sternart, grad student, was at the talk because she "has a heart for environmental issues."

She is also an international student from Austria and said attitudes toward the environment in her home country are different than in the U.S.

"Austria really take care of the environment with a lot of programs to promote the environment such as alternate energy programs," she said.

The difference between Austria and the United States was evident in attitudes during talks for the

Kyoto Protocol.

The Kyoto Protocol was an agreement between industrialized nations to try to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

"I was disappointed the U.S. did not sign the Kyoto Agreement," Lindinger-Sternart said.

Lindinger-Sternart said the U.S. government should support environmental programs such as the wind energy program here in Bowling Green.

"Students are wanting to take advantage of wind power but do not have enough money," she said. "I would like to see assistance to afford it."

She explained that in Austria if people take advantage of an alternative energy, such as solar or wind power, they get an incentive from the government to help offset the cost.

Janet Richards, an University alumni with a degree in environmental studies, feels Bowling Green prepared her very well for her jobs.

"I transferred in from Ohio State University, at that time they did not have a program I wanted. BGSU had a program already established concerning environmental studies," Richards said. "I come back to take advantage of the lecture series. Bowling Green is progressive and proactive."

At the talk Blackwelder also stated his vision of the future of environmentalism in the U.S.

"I have four major visions for clean water in the U.S. One is a clean energy future. Two is a clean green chemistry future that takes us away from chemicals," he said. "The third is the undoing of the wrongs of the Army Corps of Engineers. Four is a new vision for agriculture."

BG NEWS

BRIEFING

THE BG NEWS

Community mourns death of student

A University junior and President of Lambda Chi Alpha fraternity died yesterday morning after suffering critical injuries in a car crash in the early morning hours of Sunday.

Tom Hayn, 21, was being treated at MetroHealth Medical Center in Cleveland.

"He was the go-to guy, the guy you could always count on for anything," said Kevin Schmit, vice president of external affairs for Lambda Chi Alpha.



TOM HAYN JUNIOR

"The whole Greek community has come together to support our fraternity and Tom's family and friends during this tragedy."

Hayn was returning to his home in Parma, Ohio, just after 1:30 a.m. Sunday when a black 2000 Oldsmobile Alero, traveling "at a high rate of speed" according to Parma Heights police, ran a red light and struck Hayn's 1994 Olds Cutlass.

The collision struck Hayn's Cutlass on the passenger side, spinning it out of control and into a traffic light pole.

The Alero's driver admitted to drinking alcoholic beverages before driving, but charges are still pending until police wait for blood test results.

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Pablo Martinez Monsivais AP Photo

PARENTS OF THE MURDERER: Dave Clark, left, and his wife Terry Clark, of Tucson, Ariz., stand outside the Supreme Court in Washington.

Slain cop confused for extraterrestrial

By Gina Holland
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — Supreme Court justices rarely talk about Martians.

But on Wednesday, extraterrestrials were at the heart of a case brought by a schizophrenic teenager who says he killed an Arizona police officer because he thought the lawman was a space alien.

Until now, the high court has avoided challenges to insanity defense laws, even as states around the country toughened their laws following John Hinckley's acquittal by reason of insanity in the 1981 shooting of President Reagan.

It was a surprise when justices agreed to review Eric Michael Clark's case, and they seemed uninterested Wednesday in broadly addressing the constitutional rights of psychotic criminal defendants whose lawyers want them sentenced to psychiatric

facilities instead of prisons.

Court members, however, did repeatedly refer to the unusual facts of Clark's case, signaling that they are likely to rule very narrowly. He was a popular football star until he became convinced that aliens had taken over his town, Flagstaff, Ariz., as a "platinum city" and that his own parents were aliens.

Justices David H. Souter and Stephen Breyer both mentioned Martians.

Justices John Paul Stevens questioned whether someone who thought he was on a mission to kill space aliens could receive the death penalty for killing a person instead.

When Arizona lawyer Randall Howe said that the slain officer was wearing a uniform and driving a police cruiser, Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg said that Clark's lawyer "wants to introduce (evi-

INSANITY, PAGE 9

Expensive gas here to stay

By Brad Foss
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — Oil prices leapt above \$72 a barrel yesterday, settling at a record high for the third straight day, after a government report showed shrinking U.S. gasoline supplies and traders fretted about nuclear tensions between Iran and the international community.

Supply constraints in Iraq, Nigeria and the Gulf of Mexico are also pushing oil prices higher, and analysts are predicting more pain at the pump this summer for motorists, who so far appear to be only lightly tapping the brakes on demand.

Light sweet crude for May delivery climbed as high as \$72.40 a barrel, before settling at \$72.17 on the New York Mercantile Exchange, an increase of 82 cents from the previous day. The contract had risen as high as \$71.60 on Tuesday.

Oil futures contracts through July 2009 are now trading above \$70 a barrel. "In effect, the market is saying this is going to be

with us for a while," said A.G. Edwards & Sons commodity analyst Bill O'Grady.

In its weekly report, the U.S. Energy Department said the nation's supply of gasoline shrank by a larger-than-expected 5.4 million barrels last week to 202.5 million barrels. It was the seventh straight weekly decline, leaving inventories 4.6 percent below year ago levels.

Gasoline inventories typically decrease this time of year as refiners shut down their plants to perform maintenance ahead of the summer driving season. And oil traders typically point to the decreases as reason for concern about summertime supplies, a routine that, more often than not, sends futures prices higher.

That said, there is additional worry about summer gasoline supplies because of the pros-

pect of tight supplies of ethanol, which is needed in increasing amounts as refiners phase out their use of methyl tertiary butyl ether, or MTBE, which has been found to contaminate drinking water.

"In effect, the market is saying this is going to be with us for a while."

BILL O'GRADY, A.G. EDWARDS & SONS

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Dirt Pudding with Jelly Worms

Health center can help make exam visit relaxing

GYNO, FROM PAGE 2

an exam, whether or not it is the first time they have had the exam.

Being honest about medical history, sexual history and family history is important for the nurse practitioners to know and Jacoby emphasizes that they do not pass any kind of judgment about any questions or answers you have.

Cradlebaugh has used student health services and said the nurse practitioners have made her feel more comfortable than doctor's.

"They're more personal and you can relate to them better than a doctor," Cradlebaugh said.

McDonald's said the nurse

practitioners seems to be very helpful which makes going to the Health Center easier.

"There's so much that they do- anything that you need, they're there," McDonald said.

As a registered nurse, with certification in adult health, Jacoby has over 20 years of experience as a nurse practitioner, but reminds the audience she goes through the same experience, being a woman.

"Remember, I'm on the table myself every year, so I know what it feels like," Jacoby said.

Aside from explaining the details of the exams, Jacoby gave the new recommendation for when women should get

their first exams. While it used to be once a year from the time women turn 18 or after the first sexual intercourse, it is now recommended to go three years after first intercourse or at the age of 21.

While this is only the recommendation, women should know it's perfectly OK to go anytime before that.

The importance of having a yearly exam, especially for sexually active women, is to monitor any changes that may occur with sexually transmitted infections or even just vaginal infections. Sexually transmitted disease such as the high-risk HPV can cause abnormal cells on the cervix and should be monitored or treated.

The exam isn't necessarily focused on reproductive health, as Jacoby said they check the skin, ears, thyroid, lungs, glands and other body parts, to make sure nothing seems abnormal.

"They're more personal and you can relate to them better than a doctor."

JEN CRADLEBAUGH, FRESHMAN

Solutions for planet found everywhere

EARTH, FROM PAGE 1

and release major greenhouse gases due to vegetation jamming up and decaying.

"I saw an engineering threat with all the damming and dredging and that moved me to start American Rivers to conserve these beautiful rivers. Today 33 states have Scenic Rivers programs in place," Blackwelder said.

Sylvia Lindinger-Sternart, grad student, was at the talk because she "has a heart for environmental issues."

She is also an international student from Austria and said attitudes toward the environment in her home country are different then in the U.S.

"Austria really take care of the environment with a lot of programs to promote the environment such as alternate energy programs," she said.

The difference between Austria and the United States was evident in attitudes during talks for the

Kyoto Protocol.

The Kyoto Protocol was an agreement between industrialized nations to try to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

"I was disappointed the U.S. did not sign the Kyoto Agreement," Lindinger-Sternart said.

Lindinger-Sternart said the U.S. government should support environmental programs such as the wind energy program here in Bowling Green.

"Students are wanting to take advantage of wind power but do not have enough money," she said. "I would like to see assistance to afford it."

She explained that in Austria if people take advantage of an alternative energy, such as solar or wind power, they get an incentive from the government to help offset the cost.

Janet Richards, an University alumni with a degree in environmental studies, feels Bowling Green prepared her very well for her jobs.

"I transferred in from Ohio State University, at that time they did not have a program I wanted. BGSU had a program already established concerning environmental studies," Richards said. "I come back to take advantage of the lecture series. Bowling Green is progressive and proactive."

At the talk Blackwelder also stated his vision of the future of environmentalism in the U.S.

"I have four major visions for clean water in the U.S. One is a clean energy future. Two is a clean green chemistry future that takes us away from chemicals," he said. "The third is the undoing of the wrongs of the Army Corps of Engineers. Four is a new vision for agriculture."

BG NEWS

BRIEFING

THE BG NEWS

Community mourns death of student

A University junior and President of Lambda Chi Alpha fraternity died yesterday morning after suffering critical injuries in a car crash in the early morning hours of Sunday.

Tom Hayn, 21, was being treated at MetroHealth Medical Center in Cleveland.

"He was the go-to guy, the guy you could

count on for anything," said Kevin Schmit, vice president of external affairs for Lambda Chi Alpha. "The whole Greek community has come together to support our fraternity and Tom's family and friends during this tragedy."

Hayn was returning to his home in Parma, Ohio, just after 1:30 a.m. Sunday when a black 2000 Oldsmobile Alero, traveling "at a high rate of speed" according to Parma Heights police, ran a red light and struck Hayn's 1994 Olds Cutlass.

The collision struck Hayn's Cutlass on the passenger side, spinning it out of control and into a traffic light pole.

The Alero's driver admitted to drinking alcoholic beverages before driving, but charges are still pending until police wait for blood test results.



TOM HAYN JUNIOR

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Pablo Martinez Monsivais AP Photo

PARENTS OF THE MURDERER: Dave Clark, left, and his wife Terry Clark, of Tucson, Ariz., stand outside the Supreme Court in Washington.

Slain cop confused for extraterrestrial

By Gina Holland
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — Supreme Court justices rarely talk about Martians.

But on Wednesday, extraterrestrials were at the heart of a case brought by a schizophrenic teenager who says he killed an Arizona police officer because he thought the lawman was a space alien.

Until now, the high court has avoided challenges to insanity defense laws, even as states around the country toughened their laws following John Hinckley's acquittal by reason of insanity in the 1981 shooting of President Reagan.

It was a surprise when justices agreed to review Eric Michael Clark's case, and they seemed uninterested Wednesday in broadly addressing the constitutional rights of psychotic criminal defendants whose lawyers want them sentenced to psychiatric

facilities instead of prisons.

Court members, however, did repeatedly refer to the unusual facts of Clark's case, signaling that they are likely to rule very narrowly. He was a popular football star until he became convinced that aliens had taken over his town, Flagstaff, Ariz., as a "platinum city" and that his own parents were aliens.

Justices David H. Souter and Stephen Breyer both mentioned Martians.

Justices John Paul Stevens questioned whether someone who thought he was on a mission to kill space aliens could receive the death penalty for killing a person instead.

When Arizona lawyer Randall Howe said that the slain officer was wearing a uniform and driving a police cruiser, Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg said that Clark's lawyer "wants to introduce (evi-

Expensive gas here to stay

By Brad Foss
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — Oil prices leapt above \$72 a barrel yesterday, settling at a record high for the third straight day, after a government report showed shrinking U.S. gasoline supplies and traders fretted about nuclear tensions between Iran and the international community.

Supply constraints in Iraq, Nigeria and the Gulf of Mexico are also pushing oil prices higher, and analysts are predicting more pain at the pump this summer for motorists, who so far appear to be only lightly tapping the brakes on demand.

Light sweet crude for May delivery climbed as high as \$72.40 a barrel, before settling at \$72.17 on the New York Mercantile Exchange, an increase of 82 cents from the previous day. The contract had risen as high as \$71.60 on Tuesday.

Oil futures contracts through July 2009 are now trading above \$70 a barrel. "In effect, the market is saying this is going to be

with us for a while," said A.G. Edwards & Sons commodity analyst Bill O'Grady.

In its weekly report, the U.S. Energy Department said the nation's supply of gasoline shrank by a larger-than-expected 5.4 million barrels last week to 202.5 million barrels. It was the seventh straight weekly decline, leaving inventories 4.6 percent below year ago levels.

Gasoline inventories typically decrease this time of year as refiners shut down their plants to perform maintenance ahead of the summer driving season. And oil traders typically point to the decreases as reason for concern about summertime supplies, a routine that, more often than not, sends futures prices higher.

That said, there is additional worry about summer gasoline supplies because of the prospect of tight supplies of ethanol, which is needed in increasing amounts as refiners phase out their use of methyl tertiary butyl ether, or MTBE, which has been found to contaminate drinking water.

Oil analyst John Kilduff of Fimat USA in New York said there would be a "painful runup" in gasoline prices as summer approaches, and he said oil prices could rise as high as \$80 a barrel by the end of June.

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BILL O'GRADY, A.G. EDWARDS & SONS

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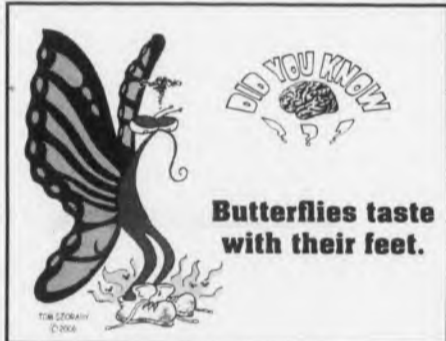
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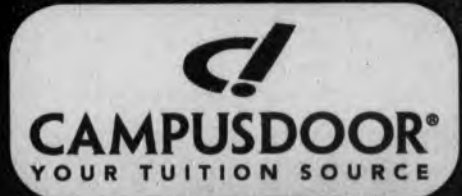
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China requests trade

President Hu willing to work with the U.S. to increase trading

By Elizabeth M. Gillespie
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

EVERETT, Wash. — Chinese President Hu Jintao called yesterday for fewer trade barriers and closer ties between his country and the United States, while defending China's heavily criticized policies on trade, currency and energy.

The meaty speech followed a warm welcome at Boeing Co., where Hu sought to soothe tensions over the U.S.-China trade deficit, telling workers his country would need thousands of new airplanes in the coming years.

Speaking to an audience of Washington state business and political leaders including Microsoft Corp. Chairman Bill Gates, Hu said his company does not seek a big trade surplus with the U.S. He also reaffirmed his government's commitment to crack down on software piracy, which should increase Microsoft's sales in China.

"Strong business ties meet the fundamental interests of our two countries and peoples and will continue to play an important role in stabilizing our relations," Hu said through a translator. He flew to Washington D.C. shortly after the speech.

China's rapid growth and development will increase demand for American products and expertise in areas such as technology, Hu said, and "I hope the American businesses will seize the opportunities."

The comments came just ahead of a summit with President Bush, where the two sides plan to tackle thorny issues including trade.

Visiting Boeing's widebody jet assembly plant earlier, he called his country's long-running relationship with Boeing an example of the potential of



Matt Brashears AP Photo

U.S.-CHINA TRADE SUPPORTERS: Jiantao Pan, right, tries to moderate an argument that escalated with a Falun Gong demonstrator Tuesday.

China-U.S. trade.

"Boeing's cooperation with China is a living example of the mutually beneficial cooperation and win-win outcome that China and the United States have achieved from trade with each other," Hu said.

He estimated that demand for new aircraft in China will reach 2,000 planes in the next 15 years.

Hu's speech at the company's massive Everett plant came just days after Chinese officials confirmed a commitment to order 80 Boeing 737 jets, in a deal valued at \$5.2 billion at list prices. The order has yet to be finalized, and airlines typically negotiate discounts.

The Boeing deal is one of several purchases the Chinese have announced recently as officials try to ease tensions over the massive trade gap between the U.S. and China.

Hu's meeting Thursday with Bush will cover a broad agenda, from China's much-criticized currency and other trade policies, to its aggressive search for

oil and its positions on the developing nuclear programs in Iran and North Korea.

At his lunchtime speech, Hu touched on several of those issues, defending Chinese currency and energy policy but acknowledging that there have been bumps in the road.

"Given the rapid growth, sheer size and wide scope of our business ties, it is hardly avoidable that some problems have occurred," Hu said. "However, mutually beneficial cooperation and common development remain the defining feature of our business relations."

Hu said China takes its trade imbalance with the U.S. seriously, and noted that his country has trade deficits with Japan, Korea and some southeast Asian countries.

Hu promised that China will take a firm stance protecting intellectual property. He also said his country has already taken some steps to loosen currency regulation and promote financial reforms, in apparent

"Strong business ties meet the fundamental interests of our two countries ..."

HU JINTAO,
CHINESE PRESIDENT

Justices question insanity

INSANITY, FROM PAGE 6

Ruth Bader Ginsburg said that Clark's lawyer "wants to introduce (evidence) on the other side, 'I had delusions, I thought I killed an alien.'"

The Supreme Court has never said mentally ill accused criminals have the right to an insanity defense, and four states do not allow for that: Idaho, Kansas, Montana and Utah.

The remaining states have a variety of standards for proving insanity, and Clark's lawyer argued that Arizona's is almost impossible to meet, violating the constitutional rights of mentally ill defendants.

Texas has a similar law and the court's ruling in Clark's appeal could affect Andrea Yates, the Houston mother who drowned her five children in the bathtub and goes on trial in June.

"The state has the right to define insanity as it sees fit," Howe told the justices.

Under Arizona's law, a defendant "may be found guilty except insane" if lawyers prove the defendant was so mentally ill that he did not know what he did was wrong. Many other states also consider a second factor, if a defendant understood the nature of his acts.

Clark shot Flagstaff police officer Jeff Moritz on June 21, 2000, after the officer pulled over the 17-year-old as he drove around his neighborhood in a truck playing loud rap music. Moritz, 30, was the only police officer ever killed in the line of duty in the mountain community north of Phoenix.

Clark's lawyer, David Goldberg, told justices that his client "was drowning out the voices in his head" with the

loud music.

Clark had a trial before a judge in which he was found guilty of first-degree murder and sentenced to life in prison. Part of his appeal turns on whether the judge should have considered Clark's mental illness in weighing whether he intentionally killed the officer.

Justices agreed to hear the case late last year, in the final weeks before the retirement of Arizona native Justice Sandra Day O'Connor. O'Connor was in the courtroom and watched part of the argument.

Most of the questions justices asked Wednesday were technical, and the court might rule in a way that will affect only Clark's case.

Arizona Attorney General Terry Goddard said afterward that he was relieved by the tone of the questions.

Diplomacy still an issue in Iraq

IRAQ, FROM PAGE 5

though Shiite officials indicated they might not attend the session. Efforts to forge a government have been stalled for months over the choice of a prime minister, even as violence between the country's sects has intensified.

Earlier in the day, President Bush said failure in Iraq "is not an option."

Rice said she and Bush understand Americans' concerns over the delay over forming a government — and added that Iraqi citizens are beginning to voice their frustrations, too.

"Recently, in newspaper articles, in satirical cartoons, even in Internet blogs, Iraqis — men and women — have been saying things about their leaders that literally would have gotten them killed in the old Iraq," she said.

"They are urging their leaders to put the good of the nation above the narrow interests of one individual or one political party."

On another trouble spot, Rice said she is optimistic that

diplomacy will succeed with Iran over its nuclear program, calling it a country whose people enjoy their connections with the outside world. She contrasted Iran with North Korea — the subject of stalled negotiations urging it to give up its nuclear program — or Iraq under Saddam Hussein.

"I believe we can make the diplomacy work. Long before we get to the point that we have to contemplate diplomacy failing, I think we have options at our

disposal," she said. Bush said Tuesday that "all options are on the table" to prevent Iran from developing atomic weapons but that he will continue to focus on diplomacy.

The U.N. Security Council has issued an April 28 deadline for Iran to stop uranium enrichment, but council members Russia and China have been resisting imposing forceful sanctions on Tehran, a key trade partner for both nations.

"You know that there are states that have been saying if we don't get meaningful measures inside the Security Council, perhaps a coalition of the willing will think about other financial or political measures that could be taken," she said.

"... politics, not violence, is the best way to achieve their interests ..."

CONDOLEEZZA RICE,
SECRETARY OF STATE



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U. OF UTAH RESEARCHERS FIND CULPRIT

SALT LAKE CITY (U-WIRE) — Utah researchers recently identified a genetic mutation that causes children to be born with contractures, or decreased range of motion around a joint, in their face, hands and feet. The disorders are commonly known as Freeman-Sheldon syndrome and Sheldon-Hall syndrome.

SCIENCE

www.bgnews.com

Peering out from the South Pole

New telescopic array will be largest of its kind, see through most solids

By Sheena Chen
U-WIRE

BERKELEY, Calif. — Answers to enigmas about the origins of dark matter, gamma-ray bursts and other high-energy particles of cosmology may be drawn from the icy depths of the South Pole.

A team of researchers at the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory has collaborated with other scientific institutions across the nation in undertaking the IceCube effort, a neutrino telescope deployed in the deep underground of Antarctica. The neutrino is an elementary neutral particle that is free from the strong nuclear force and undeflected by interstellar magnetic fields.

"IceCube is a forefront exploratory kind of experiment, where you have a high chance of discovering something that you hadn't anticipated, so I think the scientific payoff for it can be enormous," said Robert Stokstad project director at Berkeley Labs.

The observatory-building project's objective is to position at least 75 strings of detectors below the South Polar ice cap in attempts to capture neutrino events by the year 2011.

"So far we have proven that we can build IceCube in a timely manner. By January 2006 we have already created the largest high-energy neutrino detector in the world," said Spencer Harris, a staff physicist with Berkeley Lab in charge of leading the analysis effort.

Neutrinos can pass through matter virtually unimpeded. For example, a neutrino produced in the sun can travel through

a column of lead one light year long — about 10 trillion kilometers — without stopping. It is their feeble interaction with other particles that makes them ideal astronomical messengers.

On Earth they are emitted as a result of natural background radiation, caused by the decay of radioactive isotopes like that of uranium and thorium. In relation to other high-energy cosmic events, neutrinos are a product of nuclear fusion powering the Sun, stars and supernovas.

Though trillions of neutrinos pass through the Earth's surface each second, they may collide with an atom in a rare occurrence, generating a muon, a subatomic particle similar to a heavy electron. As the muon passes through ice or water, it emits a visible signature effect in the form of flashes of blue light called Cherenkov radiation.

Anticipated to spread out

over a cubic kilometer of Antarctic ice, digital optical modules attached to each IceCube string act as miniature satellites, detecting Cherenkov radiation activity underground and converting them into analyzable electronic signals.

Each DOM is composed of a pressurized glass sphere about the size of a basketball, which holds an optical sensor called a photomultiplier tube. Measuring 10 inches in diameter, the tube is responsible for photon detection. In addition, valuable DOM properties allow it to transmit information via its software system and remotely download new hardware to the module from long distances.

An electrical cable connects the DOMs from the icy surface to locations approximately 2,000 feet below the ground through holes made by a hot-water drill.

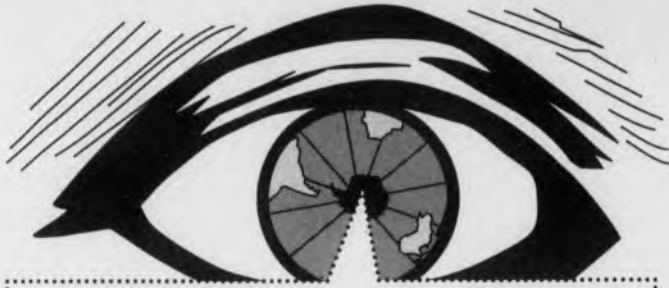
When IceCube's DOMs

detect the Cherenkov light, scientists can measure and study the intensity and arrival time of the light. They can then reconstruct the muon's direction and energy.

"We have now achieved in measuring the photon time to an accuracy of about two nanoseconds, proving that it works," said Stokstad.

An additional array of DOMs on the surface of the ice named IceTop, composed of 160 water-filled tanks with optical sensors frozen within, is also in construction. It will be used to study it to cosmic rays. In its completion, IceCube is expected to feature nearly 5,000 DOMs.

"We hope that this basic research will help us further explore the cosmos and better understand what is out there, including the potential for high-energy spots in the universe," said Harris.



EYE FROM THE ARCTIC AREA

The new telescope, dubbed IceCube because of its location, will be special in that it detects high-energy Neutrino radiation. Neutrinos are small enough that they are not stopped by most solid matter, whizzing through rock and even lead. For that reason, they can be very tough to measure. The telescope will comprise an incredibly large array of smaller devices to partially address the problem.

Evolutionary question may soon be answered

Snake's anatomy gives clues to whether surf or turf was its home

By Malcom Ritter
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK — A fossil find in Argentina has revealed a two-legged creature that's the most primitive snake known, a discovery that promises to fire up the scientific debate about whether snakes evolved on land or in the sea.

The snake's anatomy and the location of the fossil show it lived on land, researchers said, adding evidence to the argument that snakes evolved on land.

Snakes are thought to have evolved from four-legged lizards, losing their legs over time. But scientists have long debated whether those ancestral lizards were land-based or marine creatures.

The newly found snake lived in Patagonia. Its size is unknown, but it wasn't more than 3 feet long, said Hussam Zaher of the University of Sao Paulo in Brazil. He and an Argentine colleague report the find in Thursday's issue of the journal Nature.

It's the first time scientists have found a snake with a sacrum, a bony feature supporting the pelvis, Zaher said. That feature was lost as snakes evolved from lizards, he said, and since this is the only known snake that hasn't lost it, it must be the most primitive known.

The creature clearly lived on land, both because its anatomy suggests it lived in burrows and because the deposits where the fossils were found came from a terrestrial environment, said Zaher. So, if the earliest known

snake lived on land, that suggests snakes evolved on land, he said.

There has been little new evidence in recent years in the land-versus-sea debate, and "we needed something new," said Zaher. "We needed a new start. And this snake is definitely a new start for this debate."

He said that although the creature had two small rear legs, it crawled like a modern-day snake and probably used its legs only on occasion, though for what purpose is unclear.

The creature, named Najash rionegrina, is "a fantastic animal," said Jack Conrad, a researcher at the American Museum of Natural History in New York and co-curator of an upcoming exhibit on lizards and snakes.

"It's really going to help put to rest some of the controversy that's been going around snake evolution and origins," he said. Conrad said he never took sides in the land-versus-sea debate, but "but this is starting to convince me."

Olivier Rieppel, a fossil reptile expert at the Field Museum in Chicago, called the find important and said Najash is clearly the most primitive known snake.

If snakes did evolve on land rather than the sea, their fossil record might be less complete because early fossils would have been better preserved in a marine environment, he said.

That, in turn, suggests "we may not know all the lineages of early snake evolution," he said. Maybe several snake lineages lost the legs of their lizard ancestors independently, he said.

The creature's name comes from a Hebrew word for snake and the Rio Negro province of Argentina, where the discovery was made.

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Director says academia has liberal bias in report

Watchdog group tries to bring balance to imbalance of education

By Andrew Vanacor
U-WIRE (DC BUREAU)

WASHINGTON — Malcolm A. Kline is not someone who would be easily mistaken for a liberal.

If his photograph on a flier announcing his speech at the University of Maryland a few weeks ago says a thousand words, they are all conservative.

His expression is imposing, accented by one raised eyebrow, a bow tie and a half-smoked cigar.

Kline is the executive director of Accuracy in Academia, a conservative watchdog group aimed at combating political bias in higher education. He is driven by a conviction that "colleges and universities are overwhelmingly tilted left," though he admits to being the underdog in the fight to reverse that trend.

"I guess that is my natural state," Kline said in an interview, but added, "I'm fascinated by the number of times when the side that is outmanned, outgunned and outspent is the side that wins."

Kline writes for *Accuracy in Academia*, the monthly newsletter of Accuracy in Academia, which documents the latest cases of what he views as liberal bias in the academic world as well as the progress being made in reversing it.

Kline does not see the effort as conservative or Republican though.

"The way I was trained and the way I still try to operate is that you do not address the imbalance in the media or in academia by tilting something right instead of left," he said. "Consequently we cannot be relied upon to toe the party line — we don't."

The imbalance in media is addressed by Accuracy in Academia's parent organization, Accuracy in Media, founded in 1969 by Reed Irvine.

The two groups share a set of offices in Washington, D.C. In the lobby is a small table with fliers and free merchandise including bumper stickers that read, "I don't believe The Washington Post," and decks of cards with the faces of captured members of Saddam Hussein's Baath Party.

Some in the academic world are receptive to what Accuracy in Academia promotes, even if they don't share the same views.

"I can understand why they're forming these groups and asking these questions," said John Doolittle, who recently participated in a forum with Kline on students' rights at American University, where he is an associate professor in the School of Communications.

Doolittle said he doesn't think that students at American University are denied the right to espouse conservative views, but he said it is important to "discuss issues that students might have if

they feel they can't express themselves."

Kline attributes his outlook on academia to his interaction with students over the last 20 years. Most of the primary sources he draws from in his work for Campus Report are students, and he has a large repertoire of stories about those who have been penalized for expressing conservative views and teachers who have been discriminated against for being out of step with liberal deans and administrators.

The cover story in the April issue of Campus Report is devoted to Catholic Universities, which Kline says students contact him about often.

A nun at the University of Dayton, prompted by the illegal immigration debate, told her class, "You can't be a Christian and a conservative," according to the article, a stance Kline said counters what Pope John Paul II has to say on the issue.

In a letter addressed to readers on the back page of Campus Report Kline wrote, "We are still investigating universities that might be Catholic in name only... Devotion to Catholic dogma on campus is not always as universal as that religious designation implies."

This sort of false advertising is what Kline is most vehemently

opposed to and he turns the same skeptical eye on classes that bill themselves as "multicultural studies" or "women's studies."

Instead of what Kline refers to as "real multicultural studies," classes that pass under that title have more to do with attitudes, he said. He pointed to an exercise

from a sociology course at George Mason University in which students were asked to name seven privileges of being white.

"Since I stand on the same lines as everyone else, they're not apparent to me," he said.

But Kline said he is not opposed to the idea of multiculturalism in general.

"I am married to a Zimbabwean," he said. "I live multicultural studies."

His wife can trace her ancestry to the Zulu king Shaka, he said. "To this day there is a mountain in Zimbabwe that Shaka named after my wife's family."

Though Kline maintains his intentions are to inform students and their parents, some of his critics allege other motivations.

"He's really engaged in partisan politics," said Roger Bowen, secretary general of the American Association of University Professors, a group that promotes academic freedom. "What he's doing is unfortunately not always helpful to the academy and I think frequently misunderstands what the academy is all about."

It is difficult to measure the impact that Kline and Accuracy in Academia have, but Bowen says it is negligible.

Hoaxes alive in papers

Mass media can aid in spread of false tales, yesterday and today

By James Hart
THE KANSAS CITY STAR (KRT)

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — The year was 1835, and the New York Sun had landed the mother of all scoops.

Almost a century before Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin were even born, the newspaper reported that life had been found on the moon. Humanoids with lots of body hair and wings that looked like a bat's, but still, it was life on the moon.

Other papers picked up the story, and soon everyone was buzzing about the most important discovery in the history of the human race... until the truth came out.

Last week provided more proof that hoaxes are alive and thriving. A Grain Valley, Mo., couple admitted they did not really have sextuplets. A teenager from Independence, Kan., eventually told FBI agents that she had not been kidnapped at gunpoint from the driveway of her home.

Today, hoaxes can spread farther quickly, thanks to mass media and the Internet, but that also means they get picked apart faster by people who see through the lies.

"Hoaxes are really the price we pay for having a very open society," said expert Alex Boese, whose books include "Hippo Eats Dwarf" and "The Museum of Hoaxes."

The Great Moon Hoax and other schemes can be entertaining, but the lies also can carry serious consequences. They can



Jeff Stead AP Photo

PARENTS?: Sarah, center, and Kris Everson, right, prior to being arraigned on felony charges of stealing by deceit. The Eversons falsely claimed to be the parents of critically ill sextuplets and stole cash.

waste the time of police officers who could be helping others. They can destroy reputations — just ask Wendy's how its sales did after a woman "found" a severed finger last year in a cup of chili at one of the fast-food chain's restaurants.

But worst of all, hoaxes can steal resources and attention from real victims.

"For a non-profit organization like the Red Cross, it's more than a financial loss," said Matt Meyer, the Kansas City chapter's CEO. "It's a loss of assistance to someone who really needs help."

Meyer said that after Hurricane Katrina, the charity had a problem with a few victims who would apply for assistance in one state, then move to another and seek

benefits there. Sometimes, they would claim other people's children as a way to get more help.

Meyer said that scammers represent an extremely small percentage of those seeking help. And most of those are people going through hard times. "I think in some cases, it's just need," he said.

While money is a motive for some hoaxers, others are simply trying to avoid embarrassment.

Last September, the Plate County, Mo., Sheriff's Department spent a Saturday night frantically searching for an 18-year-old woman who said she had been kidnapped, raped and stabbed somewhere near Kansas City International Airport.

Laura E. Crews actually was

home in Kentucky. She was supposed to fly into Kansas City and meet a man she had befriended over the Internet, but she decided not to go. So she lied over the phone.

After pleading guilty to filing a false police report, Crews was sentenced to 10 days in jail and 100 hours of community service and was ordered to pay \$2,994 in restitution. The search tied up officers, deputies, firefighters and police helicopters, said Capt. Frank Hunter. Had someone needed help elsewhere, those officers and rescuers would not have been available.

False reports also undermine real victims of sexual assault who already are under tremendous pressure and scrutiny.

Jobs: new parent advisory warning

Bringing guardians to interviews causes mixed emotions

DEKALB, Ill. (U-WIRE) — Imagine the surprise of an employer as Jane Doe comes in one day to a job interview and wants to bring her mother along. When someone is 16, 17 or 18, it might be a good idea to bring a parent along to a department store or internship interview, said Mark Scott, senior history teacher certification major at Northern Illinois University.

It lets the employer know the parent will check up on the

candidate, which may help to make the employer feel more comfortable, Scott said.

By the time a person is in his or her 20's, "going into a reputable company [with a parent] can be a negative thing," Scott said.

Though consulting with a parent may be beneficial, consulting is one thing, while bringing a parent along to a job interview is a whole other, said Cindy Henderson, associate director of campus and employer relations for Career Services.

"[It] reflects as the parents can't let go of them, [that] their child is always going to

be a minor child," said David Douglas, director of campus and employer outreach for Career Services.

Douglas disagreed with Scott, who said he would have come along to his niece's job interview should his niece have asked him at the age of 16.

A Wall Street Journal article published in March of this year found many college freshman are in contact with their parents more than 10 times a week. Twenty-five percent of college students with overly-involved helicopter-type parents said they were embarrassed by their parents' involvement.

"I think it's a good idea that a

student goes to a reputable firm and see what they say. When you first take a job there's a lot of negotiation. They will negotiate with you as far as you push it," Scott said. "Talk with another guy. You can talk about what he's got in his back pocket."

Someone who can negotiate without being arrogant, with ideas and with a slightly aggressive attitude are good things when entering a job, Scott said.

"I would not [bring my dad along]," said freshman psychology major Nicole Landwehr. "He'd want me to be my own person. On the other hand, he would want to help out."

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DEATH OF DAUGHTER NOT PREMEDITATED

CINCINNATI (AP) — A man convicted of bludgeoning his 13-year-old daughter to death with a golf club did not plan the killing, a judge ruled. Because there was no evidence that Danielle Franklin's slaying was premeditated, Gordon Franklin faces 15 years to life in prison instead of 20 years to life.



Scott Heckel AP Photo

NO RESOLUTION: Former Hartville councilman Steve Reisch lets new council members know that he didn't like their resolution to open meetings with a prayer during the village council meeting.

Ohio council votes in favor of group prayer before meetings

HARTVILLE, Ohio (AP) — Council members voted 4-2 to pray before their future meetings, despite opposition from some who fear the measure will lead to a lawsuit.

Councilman Scot Bohaychik sponsored the resolution approved Tuesday night that he said most residents in the village of about 2,100 people near Canton in northeast Ohio support.

Mayor Beverly Green and others have rejected the idea, saying a council prayer might violate the constitutional separation between church and state.

Councilman Thomas Hough said he's confident language that calls for a nondenominational prayer will protect the village in a lawsuit. Council members also believe that a resolution instead of an ordinance shows that they aren't

passing laws requiring prayer.

Steve Reisch, a former council member who lost his seat in last November's election, was angered by the decision.

"It's the taxpayers who are going to have to pick up the tab on the lawsuit," he said.

Resident Lori Karasek commended the four council members who favored prayer "for following what they believe instead of being bullied."

STATE

www.bgnews.com/state

Trials smoke out tobacco industry

States start lawsuits to collect \$1.2 billion from companies

By Nancy Zuckerbrod
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — The tobacco industry is facing lawsuits across the country as it tries to hang on to about \$1.2 billion that states say the cigarette makers owe them under a landmark 1998 legal settlement.

Attorneys general in California, Massachusetts, New Jersey and Ohio filed lawsuits Tuesday seeking to collect the money from the tobacco companies.

"We will fight to see that full payments are made," Ohio Attorney General Jim Petro said in a statement. Ohio estimates it is owed about \$38 million, Petro's office said.

Officials in New York and Connecticut said they, and other states, would probably take similar steps. "We're continuing to review our options, but certainly a lawsuit looks likely this week,"

Connecticut Attorney General Richard Blumenthal said in an interview.

Negotiations between the states and tobacco companies over the money recently broke down, leading to the lawsuits.

"We had tried to work hard with the states to resolve this very difficult matter and are disappointed an agreement couldn't be reached," said David Howard, a spokesman for No. 2 cigarette maker R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Co.

R.J. Reynolds and No. 3 cigarette maker Lorillard Tobacco Co. said Monday they had put more than \$750 million aside rather than hand it over to the states.

R.J. Reynolds paid the states about \$1.4 billion but withheld \$647 million, putting it in an escrow account until the dispute is resolved.

Lorillard paid the states a little more than \$550 million but put another \$108 million aside.

Industry leader Philip Morris USA made all of its \$3.4 billion payment but is seeking to have that sum reduced.

Some late filers get a break after error

CLEVELAND (AP) — About 400 taxpayers who mailed their returns late because of incorrect information in a newspaper will not be penalized by the federal government, the Internal Revenue

Service says.

The Plain Dealer on Monday printed a list of post offices staying open until midnight, including offices in the suburbs of Broadview Heights, Euclid and Parma that were not staying open late. Many last-minute tax filers had to leave their returns in mailboxes without getting a postmark to make the April 17 deadline.

Cleveland Postmaster W. Spencer Hsu and Plain Dealer editor Doug Clifton said they sent letters to federal, state and local income tax officials asking that the tardy taxpayers not be punished.

"Taxpayers who posted their returns based on the bad information we provided should not be penalized," Clifton said in a story published yesterday. "I plan to send a letter to the appropriate authorities acknowledging the mistake. It should never have happened."

IRS spokesman Chris Kerns said the taxpayers will not be penalized.

Ohio State Department of Taxation spokesman Gary Gudmundson said the tax commissioner would consider the appeals but noted that the law doesn't allow for "forgiving late filers."

STATE

BRIEFING
BG NEWS WIRE SOURCES

Man sentenced for sex with a minor

NEWARK, Ohio (AP) — A third man is going to prison for having sex with a 13-year-old girl who told authorities she was given money and candy in return.

Joseph Saunders, 69, of the Columbus suburb of Reynoldsburg, was given a 24-year sentence Tuesday by Licking County Common Pleas Judge John Spahr. Saunders had pleaded guilty last month to three counts of compelling prostitution and three counts of unlawful sexual conduct. He faced up to 30 years in prison.

Spahr also ruled that Saunders is a sexual predator, meaning he would need to register with authorities following his release.

Saunders and four others were indicted in December on charges of sexually abusing a girl from Buckeye Lake last year.

Earlier this year, Garry Bly, 66, of Columbus, was sentenced to 14 years in prison on numerous charges, including 10 counts of compelling prostitution. Thomas Coss, 28, of Buckeye Lake, was sentenced to two years for unlawful sexual conduct with a minor. Both pleaded guilty.

Andrew Cramer, 46, was indicted on two counts each of rape and gross sexual imposition. His trial is scheduled for May.

Trudy Smith, 26, was charged with two counts of unlawful sexual conduct with a minor. She was found mentally ill earlier this month and ordered to undergo six months of treatment at a medical facility.

Nursing home's funding to be cut

TOLEDO (AP) — The state has recommended a nursing home where a patient died 10 days after authorities said he was beaten by his roommate should no longer be allowed to receive money from two key government health care programs.

The Ohio Department of Health has recommended the agreements that Foundation Park Center has with Medicare and Medicaid should end Oct. 7. The state also recommended that the home lose its Medicare and Medicaid payments for new admissions in May.

The health department made the recommendations after filing an inspection report that said Sharon John Hawkins, accused of murder in the death of his roommate, hit two other residents in January and February.

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IRANIAN LEADER: PRICES THE OIL-HUNGRY

TEHRAN (AP) — Wading into oil politics for the first time, Iran's hard-line president said yesterday that record crude oil prices are still below their true value. In statements likely to rattle oil markets, President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad said developed countries, not producers like Iran, benefit most from current prices.

www.bgnews.com/world

WORLD

Nepal faces more outcry, deaths

As demonstrators demand end to monarchy, total toll hits double digits

By Matthew Rosenberg
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

KATMANDU, Nepal — Security forces fired on thousands of pro-democracy protesters in southeastern Nepal yesterday, killing at least four, and the government reimposed a curfew in the capital to prevent a massive rally urging the king to loosen his grip on power.

Two weeks of bloody opposition protests and a general strike against the rule of King Gyanendra have paralyzed Nepal, leaving the country at its most volatile since he seized power 14 months ago. At least 10 people have been killed during the demonstrations.

Officials claimed security forces in Chandragadi, about 310 miles southeast of Katmandu, opened fire after being shot at by protesters, who also hurled bricks and debris. The government has made similar claims during the past two weeks, but those accounts have not been confirmed independently.

The region's chief administrator, Bholu Sivakoti, also said the protesters defied a ban in the town and were sacking government and private property.

The were conflicting reports of how many were killed. The Defense Ministry said two people were dead, but another Nepali official said four were killed and a U.N. official said five were killed. Both



BOLD DISPLAY: Government forces clash with a protester in Nepal. The country's King took full power over the country 14 months ago, and has faced growing unrest, which included at least four deaths yesterday.

officials spoke on the condition of anonymity because of the sensitivity of the situation.

The latest deaths bring to at least 10 the number of people killed by security forces during the protests. Since the opposition campaign began April 6, ordinary Nepalis have joined rallies alongside students and political activists.

The royal government has

responded harshly, claiming that Nepal's communist insurgents — who are allied with the political opposition — had violently infiltrated the rallies. Police have beaten, tear gassed and arrested thousands of protesters.

The king dismissed an interim government and seized power in February 2005, claiming a need to restore order and crush a

communist insurgency that has killed nearly 13,000 people over the past decade.

Many of Nepal's 27 million people initially welcomed the king's power grab because they were fed up with the corrupt and squabbling political elite. But the worsening communist insurgency and a faltering economy have fueled discontent.

Explosion's cause not known so far

By Paul Garwood
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

KABUL, Afghanistan — A massive explosion believed to have been caused by a rocket shook the Afghan capital late yesterday near the U.S. Embassy compound, wounding an Afghan security contractor, officials said.

U.S. Embassy spokesman Lou Finton said the blast did not occur on embassy property, and no Americans were injured. Staff members rushed to a bunker in the compound after the 11 p.m. blast.

"All embassy personnel are safe and accounted for," Finton told The Associated Press in a telephone interview.

A U.S. counterterrorism official, who spoke on condition of anonymity because it is still early in the investigation, said the southwest side of the U.S. Embassy's compound was among the buildings struck in the rocket attack.

The official was not immediately aware of casualties or the magnitude of the attack. It also was too early to say who was responsible.

Lt. Col. Todd Vician, a Pentagon spokesman, said one rocket struck near, but not inside, the U.S. Embassy compound.

The blast occurred inside the grounds housing the state-run television offices, a police official at the scene said. The building is next to the heavily fortified embassy and the base for NATO-led forces in the capital.

The official, who spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to speak to the media, said the explosion apparently was caused by a rocket fired from southeast Kabul targeting the U.S. Embassy.

U.S. military spokesman Lt. Mike Cody said one Afghan security contractor was wounded.

NATO-led troops in armored vehicles patrolled the area after the explosion.

"It was a very strong explosion near the ISAF (NATO's International Security Assistance Force) compound and we are trying to confirm its cause," spokesman Lt. Col. Riccardo Cristoni said.

"All embassy personnel are safe and accounted for."

LOU FINTOR, U.S. EMBASSY

Nebraska will send grains, meats, other food to Cuba

By Olga R. Rodriguez
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

HAVANA — Cuba agreed yesterday to buy another \$30 million in food from Nebraska, strengthening trade relations with a U.S. farm state already selling corn, wheat, soybeans and other products to the communist island.

Nebraska Lt. Gov. Rick Sheehy and Agriculture Director Greg Ibach led the trade delegation, which included meat and other agriculture producers on the four-day trip.

In August, Nebraska Gov. Dave Heineman visited Cuba and

signed a separate deal to export \$30 million in agricultural products in an 18-month period. Most of those deals have since been completed, said Pedro Alvarez, head of the Cuban food import firm Alimport.

"We've had a great commerce experience with Nebraska and this shows the desire of many (U.S.) states to work for free trade with the United States," Alvarez told The Associated Press at Havana's historic Hotel Nacional during a breakfast hosted by Farmland Foods Inc. featuring Nebraska pork and

other meat products. Sheehy said the new deal will include the export of pork, cattle, poultry, wheat, corn, soybeans, dry beans and dairy in the next 18 months.

"Agriculture is the No. 1 industry in the state and Gov. Heineman saw an opportunity in Cuba to expand our market," Sheehy said.

Alvarez said the new trade deal includes a \$2.8 million meat purchase from Farmland Foods Inc.

Writing backs up Saddam's assent

Former Iraqi leader approved land swipe, Shiite killings

By Sinan Salaheddin
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

BAGHDAD — Handwriting experts confirmed Saddam Hussein's signatures on two more key documents in the ousted Iraqi leader's trial — one approving death sentences for 148 Shiites, the other ordering confiscation of farmlands, the judge said yesterday.

Dressed in his black suit, Saddam was unusually silent

throughout the three-hour session. But his half-brother and co-defendant Barzan Ibrahim angrily rejected the experts' report as biased.

Defense lawyers demanded a neutral, international panel of experts be formed to look at documents presented by the prosecution that allegedly were signed by Saddam or the other seven defendants.

Chief judge Raouf Abdel-Rahman did not rule on the demand for international experts,

but he appeared dismissive of it and ordered Iraqi experts to continue examining remaining documents for the next session, scheduled for Monday.

Saddam and the former officials from his regime are on trial for the deaths of the 148 Shiites and the imprisonment of hundreds of others in a crackdown following an assassination attempt against Saddam in the mainly Shiite town of Dujail in 1982.



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DEATH OF DAUGHTER NOT PREMEDITATED

CINCINNATI (AP) — A man convicted of bludgeoning his 13-year-old daughter to death with a golf club did not plan the killing, a judge ruled. Because there was no evidence that Danielle Franklin's slaying was premeditated, Gordon Franklin faces 15 years to life in prison instead of 20 years to life.



Scott Heckel AP Photo

NO RESOLUTION: Former Hartville councilman Steve Reisch lets new council members know that he didn't like their resolution to open meetings with a prayer during the village council meeting.

Ohio council votes in favor of group prayer before meetings

HARTVILLE, Ohio (AP) — Council members voted 4-2 to pray before their future meetings, despite opposition from some who fear the measure will lead to a lawsuit.

Councilman Scot Bohaychik sponsored the resolution approved Tuesday night that he said most residents in the village of about 2,100 people near Canton in northeast Ohio support.

Mayor Beverly Green and others have rejected the idea, saying a council prayer might violate the constitutional separation between church and state.

Councilman Thomas Hough said he's confident language that calls for a nondenominational prayer will protect the village in a lawsuit. Council members also believe that a resolution instead of an ordinance shows that they aren't

passing laws requiring prayer. Steve Reisch, a former council member who lost his seat in last November's election, was angered by the decision.

"It's the taxpayers who are going to have to pick up the tab on the lawsuit," he said.

Resident Lori Karasek commended the four council members who favored prayer "for following what they believe instead of being bullied."

www.bgnews.com/state
STATE

Trials smoke out tobacco industry

States start lawsuits to collect \$1.2 billion from companies

By Nancy Zuckerbrod THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — The tobacco industry is facing lawsuits across the country as it tries to hang on to about \$1.2 billion that states say the cigarette makers owe them under a landmark 1998 legal settlement.

Attorneys general in California, Massachusetts, New Jersey and Ohio filed lawsuits Tuesday seeking to collect the money from the tobacco companies.

"We will fight to see that full payments are made," Ohio Attorney General Jim Petro said in a statement. Ohio estimates it is owed about \$38 million, Petro's office said.

Officials in New York and Connecticut said they, and other states, would probably take similar steps. "We're continuing to review our options, but certainly a lawsuit looks likely this week."

Connecticut Attorney General Richard Blumenthal said in an interview.

Negotiations between the states and tobacco companies over the money recently broke down, leading to the lawsuits.

"We had tried to work hard with the states to resolve this very difficult matter and are disappointed an agreement couldn't be reached," said David Howard, a spokesman for No. 2 cigarette maker R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Co.

R.J. Reynolds and No. 3 cigarette maker Lorillard Tobacco Co. said Monday they had put more than \$750 million aside rather than hand it over to the states.

R.J. Reynolds paid the states about \$1.4 billion but withheld \$647 million, putting it in an escrow account until the dispute is resolved.

Lorillard paid the states a little more than \$550 million but put another \$108 million aside.

Industry leader Philip Morris USA made all of its \$3.4 billion payment but is seeking to have that sum reduced.

STATE

BRIEFING
BG NEWS WIRE SOURCES

Man sentenced for sex with a minor

NEWARK, Ohio (AP) — A third man is going to prison for having sex with a 13-year-old girl who told authorities she was given money and candy in return.

Joseph Saunders, 69, of the Columbus suburb of Reynoldsburg, was given a 24-year sentence Tuesday by Licking County Common Pleas Judge John Spahr. Saunders had pleaded guilty last month to three counts of compelling prostitution and three counts of unlawful sexual conduct. He faced up to 30 years in prison.

Spahr also ruled that Saunders is a sexual predator, meaning he would need to register with authorities following his release.

Saunders and four others were indicted in December on charges of sexually abusing a girl from Buckeye Lake last year.

Earlier this year, Garry Bly, 66, of Columbus, was sentenced to 14 years in prison on numerous charges, including 10 counts of compelling prostitution. Thomas Coss, 28, of Buckeye Lake, was sentenced to two years for unlawful sexual conduct with a minor. Both pleaded guilty.

Andrew Cramer, 46, was indicted on two counts each of rape and gross sexual imposition. His trial is scheduled for May.

Trudy Smith, 26, was charged with two counts of unlawful sexual conduct with a minor. She was found mentally ill earlier this month and ordered to undergo six months of treatment at a medical facility.

Some late filers get a break after error

CLEVELAND (AP) — About 400 taxpayers who mailed their returns late because of incorrect information in a newspaper will not be penalized by the federal government, the Internal Revenue

Service says.

The Plain Dealer on Monday printed a list of post offices staying open until midnight, including offices in the suburbs of Broadview Heights, Euclid and Parma that were not staying open late. Many last-minute tax filers had to leave their returns in mailboxes without getting a postmark to make the April 17 deadline.

Cleveland Postmaster W. Spencer Hsu and Plain Dealer editor Doug Clifton said they sent letters to federal, state and local income tax officials asking that the tardy taxpayers not be punished.

"Taxpayers who posted their returns based on the bad information we provided should not be penalized," Clifton said in a story published yesterday. "I plan to send a letter to the appropriate authorities acknowledging the mistake. It should never have happened."

IRS spokesman Chris Kerns said the taxpayers will not be penalized.

Ohio State Department of Taxation spokesman Gary Gudmundson said the tax commissioner would consider the appeals but noted that the law doesn't allow for "forgiving late filers."

Nursing home's funding to be cut

TOLEDO (AP) — The state has recommended a nursing home where a patient died 10 days after authorities said he was beaten by his roommate should no longer be allowed to receive money from two key government health care programs.

The Ohio Department of Health has recommended the agreements that Foundation Park Center has with Medicare and Medicaid should end Oct. 7. The state also recommended that the home lose its Medicare and Medicaid payments for new admissions in May.

The health department made the recommendations after filing an inspection report that said Sharon John Hawkins, accused of murder in the death of his roommate, hit two other residents in January and February.

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IRANIAN LEADER: PRICES THE OIL-HUNGRY

TEHRAN (AP) — Wading into oil politics for the first time, Iran's hard-line president said yesterday that record crude oil prices are still below their true value. In statements likely to rattle oil markets, President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad said developed countries, not producers like Iran, benefit most from current prices.

www.bgnews.com/world

WORLD

Nepal faces more outcry, deaths

As demonstrators demand end to monarchy, total toll hits double digits

By Matthew Rosenberg
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

KATMANDU, Nepal — Security forces fired on thousands of pro-democracy protesters in southeastern Nepal yesterday, killing at least four, and the government reimposed a curfew in the capital to prevent a massive rally urging the king to loosen his grip on power.

Two weeks of bloody opposition protests and a general strike against the rule of King Gyanendra have paralyzed Nepal, leaving the country at its most volatile since he seized power 14 months ago. At least 10 people have been killed during the demonstrations.

Officials claimed security forces in Chandragadi, about 310 miles southeast of Katmandu, opened fire after being shot at by protesters, who also hurled bricks and debris. The government has made similar claims during the past two weeks, but those accounts have not been confirmed independently.

The region's chief administrator, Bhola Sivakoti, also said the protesters defied a ban in the town and were sacking government and private property.

The were conflicting reports of how many were killed. The Defense Ministry said two people were dead, but another Nepali official said four were killed and a U.N. official said five were killed. Both



BOLD DISPLAY: Government forces clash with a protester in Nepal. The country's King took full power over the country 14 months ago, and has faced growing unrest, which included at least four deaths yesterday.

officials spoke on the condition of anonymity because of the sensitivity of the situation.

The latest deaths bring to at least 10 the number of people killed by security forces during the protests. Since the opposition campaign began April 6, ordinary Nepalis have joined rallies alongside students and political activists.

The royal government has

responded harshly, claiming that Nepal's communist insurgents — who are allied with the political opposition — had violently infiltrated the rallies. Police have beaten, tear gassed and arrested thousands of protesters.

The king dismissed an interim government and seized power in February 2005, claiming a need to restore order and crush a

communist insurgency that has killed nearly 13,000 people over the past decade.

Many of Nepal's 27 million people initially welcomed the king's power grab because they were fed up with the corrupt and squabbling political elite. But the worsening communist insurgency and a faltering economy have fueled discontent.

Explosion's cause not known so far

By Paul Garwood
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

KABUL, Afghanistan — A massive explosion believed to have been caused by a rocket shook the Afghan capital late yesterday near the U.S. Embassy compound, wounding an Afghan security contractor, officials said.

U.S. Embassy spokesman Lou Finton said the blast did not occur on embassy property, and no Americans were injured. Staff members rushed to a bunker in the compound after the 11 p.m. blast.

"All embassy personnel are safe and accounted for," Finton told The Associated Press in a telephone interview.

A U.S. counterterrorism official, who spoke on condition of anonymity because it is still early in the investigation, said the southwest side of the U.S. Embassy's compound was among the buildings struck in the rocket attack.

The official was not immediately aware of casualties or the magnitude of the attack. It also was too early to say who was responsible.

Lt. Col. Todd Vician, a Pentagon spokesman, said one rocket struck near, but not inside, the U.S. Embassy compound.

The blast occurred inside the grounds housing the state-run television offices, a police official at the scene said. The building is next to the heavily fortified embassy and the base for NATO-led forces in the capital.

The official, who spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to speak to the media, said the explosion apparently was caused by a rocket fired from southeast Kabul targeting the U.S. Embassy.

U.S. military spokesman Lt. Mike Cody said one Afghan security contractor was wounded.

NATO-led troops in armored vehicles patrolled the area after the explosion.

"It was a very strong explosion near the ISAF (NATO's International Security Assistance Force) compound and we are trying to confirm its cause," spokesman Lt. Col. Riccardo Cristoni said.

"All embassy personnel are safe and accounted for."

LOU FINTON, U.S. EMBASSY

Nebraska will send grains, meats, other food to Cuba

By Olga R. Rodriguez
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

HAVANA — Cuba agreed yesterday to buy another \$30 million in food from Nebraska, strengthening trade relations with a U.S. farm state already selling corn, wheat, soybeans and other products to the communist island.

Nebraska Lt. Gov. Rick Sheehy and Agriculture Director Greg Ibach led the trade delegation, which included meat and other agriculture producers on the four-day trip.

In August, Nebraska Gov. Dave Heineman visited Cuba and

signed a separate deal to export \$30 million in agricultural products in an 18-month period. Most of those deals have since been completed, said Pedro Alvarez, head of the Cuban food import firm Alimport.

"We've had a great commerce experience with Nebraska and this shows the desire of many (U.S.) states to work for free trade with the United States," Alvarez told The Associated Press at Havana's historic Hotel Nacional during a breakfast hosted by Farmland Foods Inc. featuring Nebraska pork and

other meat products.

Sheehy said the new deal will include the export of pork, cattle, poultry, wheat, corn, soybeans, dry beans and dairy in the next 18 months.

"Agriculture is the No. 1 industry in the state and Gov. Heineman saw an opportunity in Cuba to expand our market," Sheehy said.

Alvarez said the new trade deal includes a \$2.8 million meat purchase from Farmland Foods Inc.

Writing backs up Saddam's assent

Former Iraqi leader approved land swipe, Shiite killings

By Sinan Salaheddin
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

BAGHDAD — Handwriting experts confirmed Saddam Hussein's signatures on two more key documents in the ousted Iraqi leader's trial — one approving death sentences for 148 Shiites, the other ordering confiscation of farmlands, the judge said yesterday.

Dressed in his black suit, Saddam was unusually silent

throughout the three-hour session. But his half-brother and co-defendant Barzan Ibrahim angrily rejected the experts' report as biased.

Defense lawyers demanded a neutral, international panel of experts be formed to look at documents presented by the prosecution that allegedly were signed by Saddam or the other seven defendants.

Chief judge Raouf Abdel-Rahman did not rule on the demand for international experts,

but he appeared dismissive of it and ordered Iraqi experts to continue examining remaining documents for the next session, scheduled for Monday.

Saddam and the former officials from his regime are on trial for the deaths of the 148 Shiites and the imprisonment of hundreds of others in a crackdown following an assassination attempt against Saddam in the mainly Shiite town of Dujail in 1982.



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SPORTS

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BOWLING GREEN STATE UNIVERSITY

BASEBALL

BG scores two in the ninth for win

Hangbers' RBI and CSU throwing error help offset forgettable day at the plate for BGSU

By John Turner
REPORTER

In a game that only a mother could love, BGSU was able to pull off a dramatic ninth-inning rally to earn themselves the win over non-conference opponent Cleveland State yesterday, 5-4.

Despite a record of just 6-23 coming into the game, CSU was able to combat the Falcons when it mattered most, as BG stranded 11 runners in the ball game.

"We did not take advantage of scoring opportunities throughout the whole game," said BGSU coach Dan Schmitz. "We had bases loaded at least three times and didn't cash in on any of them."

Due in part to their inability to convert runners into runs, BG found itself down one heading into the bottom of the ninth.

After Tyler Wasserman reached safely on an infield single, he was bunted over by Josh Stewart to put the tying run in scoring position.

One batter later, and down to their final out, BG's Brian Hangbers hit a shot to the fence in left-center to send home the tying run.

"It was a 3-1 count so I was just sitting back and looking for something to drive in the gap," Hangbers said. "It was a high fastball, and I just drove it the other way."

BG then turned its attention to ending the game in regulation, and thanks to a Cleveland State miscue, they would do just that.

The final batter, pinch hitter Greg Feldkamp, hit a groundball to the first baseman that looked to be the final out of the inning. Fortunately for the Falcons, the pitcher was unable to handle the exchange, dropping the ball as pinch-runner Julian Bostelman scampered home to give BG the win and improve the team to 20-15 on the season.



Sean Pierson BG News

HERE IT COMES: Josh Dietz awaits a pitch during BGSU's 13-7 win over Toledo on Friday. Dietz did not bat in yesterday's 5-4 win over Cleveland State. The Falcons took advantage of a Viking throwing error in the ninth inning to come from behind, improving to 20-15.

"That was clutch," Schmitz said. "Feldkamp put the ball in play and forced the defense to do three things: Catch it, throw it and then catch it again. Luckily for us, they

didn't do all three."

BG used seven different pitchers. The final pitcher, Brett Browning, earned the win for the Falcons, striking out the side in the ninth and improving his record to 1-1.

The Falcons struggled from the plate early on as CSU pitcher Brandon Hewitt had hitters guessing. Hewitt went seven

innings, allowing only two runs and striking out three for the Vikings in a no-decision.

"Early on our hitters were out in front and lunging at his curveballs, in the later innings hitters started to stay back and take the ball where it was pitched," Hangbers said. "I think that was vital to this game."

BG will get a day off before getting back into Mid-American Conference play on Friday in a three-game series at Akron.

"We did not play like we're capable of playing," Schmitz said, "and I'll guarantee you if we don't come out and play like we're capable of playing this weekend we're going to struggle at Akron."

Punter the first pick for OSU's annual spring game

By Rusty Miller
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

COLUMBUS—If David Patterson applies for a job as an NFL general manager years from now, he probably shouldn't bring up the fact that with the No. 1 pick in the 2006 Ohio State spring game draft he selected a punter.

Patterson said he was simply supporting coach Jim Tressel's assertion that "the most important play in football is the punt."

Patterson was just one of the seniors who directed the annual tongue-in-cheek draft yesterday. The selections were made in a cluttered second-floor meeting room in the southeast corner of Ohio Stadium. Two large, white boards — one for Scarlet, one for Gray — stood on either side of the room.

The teams will square off Saturday afternoon at Ohio Stadium.

Tressel was the host of the draft, occasionally telling one of the game's captains that they were "on the clock" when they deliberated too long with the teammates and assistant coaches around them.

A graduate assistant wrote the selections down on the boards — Tressel called him Ohio State's version of "Vanna White." Tressel checked off the players on an overhead projector to make sure no one was overlooked.

Head trainer Doug Calland announced what players were not available because of injury. Tressel then read off those who will see limited action. They included the two players that fans want to see the most: quarterback Troy Smith and wide receiver Ted Ginn Jr. Smith will play only one quarter, Ginn two.

A coin flip decided whether

SPRING GAME, PAGE 15

ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

Zirkle busts slump with big week

Junior earns first MAC honor for tremendous weekend at the plate

By Matt Deighton
REPORTER

BGSU right fielder Ashley Zirkle hit .467 last week, going 7-for-15 with a handful of extra base hits and five RBI en route to her first career Mid-American Conference East Division Player of the Week honor, and thus, our pick for Athlete of the Week.

Zirkle tortured opposing pitchers during her big week, batting .583 in four MAC contests at Ball State and Miami, lifting the Falcons to wins in three of the four.

"I feel very lucky to get this honor, especially in the MAC," Zirkle said. "I feel as though we're as good as the Big Ten, so I feel very fortunate to be player of the week in this conference."

The junior slugger began the week on an 0-for-12 skid at the plate — hitless in her last five games — and was once again blanked in three at-bats against Michigan State on Tuesday. Following a game's rest, Zirkle viciously snapped the streak, going a perfect 4-for-4 with a pair of doubles, three RBI, and three runs scored, including a two-run blast to left-center in the seventh inning against Ball State on Friday.

Zirkle remained red-hot the next day in Oxford, going two for



Neal Cropper BG News

STRIKING AT THE PLATE: BGSU's Ashley Zirkle takes a swing during the Falcons' sweep over Detroit last month. Zirkle hit .467 and .583 in four Mid-American Conference games last week.

three with gappers to both right and left-center, driving in a run and scoring once. On Sunday, she drove in another run and went 1-for-5 in the Falcons' 10-0 rout of the RedHawks.

Zirkle's hits have been big and have come at crucial times for the Falcons, in an order in the lineup that has needed the muscle she has provided the past week.

Five of her seven hits went for extra bases, and although three games seemed like batting practice, Zirkle came through with

ZIRKLE, PAGE 15

TRACK

BG hopes to keep momentum going

By Adam Miezyn
REPORTER

After defeating conference rivals Toledo and Northern Illinois last Thursday, the BGSU track team must turn its attention to a larger stage when they travel to Lawrence, Kan. to compete in the Kansas Relays Friday and Saturday.

The team hopes to ride in on a high note and leave on that same note after establishing itself at UT. The team won the triangular with Andi Bunko, Nicole Standback, Jamie Roflow and Stacy Turak each winning individual events.

"This weekend at Kansas we're going up against very good competition," Andrea Pollack said. "I feel without a doubt that all of us who are going, have a chance to do great things. We just have to go out and do it. I expect some great times in all the events and am very excited to see what this weekend brings the BG track team."

BG coach Scott Schmann believes the team has a great opportunity to compete against some of the best teams from the Midwestern part of the country. It will give them another chance to establish themselves against good competition.

"The team is looking forward to the meet and putting up more season bests," Schmann said. "At this point of the season

we have yet to back off and start to taper. Many of our athletes are striving to compete beyond the conference meet and are pushing themselves harder to reach the NCAA Regional Championship Meet to be held two weeks after MAC's."

The team has been building week by week, with a solid third place at the All-Ohio Championships followed by the victory last week. The team is less than a month away from the Mid-American Championships, the event they are looking to make their mark at.

"Those competing in Kansas are going to be up against some very strong competition," Kylie Korsnack said. "It'll be a good chance to continue to improve both individually and as team. Those of us not going will continue training hard through this weekend in order to prepare ourselves for our next meet."

Korsnack also believes that beating two teams a month before the conference championships will do wonders for the team's confidence. She hopes it gives the team that extra edge when they are back at UT for the meet.

The team has not begun to taper yet and is still working at a maximum level. The process of resting while tapering down will begin soon so BG is at its best in the most important meets.

Three homers in 8th propel Cincy to win

By Joe Kay
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
CINCINNATI — Four Florida homers. Unbeaten-in-April Dontrelle Willis on the mound. A late four-run lead. If the Marlins can't win a game like this, they're not going to win many at all. Edwin Encarnacion's run-scoring double in the ninth inning completed the Cincinnati Reds' comeback for a 9-8 victory yesterday over the NL's least-successful team.



Tom Uhlman AP Photo

GUNNED DOWN: Florida's Miguel Cabrera is tagged out at home by Reds' catcher Jason LaRue in the sixth inning of Cincinnati's 9-8 win.

Cincinnati, which leads the NL in homers, overcame an 8-4 deficit despite only one extra-base hit in the game — Encarnacion's decisive one-out double off Todd Wellemeier (0-1). The Reds got a lot of help. Florida (4-10) tied its club record with four homers, but made three errors, walked six batters, hit another and let in a run with a wild pitch. "It's embarrassing," said manager Joe Girardi, so upset that he called his second postgame meeting in three days. "We can't keep making mistakes.

Seventeen days in, we can't keep making mistakes." The Reds took full advantage, right up to the final pitch. Cincinnati tied it with three runs in the eighth, and Wellemeier walked Adam Dunn to open the ninth. Scott Hatteberg singled with one out, and Encarnacion followed with

a grounder down the third-base line to score Dunn without a play at the plate. "My first base hit to win a game in the big leagues," Encarnacion said, still smiling after he was pummeled by teammates. In the Marlins' opinion, it never should have come to that.

New bat was key

ZIRKLE, FROM PAGE 14
runners on base in key situations and provided some clean up. "I'm just seeing the ball real well right now and everything is working for me," Zirkle said. Zirkle attributes much of her turnaround to when she switched bats prior to a March 31 meeting with Buffalo. Zirkle hit her first of three home runs this season in that contest and blasted another one the following game on April Fool's Day at Kent State, which ironically provided some misfortune for the emerging slugger. Zirkle then began her 0-for-15

drought. Nonetheless, BG coach Leigh Ross continued to pencil Zirkle in the lineup and get her the swings she needed to climb her way out of it. "Everyone else has been looking for me to fill that spot in the lineup and drive in runs for us," Zirkle said, "and I knew that I needed to be able to be that role on the team and hit in clutch situations." Zirkle, of late, has proven to do just that, with some power. "I just want to focus on hitting the ball hard," she said, "and I think the team is confident when I come to bat that I'll come through big for us."

Ginn not an early pick

SPRING GAME, FROM PAGE 14
Scarlet or Gray would make the first pick. "We flip a 50-cent piece that (wide receivers) coach (Joe) Daniels found four years ago and has had in his pocket ever since," Tressel said. Patterson called tails and won the toss, although the Gray braintrust protested there was interference on the toss because the coin hit a chair on the way down. Tressel declined their appeal.

trades — although all were turned down or laughed away. Not exactly dealing from strength, Patterson started one trade offer by saying, "Who do we have to give up to get ...?" A couple of players and coaches from each side then got up in front of the group and offered their analysis of the draft. Kerr said of the Scarlet's selections, "We had a good draft defensively. I think we have the upper hand." Downing admitted that there were areas in which Gray might have done better.

The sides took turns choosing a position and then making the first pick. After some discussion, Patterson said Scarlet would begin at punter and he picked starter A.J. Trapasso. Three television cameras and around 20 reporters stood around the room as the selections were made. Smith didn't arrive until the draft was almost over, sporting a black Jacksonville Jaguars jersey with quarterback Byron Leftwich's name and number. Cornerback Antonio Smith, linebacker John Kerr, defensive end Jay Richardson and several assistant coaches helped Patterson, a defensive lineman, with the Scarlet picks.

Downing admitted that there were areas in which Gray might have done better. "We did well at wide receiver and the specialty positions," he said, "but I'm a little nervous about the offensive line because we're not as deep as they are." "I came in pretty late," Smith said, "but looking at the draft I think Scarlet is way, way better equipped for this game." Players from both sides laughed out loud. Mitchell looked at his Gray lineup and refused to make a prediction. "I just want a win," he said with a wide grin. "I don't care if it's 2-0."

The Gray selections were made by safety Brandon Mitchell along with offensive tackle Kirk Barton, guard T.J. Downing, defensive linemen Joel Penton and Quinn Pitcock and the other half of the coaching staff. Mitchell and Patterson said they spent several hours putting together mock drafts, trying to come up with a winning formula. That doesn't explain why Ginn wasn't chosen until the 34th pick. It took around 25 minutes to complete the draft. Each side was then permitted to propose

Jackets making strides

Missing playoffs again doesn't tell complete story for Columbus

By Rusty Miller
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
COLUMBUS — The Columbus Blue Jackets had a banner season in terms of rewriting the franchise record book. The upshot, however, is pretty much the same old story: Another year without playoffs. The club set new marks for winning and scoring, yet just like the four previous Blue Jackets teams, this one will be sitting at home when the postseason gets under way this weekend. "When you're a young team it's probably better to start from the bottom," said defenseman Adam Foote, a free agent signing last summer who owns two Stanley Cup rings from his time with the Colorado Avalanche. "It hurts. It hurts a lot. You don't like it. No one likes it. But you learn. Sometimes it's a hard way to learn. That's behind us now and we have to look ahead. I think guys feel pretty good about what's been going on here the past few months."

The Blue Jackets finished 35-43-4, setting franchise marks for wins, points (74), road wins (12), home wins (23) and goals (223). From Jan. 1 through the end of the season, they had the eighth-best record in the Western Conference and were just three points behind Colorado, four behind Calgary and six back of Nashville. Still, thanks to an awful start, they finished 21 points behind Edmonton for the eighth playoff spot in the Western Conference. "The last 50 games, we've proven that we're a team that's getting better," said Doug MacLean, president and general manager. On Dec. 23, the Blue Jackets were an NHL-worst 9-25-1. Then 2003-2004 goal-scoring co-champion Rick Nash and defenseman Rostislav Klesla returned from injuries and Sergei Fedorov, acquired in an October trade with Anaheim, found his footing. After that the club went 26-18-

3. The offense provided some spark, the defense got stingy and goaltenders Marc Denis and Pascal Leclaire played well. "If you look at our second half of the season, we came a long way," said Nash, who finished with 31 goals and a career-best 23 assists to give him 54 points in 54 games. "If we had 30 more games left, I'm sure we'd be right there to make a playoff spot." David Vyborny had a huge year (22 goals, 43 assists) to move into the Blue Jackets career leadership in games (395), goals (90) and assists (137). Forward Nikolai Zherdev had his best season with 27 goals and 27 assists before missing the final two weeks with a sprained knee. He, like Nash, is just 21. At 36, Fedorov had his worst NHL season in terms of numbers (12 goals, 32 assists) but was a valued commodity around the younger players — particularly Zherdev — in the dressing

"If you look at our second half of the season, we came a long way."

RICK NASH, COLUMBUS

J-Flow grew up as a Ninja Turtles fan

By Jacqueline Giammara
REPORTER
10 question with Jamie Roflow, BGSU track team

BGN: Where were you born?
JR: Cincinnati, Ohio
BGN: What's your favorite TV show?
JR: The OC
BGN: What's your favorite kind of pizza?
JR: Barbecue chicken pizza
BGN: Who's your favorite superhero?
JR: Ninja Turtles ... Leonardo was my favorite
BGN: If you were a teacher, what grade and subject would you teach?



JAMIE ROFLOW
SOPHOMORE

JR: First grade, math
BGN: What's your favorite quote or saying?
JR: "To give anything less than your best is to sacrifice the gift" (Steve Prefontaine)
BGN: What's your dream job?
JR: Dessert Taster!
BGN: Do you have any nicknames?
JR: J-Flow
BGN: What's the most amazing event you've ever witnessed?
JR: Women's World Cup game in Chicago
BGN: What was one of your favorite hobbies growing up?
JR: Playing any sport

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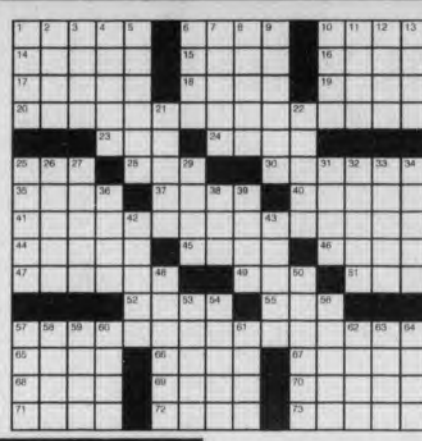
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DOWN

- Ella's forte
- "Noon"
- On the quiet side
- Ms. Ronstadt
- Hispanic
- Pound sound
- Stand by for
- Two-masted vessel
- Followed
- Sudden shock
- Wedding-vow directive
- Yes indeed, Maria
- Tennis units
- Raid
- Master
- Manmade waterway
- Sun-dried brick
- Climbing device
- Handhold
- Fish catchers
- Sorrow
- Harry Truman's birth-place
- Opponent
- Share a border
- Wildebeest
- Fairy-tale beast
- New York city
- Maine college town
- Schematic arrangement
- Unattached
- Word with club or goat
- Move furtively
- Open courtyards
- Length unit
- Story
- Cowboy's prod
- Look intently
- Departed
- Charged particles
- Wizard
- Organic compound

ACROSS

- Strong will?
- Water track
- Chinese idol
- Eyelashes
- "The Virginian" writer Wister
- NYC theatrical award
- Go-between
- Stable staple
- "we forget..."
- Start of Evan Esar quote
- Spanish year
- Address for a Friend
- Bottle topper
- Assn.
- Hang loosely
- 1998 Sarah McLachlan hit
- Jason's ship
- Broadcasted again
- Part 2 of quote
- Concerning
- Sound of contentment
- Tailor's connection
- Soup legume
- Dawn goddess
- Young fish
- Hacks
- Actress Long
- End of quote
- Back of the neck
- Bread spread
- React to a bad pun
- Colonel Mustard's game
- Bator, Mongolia
- Jargon
- Cologne mister
- Small boy
- Artist's tripod

ANSWERS



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