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Bowling Green State University

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Thursday

March 27, 2008
Volume 101, Issue 126
WWW.BGNEWS.COM

Are you stuck on a wait list?

Students and professors often have conflicting views about the value of course weight lists. Find out how to get into that class you want | **Page 5**

ACS looks to BG for help with cancer study

BG has been chosen as one of three cities participating in the CPS-3 study due to its strong involvement with Relay for Life | **Page 6**

U.S. accidentally ships missile fuses to Taiwan

China voices concern as they oppose any arms sales between U.S. and Taiwan | **Page 8**

Oldest human ancestor found

A dig in Europe turned up a jawbone from about 1.3 million years ago | **Page 7**

Baseball pounds Findlay 12-8

The Falcons put up 17 hits yesterday against the Oilers, getting their first home win of the season | **Page 9**

World leaders debate boycott of Olympics

People like Condoleezza Rice and Nicolas Sarkozy will just be paying lip service at the August opening ceremony in China, writes columnist Kampire Bahana | **Page 4**

Have you voted in the Undergraduate Student Senate Government elections yet?



MATT FEDERICO
Senior, Business, Pre-law

"Yes, for Waynick and Mutgi." | **Page 4**

TODAY
Rain/Snow Showers
High: 43, Low: 30

TOMORROW
AM Snow Showers
High: 40, Low: 25

Bomb threat clears courthouse

By Brian Szabelski
Web Editor

An anonymous bomb threat was called in to the Wood County Courthouse yesterday afternoon, prompting an evacuation and hour-long search.

No injuries were reported and no explosive devices were found in the courthouse.

The threat came in to the courthouse switchboard around 3:45 p.m., Wood County Sheriff Mark Wasylyshyn said. The switchboard operators immediately contacted local authorities, including the sheriff's office, Bowling Green police and fire departments, courthouse security and University police.

"Under the direction of University Police Lt. Dave Weekley, we went through the whole com-

plex and checked out everything," Wasylyshyn said. "We did secure all of the facilities, and when we were satisfied, we gave an all clear."

The all-clear was given shortly after 5 p.m.

A motive for the threat is unknown at this time. Wasylyshyn added that there were no court or jury trials scheduled yesterday.

The meeting to certify the results of the March 4 Wood County prosecutor's primary went on as scheduled at 6 p.m.

Wasylyshyn said that he didn't think the threat was related to the certification meeting.

The streets surrounding the courthouse were closed to traffic as authorities searched the premises. They were later re-



TREVOR LEE | THE BG NEWS

ANSWERING THE CALL: A fire truck waits outside the Wood County Courthouse yesterday afternoon after a bomb threat caused everyone to evacuate while the police searched the premises.

See **THREAT** | Page 2

USG holds 'Rock the Vote'

By Kristen Vasas
Reporter

Although Undergraduate Student Government hoped to "rock the vote" at last night's political event, students were less than enthused about their potential liaisons between the administration and the student body.

During the four-hour event titled "Rock the USG Vote '08," a lack of student turnout kept presidential and vice presidential candidates left with nothing to do.

"Unfortunately, I think student apathism towards USG in general might have had an effect on the turnout," said Nicole Fratianne, president of the group "Waynick and Mutgi for USG '08," who hosted and planned the event.

"We put this on so students would realize what they stand for and to increase the votes on campus."

According to Fratianne, only around 2,000 students voted in last year's election.

As a result, "Rock the USG Vote '08" was created this year in an effort to increase voter turnout.

But regardless of low turnout at the event, hopeful candidates still tried to advertise their campaigns in every way possible.

Banners advertising the running teams' slogans hung from the walls as music blared out onto the second floor of the Union in an effort to grab passing students' attention.

"Even though we didn't have much of a turnout, I think they did a pretty good job for the first time this event was held," Vice Presidential hopeful Sarah Shepherd said.

"Jarell and I just want the students to know that we truly care about what the students think and value

See **VOTE** | Page 2

DANCE MARATHON | PART THREE

Faculty gets footloose for Dance Marathon

By Kristen Vasas | Reporter

We see them every day standing before a desk or a podium, lecturing us on biological make-ups or the history of the U.S. Their days are made up of lesson-plans, grading homework and administering tests.

But on March 29, campus faculty and staff will have the opportunity to switch up their role and throw on their dancing shoes instead.

Dance Marathon, the 13th annual 32-hour fundraiser that raises money in conjunction with the Children's Miracle Network, has recruited its first ever faculty and staff dancers who will participate side by side with the students they teach in class.

In years passed, faculty and staff received general invitations requesting their support, but were never pushed to come out and participate in the event, said Faculty/Staff

Chairman Tom Bethany.

But this year, Bethany and his team used their administrative contacts and friends in order to get the word out that faculty dancers were encouraged to participate in Dance

See **DANCE** | Page 2



ILLUSTRATION BY CHRIS WEST | THE BG NEWS

BRIEF

Laptop with personal info. reported stolen

A MacBook Pro laptop containing personal information on students and scholarship recipients from "all over the world" was reported stolen on Tuesday, according to campus police reports.

Music Professor Mary Natvig reported her computer stolen on Tuesday sometime between 1:15 and 1:25 p.m. from her unlocked office in the Moore Musical Arts Center.

Further information was not available at press time.

By Colleen Fitzgibbons
Reporter

HIV/AIDS is a disease that is prevalent not only in Africa and America, but all over the world.

Common misconceptions, such as it can be spread through kissing and sneezing, float around, but two of the University's organizations took action in order to address the truth of this pandemic.

Yesterday the Caribbean Association, in collaboration with the Black Student Union, hosted an all-day conference called the "HIV/AIDS Symposium: AIDS in the Global

Community in the Union."

The CA is a group of students whose mission is to "promote Caribbean culture and more than that to also educate," said Sely-Ann Headley, a sophomore majoring in nutrition sciences and secretary of the organization.

While CA usually focuses on Caribbean culture through events like Reggae Night, Anjuli Lochan, senior liberal studies major and vice president of CA, said their first inclination to bring this conference to the University was because of the affect AIDS has on the Caribbean community.

Then they decided to take it to

a global stance.

"I think we should target everyone," Lochan said.

Adviser of CA, Ewart Skinner, said the goal of the conference was "to raise awareness of the pandemic of college students, faculty and staff," Skinner said. "So they can provide leadership in the movement to prevent the disease."

Anamita Gall, president of CA, agreed with Skinner.

"People [should] be more educated on the topic in general," Gall said.

Several speakers presented information, misconceptions, the testing process, prevention and personal stories with HIV/AIDS.

Betsy Bunner, the AIDS education director, was up first and discussed an overview of AIDS and introduced two ladies, one African American and one Caucasian, who are HIV-positive.

Richard Ehrbar, a sophomore telecommunications major in Skinner's Global Telecommunication Systems class, said he was inspired by one of the guests in particular, Kristy. Her story was about how she and her husband remained together and even had children together after Kristy was tested positive for

See **HIV** | Page 2

**BLOTTER
TUESDAY**

11:14 A.M.
A juvenile was arrested at Children's Resource Center on Klotz Road for menacing. Police said he knowingly and intentionally threatened to bring weapons to the Center School and "destroy" the staff and students.

6:50 P.M.
Gavin B. Chadwell, 22, of Bowling Green, was arrested for aggravated robbery, felonious assault with a vehicle and theft. Police said Chadwell left Walmart on West Gypsy Lane Road with a PC game in his back pocket. A loss prevention officer resisted Chadwell at the door and then followed him out to his car. Police said Chadwell then threatened the loss prevention officer with a knife and hit him with the mirror of his car as he was pulling out.

WEDNESDAY

1:38 A.M.
Two males were reported to be going through a vehicle on South Mercer Road. A set of poker chips was reported stolen.

2:27 A.M.
Catherine A. Crites, 22, of Bowling Green, was arrested for inducing panic.

2:37 A.M.
Jaimee Leigh Stoner, 18, of Bowling Green, was cited for operating a vehicle while under the influence of alcohol.

2:53 A.M.
Luke A. Warner, 30, of Bowling Green, was cited for possession of marijuana.

**CORRECTION
POLICY**

We want to correct all factual errors. If you think an error has been made, call The BG News at 419-372-6966.

The headline to an Associated Press story yesterday incorrectly stated that French President Nicolas Sarkozy was boycotting the opening ceremony to the Beijing Olympics. Sarkozy said he was considering a boycott, but has not yet made a decision.

DANCE

From Page 1

Marathon.
"We sent out monthly e-mails and newsletters specifically to the faculty on campus," Bethany said. "We also put articles in The Monitor, which is a magazine that goes directly to the desks of faculty asking them to become involved in any way possible."

Although student dancers are asked to remain on their feet for 32 hours, the 25 faculty dancers who have signed up are only required to stand from 6 to 9 p.m. on Saturday. They also were asked to raise \$25 for the miracle families.

"A lot of the faculty who have decided to become dancers have been here for 12 to 15 years," Bethany said. "Twenty five dollars is just a nice amount to ask for, but a lot of them have actually given us \$50 or \$100, which is just awesome."

For Executive Vice President Linda Dobb, the structure and organization that went into planning the event were what encouraged her to become involved. Dobb will be co-disc jockeying the faculty hours with Union Director Mary Edgington and plans to either host a small reception

VOTE

From Page 1

— without the students, we would be nothing."

Presidential hopeful John Waynick also felt that students would make the difference when it comes to next year's tackled issues.

Waynick said one of his and Mutgi's main campaign themes is empowering the students to engage in who represents them.

"As visionaries, we need to make sure that great strides are carried through to their full extent in order to make a difference on this campus," Waynick said.

However, for Vice Presidential hopeful Leo Almeida, making a change for the students on campus isn't

afterwards or purchase mementos for the faculty involved.

"This will be a nice thing to show support for students because it's such a good cause and it means a lot to the [students] who are involved in this," Dobb said. "If you have the ability to make a difference, take the chance and get out there and if it's fun along the way, that's not such a bad thing."

And though some faculty may have become involved because of the good times the marathon inspires, others have more personal reasons for joining. For Bryan Cavins, the associate director of the Student Recreation Center, Dance Marathon represents the hard work and caring demeanor of the students who dedicate their school year to the families who benefit from the money raised.

Cavins experienced these benefits first-hand when two of his children were diagnosed with Hemolytic Uremic

something he and his running mate Jeremy Lehman are planning, but is instead something they are doing right now.

"I hope people realize we don't need time to get ready to work," Almeida said. "We're already ready to work."

For junior Michelle Cooper, the candidates running in this year's USG presidential and vice presidential elections made it hard for her to vote fairly.

"I ended up picking out of a hat because three of the candidates are very good friends of mine," she said. "I think they'll all do a good job, but the team I picked will work to get their voices heard on campus."

"I want the students to know what USG is doing and what they hope to do in the future, and I know the team I voted for will put their hearts into doing that," Cooper said.

THREAT

From Page 1

opened once the all-clear had been given.

Among those in the building at the time was Wood County Commissioner Jim Carter, who helped begin the evacuation of everyone inside the courthouse and county offices.

"We went ahead and set off the fire alarms and cordoned off the area," Carter said. "Everyone's out, and [authorities] are going room to room to verify that there's not a bomb."

Assistant Wood County Prosecutor Heather Baker was in the building when the fire alarms went off. Baker said that she had never seen something like this happen before and was unsure how many people were inside the courthouse complex

when the threat was called in.

Assistant Wood County Prosecutor Aram Ohanian was not in the building at the time of the threat, but returned from his daughter's doctors appointment to find himself unable to get in.

"I have a trial tomorrow, so it puts a crimp in my trial preparations," Ohanian said. "At least it was on a nice day."

The Wood County Sheriff's Office is now investigating to find the caller that phoned in the threat.

"We're taking the investigation very seriously," Wasylshyn said. "We will prosecute them to the fullest extent."

Wasylshyn also said that the caller who made the threat will not only be charged criminally, but will be charged for all costs related to the search. Editor-in-Chief Lisa Halverstadt contributed to this article.

HIV

From Page 1

HIV.
"It's inspirational to hear individuals who have a positive [HIV] status still able to live a 'normal' life," Ehrbar said.

After participants were provided with a catered lunch, the campus group Decreasing Discrimination and Stereotypes conducted a workshop on stereotypes and misconceptions about those living with and contracting HIV/AIDS.

Some issues brought up were how these diseases affect everyone, not just one race, that everybody should become educated on the issue, and that everyone needs to take action to prevent the disease, no matter how small the step is.

"People need to be visible and show that they care about the issue," said senior Ashley Thompson. "Each of us has the availability."

Thompson said she learned about some of the statistics of discrimination and stereotypes that exist about HIV in the clips DDAS showed during the presentation. Such as a high percentage of people that believe that one can spread the disease simply by sneezing — but this is far from true.

Other presenters included Srinivas Melkote, who discussed the prevalence of HIV/AIDS in India, and DaKysha Moore, who is a nurse at the University of Toledo Medical Center. Moore focused on the prevalence of HIV/AIDS within the African-American community as well as the psychological factors that place African-American college students at risk for getting the disease.

Ann Locher covered the new testing process and methodology to diagnose HIV/AIDS. While Locher discussed testing, HIV testing was offered from 3 to 5 p.m. in the room next door to the conference room in the Union. The results were available up to 20 minutes after being tested.

Ehrbar thought the idea of testing was great. He said he believes that those who are sexually active should know their HIV status. He said he has taken advantage of the free HIV testing at the Wellness Center and feels it has a good environment.

While others feel indifferent about getting tested, Ehrbar assured those that it is not that bad.

"The first time is difficult," Ehrbar said.

After Locher presented the new testing process, Phyllis Dako-Gyeke, a graduate student majoring in food and nutrition, discussed the predicament the government officials in Ghana are dealing with along with the disease itself.

Afterward, Bernadette Paul talked about strategic planning to create awareness and help reduce the stigma of HIV/AIDS.

Skinner also talked about the prevalence of HIV/AIDS in the Caribbean along with communication strategies and research to spread the role of the epidemic.

After listening to the speakers Ehrbar said he will take away with him "greater understanding" about HIV/AIDS. "Not just knowing about it, but how to go out in society now to use certain tactics... to dictate the tone to get the concessions," Ehrbar said.

Gall said she thought this program was a good way to spread awareness about HIV/AIDS to college students, but she said education on the disease should start younger. She said people within the age range of 15 to 24 have the most reported cases of the disease.

This is the first time CA and BSU have done this program, and they are hoping to continue it.

CA wanted to give thanks to all their sponsors for backing up the conference, but Skinner said he wanted to give special thanks to the president and vice president of the organization, Gall and Lochan.

"It wouldn't have happened without them," Skinner said.

DYING A DIGITAL DEATH?

Are newspapers doomed to extinction or simply morphing to a new partnership with the Web?



Ron Fritz
Executive Sports Editor
The Baltimore Sun
BGSU '88



Scott Brown
AME for Presentation
The Canton Repository
BGSU '98

Monday, March 31, 2008

2:30-3:30 p.m.

206 Bowen Thompson Student Union Theatre

Listen as two media professionals describe strategies to repackage their newspapers to maintain and attract readership, plus leverage and tie content and news gathering activities to the Web.

Scott Brown, assistant managing editor for presentation at The Canton Repository (70,000 circulation daily) and Ron Fritz, executive sports editor for The Baltimore Sun (230,000 circulation daily) will discuss the efforts both news organizations are implementing in a rapidly changing media

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**BGSU
DINING SERVICES**

Univ. sophomore spends spring with Obama camp

By Kristen Vasas
Reporter



Elyse Faulk
She's devoted the last few months to campaigning

Sophomore Elyse Faulk pulls down a heavy ethnic studies book from the dorm room bookshelves lined up above her head. An orange Bowling Green Marching Band shirt lies on the futon, and a shiny brass saxophone is propped in the corner. Memorabilia from her sorority, Tau Beta Sigma, is scattered throughout her side of the room.

At first glance, Faulk appears to be like every other college student living on her floor. But upon closer examination, one would find that Faulk has dedicated her life to more than just routine college activities.

Starting at the beginning of this year, Faulk began campaigning for Sen. Barack Obama and joined his Web site.

As she became more involved with the campaign and the Web site, she began to be noticed by administrators and extensive volunteers in charge, which eventually led her to a number of incredible opportunities, she said.

"I became part of the Barack Obama group on campus, and someone from the Web site

ended up calling and looking for interns," she said. "I was selected to intern for a month, but to be honest, it was just pure luck that I was chosen."

Along with a number of other activities, she routinely passed out absentee ballots in the Union and canvassed both Bowling Green and Toledo as an intern, which included going to democratic households and giving voters a list of early polling stations.

As she became more involved, Faulk began to reach outside of her immediate community in an effort to spread Obama's message.

During an Obama rally in Toledo, Faulk was given the responsibility of managing the VIP section directly behind the podium where Barack would be speaking. The section was made up of Union workers and special guests who were deemed important to the campaign, she said.

"The more and more I became involved, the more dedicated I became," Faulk said. "I put my heart into the campaign so quickly, and all I ever wanted to do was be at headquarters."

As Ohio's primary got closer, Faulk became even more involved with the Obama campaign.

From Sunday to Tuesday night before the election, Faulk stayed with a foster home in Toledo that housed her during the three pivotal days.

During the night of the primary, Faulk and a group of other volunteers went back to the Toledo houses that they had originally canvassed in order to make sure that the residents had voted. If they had not, Faulk and the others offered to take them to polling stations nearby.

"We had one man who was handicapped and unable to get to the stations," she said. "We ended up driving him there that night, and it might not seem like much, but every vote does make a difference."

And though the volunteers and interns did make a difference during the days and nights leading up to the election results, Obama ended up losing the state

"She is just so passionate about politics, and she influences whoever is around her ... She's opened my eyes [concerning politics] to more than they were in the past."

Kaitlyn Ackerman | Faulk's Roommate

of Ohio to Sen. Hillary Clinton. "When I heard the results, I started to cry because I really thought he was going to win," Faulk said.

However, her drive to get Obama in the White House didn't stop after his loss to Clinton.

Due to her involvement over the previous months, Faulk was asked to go to Pennsylvania for a week in order to campaign before the state's primary.

But because of her busy schedule and commitment to her schoolwork, Faulk turned down the offer after days of debating the pros and cons.

"I so badly wanted to go, but I knew that it was unwise," she said. "I just figured I'd keep up the campaigning here and hopefully that would make the difference."

For Faulk's roommate Kaitlyn Ackerman, the amount of time

and energy that Faulk puts into politics more than makes up for her decision to stay in Ohio.

"She is just so passionate about politics, and she influences whoever is around her," Ackerman said. "I know that before rooming with Elyse I was never as politically involved as I am now — she's opened my eyes [concerning politics] to more than they were in the past."

Although Ackerman said politics have been a part of Faulk's life since they met, the sense of political awareness that Faulk has actually stems as far back to when she was 5 years old.

Faulk's father, Dave, said they used to watch the elections on TV together when she was just a little girl.

"We would stay up late on the weekends and watch the polls and results come in," Dave Faulk said. "She was always an

extremely bright girl, but she started understanding the process more as she got older and she just fell in love with it."

In fact, Faulk became actively involved with campaigns much earlier than college, Dave said. During her senior year of high school, she became a member of the Tiger Democrats and participated in a number of programs that centered on the poor and needy.

And though Dave identifies himself as a Republican, he is still proud that his daughter has made such a difference through the Democratic Party.

"I wouldn't be surprised if we see her in the White House in a few years," Faulk said. "She's the type of girl where the bigger the challenge, the more accomplished she'll get."

And though she still has a long way to go, Faulk hopes that all the experience and memories she has gained over the past few years will help her after college.

"At the end of the day, I won't lie and say that I don't feel stressed out and I just want to stop doing everything I do," Faulk said. "But you just have to smile and remember it's all worth it in the end."

VA Tech manager lectures on crisis control

By Hannah Sparling
Reporter

The Public Relations Manager for the Virginia State Police, Corinne Geller, spoke to a crowd of about 120 at the Union yesterday on how to deal with the media aftermath of a crisis.

After the Virginia Tech shootings, which took place on April 16 of 2007, Virginia officials and the community not only had to deal with the 32 deaths and 25 injuries, but also with the mass numbers of media that swarmed the scene.

"We had press from all over the world," Geller said. "Anybody that had a connection to Virginia showed up. Everybody wanted a

piece of something and they all wanted a scoop."

Geller gave the audience tips on how to deal with large numbers of media and how to make sure the right information gets out at the right time.

"There have to be boundaries and there have to be restrictions," she said.

Geller also talked about focusing on an audience, and remembering that information is really meant for families, students and community members, not the media.

"The media wasn't our ultimate audience," she said. "[They] were simply our conduit of reaching the families."

University doctoral student

Cynthia Fulford said Geller's presentation was very helpful for her because she hopes to one day be a dean of students and will need to know how to handle crisis situations.

"I got some good tips," Fulford said. "You don't know when it's going to happen and you have to have a plan."

Teri Sharp, media relations director for the University, helped coordinate the event, and said she thought it went well. Everyone who came left with some good information, she said.

"We're just really grateful that Corinne Geller was able to come to our campus, and we thank her very much," Sharp said.

WASHING AWAY THE PAINT ON CAMPUS



ENOCH WU | THE BG NEWS

WRITING ON THE WALL: A Bowling Green State University worker removes graffiti from bricks on West Hall.

Fall Registration

2008

Registration begins for:

Graduate Students	March 17
Non-Degree Graduate Students	March 19
Seniors	March 25
Juniors	April 1
Sophomores	April 8
Freshmen	April 14
Guest Students	April 18

Don't miss out! See your advisor now!

Pre-Major Advising and UPAS	101 University Hall	372-8943
Arts & Sciences	205 Administration Building	372-2015
Business Administration	371 Business Administration Building	372-2747
Education & Human Development	365 Education Building	372-7372
Health & Human Services	102 Health Center	372-8242
Musical Arts	1031 Moore Musical Arts Building	372-2181
Technology	102 Technology Building	372-7581
Firelands	101 West Building	372-0676

Register using **My.BGSU.edu**

To find your exact registration day and time, go to the Office of Registration and Records website at

www.bgsu.edu/offices/registrar

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Registration 9:30 a.m.

Test Starts at 10:00 a.m.

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PEOPLE ON THE STREET

Have you voted in the Undergraduate Student Government elections yet?



"No, because I actually just read about it. I'm gonna do it today."
RYAN PIROG,
Junior, Political Science



"I'm going to vote for Waynick, because he's my AMA buddy."
SUZANNE GERHARDT,
Sophomore, Marketing



"No, I plan on it, I just haven't had time yet."
ANTHONY NICHOLSON,
Senior, History



"No, I just haven't gotten a chance."
MARYLEE VARANESE,
Senior, Interpersonal Communications

VISIT US AT BGNEWS.COM
Have your own take on today's People On The Street? Or a suggestion for a question? Give us your feedback at bgnews.com.

Olympic games in Beijing are becoming a political statement



KAMPIRE BAHANA
COLUMNIST

"This is not the only time that blood has been used to wash the streets clean in preparation for the spectacle that is the games."

Only a few weeks ago, outlandish Icelandic singer Bjork ended an impassioned performance of her song "Declare Independence" at a concert in Beijing by yelling "Tibet! Tibet!"

The immediate reception by her Chinese audience was guarded, but apparently the Tibetans took her message to heart.

Signs of unrest surfaced in Lhasa, the region's capital, on March 10 that had not been seen since the Tibetan National Uprising — the 49th anniversary of which the date marked.

The event was marked by violence between ordinary citizens and Chinese armed forces, recalling the infamous Tiananmen Square Massacre of 1989.

Details of this latest uprising are sketchy as the Chinese government continues to restrict access for Western media — we still don't know what sparked the violence.

Evidence suggests ordinary Tibetans began to riot after several monks were arrested in their attempt to protest 49 years of religious restrictions and oppressive Chinese rule.

The details that have reached international media sources reflect how polarized the issue of Tibetan independence has become.

According to information from Tibetan exiles in India, including the Dalai Lama, more than 140 Tibetans were killed in the violence.

According to the Chinese media however, only 16 people were killed in Lhasa — all of them ethnically Han Chinese — during the looting and burning of Chinese-owned shops by Tibetan rioters.

All eyes are now on China as it attempts to contain the protests — which have spread to other Tibetan areas without tarnishing their international reputation in the run-up to the Olympics later this year.

While international leaders such as Condoleezza Rice and Nicolas Sarkozy have urged

China to engage in dialogue with the Dalai Lama, Chinese authorities have accused the spiritual leader of inciting the riots to sabotage the Olympics.

In Internet discussions, Chinese commentators have accused the Western media of bias.

After all, the West tends to think of Tibet as a place of peaceful, spiritual people.

YouTube videos of a mob of Tibetans brutally beating Chinese residents have gone some way to shatter this image.

It's easy to paint China as the enemy.

Their long history of repressive and violent action against dissenters and Tibetan separatists and reputation for disregarding human rights make it that much easier to point fingers.

But if outside eyes have been unfair, then the best way to correct these opinions would be to allow open access to information.

Instead, only a hand-picked group of foreign journalists has been allowed into Tibet under the escort of Chinese authorities (many major news organizations have not been extended the same invitation, including the BBC and New York Times).

China continues to block access to large portions of the Internet for its citizens and broadcasts of international news channels on Chinese television often go black without any reported reason.

Given the lack of information, it's understandable, to an extent, that world leaders have been cautious in their condemnation.

No government has committed itself to a boycott of the Olympic opening ceremony, though French President Sarkozy recently stated that he cannot rule it out as a possibility.

Perhaps a more realistic rationale for the lack of forceful condemnation is China's rising position in the global economy.

French Foreign Minister Bernard Kouchner is quoted as pragmatically stating of a boycott: "We're not in favor of it. When you're dealing in international relations with countries as important as China, obviously when you make economic decisions it's sometimes at the expense of human rights. That's elementary realism."

The 2008 Olympics will not be the last time that the event is used as a platform for protest.

This is not the only time that blood has been used to wash the streets clean in preparation for the spectacle that is the games.

In both Athens and Atlanta, homeless people, immigrants and other "social misfits" were rounded up and incarcerated in hospitals and jails.

In Mexico in 1968, in an event largely kept quiet, hundreds of students and workers were massacred 10 days before the Games to prevent them from protesting.

For Chinese authorities, the picture is black, red and white.

The Dalai Lama is responsible for organizing looting and burning in an effort to publicize independence efforts in the run-up to the Olympics:

"The Dalai Lama is not purely a religious person. For a long time, he wore a religious coat and held the banner of peace while trying to separate China and destroy social stability and national unity."

Meanwhile, the Dalai Lama has insisted he did not organize the riots and does not support an Olympic boycott or even Tibetan independence.

He has even offered to resign should violence by Tibetans continue.

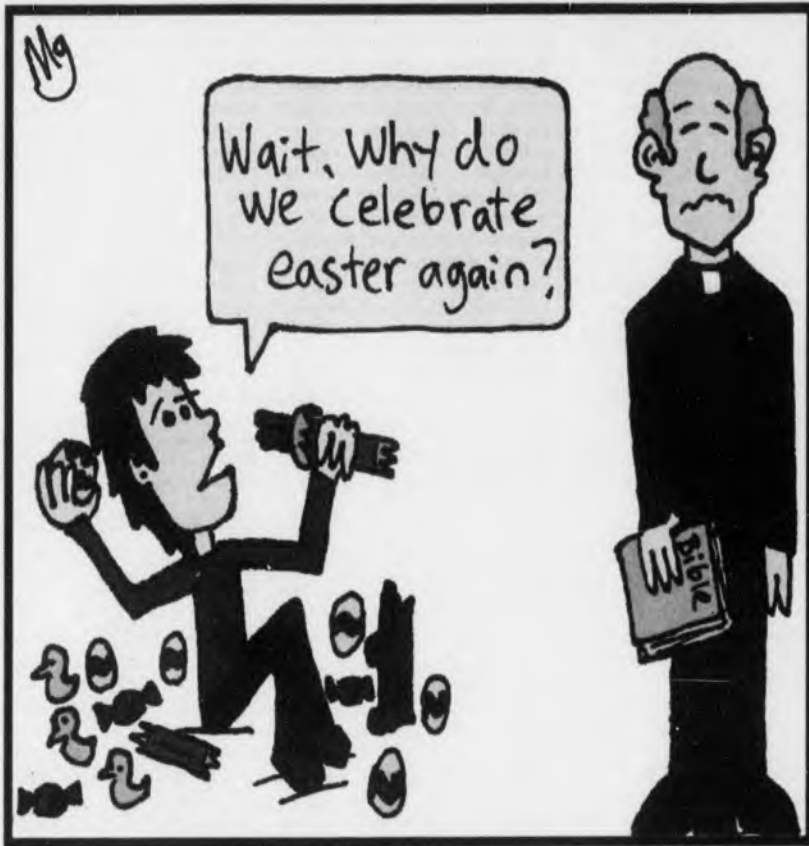
In the past two weeks, 660 people have been arrested in connection to the riots, according to the Chinese government, to be "re-educated."

George Bush has been said to believe that the Olympics should be about the athletes and not politics.

Obviously he does not believe in the "elemental realism" that Kouchner speaks of.

He and other world leaders will attend the opening ceremony in August to pay lip service to the Beijing Olympics slogan of a "harmonious society and harmonious world." No irony intended.

— Respond to Kampire at thenews@bgnews.com.



MARK GOREY | THE BG NEWS

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

University inducing panic

How to induce panic with a Nerf gun toy:

Step 1: When notified of toy use, rush into a classroom and question and/or issue citations to people in possession of Nerf gun toys (October 2006).

Step 2: Drop the charges later (October 2006).

Step 3: Institute official regulations for carrying, using and playing with Nerf gun toys, including time limits, space restrictions, etc. (January 2007).

Step 4: Approve an official student organization that runs a game featuring Nerf gun toys and give it a budget from SBC money (April 2007).

Step 5: Perpetuate a "culture of panic and fear" by spending an undisclosed amount of money on a cell phone alert system (October 2007).

Note that this step works most effectively when you refuse to make public the amount of money spent and repeatedly invoke two rare-but-quite-tragic events in which real people were killed or injured with real weapons while virtually ignoring student concerns about immediate tragedies in our community, like women's safety on campus, discrimination against lesbian, gay and transgender people, racial inequality and the downward spiral of available financial aid to students in need.

Step 6: Ban Nerf gun toys on campus, citing unspecified "concerns" from anonymous "parents," while pretending to be supportive of the student group that organizes the Nerf-related

game (March 2008).

This unpredictable cycle of concern and support should be disruptive enough to induce a brief-but-distracting panic on campus. Note also that only those who are campus administrators or security officers have the power to induce panic with a bright orange-and-blue toy.

— Jeannie Ludlow
Lecturer, Women's Studies

FDR said it best

"The only thing we have to fear is fear itself," President Roosevelt cautioned U.S. citizens some 75 years ago.

How true. The University's decision to ban the use of Nerf blasters in the BG Undead's biannual games reveals the mind-numbing effect of fear.

The games use Nerf Blasters — brightly colored TOYS.

If games are a threat to us all, shouldn't we be banning football, a game where the aggression and violence are so intense that the players must wear padded uniforms and hard helmets? Not only that, but screaming hordes choose sides and then cheer the violence on.

Now that's scary.
— Julie Haught
Lecturer, English/Women's Studies

Take away rollover, we will just buy in bulk

OK, fine, take my rollover money. It doesn't seem like any

TOMORROW IN FORUM

A column by Jess Hylton and a look into mental health by Ally Blankartz

Schedule subject to change.

amount of protesting or newspaper articles is going to change the minds of University officials.

But this is when the creative minds of us proud University students must take a new approach. I'd like to introduce everyone to the idea of bulk purchases.

I would suggest we remain an a la carte campus, as it is one of the major positive differences our campus offers (I'm always hearing those tour guides talk about it).

If so, then I would like to warn all convenience stores on campus: Anyone who has been in Chilly's near the end of the year understands that it's normal to see seniors racking up bills over \$300.

You can pre-order whole palettes of your favorite Ramen or Powerade flavors.

It's a great way for seniors to clear off those meal plan dollars before they take that final walk out of here and into the real world where those nifty cards just don't work (darn).

If you must take our rollover to control the budget, just try. Chilly's may want to start ordering those palettes around March, because now instead of just seniors, you will have a whole student body clearing out their meal plans every May. It's an inconvenience for everyone involved.

I would rather spend my money on the wonderful fresh food Dining Services offers everyday on their a la carte menu, but I guess I'll have to put in my order for some Easy Mac.

I invite all students to join me in spring 2009 in a massive campus-wide bulk purchase extravaganza!

— Jackie Maciupa
Senior, Applied Health Science/AYA Dual Science

SPEAK YOUR MIND

Got something you want to say about an opinion column or news story? Here's how to get in touch with us for letters to the editor:

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- Call us at 419-372-6966.
- Come to our newsroom in 210 West Hall.

Be sure to read the submission guidelines at the bottom of this page.

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THE BG NEWS

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR are generally 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 generally longer pieces between 400 and 700 words. These are usually also in response to a current issue on the University's campus or the Bowling Green area. Two submissions per month maximum.

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

E-MAIL SUBMISSIONS as an attachment to thenews@bgnews.com with the subject line marked "Letter to the Editor" or "Guest Column." All submissions are subject to review and editing for length and clarity before printing. The editor may change the headlines to submitted columns and letters at his or her discretion.

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

GET A LIFE

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

8 - 10:30 a.m.
Family Campaign Kick-Off Breakfast
228 Union

10 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Spring Break Essentials Raffle
Union Table Space

11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
History of Women in Sports at BGSU
201 Union

1 - 2:15 p.m.
Get the Offer: Effective Job/Internship Searching
116 Conklin North

2:45 - 4 p.m.
Interviewing Tips and Practice
116 Conklin North

3 - 11:30 p.m.
Women in Science Storage
229 Union

5 - 8 p.m.
SMART Mentor Interviews
3rd floor Union

7 - 8 p.m.
ArtTalk: W.J.T. Mitchell
Union Theatre

7:30 - 9 p.m.
Internships: Finding, Applying for, and Securing
115 East Hall

Students and faculty share mixed opinions about wait lists for courses

By Lisa Early
Reporter

Monica Wilson, a freshman education major, is one student who has witnessed first hand what it's like to be put on long wait lists and how frustrating the process can be.

"Last semester I had a hard time getting into my Math 112 class," she said. "I was on the wait list for about a month before someone eventually dropped the class and there was enough room for me."

In Monica's case she got lucky. However, there are some students who aren't as fortunate.

Jasmine Summers, a freshman journalism major, was in a similar situation, but unlike Monica, she had to wait until the next semester to get into her course.

"Last year I was on the wait list for BIO 101 and I stayed on the wait list until the following semester when I registered for spring classes," she said.

Director of Students and Academic Services Barbara

Henry works first hand with students in similar situations and agrees that a lack of seats in some courses can be a problem.

"Course accessibility can be problematic for some students," she said.

These problems may arise when a certain class is in more of a demand. This is usually where wait lists come into play.

Students who are not able to get into a certain course because the class is too full sign up to be put on a wait list. In the event that a seat does become available, the department will add those students from the wait list into the class and then notify the students by campus e-mail.

Although Henry admits that this is a problem, there are other school officials who think differently.

Julie Barnes from the College of Arts and Sciences is one faculty member who doesn't think wait listing is problematic.

I haven't had a lot of complaints pertaining to course accessibility, she said.

"There are some courses that are more popular than others," she said. "Different students need different courses."

Henry explained the lack of course accessibility might be due to limited resources.

"The University departments all create their class selection for the next semester based on the faculty they have," she said.

She said the wait list isn't the problem. The problem is students not being able to register for certain classes and she offers a simple solution.

"I recommend students put why they need the particular course," she said.

There is a comment box attached to the wait list where students can explain why they need a particular class.

This way, when faculty go into the wait list to add people, they will see why a student needs a particular course and the students will have a better chance of getting placed in the class as opposed to those who leave no explanation at all.

CAMPUS BRIEF

BG Undead and University administrators are still not on the same page about the use of Nerf guns on campus but after a meeting tonight, there were some communication problems solved that were previously unanswered.

Jeff Coats, Jill Carr and Joe Oravec met with Atonn and Aaron Smeltzer, Peter Geldes and two other players from the game to discuss some of the rules and plans for the missions for the game.

Though it is still unclear if the ban on Nerf guns is permanent, the only thing known for sure is that the game will be played without them for this semester's version of the game.

The Office



quote of the day...

"I don't talk trash, I talk smack. They're totally different. Trash talk is all hypothetical like, your momma's so fat she could eat the internet. But smack talk is happening like right now. Like, you're ugly and I know it for a fact 'cause I got the evidence right there."

- Kelly Kapur

		8	7			3	6
			4			2	8
				9			7
	3		9				
6							
5	8	7		6			
1				5	9		
7		6	2	3			5

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2	9	3	6	7	1	4	5	8
4	7	6	8	5	9	3	2	1
6	2	7	1	9	3	7	8	5
3	8	7	2	4	5	6	1	9
1	5	9	7	8	6	2	3	4
7	4	5	3	6	8	1	9	2
8	6	2	9	4	1	5	7	3
9	3	5	1	3	6	7	2	5



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CITY BRIEF

Dobson wins Republican primary for prosecutor

Paul Dobson was declared the winner last night in an extremely tight Republican primary race for Wood County prosecutor.

Dobson, a current assistant Wood County prosecutor, beat out his nearest opponent by just 35 votes. Dobson received 3,940 votes, while Bowling Green City Prosecutor Matt Reger received 3,905 votes.

Dobson and Reger had been waiting three weeks for the county board of elections to certify the election results from the March 4 primary. Unofficial results from election night showed Dobson ahead by only 29 votes and the race was deemed too close to call.

Even though Dobson was officially declared the winner last night, because the difference between Dobson's and Reger's votes was less than half a percentage point, an automatic recount will take place on April 3. But Terry Burton, the director of the county board of elections, said the recount is not likely to affect the outcome.

Dobson is now the presumptive nominee to win next November's general election since there are no Democrats seeking the position. Dobson would be taking over for current county prosecutor Raymond Fischer who chose not to seek another term.

SBX knocks down walls for future renovations

By Courtney Flynn
Reporter

W.G. Grinders is out and the Student Book Exchange is in.

Although it has been discussed for the past year, renovations just began for the Student Book Exchange to expand into the vacated building that used to house W.G. Grinders.

Ideas of expanding circulated for a while but it did not take much time to secure and negotiate the lease once the opportunity came along, the store's manager, Kent Kokomoor, said.

"I honestly thought SBX was closing down along with Grinders when I saw the sign and construction. I didn't think they had the financial capacity to expand," said junior Peter Drake.

The renovation will allow for the store to be reconfigured so it will be more accommodating and spacious for the customers by the June 1 expected completion date.

One of the most accommodating features that the Student Book Exchange will have following the renovations is a rear entrance. Kokomoor said customers are

currently complaining about the walk around the block from the parking lot, but this should no longer be a problem.

Another aspect that Kokomoor is confident will please the customers is the extra moving room. There will be no more brushing elbows and it will be more handicap accessible, Kokomoor said.

The Student Book Exchange will also offer a larger textbook section.

"I go to SBX at the beginning of the semester to get textbooks so a larger selection would be great," said sophomore Elise Hanson.

But junior Jenny Powers and sophomore Rebecca Comston would like to see a larger selection of general reading material for leisure as well, not just for class.

"I'm always looking for a large selection of books at any bookstore I go to," said Comston.

The Student Book Exchange will also add to its already wide selection of Bowling Green State University Apparel.

"We're so cramped for space, partly because we probably have the largest selection of BG imprint apparel. It will be nice to spread



RACHEL RADWANSKI | THE BG NEWS

DEVELOPMENT: The Student Book Exchange (SBX) will expand into the old W.G. Grinders on the corner of Manville and Wooster.

out," said Kokomoor.

A small coffee shop is a possibility in the expansion for the Student Book Exchange, but has not been officially decided on.

With the coffee shop idea, Kokomoor hopes to provide a small and easily accessible place for students to get beverages off campus.

The purpose of the expansion is to provide more space and attract more students, said Kokomoor.

But despite the planned expansion, some students still prefer the University Bookstore in the Union.

"Now that I know SBX is expanding to provide a larger selection, I will definitely keep that in mind, but I still feel that the Union is more convenient," said Drake.

This will be the second expansion for the Student Book Exchange in 50 years. The first happened in 1985 when a center wall was knocked out, Kokomoor said.

BG chosen to participate in Relay for Life, Cancer Prevention Study

By Kristen Zenz
Reporter

Bowling Green is one of three cities in Ohio chosen to participate in CPS-3, a nationwide study to better understand lifestyle, behavioral, environmental and genetic factors that cause and prevent cancer.

The study, which was started in 2005 by the American Cancer Society, has been implemented across the nation and is only being conducted this year at the Relay for Life events in Bowling

Green, Boardman Township and Madison.

Relay for Life takes place overnight while community members come together to celebrate cancer survivors and remember those lost to cancer by taking turns walking or running laps throughout the night.

According to the American Cancer Society, the goal of CPS-3 is to ultimately eliminate cancer as a major health problem for this and future generations.

"I think this is a great opportunity to be able to participate in a

study that will have such an impact on the livelihood of the future," said Rich Kramp, a previous Relay for Life participant.

The CPS-3 study is a follow-up to previous long-term studies that have linked tobacco use and obesity to increased cancer risks, said Dan Galway, a Relay for Life volunteer and the chair of the CPS-3 committee.

The American Cancer Society hopes to get 500,000 volunteers nationwide. Participants must be between the ages of 30 and 65

and have had no personal history of cancer.

"We're trying to get as many people as possible," Galway said.

In Bowling Green, enrollment will take place on Friday, May 16, 2008, at Bowling Green High School from 6 to 10 p.m.

At this time participants will complete a brief survey, sign a consent form and provide a waist measurement and small blood sample.

"The American Cancer Society thought signing up for the study at Relay for Life would be a great

way to target people already involved," said Laura Libbe of the American Cancer Society. "We want the study large enough to be accredited," she said.

Every two years, participants will be sent a questionnaire that takes approximately 45 minutes to fill out. Follow-up questions for updated information will be asked over a span of 20 to 30 years.

Sometimes people don't want to come out because there is an expense, Galway said, but volunteering for the study costs nothing.

Bowling Green was selectively chosen to gather participants because its Relay for Life has been very successful in the past.

According to Libbe, last year's event attracted 55 teams and totaled 1,076 people.

This year, 172 participants have already signed up, raising \$18,599.14.

Relay for Life is still 51 days away and Galway encourages people to participate in the event even if they don't want to participate in the study.

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Iraq gov't and Mahdi Army confront Shiites

By Hamza Hendawi and Qassim Abdul-Zahra
The Associated Press

BAGHDAD — Shiite militiamen are everywhere. Police and Iraqi army checkpoints are nowhere in sight. U.S. soldiers are keeping their distance.

Sadr City — the Baghdad nerve center for the powerful Mahdi Army — is suddenly back on edge as the militia leader, Muqtada al-Sadr, and Iraq's government lock in a dangerous confrontation over clout and control among the nation's majority Shiites.

The epicenter of the showdown has been the southern oil hub of Basra, where clashes have claimed dozens of lives this week and al-Sadr's forces face a Friday deadline to surrender.

But a more finely tuned measure of the tensions may be found among the one- and two-story homes and shabby storefronts of Sadr City. As the crisis deepened, The Associated Press toured Sadr City yesterday to observe its rapid swing from relative quiet to a return of the Mahdi Army swagger before the U.S. military troop buildup in Baghdad last year.

Sadr City — named after Muqtada al-Sadr's father, who was assassinated in 1999 — is seen as critical to the overall stability and security of the capital.

A resurgence of Mahdi Army attacks and opposition could roll back the gains that have allowed Baghdad residents to take cautious steps toward normal life and offered Washington hope of accelerating troop withdrawals.

But recent days have resurrected old challenges.

Al-Sadr's militia forces, esti-

mated at about 60,000, now seem itching for a fight. The current crisis came to a head over U.S. and Iraqi raids that have detained hundreds of Mahdi Army loyalists even as the group maintained a shaky cease-fire since August — which the Pentagon has credited for helping bring down violence.

The tensions have spilled over into street battles in Basra between Mahdi fighters and Iraqi government forces. Fighting also has flared in other cities across southern Iraq's Shiite heartland — where Iran is hedging its bets by supporting factions of the Mahdi Army and its main Shiite rival.

Mahdi fighters also are blamed for a series of rocket barrages on the U.S.-protected Green Zone, which was hit again yesterday. The Pentagon appears to want no part of the current troubles. Commanders worry that American troops could be drawn into difficult urban conflict, sapping energy from the fight against al-Qaida in Iraq and other Sunni insurgents.

U.S. forces have made only sporadic stabs into Sadr City, choosing instead to strengthen a security cordon on the outskirts. U.S. commanders, meanwhile, have a limited presence in southern Iraq and show no signs of diverting soldiers — as they did in the last major fight against the Mahdi Army in 2004.

"We are a different force than the one you saw in 2004," a senior Mahdi commander said at his Sadr City home.

"We are now better organized, have better weapons, command centers and easy

See IRAQ | Page 8

Scientists dig up bone of oldest human ancestor

By Daniel Woolls
The Associated Press

MADRID, Spain — A small piece of jawbone unearthed in a cave in Spain is the oldest known fossil of a human ancestor in Europe and suggests that people lived on the continent much earlier than previously believed, scientists say.

The researchers said the fossil found last year at Atapuerca in northern Spain, along with stone tools and animal bones, is up to 1.3 million years old. That would be 500,000 years older than remains from a 1997 find that prompted the naming of a new species: Homo antecessor, or Pioneer Man, possibly a common ancestor to Neanderthals and modern humans.

The new find appears to be from the same species, researchers said.

A team co-led by Eudald Carbonell, director of the Catalan Institute of Human

"This discovery ... shows the process was accelerated and continuous."

Eudald Carbonell | Director

Paleo-Ecology and Social Evolution, reported their find in Thursday's issue of the scientific journal, Nature.

The timing of the earliest occupation of Europe by humans that emerged from Africa has been controversial for many years.

Some archeologists believe the process was a stop-and-go one in which species of hominins — a group that includes the extinct relatives of modern humans — emerged and died out quickly only to be replaced by others, making for a very slow spread across the continent, Carbonell said in an interview.

Until now the oldest hominin



JORDI MESTRE | AP PHOTO

FOSSIL: In this undated image released by the Atapuerca Research Team (EIA) yesterday, a small piece of jawbone unearthed in a cave in Spain is seen.

fossils found in Europe were the Homo antecessor ones, also found at Atapuerca, but at a separate digging site, and a skull from Ceprano in Italy.

Carbonell's team has tentatively classified the new fossil as representing an earlier example of Homo antecessor. And, critically, the team says the new one also bears similarities to much-older fossils dug up

since 1983 in the Caucasus at a place called Dmanisi, in the former Soviet republic of Georgia. These were dated as being up to 1.8 million years old.

"This leads us to a very important, very interesting conclusion," Carbonell said. It is this: that hominins which emerged

See FOSSIL | Page 8

Tensions still tight in Tibet as journalists visit

By Charles Hutzler
The Associated Press

HASA, China — Nearly two weeks after anti-Chinese riots and an ensuing crackdown, helmeted paramilitary police with batons checked identification papers in Lhasa's old Tibetan quarter Tuesday, even as the government said the city was returning to normal.

The first group of foreign journalists allowed into the Tibetan capital since soon after the riots got an often carefully monitored glimpse of a city divided. While police presence was visible but not overbearing in the newly built up and heavily Chinese portions

of Lhasa, teams of security forces stood in the lanes near the sacred Jokhang Temple.

Two Tibetan teachers drinking in a nearby bar said they were enjoying a first night out after nighttime curfews kept them at home eating mainly tsampa — roasted barley — since the day after the March 14 riot. One reason the curfew was loosened, they said, was the foreign media visit.

An acrid odor hung in the blocks near the old city where rows of burned out buildings stand as evidence of the violence. Many shops were closed, some from a lack of business, others from looting that left their migrant Chinese owners with little to sell.

"People are leaving because there's no business," said Jin Zhenman, a South Korean who came to Tibet to study traditional Buddhist painting and now runs a sundries shop.

China rarely allows foreign reporters into Tibet under normal circumstances, so the media tour underscores the communist leadership's determination to contain any damage ahead of the Beijing Olympics in August that was supposed to celebrate China as a modern, rising power.

Asked to comment on the reporters' trip, the Dalai Lama — the exiled spiritual leader of Tibetans — called it a "first step." He said he hoped the trip would take place "with

complete freedom."

The rioting and four days of protests that preceded it were the worst anti-Chinese demonstrations in Lhasa in nearly two decades and they sparked protests in Tibetan areas across a vast portion of western China.

Chinese state media and officials said yesterday that more than 660 protesters have surrendered in Lhasa and in Sichuan province, site of at least two violent confrontations between police and Tibetan protesters.

The Chinese government has maintained its response was measured and comparable to

See CHINA | Page 8

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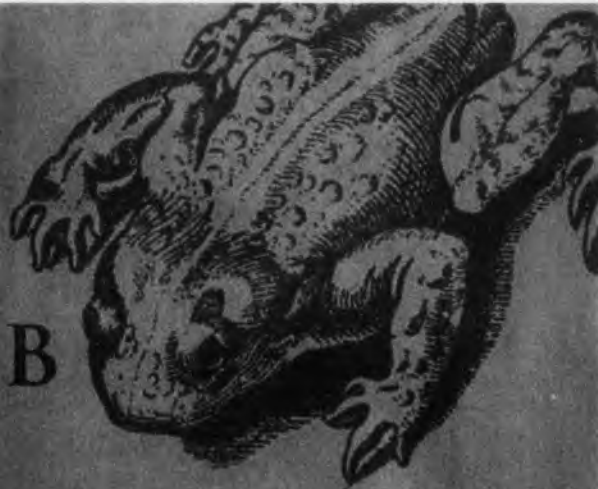
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U.S. accidentally ships missile fuses to Taiwan

BEIJING (AP) — Yesterday China strongly protested the U.S. military's mistaken delivery to Taiwan of intercontinental ballistic missile electrical fuses.

The nation demanding an investigation and steps to "eliminate the negative effects and disastrous consequences."

In a statement posted on the ministry's Web site, Foreign Ministry spokesman Qin Gang said China had brought a "serious representation" to Washington and expressed "strong displeasure" over the error.

The U.S. Defense Department said Tuesday that the Air Force had mistakenly shipped to Taiwan four electrical fuses designed for use on intercontinental ballistic missiles.

The fuses have since been recovered and an investigation launched.

While the shipment did not include nuclear materials, the

error is particularly sensitive because Beijing vehemently opposes U.S. arms sales to Taiwan.

Taiwan is the self-governed island that China considers its own territory.

Four of the cone-shaped fuses were shipped to Taiwanese officials in fall 2006 instead of the helicopter batteries they had ordered.

"We ... demand the U.S. side thoroughly investigate this matter, and report to China in a timely matter the details of the situation and eliminate the negative effects and disastrous consequences created by this incident," the statement said.

Qin again demanded an end to such weapons sales and military-to-military contacts between Washington and Taipei in order to "avoid damaging peace and stability in the Taiwan Strait and the healthy development of China-U.S. relations."

IRAQ

From Page 7

access to logistical and financial support," added the commander, who spoke on condition of anonymity because he is not authorized to speak to the media.

As a U.S. helicopter flew low overhead, a burst of gunfire rang out. During another tense moment, he listened to the screech of a rocket.

"That's going to the Green Zone," he said.

When one of his fighters left the house, he warned about driving too close to American patrols on the edge of the district — a grid-pattern of teeming streets in northeast Baghdad built in the 1950s to house poor Shiite workers.

It was first named Revolution City. Then it became Saddam City.

After Saddam Hussein's fall in 2003, it was designated Sadr City after al-Sadr's father, Mohammed Sadeq al-Sadr, whose death is blamed on Saddam agents.

"Don't be too impressed with what the Americans have. We can still win because

we have faith and a just cause on our side," said one of the two militiamen in the commander's home.

Sadr City, home to 2.5 million people, looked like a place bracing for battle.

Its streets — normally crowded and noisy — were oddly quiet. Beside the militiamen, only youngsters were out in large numbers, playing soccer on dirt fields. Most stores were shuttered.

The militiamen, some wearing ammunition belts and sporting two-way radios, were out in full force dressed in a ragtag collection of tracksuits, jeans and pajamas.

But they carried the essential firepower for effective street conflict: AK-47 rifles or grenade launchers.

Some stood behind rickety market stands with machine guns perched on top.

Snipers took up position on rooftops. Others drove in pickup trucks fitted with machine guns.

Many curbs showed traces of disturbed asphalt — usually a telltale sign of freshly planted roadside bombs. Streets were barricaded by rocks, metal furniture or burning tires.

CHINA

From Page 7

what any responsible government would do when faced with civil unrest.

That message underlined much of the official program put on for the roughly two dozen American, European, Middle Eastern and Asian reporters from the Wall Street Journal, USA Today, the Financial Times, Japan's Kyodo News Agency, KBS of South Korea, and Arab broadcaster Al-Jazeera.

"The situation in Lhasa is returning to normal," Liu Xuan of the Tibetan Information Office told the reporters. The Potala — the Dalai Lama's former palace and a tourist attraction — was reopened yesterday for the first time since the violence.

But while police in the Tibetan old city checked ID papers at twilight, letting only residents into the narrow alleys, by 10 p.m. the area seemed deserted except for the police. Patrols of a dozen police with helmets and shields marched on the streets.

Police at checkpoints stopped cars. While they waved the foreign reporters through, a Chinese taxi driver said Tibetan passengers are pulled out and searched.

The foreign reporters were frequently monitored, and even followed.

The bus ride from the airport seemed purposely slow, taking nearly 90 minutes to travel 40 miles in an apparent effort to soak up time despite pleas from the reporters to speed up.

Journalists were monitored most of the time during the first day of their visit but did venture outside without minders for several hours.

However, several cars followed the journalists at one point and a cab driver who took journalists around the city was questioned afterward by authorities.

When the motorcade stopped beyond one of three checkpoints seen on the airport roadway, several reporters hurried toward the police chased by government minders.

Five uniformed police stopped cars. Officer Cunluobu, who like some Tibetans uses only one name, said the post was set up March 14 — the day of the rioting — and they were checking for "people not wearing seat belts, for violating traffic rules and for having fake licenses."

Aside from the monitoring, a clash of expectations emerged between the officials and the foreign reporters. The officials from Beijing and the Tibetan government emphasized the violence of what is known as "the 3-14 beating, smashing, looting and burning incident."

FOSSIL

From Page 7

from Africa and settled in the Caucasus eventually evolved into Homo antecessor, and that the latter populated Europe not 800,000 years ago, but at least 1.3 million years ago.

"This discovery of a 1.3 million-year-old fossil shows the process was accelerated and continuous; that the occupation of Europe happened very early and much faster than we had thought," Carbonell said.

Chris Stringer, a leading researcher in human origins at the Natural History Museum in London and not involved in the project, said Carbonell's team had done solid dating work to estimate the antiquity of the new Atapuerca fossil by employing three separate techniques — some researchers only use one or two — including a relatively new one that measures radioactive decay of sediments.

"This is a well-dated site, as much as any site that age can be," Stringer said.

But he also expressed some caution about Carbonell's conclusions.

First of all, the newly found jawbone fragment, which measures about two inches long and has teeth attached to it, preserves a section not seen in the equivalent pieces found at Atapuerca in 1997.

So assigning both to the same species must be provisional, Stringer said.

And on the broader issue of tracing the new fossil back to the species unearthed at Dmanisi — Carbonell's big leap arguing continuity — Stringer said this too must be tentative because it is based on just a piece of a front of a jawbone and the time lapse is half a million years.

"That is a long period of time to talk about continuity," Stringer said.

Still, there are similarities between the two and this along with other archaeological evidence, suggests southern Europe did in fact begin to be colonized from western Asia not long after humans emerged from Africa — "something which many of us would have doubted even five years ago," Stringer said.

Carbonell says that with the finding of human fossils 1.3 million years old in Europe, researchers can now expect to find older ones, even up to 1.8 million years old, in other parts of the continent.

"This has to be the next discovery," he said. "This is the scientific hypothesis."

Coming to BGSU:

Microsoft

> Exchange

What is Microsoft Exchange?

A server-based messaging system that provides access to electronic mail, shared calendaring and scheduling, and other collaborative services.

What is Outlook?

An email client for Microsoft Windows and Vista users to access the electronic mail and calendaring features provided by Microsoft Exchange servers.

What is Entourage?

An email client for Macintosh users that allows OS X users to access email and calendar features.

What is Outlook Web Access (OWA)?

A Microsoft Web-based email client that offers access to email and calendar features via a Web interface that closely matches the features and appearance of Outlook.

BGSU will transition from the current email system and Meeting Maker to Microsoft Exchange during the first half of 2008.

Users will then be able to access their email and calendar using Microsoft Outlook 2007 (for Windows users), Entourage 2008 (for Macintosh users) or the Outlook Web Access (OWA) interface for Web users.

Check the Microsoft Exchange project Web site www.bgsu.edu/exchange for up-to-date details on the project including:

- > FAQs
- > "Rumor Mill" link to submit questions regarding the project

Continuing and Extended Education will be offering training sessions on Exchange. Registration information is available at <http://ctc.bgsu.edu/exchange>.

Those who wish to have their data moved to the new system will be notified via their BGSU email address a minimum of two weeks prior to their migration date. As groups complete migration, additional areas will be scheduled and notified of their migration time.

Users who do not need to have their data moved to the new system can volunteer to move to the new system. They will be able to register for the transition without moving data and then will be entered into an automated process. The campus community will be notified when this opportunity becomes available.

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SIDELINES



BASEBALL

Reds option pitcher Homer Bailey to AAA Louisville

Josh Fogg won the battle for the Reds' fifth starter slot and that caused Bailey to be sent down to the minors to work on his control. Bailey's ERA this spring was 5.21 in 19 innings.

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ONLINE

The BG News Sports Blog

Log onto The BG News Sports Blog for all the latest information on all your favorite Falcon sports.

<http://www.bgnewsports.blogspot.com>

OUR CALL

Today in

Sports History

1991—Scotty Bowman and Neil Armstrong elected to NHL Hall of Fame.

1962—Jacques Plante ties record winning sixth NHL Vezina trophy.

1945—DePaul beats Bowling Green for NIT title.

1942—Joe Louis KOs Abe Simon in 6 to retain heavyweight boxing title (NYC).

1939—Oregon beats Ohio State 46-33 in the first NCAA Championship.

The List

The NBA's Western Conference has been brutal all season long (there is definite possibility that a 50-win team will miss the playoffs) and with that said, we rank the top five teams that the conference has to offer.

1. Los Angeles

Lakers: Kobe and the boys have been playing without Pau Gasol and Andrew Bynum and they still have the best record. Plus Kobe has been playing like the MVP.

2. San Antonio

Spurs: Yes they are boring and everyone hates when they are in the finals, but you cannot mistake the playoff dominance that they have had.

3. Phoenix Suns:

The Suns got off to a slow start with The Big Cactus (Shaq) in the fold, but now seem to be gaining their stride as the season winds down.

4. New Orleans

Hornets: The Hornets are the big playoff mystery. How will Chris Paul, David West, Tyson Chandler and the rest of the New Orleans gang handle the playoffs for the first time as a team?

5. Utah Jazz:

The Jazz are the best home team in the league and Deron Williams and Carlos Boozer should be a force to be reckoned with.

BOWLING GREEN 12 | FINDLAY 8

A well-oiled machine



BRIAN BORNHOEFF | THE BG NEWS

PLAY BALL: After seeing seven games in a row get canceled, BG finally returned to the field to beat Findlay 12-8 in the home-opener. BG will next be in action on Friday as they host Northern Illinois and begin a three-game series with the Huskies. Game time on Friday is set for 3 p.m.

Falcons return to action to beat Oilers in slugfest

By Ethan Magoc
Reporter

"We definitely looked like we had a little rust on us."

Danny Schmitz | BG coach

Maybe the BG baseball team should take extended periods of time off more often before games this season.

It certainly wouldn't hurt their offense.

After 10 days of indoor practices and seven canceled games, the Falcon bats came alive yesterday against the University of Findlay at Steller Field.

BG downed the Oilers 12-8, putting up 17 hits in the process.

Then again the offensive explosion could have been a result of Findlay's less-than-stellar pitching staff that has now surrendered 17 earned runs in the last two games combined of Dayton and BG.

Whatever the cause, the Falcons were happy to not be stuck practicing inside Perry Field House and get their first home win.

"We definitely looked like we had a little rust on us," said BG coach Danny Schmitz, referring to the recent layoff caused by dismal March weather. "The main thing is that we got outside after

going seven games without playing. It was very, very important to get this game in, and I credit our grounds crew — they get the game ball."

Both teams came into the game sporting a 7-7 record, but the Falcons made sure they would be the team getting their eighth win that afternoon.

It didn't look that way early on, however, as the Oilers came out and claimed a 3-0 lead off BG starter Brett Browning heading to the bottom of the second inning.

Mark Galvin stepped to the plate and got the offense going with a one-out walk. Derek Spencer, Ryan Schlater and T.J. Blanton all followed with singles to bring the score to 3-2.

Falcon hurlers Brennan Smith and Nick Cantrell came in and shut down the Oiler offense for the third, fourth and fifth innings,

which allowed BG to grab a 6-3 lead through five. Logan Meisler, Spencer, Schlater and Blanton (the six through nine batters, respectively) manufactured those six middle-inning runs and also combined for nine hits on the day.

"We worked some magic early on to get some runs, but then the long-ball took over from there," Schmitz said.

The long-ball Schmitz referred to was provided by two sophomores: Mark Galvin in the seventh inning and T.J. Blanton in the eighth.

"It's been a while since my last one," Galvin said, recalling that until yesterday he had not hit a home run since before his high school days. "I got all of it and I knew that immediately, but the wind helped too. When the ball got up there I thought I had a shot."

Galvin's bomb cleared the right-center field fence near the scoreboard, while Blanton's flew out of left-center an inning later to secure the crucial ninth Falcon run.

The two blasts, along with eighth-inning hits by Ryan Shay, Andrew Foster and Chris Gacom, helped to insure the Falcons' first win at Steller Field in 2008.

Brian Hangbers, who came in to pitch the inning after Galvin homered, ended up getting his first win of the season for the Falcons.

Having three hits at the plate yesterday himself, Hangbers certainly appreciated the insurance runs his teammates provided in the eighth.

"It was definitely a slugfest with the wind blowing out and both teams getting a lot of hits," Hangbers said.

"Whenever you can score in a game like that, it's huge. You never know when the game is on lock."

"We're a team this year that will have to score runs every inning to be successful, and today we did a good job of doing that."

Jeff Peters led the Oilers with four hits and two RBI's, including his second home run of the season in the sixth inning.

Under-achieving prospect hopes to finally catch on for the Indians

WINTER HAVEN, Fla. (AP) — With Andy Marte out of options, the Cleveland Indians are almost forced to not run out of patience with him.

Marte, the key player acquired in a trade with Boston in January 2006, likely will be on the Indians' Opening Day roster again, but in a much different role.

Unless manager Eric Wedge makes a surprise decision to keep someone else, Marte will be the 25th man on a roster of 25 when the Indians open at home Monday against the Chicago White Sox at Progressive Field. A year ago, Marte started at third base in the opener in Chicago.

"He's had off-and-on moments, good days and bad," Wedge said yesterday, one day after the 24-year-old had both in a spring game against the New York Yankees.

In the early innings, Marte looked tentative in making two errors, nearly a third and bouncing into a double play. In the eighth, he stepped up and delivered a go-ahead three-run homer.

Such erratic play not only has the Indians scratching their heads and wondering, but confounds Marte.

"I try not to get frustrated, but I do," Marte said. "Maybe I'm thinking too much."

Marte worries about fulfilling the expectations put on him ever since he hit 21 homers with 105 RBIs in Class A ball in 2002 in the Atlanta Braves system. Three years later, at age 21, he had 20 homers at Triple-A and got called up to replace the injured Chipper Jones in Atlanta.

Marte flopped, batting .140 in 24 games. Before he knew it, he was traded to Boston in December then to Cleveland a month later.

"It was a crazy time for me," Marte said. "I didn't know where I was, who wanted me or not. The Indians really did and I want to play for them, show them they were right."

The Indians painfully recall



TONY DEJAK | AP PHOTO

OUT OF OPTIONS: Indians third baseman Andy Marte will likely make the 25-man roster as he is out of options and would have to clear waivers before going back to the minors.

The joy of a last place bracket after the first weekend



BILL BORDEWICK
ASSISTANT
SPORTS
EDITOR

So how many of you out there still have working brackets as we enter the second weekend of the NCAA Tournament?

Most of you still should be pretty good as all the No. 1 seeds are still alive and two out of the four No. 2 seeds are still alive. Now if you had Georgetown vs. Duke in the final game, I feel sorry for you.

Yes, there were upsets but most of the upsets were not of the bracket-crippling variety that have seemed to shape NCAA Tournaments of yesteryear.

Hell, even I am still alive in my pool and I am currently in last place after the first weekend — that's what happens when you listen to Bobby Knight and start sipping on the Pittsburgh kool-aid (further proof for me to hate everything about the city of Pittsburgh).

Now this is where everything gets interesting when it comes to winning that beloved bracket pool.

The points really start to matter and you begin to watch out for teams that could potentially burn you.

For whatever reason, I went with Kansas to win it all (even with the fact that Bill Self has about as much success in the later rounds of the NCAA Tournament as I do) and UCLA, Louisville and Pittsburgh to round out the Final Four.

Clearly, I was drinking heavily when I made those picks.

Yes, UCLA is pretty much a lock because they have a bunch of children's choir teams masquerading as men's basketball teams in the West Regional with them (but knowing my luck, Western Kentucky is going to hit another miracle shot to take out my Bruins).

But my two iffy picks are really starting to come back to haunt me. The Pittsburgh good-for-nothings pulled a Duke and have already been eliminated by Sparty before even reaching the Sweet 16, and Louisville is in a region with North Carolina.

That could be a big problem for the 'Ville as UNC looks like they could beat a few NBA teams right now (and no, I'm not counting the Heat as a real NBA team because we already know UNC could crush them at their current state). The Tar Heels are just straight kicking tail and taking names.

Plus they are playing the East Regional games in Charlotte, N.C., which is only about two hours from their Chapel Hill campus.

Why I could not just do the smart thing and put the Tar Heels in the Final Four is beyond me. Now I'm stuck rooting for Slick Rick and his Louisville Cardinals while hoping somebody can coral UNC into a loss (a very unlikely scenario).

Then, there is the other side of the spectrum.

You know, the people who had UNC, Kansas, Texas and UCLA in the Final Four with UNC winning; well they can just sit back and look down from the perch atop the pool standings and just laugh at the rest of us struggling with such an easy concept.

But then again those people would not have the joy of rooting for about 10 different unlikely chain of events to happen in order to have a shot at winning a bracket pool.

Clearly, my way of bracket picking is the way to go (and if Louisville, Kansas, or UCLA lose today or tomorrow, don't mind me while I burn my bracket in shame outside of my house).

Reds pitcher Homer Bailey sent down to the minors



LOUISVILLE PITCHER: The Cincinnati Reds optioned pitcher Homer Bailey to AAA Louisville after he lost out on the battle for the fifth slot in the rotation to Josh Fogg.

By Joe Kay
The Associated Press

DUNEDIN, Fla. — Homer Bailey is headed back to the minors to work on that control.

The Cincinnati Reds sent their former first-round draft pick to Triple-A Louisville yesterday, settling the last question about their rotation. Right-hander Josh Fogg will get the final open spot.

The Reds gave the 21-year-old Bailey every opportunity to make it, even rearranging their schedule to let him pitch on Monday night in what amounted to his last chance. When he walked six batters in less than five innings, the decision essentially was made.

"We had a nice, long conversation," manager Dusty Baker said. "You see how long we stuck with him. He was heavily in consideration. He showed vast improvement from last year to this year. He showed big improvement from the beginning of spring training."

The right-hander didn't make enough progress in his biggest shortcoming. He still needed too many pitches to get through

innings, limiting how long he was on the mound. In 19 innings this spring, he walked a team-high 16 and gave up 24 hits. He finished with a 5.21 ERA.

"I told him to go down there, and when you come back I hope you're here to stay for a long, long time," Baker said. "He has the stuff to win. His future is very bright, I think."

Bailey came into camp hoping to win one of the three open spots in the rotation behind Aaron Harang and Bronson Arroyo. Right-hander Johnny Cueto and Edinson Volquez moved ahead of Bailey by pitching much better.

Although the rotation came into focus yesterday, the bullpen and the last few spots on the bench remained open while players got ready to head north for Monday's season opener. They still had 35 healthy players in camp, 10 over the opening day limit.

Four auto carriers lined up on the street outside the Reds' complex in Sarasota yesterday afternoon, preparing to ship players' vehicles north. A truck with team supplies and players' packages

was getting ready to head for Interstate 75 north.

Baker had hoped to have most of the decisions made by now, but the Reds are looking at the waiver wire and weighing various options.

"There's a lot of tossing and mixing and matching of names," Baker said. "The names are still the same. It's a tough time right now. It's a tough time to make the club if you're on the bubble, a tough time to make those decisions, a tough time to get a job if you don't make it."

The Reds added another twist to their deliberations yesterday by deciding to let catcher David Ross play in a major league game. Ross has missed most of spring training because of lower back spasms, and had been catching minor league games the past few days.

The Reds seemed to be leaning toward letting him start the season on the 15-day disabled list. If he didn't play in a major league game, they could count the last nine days of spring training as part of the stay, meaning he would be eligible to return a week into the season.

OSU ready to start spring practice

By Rusty Miller
The Associated Press

COLUMBUS — Between another painful championship-game loss last January and an early-season showdown with Southern California coming up on Sept. 13, Ohio State has a lot of work to do.

Since almost everybody's back from last year, not much time will be spent on introductions or on giving the newcomers directions to the practice field.

"You'd think we'd be a smarter football team with all the experience we have," coach Jim Tressel said yesterday, the day before the first official practice of the spring.

The Buckeyes have an abundance of it. A remarkable 47 players have

been with the team for at least four years.

The Buckeyes were beaten 38-24 by LSU in the Bowl Championship Series national title game last Jan. 7. Since then, almost all of the news for the program has been positive.

Only one underclassman, defensive lineman Vernon Gholston, elected to give up his last year of eligibility to make himself available for the NFL draft late next month.

Gholston's departure — along with that of senior starters Kirk Barton at right tackle, Dionte Johnson at fullback and Larry Grant at linebacker — means the Buckeyes welcome back 10 starters from one of the nation's top defenses and nine starters on offense.

The returning headliners are linebacker James Laurinaitis, a first-team All-American who won the Butkus Award and was the Big Ten's top defensive player, tailback and team MVP Chris "Beanie" Wells and quarterback Todd Boeckman.

Laurinaitis anchors a defense that also returns the entire secondary (corners Malcolm Jenkins and Donald Washington, safeties Kurt Coleman and Anderson Russell) and has several solid players up front.

Despite the hoopla over the signing of blue-chip quarterback Terrelle Pryor, who won't be on campus until the middle of the summer, Boeckman is a lock to be the starter.

After a year in which he completed 64 percent of his passes for 25 TDs with 14 interceptions, Boeckman will be counted on to be in tune with the rest of the veterans around him on offense.

"Todd Boeckman's got to make sure he and Brian Hartline and Brian Robiskie and Jake Ballard, Chris Wells — whoever he throws

it to — that those guys really grow in understanding," Tressel said.

Even though Pryor won't start, he may compete for playing time, and quickly.

"His ability to adjust to the system and the speed of the game will determine where he is in the mix," Tressel said. "But I tell all the guys at every position, 'Don't come in thinking you'll redshirt because if you can help this football team, let's go.'"

Wells, who rushed for 1,609 yards as a sophomore last season, will have a tough act to follow. He went for 222 yards and both touchdowns in a 14-3 victory at rival Michigan which put the Buckeyes in their second consecutive BCS title game, then had 146 yards and a touchdown in the LSU defeat.

Wells is still wearing a cast from surgery this winter on his wrist and won't face contact for most — if any — of the Buckeyes' 15 workouts leading up to the annual spring game on April 19 at Ohio Stadium.

"In the live scrimmages for at least a couple of weeks he won't be cleared to (get hit) because you wouldn't want to risk it," Tressel said.

Not everyone is a grizzled vet. Youngsters the coaching staff will be watching closely this spring include offensive lineman J.B. Shugarts, linebackers Etienne Sabino and Andrew Sweat, receiver Jake Stoneburner and lineman Mike Adams, all of whom are incoming freshmen already enrolled in classes.

Tressel said the clash with USC in Los Angeles, pitting two of the top teams in the country this fall, would likely kick off a 5 p.m. local time or 8 p.m. in Ohio.

That game is just one of the many carrots to put in front of a team, Tressel said.



KIICHIRO SATO | AP PHOTO

BUCKS IN THE SPRING: Ohio State will begin spring practice today in hopes of finally getting over the hump and winning a national championship game. The Bucks also know of the Sept. 13 matchup with USC.

MARTE

From Page 9

going down this road before with a top prospect. In 2002, general manager Mark Shapiro acquired multi-talented infielder Brandon Phillips from Montreal. Phillips hit only .208 a year later in Cleveland and was sent back to the minors. He sulked, fell out of favor, and eventually ran out of options.

Dealt to Cincinnati for a minor-leaguer in April 2006, Phillips developed just as Shapiro had forecast — too late for the Indians. An all-star middle infielder hitting 30 homers and stealing 32 bases for the Reds in 2007 did them no good.

The organization clearly doesn't want to make a similar mistake, though there is one distinct difference in Marte's situation. He has impressed Wedge by working even harder during the bad times.

"I like his approach," Wedge said a few weeks ago after Marte had two homers and six RBIs, but more importantly to the

"He's tried to do too much. He's a good kid. When you're working with someone with that much ability, sometimes the best thing we can do is get out the way a bit. You try to put all that away and just play. That's what I'd like to see him do."

Eric Wedge | Indians Manager

manager also two walks in the same game.

"He's tried to do too much," Wedge said. "He's a good kid. When you're working with someone with that much ability, sometimes the best thing we can do is get out the way a bit. You try to put all that away and I just play. That's what I'd like to see him do."

Marte finds that difficult. "They say relax and I try," he said. "I make a mistake and I want to make up for it. Sometimes I make another (error or strike-out) and I feel worse."

A year ago, Marte started Cleveland's first eight games, hit

.179, and went on the disabled list with a hamstring injury. Casey Blake took his job and Marte went back to Triple-A Buffalo.

"It wasn't anybody's fault, I got hurt and I can't blame them for playing Casey," Marte said. "It's up to me to earn a spot. That's why I'm playing some at first base now. I like third base more, I think first base is easier, but I'll do whatever they want."

"He's always proven himself to be a good defender," Wedge said. "There's been times this spring when he's been a little in between with his footwork. He's got to get in a better position to receive the baseball."

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The winner of our weekly get smart bg trivia quiz



MARTHA MARTINEZ

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Major: Marketing

Class: Junior

Favorite Food: Fried Chicken

Favorite Movie: Beauty and the Beast

Hobbies: Facebooking

and Sudoku puzzles

Goals After Graduation: Get a job and see where it takes me and move to Chicago

What I do for Fun: Hanging out with friends and have fun

— Want to be a Winner? —

Search for "The BG News" group at Facebook.com, join, and take the weekly quiz every Friday.

Each week a winner will be selected. Each issue of The News has a trivia question and answer.

Despite ocean swells, Alaskan crew rescued from sinking boat

All but 5 members survive; captain, four others die of hypothermia at sea

By Steve Quinn
The Associated Press



SAVING LIVES: Coast Guard Capt. Craig Lloyd is shown Tuesday, in front of his Coast Guard cutter in Dutch Harbor, Alaska.

JUNEAU, Alaska — The call came at 2:52 a.m. Sunday. "Mayday. Mayday. This is the Alaska Ranger. ... We are flooding, taking on water in our rudder room."

Within minutes, two Coast Guard helicopters and a search plane lifted off and a cutter with a third helicopter headed out. They departed from different parts of Alaska, moving toward an isolated location 120 miles west of Dutch Harbor in the Aleutian Islands.

It would take rescuers nearly two hours to reach the crew members, who had abandoned ship.

Forty-seven crew members were clinging to life in an ice-cold sea, battered by 20-foot water swells. Ultimately 42 of them were rescued by the Coast Guard and the Ranger's sister ship, the Alaska Warrior.

Five were not. The bodies of three crew members and the captain were recovered. Alaska State Troopers say they were in the water for about six hours, and died of hypothermia. One man's body was lost at sea.

The lost crew member may

"We got a little closer and there was a fourth light, then a fifth, and a sixth and the numbers just kept growing. The ocean was flashing at us over about a mile-long stretch."

Lt. Brian McLaughlin | Flight Commander

have been a survivor who fell out of the rescue basket as it was being hoisted up to a helicopter, but no one knows for sure.

A Jayhawk helicopter was the first to arrive.

"As we approached the scene, we saw three strobe lights and we assumed those were rafts," flight commander Lt. Brian McLaughlin said. "The scene was very grim."

"We got a little closer and there was a fourth light, then a fifth, and a sixth and the numbers just kept growing. The ocean was flashing at us over about a mile-long stretch."

The Alaska Ranger was gone. It sank within 15 minutes, falling 6,318 feet to the sea floor — deep enough to stack the Statue of Liberty and its foundation 20 times over.

The crew members were in survival suits — some illuminated in small pods, others alone — and

life rafts.

Another helicopter and a search plane were slowed by head winds, so it was up to the Jayhawk to perform the pre-dawn initial rescues while the Coast Guard cutter, Munro, and its Dolphin helicopter made their way to the scene.

Petty Officer 2nd Class O'Brien Hollow was attached to a steel cable and lowered into the water to see who needed the most immediate help. He placed 13 survivors into a basket-like gurney and stayed in the water as each was hoisted into the aircraft.

"We were moving 30 to 50 feet sometimes with the swell," Hollow said of the time he was in the water, trying to stay in sync with the helicopter pilot. "We moved left, right, north, south, east, west."

As the 33-year-old Hollow worked, neither the Munro nor the Alaska Warrior had arrived.

But once the cutter got to within 80 miles, it launched its rescue helicopter, the Dolphin, and four crew members, said Munro Capt. Craig Lloyd.

Within 10 minutes, and about three hours after the fishing vessel's mayday call, the Jayhawk approached the cutter with its first group of survivors.

The Jayhawk first tried to take them to the Warrior because the vessel arrived before the Munro, but the Warrior's deck was filled with fishing gear and covered with ice.

"In the end, it would have been too dangerous to lower them on board," McLaughlin said.

The Jayhawk flew another 50 miles to the cutter, which was not equipped for such a large aircraft to land.

So one by one, survivors again found themselves in baskets. They were lowered to the ship and escorted to a mess hall converted into a medical ward with heaters, bags of intravenous fluids, special sleeping bags to fight hypothermia and warm blankets.

In the meantime, the Warrior was able to take crew members from life rafts, and the helicopters plucked more survivors from the sea.

Texas man on trial for putting baby in microwave

By Juan A. Lozano
The Associated Press

GALVESTON, Texas — Jurors resumed deliberations yesterday on punishment for a young father convicted of badly injuring his infant daughter by putting her in a microwave.

Prosecutors are asking that Joshua Mauldin be sentenced to life in prison for stuffing his daughter Ana in a microwave and turning it on for 10 to 20 seconds. His defense attorney asked for probation so his client could continue receiving psychiatric treatment.

Jurors worked for over two hours Tuesday without reaching a decision on a sentence.

Earlier Tuesday, the jury convicted Mauldin, 20, of felony injury to a child, dismissing his claim he was having a psychotic episode when he put his then-2-month-old daughter in a Galveston hotel microwave in

May 2007.

Mauldin had pleaded not guilty by reason of insanity. The conviction came after about four hours of deliberations, which began Monday afternoon.

Galveston County prosecutor Xochitl Vandiver asked jurors to give Mauldin a life sentence because Mauldin had given his daughter a life sentence as well — one of physical and emotional scars.

Mauldin at first told police his daughter had been severely sunburned, later changing his story and saying he had accidentally spilled hot water on her while making coffee.

Ana suffered second- and third-degree burns to her left ear, cheek, hand and shoulder and required two skin grafts after being in the microwave. Part of her left ear had to be amputated.

"She will always for the rest of her life be reminded just by looking in a mirror," Vandiver said.



KEVIN M. COX | AP PHOTO

FACING CONVICTION: Joshua Mauldin, 20, is led into the state District Court in Galveston, Texas, during the punishment phase of his trial on Tuesday afternoon.

get smart.

TRIVIA QUESTION OF THE DAY

The first BG yearbook was called

- a. the Key
- b. the Bee Gee
- c. the Falchion
- d. the Annual of Bowling Green State Normal College

ANSWER: b. the Bee Gee

Check out The BG News Facebook page Friday. Answer all five questions for your chance to win prizes and recognition!

Each issue has a question and answer for Friday's quiz.

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Obama's former pastor cancels church services out of safety concerns

HOUSTON (AP) — The Rev. Jeremiah Wright, presidential candidate Barack Obama's controversial former pastor, has canceled plans to speak at three services at a Houston church on Sunday, the church's pastor said.



Rev. Jeremiah Wright
Barack Obama's controversial former pastor

The Rev. Marcus Cosby, pastor at Wheeler Avenue Baptist Church, told Houston television station KTRK and the Houston Chronicle that safety concerns had prompted Wright's decision.

Cosby told the Chronicle that Wright cited three reasons for canceling: "the safety of the institution to which he has been invited; the safety of his family, which has been placed in harm's way; and for his own safety."

Wright also canceled his appearance Tuesday in Florida at a Tampa-area church. The hosting church said it asked Wright to cancel his scheduled three-day appearance because of security questions.

Wright had been expected to be in North Texas over the weekend to be honored by the Brite Divinity School in Fort Worth, but it was unclear whether he would still be attending.

"His schedule is pending," Joan Harrell, minister of communications for Trinity United Church of Christ in Chicago, where Wright was pastor for nearly four decades, told The Dallas Morning News for its Tuesday online editions. The newspaper said that she wouldn't elaborate.

Harrell didn't immediately return a phone call from The

Associated Press yesterday.

Videos of remarks Wright has made have been circulating widely on the Internet and news programs. Wright's sermons to his predominantly black congregation have included him shouting "God damn America" for its treatment of minorities. He has said the U.S. government invented AIDS to destroy "people of color" and has also suggested that U.S. policies in the Middle East and elsewhere were partly responsible for the 2001 terrorist attacks on New York and Washington.

"I think we have taken Dr. Wright out of context with sound bites," Cosby said.

"After all these years, I am not going to kick him to the curb over sound bites."

In a speech last week, Obama sharply condemned Wright's remarks and the preacher's refusal to acknowledge progress in race relations. But the Illinois senator refused to repudiate Wright.

In North Texas over the weekend, Wright is supposed to speak at a Saturday luncheon at Paul Quinn College in Oak Cliff and be honored that night at Friendship-West Baptist Church in the Red Bird area.

Clinton looks to redesign mortgages

By Charles Babington
The Associated Press



Hillary Clinton
The senator hopes to give lenders more protection from lawsuits

PHILADELPHIA — Democrat Hillary Rodham Clinton proposed several remedies to the nation's home mortgage problems Monday, including one tool more often associated with Republicans than Democrats.

The New York senator proposed greater protections for lenders from possible lawsuits by investors, a variation of so-called tort reform. For years, GOP leaders have called for restrictions on what they consider unwarranted lawsuits against businesses. Democrats often have resisted them on grounds they limit injured parties' legitimate rights to redress.

"Many mortgage companies are reluctant to help families restructure their mortgages

because they're afraid of being sued by the investment banks, the private equity firms and others who actually own the mortgage papers," Clinton said in what she billed as a major address on the economy.

"This is the case even though writing down the value of a mortgage is often more profitable than foreclosing," she said. Clinton said she would offer legislation "to provide mortgage companies with protection against the threat of such lawsuits," but provided no further details.

Brian Deese, a Clinton eco-

nomics adviser, said different categories of investors can have different interests in how a mortgage is handled. Clinton's legislation would clarify that a mortgage provider's obligations are to "investors as a whole," he said in an interview.

Clinton also called on President Bush to appoint "an emergency working group on foreclosures" to recommend new ways to confront housing finance troubles. She said the panel should be led by financial experts such as Robert Rubin, who was treasury secretary in her husband's administration, and former Federal Reserve chairmen Alan Greenspan and Paul Volcker.

Clinton and Sen. Barack Obama are campaigning heavily in Pennsylvania, which holds its presidential primary April 22 to allocate 158 delegates, the largest

single prize left in the campaign season. Obama was scheduled to return to the state on Friday to begin a six-day bus tour.

Clinton said she supports pending legislation to establish an auction system for hundreds of thousands of mortgages in default. Under the plan, drafted by Democratic lawmakers, lenders "could sell mortgages in bulk to banks and other buyers."

Clinton said, who in turn would "restructure them to make them affordable for families, because they know the government will guarantee them once they're reworked."

The Federal Housing Administration, she said, "should also stand ready to be a temporary buyer to purchase, restructure, and resell underwater mortgages" if the auction plan falls short.

McCain says U.S. needs to respect foreign allies

By Liz Sidoti
The Associated Press



John McCain
The senator wants to work closely with other nations

LOS ANGELES — John McCain, outlining his foreign policy positions on the heels of an overseas trip, renewed his call for the United States to work more collegially with democratic nations and live up to its duties as a world leader.

"Our great power does not mean we can do whatever we want whenever we want, nor should we assume we have all the wisdom and knowledge necessary to succeed," the Republican said after returning from the Middle East and

Europe. "We need to listen to the views and respect the collective will of our democratic allies."

The pitch, at an appearance yesterday before the Los Angeles World Affairs Council, is a fresh acknowledgment by the GOP's likely presidential nominee that the United States' standing on the world stage has been tarnished and that the country has an image

problem after eight years of President Bush at the helm.

Critics at home and abroad have accused Bush of employing a go-it-alone foreign policy in the wake of the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks when the administration spurned international calls for caution and led the invasion into Iraq. Democrats have derided McCain as offering the same foreign policies as Bush, whose support is at a low point.

But McCain, mindful of a need to lay out his own vision for the future and distance himself from the unpopular Republican president, voices a more collaborative approach.

"The United States cannot lead by virtue of its power alone," McCain said. Instead, the country must lead by attracting others to its cause, demonstrating the virtues of freedom and democracy, defending the rules of an international civilized society, and creating new international institutions to advance peace and freedom, he said.

"If we lead by shouldering our international responsibilities and pointing the way to a better and safer future for humanity ... it will strengthen us to confront the transcendent challenge of our time: the threat of radical Islamic terrorism," said McCain.

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Health care executive found guilty of fraud

By Andrew Welsh-Huggins
The Associated Press

COLUMBUS — A federal jury yesterday convicted the founder of a failed health care company of trying to bribe a witness in an upcoming \$1.9 billion fraud trial.

The jury took one day to deliver its decision against Lance Poulsen, former chief executive officer of National Century Financial Enterprises, described as the nation's largest health care financing firm before its 2002 bankruptcy.

Poulsen was accused of offering a former company executive \$500,000 to give misleading testimony during Poulsen's fraud trial scheduled for August.

The executive, Sherry Gibson, told jurors that Karl Demmler, a long time friend to her and Poulsen, told her that Poulsen "wanted to make me whole."

The jury also convicted Demmler, who prosecutors had accused of acting as an intermediary for Poulsen to contact Gibson.

"How can I make you understand that I just want this whole situation behind me so I can get on with my life?"

Sherry Gibson | Former company executive

Poulsen said Gibson misunderstood his attempts to help her. He said he was only trying to provide her with a new attorney because he believed she'd been wrongly convicted based on bad legal advice.

Gibson pleaded guilty in 2003 for her role in the National Century fraud case in exchange for cooperating with prosecutors.

Poulsen and Demmler face up to 35 years in prison for their convictions on all counts of a four-count indictment alleging conspiracy, witness tampering and obstruction of justice.

U.S. District Judge Algenon Marbley ordered Demmler taken into custody. Poulsen has been held in a jail in Chillicothe.

On a phone call with

Demmler recorded by the government, Poulsen said Gibson should explain that her previous statements to prosecutors were based on old facts.

Poulsen said Gibson should say, "But now, there is a new set of charges and it's a new indictment and I'm not familiar with it," Poulsen said on the recording.

In other recordings, Demmler suggests to Poulsen that Gibson could "have amnesia."

Prosecutors portrayed Gibson as a repentant ex-felon who'd served her time after pleading guilty to corporate fraud.

"How can I make you understand that I just want this whole situation behind me so I can get on with my life," Gibson said in a Jan. 29 letter to Demmler quoted by prosecutors.

Poulsen wanted to pay Gibson for one reason, U.S. trial attorney Leo Wise told jurors: to help him win his fraud case.

Defense attorneys characterized Gibson as an angry woman with an ax to grind who turned on Demmler and Poulsen when they were just trying to help her.

They quoted a different part of the same letter in which Gibson suggests that figuring out a way to get back what she lost would be "something to check out."

Poulsen testified he never tried to influence Gibson. "I never asked Sherry to lie," he told jurors during testimony that stretched over several hours. "I never asked her to forget anything."

Poulsen should have stopped Demmler when he talked about Gibson having amnesia, but he never endorsed that approach, his attorney, Peter Anderson, told jurors.

In his August trial, Poulsen faces multiple counts of wire and securities fraud and money laundering.



LEIGH TAYLOR | AP PHOTO

EGGSTATIC: Two chickens stand on top of the coop in the backyard at Jodi Harris's home in Kennedy Heights, Ohio March 18.

Backyards see new trend in chicken-raising

By Polly Campbell
The Cincinnati Enquirer

CINCINNATI — Jodi Harris likes to get her food as locally as she can. She shops at a farmers market, has a garden and joined a community agriculture project for fresh produce. And for the last year, she's been able to walk out to her Kennedy Heights backyard and gather freshly laid eggs from the three chickens she keeps there.

Kimberly Gelhaus wanted a family project that would involve her children and bring the origins of their food closer to home.

She and her family now take care of three chickens that live in a coop made from an old swing set and chicken wire in their backyard. Gelhaus gets more eggs than her family can eat, and she enjoys surprising her children's friends who come over and exclaim "Oh my gosh, is that... a chicken?"

Harris, Gelhaus and other Greater Cincinnati and northern Kentucky residents share in the growing interest around the country in keeping chickens. Elaine Belanger, the editor of Backyard

Poultry Magazine, published in Wisconsin, said backyard chicken-raising is a trend motivated by people's desire to have more control over what they eat.

"People don't want the antibiotics, the hormones, or eggs from chickens kept in cages," she said.

Rob O'Hara, owner of Mount Healthy Hatchery in Springfield Township, which sends day-old chicks around the country, said he's noticed an increase in orders for fewer than 10 chicks over the past few years.

"I have 15 or 20 people from the local area come out and buy a small order of a few chicks [each week]."

"I think they mostly want them for pets," he said.

Chickens can be pets, though not quite like a cat or dog. "When I get home, my chickens run out and stand with their wings back, waiting to be petted," Gelhaus said.

"The best thing about my chickens is they make me laugh," said Mary Ida Compton about her chickens that she keeps on her property. "There's nothing funnier than a chicken running."

Poker festivals strive to raise money for charity

By M.R. Kropko
The Associated Press

CLEVELAND — An effort now in its fourth year to raise money for charities through gambling starts up again today, with an expanded schedule for 2008.

The growing availability of casino-style gambling in Cleveland comes as Ohio lawmakers are deciding whether to give the Ohio Lottery approval to start Keno, a game often played in casinos.

Cleveland's Nautica Charity Poker Festivals had been held during 20 weeks each year since 2005, under a tent. The expanded schedule is 35 weeks this year, indoors. The plan is to run it 46 weeks next year.

Tim Knudsen, a spokesman for the charity gambling venture, said the Keno debate was not at all part of the decision to expand the gaming beyond

"The jury indicated that witness tampering would not take place in this courtroom or any other.

The case was a matter of money for lies."

Douglas Squires | Federal prosecutor

spring and summer months.

Keno, he said, is "something up to Gov. Strickland. Our focus is on helping the charities draw people and be successful to raise money."

One possible link, though, is that the Ohio Lottery, if allowed, plans to place the computerized Keno game in taverns.

The new location for Nautica Charity Poker Festivals is on the ground floor of the Powerhouse building, next to the Cuyahoga River, an old industrial site converted into an entertainment complex that includes restau-

rants and taverns.

"I think the move to the indoor facility at the Powerhouse was just a logical extension to offer charities the opportunity to host more festivals," Knudsen said. "That helps to bring people to downtown Cleveland."

Charities have raised about \$1.75 million over the last three years.

The bigger schedule is expected to increase that total more substantially through gaming at Texas Hold'em and blackjack tables, he said.

Cuyahoga County leases the

space for \$1 a year. Charities technically sublease space from the county. Last year, charities averaged about \$30,000 in profit from each four-day event, today through Sunday.

The first five charities this year are Ohio Junior Hockey, Police Athletic League, North Olmsted Hockey, Garfield Heights Boosters and Dominic Konopka Scholarship Fund.

The arrangement was set up originally in part to demonstrate the public's willingness to gamble in Ohio, where voters and gambling opponents, including lawmakers, have stopped previous casino-style gambling proposals.

The setup in Cleveland is a way to run casino-style games within the law, said Ted Hart, a spokesman for Ohio's attorney general, Marc Dann. All proceeds must go to the sponsoring charity.

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PETS ON WHEELS: Donay Queenan's 11-year-old auburn Welsh Corgi named Max waits at the door of Eddie's Wheels in Shelburne Falls, Mass.

Disabled pets can get around with new set of wheels

By **Stephanie Reitz**
The Associated Press

SHELburne Falls, Mass. — When Gary Mikus learned that an incurable nerve disease was starting to paralyze the hind legs of his German shepherd, he immediately dismissed the idea of putting the dog to sleep.

Then he spotted an ad in a pet food store: "Eddie's Wheels For Pets. Help for Handicapped Pets." Now the dog named Bear, which has been Mikus' constant companion for a decade, has a lot of living left to do — much of it in his new pet wheelchair.

"He's healthy in every other way," Mikus said. "Until something tells me otherwise that he's failing, I'll do everything I can to keep him mobile and happy."

Agrowing number of pet owners are turning to custom-built wheelchairs to restore mobility to furry friends whose legs, hips or backs don't work. The owners' goals are simple: to reward their pets' unconditional love with whatever it takes for the animals to live normally.

The two-wheel carts support the dog's midsection with a padded saddle, and are secured with a shoulder yoke and chest strap. Most dogs have rear-wheel carts to compensate for lame hind legs, though a growing number of front-wheel carts are being ordered for animals with front-leg problems.

Donna Blain's 7-year-old Maltese named Gizmo hopped and hobbled on his deformed front legs before she adopted him a year ago. She ordered his cart after learning the odd gait had damaged his spine and would have required surgery.

Now he wheels himself around for hours on sidewalks, in parks and anywhere he can find treats and praise.

"He's into everything," said Blain, of Woodstock, Conn. "He just wants to live, after all those years of really hobbling and not being able to get where he wanted to be."

Eddie and Leslie Grinnell, founders of Eddie's Wheels, built their first pet wheelchair in 1989 when their 10-year-old Doberman, Buddha, lost the use of her rear legs because of disc disease and spinal problems.

Their veterinarian, impressed by Buddha's revived mobility and vitality, started referring others to the Grinnells. In 1998, they started their own business.

Similar wheelchair makers can be found in Montana, Maryland, Oregon, Washington and elsewhere. Most dog carts start around \$250 and can exceed \$500 based on the size of the dog, while the cost of wheelchairs for other animals can vary depending on the type and size of animal.

Since launching the business, Eddie's Wheels has shipped carts worldwide — the largest to a 220-pound Saint Bernard in Great Britain — and has made wheelchairs for several cats, a ferret, alpacas, goats, sheep, a rabbit and a possum.

They even keep a supply of tiny wheels on hand for a gerbil or hamster.

Veterinarian Derek Fox, a University of Missouri professor specializing in orthopedic surgery for dogs, cats and other small animals, said pets that once would have been irreversibly crippled are benefiting

from a variety of advancements: improved hip and joint replacements, better physical therapy and wheelchairs.

"Even if a treatment is expensive, these are people who say they'll do anything to keep their pet moving, to keep them happy, to keep their quality of life up," he said.

Many of the dogs who need the chairs become disabled from degenerative myelopathy, a neurological disease common in German shepherds, golden retrievers, Labradors and other large sporting breeds. Others, like Corgis and Daschunds, are vulnerable to disc and spine problems that eventually leave them lame.

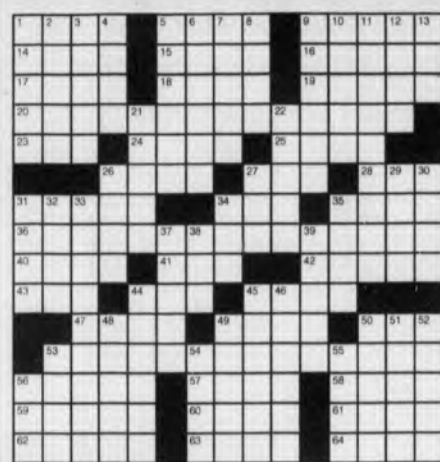
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- Pancake order
 - San Diego pro
 - Of bees
 - Shea team
 - Rum cocktail
 - Practical trainee
 - Wind-blown soil
 - Pub projectile
 - ... rasa
 - Washington's successor
 - Citrus spread
 - Sympathy
 - ... longa, vita brevis
 - Gets wind of
 - Morgan of "Boston Public"
 - Zoo enclosure
 - TV alien from Melmac
 - Presley's middle name
 - Bucks' leader?
 - Tacks on
 - Small combo
 - Platter player
 - Sternward
 - Site of the Taj Mahal
 - 2000 candidate Ralph
 - Debut on NASDAQ
 - Dapper

ACROSS

- Computer clutter
- Balmy
- Buccaneer's home
- Record
- Small buffalo
- Red of oil well fire-fighting fame
- Collier's entrance
- Roman way
- Simpson and Maverick
- Unpaid worker at GM?
- Author Kesey
- Jug handles
- "Lohengrin" lady
- First murderer
- Attorney's org.
- Take a powder
- Rose oil
- Mass vestment
- Berne's river
- Unpaid worker at the DEA?
- Calamitous
- Appropriate
- Sphere of activity
- Family member
- Tokyo, formerly
- ... carotene
- Domesticated
- Louver piece
- Stage signal
- Unpaid workers at the FDA?
- Customary practice
- Person, place or thing
- "Trinity" author
- Diacritical mark
- Facial feature
- Casino cubes
- Spirited mount
- Imitator
- Abba of Israel

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ODD NEWS BRIEF

A tip for the prom night

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The student at Switzerland County Senior High in Patriot, Ind., says she gave half the money to her stepfather. The rest she's using for a dress, shoes, purse and limo for her senior prom.

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 A SENIOR FAREWELL

 GAMMA ADVISES GREEKS

 GREEK & GAY: STEREOTYPES MEET REALITY



ELISE AMENDOLA / AP PHOTO

PETS ON WHEELS: (Clockwise from top left) 11-year-old Auburn Welsh Corgi named Max waits at the door of Eddie's Wheels in Shelburne Falls, Mass.

Disabled pets can get around with new set of wheels

By Stephanie Reitz
The Associated Press

SHELburnE FALLS, Mass. — When Gary Mikus learned that an incurable nerve disease was starting to paralyze the hind legs of his German shepherd, he immediately dismissed the idea of putting the dog to sleep.

Then he spotted an ad in a pet food store: "Eddie's Wheels For Pets. Help for Handicapped Pets." Now the dog named Bear, which has been Mikus' constant companion for a decade, has a lot of living left to do — much of it in his new pet wheelchair.

"He's healthy in every other way," Mikus said. "Until something tells me otherwise that he's failing, I'll do everything I can to keep him mobile and happy."

A growing number of pet owners are turning to custom-built wheelchairs to restore mobility to furry friends whose legs, hips or backs don't work. The owners' goals are simple: to reward their pets' unconditional love with whatever it takes for the animals to live normally.

The two-wheel carts support the dog's midsection with a padded saddle, and are secured with a shoulder yoke and chest strap. Most dogs have rear-wheel carts to compensate for lame hind legs, though a growing number of front-wheel carts are being ordered for animals with front-leg problems.

Donna Blain's 7-year-old Maltese named Gizmo hopped and hobbled on his deformed front legs before she adopted him a year ago. She ordered his cart after learning the odd gait had damaged his spine and would have required surgery.

Now he wheels himself around for hours on sidewalks, in parks and anywhere he can find treats and praise.

"He's into everything," said Blain, of Woodstock, Conn. "He just wants to live, after all those years of really hobbling and not being able to get where he wanted to be."

Eddie and Leslie Grinnell, founders of Eddie's Wheels, built their first pet wheelchair in 1989 when their 10-year-old Doberman, Buddha, lost the use of her rear legs because of disc disease and spinal problems.

Their veterinarian, impressed by Buddha's revived mobility and vitality, started referring others to the Grinnells. In 1998, they started their own business.

Similar wheelchair makers can be found in Montana, Maryland, Oregon, Washington and elsewhere. Most dog carts start around \$250 and can exceed \$500 based on the size of the dog, while the cost of wheelchairs for other animals can vary depending on the type and size of animal.

Since launching the business, Eddie's Wheels has shipped carts worldwide — the largest to a 220-pound Saint Bernard in Great Britain — and has made wheelchairs for several cats, a ferret, alpacas, goats, sheep, a rabbit and a possum.

They even keep a supply of tiny wheels on hand for a gerbil or hamster.

Veterinarian Derek Fox, a University of Missouri professor specializing in orthopedic surgery for dogs, cats and other small animals, said pets that once would have been irreversibly crippled are benefiting

from a variety of advancements: improved hip and joint replacements, better physical therapy and wheelchairs.

"Even if a treatment is expensive, these are people who say they'll do anything to keep their pet moving, to keep them happy, to keep their quality of life up," he said.

Many of the dogs who need the chairs become disabled from degenerative myelopathy, a neurological disease common in German shepherds, golden retrievers, Labradors and other large sporting breeds. Others, like Corgis and Daschunds, are vulnerable to disc and spine problems that eventually leave them lame.

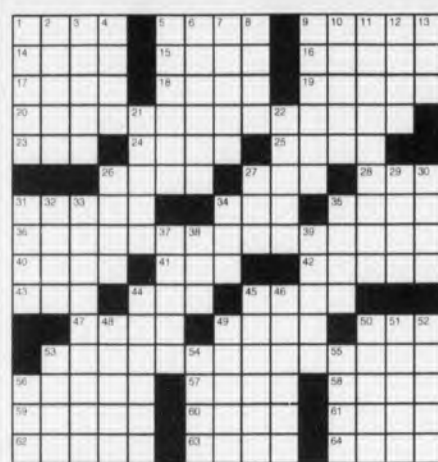
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TRUE LIFE: FREDDIE AND FRIEDA

 SENIOR SUPERLATIVES VOTING

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 A SENIOR FAREWELL

 GAMMA ADVISES GREEKS

 GREEK & GAY: STEREOTYPES MEET REALITY

Editor's CORNER



JOHN TURNER
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

In a matter of hours, Dance Marathon will begin. As a dancer my freshman year, I learned not only the importance of the event, but how damn hard it can be. Dancing means standing for 32 hours. Standing for 32 hours is (keeping this article a profanity-free zone) rather difficult.

Have you ever had the joy of driving to Florida? Now imagine driving there when DM starts, then driving right back to BGSU.

Sound like a long time? Dancers would still have four hours left.

But worry not dancers, because I'm here to offer my wisdom from lessons learned the hard way.

Secure a good moraler

It's tough to explain just how crucial a good moraler is. What's easier to explain is how disastrous a bad moraler is, and that I can do from experience.

For the sake of this little story, we shall call him "Mike." Mike shows up for the opening ceremony and makes fun of me for not being able to sit. Mike disappears then returns two hours later with drawings of people sitting down. Mike goes home to nap (for 13 hours) then returns to throw hula hoops at me.

Moralers: Do NOT be Mike.

Keep it chill

There will be basketballs and hoops to shoot on. Under no circumstances is it a good idea to play games of 2-on-2 for multiple hours. This is for obvious reasons and only an idiot would try and do this, but I did it so I'm just throwing it out there.

Utilize the track

When the reality of just how tired you are sets in, the best piece of advice I can give is to hit the track. I walked in circles with friends for about six hours, oblivious to the time flying by. After it was over, a friend informed me I told a joke that lasted almost two hours while walking. Hey, whatever passes the time.

Spotters

If you feel as though you're about to fall asleep, get a spotter. I witnessed kids' eyes roll in the back of their head and then they'd just start to fall over. Aside from being really, really funny, it isn't the safest thing in the world.

That's all I've got room for dancers. You are noble people and are doing a great thing for a great cause, so good luck!

In closing, I wanted to make fun of myself for saying A-O-Pie last issue instead of A-O-Pi. In my defense, I'm still mastering the English alphabet.

Questions? Comments?
E-mail me at johnt@bgsu.edu.

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TRUE LIFE: Freddie & Frieda Falcon

You think you know, but you have no idea!

JOHN TURNER
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Being a Greek at Bowling Green State University takes a giant commitment of time, energy and enthusiasm like few other campus organizations. The level of dedication needed is as high as, say, being Freddie or Frieda Falcon. Now imagine pulling off both at once. Recently beheaded Falcons Shane Lewis, Delta Chi, and Michelle Doyle, Alpha Omicron Pi, lived to tell about it.

Both knew the challenges of being a Bird heading into their time as Freddie or Frieda, but felt the opportunity to give back to the BGSU community outweighed that concern.

"I chose to be Frieda Falcon because I wanted to give back to the University," Doyle said. "I have so much spirit and love for BGSU that this was the best way I could share that with the campus."

Lewis also took the role of a Bird to give back, but saw it as an addition to things he had already been doing to help the University.

"I've always loved giving back to BG and getting others excited about coming here, which is why



INTRODUCING FREDDIE... : Shane Lewis, a Delta Chi, comes out from behind the mask at Anderson Arena.



...AND INTRODUCING FRIEDA: Michelle Doyle, a member of Alpha Omicron Pi, is revealed as Frieda at the BG Ice Arena.

I was an Orientation Leader for two years," Lewis said. "Being Freddie to me was an extension of that — I would be able to get people pumped up about being Falcons all year long."

With all of this giving for Doyle and Lewis, there was a lot of taking. Both quickly found that making time for Greek events while maintaining their secret as a Bird became difficult and occasionally impos-

sible. That's when the white lies began to pile up.

"Missing events in my sorority was difficult, but keeping the secret of Frieda is one of the most important aspects of being a Bird," Doyle said. "I told my sorority I had another organization event and told that other organization I was with my sorority."

After serving a term as president of Delta Chi, Lewis all

but disappeared from chapter events, forcing him to pull the "apathetic senior" card to keep brothers from finding out his real whereabouts. Sometimes, even that wasn't enough.

"Unfortunately, I had to scale back my involvements this year in my chapter and otherwise, in order to make time to be Freddie," Lewis said. "However, I really appreciated the fact that most of those who thought they

knew I was Freddie kept it to themselves."

Despite all of the events missed, lies told and weeks spent stressed, the pair of Birds finished with only fond memories and gratitude for their time as Freddie and Frieda.

"Even though being Freddie, and the intense secrecy that comes with it, would sometimes take its toll on different areas of my life, I wouldn't trade this experience for anything," Lewis said. "I had imagined what it might be like to be the Bird, but I could never have imagined the crazy, fun, outrageous and just plain awesome things I got to do this year as Freddie."

Through her time as Frieda, Doyle gained a new appreciation for her soon to be alma mater.

"Being Frieda has been the most memorable part of being a student here at Bowling Green State University," Doyle said. "My year as Frieda has opened my eyes to how amazing this University is, including everyone that goes here. I learned the love people have for this University is not just limited to sporting events and wearing orange and brown, but it comes in all different shapes and sizes."

VOTING FOR SENIOR SUPERLATIVES BEGINS NOW!

The categories are listed below and will also be sent out to your chapter presidents. Vote for one Greek male and one Greek female in each category.

Ballots can be turned into the box outside 202 West Hall, or emailed to BG_Gavel@gmail.com.

The deadline is Friday, April 11.

Most Outgoing

Most Popular

Mr. and Miss. Congeniality

Most BGSU Spirit

Most Likely to Succeed

Biggest Clowns

Best Smile

Biggest Facebook Creeper

Most Athletic

Greek Flirt

The Next Dr. Binder

Most Intellectual

Most Talented

Most dedicated to their chapter

Most Unique

Most Dramatic

Biggest Partier

Senior Greek Couple

Best All-Around

Most likely to become the National President of their Chapter



GREEKS VOICE CONCERNS OVER HOUSING

A NEW GREEK VILLAGE, PARKING ISSUES AND EARLY GREEK MOVE-IN WERE AMONG TOPICS DISCUSSED AT TOWN HALL MEETING

HANNAH GEYER
REPORTER

Many a Greek student has heard rumors of a new Greek Village being build somewhere on campus in the future. Others have heard stories about existing houses being transformed into office buildings. Until recently, to the average student in a Greek unit, there was little way to check out the authenticity of these rumors, and to suggest changes in the way the Greek housing system is run.

But on March 11, the chair of the Greek Housing Board, Leo Svboda, Dr. Ron Binder and a few other administrators involved in Greek Life got together to hold a town hall meeting regarding on campus Greek living.

"The meeting grew from concerns that residents of two or three Greek houses had," said Kierra Clark, member of the Greek Housing Board. "These concerns were voiced to the housing Greek graduate assistant, and we designed a program that would allow members of the Greek community to voice their concerns."

Students in attendance asked questions about rumors regarding housing, including the Greek Village, which is a tentative plan to

replace the houses in the Conklin area and consolidate Greek houses spread around campus, such as the Brookwood houses and Delta Tau Delta. Houses would be built in the open space between the Tech building and the Fieldhouse. Students in attendance were told that for now, this plan is on hold.

Svboda elaborated, "Currently, the housing situation is what it is, and no big changes can be made in the near future."

Questions were also asked regarding the outer structure of Greek houses, parking issues, maintenance and the possible changes made to early Greek move-in.

Changes in housing policy were also discussed. For the past two years, Greek residents were allowed to stay in their houses over breaks, providing they met certain criteria regarding their GPA, disciplinary history and reason to stay. This fall, the policy was changed to state that only students living in houses whose staff was present over break could stay, due to safety issues.

Clark felt that the meeting went well.

"The students in attendance were able to get an answer to their questions, learned information about the maintenance of their houses they might have not known before and were connected to the right people to get the most out of their individual housing arrangements."

Both Clark and Binder hope this will be an annual event, enabling students to give input before any large change is implemented.

"We need to be vigilant that Greek houses are not mini-residence halls; they are a unique form of housing at BGSU that provides a 'home-away-from-home' for over 600 Greeks and 20,000 Greek alumni, all of whom have a deep affinity towards their fraternity or sorority and for BGSU. I would encourage each group to dream big about what they want their house to say about their group, and then work with Greek Affairs to make that dream a reality!"



TAKING IT TO THE HOUSE: Greeks came together earlier this month to discuss topics related to the Greek living situation on campus. Despite rumors of a new Greek Village over recent years, students were told "the housing situation is what it is."



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ΦM Congratulations! ΦM

To our amazing new Baby Lion...
...and her BIG!!

Ashlee Myers Carly Schultz

To our newly initiated members...
...and their BIGS!!

Hillary Clapp Maddie Gillotte
Lauren Whites Caitlin McGeady
Michelle Smith Brittany Tiff

Jessica Kremer
pearled by
Josh Stone

Gamma Phi Beta
Congratulates Our New Initiates and Their Bigs

Fall 2007

Kristen Farrell Amber Blankenship Alicia Brackman Timi Burkett Hannah Cranfill Cecelia Grames Damita Mason Stephanie Mayne Nicole Savage	Arielle Biggums Amanda Shomon Christine Weaver Sarah Brown Samantha Tuft Kirsten Bieszczad Erin Hanline Crystal Glenn Heather Ritchey
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Spring 2008

Ashley Adkins Meredith Goff Marjory Johnson Amanda Lawrence Rachel Robinson Ryann Sweeten	Danielle Stewart Brittany Wilson Nicole Savage Bethany Grose Arielle Biggums Brittany Wilson
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GAVEL

AND THE TIME HAS COME TO SAY GOODBYE

ONE SENIOR BIDS FAREWELL TO GOOD, BAD AND GREAT TIMES HAD IN HER GREEK CAREER AT BGSU



ASHLEY HOWARD
GUEST COLUMNIST

nity has even been compared to some of the best in the country. That shows you something.

Being a Greek man or woman goes much deeper than the surface. It isn't about the latest gossip or who can throw the best party, and it isn't about how much last semester's dues were or trying to tattle on your rival sorority or fraternity in order to make your chapter look better. Being Greek is about a bond that you share not only with the members of your own chapter, but with an entire community. It's about supporting each other and being proud of one another's accomplishments. It's about learning your personal strengths and weaknesses and developing a character of integrity along the way. It's about stepping outside of your comfort zone and befriending someone you never would have otherwise. It's about tragedy striking within your own chapter walls and knowing there are 42 other Greek organizations that have your back in a moment's notice.

Speaking of tragedy, just recently I watched one of my sorority sisters and closest friends almost have her life taken away because of a disease that, up until five weeks ago, I

Four years ago, I thought I was just joining a sorority – a group of girls that had to hang out with me because I wore the same letters on my t-shirt they did. Little did I know I was about to embark on a life-changing experience that would leave a lasting impression as I get ready to close my college career.

It's funny. As I sit here reflecting back on my four years I cannot help but think, "Wow, did I really experience all of that?" There have been triumphs and trials – certainly my fair share of ups and downs. I've held leadership roles, been ridiculed, traveled the country on the University's budget and gained lasting friendships. I've probably let down a few people yet, surprised some along the way. I've been honored with some great awards, been humbled, been broken and been repaired. I've fallen in love, been tested and excelled, found my faith again, and, most importantly, have become a better person.

Would I put myself through it all again? Absolutely, in a heartbeat, and it is because of my fellow Greeks.

The Greeks on this campus are, in my mind, some of the most outstanding students that BGSU has to offer. Our commu-



AXO LADIES: (From left to right) Erin Kirk, Jenny Craig, Cara Kovacs, Courtney Watson, Lauren Venzel, Ashley Howard and Jackie Ledinsky, all members of Alpha Chi Omega, pose for the camera.

would have thought was fake or only existed in a horror film.

It happening toward the end of the school year is ironic. Dealing with her situation, both internally and externally, with her and my sisters, over these past few weeks has completely summed up why I spent my four years devoted to this community. You all were there for Alpha Chi Omega at our time of need, whether it be through flowers, phone calls, baked goods, stuffed animals, cards or even a moment of silence at Greek Awards when we didn't think she would make it through the night. That is why I am Greek – it is about support, perseverance, strength and love.

Four years ago, I came into my freshman year a self-centered, naïve, dependent girl. Now, I am leaving BGSU a well-rounded, confident, independent, whole-hearted woman. I owe all that to the Greek community, which has become my family over the years. So with that, I want to say thank you. Thank you to my closest friends who have loved and accepted me for who I am

— “ —
**Stay close to those
you love, but be
willing to accept and
be open to others
because that is how
the Greek bond is
made.**

— ” —

and, as a result, made me become a better person. Thank you to Dr. Ron Binder and his staff, who always kept me on my toes. Thank you to those of you who came before me and gave me such an amazing opportunity to be a Greek on this campus. Heck, thanks to you all whom I haven't seen eye-to-eye with over the years – because of you I am stronger, more determined and have learned patience and understanding.

Greeks at BGSU are a team – we are one, no matter what letters you wear across your chest. Remember that. Sometimes it's hard and can be easy to get

wrapped up in the tiny matters that in the bigger picture mean nothing. Stay close to those you love, but be willing to accept and be open to others because that is how the Greek bond is made. No one of us is greater or less than any of the others.

As myself and the rest of the class of 2008 leave, it is now up to you, the young ones, to carry on the Greek name and traditions that we have worked so hard to improve. I hope I have given this community as much as I am taking from it, and hope all of you who will be here in the years to come will pour your heart into your chapter and council the way me and my senior peers have.

I will miss BGSU, my chapter, my friends and the community more than words can say. However, as I pack my bags for my move to South Carolina, I am leaving with the skills and lessons taught to me from you, not to mention a pocketful of memories that will never be forgotten. And with that, I say farewell.

GAMMA ADVISES GREEKS ON ALCOHOL USE

IN ITS SECOND YEAR, GAMMA LOOKS TO GET WORD OUT ABOUT ITS ORGANIZATION AND ALCOHOL CONSUMPTION

JOHN TURNER
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

While Greeks Advocating Mature Management of Alcohol is not a new group, it was started last fall, it still has that "new car smell." To help inform students and spread the word on her organization, President Maggie Thomas is looking for Greek chapters to take GAMMA for a test drive.

"GAMMA is excited to be here at BGSU and we are here to reach out to the Greek community," Thomas said. "If you ever need help with risk management, we are here to meet with you and figure out the best way to educate your chapter, and make a difference with them."

GAMMA is a Greek organization consisting of various members of the Greek community with

the goal of educating their fellow Greeks about the different effects and consequences that come along with drinking. Their presentations strive to present risk management information in a more interesting and interactive way than most college students are accustomed to.

"We are not about throwing around statistics or scaring people with videos," Thomas said. "Instead, we just want to give everyone a reality check and make them step back and evaluate how much alcohol they really consume on a typical night out."

In the past, GAMMA put on programs such as Party Smart and will serve "mocktails" at a table during this year's Greek week. In the future, GAMMA is looking to invite speakers to campus, as well as get involved with local schools

and educating them about alcohol. Later on, Thomas says the group is hoping to work with local chapter of Mothers Against Drunk Driving on events in the Bowling Green community.

The group also has a bigger goal in mind, like knocking out notions about Greeks and drinking.

"It's hard to break through the stereotypes Greeks are faced with about drinking and image, but that is our ultimate goal to change that here at Bowling Green," Thomas said.

"At this point, we have about 10 members, but we are always looking for eager new members to get involved."

If you're interested in joining or helping out with GAMMA, email Thomas at margart@bgsu.edu for more information.



A TOUGH CATCH: Jessie Corp tests out her skills while visually impaired by the goggles.

AXΩ AXΩ AXΩ AXΩ AXΩ

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Dance Marathon Participants

— **GOOD LUCK** —

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AXΩ AXΩ AXΩ AXΩ AXΩ

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Everytime you buy a frosty float at Wendy's in the Bowen-Thompson Student Union from now until March 29th 25 cents will go toward Dance Marathon!! Get one TODAY

GREEK & GAY: STEREOTYPES MEET REALITY

GAY MEN IN BGSU'S GREEK COMMUNITY STRUGGLE WITH ISSUES OF BROTHERHOOD, EXPECTATIONS AND ACCEPTANCE

KYLE REYNOLDS
REPORTER

Coming out of the closet can give gay men a sense of relief, but it can be a process further complicated if they are members of fraternities.

Scott Snowman, a graduate student at BGSU, came out to his brothers in Sigma Phi Epsilon as an undergraduate student at the University of Maryland in College Park.

"Fraternities are often associated with homophobia because they have certain expectations of manliness that members sometimes feel the need to live up to," Snowman said.

Fraternities are a "microcosm of the masculine image and that means to be masculine is at the forefront most of the time and that can show up in homophobia if people are insecure," he continued.

In response to whether homophobia is present in BGSU's Greek community, Mike Vittardi, freshman in Lambda Chi Alpha, said, "I'd like to say no but I think it is there to a certain degree."

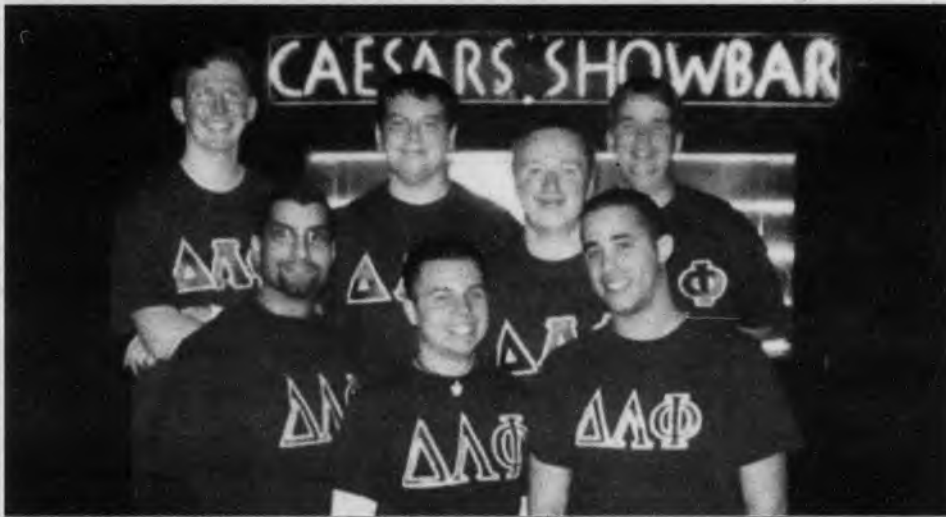
Vittardi says people may not be homophobic but may act that way to fit in.

"If they associate with homosexuals, people on the outside may view them as homosexuals," Vittardi said.

Eric Crumrine, senior in Alpha Sigma Phi, came out while in high school and said, "that fraternities are sometimes viewed as homophobic because the members are usually stereotyped as the 'overly macho' type that will say derogatory things about homosexuals."

"If you have that kind of perception of them [fraternity men] then your impression is that they will not be very accepting," Crumrine said.

Vittardi said he would be supportive of one of his brothers if they came out.



BRINGING AWARENESS: Members of Delta Lambda Phi take time out for a picture at "Caesar's Showbar." The group, although small, would like to bring more awareness about homosexuality to the Greek community.

"Whatever makes them happy makes me happy," Vittardi said.

Even with the support of their brothers, some students, like Snowman, have a hard time labeling themselves as gay.

"I wasn't comfortable with the idea that a portion of my identity was that I was gay," Snowman said.

Snowman was one of the founding fathers of his chapter of Sigma Phi Epsilon.

His involvement with the group started his sophomore year but he didn't come out until he was a junior.

Snowman heard that a fellow brother was going to come out at a retreat, which gave him the opportunity he needed to come out himself.

If his fellow brother didn't come out it would have been more difficult but he still thinks he would've come out.

"It probably would've been harder," Snowman said. "...I think I was getting to the point with myself where I was ready, but his choice gave me the boost."

The response from his brothers

was positive and no big deal was made about his homosexuality.

Crumrine pledged Alpha Sigma Phi as an upperclassman and knew many of the members before joining so he said he never officially had to come out.

"I didn't want it to be a giant production," Crumrine said. "I just let things work out naturally. Overall, the reaction was extremely positive."

Shane Windmeyer, founder of the Greek homosexuality awareness organization Lambda 10, estimates around 10 percent of fraternity men are gay, according to an article in Time magazine.

Ron Binder, director of Greek Affairs at BGSU, said there are many fraternity men like himself who never came out during their undergraduate years.

When Binder was an active member of Sigma Phi Epsilon at the University of Toledo he didn't come out and didn't identify himself as gay at the time.

"I struggled for a long time," Binder said. "A lot of people do."

"Some gay people don't want

to be classified as gay and fear fall out from their announcement, Binder said. "I'm not sure that I considered myself gay as an undergraduate. People struggle with accepting who they are and coming out, which is not necessarily the same thing."

After spending several years at BGSU, Binder came out at the University three years ago and said the Greek community has been encouraging to him.

"It was time," Binder said. "I didn't know how people would react but they've been very supportive and I've been able to bring my partner around."

"A lot of progress has been made in the acceptance of homosexuality," Binder said.

Crumrine said he hasn't felt like being gay has affected how he is treated within the Greek community but that improvement is still needed.

"It has gotten better but it's not perfect," Crumrine said. "If it was, then there wouldn't be so many people that I know in the closet still with their fraternity or sorority."

A group that hopes to bring more awareness about homosexuality in the Greek community was chartered at BGSU in May 2007, Delta Lambda Phi.

The fraternity is described as "a national social fraternity for gay, bisexual and progressive men" on their national Web site.

Andrew Hyclak, president of BGSU's Delta Lambda Phi, never pictured himself in a fraternity, but after being encouraged to go to some fraternity events he decided Delta Lambda Phi was a place for him.

"I never thought of myself in Greek life but the guys are great," Hyclak said.

The chapter is relatively small with only six active members.

Hyclak said he hasn't really seen homophobia in the Greek community toward his group, save one instance.

For the 2007 Greek God and Goddess contest, the fraternity entered a drag queen as a competitor for the goddess title.

The drag queen ended up winning the contest, which prompted several sorority members to boo the drag queen.

Other than that, Hyclak hasn't experienced any other homophobia from the Greek community but he also doesn't think the Greek community is very aware of the group since they only have six members.

Binder started a group called 'Gay and Greek' two years ago, where gay fraternity and sorority members would be able to get together and discuss issues.

The organization has struggled to stay afloat.

"Some people were not out and were afraid things would not stay secretive, so some students were concerned," Binder said.

Since then the group's focus has shifted into more of an ally group between gay and straight Greek members.

PHOTOS
OF THE
MONTH

...

It's cold. It's Dance
Marathon. It's
spring time
for Greeks
at BGSU!

...



Grab a broom! Alpha Phi smiles for the camera at their annual broom ball philanthropy at the BG Ice Arena.



Fearless leaders! Students head to Chicago in February for MGCA to network with Greeks from across the Midwest.



Back on track! Members of Alpha Tau Omega walk the track for the Foundation Fighting Blindness earlier this year.



Taunt! Two MGCA attendees battle it out American Gladiator style in Chicago.