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## The BG News March 31, 2008

Bowling Green State University

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Monday

March 31, 2008  
Volume 101, Issue 128  
WWW.BGNEWS.COM

CAMPUS

### GSS to look at survey results

Senators passed a resolution Friday to investigate the results of the satisfaction survey conducted last spring | **Page 3**

### Voter turnouts surge past any expectations

Officials in several states are ordering more ballots before the next round of primaries in order to account for the large number of people coming out to vote | **Page 6**

### BG baseball beats NIU in a 3-game weekend

Strong pitching, good weather and a great turnout from the top and bottom of the lineup came together to give the Falcons three more wins this weekend | **Page 7**

SPORTS

FORUM

### The debate over BG Undead is very much alive

Readers write in about the purposes behind the group and why it's really just a harmless activity for all ages | **Page 4**

### In the clutches of an unholly gov't trinity

Politics, money and power seem to be ruling the world's culture, which leads columnist LeMarquita Lowe to ask: What can be done to fix this? | **Page 4**

Who (or what) would you dance 32 hours for?

PEOPLE ON THE STREET



**THAD BATES,**  
Sophomore, History

"It's illegal for me to dance." | **Page 4**

WEATHER

### TODAY

Scattered T-Storms  
High: 58, Low: 53

**TOMORROW**  
Showers/Wind  
High: 54, Low: 28

# Up all night

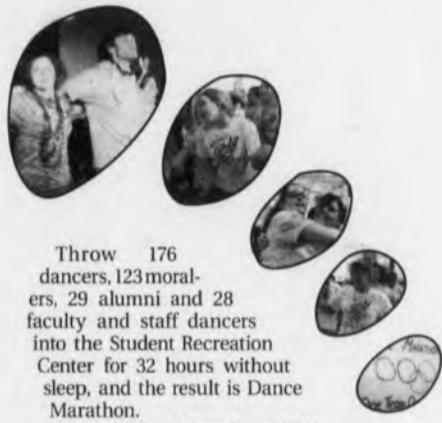


CHRISTINA MCGINNIS | THE BG NEWS

**IT'S IN THE CARDS:** Participants at Dance Marathon hold up signs displaying how much money was raised for the kids.

## Dancers last 32 hours in marathon

By Steve Kunkler and Gina Potthoff | The BG News



Throw 176 dancers, 123 moralers, 29 alumni and 28 faculty and staff dancers into the Student Recreation Center for 32 hours without sleep, and the result is Dance Marathon.

The 13th Annual BGSU Children's Miracle Network Dance Marathon lasted from 10 a.m. Saturday until 6 p.m. Sunday, raising \$125,112.83 for the Mercy Children's Hospital in Toledo and the miracle families.

This fundraiser, which started in 1995, has raised more than \$1.8 million dollars to date to care for children who suffer from terminal illness, acute diseases, birth defects and severe trauma. The theme of this year's Olympic-centered fundraiser was "One Team, One Dream."

Dance Marathon kicked off Saturday morning with Bowling Green Mayor John Quinn

See **MARATHON** | Page 2

PHOTOS BY CHRISTINA MCGINNIS | THE BG NEWS



CHRISTINA MCGINNIS | THE BG NEWS

**STEP UP:** Students get down and have fun at Dance Marathon this past weekend. Dancers were on their feet for 32 consecutive hours.

## Firelands amplifies BGSU's missions

By Gina Potthoff  
Assistant Campus Editor

Firelands is often overlooked here on the main campus, even though it's one of the University's seven undergraduate colleges and offers students many of the same services.

Established in 1968, the Firelands campus is nearing its 40-year mark, which will be celebrated in September of this year.

The University's sister campus, located in Huron, Ohio, was created to offer the BGSU quality of education in Erie, Huron, Ottawa, Sandusky and Seneca counties.

Firelands is located midway between main campus and Cuyahoga County, where many main campus students live.

"Just think of Firelands as a microcosm of BGSU located 60 miles away," said Lesley Ruzskowski, director of marketing and communication of BGSU Firelands.

Unlike the multiple branches of Ohio University, Ohio State University and Kent State University, Firelands is the University's only branch campus, which makes it special, according to James Smith, dean of BGSU Firelands.

"People of the community love Firelands campus," said University President Sidney Ribeau, who usually visits the campus once or twice a semester.

He said the small class sizes, lower cost of tuition and attention students receive make Firelands a viable alternative for students who want to save

**"Just think of Firelands as a microcosm of BGSU located 60 miles away."**

Lesley Ruzskowski | Director

money or make a quick and easy entry into the workforce.

"Firelands serves a really important regional purpose," Ribeau said.

The main difference between the two campuses is Firelands is a commuter school with no dorms or sports teams on its 216-acre campus, Ruzskowski said.

Firelands tuition is also cheaper, charging \$2,106 per semester for a full-time Ohio resident instead of the University's \$4,373 per semester, and locally donated scholarships are the main sources of financial aid.

The missions of the two schools are slightly different as well.

While Firelands promotes the campus as "The 360 degree: Education designed around you," the main campus slogan is "Changing the world by degrees."

Ribeau said Firelands is extremely effective when working with the transitional issues of re-entry students.

Re-entry students are students who don't go straight into

See **FIRELANDS** | Page 2

## Bush embarks on tour as his term draws to a close

By Terence Hunt  
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Winding down his presidency, George W. Bush is beginning his farewell tour on the world stage trailed by questions about how much clout he still wields.

Unpopular abroad, as he is at home, Bush nevertheless has been a commanding presence among world leaders for the past seven years. Now, with fewer than 300 days left in his term, other presidents and prime ministers are looking beyond Bush to see who will occupy his chair a year from now.

It's an open question whether Bush's foreign policy priorities will be embraced by his successor in the Oval Office. Other world leaders have to calculate how far they should step out on the ledge with a president whose days are numbered and whose legacy had been darkened by the long and costly war in Iraq.

Air Force One will roar out of Andrews Air Force Base today to whisk Bush to the first in a long-planned series of global goodbye events. After a brief stop in Ukraine, Bush stops in Romania to attend his last summit with NATO leaders.

A few days later, Bush will land in the Black Sea resort city of Sochi for his probable final meeting with Vladimir Putin as Russian president; his successor takes over in May.

Relations between Washington and Moscow have plummeted in recent years amid a welter of bitter disputes, and the talks in Sochi have raised hopes that Bush and Putin can lay the foundation for repairing ties.

This is the busiest travel year in Bush's presidency in terms of the sheer number of trips.

He went to the Middle East

See **TOUR** | Page 2

## NIU police chief relives his role in blur of events

By Michael Tarm  
The Associated Press

DEKALB, Ill. — The police chief at Northern Illinois University replays the chaos over and over in his mind: sprinting, pistol in hand and reading glasses still on, through waves of screaming students at a lecture hall.

Donald Grady remembers kneeling over the wounded and dying as the gunman's body lay on stage, dead of a gunshot wound.

And he still wonders weeks later: Could he have done more to prevent the deaths of five students when a former student opened fire in the crowded hall on Valentine's Day?

"I know intuitively there's nothing I could have done to protect them," he told The Associated Press in a recent

interview. "But it doesn't change the fact that, inside, I feel like I wanted to be able to do something."

Grady has SWAT team training and has advised governments and militaries in war-torn countries, but the shooting, he said, was the "ugliest" test of his career. And it was one that reinforced and, in some ways, softened the gruff persona that had sometimes caused him trouble.

Crises aren't new to the Beloit, Wis., native.

Grady scrambled to rescue trapped peacekeepers during a riot in the Balkans in the late '90s, when he led a 300-person United Nations peacekeeping force.

In Bosnia-Herzegovina, he played a central role in creating a police force composed of civil war foes — Muslims, Croats and

Serbs. He helped set up police schools in Kosovo and the former Yugoslavia.

He spent most of 2007 in Iraq advising the country on building a new police force.

When it came to domestic police work, though, characteristics that helped him excel in a military environment sometimes caused problems.

After he became Wisconsin's first black police chief in the mostly white town of Bloomer in 1989, he created a stir by issuing nearly 300 tickets, including to himself, for violations of a snow-shoveling ordinance.

When he became Santa Fe, N.M., chief in 1994, he ordered officers to stop accepting free cups of coffee on the job and banned bolo ties, popular among police in the West. He further infuriated officers by



CHARLES REXBAGOST | AP PHOTO

**SPEAK OUT:** Police Chief Donald Grady is seen during an interview with the AP.

imposing longer shifts.

"He was like watching the movie 'Patton,'" said Greg

See **NIU** | Page 2

### BLOTTER FRIDAY

**6:03 P.M.**  
Andre R. Elvoid, 18, of Bowling Green, was cited for drug abuse of marijuana and possession of drug paraphernalia.

**11:00 P.M.**  
Brittany E. Bird, 19, and Lauren M. Gleason, both of Bowling Green, were arrested for a nuisance party. Kadey T. Keck, 18, of Port Clinton, Ohio, was arrested for underage possession of alcohol and obstructing official business.

**11:25 P.M.**  
Trey D. Hafner, 20, of Oregon, Ohio, was cited for underage possession of alcohol.

### SATURDAY

**12:21 A.M.**  
Matthew J. Kille, 21, of Bowling Green, was issued a civil citation for urinating on East Reed Street.

**1:06 A.M.**  
William A. Carne III, 22, of Brecksville, Ohio, and Michael P. Wise, 24, of Seven Hills, Ohio, were issued civil citations for open container of alcohol.

**1:26 A.M.**  
Griffin P. Larcey, 20, of Port Clinton, Ohio, was arrested for underage possession of alcohol.

**1:56 A.M.**  
Kevin A. Buehler, 22, of Bowling Green, was cited for criminal mischief for carrying an empty keg of beer on East Reed Street.

**2:30 A.M.**  
Joshua B. Ross, 24, of Sidney, Ohio, was issued a civil citation for public urination.

**11:23 A.M.**  
A wallet was reported stolen at One 49 North on North Main Street.

**8:23 P.M.**  
Jamie B. Dewitt, 37, of Bowling Green, was cited for theft for failing to pay his bar tab at Uptown/Downtown on North Main Street.

**10:42 P.M.**  
Jamie D. Peatee, 39, of Cygnet, Ohio, was arrested for disorderly conduct for being unable to care for himself.

**11:10 P.M.**  
Nathan A. Lee, 24, of Bloomdale, Ohio, was arrested for disorderly conduct with persistence and obstructing official business.

### SUNDAY

**12:06 A.M.**  
Corey Austin Hurlstone, 20, of Perrysburg, was arrested for underage possession of alcohol.

**12:13 A.M.**  
Nathan D. Schwind, 30, of Wayne, Ohio, and Ronald P. Williams, 41, of Jerry City, Ohio, were cited for disorderly conduct for fighting.

**12:25 A.M.**  
Ricky E. Loe, 34, of Bowling Green, was arrested for possession of drug paraphernalia.

**12:45 A.M.**  
Amy L. Hatfield, 21, of Huber Heights, Ohio, was issued a civil citation for open container of alcohol.

**12:46 A.M.**  
Silvestre Tenorio, 32, of Toledo, was cited for operating a vehicle while under the influence of alcohol.

**1:12 A.M.**  
Jenna R. Wirtanen, 21, of Bowling Green, was arrested for a nuisance party and Matthew Thomas Calvelage, 20, of Bowling Green, was arrested for underage possession of alcohol.

**ONLINE:** Go to [bgnews.com](http://bgnews.com) for the complete blotter list.

### FIRELANDS

From Page 1  
college after high school. The types of degrees students can earn also differ. The Firelands campus offers associate degrees, nine bachelor program degrees in cooperation with the main campus and master's degrees in education and nursing.

Though they can grant associate degree diplomas, the main campus must grant the bachelor's degrees.

The degrees are the same, whether you graduate at Firelands or on the main campus, Ruszkowski said.

Firelands students can take all the coursework for various other degrees exactly how students on the main campus can, sometimes down to the textbooks and syllabi.

They even offer some majors the main campus doesn't. "We'll have a respiratory technology bachelor's degree next fall," Smith said.

Being a commuter school, Firelands students don't have to worry about parking either.

The campus has four major buildings on its 216 acres compared to main campus's 113 buildings on 1,338 acres.

"The parking situation [on campus] is great," Ruszkowski said.

Likemain campus, students have to brace themselves for windy weather since Firelands is so close to Lake Erie.

According to Ruszkowski, Firelands campus is doing research on the effects of coastal winds and turbines in cooperation with main campus, hoping to put up their own wind turbines one day.

She also wants students to know that although main campus has more than 325 student organizations,

### "A lot of people come to campus undecided ... but I think Firelands is probably a better place to wander [undecided]."

Sidney Ribeau | BGSU President

Firelands has a full array of student organizations, too, including its own student government.

Firelands students also have their own University IDs, she said.

Though there aren't any dining halls or a Union, they do have a bookstore, Firelands Café and vending machines where students can pay cash or charge the items to BGI.

Some students choose Firelands because of their financial situations, family commitments or career choices, Smith said, but for whatever reason, most students really like the campus.

"We've had students who've gone to main campus and come back," he said.

Though the University's main campus is the larger of the two and has more name recognition, Ribeau said he thinks Firelands provides a great opportunity for students who aren't sure what they want to do with their lives.

"A lot of people come to campus undecided ... but I think Firelands is probably a better place to wander [undecided]," he said.

Whether students earn their degrees at Bowling Green or Firelands campus, they will all still be BGSU alumni, Ruszkowski said.

### MARATHON

From Page 1

declaring March 29, 2008, "Miracle Day" in Bowling Green.

Quinn asked the audience why they were there and they all answered in unison "For the kids!"

The miracle families who benefit most from the donations made were at the fundraiser for a lot of the 32 hours, giving the dancers a chance to interact with the people they were trying to help.

"All the kids are here ... and they're so fun to play with," said Emily Luther, a sophomore and first-time dancer.

She said the key to staying awake was to stay active.

Junior William Scott, returning for his third year in support of Dance Marathon, wants everyone to know people aren't just doing this to stay awake for 32 hours.

"It's for the kids," he said.

Sophomore dancer Nehna Angel said staying on her feet was a big mental game, but she was able to stay positive by thinking about the miracle families.

"You know you're not on your feet for nothing," she said.

In order to keep the dancers' spirits up, all the clocks in the rec center were covered up so they couldn't see what time it was.

"I'm not allowed to know what time it is," said freshman dancer Adam Wilson.

Angel said she was telling time by the amount of light outside.

To help occupy their time, different activities were provided for dancers and moralers, such as board and card games, coloring stations, cornhole, volleyball, Frisbee and the constant beat of music.

Luther said the bumping beats helped her through her 32 hours.



**DETTRICK HALE** | THE BG NEWS  
**JIVE:** Students boogie at Dance Marathon.

In addition to the dancers and moralers present, dedicated bikers also made the trek for the kids.

Bike for Tikes Chair Michelle Robinson said 75 bikers made the 185 mile ride from Cincinnati to Bowling Green starting Friday morning.

"It was amazing," Robinson said.

Near the closing of the fundraiser, the miracle families and their kids addressed the crowd with their appreciation for everyone's involvement.

University President Sidney Ribeau and his wife, Paula Ribeau, also came to show their support for the people involved.

Dancers spent the last minutes of the fundraiser performing the choreographed dance they had been slowly learning throughout the 32 hours.

After the amount raised was announced and Queen's "We Are The Champions" was played, the crowd once again began chanting, "For the kids!"

Assistant Director of Planning Brian Heilmeyer said he will always remember the constant positive energy present in the building this past weekend.

"We had a really great year and we got to work with a lot of great people, and ultimately we helped a lot of kids," he said.

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### NIU

From Page 1

Solano, who headed Santa Fe's police union when Grady was there. "He was always like, 'Things are done my way or the highway.'"

Police officers responded by adopting a 103-5 no-confidence vote in their boss. Grady later resigned, saying his reforms had encountered too much resistance.

After being hired at NIU in 2001, there was friction between Grady and the student newspaper, the Northern Star.

Editor John Puterbaugh said Grady often withheld standard crime reports, requiring the paper to file Freedom of Information Act requests. He said there are aspects of Grady's personality that made the reporters' jobs more difficult.

But Grady has been praised for preparing the campus police department. He boosted the number of training programs for officers and required they all be certified in first aid.

He had plans for various crisis scenarios, including an on-campus shooting. Grady had ordered his officers to go after a gunman immediately.

On the day of the shooting, the 6-foot-5 Grady ran into the mayhem, scanning hands in the crowds for an escaping gunman. It took 90 seconds for the former star sprinter to cover the 400 yards between his office and the red-bricked lecture complex. He told some officers to guard the rear exit, others its perimeter.

Then he turned to three officers: "You, you and you. With me." At the entrance to Auditorium 101, Grady took point, two officers on his flank, one at his back, in diamond formation. He pulled open the door.

The shooter, Steven Kazmierczak, already was dead of a self-inflicted gunshot wound, weapons strewn about him.

Blood flowed down aisles. Shoes were scattered everywhere, lost by students as they bolted for the doors. Some students were still in their seats, unable to take their eyes off

### "I still think to myself: A real hero would have found a way to ... not lose five people."

Donald Grady | NIU Police Chief

the gunman. Criminology major Maria Ruiz-Santana, 20, had wounds to her chest, head and neck from a shotgun blast. She said Grady arrived and held her hand, talking to her to keep her from slipping into unconsciousness.

"If he didn't get there right away, I might well be dead," she said.

Grady visited her at the hospital several times, encouraging her not to abandon her dream of becoming a police officer. Ruiz-Santana told him he was her hero — the kind of talk that makes Grady squirm.

"I lost five people, five family members," he said. "I still think to myself: A real hero would have found a way to do something not to lose five people that day."

# DYING A DIGITAL DEATH?

Are large metropolitan 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

**TODAY!**  
**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 environment.

Sponsored by The BG News Alumni Society and the Office of Student Publications



### TOUR

From Page 1

in January and to Africa in February.

After he returns from NATO and Russia, he has five more major excursions on the books — from Europe to Asia, the Middle East to South America.

In June, he will travel to Slovenia for his final summit with the European Union.

He will attend his last summit of Group of Eight leaders of major industrial economies in Japan in July.

He will go to Peru in November for his final meeting with Pacific Rim leaders at the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation forum.

More trips may be added as Bush moves closer to the exit and his successor emerges.

Around the world, there are hopes the next president will adopt a different style from what critics have called Bush's cowboy diplomacy and go-it-alone foreign policy.

"There seems to be a great deal of enthusiasm, particularly for [Barack] Obama but also Hillary [Rodham Clinton] on the other side of the Atlantic, that there's going to be some revitalization of the trans-Atlantic partnership and we start with a clean slate and a new chapter and all the rest," said Julianne Smith, Europe program director for the Washington-based Center for Strategic and International Studies.

**CAMPUS BRIEF**

**GSS satisfaction survey could bring change**

The Graduate Student Senate passed a resolution Friday supporting an initiative to look into the results of a Graduate Student Satisfaction Survey that was done in the spring semester of last year.

The resolution was passed unanimously. Dan Carr, a representative at-large, said he hopes to thoroughly explore the options available to make improvements based on survey results.

"We plan on doing what we can for all of them," Carr said.

An ad-hoc committee was formed to look into the top 10 concerns of graduate students.

**Campus struggles to expel crocodile**

By Mike Clary  
MCT

CORAL GABLES, Fla. — On a typical spring afternoon on the leafy campus of the University of Miami, many of the 15,000 students are in class, others are romping around the athletic field, and a few are seeing how close they can get to a 6-foot American crocodile sunbathing with its mouth open.

"They apparently don't realize how dangerous this thing is," said security guard Roberto Heredia

**"We can't catch him. We're playing a cat-and-mouse game with this croc."**

David Rivero | University of Miami Police Chief

as he warned curious collegians away from the toothy reptile. "Some people think it's fake."

School officials, including President Donna Shalala, want the crocodile expelled.

The problem: "We can't catch him," said university Police Chief David Rivero. "We're playing a cat-and-mouse game with this croc."

There may be more than one crocodile on campus. Heredia, 52, often assigned to baby-sit animals that crawl out of Lake Osceola, said there are at least three, ranging in size up to 8 feet.

Rivero said he believes all but one croc has been locked out of the lake by new fences and grates being installed at points

where canals link the lake to the Gables waterways and Biscayne Bay.

What is clear is that the population of once-endangered American crocodiles is growing. Last year the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service upgraded the reptiles' status from endangered to threatened, meaning a species once on the brink of extinction is now only likely to become endangered. And South Florida is the only place in the United States where these crocodiles are found.

**Provost-pilot has high hopes for National Hispanic University**

By Joe Rodriguez  
MCT

SAN JOSE, Calif. — When David Lopez, the president of National Hispanic University, was searching for an academic co-pilot last summer, he didn't know he'd get the real thing.

Lopez drove over to nearby Reid-Hillview airport in East San Jose to pick up candidate Juan Necochea, a respected professor and his wife

Maureen, who had flown in from Southern California.

When Lopez introduced himself in the terminal, Necochea said, "Come over and see my plane and meet my wife. We built it ourselves."

The stunned Lopez approached the sleek, two-seater and thought to himself, "Is this damn thing safe?"

The two men hit it off immediately. Necochea won the job, becoming provost of the only

**"I guess I needed a new challenge. I left a stable, secure position to come here, but the time was right and it's a mission I believe in."**

Juan Necochea | Professor

accredited Latino college in the United States.

Today, two months after leaving his cushy professorship at California State University at San Marcos, he's still delighted about

his decision, and so is Lopez.

"I came here because I see a powerhouse" Necochea says of the school that only won accreditation six years ago. "I feel this resonance, a spiri-

tuality, between myself and this university."

Necochea and Lopez want to grow and turn the tiny, 600-student college into an elite school for the nation's future Hispanic leaders — a daunting task that has lit a fresh fire under the new provost.

"I guess I needed a new challenge," he says. "I left a stable, secure position to come here, but the time was right and it's a mission I believe in."

**GET A LIFE**

CALENDAR OF EVENTS  
Some events taken from events.bgsu.edu

8 a.m. - 9 p.m.  
**Exhibit #9: BFA Senior Thesis Exhibit**  
130 Union

10 a.m. - 3 p.m.  
**Delta Xi Phi Talent Show and White Party Ticket Sales**  
Union Table Space

8 p.m.  
**Music at the Forefront Series**  
Bryan Recital Hall

9 - 11 p.m.  
**Pub Trivia Night**  
Black Swamp Pub

9 - 10:30 p.m.  
**Transcendence meeting**  
Womens Center, Hanna Hall

check us out online:  
[www.bgnews.com](http://www.bgnews.com)

**READY, SET, EAT! STUDENTS INDULGE IN COOKIE-EATING CONTEST**



COOKIES: Kris Grillot stuffs his face at the "Cookie Jar and More Second Annual Cookie Eating Contest" held Friday. Contestants had to devour 6 cookies and 6 half-pints of milk in 15 minutes.

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**Fall Registration 2008**

Registration begins for:

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

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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**

**BGSU**  
Office of Registration and Records  
Phone 419-372-4444

"They apparently don't realize how dangerous this thing is. Some people think it's fake." — Roberto Heredia, a University of Miami security guard, where an American crocodile has crawled out of Lake Osceola and taken up residence on campus [see story, pg. 3].

## PEOPLE ON THE STREET

Whom (or what) would you dance 32 hours for?



"For the kids!"  
**RYAN BORT**,  
Sophomore, Journalism



"Probably some good music, lots of water and a lot of people."  
**CLARISSA FRANCIS**,  
Junior, Africana Studies



"To the memory of Heath Ledger."  
**ALDO FARKAS**,  
Junior, Film Production



"It would have to be with friends and with lots of food involved. And 'Guitar Hero.'"  
**OASIS JEFFRIES**,  
Junior, Visual Communications Tech.

**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.



MICHAEL WEIGMAN | THE BG NEWS

## How is BG Undead good for students? Let's count the ways

LAUREN MICKENS AND MAGGIE DOREMUS | GUEST COLUMNISTS

**"BG Undead also helps promote communication skills, leadership and strategy. Communication with others on your team is key to 'survival.'"**

There have been a lot of misconceptions concerning BG Undead, and we wish to clear the air about those incorrect ideas by underlining the rules of the game.

There are four big rules of BG Undead:

1. Playing in buildings, vehicles and the Oak Grove Cemetery is strictly prohibited.
2. There is to be no involving of "non-players," "non-players" being defined as any not registered with the BG Undead Administration.
3. The BG Undead bandanas must be clearly displayed by all players during the course of the game.
4. Be safe, be smart and be respectful.

Every player is required to follow these rules. Any rule-breaking is dealt with on an individual level by the BG Undead Administration, with the ultimate penalty being banishment from the game.

"Humans vs. Zombies" was invented in 2005 and is now

played in more than 20 universities nationwide as well as three different countries. The University, however, has one of the most organized branches of the game.

BG Undead is a registered student organization and has had Nerf out to campus as well as been in contact with the original creators of the game.

BG Undead promotes long-lasting friendships, teamwork and critical thinking above all else.

One of the major arguments against the organization has been that it promotes violence, causing non-playing students to fear for a school shooting at the University.

It has been proven, however, in a 2007 study ordered by President Bush, that isolation is a key factor in creating the sort

of troubled student that initiates a school shooting.

The "Report to the President on Issues Raised by the Virginia Tech Tragedy," released last June by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, states "the perpetrators had been isolated socially from their peers and had been the recipients of bullying and teasing from other students."

BG Undead encourages teamwork and friendship. Justin Playl, an avid player of the game, says "When I came into the University as a freshman, I really didn't know anybody. All of the friends I have now, I met through BG Undead, and I still am close to those friends now."

Landon King, also a freshman, agrees, saying, "BG Undead introduced me to a lot of people with similar interests that have become lasting friends since then."

Those who have argued that the game is immature have failed to consider the amount of stress involved on a college campus. To play this in-depth game of tag gives the players a short period of time where they don't have to worry about

See UNDEAD | Page 5

## Finding out how the trinity of government power works



LEMARQUITA LOWE  
COLUMNIST

**"I always wondered how a country could become poor when 'rich' countries such as the U.S. exist."**

We live in a world where we hear everything is about politics, money and power. But when the three categories are analyzed, they are actually one category. The sad part is there is a good side and bad side for all three.

From observing what's going on in the world around me and learning from people who are wiser than I am, I'm getting a better idea of how this "trinity" of government is working.

When I think of power, I associate it with two words: change and corruption.

When I think of politics, I think of networking, scandals and transformation.

When I think of POWER, I think of God, the government and upperclass people. Somehow God is losing his place in the equation.

I always wondered how a country could become poor when "rich" countries like the U.S. exist. How can the rich become richer when the poor are becoming poorer?

I found many of these answers while observing what's happening in Buenos Aires, Argentina, where I'm currently studying abroad.

I am trying to make the best comparisons and differences with the United States. Every time an economic crisis hits a country, three levels are affected.

If the economy is doing well, the rich get richer, the middle class becomes rich and the poor rise a little higher.

But how often does this happen? It is more common that an economy hits a negative state. Then, rich people drop to the middle class, the middle class drops to the lower class, and those who were already poor become poorer.

Inflation brings so many damaging effects, and a main consequence is unemployment. The people who were already in the lower class have no jobs or can't find employment.

Many people become unemployed and it is hard for employers to hire people if the economy is in poor condition. The more labor that is needed, the more money it costs to pay these employees to work. It is important to keep costs down when inflation is high in order to have a balance and try to reach stability again.

When people can't find a job and everything else in their lives is failing, criminal activity rises. You start to have more burglary and drug trades happening, and then the crime rate rises.

Many countries that are poor are known to have high crime rates. And in poorer countries, people vote for a leader that will get them out of the economic crisis.

Using Buenos Aires as an example, the people are desperate to elect a leader that will take their country out of poverty. The hidden secret is people elect these leaders who "talk the talk," but don't "walk the walk."

When a president, prime minister or other leader comes into power, he often gets involved with trade and scandals with other countries to make his country a first world country.

When one man or woman gets too much power, the objective of helping the country gets lost, and the leader only thinks about helping himself. A good example is the leader of Buenos Aires trading oil with George W. Bush since it is much cheaper to ship oil to some-

where closer. The entire oil debate is another topic, but one leader can get rich just from this trade. You realize even if you have all this oil imported into your country, you still need technology in order to use the

See LOWE | Page 5

### WEB SITE POLL

**Q:** Will you vote in the Undergraduate Student Government elections?

**Yes, definitely:** 47%

**No, it doesn't really appeal to me:** 22%

**The who's what?:** 19%

**Maybe, I want to hear some more from the candidates first:** 12%

*The BG News poll is not scientific and reflects the opinions of only those Internet users who have chosen to participate. The results cannot be assumed to represent the opinions of Internet users in general, nor the public as a whole.*

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

#### Why didn't Dining Services plan ahead?

What concerns me about the repeal of rollover isn't the fact that Dining Services is stealing money from me and other students; I am frightened by the apparent lack of foresight and planning undertaken by Dining Services.

The McDonald Dining Hall didn't magically become defunct overnight. The facility has been out of date for years.

The Macateria was built more than 45 years ago. Of course it is going to need renovated. Why wasn't this budgeted for before it became such an issue?

If money was allocated properly, Dining Services wouldn't need to take away rollover to fix it. I would really like to see Dining Services' financial statements to see where the money I spend on overpriced, low quality food goes.

I would also like to hear from Dining Services Director Gail Finan why this is just

now coming to bear. No more excuses about "think[ing] about those that come after you and who will benefit from the changes made today."

I don't want to think about future students. I'm the one stuck eating in the Macateria now!

If money hasn't been managed correctly, I would like to see steps taken to right that wrong. Possibly even look to other food vendors. Some free market competition. This is America, right?

— Greg Trusz  
Sophomore, Finance

#### Several advantages for BG Undead players

How does BG Undead contribute to education? Simple.

College is about growing, not just intellectually, but socially. The game provides players with a fun, organized event that allows us to break out of social niches and interact with students we normally

wouldn't encounter.

After being welcomed as a member of the zombie horde or running for your life with fellow humans across Alumni Mall, it's hard not to make friends.

How old are we? Although Nerf guns are purchased for many preschool-aged children across the country, we're clearly within range to use our "age 6 and up" toys.

There are several misconceptions about BG Undead, which anyone wearing a bright orange bandana around their head, arm or leg would be more than happy to clear up.

First off, we don't play in buildings anymore. Halfway through the game last semester, BG Undead established a rule that the game is only played outside.

Secondly, the Nerf guns are defensive. Humans only use them to stun attacking zombies.

While it's true you don't

See LETTERS | Page 5

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# THE BG NEWS

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## The BG News Submission Policy

#### 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](mailto: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**.

## LOWE

From Page 4

oil. So other countries have to maintain ties with foreign countries for reasons such as technological advances. This is where citizens begin to hear about many scandals involving politics and oil. When it comes to police corruption, which exists in almost every country, you start to hear about criminals paying off police in order to be free. When the poverty rate gets so high, more criminals roam the street. Imagine if the police could arrest everyone on the streets — prison cells would be overloaded. So instead of arresting them, they take cash as an incentive and let the criminal go free. So is this what politics, money and power is all about? If this is the system that I live in, then I know I wish to change it one day or elect someone who will.

— Respond to LeMarquinta at [theneus@bgnews.com](mailto:theneus@bgnews.com).

## LETTERS

From Page 4

see the hockey team tackling each other around campus. I think this a negative trait. If anyone wants to know about BG Undead, it's easy to find someone and ask. Where's the hockey team with their brightly colored bandanas so I can talk to them? Finally, as for Paul Dalsky and the idea that since he got used to people walking into class with Nerf guns, he wouldn't give a second thought if someone walked in with a real gun: If he'd taken a critical thinking class, he'd realize that's a slippery slope fallacy.

— Heidi Stewart  
Sophomore, Creative Writing

### WE'VE GOT A BLOG!

Check out your favorite Forum columnists, unhinged and online, reasoned and ranting:

[bgnewsforum.blogspot.com](http://bgnewsforum.blogspot.com)

## UNDEAD

From Page 4

papers, projects, exams or anything else. This isn't meant to say that classes are ignored; the players are paying just as much money to be here as everybody else and by no means do they drop schoolwork to play the game. To play Humans vs. Zombies is only a slightly more creative and in-depth way of going outside and getting fresh air, which under no circumstances should be prevented or argued against. BG Undead also helps promote communication skills, leadership and strategy. Communication with others on your team is key to "survival." Often, Humans accompany other Humans to class, or Zombies gather other Zombies to hunt. Therefore, players are definitely encouraged to collaborate with each other, promoting good communication skills and often leadership skills. So, one could argue that BG Undead is nearly educational.

BG Undead works closely with the University administration and the Bowling Green Police Division to ensure that the rules are followed and that no action can be misconstrued as dangerous.

The Nerf and other off-brand plastic guns used are required to be brightly colored. Under no circumstances are these allowed to be painted any sort of realistic colors, such as black or gray.

They're also toys that say on the box that they're intended for children, no different from a hula hoop, a Frisbee or Legos.

The point of Humans vs. Zombies is to have fun, relieve stress and make friends. As eloquently stated by King, "People ask how old we are. Some answer 18, 19, 20... we just say 'six and up.'"

— Mickens is a freshman majoring in theatre and Asian studies, and Doremus is a sophomore majoring in special education. Respond to their column at [theneus@bgnews.com](mailto:theneus@bgnews.com).

## College student: a full-time occupation

BRIAN PRICE | GUEST COLUMNIST

Imagine this: It's May 1, and I've just finished my last exam of the semester.

I've checked it over and, confident that I've done well, I hand it in to the professor. Without pausing, I leave the classroom behind and eagerly set my sights upon the next three and a half months. Having worked hard throughout the year to bolster my transcript, I figure that I deserve a while to relax. Alas, the old adage isn't true, and April showers will be followed by, well, May showers.

There was a time a while back when literally "taking off" the entire summer was perfectly acceptable. When you're in elementary school or perhaps even junior high, no one cares if you spend your days sleeping until noon, your afternoons watching TV, and your evenings watching more TV. Ideally, the "Summer of [Insert Name Here]" is what we all want, and though its exact definition may vary slightly for each individual, the overall trend is obviously one of pleasure over practicality. The real world, however, is populated by sleep doctors and not professional sleepers, network executives rather than expert television viewers.

This not-so-shocking fact leads to the May showers I mentioned before. When I've arrived back home, I'll no doubt get one or two weeks to decompose and live the good life. But then it's back into the workplace, likely in the form of a nine-to-five job for minimal wage. An internship would be better, but I've found that these are hard to come by (especially for a first-year student) and often require lots of

**"You can see, then, that I'm never technically 'on break.'"**

travel time. Many of the most appealing ones are also in other cities, and while doing a summer abroad program in high school seemed OK, after having spent virtually the entire year in St. Louis, I feel like a couple months at home would be good.

So you can see, then, that I'm never technically "on break." While the nominal concepts of "homework" and "exams" may not exist in the summertime, most employers will tell you that every day in the workplace is a test (or some other similarly banal expression) and so you've got to stay focused at all times and work hard in order to succeed. Such a mentality will undoubtedly prove beneficial in the long run, but after a taxing year of school it can be difficult to keep your head in the game.

I've often heard people call college the last time in your life when you can really have fun. Seeing as I haven't reached the next level yet, I can't say for sure whether or not this is true. What I do know, though, is that after college there is no winter break or summer vacation. Except for a very few exceptions, work is a constant that persists for 12 months of the year.

Thus while it may, from the perspective of a college student, seem lame and unnecessary, getting a job or internship can prove immensely helpful in adapting to one's future lifestyle.

— Price attends Washington University in St. Louis.

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

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## THE BG NEWS

Daniel Perry, PRODUCTION SUPERVISOR  
Allison Bratnick, PRODUCTION SUPERVISOR

# get smart.

TRIVIA QUESTION OF THE DAY

A record was set in 1979 by 11 freshmen for:

- most in a telephone booth
- most in a VW "bug"
- most in a dormitory closet
- most National Merit Scholars

ANSWER: c. most in a dormitory closet

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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# Cleveland parishioner volunteers to restore church's broken statues

By Michael O'Malley  
The Associated Press

CLEVELAND — When St. Michael the Archangel Catholic Church opened in 1892, it was filled with hundreds of sacred statues, ranging from life-size to miniature and standing freshly painted on pedestals throughout the grand sanctuary.

More than a century later, the same biblical cast of plaster characters still stands. But many of them are in disrepair, with chipped noses, fingers, knuckles and wings.

Fixing the West Side Cleveland church's holy host of icons falls into the hands of Norbert Wallington, an 85-year-old parishioner who volunteers his self-taught carving and fix-it skills.

He has been restoring the church's statuary since he retired in 1981 from Brook

Park's Ford Motor Co. plant, where he worked 30 years as a security guard.

The statues break over time, Wallington said, as people move them to clean and dust.

A life-size Jesus is missing a forearm and hand. St. Barbara has a couple of broken fingers. A kneeling angel is missing a chunk of wing. St. John Berchmans, patron saint of altar boys, was beheaded during a move.

"Yeah, he lost his head. Poor guy," Wallington said.

On a recent day, dressed in a sweat shirt, blue jeans and a ball cap, Wallington worked in the church's cold, quiet vestibule, giving St. Bernadette a couple of new epoxy fingers and a paint job.

He planned to work next on the Jesus statue's arm.

"I don't know how it got broken off," he said. "The caretaker said the arm was sitting in a box

for 20 years. I've got it at home."

Wallington has lived in the neighborhood around the church, at Scranton Road and Clark Avenue, for 62 years.

He has restored a life-size Crucifixion scene and rebuilt a 3-foot-high angel that was shattered when a small boy knocked it over one yesterday.

He gave new arms and wings to two big angels that flank the tabernacle. One got a new trumpet. Another got a new hand and a tambourine.

"As long as I'm here," he said, "I'll be keeping the statues looking the way they should." Wallington is unsure how many statues there are at St. Michael's. Not even the Rev. James McCreight, the church's pastor, knows.

"There are angels everywhere," McCreight said. "You look around and there's another one."

A Plain Dealer story that ran when the church was dedicat-



LISA DEJONG | AP PHOTO  
SERVING WITH ART: Norbert Wallington, 85, paints the robe of St. Bernadette in the entry way of St. Michael's church in Cleveland.

ed Nov. 20, 1892, noted that "in every conceivable nook and corner are statues and statuettes." McCreight uses the statues as visual aids during sermons.

"You can point out the biblical

stories," he said. "There's Isaac. There's Melchizedek. There's the wedding feast at Cana." In gratitude for all of Wallington's work, the parish five years ago installed a plaque, "Restored by

Norbert Wallington," on the life-size Crucifixion scene.

"We're really grateful we've got him," parishioner Rosemarie Bell said. "He's terrific. He really knows his work."

## Overtime pay for state workers tops \$100 million for first time

Troopers, firefighters, prison guards among those to see jump

COLUMBUS (AP) — Overtime for state employees increased 16 percent during the first year of Gov. Ted Strickland's administration, topping \$100 million for the first time, a newspaper reported yesterday.

State troopers protecting the governor, firefighters at Air National Guard bases, medical personnel at state hospitals and prisons, and computer experts were among those receiving big overtime payments, according to a computer analysis by The Columbus Dispatch.

The newspaper found that 11 employees received at least \$50,000 in overtime.

In addition, 2,167 had overtime payments of \$10,000 or more.

Part of the jump resulted

from the changeover in administrations from Gov. Bob Taft to Strickland, said Ron Sylvester.

Sylvester is a spokesman for the Ohio Department of Administrative Services, which provided payroll data to The Dispatch.

The majority of state employees received a 3.5 percent raise last year, Sylvester said. Strickland, a Democrat, also froze the pay of about 3,400 higher level staff members.

The total state payroll rose \$116 million from 2006 to 2007.

For the first three months after Strickland took office last January, as many as 200 positions were temporarily "double-filled," Sylvester said.

This means that new employees were hired while the previ-

ous employees, many of them Republican appointees from the Taft administration, were still on the payroll.

In addition, overtime and payroll increased because employees put in thousands of hours responding to the theft of a computer backup device carrying the Social Security numbers of thousands of Ohioans and other sensitive data, Sylvester said.

Overtime increases showed up across state agencies, the newspaper reported.

At the Ohio Department of Transportation, where overtime increased 40 percent to \$16 million, 362 employees got more than \$10,000 each in overtime last year, compared with 235 in 2006.

## Antioch University calls for buyers of Antioch College

College faces closing if business negotiations continue to fail

YELLOW SPRINGS, Ohio (AP) — Antioch University is offering its flagship Antioch College for sale to any buyer that can provide the full payment up front, after negotiations with an alumni group failed, a university spokeswoman said yesterday.

The university and an alumni group attempting to take over Antioch College's operations called off negotiations Friday after school officials declined the group's "best and final" offer to pay half of the \$12.2 million price over five years. The school wants the full payment at closing of the deal.

Antioch now says it is open to negotiations with any potential buyer—including the group of wealthy alumni and former trustees that make up the

Antioch College Continuation Corporation—that can provide all of the money at closing.

If the trustees feel "they can work out the financing on \$12.2 million, the rest is definitely workable," said Antioch University spokeswoman Lynda Sirk.

The alumni group has been negotiating with the university since December.

Antioch College is planning to close June 30 for at least one year unless a business deal is reached that could keep the school open. The school will close and reopen in 2012 or as soon as possible.

University trustees announced last June that they planned to close the Yellow Springs college temporarily, citing declining enrollment, heavy

dependence on tuition and a small endowment. About 200 students are currently enrolled at the college.

Founded in 1852 and located about 15 miles east of Dayton, the college doesn't grade classes, encourages students to develop their own study plans and combines academic learning with experience through a co-op program in which students leave campus to work in various fields.

The college is known for its pioneering academic programs that produce students with a passion for free thinking and social activism. Famous alumni included "Twilight Zone" creator Rod Serling, Coretta Scott King and evolutionary scientist Stephen Jay Gould.

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## SIDELINES



### BASEBALL

#### Sabathia pumped up for today's season opener

Cleveland Indians starter C.C. Sabathia said he is very excited to be taking the mound in his team's home opener this afternoon at Progressive Field. **Page 8**

### BASEBALL

#### Griffey nearing 600 home run mark

At the age of 38, Cincinnati Reds outfielder Ken Griffey Jr. is closing in on his 600th career home run. **Page 8**

### ONLINE

#### The BG News Sports Blog

Be sure to log on to The BG News Sports Blog to get updates and info on all of your favorite BG teams. <http://www.bgnewssports.blogspot.com>

## OUR CALL

### Today in Sports History

**1995**—A federal judge orders an injunction to end a Major League Baseball strike.  
**1980**—Larry Holmes TKOs Leroy Jones in eight rounds to win the heavyweight boxing title.  
**1976**—The Cleveland Cavaliers clinch their first-ever playoff berth.

### The List

A fantasy baseball draft is one of the truly fun things a fan can engage in every spring. Today, we're listing five of the most sought after fantasy picks.

- Alex Rodriguez:** He puts up ridiculous home run and RBI totals every year, so he generates a ton of points.
- David Ortiz:** He plays at Fenway Park, where pop-ups become home runs. Ortiz can get you a lot of points with his bat.
- Matt Holliday:** The Rockies have a very potent lineup, and Holliday drove in 137 runs last year.
- Johan Santana:** He was one of the A.L.'s best starters last year, so we figure he'll nab you some quality points playing in the offensively challenged N.L. this year.
- Chase Utley:** The Phillies play in a band box of a stadium, so Utley's numbers at the plate should be high again this season.



# Falcons pull off weekend sweep of Northern Illinois

By Ethan Magoc  
Reporter



BRIAN BORNHOEFF | THE BG NEWS

**CONNECTING:** Senior outfielder Andrew Foster puts the bat on the ball during a game.

The March Ohio weather cooperated, the pitching staff was superb and the offense was timely this weekend for the Falcon baseball team.

All of those factors allowed BG to open its 2008 Mid-American Conference schedule with a sweep over Northern Illinois, as they won 3-2 Friday, 4-3 Saturday and 4-1 yesterday.

After Friday and Saturday's closely fought games, which BG won to claim its second series victory this season, coach Danny Schmitz knew his team would be eager for another tight win.

"You get two, you get hungry,

"The pitchers are really understanding coach Rick Blanc now. Give him credit because the kids are starting to buy into his philosophy."

Danny Schmitz | BG baseball coach

and you want to go after three," Schmitz said. "Northern's going to be ready, but we have to come back with the same approach and be ready to go also."

The BG pitching staff was clearly ready to go from the start of the series.

Each Falcon starting pitcher delivered at least five strong innings in all three games to shut down a Huskie offense that ranked first in MAC games going

into the weekend.

The Huskies left Steller Field on their bus with zero victories on six total runs and 15 hits.

"Their pitchers did a nice job this weekend," said NIU coach Ed Mathey. "They're throwing strikes, working ahead in the counts, and they're changing speeds. There's no secret to that—they're just executing."

See **SWEEP** | Page 8

# Top dogs rule the Tourney



NELL REDMOND | AP PHOTO

**PSYCHO T:** Tyler Hansbrough played a major role in North Carolina's win over Louisville.



ERIC GAY | AP PHOTO

**PROWLING:** The Memphis Tigers picked Texas apart in their regional final game.

No. 1 seeds comprise this year's Final Four

By Eddie Pells  
The Associated Press

HOUSTON — John Wooden gave us the basics of modern-day coaching. Dean Smith refined 'em. James Naismith, well, he simply invented basketball.

Now the schools these greats once coached — UCLA, North Carolina and Kansas — are in the Final Four, a once-in-a-generation convergence of three of college basketball's most storied programs on the sport's biggest stage.

March Madness? This is more like Hoops History 101 getting ready to be played out in an oversized classroom called the Alamodome, starting Saturday in San Antonio.

UCLA, the team that won 10 titles in the '60s and '70s under the guidance of Wooden — that rolled-up sheaf of game notes always in hand — will play Memphis, a team that also has a colorful and successful history, though not nearly that of the other three.

The "Wizard of Westwood" is now 97 and recovering from a broken collarbone and wrist, but is almost sure to watch his beloved Bruins, in their record 18th Final Four, on TV from home.

In Saturday's other semifinal, it will be Kansas against North Carolina, a perfect matchup with a perfect storyline — that of North Carolina coach Roy Williams going against Kansas, the program he left in 2003 amid shouts that he was a traitor for leaving his adopted school to return to his alma mater.

Carolina is in its 17th Final Four, and Kansas its 13th.

"They gave me a chance when I was not exactly a household name. I was barely a name in my own house," Williams said of Kansas. "I have no idea what my emotions will be. I'm just ecstatic for this club right now."

And speaking of perfect: This is the first time since the NCAA started seeding teams in 1979 that all four top teams — from the South, Midwest, East and West regionals — advanced to the Final Four.



DUANE BURELSON | AP PHOTO

**THE SLIPPER DOESN'T FIT:** Kansas was able to slay this year's Cinderella, Davidson.



MATT YORK | AP PHOTO

**CALIFORNIA DREAMING:** UCLA has made four straight men's Final Four appearances.

# Despite a late schedule change, BG track team shines in Bluffton meet

By Andrew Harner  
Reporter

Despite some chilly weather and last minute rescheduling, the BG women's track team compiled 32 top five finishes on their way to an almost 100 point win at the Bluffton Invite.

The Falcons had originally planned to travel up I-75 for the Toledo Collegiate Challenge but that was canceled due to weather allowing BG to visit Bluffton to face Albion, Defiance, Huntington, Bluffton and Tri-State.

"The competition level was dif-

ferent than it would've been at Toledo," said coach Cami Wells. "With such a young team, it was a nice confidence booster to start with competition that wasn't quite so intimidating."

The Falcons showed impressive speed in the short distance races racking up seven top three finishes, including a clean sweep in the 100-meter dash.

Sophomore Shantell Lewis won the race in 12.68 and was followed by freshman teammates Sarah Hooten (12.79) and Rachel Dougherty (13.05).

Two more freshmen placed in

the 200-meter dash for BG. Tiffany Dziak (26.54) took first and Brittany Johnson (26.74) finished third.

In the 400-meter dash, freshman Heather Conger (1:00.51) and sophomore Hillary Hewitt (1:01.50) took the first two spots.

"I thought they did a nice job considering the limited competition," Wells said of her sprinters. "It was sunny out so it was decent weather, but it was still a little cold for sprinting."

But as good as the Falcons were

See **TRACK** | Page 8



ENOCH WU | THE BG NEWS

**SOLID SHOWING:** The BG track team finished with 32 top-five finishes over the weekend.





TONY DEJAK | AP PHOTO

**FINALLY BACK HOME:** C.C. Sabathia and the Cleveland Indians will open their season at home for the first time since the 2001 season.

## Sabathia fired up to pitch on opening day, but wants to control his emotions

CLEVELAND (AP) — C.C. Sabathia is as excited to pitch on opening day as he was last October, when he had a chance to send the Cleveland Indians into the World Series by beating the Boston Red Sox.

When the 2007 AL Cy Young Award winner takes the mound against the Chicago White Sox today, he hopes he'll be able to harness his competitive nature a little better.

"The excitement level of opening at home is through the roof," Sabathia said yesterday before a brief, brisk workout at Progressive Field. "It means a lot to me to take the ball on opening day. It's always special. The big thing will be to keep my emotions down."

That's something the big left-hander failed to do the last time Cleveland fans saw him five months ago at what was then

**"The excitement level of opening at home is through the roof. It means a lot to me to take the ball on opening day. It's always special."**

C.C. Sabathia | Indians pitcher

called Jacobs Field. Sabathia held the Indians' ticket to the World Series in his hands—and dropped it. Starting Game 5 of the ALCS against Boston with a 3-1 series lead, the 19-game winner admittedly pressed and got beat, 7-1.

"I think I've learned," Sabathia said. "All that's on my mind right now is facing Chicago."

For Sabathia and the Indians, that's nothing new. Cleveland opened each of the past three years in Chicago, with Sabathia winning a year ago, 12-4.

"We were down by one before the National Anthem was over and took the field down by seven," White Sox manager Ozzie Guillen said. "One thing about the Indians last year: they came to kick your behind every game."

The Indians did a lot more slipping and sliding than kicking anything last April. A blizzard wiped out a seven-game homestand. Monday's forecast of mid-50s temperatures with a chance of rain looks good by comparison.

"It's really a flip of the coin this early," manager Eric Wedge said of the weather. "But we're very happy to start in front of our fans."

Cleveland hasn't opened at home since 2001, when Sabathia was a wide-eyed 20-year-old watching his first major league game from the bench.

Guillen would prefer to see Sabathia sitting this year, too. The 27-year-old is 14-3 against the White Sox.

"I'm tired of seeing C.C., gimme somebody else," Guillen said.

## Griffey just seven away from 600 homers

By Joe Kay  
The Associated Press

CINCINNATI — Home runs never defined Ken Griffey Jr.

The backward cap. The can-you-believe-it smile. The Gold Glove that turned fly balls into mesmerizing outs. The arm that made runners think twice. He's always been much more than that short, sweet swing.

Now that he's on the verge of a very powerful number, nothing has changed.

The Cincinnati Reds outfielder opens the season today only seven homers shy of 600. The countdown started late last season, and will occupy fans for the first few weeks of the new one.

Griffey? He's got other things in mind.

The 38-year-old All-Star has never doted on personal statistics. In his mind, numbers don't define what he does or why he does it. That part isn't changing.

Griffey is still living in the moment.

"It's just a number that's coming up," he said in an interview as spring training wound down. "But that's not the biggest number. The biggest num-



AL BEHRMAN | AP PHOTO

**COMEBACK KID:** Ken Griffey Jr. hit 30 homers and drove in 93 runs last season.

ber is the next one (No. 594) and then the next one after that. You can't look at something that's dangling out there when you have something in front of you that you have to get first. You get that one, then worry about the next one.

"It's like a pitcher. You can't worry about the guy on deck when you've still got a guy (at

the plate) who's a hitter."

When he arrived from Seattle before the 2000 season, Griffey was ahead of Hank Aaron's home run pace. Barely 30 at the time, he was already an All-Century outfielder and one of the game's most popular players.

A whole generation of young fans turned their caps backward and tried to be like Junior. His hometown was already daydreaming about glory years.

There hasn't been a whole lot of that.

During his second season in Cincinnati, Griffey tore his left hamstring. For the next few years, he was defined more by injuries — torn patella tendon, torn hamstring, dislocated shoulder, torn ankle, another torn hamstring, dislocated toe — than statistics.

He slipped farther and farther behind Aaron's pace. By 2006, he had practically slipped out of the conversation about the game's elite players.

No more. Griffey batted .277 with 30 homers and 93 RBIs last season, when he made the All-Star team for the first time in three years. He played in 144 games, his highest total since the year he arrived in Cincinnati.

## SWEEP

From Page 7

There has been a marked change in the Falcons in March. They began the month 0-4 in Florida, but with their first opening MAC series sweep since 2003, they close it out on a 5-0 run.

To win 10 of their last 11 games, a team effort by the Falcons was certainly required, but one part of the team in particular has been exceptional.

"The pitchers are really understanding coach Rick Blanc now," Schmitz noted, in particular, referring to his first-year pitching assistant. "Give him credit because the kids are starting to buy into his philosophy."

Schmitz noted, in particular, the pitching staff's aggressiveness lately. A large majority of the Northern batters fell behind in the count early on in at-bats this weekend.

It started with Frank Berry's complete game performance in which he allowed two runs on four hits in nine innings during Friday's series opener.

Kevin Light and Charles Wooten combined for a similar performance on Saturday. Light allowed one earned run in five and two-thirds innings, while Wooten came in to shut down the Huskies for his first-career win.

"I was hitting my spots with my fastball really nicely, and my two-seamer was working inside and outside. I didn't throw my change up very much, but the fastball movement kept hitters off-balance," Wooten said, declaring that his first freshman victory came at an especially good time—he turned 19 years old yesterday.

Also coming of age this weekend has been the top and bottom of BG's line up.

Ryan Shay, the lead-off hit-

ter, and T.J. Blanton, the ninth batter, combined for eight hits and seven of the Falcons' 11 total weekend runs against NIU.

"I've been seeing the ball a lot better and I've had a lot more focus. I've been working hard in batting practice where, if I hit a pop-up, I have to do ten push-ups," Blanton said. His recent streak also includes a home-run in last Wednesday's win over Findlay.

Blanton, Schmitz, Wooten and the rest of the team are certainly happy with their current turnaround heading into tomorrow's non-conference game at Youngstown State.

"We looked at those first half-dozen games in Florida as exhibition games," Schmitz said, "but now it's time to start kicking it into gear, and the leadership is really taking over. They've worked very, very hard and they have a lot of pride. It's showing right now."

## TRACK

From Page 7

in the short distance, they were better in mid and long distance races.

The 800-meter run was the lone mid-distance race of the day, but the Falcons made it count by sweeping the top five spots.

Danielle Thornton (2:21.91) finished first, while teammates Autumn Dettmann (2:23.15), Barbara Powers (2:29.57), Andrea Pereira de Almeida (2:32.28) and Lauren Zielke (2:32.46) completed the top five. Lara Weiss finished eighth for BG.

The Falcons also only had one

**"Had they had more competition, maybe they would've been a second or two faster. But overall I thought they pushed themselves amongst their teammates."**

Cami Wells | BG track coach

long distance race of the day, which they also took the top five spots in.

Jamie Roffow had a time of 4:45.00 and teammates Lyndi Springer (4:50.00), Powers (4:58.93), Kylie Korsnack (5:09.06) and Megan Kelsey (5:09.06) rounded out the top five of the 1500-meter run. Weiss also took seventh.

"I pretty much expected that that's what they would do," Wells said about the two races. "I thought they got out well and competed hard. I was happy with the times."

BG also came out on top of both the 4-by-100 meter (50.34) and 4-by-400 meter (4:10.37) relays.

The Falcons padded their lead

further through field events recording 11 top three finishes.

Elizabeth Stone (1.55m) and Emily Mays (1.45m) finished second and third in the high jump behind BG Track Club's Meghan Gill (1.60m).

In the shot put and discus throw, BG took all but one of the top three spots.

Liz Honegger (12.72m) and Whitney Hartman (12.30m) took first and second in the shot put and Hartman (40.09m), Lauren Bryant (39.93m) and Honegger (39.70m) swept the top spots of the discus.

Bryant also won the hammer throw (53.09m) and was followed by Hartman (50.03m) and Stacey

Turak (38.98m). Kylie Korsnack won the javelin throw with a 30.86 meter toss.

"We had quite a few high jumpers, and I thought they did a good job," Wells said. "I thought our throwers did a good job for their first meet of the season."

Wells was pleased overall with the times her team posted, but she thought that they might have been better had they been competing against Division I schools.

"Had they had more competition, maybe they would've been a second or two faster," Wells said. "But overall I thought they pushed themselves amongst their teammates."

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US FISH AND WILDLIFE | AP PHOTO

**LAYING LOW:** A gray wolf rests in tall grass. The good news for gray wolves is that they've been taken off the Federal Endangered Species Act list in Idaho, Montana and Wyoming.

## New status leaves wolves to be hunted

By Jessie Bonner  
The Associated Press

BOISE, Idaho — Good news for gray wolves in the northern Rocky Mountains: They no longer need federal protection. The bad news for the animals? Plans are already in the works to hunt them.

Federal Endangered Species Act protection of the wolves was lifted Friday in Idaho, Montana and Wyoming, giving those states management of the estimated 1,500 gray wolves in the region.

Even though environmentalists plan to sue the federal government next month to restore wolf protections, hunts are already being scheduled by state wildlife agencies to reduce the wolf population to between 900 and 1,250.

Idaho hunters will be allowed to kill between 100-300 of the animals this fall under a plan approved by the Idaho Fish and Game Commission. The hunts are partly in response to increasing numbers of livestock being killed as the predators' population has grown.

"We manage big game for a living; we're good at it," said Steve Nadeau, who oversees large carnivores for the Idaho Fish and

Game Department. "The world is watching and we know it."

Fish and Game estimates Idaho now has 800 gray wolves. Should the number of breeding pairs in Idaho fall below a target number, the animals could be brought back under federal protection.

After a series of public shouting matches between wolf advocates and opponents, comments from Idaho Department Fish and Game officials on Friday seemed largely designed to reassure both ends of the debate.

Cal Groen, director of the department, told reporters that his agency has already proven its ability to recover and maintain Idaho wolf populations. "We've exceeded all the goals the federal government set," Groen said.

But Doug Honnold, a managing attorney for the non-profit environmental law firm Earthjustice, disagrees. Honnold said the wolf populations won't be fully recovered in Idaho and the northern Rockies until the animals number between 2,000 and 3,000.

Earthjustice, which represents 12 local and national environmental groups, plans to sue the federal government next month to continue wolf protections.

## Debate expected over new Bush financial plan

By Martin Crutsinger  
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — In proposing the broadest overhaul of financial oversight since the Great Depression, the Bush administration has kicked off a fierce debate.

It pits those eager to revamp an antiquated system against an industry opposed to excessive regulation. The administration is aware of the hardening lines.

The 200-page plan set for release today comes with the financial system in the midst of the most severe credit crisis in two generations.

That crunch has meant billions of dollars of losses for big banks and investment houses.

It has caused the near-collapse of the country's fifth largest investment bank, made it harder for consumers and businesses to get loans and pushed the country to the brink of a recession.

The market turmoil has presented an opening for critics to make the case for strong federal rules to crack down on abuses that they believe were at the heart of the current crisis.

But Treasury Secretary Paulson, who has led the effort to rewrite regulations, rejects that criticism.

"I do not believe it is fair or accurate to blame our regulatory structure for the current turmoil," according to a draft of a



GERALD HERBERT | AP PHOTO

**COLLABORATION:** President Bush, flanked by Treasury Secretary Henry Paulson, left, and Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke, pose for cameras after his meeting with the President's Working Group on Financial Markets on March 17, 2008, in Washington.

speech he planned to give today when he outlines the administration's proposals.

In interviews over the weekend, administration officials sought to frame the proposals as an effort to devise a system that would help keep U.S. companies competitive in an increasingly connected global economy.

"Despite the fact that there will be a temptation to view this through a lens of what is happening now in credit markets, this has been a process that has been

going on for a year," said David Nason, Treasury's assistant secretary for domestic finance.

"These are very complex issues that require a serious amount of debate."

Treasury began work on the review in early 2007.

It came in response to complaints from the financial services industry that U.S. businesses were losing their edge in global competition because of over-regulation by Washington.

The yearlong review produced

a plan calling for the greatest changes in financial regulation since many of the current oversight institutions were created in the 1930s.

The Federal Reserve would be a big winner, gaining new powers to serve as the protector of stability for the entire financial system.

The plan would abolish some institutions such as the Office of Thrift Supervision and the Commodity Futures Trading Commission; their responsibilities would shift to other agencies.

## ICF seeks millions in Katrina overpayments

By John Moreno Gonzales  
The Associated Press

NEW ORLEANS — Imagine your home was reduced to mold and wood framing by Hurricane Katrina.

Desperate for money to rebuild, you engage in a frustrating bureaucratic process, and after months of living in a government-provided trailer tainted with formaldehyde you finally win a federal grant.

Then a collector calls with the staggering news that you have to pay back thousands of dollars.

Thousands of Katrina victims may be in that situation.

A private contractor under investigation for the compensation it received to run the Road Home grant program for Katrina victims says that in the rush to deliver aid to homeowners in need, some people got

**"The choice was either to process grants immediately or wait until the March 2008 deadline [for submitting Road Home applications] before disbursing any funds."**

Gentry Brann | ICF spokeswoman

too much. Now it wants to hire a separate company to collect millions in grant overpayments.

The contractor, ICF International of Fairfax, Va., revealed the extent of the overpayments when it issued a March 11 request for bids from companies willing to handle "approximately 1,000 to 5,000 cases that will necessitate collection effort."

The bid invitation said: "The average amount to be collected is estimated to be approximately \$35,000, but in

some cases may be as high as \$100,000 to \$150,000."

The biggest grant amount allowed by the Road Home program is \$150,000, so ICF believes it paid some recipients the maximum when they should not have received a penny. If ICF's highest estimate of 5,000 collection cases — overpaid by an average of \$35,000 — proves to be true, that means applicants will have to pay back a total of \$175 million.

One-third of qualified applicants for Road Home help had

yet to receive any rebuilding check as of this past week. The program, which has come to symbolize the lurching Katrina recovery effort, is financed by \$11 billion in federal funds.

ICF spokeswoman Gentry Brann said in an e-mail Friday that the overpayments are the inevitable result of the Road Home grant being recalculated to account for insurance money and government aid given to Katrina victims.

Brann said there was a sense of urgency in paying Road Home applicants, and ICF and the state knew applicants would have to return some money.

"The choice was either to process grants immediately or wait until the March 2008 deadline [for submitting Road Home applications] before disbursing any funds," Brann said in her e-mail.

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# Democrats: Will women be upset if Clinton is pushed out?

By Beth Fouhy  
The Associated Press

NEW ALBANY, Ind. — Debra Starks has heard the calls for Hillary Rodham Clinton to quit the presidential race, and she's not happy about it.

The 53-year-old Wal-Mart clerk, so bedecked with Clinton campaign buttons most days that friends call her "Button Lady," thinks sexism is playing a role in efforts to push the New York senator from the race. Starks wants Clinton to push back.

"The way I look at it, she's a strong woman and she needs to stay in there. She needs to fight," Starks said at a Clinton campaign rally. "If you want to be president, you have to fight for what you want. If she stays in there and does what she's supposed to do, I think she'll be on her way."

Amid mounting calls from top Democrats for Clinton to step aside and clear the path for rival Barack Obama, strategists are warning of damage to the party's chances in November if women — who make up the majority of Democratic voters nationwide, but especially the older, white working-class women who've long formed the former first lady's base — sense a mostly male party establishment is unfairly muscling

**"Women will indeed be upset if it appears people are trying to push Hillary Clinton out of the way. If you are going to ask her to withdraw, you'd better be making a strong case."**

Carol Fowler | South Carolina Democratic Party Chair

Clinton out of the race.

"Women will indeed be upset if it appears people are trying to push Hillary Clinton out of the way," said Carol Fowler, the South Carolina Democratic Party chair who is backing Obama. "If you are going to ask her to withdraw, you'd better be making a strong case for it — both to the candidate and the public."

Vermont Sen. Patrick Leahy last week became the first leading Democrat to openly call on Clinton to abandon her bid and back Obama, a sentiment shared by many activists worried that a drawn-out nominating contest only bolsters Republican nominee-in-waiting John McCain.

Other Obama supporters have echoed that view while stopping short of asking Clinton to withdraw.

New Mexico Gov. Bill Richardson yesterday called Obama's lead all but insurmountable, while Massachusetts Sen. John Kerry said the contest would be reaching "a point of

judgment" very soon.

"I don't think it's up to our campaign or any individual to tell Hillary Clinton or their campaign when that is," Kerry, the 2004 Democratic nominee, said on ABC's "This Week" yesterday. "But there will be, I think, a consensus about it, and I think it's going to occur over these next weeks."

To be sure, Clinton campaign officials concede her path to winning the nomination is not at all clear.

She almost certainly will end the primary season narrowly trailing Obama in the popular vote and among pledged delegates unless the nullified primaries in Florida and Michigan are counted — an unlikely scenario at best. But Obama is unlikely to end the race with the 2,024 pledged delegates needed to win outright either, meaning the nominee will be determined by roughly 800 "superdelegates" — elected officials and party insiders who can back whichever candidate they want.



**INVESTIGATION:** Todd Matthews is shown at the site where his father-in-law discovered the remains of "Tent Girl" near Sadieville, Ky., Friday, Feb. 15, 2008.

## Man dedicates life to identifying unnamed dead Doe Network searches for missing person matches

By Hellen O'Neill  
The Associated Press

LIVINGSTON, Tenn. — Four days a week, Todd Matthews earns \$11.50 an hour working for an automotive parts supplier.

He punches in at 4:15 a.m., punches out nearly 11 hours later, then drives half a mile to his little beige house on a hill where, in the distance, he can glimpse the Appalachian mountains.

He spends the next seven to eight hours at his desk, beneath shelves lined with miniature plastic skulls, immersed in a very different world.

Their faces seem to float from his computer — morgue photographs, artist sketches, forensic reconstructions — thousands of dead eyes staring from endless Web sites as though crying out for recognition. John and Jane and Baby "Does" whose nameless bodies have never been identified.

His wife, Lori, complains that Matthews spends more time with the dead than he does with the living, including his two sons, Dillan, 16, and Devin, 6.

You need a hobby, she says, or a goal.

I have a goal, he replies, though he describes it as a "calling."

He wants to give "Does" back their names.

His obsession began two decades ago, when Lori told him about the unidentified young woman wrapped in canvas whose body her father had stumbled on in Georgetown, Ky., in 1968. She had reddish brown hair and a gap-toothed smile. And no one knew her name.

So locals blessed her with one. They buried her under an apple tree with a pink granite tombstone engraved with the words "Tent Girl."

At 37, Matthews is a sensitive soul who has always felt an affinity for the dead, perhaps because two of his siblings died just after birth.

Matthews still chokes up when he visits the graves of

Gregory Kenneth and Sue Ann. But at least he knows where they are buried.

Tent Girl haunted him. Who were her siblings? What was her name?

Matthews began searching library records and police reports, not even sure what he was seeking. He scraped together the money to buy a computer. He started scouring message boards on the nascent Internet.

In the process, Matthews discovered something extraordinary. All over the country, people just like him were gingerly tapping into the new technology, creating a movement — a network of amateur sleuths as curious and impassioned as Matthews.

Today the Doe Network has volunteers and chapters in every state.

Bank managers and waitresses, factory workers and farmers, computer technicians and grandmothers, all believing that with enough time and effort, modern technology can solve the mysteries of the missing dead.

Increasingly, they are succeeding.

The unnamed dead are everywhere — buried in unmarked graves, tagged in county morgues, dumped in rivers and under bridges, interred in potter's fields and all manner of makeshift tombs.

There are more than 40,000 unnamed bodies in the U.S., according to national law enforcement reports, and about 100,000 people formally listed as missing.

The premise of the Doe Network is simple.

If the correct information — dental records, DNA, police reports, photographs — is properly entered into the right databases, many of the unidentified can be matched with the missing.

Law enforcement agencies and medical examiners offices simply don't have the time or manpower.

Using the Internet and other tools, volunteers can do the job.

## Officials still face ballot shortages

Voter turnout leaves polls empty-handed

By Deborah Hastings  
The Associated Press

It's a simple question with no simple answer: Why do polling places across America keep running out of ballots when it's no secret that this contentious primary season keeps breaking voter turnout records?

For one, even the best-made plans have gone awry; officials in state after state have ordered more ballots, only to see turnouts exceed their most ambitious estimates.

Some states — California, for example — extended registration deadlines, in part to give would-be voters more time to sign up for the first Democratic presidential nomination race between a black man and a woman.

But some election officials say those extensions have necessitated a form of fortune telling when it comes to deciding how many ballots to order.

Not helping is the fact that ballot printing is a highly specialized field.

There is only a limited number of companies willing to take on the heavily monitored and time-consuming burden of producing and delivering voting cards.

Price per ballot can range from 20 cents to more than \$1, depending on complexity.

Lead times for printing can range from months to weeks to days. The time span depends on circumstances, including the proximity of Election Day.

So with Pennsylvania's important April 22 primary looming, and nine other state nominating contests scheduled for May, election activists wonder if even more voters could be subject to huge lines and the disenfranchisement that is often caused by an insufficient supply of ballots.

"We're going to keep having this problem," said Doug Lewis, director of the Election Center, which represents voting officials across the country.

"Running an election sounds pretty simple until you try to do it. Folks just don't understand how much advance planning goes into setting this up.

"If you run out of ballots, it's because your crystal ball isn't good enough," Lewis said.

"Every time you cut the time between the voter registration deadline and the election, you severely impact the voting system."

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NABIL AL-JURANI | AP PHOTO

**ON THE MOVE:** Mahdi Army fighters drive away with captured Iraqi armored police vehicles outside a state run al-Iraqiya TV facility in Basra, Iraq, yesterday.

## Shiite cleric pulls fighters off streets in Baghdad

Al-Sadr asked the government to stop its raids in what could be a turning point in recent violence

By Kim Gabel  
The Associated Press

BAGHDAD — In a possible turning point in the recent upsurge in violence, Muqtada al-Sadr ordered his Shiite militiamen off the streets yesterday but called on the government to stop its raids against his followers.

The government welcomed the move, which followed intense negotiations by Shiite officials, including two lawmakers who reportedly traveled to Iran to ask religious authorities there to intervene.

Prime Minister Nourial-Maliki, whose offensive that began last Tuesday in the oil-rich southern city in Basra sparked the crisis, called al-Sadr's statement "a step in the right direction."

But fighting continued in the Basra area after the announcement. Seven people also were killed when a mortar struck a residential district in Baghdad's Karradah district, and witnesses reported clashes in the Shula area in a northern section of the capital.

The nine-point statement by the anti-American cleric, which was broadcast through Shiite mosques in Baghdad and across the south, called for an end to the "armed presence" in Basra and other cities and urged followers "to cooperate with the government to achieve security."

Al-Sadr, however, also demanded that the Iraqi government stop "illegal and haphazard raids" and release security detainees who haven't been charged, two issues cited by his movement as reasons for fighting the government.

The Sadrist have complained that the government has released few of their followers under a new

amnesty law, which they complain has favored Sunnis who have recently joined with the Americans to fight al-Qaida.

The cleric's decision offered way out of a widening Shiite conflict at a time when government forces appeared to be making little headway against the well-armed militias in Basra.

Al-Sadr's order stopped short of calling on his fighters to disarm. And the government insisted it would still target "outlaws."

Iraqi authorities in Baghdad said a citywide curfew would be lifted this morning, although a vehicle ban remained on three strongholds of al-Sadr's Mahdi Army militia in the capital.

Before al-Sadr's statement, dozens of Shiite gunmen yesterday stormed a government TV facility in central Basra, forcing Iraqi troops guarding the building to flee and setting armored vehicles on fire.

One of al-Maliki's top security officials also was killed in a mortar attack in Basra, officials said. The prime minister's Dawa party issued a statement of condolences identifying the slain official as Salim Qassim, known by his nickname Abu Laith al-Kadhimi.

In an effort to curb the growing violence, two senior Shiite lawmakers close to al-Maliki — Hadi al-Amri and Ali al-Adeeb — traveled to Iran and asked authorities there to stop the flow of weapons to al-Sadr's Mahdi Army, according to two officials.

The lawmakers — both of whom have close ties to Iran — also asked the Iranians to pressure al-Sadr to come up with a face-saving initiative, according to the officials, who spoke on condition of anonymity because of the sensitivity of the subject.

## Cities switch off lights to raise global warming awareness

By Caryn Rosseau  
The Associated Press

CHICAGO — From the Sydney Opera House to Rome's Colosseum to the Sears Tower's famous antennas in Chicago, floodlit icons of civilization went dark Saturday for Earth Hour, a worldwide campaign to highlight the threat of climate change.

The environmental group WWF urged governments, businesses and households to turn back to candle power for at least 60 minutes starting at 8 p.m. wherever they were.

The campaign began last year in Australia, and traveled this year from the South Pacific to Europe to North America in cadence with the setting of the sun.

"What's amazing is that it's transcending political boundaries and happening in places like China, Vietnam, Papua New Guinea," said Andy Ridley, executive director of Earth Hour. "It really seems to have resonated with anybody and everybody."

**"What's amazing is that it's transcending political boundaries. It really seems to have resonated with anybody and everybody."**

Andy Ridley | Executive Director of Earth Hour

Earth Hour officials hoped 100 million people would turn off their nonessential lights and electronic goods for the hour. Electricity plants produce greenhouse gases that fuel climate change.

In Chicago, lights on more than 200 downtown buildings were dimmed Saturday night, including the stripe of white light around the top of the John Hancock Center. The red-and-white marquee outside Wrigley Field also went dark.

"There's a widespread belief that somehow people in the United States don't understand that this is a problem that we're lazy and wedded to our lifestyles. [Earth Hour] demonstrates that that is wrong," said Richard Moss, a member of the Nobel Peace Prize-win-

ning Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and the climate change vice president for WWF, in Chicago on Saturday.

Workers in Phoenix turned out the lights in all downtown city-owned buildings for one hour. Darkened restaurants glowed with candlelight in San Francisco while the Golden Gate Bridge, Coit Tower and other landmarks extinguished lights for an hour.

New Zealand and Fiji were first out of the starting blocks this year. And in Sydney, Australia — where an estimated 2.2 million observed the blackout last year — the city's two architectural icons, the Opera House and Harbour Bridge, faded to black against a dramatic backdrop of a lightning storm.



FRED CHARTRAND | AP PHOTO

**LEFT IN THE DARK:** Gordon Kubanek, left, Frank de Jong, center and Chris Bradshaw hold candles below the unlit Peace Tower on Parliament Hill in Ottawa. From Rome's Colosseum to the Sydney Opera House, floodlit icons of civilization went dark Saturday for Earth Hour, a worldwide campaign to highlight the threat of climate change.

## Israel takes first step toward peace

By Matthew Lee  
The Associated Press

JERUSALEM — Israel pledged to remove some West Bank roadblocks as a start to "concrete steps" in an agreement yesterday with the Palestinians that is aimed at paving the way for a final peace deal this year.

"This is a program that will improve the daily lives of Palestinians and help make Israel secure," the U.S. said.

Under the plan that Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice announced, Israel will remove about 50 roadblocks and upgrade checkpoints to speed up the movement of Palestinians through the West Bank.

The Israelis also will give Palestinians more security responsibility in the town of Jenin with an eye toward looking at "other areas in turn." They also pledged to increase the number of travel and work permits for Palestinians and to support economic projects in Palestinian towns.

In return, the Palestinians promised to improve policing of Jenin "to provide law and order, and to work to prevent terror," according to a State Department statement.

Rice, visiting the region for the second time this month in hopes of energize faltering talks, said the moves "constitute a very good start to improving" a Palestinian economy crippled by the Israeli restrictions.

Later yesterday in the Jordanian capital, Rice heard a warning from King Abdullah II that failure to achieve peace progress "would threaten the region's future, and in turn deepen the sense of despair and widen the circle of violence." He spoke of the importance of "intensifying American efforts" and said Palestinians "must also be able to experience an improvement in their economic conditions."

In Jerusalem, Israeli Defense Minister Ehud Barak and Palestinian Prime Minister Salaam Fayyad consented to what the U.S. termed "concrete steps" at a joint meeting with Rice. They agreed "on points of special, immediate emphasis and work," the statement said.

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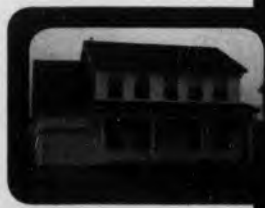
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### Cops bust root-beer kegger

WAUSAU, Wis. (AP) — Cars lining the street. A house full of young people. A keg and drinking games inside. Police thought they had an underage boozing party on their hands.

But though they made dozens of teens take breath tests, none tested positive for alcohol. That's because the keg contained root beer.

The party was held by a high school student who wanted to show that teens don't always drink alcohol at their parties.

Dustin Zebro, 18, said he staged the party after friends at D.C. Everest High School got suspended from sports because of pictures showing them drinking from red cups.

The root-beer kegger was "to kind of make fun of the school," he said. "They assumed there was beer in the cups. We just wanted to have some root beer in red cups and just make it look like a party, but there actually wasn't any alcohol."

### After night of heavy drinking, man wakes up in garbage truck

MUNCIE, Ind. — William M. Bowen woke up after a night of drinking with friends and realized he was inside a commercial trash-collection truck full of waste.

The driver had just emptied a commercial trash bin into his truck and was about to activate its compactor when he heard Bowen screaming.

"He looked up and this gentleman was standing out the top of our truck," said Larry Green, market safety supervisor for the Rumpke waste disposal company. Green said the only thing Bowen said to the driver was that he was cold.

"This gentleman was extremely intoxicated," he said.

Bowen told police he had been drinking with buddies at a Muncie bar until about 3 a.m. Thursday. But he said he didn't recall how he ended up inside the trash bin, and he wouldn't tell police who his drinking pals were.

Bowen was treated for minor injuries. "I'm just glad it turned out the way it did," Green said. "We didn't have a body that was dead. We had a body that was talking."

There was no telephone listing for Bowen in the Muncie area.

### UTexas students allegedly plagiarized from another school's honor code

SANANTONIO—Their goal was an honor code that discouraged cheating and plagiarizing.

However, the wording in a draft by students at the University of Texas at San Antonio appears to match another school's code — without proper attribution.

The student currently in charge of the honor code project said it was an oversight, but cheating experts say it illustrates a sloppiness among Internet-era students who don't know how to cite sources properly and think of their computers as cut-and-paste machines.

"That's the consequence of the Internet and the availability of things," said Daniel Wueste, director of the Rutland Institute for Ethics at Clemson University. "It doesn't feel like what would be in a book. You Google it and here it comes."

Student Akshay Thusu said

that when he took over the project a month ago he inherited a draft by earlier project participants, including a group of students who attended a conference five years ago put on by The Center for Academic Integrity at Clemson.

Materials from the conference, which are used by many universities, were probably the main source of UTSA's proposed code, Thusu said. That's why parts of the Texas draft match word-for-word the online version of Brigham Young University's code.

BYU credited the Center for Academic Integrity, but the San Antonio draft doesn't.

That will change, said Thusu, who plans to include proper citation and attribution when the draft is submitted to the faculty senate.

"We don't want to have an honor code that is stolen," Thusu said.

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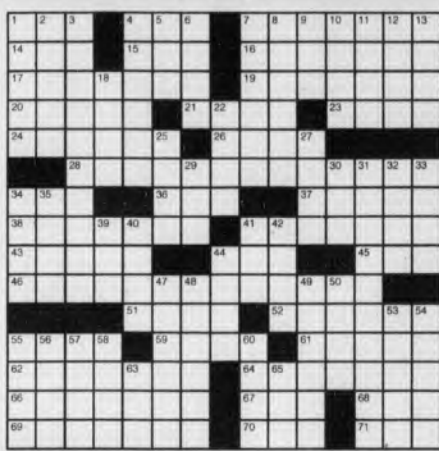
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### The Daily Crossword Fix



**DOWN**

1 Put to shame  
2 Yo-Yo Ma's instrument  
3 Present but not obvious  
4 Predatory insect  
5 Road-sign abbr.  
6 Offed  
7 Stress  
8 Offshoot  
9 D.C. honcho  
10 Bounders  
11 Wight or Skye  
12 Fortuneteller  
13 Latin being  
18 Architect Saarinen  
22 Spanish rivers  
25 Edit out  
27 Verdi heroine  
29 Highlands' refusal  
30 Just out  
31 Baby boomers, e.g.  
32 Man from Manchester  
33 Cravings  
34 Astronomer Sagan  
35 Jai  
39 Ordinal ending  
40 Jet down  
41 Smallest team  
42 Actress Hayworth


44 Goggle at  
47 Be intrinsic  
48 Hangman's knots  
49 Wading birds  
50 QED part  
53 Seed coat  
54 Prohibit, legally  
55 Type of rain or test  
56 Cut back  
57 Eminent  
58 Buchanan or Ferber  
60 Fly in the face of  
63 Grouped merchandise  
65 Holy smokes!

**ACROSS**

1 Puncture starter?  
4 Pas' mates  
7 Cut off or remove  
14 "Gentle"  
15 Every bit  
16 Folds  
17 Pasta preference  
19 Start of Erin Majors quote  
20 Winter hazard  
21 Small songbird  
23 Desiccated  
24 Dreadful  
26 Royal Peruvian  
28 Part 2 of quote  
34 Small, low island  
36 Heading for Vegas?  
37 Tractor man  
38 Property recipient  
41 Enticed  
43 Totaled  
44 Alain's affirmative  
45 UFO crew

46 Part 3 of quote  
51 Organic compound  
52 Give fizz to  
55 Basilica section  
59 Tilled  
61 Evaluates  
62 End of quote  
64 Conceited one  
66 Mesabi Range output  
67 Marshland  
68 Of the ear; pref.  
69 Argues in an orderly way  
70 Absolutely!  
71 Fuzzy fiber ends

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.....

## "DIRT COOKIE" BECOMES MEAL FOR IMPOVERISHED HAITIANS

.....

Starvation is just one of many human rights issues affecting people around the globe



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PG 4 ]

[ Obsidian "35"  
PG 8-9 ]

[ Tuskegee Experiment  
PG 10 ]

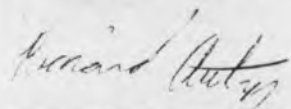
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**Letter from the Editor:**

**T**he *Obsidian* is back in this fourth installment, which is sure to gauge the interest of the reader with provocative issues. First, I would like to thank everyone who has been showing much love and support for the magazine and the work my staff puts in it. This installment of *The Obsidian* will focus on human rights. Human rights can be defined as the basic rights and freedoms to which all humans are entitled. Sadly enough, there are mass groups of people who are constantly denied the basic necessities in order to live a normal life. There are also people in this world who were made to feel sub human and were thus treated as such. We live in a world where many groups of people have a horrid history linked to them as a result of policies implemented by their own government. Even a country as great as the United States of America has its faults. It is a problem when we as citizens in this world try not to acknowledge atrocities in this world and brush it off as a thing of the past instead of talking about the issues at hand to create dialogue. It is also a problem when citizens in this world feel they have no obligation to those suffering around the world when they may actually benefit indirectly from their suffering. But the great thing is that we as a people have the power to change the world today for a better tomorrow. If we were to all do our part, we can make some human rights issues a thing of the past. An issue I am very passionate about is the hunger crisis. It is a major problem when obesity rates are rising at an alarming rate in the U.S., while more and more people are starving to death in other parts of the world. To make sure one person doesn't go to sleep hungry each night inspires me to want to take action. In this issue, *The Obsidian* has comprised a list of the top 35 individuals who we feel has done their part to make the world a better place. Violations of human rights occur each day and *The Obsidian* has made sure to outline them in this issue. We also have highlighted the efforts of BGSU's organizational leaders who have been fervent in their mission to make positive contributions on campus. Hope you enjoy the issue. Thanks



Also, if anyone has enjoyed this publication and wants to get involved this semester, please email [rautry@bgsu.edu](mailto:rautry@bgsu.edu)

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# How do you feel about the recent Obama/Wright controversy?

## CAMPUS VIEW



**BRANDON SALLAD**  
Junior

"It's about whether or not Obama is going to support his

pastor or ignore him completely. Obama has his point of view and Reverend Wright has his."



**KENDRA JACKSON**  
Junior

"I didn't expect him [Wright] to say that, especially with the status he has. People shouldn't

look at his opinions as if Obama feels that way. That doesn't necessarily mean he feels that way. Look at how Obama is determined to provide a social change, not what his pastor said. His pastor is not running for president."



**DEANTE PENNY**  
Freshman

"It is extremely unfair and wrong to give Obama a bad rep because of what his pastor said and not what Obama said

himself. People are trying to make this situation more than what it is or negative because of the truth about the government and the reality if Hilary Clinton not being able to relate to the black community for the simple fact that she comes from a race of people who never had to struggle."



**JUSTIN CLARK**  
Junior

"It is one of the many ways to attack Obama. The situation is to take away white supporters from

Obama because white people are patriotic. You cannot blame Obama for opinions his friends have. It is a distraction from the [presidential] race. You have to listen to the whole speech and not pick and choose what you want."



**LENATTA BRANTLEY**  
Junior

"It is dumb to judge Obama based on this situation. We go to church

and there are times you do not agree with your pastor. This should not be used to judge Obama."

## United States to Consider Apologizing for Slavery

**RICHARD AUTRY**  
Editor-in-Chief

It is now the year 2008 and Congress is finally "considering" issuing an apology for slavery. Five individual states made headlines within the past twelve months when they issued their own apology concerning the matter. These states were Virginia, Maryland, North Carolina, Alabama and New Jersey.

According to USA Today, Sen. Tom Harkin, D-Iowa said, "I'm really shocked, just shocked that the federal government hasn't apologized. It's time to do so." Sen. Tom Harkin D-Iowa and Sen. Sam Brownback R-Kan. proposed an apology not only for slavery but for subsequent "Jim Crow" laws that furthered

racial segregation. **Their proposal has 14 Senators supporting, including Hillary Clinton and Barack Obama.** A similar House measure introduced last year has 120 co-sponsors. "I think 2008 will be the year. An apology could begin a dialogue about race that Obama could continue as the nation's first black president," says Rep. Steve Cohen, D-Tenn. USA Today reports.

This proposal is unique due to the topic never being brought up in Congress. Apologies are hard to come in the U.S. **The U.S. apologized to Japanese-Americans in 1988 for holding them in concentration camps during World War II and gave each survivor \$20,000.** In 1993, Congress apologized to native Hawaiians for the overthrow of

their kingdom a century earlier. In 2005, the Senate apologized for not enacting anti-lynching legislation.

Though long over due, an apology may serve as a start to healing the wounds of slavery.



### APOLOGY LONG OVER DUE

**Sen. Tom Harkin, D-Iowa said, "I'm really shocked, just shocked that the federal government hasn't apologized. It's time to do so."**

"I think 2008 will be the year. An apology could begin a dialogue about race that Obama could continue as the nation's first black president," says Rep. Steve Cohen, D-Tenn

## Letter to the Editor

### The Obsidian Not Helping Black Cause

BY ZACK DAVIS

Let me preface these words by telling you that I am not a racist. Nor do I support and form of racism. Also, I will be using the words "black people" and not "African Americans." I refuse to call black people African Americans when many of them have nothing to do with Africa except heritage. It would be like calling me German American: ridiculous. That being said, I have a few thoughts about The Obsidian that I would like to share.

First off, I understand the whole togetherness and unity front, and I

am all for it! However, in publishing a separate newspaper, aren't black people segregating themselves? Think about it. The Obsidian is a separate publication within the BGNews that comes out once a month and contains articles about black heritage, black history, and black pride. My point is this: why can't you put those articles in the daily newspaper? And don't cop-out and give me something about whitey keeping you down.

Secondly, and this is a big one, how can you use your once-a-month publication to print such media as "I am My Hair," "How You Move: the Progression of Black Dance," and "To

my Kings about my Queens?" Articles like these only further those insulting stereotypes that black people are always going on about. I would list a few of those stereotypes, but this article wouldn't make it to print.

Finally, let's talk history. In the most recent edition of The Obsidian (Vol. 32, Iss. 3) there is a list of the top 20 black facts. These facts include the inventor of the Super Soaker water gun, the youngest black millionaire, and various producers of record labels. Guns, money, and music: really? Really? Is that what the top 20 black facts have to offer? I'd like now to revisit my point about self-stereotyping:

knock it off! Although, I must say, I do appreciate the derivation from the old and boring dribble about Martin Luther King or Malcolm X. Sure those guys were great...a jillion years ago.

That's all I have to say. It's only one humble, white man's opinion. I hope that I haven't offended anybody in anyway, as that was not my intent. I sought only to point out some logical flaws in the methods black people have used to get their word across. Hopefully my words will be met with open-mindedness and unbiased realism. Have a great day!

In 2005, the Senate apologized for not enacting anti-lynching legislation



## THE SLUMS OF HAITI

## Rising Food Costs cause Poor Haitians to Rely on Cookies Made of dirt

"Throughout Haiti's history, the U.S. has usually been a bad neighbor, invading and occupying the country several times, propping up dictators, and at times blocking economic assistance to the country."

Sadly enough, it seems poor Haitians have been reduced to digging themselves not only a meal, but an early grave.

## Reduced to Eating Dirt

RICHARD AUTRY  
Editor-in-Chief

Many individuals find themselves craving a snack often during their day. Many times one has gone to their kitchen and complained that there was nothing to good to eat, despite a cabinet and fridge full of food. Many Americans each day narrow their selection of a variety of foods to a particular taste they may have. Well, let's say your fridge and cabinet were empty and you had no choice, but to, let's say; eat dirt. **Many may laugh at this assumption, but this has become the harsh reality for many poor residents in the poverty stricken country of Haiti.** The Associated Press states global price hikes, together with floods and crop damage from the 2007 hurricane season, prompted the U.N. Food and Agriculture Agency to declare states of emergency in Haiti and several other Caribbean countries.

**Food shortages and rising costs of food, such as rice, has caused Haitians to resort to making a meal out of mud.** The dirt many poor Haitians eat actually comes in the form of a cookie. **These cookies are made of dried yellow dirt from the country's central plateau, salt and vegetable shortening.**

According to the Associated Press, the mud has long been prized by pregnant women and children as an antacid and source of calcium. Despite this claim, no human being should be reduced to eating mud. But in the slums of Haiti, there seems to be little choice. According to AP, at the market in the La Saline, a slum in Haiti, two cups of rice now sell for 60 cents, up 10 cents from December and 50 percent from a year ago. Beans, condensed milk and fruit have gone up at a similar rate, and even the price of the edible clay has risen over the past year by almost \$1.50.

Dirt to make 100 cookies now costs \$5, the cookie makers say. In Haiti, the poorest country in the western hemisphere, 80 percent of the population lives on less than \$2 a day. The cookies are sold at 5 cents apiece, which is a bargain compared to other high cost food. **With a rich, powerful nation as a neighbor, one may speculate why the U.S. is doing little to help combat this problem.**

HaitiAnalysis.com states Dan Beeton, International Communications Coordinator for the Center for Economic and Policy Research (CEPR) in Washington D.C., acknowledges that the U.S. is as much to blame as any other source to Haiti's problems.

"Throughout Haiti's history, the

U.S. has usually been a bad neighbor, invading and occupying the country several times, propping up dictators, and at times blocking economic assistance to the country.

A number of economically damaging policy prescriptions have originated in Washington as well, including privatization of state industries and the promotion of export processing zones that hamper the development of Haitian industry and generate little revenue," said Beeton. **"Considering the history of the U.S. relationship with Haiti, Americans owe it to the Haitian people to support their right to organize independent trade unions and advocate for policies that will foster real and lasting economic development."**

Haiti is a country with a proud history. Haiti became the first and only independent black nation when its citizens rid themselves of slavery by defeating the French. A proud group of people now have to swallow their pride by eating dirt. Sadly enough, it seems poor Haitians have been reduced to digging themselves not only a meal, but an early grave.

## The Shocking Facts

- 75% of Haitians earn less than a \$1 a day
- 70% of Haitians have no jobs
- 90% deforestation causes constant disastrous flooding
- Most children never go to school
- Life expectancy is 53 years
- More than 12% of Haitian children die before their fifth birthday, largely due to poor access to clean water
- Barely one in four Haitians can read
- 97% of Haitian homes lack electricity
- Approx. 5% of the Haitians are infected with HIV or AIDS, the highest rate in the Americas
- Major roads have potholes as big as bath-tubs. A functioning highway system doesn't exist
- 25% of Haitians die before the age of 40 (Dr. Paul Farmer)
- Emigration from Haiti is rampant, mostly from desperation; The vast majority are in the USA and either to help their motherland.

While working to change these conditions, we must never forget, "Nan tan grangou patat pa gen po" - In time of hunger, the potato has no skin." Haitian Proverb

Source: Plan for Haiti <http://www.mikespinelli.com/haiti.html>

For ways you can help Haiti, visit <http://www.lambifund.org/>



## NATIVE AMERICAN MASCOTS: Honoring or Hurtful?

INDIA HUNTER  
Staff Writer

In almost every aspect of society Native American mascots and icons can be seen everywhere. Land O' Lakes Butter, Jeep Cherokee, and on cigarette boxes is a few of the places these images can be seen. Sports have been around a long time and inevitably so have mascots. More likely than not, you have heard some of the Native American mascot names: Cleveland Indians, Atlanta Braves, Washington Redskins, Kansas City Chiefs, and the more than 3,000 offensive mascots used by high schools, colleges and professional sport teams. Many Native Americans and non-Native members of the community find these mascots offensive and are protesting against this practice. **The National Coalition on Racism in Sports and Media reports more than 80 colleges and universities still have Native American mascots.** Matt Adams, a sophomore here at BGSU is of Native American descent finds the use of Native Americans portrayed as a mascot offensive. "This is an issue I feel strongly about, I believe these mascots portray a stereotype about what it is to be Native American and what they have been," Adams said. "Chief Wahoo of the Cleveland Indians for example is a cartoon looking Indian taking away the realistic aspect that Native Americans are still here." Adams continued to say he believes Native Americans are continually discriminated against and little is done about the problem. **Opponents view the representation of Native Americans as harmful, offensive and insensitive toward Native American culture.**

The history behind this tradition began for several reasons. Many schools such as Dartmouth College historically defined themselves through a specific relationship with Native Americans by a mascot, while others were introduced via celebrations of a historical event. For example, students at Simpson College in Indianola, Iowa became the "Redmen" and later adopted a victory cheer known as the "scalp song." Other schools such as Arkansas State University used the name "Indians" as their mascot beginning in 1931 to honor Native Americans with dignity and respect while at the same time recognizing the state of Arkansas' Native American heritage. However, many Native Americans found the ASU Indians and other schools which objectify Native Americans in a similar way as

inauthentic, mythical and exhibitionist. The manner in which the ASU Indians are depicted do not reflect the true history and culture of the Native peoples of Arkansas. Arkansas State University has since retired the Indians name and mascot. However, for every team like the ASU Indians, there are hundreds of similar situations where schools continue portraying Native Americans inaccurately. **Regardless of the specific origins of the icons, the crafting of Native Americans as mascots is viewed as harmful, offensive and perpetuates the many stereotypes associated with Native Americans, which is why opponents are pushing to ban the use of demeaning mascot names.**

Teams which use Native Americans as mascots are demeaning, hurtful and insulting to many Native Americans and non-Native people alike. **Continuing to use Native Americans as mascots trivializes and distorts their image.** For years, various Native American organizations and civil rights organizations have opposed mascots such as the Indians, Braves, Chiefs and Redskins because of the offensive depiction and meaning behind the mascot. "Redskins" is especially offensive because historically it refers to the scalps of dead Native Americans that were exchanged for money. Along with reasons as the above mentioned amongst others, some Native Americans have brought the issue to court arguing the use of Native Americans as mascots is demeaning and lowers the pride and self-image of Native Americans.

In 1992, seven Native Americans including Vine Deloria Jr. a prominent Native American activist who died in 2005 filed a case in hopes of cancelling the trademark protection clause many professional organizations hold. They argued that some of the mascot names like the Redskins are derogatory toward Native Americans. The response to discourage future claims, professional teams like the Cleveland Indians claimed their mascot had a myth behind the name and sought to honor Native Americans--not to offend. Activists for Native Americans continue to fight for ending the use of mascots citing Native Americans are people like everyone else--not mascots. Some colleges and other schools across the country have listened. For instance in the past decade several schools have retired their mascots such as the St. John's University, the University of Miami (Ohio), Simpson College, the University of Tennessee at

Chattanooga, and Adams State College in Colorado. In addition, the University of Illinois retired the use of "Chief Illiniwek" along with Syracuse retiring the "Orangemen." Most recently, Arkansas State University's mascot, the Indians, was retired. ASU's Indians mascot was supposed to be loosely based on the Osage Nation and used "Chief Big Track" as the head of the "Indian Family." Arkansas State decided to retire the Indians mascot name after the NCAA adopted a policy in 2005 "to end universities from displaying hostile and abusive Native American mascots at championship events." Members of the Osage Nation were pleased to hear that ASU chose to retire "Indians" as their mascot and encourage them to find a more appropriate way to connect with the Native American community. The Los Angeles Unified School District is another example which decided in 1997 to ban the use of Native American mascots and names by all schools in the district.

By no means are all Native Americans and non-Natives offended by the mascots used by many sports teams. For instance Florida State University works closely with the state's Seminole leadership to craft a compromise regarding the Seminoles Chief Osceola. The Seminole tribe designs the costume Osceola wears and only appears at home football games. Still, some Native Americans want Chief Osceola eliminated, but opponents and supporters have learned to reach somewhat of a compromise regarding Chief Osceola. Supporters of Native American mascots view them as honoring the culture and people. They believe if represented in the right way, Native Americans are being honored, however most of the time the mascots are demeaning and not portrayed accurately. These mascots have history behind them for which many people are unaware of many anthropologists and activists say.

In a community, which suffers from domestic, alcohol and homicide rates above the national average, activists argue using Native Americans as mascots certainly does not help the issue. Many other ethnic groups would not like their ethnicity portrayed as a team mascot. First year student at BGSU, Kortoe Malakpa thinks it would be highly offensive if her ethnic group were to be objectified as mascots. "I would be offended and feel as if my culture were being degraded and devalued for entertainment purposes," Malakpa said. **For instance, imagine teams named the "Cleveland**



**Darkies", "Cleveland Wetbacks", "Cleveland Jews" or "Cleveland Japs."** Similarly, the name "Cleveland Indians" has the same hurtful, offensive connotation as the above mentioned teams elicit say many Native Americans and civil rights activists.



The issue is highly sensitive in nature and there is no simple solution to this ongoing debate, but there are several components that should be taken under consideration. **Awareness needs to be increased and this should be an interactive process.**

Media professionals should strive to better understand the Native American community through research and talking to members of the community. By doing this, journalists can be



more aware and sensitive toward issues like the mascots controversy. Additionally, members of the Native American community should educate and lead discussions to the public explaining both the history and contemporary issues in the Native American community. This would help tremendously, to decrease the ignorance which leads to inaccurate, biased, generalizations--something harmful to everyone involved.

Misconceptions hamper individuals from seeing the full picture and currently using Native Americans as mascots continue to further those many misconceptions.



### NATIVE AMERICAN MASCOTS CONTROVERSY

**"Continuing to use Native Americans as mascots trivializes and distorts their image."**

**"This is an issue I feel strongly about, I believe these mascots portray a stereotype about what it is to be Native American and what they have been," Adams said.**

**"Teams using Native Americans as mascots are demeaning, hurtful, and insulting to many Native Americans and non-Native people alike."**

**Note:** The terms American Indian, Native American, First Peoples, Indigenous Peoples, Natives, and Aborigines amongst others are used throughout society. Depending on who is talking or writing the term will vary--there is no single "correct" term. Different people use different terms. For the purposes of this article the term Native American is used for continuity.

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## CONFLICT IN PAKISTAN

**The Pakistan People's Party did not let Ms. Benazir Bhutto die in vain.**

The country that has had 60 years of on again and off again civilian and army rule will finally be able to embark on a road to democracy.

## PAKISTAN: A Country in Disarray and Political Unrest Finally at Peace

CHRIS LEWIS  
Staff Writer

**D**uring the midst of a highly publicized, often considered one of the most significant elections in United States history, there is another important election in the world. Growing up in America many people take for granted the freedoms of democracy and the allowance of personal opinion regarding elected officials. **In the country of Pakistan politics are far more restrictive than the American government.**

Conflict in Pakistan is due mostly to the political unrest, mostly to the former President, Pervez Musharraf's tenure and the hope for new initiatives that will benefit the people of Pakistan. The main objective of the conflict is the feeling that Pervez Musharraf will corrupt the voting and manipulate the election so that the outcome will benefit his party and thus will continue his reign of power. In late

2007 Pakistan became even more of a political danger zone when Benazir Bhutto, who served as a prime minister twice and was the leader of Pakistan's largest opposition party, Pakistan's People Party, was assassinated leaving a political rally.

**Ms. Benazir Bhutto was an icon for change in the troubled country that has been plagued by continuous religious and political warfare.** This assassination occurred less than two weeks before the scheduled election and sent Pakistan into a state of disarray. It is speculated that Al Qaeda was responsible behind the attack, but many of Bhutto's supporters believe that the current Pakistani government was behind the tragedy.

Luckily, through the midst of all the chaos, there was light at the end of the tunnel. On February 19, the Pakistan People's Party won the election overwhelmingly,

with President Pervez Musharraf's party a distant third. The Pakistan People's Party won based on a number of decisive factors. Ms. Bhutto's assassination contributed because many of its followers increased their support and passion. **Along with Bhutto's martyr image, the strong dislike for President Pervez Musharraf and the power cuts, food shortages, and inflation in the country were great aids that guided the voters' decisions.**

In the end Pakistan seems to have a great future ahead. The country that has had 60 years of on again and off again civilian and army rule will finally be able to embark on a road to democracy. President Pervez Musharraf has accepted this fact and promises to work with the new party and adhere to its new initiatives. The Pakistan People's Party did not let Ms. Benazir Bhutto die in vain.



Benazir Bhutto



Unrest in Pakistan



President Pervez Musharraf

## ERUPTING IN CONFLICT

**The growing crisis in Kenya began with the outcome of the country's tarnished national election**

In just a few short days after the voting, the country went from being an example of stability to the latest stage for chaos.

"We've had tribal fighting before, but never like this,"  
-Abdalla Bujra

## THE KENYA CRISIS

SEAN-NIKA STEELE  
Staff Writer

**W**hile the majority of us were celebrating the holiday season and partaking in various festivities, we were most likely oblivious to the fact that a country half way around the world was erupting in conflict. Before this disaster occurred, **Kenya was considered to be the country that embodied the most potential in the Motherland with their tourist trade and flourishing economy.**

**The growing crisis in Kenya began with the outcome of the country's tarnished national election** which took place December 27th of last year. In just a few short days after the voting, the country went from being an example of stability to the latest stage for chaos. The violence was sparked soon after the incumbent President Mwai Kibaki was accused of manipulating the votes and rigging the election. Kibaki had been Kenya's president since arriving in office in 2002.

His inauguration was said to be a democratic turning point after about 25 years of oppression and tyranny under the leading of Daniel arap Moi. Many citizens of Kenya believed that

the election was unfair as a result of the other candidate, Raila Odinga, leading in the polls after a day of surprisingly high voter turnout. In defense, Kibaki insists that his victory was won by a narrow margin.

Disapproval of this outcome was shown when protesting began shortly after the results of the election were released. Thereafter, Kibaki was said to have hurriedly had himself sworn back into office. Political protesting quickly escalated to violence, and ethnic conflict began to be displayed. The election became a rivalry between two of the largest ethnic groups in Kenya - the privileged Kikuyu tribe who favor Kibaki, and the Luo who support Odinga. Since the country gained independence from Britain in 1963, these groups had been skeptical of each other. If Odinga had been elected, the Luo would have had the opportunity to hold the presidency for the first time ever in history. For these reasons, the Luo have been the leaders in the attacks causing the Kikuyu to seek refuge.

**The election dispute has had a tremendous effect on the country.** The rioting has claimed almost 1,000 lives of innocent Kenyans and has been the reason that more than 250,000 citizens have been displaced from their homes. The most dramatic event thus far

is the burning of a church where many Kikuyu women and children was burned by a mob. More than 50 people died in that attack which made **many Kenyans reminisce to the Rwandan genocide in 1994.** "We've had tribal fighting before, but never like this," said Abdalla Bujra, a retired Kenyan professor who shares his views on the crisis.

Many countries are deciding to intervene for the sake of the citizens whose **rights are being violated.** Various human rights committees insist that the Kenyans are being denied the right to life protected and the freedom of assembly. The United Nations are urging and stressing the need for a ballot recount to cease the violence. Some analysts feel that it will be difficult to get the results voided after all this time and suggest that Kibaki and Odinga have a peace talk. However, Odinga stands firm in his position and refuses to back down.

If indeed Kibaki actually rigged the election, his action has the potential to destroy the progress that Kenya has made. "If you want to do any kind of negotiations, that must be the starting point that I won the election and Kibaki lost it," states Odinga. If Kibaki accepts that position, then we can negotiate... Without that, there is no basis for dialogue."



Tribal militias fighting in Nairobi, Kenya

## AN HONOR PAST DUE

RICHARD AUTRY  
Editor-in-Chief

**M**aster Sergeant Woodrow Wilson Keeble, a U.S. Army National Guard veteran of both World War II and the Korean War, was recently posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor by the White House on March 3, 2008. Keeble, who was born May 16, 1917 and died January 28, 1982, was a full-blooded member of the Sisseton Wahpeton Oyate of the Lake Traverse Reservation, a Sioux Native American tribe.

According to the Associated Press, Master Sgt. Keeble is the first Sioux Indian to receive the nation's highest military award. President Bush sent his apologies to the family of Keeble for the honor coming 25 years after

he died and almost six decades after serving in combat. **As Bush spoke at the White House medal ceremony, AP reports he said, "On behalf of our grateful nation, I deeply regret that this tribute comes decades too late." It further states he said, "Woody will never hold this medal in his hands or wear it on his uniform. He will never hear a president thank him for his heroism. He will never stand here to see the pride in his friends and loved ones."** But it was reported Bush said it was still possible for the country to honor Keeble's heroics. **"We can tell his story and we can honor his memory and we can follow his lead," he said.** Prior to this honor, Keeble received the Distinguished Service Cross, the Silver Star, the

Bronze Star, the Combat Infantryman Badge and two Purple Hearts. AP states fellow soldiers, family members and others have been urging Congress for years to award Keeble the medal for his actions in Korea in 1951. In Korea he saved the lives of other soldiers by taking out more than a dozen of their enemies on a steep hill, even though he himself was wounded. United States Senators Byron Dorgan (D-N.D.), Kent Conrad (D-N.D.), John Thune (R-S.D.) and Tim Johnson (D-S.D.) have long argued that Keeble be posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor. Keeble's family's prayers were answered when the four senators offered legislation to remove the last barrier to the posthumous awarding of the honor.

What followed was President George W. Bush signing the legislation granting the Department of Defense the authority to consider awarding Keeble

the Medal of Honor. Though the honor was long overdue, Master Sergeant Woodrow Wilson Keeble remains and will continue to be known as an American hero for the ages.



### HONORING A WAR HERO

**"On behalf of our grateful nation, I deeply regret that this tribute comes decades too late."**

— PRESIDENT GEORGE BUSH —

.....  
Master Sgt. Keeble is the first Sioux Indian to receive the nation's highest military award

## HUMAN RIGHTS LAWYER RELEASED

RICHARD AUTRY  
Editor-in-Chief

**T**eng Biao, a human rights activist and lawyer in China, returned home to his family after he was missing for two days. It was revealed he was held in a secretive two day detention by Beijing Public Security agents. He was abducted on March 7, 2008. According to the Washington Post, witnesses said Teng was forced into a black Jetta without license plates after he had driven home Thursday evening, according to his wife, who reported him missing that night. Teng is a lecturer at the University of Politics and Law in Beijing. **He is a known supporter of human rights activists such as Chen Guangcheng and Hu Jia.** Chen Guangcheng is a blind Chinese activist who was imprisoned on August 24, 2006 to four years and three months by the People's Republic

of China. **He is known for drawing international attention to civil rights issues in rural areas of China.** He was placed under house arrest from September 2005 to March 2006 after talking to Time magazine in the article "Chen Guangcheng, A Blind Man with Legal Vision" by Hannah Beech about the forced abortion cases he investigated in Linyi County, Shandong. Guangchen was strongly against the one-child policy in Linyi, Shandong province. There thousands of people were forced to undergo sterilization or to abort pregnancies. Hu Jia is another activist in the People's Republic of China who focuses his work on Chinese democracy movement, Chinese environmentalist movement and HIV/AIDS in China. According to the New York Times, on December 30, 2007, Hu Jia was arrested at his home in Beijing by the Chinese police for "subverting state authority." Teng is a

known defender of dissidents, which are people who actively challenge an established doctrine, policy, or institution. Washington Post states Teng Biao, 34, said police questioned him about articles calling for an independent and fair legal system that he has written for his blog and overseas Chinese Web sites. It further states China's Communist Party controls the judiciary, which routinely imprisons dissidents after convicting them in secret trials. Teng was told he had to remain secretive about his detention stay. **In China, one can say there is a modern day civil rights movement brewing.** Just as in the United States, a political and social change needs to happen to bring about change in a corrupt system. Like China, the U.S. also carried out sterilization policies against its citizens. Individuals, such as Teng Biao, Chen Guangcheng and Hu Jia are modern day freedom fighters in the country

of China. **Time Magazine named Chen one of the 100 people most influential in shaping our world.** These humanitarians are just three of the many brave soldiers in the world doing their part to shape the world into a better place.



### CHINESE SCARE TACTICS

**Lawyer released after being kidnapped by own government**

.....  
Just as in the United States, a political and social change needs to happen to bring about change in a corrupt system.

### DIONDRE VENABLE Senior

**T**he reason why I love Black Intellectuals Group (B.I.G.) is because of what we stand for. Our mission is to encourage intellectual development, scholarship, leadership, professionalism, and to provide a community where African-American Men's issues can be discussed and addressed within an open forum.

We exist to encourage intellectual engagement through a variety of programs, increase the retention of black males here at BGSU, and to increase awareness of issues effecting

black males. The reason why I wanted to become a member of this organization is because I'm adamant about helping black males to become successful, stay in college and graduate. I come from a city where it is extremely rare for a black male to go to college and even more rare for them to stay in college and obtain a degree. Also, there are not many, if at all, positive black male leaders and role models. There are black male leaders, but a lot of the time they are the negative (drug dealer or user) type. So when I was approached by Chris Johnson and Timothy Hall with the opportunity to be a member of Black Intellectuals

Group, I saw it as a perfect way to help black males to not have to resort to dropping out, being incarcerated (too many of us are or have been locked up), or live in poverty for the rest of their lives because they were not able to finish college. I love it because we present some very powerful programs by using our own intellect, promoting an open discussion, engaging the people and making them want to come back. Programs like Cold Cutz, The Lynching part I, The Lynching part II, Wake Up Black Men (w/ BSU), and Phenomenal Woman (to honor our BEAUTIFUL black women) are some of the POWERFUL programs we have put

on from Fall 2007 to the present which I am very proud to see the support from our black women is very much appreciated!!! As much as we love the support, we would also like to see more support from you BLACK MALES since this organization was founded for YOU!!!

This is a quote that I use often and one that you will see on the back of a Black Intellectual's t-shirt: "A successful man is one who can lay a firm foundation with the bricks others have thrown at him."

—David Brinkley

Think about it....



# OBSIDIAN 35

The obsidian would like to honor the following in our list for the individuals for their work in human rights activism

## 35 David Bowie

(January 8, 1947- ) In September 2007, he made a contribution of U.S.\$10,000 to the NAACP for the Jena Six Legal Defense Fund to help with legal bills of six teenagers arrested and charged with crimes related to their involvement in the assault of a teenager in Jena.



## 34 Wilma Mankiller

(1945-) The first woman elected as Principal Chief of the Cherokee Nation. Advocate for the Cherokee Nation; established the Cherokee Community Development Department.



## 33 Theresa Hayward Bell

(1952-) The daughter of military officer and member of the Mashantucket Pequot Indian tribe. In 1999 she received the Harriet Tubman Award from the Connecticut Chapter of the National Organization of Women.



## 32 Cyril Ramaphosa

(November 17, 1952) is a South African lawyer, trade union leader, activist, politician and businessman. He built the biggest and most powerful trade union in South Africa.



## 31 Dennis Banks

(1937-) Native American leader, activist, teacher, lecturer, and author. He founded the Sacred Run and co-founded the American Indian Movement



## 30 Teng Biao

a human rights activist and lawyer in China. Teng is a lecturer at the University of Politics and Law in Beijing. He has been a vocal supporter of human rights activists such as Chen Guangcheng and Hu Jia.



## 29 Audre Lorde

(1934-1992) Poet; activist for gay and lesbian rights; advocate for celebration of African American culture.



## 28 Thich Nhat Hanh

(October 11, 1926-) is an expatriate Vietnamese Zen Buddhist monk, teacher, author, poet and peace activist. In the early 1960s, he founded the School of Youth for Social Services (SYSS) in Saigon, a grassroots relief organization that rebuilt bombed villages, set up schools and medical centers, and resettled families left homeless during the Vietnam War.



## 27 Patsy Mink

(1927-2002) Feminist activist, first Asian-American woman as well as woman of color to be elected to Congress <http://www.now.org/>. A leader in the passage of Title IX and named NOW Woman of Vision in June, 2002.



## 26 The Dalai Lama

(July 6, 1935-) Spiritual Leader of the Tibetan people and is 1989 Recipient of Nobel Peace Prize.



## 25 Kwesi Mfume

(October 24, 1948-) He is the former president of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. He has been strongly against the Iraq war. He is a strong supporter of universal health care.



## 24 Maya Angelou

(1928-) Author, civil-rights activist, and feminist. Confronts themes of racism and classism in her writings and speeches.



## 23 Russell Means

(1939-) Activist for Native American rights; first national director of American Indian Movement



## 22 Cesar Chavez

(1927-1993) Farm worker rights organizer; founded United Farm Workers (UFW).



## 21 Myrlie Evers-Williams

(March 17, 1933-) Mrs. Williams is no stranger to the campus of Bowling Green State University. BGSU had the honor of welcoming her presence on its campus. Ms. Williams is an African American activist and widow of civil rights leader Medgar Evers. She was the first full-time chairman of the NAACP.



## 20 Bono

(Paul Hewson) (1960-) Singer/songwriter and social activist. Has lobbied for Third World debt relief, human rights, and the environment. He founded "ONE: The Campaign to Make Poverty History"



## 19 Amartya Sen

(1933-) Economist whose work has helped understand world poverty and famine. He is a 1998 Recipient of Nobel Prize in Economics.



## 18 Ronald Takaki

(1939-) Historian who has addressed dilemmas of race and ethnicity in the U.S. Some of his influential books include Iron Cages: Race and Culture in 19th Century America; Strangers from a Different Shore: A History of Asian Americans; and A Different Mirror: A History of Multicultural America.



## 17 Earvin "Magic" Johnson

Former basketball star "Magic" Johnson has been fervent in his fight against the deadly HIV/AIDS virus. He's a crusader for HIV/AIDS prevention, safe sex, and a philanthropist for social causes. Has been a key figure in the fight



## 16 Nelson Mandela

(July 18, 1918-) Mandela is a former president of South Africa. Mandela was an anti-apartheid activist and leader of the African National Congress who spent 27 years in prison.



## 15 Youssou N'Dour

A world famous Senegalese singer and percussionist. He is a major African leader who has pioneered campaigns to improve the spread of technology. He is working to combat malaria and is very active with Unicef.



## 14 Zeng Jinyan

(October 9, 1983-) According to Time Magazine, Zeng Jinyan is the online progeny of the protester



who blocked a column of advancing tanks during China's Tiananmen uprising in 1989. When Zeng's husband, AIDS and environmental activist Hu Jia, was detained by the Chinese government without any legal proceedings last year, Zeng, now 22, started a blog detailing her experiences and the oppressive activities of the country's secret police.

## 13 Aung San Suu Kyi

(June 19, 1945-) Nonviolent activist for democracy and human rights in Myanmar (Burma). She has been under house arrest since 1990. She is a 1991 Recipient of Nobel Peace Prize



## 12 Rigoberta Menchú Tum

(January 9, 1959-) Human Rights Activist for Rights of Indigenous Peoples. She is an indigenous Guatemalan, of the Quiché-Maya ethnic group. Menchú has dedicated her life to publicizing the plight of Guatemala's indigenous peoples during and after the Guatemalan Civil War (1960-1996), and to promoting indigenous rights in the country. She was the recipient of the 1992 Nobel Peace Prize and Prince of Asturias Award in 1998.



## 11 Ralph David Abernathy

(March 11, 1926 - April 17, 1990) Instrumental in insisting Dr. Martin Luther King in organize the Montgomery Bus Boycott.



## 10 Yolanda King

(November 17, 1955 - May 15, 2007) Ms. King is also no stranger to BGSU. She is an actress and human rights activist. She was a member of the Board of Directors of the Martin Luther King Jr. Center for Nonviolent Social Change, Incorporated (the official national memorial to her father) and was founding Director of the King Center's Cultural Affairs Program. She served on the Partnership Council of Habitat for Humanity, was the first national Ambassador for the American Stroke Association's "Power to End Stroke"



Campaign, a member of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, a sponsor of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, Human Rights Campaign, and held a lifetime membership in the NAACP. Miss King was a spokeswoman for the national stroke awareness association. King was an ardent activist for gay rights.

#### 9. Monty Jones

(1951-) is a plant breeder who developed NERICA, the New Rices for Africa, a set of high-productivity rices adapted to West Africa's growing conditions. He was named a co-recipient of the 2004 World Food Prize. It is said that Jones' new technology may end famine in the continent of Africa, as well as boosting its economy.



#### 8. Desmond Tutu

(October 7, 1931-) He received the Nobel Peace Prize in 1984, the **Albert Schweitzer Prize for Humanitarianism**, and the Magubela prize for liberty in 1986. He is committed to stopping global AIDS and has served as the honorary chairman for the Global AIDS Alliance. In February 2007 he was awarded the **Gandhi Peace Prize** by Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam, President of India.



#### 7. Oprah Winfrey

(1954-) Television talk show host mogul Oprah Winfrey is a major philanthropist. Founded in 1998, Oprah's Angel Network (OAN), makes "grants to organizations... in underserved communities that provide educational initiatives" and "assist people in fulfilling basic human needs and regaining dignity." OAN has raised over \$50 million which is all given out, since Oprah pays for all administrative costs. Oprah personally donated \$10 million to rebuild homes after Hurricane Katrina.

In December 2003, Oprah began a gift-giving pilgrimage in Africa. On her trip, Oprah gave 50,000 Christmas gifts to orphans and other desperately poor children. Oprah has donated



money to build schools, empower women and help fight AIDS in Africa. Inspired by her 2004 South Africa trip when she distributed Christmas gifts to 50,000 children, and encouraged by Nelson Mandela, Oprah established a Leadership Academy for Girls "to nurture, educate and turn gifted South African girls from impoverished backgrounds into the country's future leaders." The academy's doors opened in January 2007 with 152 students.

#### 6. Corretta Scott King

(April 27, 1927-January 30, 2006) Ms. King is the wife of civil rights leader Martin Luther King. She is a recipient of the Congressional Gold Medal and the Gandhi Peace Prize. She is an activist for women's rights, GLBT rights, economic issues and world peace. King was one of the founders of The Committee for a Sane Nuclear Policy. She also became a vegan and supported animal rights. On April 1, 1998 at The Palmer House Hilton in Chicago, King called on the civil rights community to join in the struggle against homophobia and anti-gay bias. "Homophobia is like racism and anti-Semitism and other forms of bigotry in that it seeks to dehumanize a large group of people, to deny their humanity, their dignity and personhood", King stated. "This sets the stage for further repression and violence that spread all too easily to victimize the next minority group." On March 23, 2004, she told an audience at Richard Stockton University in Pomona, N.J. that same-sex marriage is a civil rights issue.



#### 5. Mahatmas Ghandi

(1869-1948) Spiritual and political leader for India's independence from Britain through nonviolent protest. He was the pioneer of **Satyagraha**—a philosophy that is largely concerned with truth and 'resistance to evil through active, non-violent resistance'—which led India to independence and inspired movements for civil rights and freedom across the world.



#### 4. Mother Teresa

(Agnes Gonxha Bojaxhiu) Devoted life to working among the poorest of the poor.



#### 3. Hu Jia

(July 25, 1973-) is an activist and dissident in the People's Republic of China. His work has focused on the Chinese democracy movement, Chinese environmentalist movement, and HIV/AIDS in China. In addition to being an auxiliary member of the team to save the endangered Tibetan antelope, Hu Jia has been involved with AIDS advocacy as the executive director of the Beijing Aizhixing Institute of Health Education and as one of the founders of the non-governmental organization Loving Source.



#### 2. Chen Guangcheng

(November 12, 1971-) is a blind activist in the People's Republic of China at the forefront of a growing civil rights movement who drew international attention to human rights issues. Chen filed a lawsuit against officials who initiated a forced abortion and sterilization campaign against women in Shandong province who were deemed ineligible to bear another child under China's strict family-planning policy.



1. It is only right that two individuals share the coveted number 1 spot. Martin Luther King and Malcolm X sacrificed their life to bring about a change in a racially oppressive era in American history. Both these men could not have made as much of a powerful impact had it not been for the ideas and beliefs of one another.

#### El-Hajj Melik El-Shabazz a.k.a.

Malcolm X - A martyr for freedom and equal rights, **El-Hajj Malik El-Shabazz** continues to be an inspiration to many. He was an individual who transcended many different phases in his life. He was born Malcolm Little. He then became "Detroit Red" the pimp and hustler. He was then "Malcom X" the fiery minister who spoke out against racial oppression. In his final stage, he was **El-Hajj Malik El-Shabazz**. The world never got to know **El-Hajj Malik El-Shabazz** nor realize his true potential. He felt had a solution to ending racial division, but the world did not get to see his blue print due to his untimely death on February 21, 1965.



In an interview with Gordon Parks in 1965, Malcolm revealed:

*"I realized racism isn't just a black and white problem. It's brought bloodbaths to about every nation on earth at one time or another. Brother, remember the time that white college girl came into the restaurant — the one who wanted to help the [Black] Muslims and the whites get together — and I told her there wasn't a ghost of a chance and she went away crying? Well, I've lived to regret that incident. In many parts of the African continent I saw white students helping black people. Something like this kills a lot of argument. I did many things as a [Black] Muslim that I'm sorry for now. I was a zombie then — like all [Black] Muslims — I was hypnotized, pointed in a certain direction and told to march. Well, I guess a man's entitled to make a fool of himself if he's ready to pay the cost. It cost me 12 years. That was a bad scene, brother. The sickness and madness of those days — I'm glad to be free of them."*

In 1965, he stated, "My mind is wide open to anybody who will help get the ape off our backs."

#### Martin Luther King Jr.

A martyr for freedom and equal rights, King's philosophy for nonviolence and peace has been echoed by many around the world who pursue their own movement for equality. His presence was so important in America that a monument will be constructed for him and the values he stood for. On April 4, 1968, the world truly lost a king.



Much of King's philosophies can be applied to today. In Martin Luther King, Jr., *Strength To Love*, 1963, he says:

*"Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that. Hate multiplies hate, violence multiplies violence, and toughness multiplies toughness in a descending spiral of destruction....The chain reaction of evil--hate begetting hate, wars producing more wars--must be broken, or we shall be plunged into the dark abyss of annihilation."*



## INHUMANE EXPERIMENT

**For forty years between 1932 and 1972, the U.S. Public Health Service (PHS) conducted an experiment on 399 black men infected with syphilis.**

**"As I see it, we have no further interest in these patients until they die."**

-Tuskegee Doctor

**By the end of the experiment, 28 of the men had died directly of syphilis, 100 were dead of related complications, 40 of their wives had been infected, and 19 of their children had been born with congenital syphilis.**

## TUSKEGEE EXPERIMENT

RICHARD AUTRY  
Editor-in-Chief

**C**learly racist is far from the correct term to describe the sick and sadistic experiment conducted by the United States government. **For forty years between 1932 and 1972, the U.S. Public Health Service (PHS) conducted an experiment on 399 black men infected with syphilis.** These black men, who were poor illiterate farmers from Alabama, were never told they had this disease. **The reason for this was because PHS wanted to test the effects of this disease on a human being.** The data was to be collected from the autopsies of the subjects.

According to Tuskegee.org, one of the doctors involved explained, "As I see it, we have no further interest in these patients until they die."

**The patients were left to deteriorate in health under the depredation of tertiary syphilis—which can include tumors, heart disease, paralysis, blindness, insanity, and death.** For forty years



between 1932 and 1972, these black men were simply human guinea pigs in this horrid experiment. This experiment continued up until just 36 years ago and quite possibly would have continued longer had it not been for a leak to the press.

Jan Heller, a reporter for the Associated Press, first reported on the Tuskegee experiment on July 25, 1972. NPR.org states that the next morning every major U.S. newspaper was running Heller's story. As poor black men, these subjects were easy to take advantage of. For their participation in this study, individuals were promised free medical treatment, rides to the clinic, meal and burial insurance in case of death.

Individuals enrolled in the Tuskegee Syphilis Study did not give informed consent and were not informed of their diagnosis. They were never told what disease they were suffering from or its seriousness. **They were instead told they had "bad blood."**

By the end of the experiment, 28 of the men had died directly of syphilis, 100 were dead of related complications, 40 of their wives had been infected, and 19 of their children had been born with congenital syphilis. The government went to extremes to ensure that the men would show up for a painful and



potentially dangerous spinal tap. The PHS doctors misled them with a letter full of promotional hype: "Last Chance for Special Free Treatment." The fact that autopsies would eventually be required was also concealed.

Tuskegee.edu states a doctor explained, **"If the colored population becomes aware that accepting free hospital care means a post-mortem, every darky will leave Macon County..."** **The Surgeon General of the United States** was very much involved in this experiment. **He participated in enticing the men to remain in the experiment and even sent them certificates of appreciation after 25 years in the study.**

Even when penicillin—the first real cure for syphilis—was discovered in the 1940s, the Tuskegee men were purposely denied the medication. **Tuskegee.edu states the PHS did not accept the media's comparison of Tuskegee with the appalling experiments performed by Nazi doctors on their Jewish victims during World War II.** The site further states yet in addition to the medical and racist parallels, the PHS offered the same morally bankrupt defense offered at the Nuremberg trials; **they claimed they were just carrying out orders, mere cogs in the wheel of the PHS bureaucracy, exempt from personal responsibility.** A class action lawsuit was filed on behalf of the victims following the leak and a formal apology by the U.S. government was issued by former President Clinton almost 11 years ago. Knowledge of this experiment has caused many African Americans to distrust the government



President Clinton with Tuskegee survivors

and believe the U.S. is behind the high HIV/AIDS rate in the African American community.

**According to Tuskegee.edu, in 1990, a survey found that 10 percent of African Americans believed that the U.S. government created AIDS as a plot to exterminate blacks, and another 20 percent could not rule out the possibility that this might be true.** Many who hold these sentiments would be deemed unpatriotic and out of their mind, but can one blame them?

The Tuskegee experiment may have seemed ridiculous to many at the time it was discovered and many may have wished not to believe it. With the horrific history people of color have inherited in the U.S., African Americans' mistrust of the U.S. government really should not come as a surprise to anyone.

Taliaferro Clark:  
Head of the  
Public Health Service



## AGAINST ONE'S WILL

**U.S. forced Sterilization of many Americans in their eugenics program.**

**Mississippi carried out its eugenics program in a systematic effort to reduce the poor black population.**

## HIDDEN CHAPTER IN AMERICAN HISTORY: Forced Sterilization in the United States

RICHARD AUTRY  
Editor-in-Chief

**M**ost people are aware of Adolf Hitler's vicious exploits while in power in Nazi Germany. Among the policies he enacted was a sterilization program he hoped would aid in breeding a stronger Germany population. Germany enacted a law that authorized the sterilization of thousands of men and women deemed "feeble-minded."

Though many world leaders have denounced the cruel policies of the Nazi regime, many should know that the United States had a similar sterilization program of its own. This form of sterilization was called eugenics.

**Eugenics is a social philosophy**

**which advocates the improvement of human hereditary traits through various forms of intervention.**

These programs were intended to prevent the reproduction and multiplication of members of the population considered to be carriers of defective genetic traits.

Among those targeted for the eugenics program in the U.S. were the mentally ill, the mentally retarded, the blind, the deaf, epileptics, the physically deformed and minorities. Particularly minority women were sterilized in this program. They often were sterilized against their will while visiting a doctor for various reasons.

In 1961, African American voting rights activist and civil rights leader Fannie Lou Hamer undergone forced

sterilization without her knowledge after going to see a doctor for a simple checkup. Mississippi carried out its eugenics program in a systematic effort to reduce the poor black population. Fred Aslin, a poor Native American, was another victim of force sterilization. At age 18, he was sterilized along with four siblings in 1944.

In the end, over 65,000 individuals were sterilized in 33 states under state compulsory sterilization programs in the United States.<sup>[1]</sup> Public opinion toward this practice soon changed following the uncovering of the atrocities of Nazi Germany. Sterilizations continued in a few states until the early 1960s.

The Oregon Board of Eugenics, later renamed the Board of Social Protection,

existed until 1983, with the last forcible sterilization occurring in 1981.<sup>[2]</sup> Some states continued to have sterilization laws on the books for much longer after that, though they were rarely if ever used. In today's society, eugenics would most certainly not fly with the general public. But just in the 80s the last known eugenics sterilization took place.

The eugenics program was created in the United States by the government to create a pure and strong society, which was no different from Hitler's practices. When comparing the programs to Nazi Germany, the eugenics program is a chapter in the U.S. most Americans would want to tear out of its history books.

Sources:

1. Daniel Kevles, In the name of eugenics: Genetics and the uses of human heredity (New York: Knopf, 1985).
2. Julie Sullivan, "State will admit sterilization past", Portland Oregonian

## HOTTENTOT VENUS

TAMARA LAWRENCE  
Assistant Editor

Why do we black women sell our bodies and a small part of our souls for the "almighty" dollar? These are the words of BGSU junior Amber White. Do you have a clue?

Thick, full lips. Mountenous, curvaceous hips. Large breasts. Men tend to find such features delicious. Yet, for one woman, these features costed her a lifetime of humiliation. Sarah Bartmann was that young woman who was used for the trivalent amusement for white men. She was that young woman who lived five years as an object of extreme abnormality. She was that young woman who lost ounces of her dignity day by day till the day of her death.

When white Englishmen encountered his presence in her homeland of Africa, they were amazed by her large buttocks, huge breasts and enlarged labia. Enriched with ridicule, Bartmann was infamously labeled as the Hottentot Venus.

Obsessed with her body frame, the White Englishmen promised her fame and fortune if she were to join the circus. In the end, she supposedly



volunteered to go along. Essentially, she would learn that she was forced to show her body at higher society functions to entertain European audiences.

For centuries, the female body has always been viewed as an object of sex. So what, right? Go on and turn on your television. Watch a batch of the lately music videos. What do you see? BGSU junior Whitney Tarver finds this sad.

"It is even more sad that today, black women are choosing to place themselves on auction blocks in the form of hip-hop videos," **Tarver said. "Video vixens such as Buffy the Body and Mellissa Ford, and countless other black women, have chosen to subject themselves to the stares, laughs and dehumanization that the Hottentot Venus also endured."**

Why would a female, especially a black female, want to help portray that image? Why would a black woman want to embrace an image that the black women before her suffered so bad to fight against? These are the questions that boggles the mind of BGSU freshman, Joseph Smith.

"If the black woman doesn't care, then it's her funeral," Smith said. "As a black man, what am I left to choose from?"

**To attempt that question, one must "keep it real" and understand that black women have always (and quite possibly will be forever) chained to the ideological wrath of being abnormal and oversexed creatures.** Women of African descent tend to biologically develop large breasts and buttocks than other women of other descent. In the case of Ms. Bartmann, her large breast and hips transformed her into an classless exhibition show in London.

Constituted as a possible act of slavery, investigations were conducted to determined whether or not the white exhibitioners should be sentenced under antislavery laws in

England.

History says that she joined that circus because of the promise of wealth. Obviously, she was lied to and she lived a miserable life. The most disgusting part of this disgrace is that after her death, Ms. Bartmann was still exploited. How? After she died, her body organs were dissected out and they preserved her body. For approximately 167 years, Bartmann's body was still viewed by the world. It was not until the late 1990s that her exhibition was shut down. White was disgusted to learn this.

**"They cut out her vagina, skeleton and brains when she died, put them on display for the world to see, and did not even have the decency to return them," White said.**

Just a few years ago, in the year of 20002, Bartmann's body was taken back to her homeland of Africa and received proper burial. Her body may be resting in peace finally now, but her memory is still alive. She is known as an icon in South Africa as representation of her people's culture and history.

Although this has happen so many years ago, Bartmann's life purports the reality of black women still being affected by this socially and ideological constructed burden on black women. Yet, with little or no education, many people have the higher tendency to forget about historical halts such as Bartmann's.

"People are ignorant to the past; some blissfully ignorant and some simply because no one told them about their past," White said. "I think that if more people educated themselves they would think twice



about their actions."

And such actions are those that would depict how people will treat women.

**"Women constantly don't want to be referred to as whores, but their actions may suggest otherwise," Smith said.**

As a black woman, White encourages people to respect and honor black beauty.

"The black woman does not fit the European model of beauty and should not be ashamed of it, nor should she want to!"

In the memory of Bartmann, people should know her story. It is more than learning the past. It is the tool to use to protect our black daughters in the future. In essence, for people to love our bodies, we must love physical beauty first.



CHECK OUT THIS VIDEO  
LINK FOR MORE INFO:

[HTTP://WWW.YOUTUBE.COM/  
WATCH?V=IQ7MMME4KLQ](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IQ7MMME4KLQ)

JAMES GARNETT  
Sophomore

"The clip was good yet, saying what a lot of people think and know. BUT FEW HAVE SAID IT."

ADEYINKA WILLIAMS  
Junior

"WOW! I didn't even know who she was and I'm ashamed of it. If everyone who just listen and watch this clip, I believe a change in America can start. I'M SO SERIOUS."

"Sadly, nothing has changed...our full lips, beautifully coiled hair, bronze-complexioned skin, broadened hips and volopious buttocks, have made us prime suspects to be placed on the auction block."

-Tarver

## Quotable

Bono

Discussing his war on poverty and AIDS



"I'm going to spend the rest of my life on this, I'm going to make that kind of extreme poverty history."

## 15 Executed for Fleeing Hunger

RICHARD AUTRY  
Editor-in-Chief

North Korea publicly executed 15 of its citizens for attempting to flee or assisting others to flee to China. Amnesty International, a human rights group,

is condemning the action. According Time Magazine, South Korean Aid Group Good Friends stated the two men and 13 women were executed Feb. 20 by firing squad on a bridge in Onseong, a northeastern town on the border with China and Russia. A growing number of North

Koreans are fleeing to China to search for food and to avoid political oppression. The executions served as a warning to stop the flow of refugees to China.

According to human rights groups, tens of thousands of North Koreans are living in hiding in China,

where they face forced repatriation if caught. About 12,250 North Koreans have fled to South Korea since the 1950-53 Korean War, according to South Korea's Unification Ministry. With death being imminent in North Korea due to food shortages, one can not blame its citizens for wanting to



## Unquotable

Geraldine Ferraro



"If Obama was a white man, he would not be in this position... and if he was a woman (of any color) he would not be in this position. He happens to be very lucky to be who he is. And the country is caught up in this concept."

### WHAT YOU CAN DO TO PREVENT HEART DISEASE

"High calorie and cholesterol packed meals are a part of the reason Blacks are being diagnosed with heart disease at an alarming rate."

"Go for a salad as opposed to fries. Also, drink water instead of soda. If you live off campus and cook for yourself, include a green vegetable with every meal. Instead of frying that chicken, bake it."

## MISSING PEOPLE OF COLOR

### CURRENTLY MISSING

According to missingkids.com, SYNESHA RASHIA GRANT, 18, has been missing since Nov. 2, 2007. She is from **Grand Rapids, MI**. Grant is described as a black female, 5 foot 5 inches, 135 pounds, black hair and brown eyes.



SYNESHA RASHIA GRANT

According to missingkids.com, BREONNA RAYNETTA PORTER, 15, has been missing since Jan. 8, 2008. She is from **Detroit, MI**. Porter is described as a black female, 5 foot 5 inches, 170 pounds, brown hair and brown eyes. Her tongue and navel are pierced.



BREONNA RAYNETTA PORTER

According to missingkids.com, Kayla Evelyn Riley, 18, has been missing since April 9, 2006. She is from **Detroit, MI**. Riley is described as a black female, 5 feet, 98 pounds, brown hair and brown eyes.



KAYLA EVELYN RILEY

According to missingkids.com, Nicole Nicolette Simmon, 15, has been missing since May 17, 2007. She is from **Detroit, MI**. Simmon is described as black female, 5 feet 1 inch, 102 pounds, brown hair and brown eyes.



NICOLE NICOLETTE SIMMON

According to missingkids.com, Kenya L. Phelps, 16, has been missing since Feb. 10, 2008. She is from **Cincinnati, OH**. Phelps is described as a black female, 5 foot 9 inches, 200 pounds, brown hair and brown eyes.



KENYNA L. PHELPS

According to missingkids.com, Payton Lee Woods, 18, has been missing since Feb 6, 2008. He is from **Dayton, OH**. Woods described as a black male, 5 foot 6 inches, 150 pounds, black hair and brown eyes.



PAYTON LEE WOOD

According to blackandmissing.blogspot.com, Kenyatta Boodram, 16, has been missing since March 10, 2007. She is from **Pasadena, MD**. Boodram is described as black female, 5 foot 9 inches, 155 pounds, brown hair and brown eyes. She has a mole near her left eye.



KENYATTA BOODRAM

According to blackandmissing.blogspot.com, Janya DeJareaux, 15, has been missing since March 14, 2008. She is from **Chicago, IL**. She is described as a black female, 5 foot 8 inches, 220 pounds, brown hair and brown eyes. She has a tattoo on her arm and a tattoo on her neck. She may use the alias first name Dominique.



JANYAH DEJAREAU

## HEART DISEASE & YOU: It's Not a Game

SHAUNTINA D. LILLY  
Staff Writer

Fried chicken, macaroni and cheese, candied yams, collard greens, sweet cornbread... oh wait! Don't forget desert: peach cobbler with, let's say... vanilla ice cream to finish off. Sounds like a delectable meal right? Contrary to popular belief the answer is no. These guilty pleasures may taste great, but they are not healthy at all. High calorie and cholesterol packed meals are a part of the reason Blacks are being diagnosed with heart disease at an alarming rate.

Heart disease is an umbrella term for diseases that affect the heart.

People develop different types of this condition either by inheritance or it is brought on by unhealthy lifestyles. Eating high cholesterol foods causes the arteries to get clogged and prevents them from allowing blood to travel smoothly to the heart which can cause many complications. A healthy diet can prevent this from happening.

Exercise plays a role too. When we exercise, we are strengthening our heart while helping to lower blood pressure and keeping our weight down. These three things contribute greatly to preventing heart disease. You may be saying to yourself "Why is this important? Heart disease doesn't affect me." That's where

you're wrong. Heart disease is affecting young black people and is most common for those who are overweight.

If you have not been diagnosed with the condition that is plaguing African Americans, there are things you can do to help steer yourself clear of it. Try to include a daily exercise regimen. For example, instead of taking the elevator every time, take the stairs. Think about it, the only disadvantage is that you may be a little out of breath. If you do this everyday, you will begin to see a change in yourself.

Another thing to help you stay healthy to avoid heart disease is to eat better. True, it is not an easy task

to find a nutritious meal for a low price on campus, but it is possible.

Go for a salad as opposed to fries. Also, drink water instead of soda. If you live off campus and cook for yourself, include a green vegetable with every meal. Instead of frying that chicken, bake it. They say Black people love to 'eat good.' Well, let's 'eat good' for real-good meaning healthy.

Black people have had many obstacles to overcome; we all know that. Some trials were brought upon us by factors that we were unable to control. As far as heart disease and other conditions that are shortening our years, we are able to fight against them and should do so. Exercise and eating healthy is a great way to start. Let's do it.



ELIZABETH MUNGWE  
Sophomore

I love being a member of APA (African Peoples' Association) because it represents who I am as an African. Through this organization I can grow culturally by learning about other African cultures, their languages and their people. Also I have a special opportunity to teach other Africans and non-Africans

about my beautiful country and clear crazy misconceptions like, "Mount Kilimanjaro is in Kenya" WHICH IS NOT TRUE. Mount Kilimanjaro is in TANZANIA, and yes Tanzania is a delicate mineral found especially in Tanzania.

I joined APA because I wanted to make a difference by offering my support in making the organization grow especially here on campus

in order to help those that are interested in knowing about Africa and cultivating interest in those that aren't so familiar or interested in Africa. APA stands to educate our community about the African heritage, history and culture. APA portrays the true image of Africa and Africans and bridge the gap between cultures.

# 3648 = WORLD'S LARGEST PILLOW FIGHT @ BGSU

## Bowling Green State University 2008 Campus Pillow Fight



3,648 is the number that has been chalked and posted all over campus for four weeks.

UAO, Sigma Phi Epsilon, and Game Game Night are bringing a pillow fight event to bring to campus on Wednesday April 23, 2008 starting at 4:00pm at the intramural fields

This large number is the amount of individuals needed to beat the Guinness Book of World record for the largest pillow fight on the planet.

Directors of the event Kajavius Wilson (UAO) and Paul Gillespie (Sigma Phi Epsilon) both wanted to bring an event that really exemplify the term "diversity". Wilson

states 3648 is a historic event for the campus that hopefully will bring different media outlets to the campus. This could be shown as a positive sight for Universities all across

America due to the past visuals of campus shootings. Also, this is a chance for people to come out and have a good time while, making history!

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**Unquotable***Geraldine Ferraro*

"If Obama was a white man, he would not be in this position... and if he was a woman (of any color) he would not be in this position. He happens to be very lucky to be who he is. And the country is caught up in this concept."

**WHAT YOU CAN DO TO PREVENT HEART DISEASE**

**"High calorie and cholesterol packed meals are a part of the reason Blacks are being diagnosed with heart disease at an alarming rate."**

**"Go for a salad as opposed to fries. Also, drink water instead of soda. If you live off campus and cook for yourself, include a green vegetable with every meal. Instead of frying that chicken, bake it."**

**MISSING PEOPLE OF COLOR****CURRENTLY MISSING**

According to missingkids.com, **SYNETHA RASHIA GRANT**, 18, has been missing since Nov. 2, 2007. She is from **Grand Rapids, MI**. Grant is described as a black female, 5 foot 5 inches, 135 pounds, black hair and brown eyes.

**SYNETHA RASHIA GRANT**

According to missingkids.com, **BREONNA RAYNETTA PORTER**, 15, has been missing since Jan. 8, 2008. She is from **Detroit, MI**. Porter is described as a black female, 5 foot 5 inches, 170 pounds, brown hair and brown eyes. Her tongue and navel are pierced.

**BREONNA RAYNETTA PORTER**

According to missingkids.com, **Kayla Evelyn Riley**, 18, has been missing since April 9, 2006. She is from **Detroit, MI**. Riley is described as a black female, 5 feet, 98 pounds, brown hair and brown eyes.

**KAYLA EVELYN RILEY**

According to missingkids.com, **Nicole Nicolette Simmon**, 15, has been missing since May 17, 2007. She is from **Detroit, MI**. Simmon is described as black female, 5 feet 1 inch, 102 pounds, brown hair and brown eyes.

**NICOLE NICOLETTE SIMMON**

According to missingkids.com, **Kenya L. Phelps**, 16, has been missing since Feb. 10, 2008. She is from **Cincinnati, OH**. Phelps is described as a black female, 5 foot 9 inches, 200 pounds, brown hair and brown eyes.

**KENYNA L. PHELPS**

According to missingkids.com, **Payton Lee Woods**, 18, has been missing since Feb. 6, 2008. He is from **Dayton, OH**. Woods is described as a black male, 5 foot 6 inches, 150 pounds, black hair and brown eyes.

**PAYTON LEE WOOD**

According to blackandmissing.blogspot.com, **Kenyatta Boodram**, 16, has been missing since March 10, 2007. She is from **Pasadena, MD**. Boodram is described as black female, 5 foot 9 inches, 155 pounds, brown hair and brown eyes. She has a mole near her left eye.

**KENYATTA BOODRAM**

According to blackandmissing.blogspot.com, **Janya DeJareaux**, 15, has been missing since March 14, 2008. She is from **Chicago, IL**. She is described as a black female, 5 foot 8 inches, 220 pounds, brown hair and brown eyes. She has a tattoo on her arm and a tattoo on her neck. She may use the alias first name Dominique.

**JANYAH DEJAREAU****HEART DISEASE & YOU: It's Not a Game**

**SHAUNTINA D. LILLY**  
Staff Writer

**F**ried chicken, macaroni and cheese, candied yams, collard greens, sweet cornbread... oh wait! Don't forget desert: peach cobbler with, let's say... vanilla ice cream to finish off. Sounds like a delectable meal right? Contrary to popular belief the answer is no. These guilty pleasures may taste great, but they are not healthy at all. High calorie and cholesterol packed meals are a part of the reason Blacks are being diagnosed with heart disease at an alarming rate.

Heart disease is an umbrella term for diseases that affect the heart.

People develop different types of this condition either by inheritance or it is brought on by unhealthy lifestyles. Eating high cholesterol foods causes the arteries to get clogged and prevents them from allowing blood to travel smoothly to the heart which can cause many complications. A healthy diet can prevent this from happening.

Exercise plays a role too. When we exercise, we are strengthening our heart while helping to lower blood pressure and keeping our weight down. These three things contribute greatly to preventing heart disease. You may be saying to yourself "Why is this important? Heart disease doesn't affect me." That's where

you're wrong. Heart disease is affecting young black people and is most common for those who are overweight.

If you have not been diagnosed with the condition that is plaguing African Americans, there are things you can do to help steer yourself clear of it. Try to include a daily exercise regimen. For example, instead of taking the elevator every time, take the stairs. Think about it, the only disadvantage is that you may be a little out of breath. If you do this everyday, you will begin to see a change in yourself.

Another thing to help you stay healthy to avoid heart disease is to eat better. True, it is not an easy task

to find a nutritious meal for a low price on campus, but it is possible.

Go for a salad as opposed to fries. Also, drink water instead of soda. If you live off campus and cook for yourself, include a green vegetable with every meal. Instead of frying that chicken, bake it. They say Black people love to 'eat good.' Well, let's 'eat good' for real-good meaning healthy.

Black people have had many obstacles to overcome; we all know that. Some trials were brought upon us by factors that we were unable to control. As far as heart disease and other conditions that are shortening our years, we are able to fight against them and should do so. Exercise and eating healthy is a great way to start. Let's do it.



**ELIZABETH MUNGWE**  
Sophomore

I love being a member of APA (African Peoples' Association) because it represents who I am as an African. Through this organization I can grow culturally by learning about other African cultures, their languages and their people. Also I have a special opportunity to teach other Africans and non-Africans

about my beautiful country and clear crazy misconceptions like, "Mount Kilimanjaro is in Kenya" WHICH IS NOT TRUE. Mount Kilimanjaro is in TANZANIA, and yes Tanzania is a delicate mineral found especially in Tanzania.

I joined APA because I wanted to make a difference by offering my support in making the organization grow especially here on campus

in order to help those that are interested in knowing about Africa and cultivating interest in those that aren't so familiar or interested in Africa.

APA stands to educate our community about the African heritage, history and culture. APA portrays the true image of Africa and Africans and bridge the gap between cultures.

# 3648 = WORLD'S LARGEST PILLOW FIGHT @ BGSU

## Bowling Green State University 2008 Campus Pillow Fight

Help us break the world record!

Contact Information:  
(419) 772-2486  
www.bgsu.org

Place: Intramural Fields  
Time: 4 p.m. check in /  
5 p.m. Lets Make History

April 23rd

Sponsored By: UAO, Sigma Phi Epsilon Fraternity, and Game Game Night

3,648 is the number that has been chalked and posted all over campus for four weeks.

UAO, Sigma Phi Epsilon, and Game Game Night are bringing a pillow fight event to bring to campus on Wednesday April 23, 2008 starting at 4:00pm at the intramural fields

This large number is the amount of individuals needed to beat the Guinness Book of World record for the largest pillow fight on the planet.

Directors of the event Kajavius Wilson (UAO) and Paul Gillespie (Sigma Phi Epsilon) both wanted to bring an event that really exemplify the term "diversity". Wilson states 3648 is a historic event for the campus that hopefully will bring different media outlets to the campus. This could be shown as a positive sight for Universities all across

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Every pretty lady of color wants to embrace her natural beauty. And, indeed, there is a way to do it by wearing make-up. No, I am not talking about plastering a mask on.

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Latino Student Union stands for so much. They make sure that Latinos have a voice on this campus. The members of LSU

are a family and they are there for you if you need someone to talk to. From political issues all the way to laughing until you cry during the icebreakers. LSU is one of the most powerful organizations on this campus that will stand for anything but falls for nothing.

# KAUTURE SHAUK STATE UNIVERSITY: Student Affairs

ANONYMOUS WRITER

Elijah was sitting in the lab on the computer looking at Jasmine's profile on "FaceSpace," a blogging site for college students. Elijah was in a depressive state. Despite stories Soop and Garcia had on her, he still wanted to be with her. Elijah would sometimes lock himself in his room and listen to lil Wayne's "Prostitute Flange" for hours. Elijah just wanted to talk to her.... He picked up the phone to call her.

Jasmine was sittin in her bedroom studying until she heard a knock at her door. She opened it and Calvin strolled on in. "Where yo girl at?" he asked.

"Oh she left to go to grocery store," responded Jasmine as she jumped back on her bed to finish studying. Calvin looked at Jasmine with a bit of lust in his eyes.

"Eh girl... you not gonna entertain your company," he said "No... I have a Bio test to study for," said Jasmine. "But I'll tell Taja you stopped by."

"Naw... maybe I came by to see you," he said.

Calvin went over to Jasmine's bed

and took it upon himself to lean up against its post

"Damn girl, you gonna let me get coo wit you or what?" Calvin then hopped onto Jasmine's bed.

"I really do have to study," replied Jasmine.

"Come on girl. We grown out here. You in college. Naw you aint bout nothin... you just a little child out here."

And that was all he needed to say. Just as before, Jasmine found herself falling into peer pressure for the sake of wanting to be grown. The inner struggle Jasmine is having with herself trying to escape her good girl image had fully consumed her. But all that didn't matter now as she found herself lying on her back as her book dropped to the floor... **Fast Forward**

Daquan could barely move. "Man my chances with this ish are over," he thought. "Aye mayne you hear me talking to you!?" said Calvin. "Watchu doin in ma sandz' sister Toya room fam."

Daquan tried his best to muster up a lie to Kal. "Man I was just... I was just...."

Kalvin's face soon turned from a scowl to a grin.

"Yo mayne chill.... You aint gotta answer to me... I know wat's up," he said. "I mean shit you a man right. And plus you in college. Men gon do what men do feel me. Matter a fact, I just got done getting me a piece of cutty."

Daquan glanced at Taja and Jasmine's name tags on the door behind Calvin.

Kalvin gave Daquan hard slap on his back.

"You got somewhere to be, right? Get there."

Daquan didn't know what just happened, but he was relieved to get out of that situation. A certain level of comfort soon fell over him. Daquan felt everything was gonna be alright. He just didn't know how wrong he was. **Meanwhile....**

Olivia was getting herself involved on campus. She became secretary for the NAACP chapter on campus. She even became a senator for the university's undergrad student government. She was excited because the Etas seemed to be taking a liking to her. She received a FaceSpace message from the president of the chapter asking her if she would like to attend an social/ game night event with the Etas. The

president's name was Jessica, but everyone called her Jessie. It said it was a special invitation, so she shouldn't go telling others about the event. Olivia felt her foot was in the door. But all was not going well with her roommate. Shayla seemed to hold herself high on a pedestal while looking down on others. Olivia was not feeling this. She was considering moving out. But Olivia had other things on her mind. She started getting ready to attend the special event. She looked at her self in the mirror, which she dreaded doing each day. The reason was because every time she looked in the mirror, she saw someone else. She didn't see the same ol' Olivia from the streets of Harlem who was very much comfortable with herself. And it was probably due to her wearing a wig everywhere she went. Olivia stared at herself in the mirror and contemplated not wearing the wig to the social. She put her hands up to the wig as if she was going to take it off, but then reluctantly let her hands drop. Olivia went to the Eta's house. There she met other interested students. There were also Etas she have never seen before. She soon found they were members of the chapter who have already graduated. Jessie, the president of Eta, then got everybody's attention by saying that it was time for the games to begin. She suggested everyone play a game of twister. "What we need now is some participants," she said. "Who's gonna step up and go." The Etas all started laughing. All of the interested women were standing with a puzzled look on their face. "I'ma grown ass woman... I'm not playin no twister" Olivia heard a girl standing right next to her say. Jessie looked in Olivia's direction and said, "What's that I hear... you don't wanna play." "Oh no... I didn't say that," said Olivia.

"Well then you are agreeing to go first then," the president said. "Well okay... sure," responded Olivia.

"Hmm... we gon make this a lil bit more interesting. I wanna see if it's possible for 10 women to play a game of twister," said Olivia. The interested women in the room all looked at each other.

The Etas were dying with laughter. "Yeah... we wanna see how much you all want this," said Jessie as her face formed a mischievous grin. "There will be dire consequences if any you happen to fall. You can kiss your chances of being an Eta goodbye."

The Etas continued laughing. "They can not be serious," thought Olivia.

As the game progressed, many knew it was inevitable someone was going to fall... and soon. Olivia knew she wasn't going to be the first to fall. She wanted badly to be an Eta more than anything. The Etas seemed to be enjoying every single minute of the interested girls' frustration. A girl's finger got caught in Olivia's hair as she was reaching over her. As the girl pulled her finger back, she took Olivia's wig with her. "What the hell!" the girl screamed. At this point, Olivia got up from her position causing all nine women to fall.

As Olivia stood up all eyes were on her and the wig lying on the floor. Olivia's eyes began to well up with tears. She quickly grabbed her purse and ran out the house....

**DON'T FORGET TO LOOK FOR THE LAST ISSUE OF THE OBSIDIAN: Coming near finals week**

**Want something published? Email Rich at [rautry@bgsu.edu](mailto:rautry@bgsu.edu) or Tamara at [tjlawre@bgsu.edu](mailto:tjlawre@bgsu.edu)**



**ASHLEY DOUGLAS**  
Senior

I love USG because I get to meet people who I probably would not have met on campus. I am able to be involved on a larger scale and my involvement affects campus. In USG, I am chief administrator- in charge of the procedure and appeals board. As a board, we oversee parking tickets. Elections are conducted. We are seen as the judicial branch when involved with eternal affairs.

My friend told me I should get involved. At first, it was just something to do. But overtime, I grew

to enjoy being there as well as the other people.

USG is an important organization because it is the student voice. I don't expect people to run out and join USG right away. Just come to the general assembly meeting. Just make yourself more aware of what's going on. **THIS IS YOUR CAMPUS.**

USG is here for you. It is the liaison between the student body and administrators. If USG was not here, BGSU would be worse. There would be no downtown shuttle. There would be no instructor evaluations in the works, and of course, parking appeals!!



**VALARIE REED**  
Junior

I decided to join BSU as a challenge to myself as a student leader. I am very passionate about being able to help people and give something back that is why I ran for the position as community service chair. I love BSU because it is a powerful vehicle when utilized properly by students of color and BGSU at large. The black student union has such a rich history and I have been privileged the

opportunity to serve as executive board member for this school year. I learned the importance of diplomacy when working with other organizations, the importance of collaboration with various organizations and staying focus and determine regardless of any obstacles. Being apart of BSU has allowed me to realize my strengths and weakness and because of this I have grown as a not only as a leader but a person. I would encourage anyone to get involved with BSU and become an active member, as

students have so much power and often do realize how we can create a positive change. The Black Student Union official mission statement is to encourage unity, scholarship, leadership and political awareness among Bowling Green State University's community by providing programs and activities that promote the cultural growth of people from African descent. We are committed to being a union for all African-American students, and enhancing the education of blacks to the entire University community.

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# KAUTURE SHAUK STATE UNIVERSITY: Student Affairs

ANONYMOUS WRITER

Elijah was sitting in the lab on the computer looking at Jasmine's profile on "FaceSpace," a blogging site for college students. Elijah was in a depressive state. Despite stories Soop and Garcia had on her, he still wanted to be with her. Elijah would sometimes lock himself in his room and listen to lil Wayne's "Prostitute Flange" for hours. Elijah just wanted to talk to her.... He picked up the phone to call her.

Jasmine was sittin in her bedroom studying until she heard a knock at her door. She opened it and Calvin strolled on in. "Where yo girl at?" he asked.

"Oh she left to go to grocery store," responded Jasmine as she jumped back on her bed to finish studying. Calvin looked at Jasmine with a bit of lust in his eyes.

"Eh girl... you not gonna entertain your company," he said "No... I have a Bio test to study for," said Jasmine. "But I'll tell Taja you stopped by."

"Naw... maybe I came by to see you," he said.

Calvin went over to Jasmine's bed

and took it upon himself to lean up against its post

"Damn girl, you gonna let me get coo wit you or what?" Calvin then hopped onto Jasmine's bed.

"I really do have to study," replied Jasmine.

"Come on girl. We grown out here. You in college. Naw you aint bout nothin... you just a little child out here."

And that was all he needed to say. Just as before, Jasmine found herself falling into peer pressure for the sake of wanting to be grown. The inner struggle Jasmine is having with herself trying to escape her good girl image had fully consumed her. But all that didn't matter now as she found herself lying on her back as her book dropped to the floor... **Fast Forward**

Daquan could barely move. "Man my chances with this ish are over," he thought. "Aye maybe you hear me talking to you!?" said Calvin. "Watchu doin in ma sandz' sister Toya room fam."

Daquan tried his best to muster up a lie to Kal. "Man I was just... I was just...."

Kalvin's face soon turned from a scowl to a grin.

"Yo maybe chill.... You aint gotta answer to me... I know wat's up," he said. "I mean shit you a man right. And plus you in college. Men gon do what men do feel me. Matter a fact, I just got done getting me a piece of cutty."

Daquan glanced at Taja and Jasmine's name tags on the door behind Calvin.

Kalvin gave Daquan hard slap on his back.

"You got somewhere to be, right? Get there."

Daquan didn't know what just happened, but he was relieved to get out of that situation. A certain level of comfort soon fell over him. Daquan felt everything was gonna be alright. He just didn't know how wrong he was. **Meanwhile....**

Olivia was getting herself involved on campus. She became secretary for the NAACP chapter on campus. She even became a senator for the university's undergrad student government. She was excited because the Etas seemed to be taking a liking to her. She received a FaceSpace message from the president of the chapter asking her if she would like to attend a social/game night event with the Etas. The

president's name was Jessica, but everyone called her Jessie. It said it was a special invitation, so she shouldn't go telling others about the event. Olivia felt her foot was in the door. But all was not going well with her roommate. Shayla seemed to hold herself high on a pedestal while looking down on others. Olivia was not feeling this. She was considering moving out. But Olivia had other things on her mind. She started getting ready to attend the special event. She looked at her self in the mirror, which she dreaded doing each day. The reason was because every time she looked in the mirror, she saw someone else. She didn't see the same ol' Olivia from the streets of Harlem who was very much comfortable with herself. And it was probably due to her wearing a wig everywhere she went. Olivia stared at herself in the mirror and contemplated not wearing the wig to the social. She put her hands up to the wig as if she was going to take it off, but then reluctantly let her hands drop. Olivia went to the Eta's house. There she met other interested students. There were also Etas she have never seen before. She soon found they were members of the chapter who have already graduated. Jessie, the president of Eta, then got everybody's attention by saying that it was time for the games to begin. She suggested everyone play a game of twister. "What we need now is some participants," she said. "Who's gonna step up and go." The Etas all started laughing. All of the interested women were standing with a puzzled look on their face. "I'ma grown ass woman... I'm not playin no twister" Olivia heard a girl standing right next to her say. Jessie looked in Olivia's direction and said, "What's that I hear... you don't wanna play." "Oh no... I didn't say that," said Olivia.

"Well then you are agreeing to go first then," the president said. "Well okay... sure," responded Olivia.

"Hmm... we gon make this a lil bit more interesting. I wanna see if it's possible for 10 women to play a game of twister," said Olivia. The interested women in the room all looked at each other.

The Etas were dying with laughter. "Yeah... we wanna see how much you all want this," said Jessie as her face formed a mischievous grin. "There will be dire consequences if any you happen to fall. You can kiss your chances of being an Eta goodbye."

The Etas continued laughing. "They can not be serious," thought Olivia.

As the game progressed, many knew it was inevitable someone was going to fall... and soon. Olivia knew she wasn't going to be the first to fall. She wanted badly to be an Eta more than anything. The Etas seemed to be enjoying every single minute of the interested girls' frustration. A girl's finger got caught in Olivia's hair as she was reaching over her. As the girl pulled her finger back, she took Olivia's wig with her. "What the hell!" the girl screamed. At this point, Olivia got up from her position causing all nine women to fall.

As Olivia stood up all eyes were on her and the wig lying on the floor. Olivia's eyes began to well up with tears. She quickly grabbed her purse and ran out the house....

**DON'T FORGET TO LOOK FOR THE LAST ISSUE OF THE OBSIDIAN: Coming near finals week**

Want something published?  
Email Rich at [rautry@bgsu.edu](mailto:rautry@bgsu.edu) or Tamara at [tjlawre@bgsu.edu](mailto:tjlawre@bgsu.edu)



**ASHLEY DOUGLAS**  
Senior

I love USG because I get to meet people who I probably would not have met on campus. I am able to be involved on a larger scale and my involvement affects campus. In USG, I am chief administrator- in charge of the procedure and appeals board. As a board, we oversee parking tickets. Elections are conducted. We are seen as the judicial branch when involved with eternal affairs.

My friend told me I should get involved. At first, it was just something to do. But overtime, I grew

to enjoy being there as well as the other people.

USG is an important organization because it is the student voice. I don't expect people to run out and join USG right away. Just come to the general assembly meeting. Just make yourself more aware of what's going on. **THIS IS YOUR CAMPUS.**

USG is here for you. It is the liaison between the student body and administrators. If USG was not here, BGSU would be worse. There would be no downtown shuttle. There would be no instructor evaluations in the works, and of course, parking appeals!!



**VALARIE REED**  
Junior

I decided to join BSU as a challenge to myself as a student leader. I am very passionate about being able to help people and give something back that is why I ran for the position as community service chair. I love BSU because it is a powerful vehicle when utilized properly by students of color and BGSU at large. The black student union has such a rich history and I have been privileged the

opportunity to serve as executive board member for this school year. I learned the importance of diplomacy when working with other organizations, the importance of collaboration with various organizations and staying focus and determine regardless of any obstacles. Being apart of BSU has allowed me to realize my strengths and weakness and because of this I have grown as a not only as a leader but a person. I would encourage anyone to get involved with BSU and become an active member, as

students have so much power and often do realize how we can create a positive change. The Black Student Union official mission statement is to encourage unity, scholarship, leadership and political awareness among Bowling Green State University's community by providing programs and activities that promote the cultural growth of people from African descent. We are committed to being a union for all African-American students, and enhancing the education of blacks to the entire University community.





# CAMPUS LIFE

Students engaging in a variety of activities including: AKA Men's Appreciation, Barack Obama Toledo rally, Delta Sigma Theta Jabberwock, and U.S./Iraq War candle light vigil.

