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The BG News October 23, 2008

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THE BG NEWS

ESTABLISHED 1920

A daily independent student press serving the campus and surrounding community

Thursday

October 23, 2008 Volume 103, Issue 44 WWW.BGNEWS.COM

Celebrating the Man of Steel

The Pop Culture department is hosting a 70th birthday party for Superman to highlight the impact of comics | Page 3

I don't get the 'tween' trend

With the premiere of "High School Musical 3: Senior Year. columnist Tannen Gliatta wonders why there is such an obsession with 'tween'-aimed entertainment Page 4

Using bus ads to speak up

Atheists in London, England are figuring out that bus advertisements are a good way to share their opinions with the public | Page 8

Vaccination recommended for smokers

A government panel suggests adult smokers 65 and under get a pneumococcal vacine, which is said to be the top killer among vaccine-preventable diseases | Page 5

An asset on and off the field

Jacob Lawrence's talent adds a lot to the BG men's soccer team on the field and his impressive academics and good-natured personality is admired off the field | Page 6



If you could change your name to anything. what would it be?



SHELLY WILLGREN Apparel Merchandising and Product Development

"Maggie May" Page 4

TODAY Isolated T-Storms High: 79, Low: 57



TOMORROW Mostly Sunny High: 82, Low: 60

BGSU's ROTC um's death On September 25, the University announced that 2005 graduate Michael Medders was killed while serving in Medders was commissioned a se the University's Army ROTC, and a Delta Theta fraternity. Even though only one of the curr Even though only one of the current ROTC s was around while Medders was a memoer of gram, and barely knew him, the group still loss to heart, said Lt. Col. Steven Letzring, a p of military science. According to Letzring, the last time a member of the University's ROTC program died was during the ted by events like this," Letzring PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY CARRIE CRAME | THE BG NEWS

Sarah and the Flag City

VP candidate Palin visits Univ. of Findlay

By Freddy Hunt

FINDLAY - With the election nowless than two weeks away and the race still tight in the Buckeye State, vice presidential candidate Sarah Palin was in the area vesterday stumping for the Republican

Palin warmed up the crowd by inviting country singer Lee Greenwood on stage to sing the national anthem and his own 'Proud to Be an American" reward for her supporters who woke early to wait in the cold, long lines outside the University of Findlay, she said.

Joined by her husband, Todd, and daughters Willow and Piper, Palin began her speech by addressing comments made by Sen. Joe Biden at a recent fundraiser in Seattle.

On Sunday, the Democratic vice presidential candidate said there would be four or five scenarios that would place America at risk in the first six months of an Obama administration. He said the situation would be a generated international crisis "to test the mettle" of Obama.

"First, got to say thanks for the warning, Joe," Palin said. "And that's just another case of Joe get-

ting carried away at the podium." But Biden didn't identify exactly what the four or five crisis scenarios could be, Palin said, and then identified four of them as Obama's plans to sit down with "some of the world's worst dictators with no preconditions," his intentions to employ American troops in Pakistan, to prematurely pull out of the War in Iraq and conflicts between Russia and Ukraine.

I guess that the looming crisis that most worries the Obama campaign right now has got to be Joe Biden's next speaking engagement," Palin said.

Fitting her stump speech to the Flag City crowd, Palin said it's great to be in the hometown of



ENOCH WU FACING FINDLAY: Sarah Palin speaks on energy independence, business taxing, and small businesses during a rally in Findlay.

WHY, HELLO THERE: Sarah Palin meets astic fans after her speech at a McCain-Palin rally in Findley.

Pittsburg Steeler's quarterback, Ben Roethlisberger.

"I would be so proud of him," she said. "Ben and Findlay obviously know a little bit about victory, and I am hoping we can count on you to put us over the top on Election Day.'

But not everyone in attendance was a McCain/Palin supporter. Wearing an Obama '08 but-ton, 18-year-old Colin Walker, of Findlay, said he just wanted to see Palin in person. According to him. there are plenty of reasons why he

opposes the Republican ticket. The war was started in false pretenses," Walker said. "And I disagree with capital punishment and pro-life."

But Palin never mentioned capital punishment and only touched on abortion. She focused mainly on the economy and energy independence.

Referencing another Northwest Ohioan, Palin congratulated "Joe the Plumber" for finally getting Obama to speak his intentions in a clear language. She criticized Obama's plan to hike taxes and increase spending, coining him the name "Obama the Wealthspreader."

"The first thing you do when



ALAINA BUZAS THE BIG NEW



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you find yourself in a hole and you don't want to be there is you stop digging," Palin said, referring to the federal government's \$10 trillion debt.

Besides limiting government spending, Palin stressed energy independence, which she said is at the top of McCain's list of things he wanted her to speak about.

By developing clean-coal tech-nology and off-shore drilling, and utlizing wind and solar energy,

See PALIN | Page 2

As election nears, poll gaps narrow

By Liz Sidoti

WASHINGTON — The presidential race tightened after the final debate, with John McCain gaining among whites and people earning less than \$50,000, according to an Associated Press-GfK poll that shows McCain and Barack Obama essentially running even among likely voters in the election homestretch.

The poll, which found Obama at 44 percent and McCain at 43 percent, supports what some Republicans and Democrats privately have said in recent days: that the race narrowed after the third debate as GOP-leaning voters drifted home to their party and McCain's "Joe the Plumber" analogy struck a chord.

Three weeks ago, an AP-GtK survey found that Obama had surged to a seven-point lead over McCain, lifted by voters who thought the Democrat was better suited to lead the nation through its sudden economic crisis.

The contest is still volatile, and the split among voters is apparent less than two weeks before



EMPTY-HEADED: Clay lead

"I trust McCain more, and I do feel that he has more experience in government than Obama. I don't think Obama has been around long enough," said Angela Decker, 44, of La Porte, Ind.

But Karen Judd. 58, of Middleton, Wis., said, "Obama certainly has sufficient qualifications." She said any positive feelings about McCain evaporated with "the outright lying" in TV ads and his choice of running mate

See ELECTION | Page 2

The Sylvanian police officer and the mustache mishap

SYLVANIA (AP) — A police officer was suspended for three days without pay in a tussle over whether he whacked his mustache to regulation length.

The facial hair of Officer Ron Dicus was the subject of a threehour hearing Tuesday night before the Sylvania Township Board of Trustees.

Trustees determined the nineyear police veteran had been

insubordinate. Dicus countered that he shortened his bushy mustache once when he was warned and again when he was

Police Chief Robert Metzger described the 'stache as a "General Custer-type" that extended below the mouth in violation of department policy.

Dicus said he plans to take the dispute to arbitration.



BLOTTER **TUESDAY OCT. 21**

10:49 P.M.

Crystal Troutman, 26, of Rossford, Ohio, was arrested for theft, criminal trespass and constructing official business after numerous hospital supplies were seen inside her bag during officers' attempts to escort her from Wood County Hospital.

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MICHAEL WEIGMAN | THE BG NEWS

Last Week's Winner:

Corey Norris



CHRISTINA MCGINNIS | THE BG NEWS

THE WINNER: "And this is how athlete's foot turns into jock itch."

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PALIN

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Palin said thousands of American jobs will be created.

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"I really like the fact that there's a woman running — that there's a woman running and she's a real person," Altiere said. "I think she brings the campaign to an average-person level.

But Altiere can relate to Palin on more levels than just being a woman. Like the Alaskan governor, Altiere has a child with special needs, and believes if McCain becomes president, education will be a priority of the administration.

Comparing herself and McCain to former President Ronald Reagan, Palin said she and McCain don't believe America is the prob-



FREDDY HUNT | THE BG NEWS C'MON, ALREADY: An excited crowd waits in anticipation for Republican vice presidential candidate Sarah Palin to speak

lem, but the solution.

"And we still believe that America is that shining city on a hill that Reagan used to speak of," she said. "And I thank God we have a man ready and worthy to lead it someone who inspires us with heroic and trustworthy deeds and not just words.

ROTC

Lawson has served two tours in Iraq, each lasting a year, and is looking to make a career out of

military service.
"My first tour, I went straight out of high school and was part of the spearhead through Iraq," Lawson said.

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James Boone, a junior major-ing in geochemistry, is another student who has witnessed the realities of war first hand.

"I lost a lot of good friends [in Iraq]," he said.

Boone was a member of the Marine Corps and was active duty for seven months before attending the University. He was the point person for his unit during his tour of duty, the soldier who kicked down doors and

helped lead sweeps, he said. But the friends that he lost did not die without purpose. Boone said his experience in Iraq was also very rewarding, and is glad that he fought for his country.

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ELECTION

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Registration begins for:

Non-Degree Graduate Students Seniors **Juniors** Sophomores Freshmen

Graduate Students

Guest Students

October 20 October 22 October 28 **November 4 November 12 November 18 November 24**

Don't miss out! See your advisor now!

Pre-Major Advising and UPAS Arts & Sciences **Business Administration Education & Human Development** Health & Human Services Musical Arts Technology **Firelands**

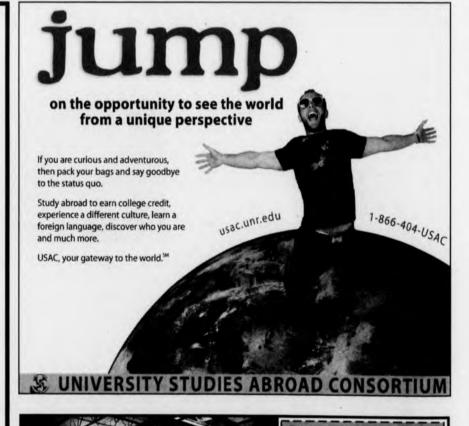
101 University Hall 372-2015 372-2747 372-7372 372-8242 1031 Moore Musical Arts Building 372-2181 102 Technology Building 372-7581 101 West Building 372-0676

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www.bgsu.edu/offices/registrar

BGSU 110 Administration Building ration Hotline 419-372-4444





Superman the septuagenarian

By Steve Kunkler Reporter

The Man of Steel is turning 70 this year and the University's Popular Culture department is celebrating with two days full of events highlighting the way comics have impacted society.

Charles Coletta, an associate professor of popular cul-ture, came up with the idea of celebrating Superman's anniversary, and sees comics as a uniquely American art form. Coletta said Superman is the right character to celebrate, because Clark Kent is recognizable to people of all ages.

"The Superman symbol is a world famous symbol," he said. "Even if you have never read the comic, ask any little kid and they know what the

shop about comic books in the classroom.

Angela Nelson, popular

GET A LIFE

V3: Variations in Vision &

Willard Wankelman Gallery, Fine

Exhibit #4: Clay Club

8 a.m. - 11 p.m. Muslim Student

204 Olscamp

10 a.m. - 6 p.m. **Pumpkin Sale**

130 and 131 Union - Gallery space

Association Prayer Room

Outdoor Space - Union Mall

HMSL Conference Registration 200D - Ingram-White Castle

Foundation Lounge

5:30 -6:45 p.m. **HMSL Conference** 207 Union - Mylander Mtg Rm

HMSL Conference Board Meeting and Luncheon 208 Union - BGSU Family Room

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

11 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Video

Arts Center

culture department chair, believes the workshop will show practical steps for teachers on how to use comic books as educational tools.

Nelson said children are able to make connections between comics and reading, while also bridging the gap between art and writing.

"The creativity part is what children are drawn to," she said. Both Coletta and Nelson

grew up with their own favorite comic book characters, even if they were only television versions.

For Nelson, her favorites included Wonder Woman and both the Bionic Man and Bionic Woman. She said she remembers the '70s television series Wonder Woman, and enjoyed seeing a woman being strong and fighting for justice.

Superman symbol is or what it stands for."

Among the events being of the show, it was so fake," offered in the Union is a workwas as real as a junior high girl would think."

The event will also include

sessions with Michael Bitz, The Comic Book Project's founder and director.

The project began in 2001, as a way for Bitz to allow young people to build creative and literary skills.

What began in New York has spread across the United States, including Cleveland, which is the hometown of the creators of Superman.

The goal of the project is to give kids a chance to become better thinkers and writers, Bitz said.

Bitz also believes creating comics allows for planning of characters, conflict, resolu-tion and self-editing.

Bitz shared a story about how the project works with deaf children in New York City. He said it allows the children to express themselves in a creative way.

"For people who have struggled to communicate all of their lives, The Comic Book Project has become an outlet for them to communicate, he said.

SPOOKY HOLIDAYS REFLECTED IN GLASS



ENOCH WU | THE BG NEWS

ART FOR SALE: Pumpkin related art pieces from the Student Art Glass Association (SAGA) wait to be sold. Most pieces range from \$10 \$40. SAGA will be holding their glass sale in front of the Student Union until 5:00 p.m. today

Pub speech encourages student involvement

By India Hunter

Reporter

Amidst the bustling, noisy activities in the Black Swamp Pub, Undergraduate Student Government President John

Waynick gave his State of the Student Body Address last night. The brief speech addressed the activities USG has tackled up to this point.

works for you,' USG Waynick said.

He spoke of the difficult times the country is experiencing in regards to the economy. But Waynick urged students to not become discouraged of the

downturn.
"When change is scary, opportunity shines the bright-est," Waynick said. "This year opportunities are endless.

One item USG has worked on that students can see is the addition of two stops added downtown on the off campus shuttle.

"Last year's USG administra-tion laid the groundwork for this, and this year's executed

that goal," Waynick said. Waynick encouraged students to become investing in issues that concern them by

voting locally. An issue that touched many students, particularly off campus students, was the zoning law issue which USG worked tirelessly on, Waynick said.

"We petitioned to have it changed to four unrelated people living together and collected 1,572 signatures," he said. Even though USG collected

many signatures, many became disqualified for several reasons. He told students that although

nothing changed about the law this time around, USG will con-

finue fighting for a change.

Junior Joe Coleman, who attended last night's address, said he was disappointed about the outcome of the zoning law

"I signed that petition and was hoping that law would be changed," he said.

Another project USG has been working on concerns faculty evaluations. Waynick said USG hopes to make choosing faculty on campus a more informed decision for students, something more than scouring the Pick A

Prof Web site.

He said by the Spring 2009 registration time period USG hopes to post the results of faculty evaluations from last year on the USG Web site.

With the popularity of the going green theme, USG would like to make the campus more green, too. Waynick spoke of a bike program where students could check out bikes for free and ride around campus as opposed to driving cars to classes.

Waynick also spoke of the success of USG's campus beautification project. Flowers have been planted and grasslines trimmed along the sidewalks. He said the idea stemmed from speaking with students over

the summer about the physical

appeal of the campus.
"Many students complained that the campus looked run

down and tired," Waynick said. In addition, USG is working on putting Falcon logo signs on the highways and also throughout campus.

"It will become a real-ity." Waynick said. "You will see Falcon signage on the highway." Even though the speech was

given in the pub, some students said they didn't know about it.

"I didn't know about the speech," Haldeman said. But had she attended, she said she would have liked to of heard something about the health insurance requirement. Haldeman said she would like to see this policy changed.

"It was annoying to have to go through that process of appealing it," Haldeman said. "I don't think it should be required."

And although Coleman attended, he said he just happened to be at the pub, and didn't plan to attend the speech. "I was just at the right place at

the right time," he said.

Waynick told students to be proud of their campus, noting the successful alumni of the University such as James Pickens Jr., an actor on "Grey's Anatomy,"

"Wear your bright orange and become engaged on campus," Waynick said. "Join an organization and become involved.

The speech will be re-broadcasted in dorms across campus on a date to be determined later.



Deal with Fraternities and

318 Union - Arthur Andersen Mtg

Gary Broadbent "The

228 Union - Multipurpose Room

Creed Weekly Speaker

308 Union - McMaster Meeting

Joe E. Brown Theatre, University

HMSL Conference Social

207 Union - Mylander Mtg Rm

Boomerang Guy"

206 Union - Theater

7:30 - 11:30 p.m.

Series

8 p.m. Godspell

8 - 10 p.m

CRU 101 Olscamp

Sororities?

7 - 8:30 p.m.

7 - 8:30 p.m. **HMSL Conference**



BGSU ATHLETIC BAND AUDITIONS! Auditions will be Wednesday, October 29 7:00-10:00pm. Sign up for an a time at CMA room 1007. Music will be available in the band office (CMA 1010) beginning Wednesday, October 22. Since there are only three rehersals, attendance is required at all three: Sunday, Nov. 2 7:00 - 9:30 PM Sunday, Nov. 9 7:00 - 9:30 PM Sunday, Nov. 16 7:00 - 9:30 PM

Rehearsals will be held in Kelly Hall (Room 1012) in the Moore Musical Arts Center. If you have further of s, contact the Band Office at 372-2186

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Sophomores Freshmen

Guest Students

October 20

October 22 October 28

November 4

November 12 November 18

372-7581

372-0676

November 24

Don't miss out! See your advisor now!

Pre-Major Advising and UPAS Arts & Sciences Business Administration Education & Human Development Health & Human Services Musical Arts Technology Firelands

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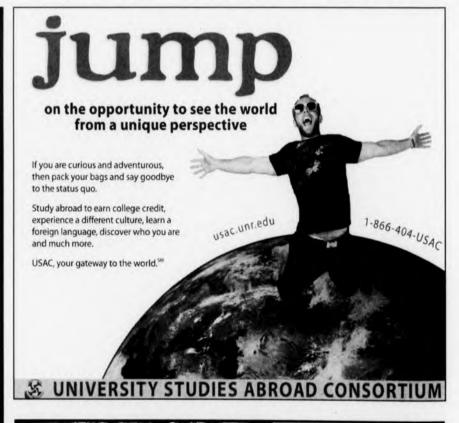
102 Technology Building

101 West Building

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

www.bgsu.edu/offices/registrar

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Continental Breakfast

Concurrent Sessions

Lunch on Your Own

Concurrent Sessions

Refreshment Break

Concurrent Sessions

Concurrent Sessions

Friday's events:

9 a.m.

318 Union

314-316 Union

314-316 Union

2:30 p.m.

318 Union

314-316 Union

4:30 p.m.

4:45 p.m.

314-316 Union

3 p.m.

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sessions with Michael Bitz, The Comic Book Project's founder and director.

The project began in 2001, as a way for Bitz to allow young people to build creative and literary skills.

What began in New York has spread across the United States, including Cleveland, which is the hometown of the creators of Superman.

The goal of the project is to give kids a chance to become better thinkers and writers, Bitz said.

Bitz also believes creating comics allows for planning of characters, conflict, resolu-tion and self-editing.

Bitz shared a story about how the project works with deaf children in New York City. He said it allows the children to express themselves in a creative way.

"For people who have struggled to communicate all of their lives, The Comic Book Project has become an outlet for them to communicate,

Pub speech encourages student involvement

-\$40. SAGA will be holding their glass sale in front of the Student Union until 5:00 p.m. today

SPOOKY HOLIDAYS REFLECTED IN GLASS

By India Hunter

Reporter

Amidst the bustling, noisy activities in the Black Swamp Pub, Undergraduate Student Government President John Waynick gave his State of the

Student Body Address last night, The brief speech addressed the activities USG has tackled up to this point.

"USG works for you," Waynick said.

He spoke of the difficult times the country is experiencing in regards to the economy. But Waynick urged students to not become discouraged of the downturn.

"When change is scary, opportunity shines the brightest," Waynick said, "This year opportunities are endless." One item USG has worked on

that students can see is the addition of two stops added downtown on the off campus shuttle.

"Last year's USG administra-tion laid the groundwork for this, and this year's executed that goal," Waynick said.

Waynick encouraged students to become investing in issues that concern them by voting locally.

An issue that touched many students, particularly off campus students, was the zoning law issue which USG worked tirelessly on, Waynick said.

"We petitioned to have it changed to four unrelated people living together and collected

START COMMA

START OUT ON TOP.

1,572 signatures," he said. Even though USG collected

many signatures, many became disqualified for several reasons. He told students that although

ART FOR SALE: Pumplin related art pieces from the Student Art Glass Association (SAGA) wait to be sold. Most pieces range from \$10

nothing changed about the law this time around, USG will continue fighting for a change.

Junior Joe Coleman, who
attended last night's address.

said he was disappointed about the outcome of the zoning law

"I signed that petition and was hoping that law would be changed," he said.

Another project USG has been working on concerns faculty evaluations. Waynick said USG hopes to make choosing faculty on campus a more informed decision for students, something more than scouring the Pick A Prof Web site.

He said by the Spring 2009 registration time period USG hopes to post the results of faculty evaluations from last year on the USG Web site

With the popularity of the going green theme, USG would like to make the campus more green, too. Waynick spoke of a bike program where students could check out bikes for free and ride around campus as opposed to driving cars to classes.

Waynick also spoke of the success of USG's campus beautification project. Flowers have been planted and grasslines trimmed along the sidewalks. He said the idea stemmed from speaking with students over the summer about the physical

appeal of the campus.
"Many students complained that the campus looked run down and tired," Waynick said.

ENOCH WU

In addition, USG is working on outting Falcon logo signs on the highways and also throughout campus.

will become a reality," Waynick said. "You will see Falcon signage on the highway."

Even though the speech was given in the pub, some students said they didn't know about it.

"I didn't know about the speech," Haldeman said, But had she attended, she said she would have liked to of heard something about the health insurance requirement. Haldeman said she would like to see this policy changed.

'It was annoying to have to go through that process of appealing it." Haldeman said. "I don't think it should be required."

And although Coleman attended, he said he just happened to be at the pub, and didn't plan to attend the speech.

"I was just at the right place at the right time." he said.

Waynick told students to be proud of their campus, noting the successful alumni of the University such as James Pickens Jr., an actor on "Grey's Anatomy.'

"Wear your bright orange and become engaged on campus," Waynick said. "Join an organization and become involved.

The speech will be re-broadcasted in dorms across campus on a date to be determined later.

Nelson said children are able to make connections between art and writing.

sion versions. nizable to people of all ages. "The Superman symbol is

Superman symbol is or what it stands for."

the classroom.

Angela Nelson, popular

6:15 p.m. Break

6:30 p.m. **Plenary Session: Keynote** Address, "Comics: A Medium in Transition": Scott McCloud Theater 206 Union

Graphic Language: The Art of the "Comic" Book Exhibition Opening Reception **Dorothy Uber Bryan Gallery Fine**

Saturday's events:

Continental Breakfast

9 a.m. **Concurrent Sessions** 314-316 Union

10:30 a.m.

Break

Plenary Session: Keynote Address, "Black in a Four Color World" : Jamal Y. Igle

204 Fine Arts Center 12:30 p.m.

Lunch on Your Own 1:30 p.m.

Concurrent Sessions 314-316 Union

3 p.m.

Refreshment Break 318 Union

3:15.p.m. **Concurrent Sessions** 314-316 Union

4:45 p.m.

Plenary Session: Keynote Address, "The Death of the Comics Code" Amy Kiste Nyberg

GET A LIFE

Some events taken from events.bgsu.edu

Arts Center

V3: Variations in Vision & Video Willard Wankelman Gallery, Fine

Exhibit #4: Clay Club 130 and 131 Union - Gallery space

Muslim Student **Association Prayer Room**

204 Olscamp 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. Pumpkin Sale Outdoor Space - Union Mall

HMSL Conference Board Meeting and Luncheon 208 Union - BGSU Family Room

HMSL Conference Registration 200D - Ingram-White Castle Foundation Lounge

5-30 -6:45 p.m. **HMSL Conference** 207 Union - Mylander Mtg Rm

Greek Life: What's the Real **Deal with Fraternities and** Sororities? 318 Union - Arthur Andersen Mtg

7 - 8:30 p.m.

Gary Broadbent "The Boomerang Guy" 228 Union - Multipurpose Room

- 8:30 p.m.

HMSL Conference 206 Union - Theater

7:30 - 11:30 p.m.

Creed Weekly Speaker 308 Union - McMaster Meeting

Joe E. Brown Theatre, University

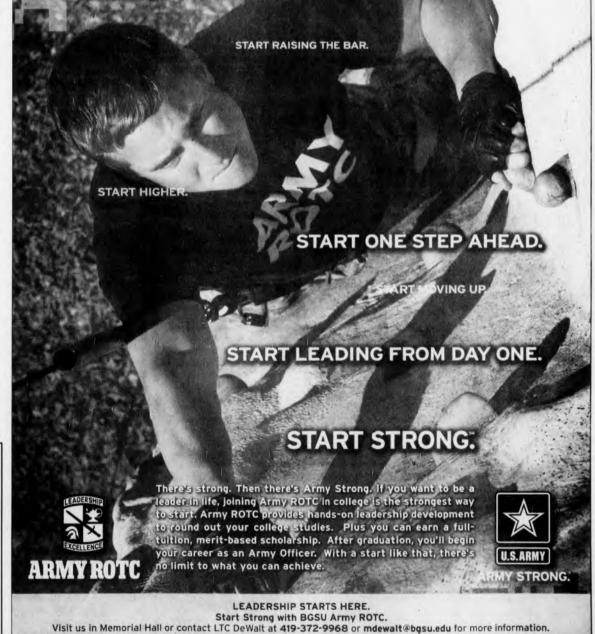
207 Union - Mylander Mtg Rm

CRU

Godspell

HMSL Conference Social

101 Olscamp



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BGSU ATHLETIC BAND AUDITIONS!

Auditions will be Wednesday, October 29 7:00-10:00pm. Sign up for an audition time at CMA room 1007. Music will be available in the band office (CMA 1010) beginning Wednesday, October 22.

Since there are only three rehersals, attendance is required at all three:

Sunday, Nov. 2 7:00 - 9:30 PM Sunday, Nov. 9 7:00 - 9:30 PM Sunday, Nov. 16 7:00 - 9:30 PM

Rehearsals will be held in Kelly Hall (Room 1012) in the Moore Musical Arts Center. If you have further questions, contact the Band Office at 372-2186 If selected, attendance at all rehearsals and performances is required



PEOPLE ON THE STREET If you could change your name to anything, what would it be?



change. I am the Johnnie L. Lewis."

JOHNNIE LEWIS.



"Jace Raden, my drag

JENNIFER DIETSCH. Psychology



"Just Mario Slaughter an awesome name.

MARIO SLAUGHTER,



"I wouldn't change

SAMMI BALTES, Accounting/Finance

today's People On The Street? Or a suggestion for a question? Give us your dback at bgnews.com.

The Disney era: I simply don't get it



TANNEN GLIATTA

When you wake up tomorrow don't be alarmed if you see people dancing in the streets, breaking out in song during class or busting out choreographed dance moves in the middle of your basketball game. They can't help it because tomorrow one of the most highly anticipated mov-

ies of the year, "High School Musical 3: Senior Year," opens. Without question, "High SchoolMusical" maniahasonce again taken over Hollywood.

But here's the thing: I don't get it.

And you know what else? I don't get the obsession with the Jonas Brothers. And I definitely don't get the fascination with Miley Cyrus.

At first I thought it was because of the generation gap which seems ridiculous considering I am just one year older than "HSM" star Zac Efron. But the movie franchise along with the Jonas Brothers and Miley Cyrus all originally were aimed at younger kids. So just as I don't expect my mom to understand my love for "Gossip Girl" I don't expect myself to understand the devotion to 'High School Musical." But the thing is, it isn't a generation gap because plenty of people out-side of their tweens are huge fans, including right here on campus. Now, I am not calling you out or trying to pick a fight, but I just would like someone to give me a valid explanation as to why these Disney Channel celebrities have taken over pop

culture and Hollywood. First lets take Miley Cyrus, the worst of the bunch. I have watched "Hannah Montana" twice in my life, which was exactly two times too many. The girl can act about as good as her dad, which is not saying much.

But I can forgive her bad acting and I can even forgive "Hannah Montana" because both are very easily avoidable. But then Cyrus had to crossover into mainstream music. Her songs, especially 7 Things," are like nails on a chalkboard. The lyrics aren't clever, the songs are over-produced and the singing is more screeching than singing. And watching Cyrus in interviews or in more mature settings only showcases how unknowledgeable she is of the industries that

are making her millions. The Ionas Brothers suffer from many of the same ailments that Cyrus does but to a lesser degree. Their songs are awkward, and it sounds as if they are going through puberty in the course of one song. It's enough to make me instant-ly change the radio station. That being said, they do seem like really nice guys though. Based on the few interviews I have seen of them and how they handled being the butt of nearly all of Russell Brand's jokes at this year's MTV Video Music Awards, I respect how they carry themselves, even if I can't stand their music.

Out of all these Disney Channel creations I guess I can attempt to understand the appeal of "HSM" the best. I get why kids are drawn to the happy, mushy, over-simplistic lives of Troy and Gabriella. Essentially Troy and Gabriella are Zack and Kelly from "Saved by the Bell" just with singing and dancing. I mean isn't that really what the whole Disney Channel is; a rehashing of the Saturday morning teen shows of the '90s

But again, like Miley Cyrus and the Jonas Brothers, the talent level and quality of the product baffles me.

Efron is the breakout star of the franchise and maybe the best actor of the bunch, but he seems to do better work outside of the "HSM" world. It's clear, through his acting that he is just going through the motions and is well aware of how cliché the movies are. Efron and Vanessa Hudgens may have an off-screen romance but the chemistry doesn't translate on screen. The scene in the previews for "HSM 3" where Troy and Gabriella discuss saying good-bye makes me cringe every time. Between the acting, the dialogue and the non-existent chemistry it's enough to make me feel sorry for everyone involved.

The actors can't solely be blamed though. The driving force behind "HSM" is the cash cow it has turned into. And with the third installment of the franchise being rushed into production, it's obvious quality has been pushed aside in favor of quantity. It makes me question if the movie will even be worth it for the die-hard fans, to pay money for something that was once free.

But on Sunday as the preliminary box office numbers come in and "HSM 3" earns \$30 or \$40 million I am sure I will be left even more confused and still desperately searching for an explanation for its success.

> -Respond to Tannen at thenews@bgnews.com

WALKING IS STILL







KEITH PAKIZ | THE BG NEWS

Solve the parking crisis, build a parking garage



Ah, the yelling, the race against time, extreme stress levels coupled with immense relief when things finally work out and it's all over. No, I'm not talking about midterms; I'm talking about simply trying to find a parking spot on this campus. It usually takes a month or two for me to break, but I'm finally to that point this year where I feel like I can not take the shoddy

parking situation anymore. If you are a commuter on this campus you know exactly what I am talking about. The daily races through the parking lots almost running over students (by the way, sorry about that those of you who I got a little close to in my car). In this situation, parking lots turn into the jungle and animal instincts reign supreme. It's kill or be killed, but in this situation, steal a spot or be stuck driving around aimlessly for twenty more minutes

The only plus side to this situation is that so far every time I have been late to class is because I could not park anywhere, it seems I have a free pass with my profes-

"In this situation, parking lots turn into the jungle and animal instincts reign supreme. It's kill or be killed, but in this situation, steal a spot or be stuck driving around aimlessly for twenty more minutes."

sors because they too understand what a hassle it can be. It's nice to have that, but there just shouldn't even be reason for that pity.

I feel that the most reasonable way we - by "we" I mean the University - could solve this and that is, simply, build a parking garage. I understand that there have been talks of building a parking garage on our campus for some time now and that there are many preparations that must be undertaken before it can happen, and I understand that it is an expensive endeavor on the part of the school, but I really think it could reduce a lot of stress in a commuter's life.

With a parking garage, we would not have to expand the campus outwards, but rather upwards. Make use of a small amount of land, preferably an already existing parking lot, and build four or five times as many parking spaces as it could hold as a one level concrete

slab. It could even be done to make it so the bottom couple of levels are faculty and the top two or three levels are commuter, thus creating more parking for all. Another great aspect of it would be that in the winter, our cars wouldn't be covered in snow when we left from class in the middle of a blizzard and also the possibility of icy pavement leading to collisions and lost insurance for students wouldn't be as prominent either.

Some might wonder where would I propose that we build this, let's face it, eyesore of a building, and I have thought about a couple spots that would be prime and fairly central to campus. My first choice would be in Lot N next to Anderson Arena, currently a faculty and metered visitor lot. This is a great location for both students and teachers as most of the classrooms and offices are, at worst, a ten minute walk away, hence why it is a faculty lot and always filled to

the brim. If you leave the visitors' meters and then simply build a five story garage over top the rest of the lot, you have a nice solution to commuter and faculty parking.

Now as I have admitted, a park-ing garage would be a bit of an eyesore on what I consider to be a beautiful campus, and right next to the library and most of our buildings might be a bit much. Therefore my next suggested place would be to move it back to the next closest lot, Lot 1, a commuter lot located by the Health Center. In my experience this is the most trafficked commuter lot on campus as it is a constant juggle of incoming and outgoing drivers doing the intricate dance of "beat the other guy to that spot you just saw two rows down.'

I really don't think there is any denying it from anyone that there is a problem with our faculty parking and, even more so, commuter parking, and I strongly feel that a parking garage would be the best solution. The fact of the matter is that eyesore or not, it would get the job done and make a lot the people a lot happier and even

> -Respond to Josh at thenews@bgnews.com

Past presidents' faith similar to that of average American

By Matthew Albright

U-Wire

Of the many questions that have resounded throughout the nation during this presidential campaign, two stand out: Is America ready for a black president? How about a female vice president?

The real question for me is: Are we ready for a president that isn't

Historically, every president has had some sort of Christian faith. But is this faith sincere, or is it a calculated political move designed to court an American population that is predominately religious? How real is a president's faith?

with a notoriously foul temper, and Clinton. whose lasting reputation is that of a crook — really have been a strong believer?

Could Ronald Reagan passionately supported military action and whose policies toward the poor and AIDS vic-tims seemed less than Jesus-like have really been profoundly Christian?

What about Bill Clinton? In a lecture Friday night titled 'Religious but Not Too Religious," distinguished Louisiana State University professor David Holmes detailed the faiths of several of our most recent presi-

According to Holmes, their faiths may be more genuine than might at first be obvious.

The venerable professor's research into these men's lives reveals most of them were, like anybody else, highly influenced by their parents. Most of them retained the same basic faith with some variation. When professor Holmes described the faith of these presidents, he sounded like he was describing any average Joe's faith journey.

Each of them went to Protestant church as kids, each of them rethought their faith in college and each of them proceeded

Could Richard Nixon, a man dents, including Reagan, Nixon to join a marginally different Protestant church as adults.

All of the presidents discu in the lecture followed this common path or maintained their religion of birth throughout their lives. There were no atheists who magically became Christian, no reformed Satanists and no former Amish - although Nixon was raised a Quaker.

Other than a few interesting tidbits, the lecture was a little boring, but that alone means something. The very fact that these presidents' faith journeys are so much like any other person's detracts from the cynical theory that a president's faith is an ingenuine construct used for political gain.

SPEAK YOUR MIND

Got something you want to say about an opinion column or news story?

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- E-mail us at thenews@bgnews.com.
- Drop a note into our new comment box at the Union Information Center. Call us at 419-372-6966.
- Come to our newsroom in 210 West Hall.

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

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THE **BG** NEWS

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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.

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.

POLICIES: Letters to the Editor

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

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



STEPHAN SAVOIA | AP PHOTO

A RARE INSECT: Donna Massie holds the preserved remains of an Asian Longhorned Beetle, that she and her husband found this past mer in their Worcester, Mass., backyard. The species has now been found in more than 1,500 trees in central Massachusetts.

Invasion of beetle species poses serious threat to forests

By Rodrique Ngowi The Associated Press

WORCESTER, Mass. - A wooddevouring beetle has gained a foothold in New England, and authorities plan to cut down large numbers of infested trees and grind them up to stop the pest from spreading to the region's celebrated forests and ravaging the timber, tourism

and maple-syrup industries. The infestation of Asian longhorned beetles in the Worcester area marks the fourth time the pests have been found in trees in the U.S. and the closest they have ever come to the great New England woods that erupt in dazzling, tourist-pleasing colors in the fall.

"This insect scares us to death because if it ever got loose in the forests of New England, it would be just about impossible to contain and it'd change the landscape dramatically," said Tom McCrum, coordinator of the Massachusetts

Maple Syrup Association.

Calling it a national emergency, federal authorities have committed themselves to spending tens of millions of dollars to fight the invasion. They have sent in smokejumpers, tree climbers and other experts to identify infested trees.

The affected area now covers 62 square miles around Worcester and four neighboring towns, and at least 1,800 trees have been tagged for destruction.

The outbreak was detected this summer, after Donna Massie spotted beetles on a tree in her backyard in Worcester. She caught one, searched online to identify it, then called agriculture authorities. Now her tree is

riddled with dime-size holes.
"It looks like someone opened fire with a machine gun," Massie, 53, said of the signature exit holes gnawed away by the bullet-shaped black beetle with white freckles. long antennae and a voracious

appetite for hardwood.

The beetles first appeared in the U.S. in 1996 in Brooklyn, probably arriving in the wood of a shipping crate from China, and have since shown up in New York's Central Park and parts of New Jersey and Illinois. Authorities believe that the Massachusetts infestation is unrelated but that the beetles probably arrived the same way.

Eradication efforts in New York, New Jersey and Illinois have cost \$268 million over the past 11 years. Thousands of trees have been cut down.

The beetles have no natural predators in North America, and regular insecticides are useless once the eggs hatch in hardwoods such as birch and poplar.

The beetles lay their eggs in small depressions they chew in tree bark. The larvae and pupae consume the tree from the inside, leaving a trail of tunnels. They eventually chew their way out as adults. The tunneling slowly kills the tree.

Scotch tape found to emit X-rays

By Malcolm Ritter

The Associated Press NEW YORK - Just two weeks after a Nobel Prize highlighted theoretical work on subatomic particles, physicists

are announcing a startling discovery about a much more familiar form of matter: Scotch

tape.
It turns out that if you peel the popular adhesive tape off its roll in a vacuum chamber, it emits X-rays. The researchers even made an X-ray image of one of their fingers. Who knew? Actually, more

than 50 years ago, some Russian scientists reported evidence of X-rays from peeling sticky tape off glass. But the new work demonstrates that you can get a lot of X-rays, a study co-author says.

"We were very surprised," said Juan Escobar. "The power you could get from just peeling

tape was enormous."

Escobar, a graduate student at the University of California, Los Angeles, reports the work with UCLA colleagues in today's issue of the journal Nature.

He suggests that with some refinements, the process might be harnessed for making inexpensive X-ray machines for paramedics or for places where electricity is expensive or hard to get. After all, you could peel tape or do something similar in such machines with just

human power, like cranking.
The researchers and UCLA have applied for a patent covering such devices.

In the new work, a machine peeled ordinary Scotch tape off a roll in a vacuum chamber at about 1.2 inches per second. Rapid pulses of X-rays, each about a billionth of a second long, emerged from very close to where the tape was coming

"The power you could get from just peeling tape was enormous."

Juan Escobar | UCLA student

off the roll.

That's where electrons jumped from the roll to the sticky underside of the tape that was being pulled away, a journey of about two-thou-sandths of an inch, Escobar said. When those electrons struck the sticky side they slowed down, and that slowing made them emit X-rays.

So is this a health hazard for unsuspecting tape-peelers?

Escobar noted that no X-rays are produced in the presence of air. You need to work in a vacuum - not exactly an everyday situation.

ACORN still under investigation

House Republican leader wants group funds blocked until investigation is complete

By Jim Abrams

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON House Republican leader John Boehner urged President Bush yesterday to block all federal funds to a grass-roots community group that has been accused of voter registration fraud.

"It is evident that ACORN is incapable of using federal funds inamannerthatisconsistentwith the law," Boehner, R-Ohio, wrote Bush, saying that funds should be blocked until all federal investigations into the Association of Community Organizations for Reform Now are completed.

ACORN, a group that has led liberal causes since it was formed in 1970, this year hired more than 13,000 part-time workers to sign up voters in minority and poor neighborhoods in 21 states. Some of the 1.3 million registration cards submitted to local election officials, using the names of cartoon characters or pro football players, were obviously phony, spurring GOP charges of widespread misconduct.

ACORN has said it was its own quality-control workers who first noticed problem registration cards, flagged them and submit-

ted them to local election officials in every state that is now investigating them. To commit fraud, a per-

son would have to show up on Election Day with identification bearing the fake name. Local law enforcement agen-

cies in about a dozen states are investigating fake registrations submitted by ACORN workers and the FBI is reviewing those Boehner said his office had

determined that ACORN had received more than \$31 million in direct federal funding since 1998.

Smokers more prone to pneumococcal disease, panel suggests vaccine

By Mike Stobbe The Associated Press

ATLANTA - For the first time, an influential government panel is recommending a vaccination specifically for smokers.

The panel decided yesterday that adult smokers under 65 should get pneumococcal vac-cine. The shot — already recommended for anyone 65 or older — protects against bacteria that cause pneumonia, meningitis and other illnesses.

Federalofficialsusuallyadopt recommendations made by the panel, the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices. The vote means more than 31 million adult smokers probably will soon be called on to get the shot.

Studies have shown that smokers are about four times more likely than nonsmokers to suffer pneumococcal disease. Also, the more cigarettes someone smokes each day, the higher the odds they'll develop the illnesses.

Why smokers are more susceptible is not known for sure, but some scientists believe it has to do with smoking-caused damage that allows the bacteria to more easily attach to the lungs and windpipe, said Dr. Pekka Nuorti, a medical epi-demiologist with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Pneumococcal infections are considered the top killer among vaccine-preventable diseases. It's a common complication of influenza, especially in the elderly, and is considered responsible for many of the 36,000 annual deaths attributed to flu.

The committee voted 11 to 3 to pass the recommendation, with one member abstaining. The panel also added a call for smoking cessation counseling.

Some members said it might be more cost effective to recommend the vaccine for smokers who were at least age 40, because pneumococcal dis-ease is relatively uncommon in younger smokers. Others at the meeting made the same argu-

Dr. James Turner, who oversees student health programs

"I wonder how many young people are truly benefiting from this recommendation."

Dr. James Turner | Univ. of Virginia

at the University of Virginia, said about one in five college students smoke but he has never seen a case of serious pneumococcal disease in a student body.

"I wonder how many young people are truly benefiting from this recommendation, said Turner, speaking as a representative of the American College Health Association.

The shot is less than perfect. First licensed in 1983, it is designed to protect against 23 strains of pneumococcal bacteria. But it hasn't proved very effective against pneumonia, and hasn't been very effective in warding off other pneumococcal illnesses in people with weakened immune systems and people age 80 or older.

It's to be given to smokers as a one-time dose with no booster, but its protection drops off after five to 10 years.

Made by Merck & Co., it's sold under the trade name Pneumovax and costs about \$30 a dose.

A different vaccine - Wyeth's Prevnar, which came on the market in 2000 - is recommended for children under age 2, and for kids 2 to 5 with certain chronic conditions or who are at higher risk for illness.

Prevnar protects against seven strains of bacteria that were the most common causes of pneumococcal diseases at the time the vaccine was developed. But lately, those strains have stopped being important causes of illness. Experts have become concerned about dozens of other strains, including some that have flourished and become resistant to antibiot-

Wyeth has been developing a new vaccine. It is expected to present study data on it at a scientific meeting later this month, and to apply for government licensing approval early next year.

NATIONAL COLLEGIATE

ALCOHOL AWARENESS WEEK

SUNDAY OCT. 19TH - SATURDAY THE 25TH Stop by the Wellness Connection (170 Health Center) to pick up your own alcohol poisoning informational magnet.

ALCOHOL POISONING

SYMPTOMS

Person cannot be awakened.

Person has cold, clammy, pale or bluish skin.

Person has slow or irregular breathing.

Person is vomiting while passed out and does not wake up.

If any of these symptoms exist, CALL 911 IMMEDIATELY!

If a friend is intoxicated, take ACTION:

Check for signs of alcohol poisoning.

Do not leave your friend alone.

Do not put your friend to bed to sleep it off.

Turn your friend on his/her side to prevent choking in case of vomiting.

Remember it's "better to be safe than sorry" so get your friend help! Call 911 immediately.

I PLEDGE

To make responsible decisions if I choose to drink. To not drink and drive or allow my friends to drink and drive. To watch out for my friends and their safety. To call 911 if any indications of alcohol poisoning exist.

To not be angry if my friends seek help for me if I am in danger.

Wellness Connection & Coalition for Drug, Alcohol, & Sexual Offenses 419.372.9355 or www.bgsu.edu/wellness Adapted from BACCHUS and CHOICES

SIDELINES



WOMENS TENNIS Two players to play at ITA Invite

Senior Kelsey Jakupcin and sophomore Christine Chiricosta are participating in both singles and doubles at the ITA Invitational in East Lansing this week. Junior Samantha Kintzel is second on the alternate list for singles.

ONLINE The BG News Sports Blog

Be sure to log on to The **BG News Sports Blog for** continued updates on all BG sports. To go with updates, we also periodically have audio slideshows and videos. All this week, we will be covering the football preparation for NIU as well as posting our MAC Pick 'Em and more on Friday. www.bgnewssports.com

SCHEDULE

TODAY

Women's tennis: ITA Invitational at East Lansing

OUR CALL

Today in **Sports History**

1996-New York Yankees overcome six-run deficit to beat Braves 8-6 in World Series game.

1955—Dominican League switches to winter league play for the first time.

1931—Former Phillies pitcher and current politician Jim Bunning is born.

The List

While it is often overshadowed by fantasy football, it's getting close to fantasy basketball time. Today, e're listing the top player at each position for this fantasy season:

1. Chris Paul: Regarded by some as the top fantasy player going into the season, Paul is the number one point guard because he is expected to post big numbers in points,

assists and shot percentage. 2. Kobe Bryant:

Bryant is the top shooting guard coming into the year simply because he puts up big numbers all across the stat sheet.

3. LeBron James: The Cleveland forward gets better each year, and the fact that he is only 23 means there is plenty of room for him to do even more this season.

4. Dirk Nowitzki: The Dallas power forward can shoot at a high percentage and will grab his fair share of

5. Dwight Howard:

boards

Howard is a rebounding machine at center. Howard's only low point is his dismal free-throw percentage.



No giving up now

Men's soccer posts first win since September

By Jason Jones Reporter

The men's soccer team finally got things going in the right direction last night with one of their most impressive performance of the

entire season. Playing at home for the first time in over a month, the Falcons hosted Wright State and looked dominant from the start,

eventually winning 3-0. "It's nice to be back home, you've got your friends who come out and see you, and it helps a lot," head coach Fred Thompson said.

Just ten minutes into the game, the Falcons started applying the pressure on the WSU goalie Matt Koewler. Powered by a speedy Gavin Dozier, the offense spent time in and around the box for about four minutes. Then, in the 13th minute, a set piece turned into a loose



Ebling goal against

Scored the first Wright State



Thomas McLean Sophomore added the third goal for the Falcons

ball in front of the net. Cameron Hepple eventually gained control of the ball and kicked it across the grain to Chuko Evwaraye for his third goal of the season.

The offensive pressure didn't

See RECAP | Page 7

Lawrence helps anchor struggling team

By Jason Jones Reporter

Jacob Lawrence is throwback.

In a time where athletes pull out elaborate celebrations, don't own up to their own mistakes and are prone to making questionable decisions, Lawrence stands out. This season, the lengthy junior has emerged not only as a class act, but also as an unquestioned leader and arguably his team's best player.

"He's a key player to this team," head coach Fred Thompson said. 'We never have to worry about his performance.

Since joining the team as a freshman in 2006, Lawrence has stood out on the field and in the classroom. He started in 15 games as a freshman, and scored his first career goal in that year's Mid-American Conference tournament quarterfinal game against Western Michigan. In that same year he was named to the Falcon



ETHAN MAGOC | THE BG NEWS

MVP: Jacob Lawrence has two mament MVP awards this season

Invitational tournament and was awarded the Dr. Lee and Marge Meserve Academic Award.

During his sophomore year, Lawrence started all 19 games and excelled. He anchored a defense

that recorded four shutouts, the first time BG had had more than one in a season since 2003. He also showed a flash of offensive ability in a game against Florida Atlantic when he assisted on goals by both Thomas McLean and Chucko Evwaraye in a 2-0 win over the Owls. For his efforts athletically and academically he was awarded an Academic All-MAC at year's end.

Then came a three-game stretch earlier this season. The team traveled south to play in the Central Arkansas tournament. After coming from behind to defeat Centenary on the opening day of the tournament, the Falcons found themselves matched up against host school Central Arkansas for the title. The Falcons fell behind 1-0 early, before a late goal by Lawrence sent the game nto overtime. Then in the over-

See SOCCER | Page 7



CHRISTINA MCGINNIS | THE BG NEWS

SCORE: BG receiver Corey Partridge hauls in a touchdown pass from Tyler Sheehan against Miami

Healthy Partridge putting up big numbers

By Chris Voloschuk

Sports Editor

Partridge ly leads the Falcon football team in receptions, reception yards, punt return yards, has caught four touchdowns and ranks in the top 10 of the Mid-American Conference in

catches per game. Still, if he were to give himself a grade for his performance on the field this season, he'd probably only give himself a B.



Corey Partridge Has scored four touchdowns this

"I haven't played well enough to help us win at all costs, but as long as we come out and win I'm not really worried about how well I play, as long as I can do something to help the team out."

No matter what grade Partridge gives himself for the season, he earned an A+ for his efforts last week against Miami. He caught six passes for 73 yards and a touchdown. And when he wasn't lining up on the outside in the spread offense, he was returning three punts for 72 yards.

He's also earned high marks for his ability to play through

See COREY | Page 7

Ferguson finding early success as new Alaska coach

By Ethan Magoc

Reporter

Alaska-Fairbanks coach Dallas Ferguson was asked the standard job interview question, "Where do you see yourself five years from today?" his answer would be simple.

The same place he's at right now.

Ferguson became the program's eighth head coach in 30 years in May 2008 after Doc DelCastillo abdicated his posi-tion in April. DelCastillo, a 1995 St. Cloud State graduate, led the Nanooks to a disappointing ninth place finish in the Central Collegiate Hockey Association last season with an overall record of 9-21-5.

The former coach cited family issues, including the birth of his wife Sue's sixth child, as his reason for leaving the program. Only a year before, Tavis MacMillan had also resigned for personal reasons after a three-year head coaching career with the Nanooks.

But Ferguson said he thinks it will be much easier for him to establish a tenure with the pro-gram. The Fairbanks alumnus



Dallas Ferguson In his first year as Alaska-Fairbanks coach

had already lived in the town with his wife Tara and their two daughters while he was an assiscoach under MacMillan and then DelCastillo.

'My situation is a little bit different," Ferguson said at CCHA Media Day 2008. "My wife's family lives up there and I met my wife there, so Fairbanks is home to them, and it's been my home for the

last five or six years. The family-oriented Ferguson has been successful thus far in his short term as head coach in 2008-09, helping run the Nanooks' record to 2-1-1 and posting the league's best goals allowed average - just four

goals in four games.

Ferguson brings an impressive defensive résumé as a coach and former Nanook player, so

See HOCKEY | Page 7

SOCCER

From Page 6

time period, Lawrence connected for his second goal of the game, giving BG the win.

For his efforts in both tournament games, he was honored as the tournament's MVP. The day after the victory, the MAC recognized him as their Player of

The Falcons returned home the next week to host their own Falcon Invitational tournament. The opening game saw a long scoreless tie broken late in the second half when Lawrence headed in a shot, the third goal in a row for the Falcons scored by Lawrence.

"God blessed me with height, so I get to use my head as often as possible on corner kicks and set pieces," Lawrence said.

Two days later, the Falcons were upset by Saint Francis. In that game, though, Lawrence once again knocked in the Falcons' lone goal.

Despite the loss, BG still won the tournament by way of a tie breaker, and after the final game, Lawrence was awarded the tournament's MVP award for the second straight weekend.

Since that weekend, things have gone down hill for the Falcons.

"As much as I'm flattered to have such a great season, it would be nice to have a winning season at the same time," Lawrence said.

Through all of his success, Lawrence has managed to stay humble, and has never forgotten to put the team first. This, along with a number of other things, makes Lawrence valuable far beyond his impressive stat line.

He grew up in small Brandon, Miss., where soccer wasn't anywhere near the mainstream.

Soccer was definitely not that big in Mississippi, but luckily for me my high school had some players," Lawrence said.

Lawrence attended Saint Joseph Catholic High School. While there, he became a four-time letter winner while helping to bring home 1A-3A state championships in 2003, 2004 and 2005. Along with being named to the second team all-state team in 2004 and 2005, he was named his school's MVP after his senior season.

He was also a member of the Jackson Futbol Club from 1999 through 2006 and was a team captain, as his team won state titles in 2004 and 2005.

Still, after all of this success, he went virtually unnoticed by college coaches.

In 2006, Thompson traveled to Jackson to scout current Falcon Ahmad Smith. While he was there, Lawrence's club coach Shane Barden contacted him and suggested he come take a look at the

"When I recruited him he stuck out. He was a great defender, was tall and was scoring goals," Thompson said.

Following the visit Lawrence was offered a spot at Bowling Green. He took advantage of the opportuni-ty for both athletic and academic purposes. After changing his major around for the first two years of his schooling, he has decided to major in interpersonal communications. while minoring in both psychology and film. To this point, he remains slightly uncertain about what he would like to do with his degree,



BRANDON HEISS | THE BG NEWS

ASSIST: Lawrence makes assists on and off the field, including returning a BG1 card to a freshman last year.

but did manage to shed some light

"I might get my bachelor's, my master's and then a Ph.D. and become a college professor. I can see myself enjoying the teaching field." Lawrence said.

A career in helping other people learn seems to be the perfect fit for Lawrence, who is always helping

Last year, a University freshman named Sheena Dicob lost her BG1 Cardin Founders Hall, and Lawrence found it. Instead of not bothering to take the time to return it, or using it for his own benefit, Lawrence actually went online and found Dicob to alert her that he had found her card.

"I was freaking out because I figured someone had found it and spent my money and I was going to have to pay for a new one," Dicob

Lawrence delivered the card to her the day after finding it, calling it a simple act of "southern hospi-

"That stuff can be a hassle, so I'm sure she appreciated it," Lawrence said.

At the conclusion of an interview, Lawrence let slip what he hoped would happen after this story appeared in The BG News, and it wasn't what most would expect.

"Hopefully my mom will read this and decide to make the trip up to

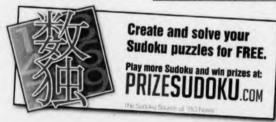
see me play again," Lawrence said. That would be good news for the Falcons, because the last time Angela Lawrence watched them play, her son started his scorching hot three-game streak.

One thing that is for sure is that his mother, Dicob and BGSU have all found someone they can appreciate.

SUDOKU To play: Complete the grid so that every row, column and every 3 x 3 box contains the digits 1 to 9. There is no guessing or math involved. Just use logic to solve

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RECAP

subside there however. In the 21st minute, with the Falcons once again laying the pressure on the WSU defense, Dusko Topolic found the bar again, narrowly missing what would have been his first goal of the season.

Moments later the Falcons would out the ball in the back of the net, but have it negated by an offsides penalty.

Soon after that, Dozier got the ball on a breakaway but couldn't finish as Koewler knocked the ball away with a slide at the top of the box.

Finally, in the 30th minute, BG's pressure paid off for the second time of the night. The Falcons found themselves in great position to score once again, and this time Byard Ebling delivered off an assist from Dozier for his second

goal of the season. "Maybe a little extra, added energy and excitement went on today," Thompson said.

In the second half, the Falcons looked to put their foot on the proverbial throat of WSU.

'Sometimes teams can feel that they can come back from down 2-0, but it's very hard to come back from down 3-0," Thompson said.

In the 68th minute, that became the harsh reality for WSU as BG's Thomas McLean blasted in a shot from roughly 30 yards away, providing the game with an exclamation point that sucked the life out of WSU.

Taking a back seat to the offen-sive explosion, but no less important was the play of goalie Brent Petkus. Starting in only his second game of the season, Petkus made six saves, while recording the shutout.

Late in the game, while feeling the pressure of the WSU offense, Petkus made a diving save to his right.

His most impressive save however came when he deflected a shot high into the air, then made a quick save off the rebound shot.

"He was very composed and calm in there, even at the times where it looked like we could have panicked, we didn't," Thompson said.

That may have something to do with his willingness to communicate from the goalie position, something that both Thompson and Petkus identified as one of his biggest strengths at Tuesday's practice.

The Falcons will now look to gain momentum as they head into the final stretch of their season. They'll travel to Dekalb, Ill. on Saturday, then return home for their final two home games of the season against Michigan State and Buffalo.

They had a strong finish in 2007 and at this point show no evidence as to why they won't again in 2008.

COREY

pain. Even though Partridge, like many of his teammates, is banged up from the grind of the regular season, he's managed to put together his healthiest season yet as a collegian.

The fifth-year senior from Loveland, Ohio, has sustained a number of injuries throughout his time at BG that have caused him to miss playing time. In 2005, he played in 10 games despite a nagging shoulder injury. In 2006, he missed the first two games of the season with a knee injury. And last year, he suffered an ankle injury and missed the last five games of the season.

This year, he hasn't missed a start, and he's figured out ways to keep himself healthy enough to keep producing at a high level on Saturdays. In fact, staying healthy was Partridge's main goal for this season.

'Getting enough sleep is the main thing," Partridge said. Get to sleep early and get your rest. Then come in every day and get your treatment with Doug Boersma, our trainer, and just do what you can to take care of your body. And try to avoid situations on the field where you could be in a possible injury situation. That's at least what I try to do."

"I haven't [stayed healthy]," he

added. "This would be the first year of my career, if I can pull it off. When you miss a week or sit out a couple of weeks, you feel like you lose touch of everything that's going on. It feels good to be involved and lead this team every week."

Last Saturday's game against Mimai was the anniversary of when Partridge went down with his ankle injury last year. And he not only played the entire game, but played extremely well at the receiver and punt returner spots.

With just under two minutes to go in the first half, operating in Miami territory and trailing 14-3, BG called a timeout to set up the rest of the drive. On the very first play after, quarterback Tyler Sheehan dropped back and threw a near picture-perfect pass to Partridge in the right corner of the end zone for a 29-yard touch-down. The TD ensured that, at 14-10, the Falcons wouldn't be too far behind entering the

In the early parts of the

third quarter, Partridge made perhaps his biggest play of the afternoon when he fielded a Jake Richardson punt at the BG 16, found a hole to his right and turned on the jets, sprinting up the right sideline for 73 yards to the Miami 11. The great field position would ultimately lead to a touchdown that temporarily put the Falcons ahead on the BRANDON HEISS | THE BG NEWS

VERSATILE: Not only has Corey Partridge gained ground via the receiving game, he has

so given the Falcons a steady punt returner with a long return of 73 yards.

Sheehan said it was only a matter of time until Partridge broke off a long return.

"He did a great job of making people miss and showing off his speed," Sheehan said. "He always tells me he's lost a step or two because of his age and his knees and things, but that's the fastest I've seen him in a long time. It's great to see that.'

With his steady play all season as the offense's go-to receiver, Partridge has made life difficult for opposing defenses. In his healthiest year as a part of the Falcon football program, he's

made life a little easier for his

Head coach Gregg Brandon had nothing but praise for his senior captain.

'For a kid that doesn't practice much during the week because he's just so beat up, he shows up on Saturdays and just does a great job," Brandon said. "He's a warrior. He's a competitor. He wants to practice and he's earned his stripes. He shows up and he's making plays for us. That's what we need, and that's what we ask him to do.

Not bad for a guy who'd only give himself a B.

HOCKEY

that early season stat comes as no surprise. He coached Alaska's penalty-killing unit in 2005 when it killed 88 percent of penalties, third best in the nation.

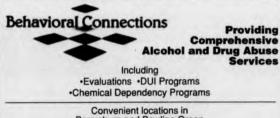
BG coach Scott Paluch said he is not surprised at all with his weekend coaching opponent's early success.

"They have some good young players and Dallas is a good

"They're going to be a tough opponent on the road for us to start our league play against."

Scott Paluch | BG coach

coach," Paluch said. "They're going to be a tough opponent on the road for us to start our league play against."



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NASHANUDDIN KHAN | AP PHOTO ON THE LOOKOUT: An Afghan soldier stands near the site which was bombed by a U.S.-led coalition airstrike.

U.S. makes a costly mistake

By Amir Shah

The Associated Press

KABUL, Afghanistan - A U.S.led coalition airstrike hit an Afghan army checkpoint yesterday, killing nine soldiers, Afghan officials said. The American military acknowledged that its forces may have "mistakenly" killed allied troops.

The U.S. acknowledged that its forces "may have mistakenly killed and injured" Afghan sol-diers in what may have been a case of mistaken identity "on both sides." The deaths come as Afghan President Hamid Karzai presses international forces to avoid airstrikes in civilian areas.

Arsallah Jamal, the province's governor, said the Afghan soldiers died at a fixed army checkpoint in a region where American and Afghan troops have been conducting operations for over a week. Gen. Mohammad Zahir Azimi, the Defense Ministry spokesman, confirmed nine soldiers died and three were wounded in the airstrike in the Sayed Kheil area of Khost province in eastern Afghanistan.

"As a Coalition forces convoy was returning from a previous operation, they were involved in multiple engagements," a U.S. military statement said. "As a result of the engagements, ANA [Afghan army] soldiers were killed and injured."

Col. Greg Julian, the chief spokesman for U.S. troops in Afghanistan, said American officials would meet with Afghan defense officials to "sort out the details."

In June 2007, Afghan police mistook U.S. troops on a nighttime mission for Taliban fighters and opened fire on them, prompting U.S. forces to return fire and call in attack aircraft. Seven Afghan police were killed.

In the last month, uni-formed Afghan police officers have twice opened fire on U.S. troops, killing two soldiers. The police officers were killed by U.S. soldiers returning fire, but the incidents raised fears that insurgents have infiltrated Afghanistan's security forces as a cover to launch attacks.

In the country's southern Uruzgan province, a two-day battle that ended early yesterday killed 35 Taliban fighters and three Afghan police, said Juma Gul Himat, Uruzgan's provincial police chief.

Himat said the battle was led by Afghan forces but also involved helicopter gunships. Afghan forces recovered 35 bodies from the battlefield, he said. Some 100 Taliban fighters were involved in the battle.

Bus advertisements soon to spread atheist beliefs to all

By Jill Lawless

The Associated Press

LONDON-London buses have God on their side - but not for long, if atheists have their way.

The sides of some of London's red buses will soon carry ads asserting there 'is "probably no God," as nonbelievers fight what they say is the preferential treatment given to religion in British society.

Organizers of a campaign to raise funds for the ads said yesterday they received more than \$113,000 in donations, almost seven times their target, in the hours since they launched the project on a charity Web site. Supporters include Oxford University biologist Richard Dawkins, who donated \$9,000.

The money will be used to place posters on 30 buses carrying the slogan "There's probably no God. Now stop worrying and enjoy your life." The plan was to run the ads for four weeks starting in January, but so much money has been raised that the project may be expanded.

"A lot of people say trying to organize atheists is like herding cats. The last couple of days shows that is not true," said comedy writer Ariane Sherine, who started the campaign.

While most London buses carry posters for shops or Hollywood movies, Christian churches and Muslim groups have bought bus-side ad space in the past.

Sherine came up with the idea after seeing a series of Christian posters on London

"Atheists believe that this is the only life we have, and we should enjoy it."

Ariane Sherine | Comedy Writer

buses. She said she visited the Web site promoted on one ad and found it told nonbelievers they would spend eternity in torment in hell.

"I thought it would be a really positive thing to counter that by putting forward a much happier and more upbeat advert, saying 'Don't worry, you're not going to hell," said Sherine, 28. "Atheists believe this is the only life we

have, and we should enjoy it."

The British Humanist
Association, which is administering the fundraising drive, said it had been so successful the campaign might spread to other cities including Manchester and Edinburgh.
Most Britons identify them-

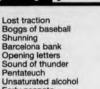
selves as Christians, but few attend church regularly, and public figures rarely talk about their beliefs. Former Prime Minister Tony Blair was rare among politicians in speaking openly about his Christian faith.

Dawkins, author of the bestselling atheist manifesto "The God Delusion," said that religion nonetheless held a privieged position in society.

Religious organizations have an automatic tax-free charitable status," he said.

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Early neonate ZZZ letters

11 Of a pelvic bone 12 Jocularity 13 Sailing 18 Colorful tropical fish

Ingests
Pilgrimage destination
Up to
3100 Cash for security

Boxing letters
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others 38 Numerical endings 39 Dawn Chong and

Ferber or Buchanar Tax return info Gun in old slang 65 Gun in old slang 67 Achieved victory

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55 Like Jack Sprat's die
57 Milton of Uganda
60 Fictional sleuth Wolfe

ACROSS

- 1 Sailor's mop 5 Takes steps 9 Donna lead-in 14 Volcano output 15 Record spoiler 16 Kindled anew

- 17 Start of quip 19 U.A.E. rulers 20 Remove the rime 21 Break down, as a sentence 23 Had lunch
- Accomplishes, Biblical-style
- Part 2 of quip Advanced deg. Baloney! Reclined
- 32 Reclined
 33 Part 3 of quip
 36 Epistle
 40 Isinglass
 41 Bumpkin
 43 Greek letter
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- 43 Greek letter 44 White-collar worker?

72 Collar or Jacke 73 Those, to Jose

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52 Part 5 of quip 56 Long or hot finish? 58 ETs' transportation 59 Synthetic fabric 61 Certain wind instrum 64 Overcharge 66 End of quip 68 Tapestry in "Hamlet" 69 Poi source

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Mass grave site found near the Syrian border

Remains believed to be lragi army recruits

> By Robert H. Reid The Associated Press

BAGHDAD — Iraqi officials yesterday reported finding mass graves with remains of 34 people, most believed to have been Iraqi army recruits waylaid three years ago by al-Qaida gunmen as they traveled to a training base near the Syrian border.

Farmers tipped off authorities last week about the graves, located in the Euphrates River valley near Syria about 200 miles northwest of Baghdad, according to a local mayor, Farhan Fitaghan.

FitaghantoldTheAssociated Press that two of the remains were women.

Most of the victims were believed to have been army recruits from the southern Shiite city of Karbala who were traveling by bus in September 2005 to a training camp in an abandoned phosphate plant in Qaim when they were stopped by gunmen and taken away, the mayor said. "We informed the Karbala

authorities and invited their families to come and identify their relatives," said Fitaghan, the mayor of Qaim. "We held an official funeral procession today and paid all expenses to send the coffins to Karbala.'

At the time, most Sunnis in the western province of Anbar refused to join the mostly Shiite army and police, forcing authorities to recruit volunteers from Shiite areas to the east and south.

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THE BG NEWS

HALLOWEENFUN UNASKED





The evolution of Halloween, from the Celts to candy corn

SCOTT RECKER SPECIAL SECTIONS EDITOR "The answer dates back approximately 2,000 years ago with the Celts ... [who] celebrated the new year on Nov. 1, which marked the end of their summer season and harvest."

For several hundred years Halloween has been a fun-loving, traditional and rather eerie holiday in the United States.

In recent years, Halloween has allowed children to obtain free candy, has given college students another reason to seek inebriation, has let adults hand out sweets to the neighborhood kids and, maybe most notably, has given reason for anyone to take on an alter ego. But where do these traditions come from and what is the significance of our actions on this quite strange holiday?

The answer dates back approximately 2,000 years ago with the Celts, who lived in what is now known as Ireland, the United Kingdom and northern France. The people of this region at this particular time in history celebrated the new year on Nov. 1, which marked the end of their summer season and harvest.

Many Celts associated the cold, harsh winter with death and believed on the night of Oct. 31, the boundaries between the worlds of the living and the dead were fused into one, and the ghosts of the dead were given

another chance to walk the earth.

The Celts referred to this tradition as Samhain, and priests constructed massive bonfires in which it was customary to sacrifice crops and animals to the divine powers they worshiped. During these activities, participants wore costumes- usually animal heads and skin- and attempted to reveal the fortunes of their friends.

Christianity spread into Celtic lands around 800 A.D., Pope Boniface IV named Nov. 1 All Saints Day, and many people today believe by doing so he tried to transition the holiday into a more church sanctioned event.

Eventually around 1000 A.D. the Christian church named Nov. 2 All Souls Day to honor the dead, and the trio of consecutive holidays became known as Hallowmas.

When European immigrants came to America in mass quantities, the tradition of Halloween followed.

Although the Protestant belief system in some parts of early America greatly limited the celebration of Halloween, by the

middle of the nineteenth century Halloween tradition had once again regained popularity.

The Irish Potato famine of 1846 resulted in numerous new immigrants flooding into American boarders, which helped popularize Halloween in America.

Inspired by Irish and English traditions, Americans began to dress up in costumes and go to neighborhood doorsteps asking for food and money, equivalent to the modern day "trick-or-treat" tradition.

Late in the 1800's, Americans decided that the holiday would become less about witchcraft and mischievous activities and would focus more on community parties, which included games, food and costumes.

Around the beginning of the twentieth century, community leaders and publications encouraged parents to help take anything "grotesque" out of Halloween, which made the holiday lose much religious meaning and the Halloween became more of a secular and commercialized holiday.

Editor's note: This information was found on History.com.

Alice and The Man in Tan: ghostly residents on campus

The University theater ghosts are embraced by theater patrons

By Kristen Vasas

City Editor

With Halloween right around the corner, images of Casper the friendly ghost run rampant on both TV screens and storefront windows.

But for University theater students, the hauntings of the Joe E. Brown and Eva Maria Saint Theaters are sometimes anything but friendly.

Although much of the histories of the hauntings are based on rumor and speculation, those students who have experienced the supernatural within the theater sets believe their experiences are real.

For stage manager Hillary Gibson, the feeling and general nature of the theater has caused her to believe in the spirits haunting both the sets and the behindthe-scenes areas of the stage.

"I've never personally experienced anything, but I'm not closed off to the idea that there are not things out there," Gibson said. "Everyone tells stories here and that's going to have an affect [on people]."

Of the ghosts that haunt the theaters, "Alice" is the most commonly known among the students that frequent the Eva Maria Saint Theater.

Although the background story of Alice is unknown, there are multiple traditions stage managers follow in order to appease the finicky spirit.

According to Gibson, when seats were assigned for performances in the Eva Maria Saint Theater, a seat would always be saved on the house right aisle for Alice.

"Things tend to go wrong when the traditions aren't followed," Gibson said. "She gets mad or unhappy, so you do what she wants so things go well during the show."

Also, the night before the show

during the final dress rehearsal, the stage manager is required to invite Alice to the show personally, stage manager Julia Findling said.

"You have to be alone, in the dark and stand in the middle of the stage with the ghost light to invite her," Findling said. "You do it so nothing happens to your show, even if you don't believe."

But Alice isn't the only ghost supposedly residing within the theaters.

According to Gibson, a male ghost known as "The Man in Tan" haunts the hat room off stage right in the Joe E. Brown Theater.

And though any factual information on the ghost is unknown, rumor has it that The Man in Tan was once a janitor who worked at the University.

"The story says that he would make sure girls working at the theater would get home safe every night," Gibson said. "One night, he wasn't there and a girl supposedly got raped and assaulted."

To this day, female theater students often comment on the welcoming feeling they experience upon entering the hat room, while boys say the opposite, Gibson said.

And though no actual evidence exists to prove that the University theaters are haunted, Harold St. John, founder of the Toledo Ghost Hunters Society, is willing to bring his team of paranormal investigators to the theaters in order to solve the mystery.

The team — which is consists of co-founder Butch Leon, lead investigator Chris St. John, Photographer Fred Finneske and any volunteer members — make it their job to actually debunk rather than reinforce occurrences that are not supernatural.

"If I can recreate it, than it's not paranormal, it's normal," St. John said. "We want to bring back a scientific outcome to whoever called us.

Using still-shot cameras, video cameras and temperature gauges, the team gathers information that can be used to either prove or disprove a haunting.

Typically, the TGHS will look for EVPs, or electronic voice phenomena, as well as full-body apparitions and unexplainable temperature changes as signs of a paranormal haunting.

And though St. John said he will not tell a client a site is haunted without proof that cannot be explained in a scientific manner, he believes that ghosts and hauntings do exist whether we believe in them or not.

"Do I believe in hauntings? Yes." Do I believe in energies? Yes," St. John said. "I believe everything has a spirit and a soul to it. You just have to open your mind and see."









The evolution of Halloween, from the Celts to candy corn "The answer dates back approximately 2,000"

SCOTT RECKER SPECIAL SECTIONS EDITOR

For several hundred years Halloween has been a fun-loving, traditional and rather eerie holiday in the United States.

In recent years, Halloween has allowed children to obtain free candy, has given college students another reason to seek inebriation, has let adults hand out sweets to the neighborhood kids and, maybe most notably, has given reason for anyone to take on an alter ego. But where do these traditions come from and what is the significance of our actions on this quite strange holiday?

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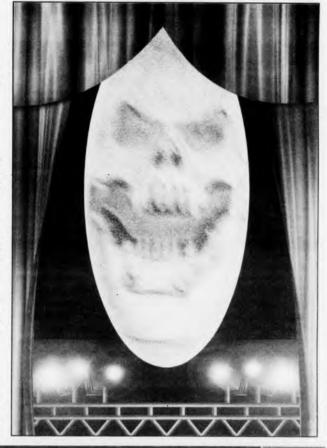
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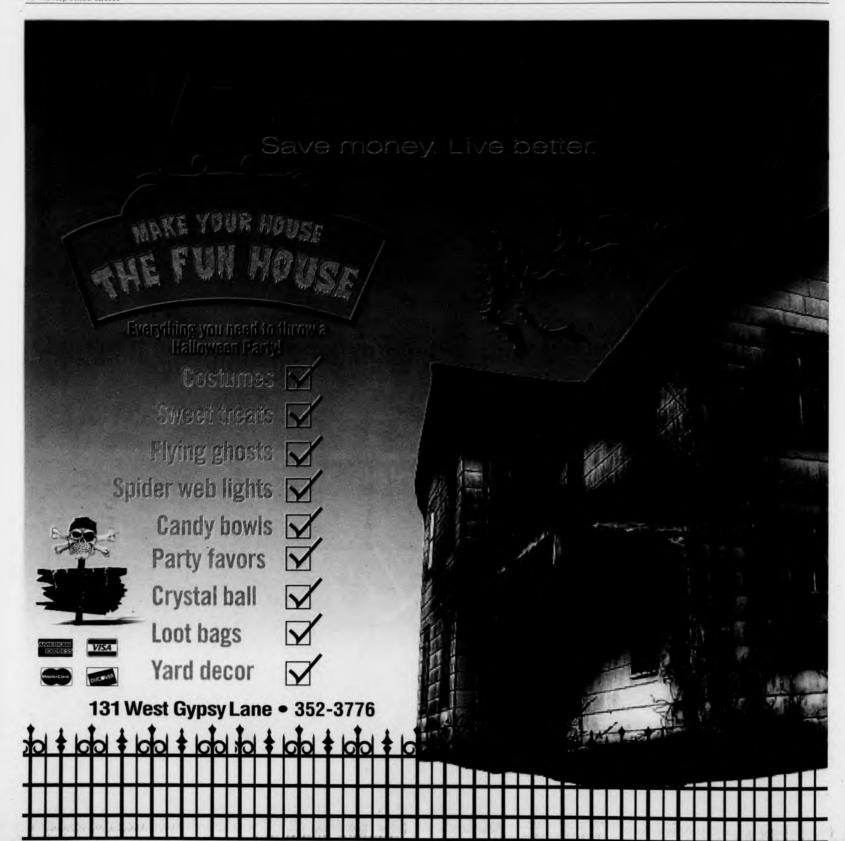
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Less clothing may mean more sexy

Traditional costumes with an adult twist make their return this Halloween season

By Alissa O'Neil

Reporter

A bumblebee. A cat. A bunny. All of these costumes are popular choices for little kids on Halloween. However, these costumes are also making their way into the adult Halloween world with a more grown-up look to them.

Dressing scandalously seems to be a big part of Halloween now for girls of college age and older. Costumes such as the bumblebee, cat and bunny have been redesigned for this target market with less fabric and more sex appeal.

Roz Sibielski, an American Culture Studies grad student at the University specializing in Girl Culture, said this is not a new phenomenon among women, and there are examples dating back at least thirty years, if not more.

"Certainly for many people the point of Halloween is to dress like you would not normally," Sibielski said. "I think for young women right now, too, there's an idea in the culture that in order to be empowered you have to highlight your sexuality in certain ways.'

Stores selling Halloween costumes would seem to agree with Sibielski. Halloween USA has part of the back wall in their store devoted entirely to scandalous costumes for women. In addition, national chains such as Hot Topic and Wet Seal have also added a selection of costumes for women to their normal stock around Halloween.

Senior Sara Houlihan thinks these stores play a big role in the fact that many women choose to dress scandalously for Halloween.

"It seems very driven by the Halloween store industry, if you look at the costumes offered." Houlihan said.

Arreal Green is an assistant manager at the Wet Seal store at Fallen Timbers in Maumee which is car-

rying Halloween costumes for the first time. While the costumes have been selling, Green doesn't necessarily agree with the decision to sell that particular kind of merchan-

"It's not that I don't like the fact that we sell them," Green said. "We have a girls room with clothes for younger girls and we sell candy at our register and stuff like that, so I just think it's very contradictory that we also sell those costumes."

Sibielski said that the popularity of these costumes has a definite impact on how women are viewed and what is expected and thought of when people think of Halloween.

"If we only expect women to wear sexy Halloween costumes, it reduces women to merely sex objects as society looks at them," Sibielski said.

From a guy's perspective this is exactly the message girls are sending on Halloween. Sophomore Dave Beck said that, as a guy, he supports women dressing scandalously for Halloween.

"I mean anytime a lady shows off her skin, guys are going to look," Beck said. "Now we have a reason to stare, we're trying to guess what

As for the message girls are sending with their costume choice, Beck believes guys find it pretty obvious.

"Well obviously a guy at first glance would think that if she dresses like that, she obviously is trying to score," Beck commented. "And then for Halloween he thinks he's probably got a good shot at

Beck's opinion is that girls are dressing this way specifically for the male attention, as a way to improve self-esteem.

"In today's society, it all comes down to being wanted," Beck said. "What easier way to be wanted then to get everyone to look at you?"

WOMEN'S TOP TEN HALLOWEEN COSTUMES

Nurse

2. Devil

French Maid



Airplane Stewardess

School Girl



Marilyn Monroe

Cheerleader



Police Woman

Secretary



Riding Hood

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Traditional costumes with an adult twist make their return this Halloween season

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2. Devil



4 Airplane Stewardess

School Girl 5



6 Police Woman

7 Secretary

8 Marilyn Monroe

Cheerleader



10 Little Red Riding Hood

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Freddy's favorite feastings of fall

Acorn Squash

My mom got me hooked on it when I was young. I never appreciated acorn squash fully until I recognized how easy it are to prepare. It truly is my number one comfort food. I have provided the basic cooking directions, but I encourage you to take full advantage of the squash's ability to go well with just about anything. I ALWAYS add butter and brown sugar. It will be hard to go wrong here, add whatever you think sounds good. Some items I have tried: Cayenne pepper, honey, maple syrup, yogurt, crushed walnuts, dried cranberries, raisins, cinnamon, wild rice.

> Directions: Cut squash in half, ends on top. Preheat oven to 425 F. Coat baking sheet with no stick cooking spray or butter.

Place squash halves cut-side down — looks like domes, not dishes. Bake for about 30 minutes, then place each half in a bowl. Mix in selected ingredients while scraping walls of squash with a fork.



Chili

Nothing compares to a hot bowl of chili anchored with a corn muffin and a big plopper of sour cream. It's really hard to mess up chili, so any discrepancies are usually centered around how spicy it is. I like my chili pretty spicy with a burn that keeps you craving more. My top three places in BG to get a good bowl are.

1. Call of the Canvon - the bowls are HUGE! 2. Jed's - great jalapeño and bacon corn muffins 3. Wendy's - it's cheap, fast, and gives me gas



Pumpkin Spice Latte

I'm a coffee drinker - black, maybe a little cream on occasion. don't do the fou-fou specialty drinks - soy latte, white chocolate mochaccino, orange mocha frappuccino. etc... But I am a sucker for Hot Chocolate. And pumpkin pie. Whoever doesn't crave pumpkin pie this time of year is nuts. Drinking a pumpkin spice latte is like drinking a pumpkin pie. It's simply amazing. It's hot chocolate and pumpkin pie in one. Autumn may be the only time I can be caught at Starbucks.

PHOTOS 1, 3, 4 | FREDDY HUNT PHOTOS 2 & 5 | SXCHU



3. Sweet Potatoes Forget sweet potato pie, forget

candied yams and forget the marshmallow toppings: sweet potatoes are already sweet enough! Preheat your oven to 400 F ands slice your sweet potatoes into 3/4 inch rounds. Place rounds on a baking pan and cook for about 20 minutes. Next, flip your rounds over, sprinkle lightly with either salt, cinnamon or cayenne pepper and cook for another 15 minutes.



ure you can buy them anytime, but they taste much better straight off the tree down the road. Apple cider, caramel apples, apple turnovers, pies, apple butter and apple sauce: it all tastes like fall to me. The Melrose is Ohio's official apple variety. It's large with yellow/green skin and streaks of deep red. and is especially good for cooking. Other varieties native to Northwest Ohio nclude: Winesap, Golden Delicious, Gold Rush, Empire, Rome and Gano.





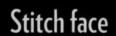
love autumn for the colors: the mild tones of brown, red and orange. The leaves aren't changing colors because they're dying, they're ripening. I love autumn for the weather, because a hot cup of coffee never tastes better when in perfect sweater weather. I love Autumn for the smells: catching whiffs of winter in the cool air, or a distant bonfire. But I especially love autumn for the tastes. And when I think of autumn, I think of harvest. I think of cornucopias bursting with bounty. I think of warm, comfortable treats that leave me cozy and content to the core. Here are five of my favorite Fall feastings.

THE CUTTING EDGE

These jack-o'-lanterns just got a facelift

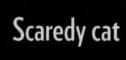


The graveyard





The patriot







Fright flight

'Trick or Vote'

By Jonathan K. Sims U-Wire

On Oct. 31 costumes will be donned and the streets of Birmingham, Ala., will be filled with ghosts, goblins and all sorts of ghouls seeking candy.

When answering the door this year, however, you may be reminded about another important event that is taking place just four days after Halloween. These tricksters are not assaulting your door for candy but to remind you to go to the polls and cast your vote on Nov. 4.

This event, Trick or Vote, is a nonpartisan campaign being held across the nation, and sponsored in the Southeast by the organization Empower Alabama.

As a nonpartisan campaign, meaning that they have no formal affiliation with either political party, the only goal is to get young people involved in the electoral process.

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Latino Heritage Month

Celebrating the Unique History and Traditions of the Latino Culture.

INSIDE:

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Letter from the Editor:

ello, my name is Richard Autry and I am the returning editor-in-chief of The Obsidian for the 2008-09 school year. In this issue, we will celebrate the unique culture of Latino Americans, Latino Heritage Month takes place from September 15th to October 15th. The reason for this is because it celebrates the independence of five Latin American countries, which include Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua. The influence Latino culture has had on this country is astounding. From language, science, food, music, it would take more than the space I am allowed in this letter to fully explain. But I hope this issue will provide the reader an in-depth view of this. Though Latino Heritage Month was last month, it should be celebrated year round. As Americans, we should be encouraged to learn the diverse culture of the U.S. After you read this issue, we hope you walk away having learned something. To learn more about the Latino culture, one can join the Latino Student Union. They are open to all and encourage many to learn about their unique heritage. In addition to joining LSU, one may visit a museum or any other resource that teaches Latino heritage. Also in this issue, we detail Ramadan, an Islamic holiday. The reader may also learn from members of the LGBT community their perspective of what "coming out" means to them. I hope you enjoy this issue. Thanks.

P.S. If anyone enjoyed this issue and would like to get involved this year, please email me at rautry@bgnet.bgsu.edu Genand Auty

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YASA MALAKPO



INDIA HUNTER

What Do You Love about Your Latino Heritage?

CAMPUS VIEW



NATHAN OLMEDA **Human Development Family** Studies Major. Senior

"Since I've been in college, it's that familia is at its center. When I talk about family in Latino culture I say familia instead of family because I think it means something different Latino and we will accept to Latinos. We have to have each other's back, we have to bring each other up, we have to be supportive, and pray for one another. It's more than being tied by blood. It's a spiritual connection and I love that



MICHAEL MARTINEZ **Engineering Technology** Major. Senior

"It's so broad. You can go from the darkest of darks to the lightest of light and because of that we are inclusive of everybody. You don't even have to be you as family because that is the way we were brought up. It's a family culture."



ALEX AYBAR Interpersonal Communication Major.

"Importance of family. I feel like I can't judge other cultures and their family, but I was always taught to have a strong emphasis on family. If we grew up together we're family. My friends are family. Latinos are very family oriented. We look out for each other."



NAOMI VALDEZ School of Communication Studies, BG Alum

"The people are really loving and caring. When you first meet Latino's they'll greet you with consistent hugs."



AMANDA BARRERA Interpersonal Communication Major.

Senior

"The food, It's delicious, My mom used to have a Mexican catering company and she always made excellent food. It's a wonder I'm not 500 pounds!"



IVONNE MENDOZA Criminal Justice Major Junior

"Sense of family and closeness"



CYNTHIA MALDONADO Freshman

"The beauty of the culture, people and language. I love being a part of that!"

LATIN-AMERICAN INFLUENCE ON U.S.

JANEL WILLIAMS Staff Writer

atino heritage has made an influence on America in music, food and beliefs. One area that Latino has made an impact on America is music. Latino music is influenced by European colonization and Africa. Latin rhythms consist of habanera, bolero, samba, bossa noua, tango, and mariachi. Latino music has expanded and made an impact in America, such as talented artists. Talented singer Selena Quintanilla-Perez made a huge impact on America. Selena, the "Queen of Tejano or Mexican Madonna," is a Grammy Winner for Best -American Album for her 1993 album called "Live." In addition to Selena becoming a Grammy winner, she also became the first Tejano artist to achieve an album going gold.

Besides Latin music, Latinos have influenced the culture of food, Latino culture has introduced many dishes to the U.S. According to the Food Network, one of Latinos famous dish is Carbonada, which consists of a beef stew, rice, sweet potatoes, potatoes, squash, corn, pears, and apples. Additionally, Latino has another dish

called "Empanadas," which has meat, cheese, vegetables, cheese, pastries filled with seafood and fruit. These dishes are only just two of the many dishes of Latino food.

Religion is very important to Latino culture. Roman Catholicism is the primary religion of this group. Roman Catholicism had a large influence in the U.S in 2001 due to 24 percent of Americans identifying themselves as Catholic. Roman Catholicism is the largest Christian religion in America. Overall, Latino culture has greatly influenced the United States

Latino heritage has made an influence on America in music, food and beliefs.









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Letter from the Editor:

ello, my name is Richard Autry and I am the returning editor-in-chief of The Obsidian for the 2008-09 school year. In this issue, we will celebrate the unique culture of Latino Americans. Latino Heritage Month takes place from September 15th to October 15th. The reason for this is because it celebrates the independence of five Latin American countries, which include Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua. The influence Latino culture has had on this country is astounding. From language, science, food, music, it would take more than the space I am allowed in this letter to fully explain. But I hope this issue will provide the reader an in-depth view of this. Though Latino Heritage Month was last month, it should be celebrated year round. As Americans, we should be encouraged to learn the diverse culture of the U.S. After you read this issue, we hope you walk away having learned something. To learn more about the Latino culture, one can join the Latino Student Union. They are open to all and encourage many to learn about their unique heritage. In addition to joining LSU, one may visit a museum or any other resource that teaches Latino heritage. Also in this issue, we detail Ramadan, an Islamic holiday. The reader may also learn from members of the LGBT community their perspective of what "coming out" means to them. I hope you enjoy this issue. Thanks.

P.S. If anyone enjoyed this issue and would like to get involved this year, please email me at rautry@bgnet.bgsu.edu

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AUSTIN MORRIS



BIANCA HART



INDIA HUNTER

What Do You Love about Your Latino Heritage?

CAMPUS VIEW



NATHAN OLMEDA Human Development Family Studies Major. Senior

"Since I've been in college, it's that familia is at its center. When I talk about family in Latino culture I say familia instead of family because I think it means something different Latino and we will accept to Latinos. We have to have each other's back, we have to bring each other up, we have to be supportive, and pray for one another. It's more than being tied by blood. It's a spiritual connection and I love that the most."



MICHAEL MARTINEZ **Engineering Technology** Major. Senior

"It's so broad. You can go from the darkest of darks to the lightest of light and because of that we are inclusive of everybody. You don't even have to be you as family because that is the way we were brought up. It's a family culture."



ALEX AYBAR Interpersonal Communication Major. Senior

"Importance of family. I feel like I can't judge other cultures and their family, but I was always taught to have a strong emphasis on family. If we grew up together we're family. My friends are family. Latinos are very family oriented. We look out for each other."



NAOMI VALDEZ School of Communication Studies, BG Alum

"The people are really loving and caring. When you first meet Latino's they'll greet you with consistent hugs.



AMANDA BARRERA Interpersonal Communication Major. Senior

"The food. It's delicious. My mom used to have a Mexican catering company and she always made excellent food. It's a wonder I'm not 500 pounds!"



IVONNE MENDOZA Criminal Justice Major Junior

"Sense of family and closeness"



CYNTHIA MALDONADO Freshman

"The beauty of the culture, people and language. I love being a part of that!"

LATIN-AMERICAN INFLUENCE ON U.S.

JANEL WILLIAMS Staff Writer

atino heritage has made an influence on America in music, food and beliefs. One area thar Latino has made an impact on America is music. Latino music is influenced by European colonization and Africa. Latin rhythms consist of habanera, bolero, samba, bossa noua, tango, and mariachi. Latino music has expanded and made an impact Falented singer Sclena Quintanilla-Perez made a bage impact on America. Selena, the "Queen of Teams or Mexican Madonna," is a Grammy Winner for Best-American Album for her 1993. album called "Live." In addition to Selena becoming a Grammy-winner, to achieve an album going gold.

Besides Latin music, Latinos have influenced the culture of food, Latino culture has introduced many dishes to the U.S. According to the Food Network, one of Latinos famous dish is Carbonada, which consists of a beef stew, rice, sweet potatoes, potatoes, squash, corn, pears, and apples. Additionally, Latino has another dish

called "Empanadas." which has meat, cheese, vegetables, cheese, pastries filled with seafood and fruit. These dishes are only just two of the many dishes of Latino food.

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Latino heritage has made an influence on America in music, food and beliefs.









WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 15

LATINO ISSUES CONFERENCE

The Education of latinos: Where do we go from here?

Only twenty percent of Latino households have Internet access and fourteen percent have e-mail capabilities.

EDUCATION OF LATINOS

YASA MALAKPA Staff Writer

The 15th annual Latino Issues Conference took place on Wednesday, Oct. 15, 2008. The theme for this year's conference was, The Education of Latinos: Where do we go from here? An array of students came to the conference to discuss issues in the Latino community. The main focus of the conference was looking at education towards Latino students.

The conference addressed the many topics in education. Language and community were addressed at the conference. Also, the various levels of educations were discussed, including

elementary through higher education. Rosita Lopez, a professor at Northern Illinois University, was the keynote speaker.

Lopez not only addressed issues

with education system, but problems that students face on a regular basis. Lopez addressed trends among the Latino community that could not be ignored. One of the trends was the fact that only 20 percent of Latino households have Internet access and 14 percent have e-mail capabilities. Comparing those statistics to the fact that two-thirds of black households have high speed

internet connection versus the 53 percent of the general population.

Another trend Lopez addressed was the fact Latina women are one of the fastest growing groups of women in the U.S labor force but remain one of the most of the least represented in top positions at Fortune 500 companies. Faculty and students all came to hear Lopez and other faculty from BGSU as well as other educators from surrounding areas.

Lopez stressed to students "In order to get where we want to go we must understand our past and where we are now".



DR. ROSITA LOPEZ

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 26

interaction.

Weekend dedicated to spreading cultural awareness through music, food and personal

The former Obsidian photographer, Nathan Olmeda, was enthusiastic about the events taking place, noting that he loved Latinopalooza because "it is Latino culture in its purest from."

When asked why it is important to have such an event on Bowling Green's Campus, sophomore Jadelynn Maldonado responded, "It just brings people together, and it's fun!"

LSU Brings Students and Community Together for Celebration of Latino Culture and Heritage

ASHLEY WILSON Staff Writer

On Friday, Sept. 26, 2008, the scene at the Alumni Mall between Kreischer and Harshman Quads was impossible to miss. Latino Student Union host their annual carnival as part of Latinopalooza; a weekend long celebration of Latino culture and heritage.

Upon arrival at the carnival, guests were immediately greeted with bright colors and a variety of activities to participate in. The set-up included face painting, jousting, a bounce-a-round, music and much more. The activities weren't just open to Bowling Green State University students and faculty, but members of the community as well. Many would agree that the overall atmosphere reflected unity and a sense of family. From the

children swinging at the piñata to the students plastered against the Velcro wall, everyone seemed to be enjoying themselves. When asked why it was important to have such an event on Bowling Green's campus, sophomore Jadelynn Maldonado responded, "It just brings people together, and it's fun!"

In reference to fun, one of the most festive characters at the carnival was Mr. Happy Pants, a.k.a. Nathan Olmeda, the president of Latino Student Union. The former Obsidian photographer was enthusastic about the events taking place, noting that he loves Latinopalooza because "it is Latino culture in its purest from."

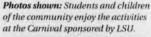
Even though the carnival was only the first part of Latinopalooza it was an excellent kick-off to a weekend filled with interactive events. When asked about other big plans for Latino Student Union this year, Olmeda mentioned they are placing a huge focus on political awareness as well as working on building a sense of community.

Ultimately, one of the most important goals of LSU is to "remember the people of the past, appreciate the people of the present, and promote the leaders of the future".

















DIAMANTE AWARDS HIGHLIGHT LATINO ACHIEVEMENTS

INDIA HUNTER
Staff Writer

iamonds are often noted for their sparkling, dominating presence. Diamonds are desirable and highly sought after, often used as an engagement ring. Further, diamonds possess qualities other gemstones do not. For instance, diamonds are stronger and are able to withstand more pressure on them than other stones. Diamonds in many people's mind symbolize the best of the best of gemstones. The same could be said of the over 40 students from BGSU. The University of Toledo, **Owens Community College and Lourdes College who received** awards and scholarships at the 19th annual Diamante **Community Awards held** on Sept. 12, 2008 at Owens

Community College. Diamante means diamond in Spanish, hence the Diamante awards. Each year, a different host university within the above-mentioned schools hosts the program. Last year, BGSU hosted the ceremony.

The Diamante Awards were created in 1990 by IMAGE, a chapter of a northwest Ohio Latino nonprofit organization. This awards ceremony was established to recognize Latino contributions in the Toledo area and to raise scholarships for those individuals.

Among the students honored from BGSU were Michelle Bologna, Rose Gonzalez, Jacqueline Hernandez, Jessica Jaimes, Nathan Olmeda, Erik Soto, Chris Yabarra and Kevin Zamora. One of the scholarship recipients, Rose Mary De Hoyos-Gonzalez said she is appreciative and humbled by the awards she received during the Diamante Awards.

"I'm very happy I got the scholarships, but more importantly I'm so happy to have found a place to belong and I've found that with LSU and other organizations I am involved in," Gonzalez said.

Gonzalez also volunteers for the Latino Networking Association along with being a member of Latino Student Union here at the University. She said belonging to LSU is like having a second family which is of reassurance to Gonzalez.

"I've never experienced anything like this on campus before, I'll see people from my class who will walk right past me without so much as saying hello, but when I go to LSU meetings, it is like seeing my family – people will give me a hug just to show their support," Gonzalez said. Gonzalez carries a 3.1 GPA and is a Human Development and Family Studies Major. She hopes to earn her Master's degree in College Student Personnel.

"My goal is to attend graduate school and then hopefully work in a career where I can assist college students in trying to reach their goals," Gonzalez said.

Scholarship recipients were selected based on several criteria, including leadership, grade point average, financial need and dedication and commitment to the Latino community.

The keynote speaker for the Diamante Awards Ceremony was Greg Guzman, who is the Director of Financial Aid at BGSU.

Earning an award for service to the community and hard work in school is a special recognition Gonzalez said she won't forget. "It is something I'll look back on and always be proud of while I was here at BGSU," she said.

SEPTEMBER 12, 2008

Ceremony celebrates students work

"I'm very happy I got the scholarships, but more importantly I'm so happy to have found a place to belong and I've found that with LSU and other organizations I am involved in,"

 ROSE MARY DE HOYOS-GONZALEZ Human Development and Family Studies Major

"I've never experienced anything like this on campus before, I'll see people from my class who will walk right past me without so much as saying hello, but when I go to LSU meetings, it is like seeing my family – people will give me a hug just to show their support,"

 ROSE MARY DE HOYOS-GONZALEZ

"It is something I'll look back on and always be proud of while I was here at BGSU."

- ROSE MARY DE HOYOS-GONZALEZ



DIAMANTE

"Division Now is Defeat Later"

- UNKNOWN



"Obama missed the biggest latino event--the United States Hispanic Leadership Institute's annual conference--in Chicago. He is the senator of Illinois."

- ANONYMOUS BGSU Student

"Honestly, there is too much hype about Obama and black people. If he is going to be President, he has to address everyone's issues."

> - MIGUEL JUAREZ Texas A&M Senior

"Obama focuses his campaign where he feels he can benefit strongly from it. Unfortunately, there is a low percentage of Latinos in college or educating themselves through the news."

- MARIA VAZQUEZ Senior Citizen

"I understand his angle for visiting Mexico, but why is he campaigning in Mexico? Mexico doesn't have electoral votes!"

> - ANTONIO BLANCHERO CSU Graduate Political Science

LATINO VOTERS NOT BACKING OBAMA Why is Obama lacking in Latino votes?

JOSEPH SMITH Staff Writer

ver since the time preceding the primaries, the conversation that has raged in America has been on the election. With this election occurring during a time of such national and international chaos, it is not surprising that many people are concerned about who will lead our country for the next four-possibly eight-years. With gas prices at alltime highs and conflict overseas with our soldiers mixed in the struggle, it seems more and more people are flexing their voting muscle. However, it seems that one of the candidates seems to be lacking in Latino votes. **Democrat Presidential nominee** Senator Barack Obama, by

recent poll projections, is

noticeably lacking in that area.

One can only wonder why. But there are many reasons why Obama may be in a Latino deficit.

Now before one can generalize why a Latino voter wouldn't vote for a specific candidate, one must address why any voter generally wouldn't vote for a specific candidate. Usually an educated voter chooses to vote for the candidate who favorably addresses the issues and concerns the voter agrees and identifies with. If the voter is from a family that struggles with keeping up with medications and medical bills, a candidate that addresses a better healthcare system could be appealing. So one possibility why Obama doesn't rake in the Latino vote may be because he does not address Latino issues.

Another possibility is that Obama's past political actions could be unfavorable for Latino voters. A commonly expressed concern in the government is the illegal immigrants migrating from Mexico into Texas. To solve this problem, the government had proposed that a wall be built separating Mexico and the United States along the entire border. Obama supported the idea. This proposal is a touchy topic because it can be argued in two different directions: one being that it is to stop a major influx of population that will be taking money earned back into Mexico and, therefore, out of the United States economy. Another being that it is to stop Mexicans from entering without United States approval. Whichever way a politician votes or supports, it can be distorted and given a false interpretation, Some Latino voters

might be holding him up to the fact

that he was in favor of having the wall built on the border between the United States and Mexico.

Another possibility may be that Obama hasn't shown much effort in obtaining the Latino vote. Obama has been making a lot of appearances in an effort to appeal to a lot of voters. It is only a speculation, but Obama's focus audience of his campaign may not be striking the voting Latino population as strongly as it could. Of course, it doesn't mean that there aren't Latino supporters for Obama, but polls continue to stress his Latino deficit. Maybe as his campaign continues, more Latino voters will be persuaded in his favor.









SIGMA LAMBDA BETA AND SIGMA LAMBDA GAMMA

JOSEPH SMITH Staff Writer

ur own campus of Bowling
Green State University has
two Greek organizations
that are predominantly Latino and
Latina. They are Sigma Lambda Beta
International Fraternity, Inc and
Sigma Lambda Gamma National
Sorority, Inc.

Sigma Lambda Beta International Fraternity Incorporated was founded April 4, 1986 at Iowa State University and the brothers are informally known as the Betas and the Lambda Betas. Their colors are royal purple and pure white. Their motto is "Opportunity for Wisdom, Wisdom for Culture". Their four standing principles are brotherhood, scholarship, community service, and cultural awareness. Here at Bowling Green State University, there are eight active undergraduate members and one graduate member. Their national programs

include CPR Awareness to spread the knowledge of CPR methods. Regionally and locally, the Betas hold a Beta Week, which usually consists of cultural awareness events, brotherhood events, and community service events. The Nu Beta chapter at BGSU also sponsors Greek Closet and plays a major role in starting the Greek Independent Board. With that, Sigma Lambda Beta assisted in the creation of their sister organization Sigma Lambda Gamma.

Sigma Lambda Gamma National Sorority Incorporated was founded April 9, 1990 at University of lowa and the sisters are informally known as the Gammas. Their colors are majestic purple and shocking pink. Their motto is "Culture is Pride, Pride is Success". Their five main principles are academics, cultural awareness, community service, social interaction, and morals and ethics. At Bowling Green State University, there are twelve active undergraduate

members. Their national programs include Breast Cancer Awareness and the Trio Program which helps to retain first generation college students. Omicron Chapter here at BGSU are participants in walks for breast cancer and commonly collaborate with Sigma Lambda Beta

International Fraternity, Inc. Both organizations are cousins to Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity

Pril Beta Sigma Fraternity Incorporated and Zeta Phi Beta Sorority Incorporated of the National Pan-Hellenic Council and collectively are known as the Royal Fam or the El.R.M. Fam. LATIN GREEK LIFE

"Opportunity for Wisdom, Wisdom for Culture".

- SIGMA LAMBDA BETA MOTTO

"Culture is Pride, Pride is Success".

- SIGMA LAMBDA GAMMA MOTTO



¡DÍA DE LOS MUERTOS!



JESSICA PATRICK Staff Writer

irst celebrated by the Olmecs and the Aztecs of ancient Mexico over 3500 years ago, Dia de los muertos, or Day of the Dead, continues to be an ongoing tradition in the Mexican and Central American community.

The celebration began as a way to celebrate the dead and also the duality of life and death. During Día De Los Muertos, it was important for celebrating families to maintain good relationships with their deceased ancestors since it was believed that they interceded in earthly goings on and brought food and fortune to the living.

Preparation for Dias De Los Muertos began in mid-October. The family and friends of the deceased would clean, paint and decorate the gravesites of their deceased with flowers, religious relics and more. The petals from the marigolds were often scattered on graves in the belief that their strong aroma and bright color would help deceased souls find their way back to earth.

At the end of the month, the eve of the celebration, night time processions to these cemeteries to picnic with the dead were held. During this time offerings of food and drink were brought to the dead that they might regain the strength needed to return to their other world. The personal belongings of departed relatives and friends were also laid on or near their graves as a sign of reverence and in the hopes that the dead might enjoy their short stay.

Also, family and friends of the deceased created ofrendas (altars) in their houses to welcome the spirits home. Las Ofrendas were adorned with pictures of the deceased to commemorate their memory and remind younger generations of their familiar and cultural roots. Also the skeleton, a major symbol of the celebration, was regularly employed to represent how the spirits still lived

after they had left their flesh on earth.

Unlike the Western explorers who would later conquer the area in which the holiday is celebrated, ancient Mexicans and Central Americans did not view death as the end of life. Rather, they saw it as the continuation of life. According to their cultural beliefs, life was a dream and only in death did they become truly awake. Thus, instead of fearing death they embraced it.

Yet the celebration was by no means a mournful one, but rather a time to share with family members and visit with the souls of the departed. During Día de los Muertos, time no longer barred one spirit from another by reason of death.

And today it is no different. Día de los Muertos continues to be celebrated annually as its participants recognize the significance of life and death as dual concepts existing within each other. While the holiday is called day of the dead, it is actually celebrated over the first two days of November. The first day "Día de los Angelitos" is used to welcome back the spirits of deceased children. The second, "Día de los Difuntos", welcomes the rest of those who have died.

However, the original dates of the holiday are unknown. When the

Spanish conquistadors came to Mexico and observed the ritual, they believed it to be barbaric and compacted the once two month celebration into "Día de Todos los Santos" (All Saints Day) in an effort to fuse their Christian beliefs with those of the native peoples.

But still, marigolds are picked. Sugar skulls are blown. Candles are lit. Still, the departed make their way back to this world after over 3,500 years. Thanks to Día de los Muertos, our spirits stay alive and will not be forgotten.

Interested in Día de los Muertos?

In Toledo, OH, the holiday will be celebrated on Saturday, November 1st at the Sofia Quintero Art & Cultural Center at 6pm. It includes music, food, and even an altar competition. For more information call (419) 241

In Detroit, MI, at Compass Center of Music & Performing Arts, there will be a traditional Día de los Muertos celebration Nov 2nd starting at 10 am. It includes Mariachi music, traditional folk dancing, and great food. For more information call (313) 554 0791.

DAY OF THE DEAD

Keeping Our Spirits Alive, Literally

"God pours life into death and death into life without a drop being spilled."

- AUTHOR UNKNOWN

Top Left: a drawing of the spirits of the dead celebrating their visit to the living during Día de los Muertos.

Below: a traditional altar for Día de los Muertos used to welcome back the dead back to earth.



LATINOS OF AFRICAN DESCENT

I'm Black and I'm Proud



"I don't see how blacks in Latin America can deny being black."

> - MARISSA WILSON Afro-Latina Student



"people would still find a way to differentiate themselves from each other."

> - JOACHIM NCHUNDA Tanzanian Student

Blacks, in both places, make up a significant part of the population. Yet, they are still unfairly governed by the laws and social standards that are most beneficial to whites and lighter-skinned people.

In Columbia, only one in five blacks has access to electricity and running water.

SOY NEGRO Y ORGULLOSO

JESSICA PATRICK

Staff Writer

inally after hundreds of years of struggle, black consciousness and civil rights movements are really stirring in Central and South America.

Blacks, in both places, make up a significant part of the population. Yet, they are still unfairly governed by the laws and social standards that are most beneficial to whites and lighter-skinned people.

These unjust practices have caused a large number of afro-descendientes. Latinos of African descent, to separate themselves from their African roots for many years. Yet, denouncing their African ancestry has not led to the legal and social rights they seek. So now at long last, Afro-Latinos are beginning to find and profess their pride for their African heritage, and fight for socioeconomic systems that practice racial equality.

Colombia, the epicenter of the movement that's now sweeping the lower Americas, is home to about 10.5 million afro-descendientes, giving it the third largest black population in the hemisphere. However, only one in five blacks has access to electricity and running water in striking contrast to the 60% of the non-black population who enjoy both luxuries. What's worse is the



black infant mortality rate in Colombia, which is more than three times the white.

Fed up with governmental neglect, Afro-Colombianos now lobby for increased government spending to improve living conditions in urban slums and rural villages. Accordingly, other Central and South American countries have been improving the status of race in politics.

Not too long ago, Brazil created its

first Cabinet-level position to handle race issues. Graciela Dixon became the first black woman to head Panama's Supreme Court in 2005. And according to Newsweek.com, blacks in the Dominican Republic are currently challenging state authorities for the right to be categorized as "black" on their passports.

But, numerous Latin blacks remain reluctant to acknowledge their African ancestry. In one instance in 2005, less than half of Colombia's blacks described themselves as such when they had to identify their ethnicity in the nation's census. Today, even the darkest Colombianos don't refer to themselves as black. As Americans, it is hard for us to imagine people can make the one drop rule work in reverse, permitting the darkest skinned to be considered white or at least, not black. But in many parts of Latin America this is perfectly normal and more respected

There are approximately 52,000 Afro-Latin Americans in Argentina SOURCE: "Afro-Argentine". Joshua Project. U.S. Center for World Mission. Retrieved on 2008-08-25.

Around 46% of Brazil's 188 million people are Afro-Brazilians (39% either African and European ancestry and African, European and Amerindian ancestry, 7% African ancestry). Around 80% of the northeast state of Bahia is of African descent.

Available estimates range from 4.4 to 10.5 million Afro-Colombians. It has been estimated that some 4.4 million Afro-Colombians actively recognize their own black ancestry, while many other Afro-Colombians do not, as a result of inter-racial relations with white and indigenous Colombians.

According to the 2000 U.S. Census taken in Puerto Rico, 80.5% of Puerto Ricans identified as White, 8% of the population as Black and 10.9% as of mixed or other race.

SOURCE: CIA - The World Factbook - Puerto Rico

According to a 2001 national census which surveyed 11.2 million Cubans, 1.1 million Cubans described themselves as Black, while 2.8 million considered themselves to be "mulatto" or "mestizo" or "javao" or "moro".

SOURCE: Cuba census 2001

than claiming one's "blackness."

Doris de la Hoz, a senior Afro-Colombian official in Colombia's Ministry of Culture, says "there is still a strong separation of people by groups," and that "many black families try to convince their lighter-skinned children that they are white." Even Nicaraguan Michael Campbell admits to the Miami Herald that where he's from, it's "easier to not 'be' black, to call yourself something else."

Why? The wounds of European colonialism run deep. Just as in colonial Central and South America. white and lighter skinned people continue to be treated better than those who are dark skinned. Also, in many Latin American countries such as Brazil, there are few, if any, laws specifically prohibiting racism allowing the issue to be continually ignored. Additionally, when sociogovernmental racism in Latin America has been fought against, those who opposed the practice have been jailed and even killed in events painfully similar to the horrors of the Civil Rights Movement in the United States

For example, under the dictatorship of Rafael Leonidas Trujillo in the Dominican Republic, racism against peoples of African descent was at an all time high and the ethnic cleansing of blacks was common. During his rule, Trujillo had three sisters called "Las Mariposas" (the butterflies) assassinated for working to improve human rights

In light of these facts, it is no surprise that Afro-Latinos are reluctant to acknowledge their African heritage, Consequently, places like the Dominican Republic have some schools where braids and natural hair are prohibited. Moreover, "passing" for white or mixed in Brazil has become a national institution. The question is, how will the current black civil rights movement in Latin America work if so many black people there still cannot bring themselves to be proud of their African roots?

Afro-Latinos in the United States face a similar situation understanding their racial and cultural identity. As Americans put much space between what it means to be one race as opposed. to another, some Afro-Latinos here have trouble identifying who they are in terms of race and culture. They ask themselves, as Attorney David Lamb

asked in the title of his book when he spoke at the BTSU October 6th, "Do Plátanos Go Wit' Collard Greens?"

Some think so. When asked if it was possible to identify specifically as Afro-Latina in America today. Sophomore Marissa Wilson said, "I feel like it should be an option even though it's not, because it's who I am." Although she is both African American and Mexican. she identifies as African American more because "that's what society sees." However, in doing so, she feels like she is "neglecting part of who [she] is" in the same way many Afro-Latinos in Central and South America feel it wrong to deny their African roots.

Having descended from black sharecroppers who continually felt the heavy burden of race, Wilson says "I don't see how blacks in Latin America can deny being black." But even though she identifies as Mexican, it is hard for her to feel connected to her Latina heritage because of her black appearance. She admits, "My [Mexican] family wasn't as accepting of me because I wasn't full Mexican, even though they're supposed to be real family oriented."

Some, on the other hand, have no problem knowing what "box to check." After being asked if he had problems with identifying himself racially, Tanzanian junior Joachim Nchunda responded, "No because people can tell what I am by looking at me." Yet he says if he didn't have a race labeled on him, "people would still find a way to differentiate themselves from each other."

It's human nature after all. While it is a good thing that more Afro-Latinos are finally no longer ashamed of their African ancestry, what will the future of this recognition of heritage hold for them? Afro-Latino Michael Campbell thinks "the key to our future is to strengthen our identity, to say we are black, and we are proud."

But does it really matter if we are black, morena, mulatto, redboned, chocolate or yellow? The issue doesn't seem to be color or race, but rather what people have decided color and race should mean. And if blackness is now a source of pride rather than one of pain for Afro-Latinos, there certainly is no problem with saving "soy negro y orgulloso."

FAMOUS AFRO-LATINOS



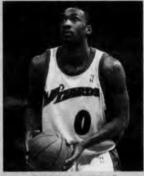
FABOLOUS



ALEX RODRIGUEZ



SAMMY SOSA



GILBERT ARENAS



CHRISTINA MILIAN



SAMMY DAVIS JR.



ROSARIO DAWSON



LAS MARIPOSAS

"The key to our future is to strengthen our identity, to say we are black, and we are proud."

- MICHAEL CAMPBELL Afro-Latino



Venezuelan President Hugo Chávez "When we were children, we was told that we have a motherland. and that motherland was Spain. However, we have discovered later. in our lives, that as a matter of fact, we have several motherlands. And one of the greatest motherlands of all is no doubt, Africa. We love Africa. And every day we are much more aware of the roots we have in Africa. Also, America is our motherland. Africa, America-and Bolivar used to say that we are a new human race in Latin America, that we are not Europeans, or Africans. or North Americans. That we are* a mixture of all of those races, and there is no doubt that Africa resounds with a pulse like a thousand drums and happiness and joy... Hate against me has a lot to do with racism. Because of my big mouth, because of my curly hair. And I'm so proud to have this mouth and this hair. because it's African."

SOURCE: Democracy Now: The War and Peace Report

LATINOS OF AFRICAN DESCENT

I'm Black and I'm Proud



"I don't see how blacks in Latin America can deny being black."

> - MARISSA WILSON Afro-Latina Student



"people would still find a way to differentiate themselves from each other."

> - JOACHIM NCHUNDA Tanzanian Student

Blacks, in both places, make up a significant part of the population. Yet, they are still unfairly governed by the laws and social standards that are most beneficial to whites and lighter-skinned people.

In Columbia, only one in five blacks has access to electricity and running water.

SOY NEGRO Y ORGULLOSO

JESSICA PATRICK Staff Writer

inally after hundreds of years of struggle, black consciousness and civil rights movements are really stirring in Central and South America.

Blacks, in both places, make up a significant part of the population. Yet, they are still unfairly governed by the laws and social standards that are most beneficial to whites and lighter-skinned people.

These unjust practices have caused a large number of afro-descendientes, Latinos of African descent, to separate themselves from their African roots for many years. Yet, denouncing their African ancestry has not led to the legal and social rights they seek. So now at long last, Afro-Latinos are beginning to find and profess their pride for their African heritage, and fight for socioeconomic systems that practice racial equality.

Colombia, the epicenter of the movement that's now sweeping the lower Americas, is home to about 10.5 million afro-descendientes, giving it the third largest black population in the hemisphere. However, only one in five blacks has access to electricity and running water in striking contrast to the 60% of the non-black population who enjoy both luxuries. What's worse is the



black infant mortality rate in Colombia, which is more than three times the white.

Fed up with governmental neglect, Afro-Colombianos now lobby for increased government spending to improve living conditions in urban slums and rural villages. Accordingly, other Central and South American countries have been improving the status of race in politics.

Not too long ago, Brazil created its

first Cabinet-level position to handle race issues. Graciela Dixon became the first black woman to head Panama's Supreme Court in 2005. And according to Newsweek.com, blacks in the Dominican Republic are currently challenging state authorities for the right to be categorized as "black" on their passports.

But, numerous Latin blacks remain reluctant to acknowledge their African ancestry. In one instance in 2005, less than half of Colombia's blacks described themselves as such when they had to identify their ethnicity in the nation's census. Today, even the darkest Colombianos don't refer to themselves as black. As Americans, it is hard for us to imagine people can make the one drop rule work in reverse, permitting the darkest skinned to be considered white or at least, not black. But in many parts of Latin America this is perfectly normal and more respected

There are approximately 52,000 Afro-Latin Americans in Argentina

SOURCE: "Afro-Argentine". Joshua Project. U.S. Center for World Mission. Retrieved on 2008-08-25.

Around 46% of Brazil's 188 million people are Afro-Brazilians (39% either African and European ancestry and African, European and Amerindian ancestry, 7% African ancestry). Around 80% of the northeast state of Bahia is of African descent.

Available estimates range from 4.4 to 10.5 million Afro-Colombians. It has been estimated that some 4.4 million Afro-Colombians actively recognize their own black ancestry, while many other Afro-Colombians do not, as a result of inter-racial relations with white and indigenous Colombians.

According to the 2000 U.S. Census taken in Puerto Rico, 80.5% of Puerto Ricans identified as White, 8% of the population as Black and 10.9% as of mixed or other race.

SOURCE: CIA - The World Factbook - Puerto Rico

According to a 2001 national census which surveyed 11.2 million Cubans, 1.1 million Cubans described themselves as Black, while 2.8 million considered themselves to be "mulatto" or "mestizo" or "javao" or "moro".

SOURCE: Cuba census 2001

than claiming one's "blackness."

Doris de la Hoz, a senior Afro-Colombian official in Colombia's Ministry of Culture, says "there is still a strong separation of people by groups," and that "many black families try to convince their lighter-skinned children that they are white." Even Nicaraguan Michael Campbell admits to the Miami Herald that where he's from, it's "easier to not 'be' black, to call yourself something else."

Why? The wounds of European colonialism run deep. Just as in colonial Central and South America, white and lighter skinned people continue to be treated better than those who are dark skinned. Also, in many Latin American countries such as Brazil, there are few, if any, laws specifically prohibiting racism allowing the issue to be continually ignored. Additionally, when sociogovernmental racism in Latin America has been fought against, those who opposed the practice have been jailed and even killed in events painfully similar to the horrors of the Civil Rights Movement in the United States

For example, under the dictatorship of Rafael Leonidas Trujillo in the Dominican Republic, racism against peoples of African descent was at an all time high and the ethnic cleansing of blacks was common. During his rule. Trujillo had three sisters called "Las Mariposas" (the butterflies) assassinated for working to improve human rights.

In light of these facts, it is no surprise that Afro-Latinos are reluctant to acknowledge their African heritage. Consequently, places like the Dominican Republic have some schools where braids and natural hair are prohibited. Moreover, "passing" for white or mixed in Brazil has become a national institution. The question is, how will the current black civil rights movement in Latin America work if so many black people there still cannot bring themselves to be proud of their African roots?

Afro-Latinos in the United
States face a similar situation
understanding their racial and
cultural identity. As Americans
put much space between what it
means to be one race as opposed
to another, some Afro-Latinos here
have trouble identifying who they are
in terms of race and culture. They ask
themselves, as Attorney David Lamb

asked in the title of his book when he spoke at the BTSU October 6th, "Do Plátanos Go Wit' Collard Greens?"

Some think so. When asked if it was possible to identify specifically as Afro-Latina in America today, Sophomore Marissa Wilson said, "I feel like it should be an option even though it's not, because it's who I am." Although she is both African American and Mexican. she identifies as African American more because "that's what society sees." However, in doing so, she feels like she is "neglecting part of who [she] is" in the same way many Afró-Latinos in Central and South America feel it wrong to deny their African roots.

Having descended from black sharecroppers who continually felt the heavy burden of race, Wilson says "I don't see how blacks in Latin America can deny being black." But even though she identifies as Mexican, it is hard for her to feel connected to her Latina heritage because of her black appearance. She admits, "My [Mexican] family wasn't as accepting of me because I wasn't full Mexican, even though they're supposed to be real family oriented."

Some, on the other hand, have no problem knowing what "box to check." After being asked if he had problems with identifying himself racially, Tanzanian junior Joachim Nchunda responded, "No because people can tell what I am by looking at me." Yet he says if he didn't have a race labeled on him, "people would still find a way to differentiate themselves from each other."

It's human nature after all.
While it is a good thing that
more Afro-Latinos are finally no
longer ashamed of their African
ancestry, what will the future of
this recognition of heritage hold for
them? Afro-Latino Michael Campbell
thinks "the key to our future is to
strengthen our identity, to say we are
black, and we are proud."

But does it really matter if we are black, morena, mulatto, redboned, chocolate or yellow? The issue doesn't seem to be color or race, but rather what people have decided color and race should mean. And if blackness is now a source of pride rather than one of pain for Afro-Latinos, there certainly is no problem with saying "soy negro y orguiloso."

FAMOUS AFRO-LATINOS



FABOLOUS



ALEX RODRIGUEZ



SAMMY SOSA



GILBERT ARENAS



CHRISTINA MILIAN



SAMMY DAVIS JR.



ROSARIO DAWSON



LAS. MARIPOSAS

"The key to our future is to strengthen our identity, to say we are plack, and we are proud."

- MICHAEL CAMPBELL Afro-Latino



Venezuelan President Hugo Chávez "When we were children, we were told that we have a motherland, and that motherland was Spain. However, we have discovered later, in our lives, that as a matter of fact, we have several motherlands. And one of the greatest motherlands of all is no doubt, Africa. We love Africa. And every day we are much more aware of the roots we have in Africa. Also, America is our motherland. Africa, America-and Bolivar used to say that we are a new human race in Latin America, that we are not Europeans, or Africans, or North Americans. That we are a mixture of all of those races, and there is no doubt that Africa resounds with a pulse like a thousand drums and happiness and joy... Hate against me has a lot to do with racism. Because of my big mouth, because of my curly hair. And I'm so proud to have this mouth and this hair, because it's African."

SOURCE: Democracy Now: The War and Peace Report

CLARENCE TERRY, 1949-2008



How Do You Best Remember Mr. Terry?

"Very loyal and devoted he was." "A Great Man"

- CHICANE WATSON 2006 BGSU Alumni

REMEMBERING MR. CLARENCE TERRY JR.

TORREIN L. JEFFERSON Staff Writer

any students may not be aware of who Mr. Clarence Terry Jr. was or what he contributed to the Bowling Green State University campus. But there are some who know Mr. Terry very well. Mr. Terry was a graduate of **Bowling Green State University** Class of 1971. He also worked at the University for 23 years as the leader of Minority Recruitment where he helped bring in thousands of minority students to **Bowling Green State University's** campus. His recruitment strategy included students from many parts of the United States, including California, Texas and New York. He saw his role as one of assisting minority students "to reach their lifelong dream of being a college graduate." Mr. Terry had retired from BGSU in May of 2008 in which he then died on May 13, 2008 at the graceful age of 59.

Ms. Chicane Watson remembers Mr. Terry as a very humble man. Ms. Watson also remembers how Mr. Terry made it possible for her to further her education her at Bowling Green State University by recruiting her from New York. She said she views Mr. Terry as an "awesome" man that made things possible. When asked how she best remembers Mr. Clarence Terry Jr., she simply replied, "He was very loyal and devoted. He was a great listener and just a great person in all." Mr. Terry had a great turn out of family, friends, and colleagues, along with former and present student to remember him at the memorial service held on Oct. 3, 2008. Mr. Clarence Terry will be best remembered as "The man that made things happen" among family, staff and students at home and on the campus of **Bowling Green State University.**

Right: Student Chicane Watson express her memories of the late Mr. Clarence Terry Jr. at the Clarence Terry Memorial in the lobby of the First United Methodist Church in Bowling Green, Ohio.



NOBEL PRIZE WINNER

"Science is an ounce of inspiration and a pound of perspiration."

~MATTHEW THAKUR

"In science, nothing is more gratifying than recognition by your peers."

- MATTHEW THAKUR Professor of radiation oncology, Jefferson University, Philadelphia, PA.



INDO-AMERICAN WINS 'NOBEL' OF MEDICINE

AUSTIN MORRIS Staff Writer

onas Salk's polio vaccine and Louis Pasteur's pasteurization process rank high among the biggest advancements in the field of medicine. The enormous advance in technology over past decades has led to even further advances by scientists around the world. Unfortunately, few American minorities have been associated with great successes in medicine, but Matthew Thakur is a great exception to that norm.

Matthew Thakur is an IndianAmerican scientist who has made
previous advancements to nuclear
medicine, but none of this magnitude.
Thakur was recently awarded
the coveted 2008 Benedict
Cassen Prize during SNM's 55th
annual meeting in New Orleans,
Louisiana. This prize is largely
regarded as the Nobel prize of
nuclear medicine. It is presented
biennially to a living scientist whose
work has led to a major advancement
in nuclear clinical medicine by the
society of nuclear medicine or the

Thakur and his team of scientists have discovered a technique through nuclear imaging that helps detect diseases at the molecular level. Thakur

expressed interest in the diagnosis of multiple diseases including breast, prostate, and pancreatic cancer. He holds several patents on previous work and has worked with pharmaceuticals to detect infection rapidly and efficiently. He continues to work hard in his practice and will inevitably make substantial progress in future medicine.

Thakur is currently the professor of radiation oncology at Thomas Jefferson University in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. He has won other numerous awards in medicine that include the George Hevesy award, given for work in the advancement of radiochemistry and nuclear analytical chemistry. He was also awarded the Indo-American society of nuclear medicine lifetime achievement award. Additionally, Thakur held the position of president at the society of nuclear medicine through June of 2005.

When asked about his efforts in the work of nuclear medicine, Thakur is very generous in giving his team the praise. Thakur told reporters, "In science, nothing is more gratifying than recognition by your peers." It is undeniable that Thakur will win more awards for his future work in nuclear medicine, but his efforts in ridding mankind of these horrid diseases is the main benchmark of his success. Matthew Thakur is a huge figure in all medicinal circles and will be for years to come.

COMING OUT

BIANCA HART Staff Writer

oming Out. What does that mean? For most of society, it means a gay person telling people of their true sexuality, but is that it? The concept cannot be that easily defined. "Coming out" is not just telling people. It is about telling yourself. According to the Human Rights Campaign (HRC), a leading group in LGBT equality, "Coming out is the process in which a person first acknowledges, accepts and appreciates his or her sexual orientation or gender identity and begins to share that with others.' For some, coming out is a strenuous process, which can bring heartache, homelessness, loneliness and sometimes, even death. However, that is not the only way. Coming out can be a joyous event. It can be a celebration equivalent to a Super Sweet Sixteen. It is different for everyone. But before one can define coming out, one must understand the letters. You know-LGBTQAIQA. Confused? Don't worry because most people are. The Lis Lesbian, G is Gay.



B is Bisexual, T is Transgender, Q is Queer, A is Asexual, I is Intersex, Q is Questioning, and A is Ally.

Coming out is a process, a coming of age. It does not happen at the same time for everyone nor does it happen in the same way. Unfortunately, it does not happen for everyone. Some people are afraid, others are ashamed and some simply don't know how. Coming out is not just revealing to the world that you are a homosexual. It can refer to many things. A person can come out as a lesbian, bisexual, or as an ally, asexual, or questioning. It doesn't matter. The only thing that matters is the truth. It is not about wearing rainbows, although



it can be, or shouting "I'm Queer" from the hill tops. Coming out is an acknowledgement that you are ready to share who you are with yourself and those around you.

For those who have already come out, there is this tone, this language, an understanding with others who have come out, even if the stories are different.

"With the 10th anniversary of Matthew Shepard's murder approaching us, coming out becomes a lot of things to me. It becomes my strength against the part of the world that still hates us; it becomes my courage against animosity; it becomes my freedom.

Freedom to love and be loved,

to live and enjoy life. Freedom to be me," says Aris Kaleps- Clark, treasurer of Transcendence, a transgender group.

"Coming out is accepting yourself enough to be your whole self in front of everyone, to not hide that part of you that helps you to be a person," says Jennifer Dietsch, SuperQueer of VISION.

"Coming out means being unashamed of who you are. It means being prepared for how society will treat you, and not letting fear control your thoughts or actions," says Abel Tyson

"You accept who you are,



make others respect you and your beliefs, and proudly defend your life choices," says Shanesha Pugh

"Coming out, to me, means that you are learning to love yourself enough to be the full you. Because of that love, you don't need to hide or feel afraid and you wish to share another detail of your everexpanding life with those you love, care about, and trust," says Austin Williams, LGBT Resource Center intern.

Coming out means something different to everyone, but all follow one major theme: **strength and love**.

INSIGHT ON THE NEW B.L.D.G IN BG

LATOYA D. YOUNG

Staff Writer

ooking to engage yourself in a spot where four of the most common desires meet? Beats. A Lounge. Designs. Gear. The B.L.D.G. has it all! It's located in Downtown Bowling Green. Although the title may sound kind of vague, it reveals more to the eye and soul. The owner of this new and beyond extraordinary place is our very own Will "DUB" Wicks, Marcus Seville Simpson, and Micah Nyamari. Digging into the B.L.D.G. a bit deeper, the Beats lies in the hands of Will "DUB" Wicks. This music lover calls this section "Music Lovers Headquarters." It offers audio recording, mixing /mastering, cutting and editing, radio/commercial ads, CD duplication, album/ mixtape packages, studio training, artist counseling, barcode acquisition and copyright registration. As for the Lounge, the Loft, is simply a place to "chillax" and absorb in

"healthy conversation and meet new people". The Loft is available for private parties, small concerts, poetry corner, movie nights, book club meetings and a general meeting place.

On Halloween, there will be a grand opening for the expansion of the Loft. Marcus Seville Simpson features the Designs in the "I'm so Mars Creative Services." Simpson is one who identifies

himself as a passionate visionary. His works include graphic design, custom illustrations, web design / hosting. special effect photography, posters / flyers, unique T-shirt designs, business cards, logo/ identity branding, CD covers and tattoo designs. The Gear section is complemented by Micah Nyamari, who is over "Nyamari Designs". His proceeds aid in funding organizations such as Save Orphans by Designs and Active Christians Today. Nyamari Designs offer stylish items such as tops, dresses, women's shoes, rare sneakers, tees & jeans, handbags, jewelry, watches and skateboard decals. All of these sections coincide to form the B.L.D.G.

In an interview with the three B.L.D.G. owners, Simpson, Wicks, and Nyamari, I was introduced to their thoughts and ideas on their masterpiece.

What inspirations lead you to form the idea of the B.L.D.G.?

WICKS: "I just wanted to provide my skill and service to those who need them like myself."

SIMPSON: "I always wanted to start my own business throughout college. I had a problem working with people not as bright as me."

NYAMARI: "I felt like I was supposed to do it."

As far as the Beats, Designs and

Gear, what are their backgrounds? What is it that drew you to come this far in creating the B.L.D.G.?

SIMPSON: "When watching TV, I loved watching the commercials and advertisements, everybody else would get mad."

NYAMARI: "I like to show the international clothing, clothes from places such as Italy, France and China."

WICKS: "I have been an all music lover all my life....dancer, dj. poet, and I thought it would be a great opportunity to establish a means of helping others with my same passion."

Do you think the B.L.D.G. is going to benefit young adults in BG and yourselves etc.? If so, how?

SIMPSON: "Yes, our mission statement is B.L.D.G. friendships. It gives people a place to have a good, genuine time."

NYAMARI: "Of course, we want to give them a glance look of the other international designs—see things they never saw before."

How are the prices?

SIMPSON: "It depends on how much time is spent on the completion of the design. Usually from \$15 an hour, even if you don't have any money still come. Learn to be inspired by your trip here. It's a positive enrgy."

NYAMARI: "Clothes range from \$10-60 and shoes \$25-85. If you had the chance, would you make a franchise of the B.L.D.G.? Where would you want it to be?

SIMPSON: "Definitely. Eventually in Detroit and Chicago, BG is the testing grounds. It's easy for us to go international."

NYAMARI: "Next summer we should be in California or Italy."

What are your expectations in the future for the B.L.D.G.?

SIMPSON: "We're adding an extension to the Loft to be a Club, but not anything normal."

When you leave BG, what legacy do you want to leave behind, individually and or with the B.L.D.G.?

SIMPSON: "Friendships. I would say, being a visionary, or pioneer of it. The idea of what we have accomplished will still be here even after we leave. Like Obama going for change, I always have change in the back of my mind. We want this to show young black people that they can start their own business and be successful. You don't always have to seek for someone to work for."

NYAMARI: "Anybody can do it. Find your passion and gift; you have to look on the inside for it."

WICKS: "No Cloud can go untouched, Dreams can be become reality, but having the vision is only a small piece of success, the other portion is implementing it....Don't cry, apply."







UPCOMING EVENTS

Barack Obama Campaign Canvassing:

November 1, 2008 from 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Ladies and friends of Precious Stones will go door-to-door telling people of the importance of voting and the importance of early voting.

"What's Love Got to Do with It?"

November 12, 2008 from 6:30-9p.m.

A conference centered on healthy relationships and the intersectionality of race, gender and sexuality. Other issues of Healthy Love, Domestic Abuse, and Positive Self-Image amongst women will be covered.

"Woman Thou Art Loosed." (Tentative) December 2, 2008

Ladies and friends of Precious Stones will learn how to leave the baggage of the past behind and gain hope and wisdom to take into the New Year. One of our guest speakers will be whitney's mother, Edith Tarver, a motivational speaker, and a recovering drug addict.

BGSU Leader Exposes BGSU's 'PRECIOUS STONES' 'Why Be a Rock When You Can Be a Precious Stone?'

TAMARA LAWRENCE Assistant Editor

n 2001, Precious Stones was created as a women's enrichment group. Unfortunately, members in the past have graduated, leaving this organization to die down. Despite of this, 2008 is the year of resurgence, as stated by the current president Whitney Tarver.

Q. Why the name "Precious Stones"?

A. Precious Stones was chosen because
I, just like the original founders, truly
believe that all women are valuable.
Just like Precious Stones, all women
should be handled with care and
treated like royalty.

Q. What or who inspired you to get involved with this lovely organization?

A. My late grandmother Vernell Ingram, who passed away this past February, was my inspiration to re-start Precious Stones. My grandmother had always encouraged me to share my story of adversity and triumph with other women, and how God got me through. Moreover, I felt that there was a dire need to take the women on campus to another level, together-spiritually.



I wanted to re-open an entryway of healing, self-empowerment, and selflove amongst the young ladies on campus.

Q. What does your organization colors represent?

A. The colors copper, silver, and gold, are the official colors of Precious Stones. Copper symbolizes the drawing out of mental and emotional impurities. Silver is durable by itself, but when mixed with gold, it gives strength. Gold is a precious metal that is desirable among many.

Q. What are your goals for this organization as president?

A. Through young ladies participation in Precious Stones, my goal is to create a strong sense of unity amongst young women on campus. Secondly, I hope that young ladies and friends of Precious Stones will allow themselves to evolve into the beautiful and graceful ladies who they were ordained to be. Lastly, it is my hope that the young ladies of Precious Stones will gain or maintain the confidence and self-love needed, to take their rightful place in society, as queens of their own thrones.

Q. How many members does "Precious Stones" have on this campus?

A. Precious Stones consist of over 40 dedicated and graceful young ladies of Bowling Green State University. Included in that 40 are nine members of the executive board; Ms. Lauren Morris-Chaplin, Ms. Kiara Brooks-Political Action Chair, Ms. Kiara Taylor-Secretary, Ms. Porsche Thomas-Treasurer, Ms. Alesia Hill-Historian, Ms. Chantay Walker-Public Relations, Ms. Simone Swanson-Vice President #2, Ms. Constance Dees- Vice President #1, and myself, Ms. Whitney Tarver-President.

Q. As president, what are your hopes for Precious Stones upon reaching success?

A. My hope for the organization and for the ladies of Precious Stones is that they continue to prosper educationally and spiritually. Also, the hope remains that the organization will become a fixture in the lives and memories of the women, beyond their time at BGSU.



WHITNEY TARVER.
President, "Precious Stones"

OBAMA'S RACE

7-9p.m.

"Our fate lies between absorption by the white race

and extinction in the black."
- CHARLES CHESNUTT Literary Author

The multi-racial community is growing quickly and tearing down the walls of segregation one brick at a time.

His stature has passed former leaders Jesse Jackson and Al Sharpton (much to their dismay)

OBAMA-THE MYSTERY AMERICAN

AUSTIN MORRIS Staff Writer

acial lines have been drawv and redrawn over the last 40 years. They have been the cause of lynchings and marches, but those furious lines are becoming a little gray. Presidential candidate Barack Obama may well be the future president of the United States of America, yet so few Americans know the true identity of this mystery American.

The son of Kenyan Nyang' Oma Kogelo and Kansas native Ann Dunham, Barack Obama is now a force in the African-American community. His stature has passed former leaders Jesse Jackson and Al Sharpton(much to their dismay), and all by a man that is not "completely" black. He is part of a racial minority that find themselves encompassed between the white and black races.

Portrayed by the media as a black man, Barack Obama is part of a growing group of Americans that includes Frederick Douglass, Charles Chesnutt, Tiger Woods, and Alicia Keys. This group is part of a multi-racial community that has either chosen or coerced into choosing a race. The multi-racial community is growing quickly and tearing down the walls of segregation one brick at a time.

For many years, these multi-racial

Americans were grouped in with their darker races because of the regulations of the south. Americans like
Frederick Douglass and Charles
Chesnutt had no choice but to be black. Today, there are multiracial Americans who refuse to follow the lines society has set before them. They involuntarily portray a fraction of Americans that truly show the heart of American society. They refuse to become a part of the highly unethical culture that tries to fit every single person into a box. They are symbolic of a race that

The multi-racial community of the twenty first century has largely chosen

exists between two opposite ends of

the spectrum-black and white.

one race or the other. Even with the expanding population of prominent multi-racial people, many choose only one of their particular races. It is the norm in American society to be either black or white, yet with this growing population, the division is much harder to make. Unfortunately, the line between black and white is still present and it offers an unfortunate choice for many

It is very clear which side of the line Barack Obama has chosen due to his highly ethnic portrayals of himself in his speeches, yet he still honors his mother's work in his life. For many multi-racial people in America, this is quite a dilemma, but for Barack Obama this choice works well. His racial choice is literally no reflection on his political agenda, but it does reflect the pressures of Obama's generation. This generation still had the norms of our black and white society ringing loud and clear in the

ears of Americans. Obama's generation of black and white politics is slowly starting to disseminate with this new frame of American culture, but it is still up to everyday Americans whether to change the norms.

Whether you are a republican, democrat, black, white, latino, asian, or other the ballot box should reflect the values you hold dear. The fact that John McCain is white or Barack Obama is bi-racial is truly irrelevant in the voting booth. Their ideals, values, and promises are vital to our country's future, and will be shown in the coming month. So, if you choose to vote for Obama do not vote for him because he is black, nor vote for him because he is white.

Vote for him because he is neither.

RAMADAN-ISLAMIC HOLY MONTH

Staff Writer

Ithough it may have been unknown to many, Ramadan the holiest month in the Islamic calendar, has just ended. Though many may have not even heard of Ramadan, it is considered the most important time for 1.2 billion Muslims around the world. Ramadan is the ninth month of the Islamic calendar and this year it was aligned on the first of September. It was during this month, the first revelations of the Qur'an were revealed to the Prophet Muhammad (pbuh). It is also

the month of fasting in which Muslims call and the process starts again. during each day of Ramadan get up before dawn to eat and perform the fajr (sunrise) prayer, the first prayer of the day. They have to stop eating and drinking before the call to this prayer (azan) is announced, and continue their fast until the fourth prayer of the day, Maghrib (sunset), in which many Muslims gather among friends and family to break their fast together. Traditionally, Muslims break their fast with fruits and water and are allowed to continue to eat and drink after the sun has set, until the next morning when fajr prayer

Fasting is meant to strengthen one's moral character such as patience, sacrifice and humility.

During Ramadan, Muslims fast for the sake of God, and offer more prayer than usual. It is a time to seek forgiveness for past sins, while praying for guidance and help in refraining from everyday hardships; trials and tribulation and to purify themselves through self-restraint and good deeds. It is also a time when Muslims are to slow down from worldly affairs and focus on self-reformation, spiritual cleansing

and enlightenment, establishing a link between themselves and God through prayer, supplication, charity, and kindness and helping others. In addition to fasting, Muslims are encouraged to read the Qur'an. It is believe that by reading the entire Our'an, they receive additional blessings. During this month, Muslims frequently go to the mosque at night to perform additional prayer and reading. This extra payer is called Tarawih, which are performed every night of the month in which a section of the Our'an is recited. Therefore, the entire Qur'an would be completed by the end of the month of Ramadan.

On the last day of Ramadan, the celebration of Eid ul-Fitr takes place, which marks the end of the fasting period and the first day of the following month. Eid ul-Fitr means the Festival of Breaking the Fast; a special celebration is made. Food is donated to the poor, everyone puts on their best, usually new clothes, and communal prayers are held in the early morning, followed by feasting and visiting relatives and

ISLAMIC HOLY MONTH

"It is believe that by reading the entire Qur'an they receive additional blessing"

- AUTHOR UNKNOWN -





FASHION POLICE: Don't Get Caught With Your Pants Down

CHRIS LEWIS Staff Writer

magine a city where wearing a backwards hat was considered disrespectful or wearing a tank top exposing an individuals shoulders was against the law. Sounds crazy to be persecuted for one's personal style, but in certain city's in the United States they are developing laws to rid certain personal styles, such as SAGGING PANTS

Many cities and towns in the United States have enacted a law that would make it a crime to be caught with your pants below one's waist with he or she's under garments exposed. Many cities have punishments that are minimal fines, while in other cities the punishment can range from a \$500 fine and up to six months in prison. In the past, these laws have been cited for infringement on a person's self expression, but recently legislation has taken a different path, with grouping sagging pants with

The law has basically been enacted in parts of Florida, Louisiana, and Georgia. One particular case occurred in Rivera Beach, Florida in September where a 17 year old male spent a night in jail for riding a bike with his pants "4



to 5 " inches below his waist. A Rivera Beach Judge later claimed that the law was unconstitutional despite it being voted and passed by a majority vote of the townspeople back in March of 2008.

The real question is "what is the purpose for proposing this law?" Many believe this law is an alternative method of RACIAL PROFILING AND DISCRIMINATION. Sagging pants was popularized by the hip-hop culture,

which is a main staple of the young African American community. This also could affect all minority youths.

Following that thought some believe the youth, as a whole is being discriminated or targeted by this sagging pants law creating a form of age discrimination. Even if youths do not embrace hip-hop music, it is mainly the youth that has adopted this style and is being discriminated against by the older generation. This

could give legal authorities another outlet to harass not only minority youths, but also ALL YOUTHS who are sporting this particular clothing style. Also in the Rivera Beach, Florida law it states, " in a manner not becoming of his or her sex," but this directly correlates to males. Mostly males sport this style, thus causing a disadvantage to a specific population and creating a GENDER BIAS against males.

Is this law truly needed and if needed is it lawful? Can a local, state, even federal government regulate what a person wears in public even if it may offend people? Many of the law's supporters say yes, once body parts, such as a buttocks are exposed, but certain body parts are PARTIALLY EXPOSED all the time such as backs, arms, even breasts. The reality is buttocks are rarely revealed, rather underwear, which is another form of clothing, is usually exposed, which could make the indecency notion null and void.

What if this law came to Ohio? Despite personal opinion on the style or subculture, thoughts of whether the right to regulate clothes in public is constitutional or another method as to advance some type of HIDDEN AGENDA.

TAKE UP THE SLACK

Sagging Your Pants is a Crime

The sagging pants law could be another way to harass innocent youths because of "their pants". (color of their

What if this law came to Bowling Green State University?



HUGO CHAVEZ: Valiant Leader or Self-Serving Dictator



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Staff Writer

any believe Hugo Chavez is a mysterious figure who rules over Venezuela with an iron fist, while others believe his ideas are ingenious and should be practiced by governments all over the world. So what is the right answer? Chavez began to form his so-called radical ideas after serving in the service and during his study at a university. Chavez, who was raised in an impoverished environment, began to adopt the ideas of Karl Marx, Vladimir Lenin and Juan Velasco. Chavez and a group of others formed a left nationalist movement known as "Bolivarianism." Chavez later dropped out of school, re-enlisted into the military and in 1983 formed his own guerilla military known as the Revolutionary Bolivian Movement-200 (MBR-200). Chavez later led a government takeover with MBR-200 over the then president Carlos Perez. The mission failed, but this coup d'etat enabled the poor people of Bolivia to embrace Chavez as a man of honor who wanted to fight for their betterment. After spending two years in prison and over seven campaigning for president, Hugo Chavez finally became president of Venezuela in 1999. Immediately after being elected, Chavez setup initiatives such as road reconstruction



and housing construction. Following his mentors, Chavez also began to do away with privatization, which called for mass vaccinations and the halting of perks for the aluminum industry and oil sector. Despite all of the reforms, many believe Chavez is not as "for the people" as he claims. As all of the initiatives were being put in place, Hugo Chavez was also reconstructing the constitution to his liking, expanding the presidential term and also expanding the presidential powers. Many saw these changes as violations of people's rights and made him no better than the very government and its officials he and his left wing group wanted to overthrow initially. So who is Hugo Chavez? His supporters claim he is a Venezuelan savior who has reduced poverty, revived an economy and fought imperialism.



On the other hand, Chavez opponents make valid points. Many claim Chavez has not completed all of his promises and that he has been distracted by his quest for world recognition and also by his seedy practices of silencing opponents and trying to destabilize oil prices as part of OPEC. In the last couple of years, Hugo Chavez's image has taken a turn for the worst and for the better in the eyes of Americans. The image depends on which side of the fence an American is on, either for President Bush or against President -Bush. Hugo Chavez has began to be known as a person who is definitely not a President Bush supporter and it is safe to say President Bush does not favor him either. Chavez, who believes that President Bush is a tyrant who preys on weaker countries, refuses to deal with the United States in any way



politically. Despite Chavez's concern for President Bush's treatment of countries like Venezuela, he has also been cited for his shortcomings. Many believe he is heading toward an authoritarian direction instead of Venezuela's traditional democratic way. In the end Hugo Chavez is a man of many faces. He uses the profits from Venezuela's oil sector to fund public initiatives and aid in the transformation of poor Venezuelan neighborhoods, but on the other hand, he has changed the country's constitution to expand his own power and allegations of electoral fraud and corruption loom over his presidency. No one will truly understand the motives behind Hugo Chavez, but no one will be able to question his love for Venezuela and his quest for social prosperity

LUIS WALTER ALVAREZ

Luis Walter Alvarez, Radio distance and direction indicator, was awarded the Nobel Prize for Physics in 1968. He helped design a groundcontrolled radar system for aircraft landings and with his son developed the meteorite theory of dinosaur extinction.

MARIO MOLINA

Mario Molina discovered that the release of CFCs could destroy the ozone layer in the stratosphere, allowing more ultraviolet light to get through to Earth and potentially increasing the rate of skin cancer. He received the 1995 Nobel Prize in Chemistry

ALL THE CHANGE OF THE

LATINO FACTS

- As of 2002, there were 1.6 million Hispanic owned businesses
- People of Mexican origin owned 44% of all Hispanic-owned firms.
- \$222 billion is the revenue generated by Hispanic-owned businesses in 2002, up 19 percent from 1997
- There are 1.1 million Hispanic veterans of the U.S. armed forces
- There are 714,000 Hispanics, 25 years and older, with advanced degrees in 2004 (e.g., master's, professional, doctorate).
- There are 2.7 million Hispanics, age 18 and older, who had at least a bachelor's degree in 2004.
- 31 Million Americans speak Spanish
- By the year 2040, Latinos will comprise 51 percent of the population of California.
- By the year 2010, nearly one out of every six Americans between the ages of eighteen and twenty-one will be Latino

THE LEGACY OF CESAR CHAVEZ

ANDY OURIEL Staff Writer

esar Chavez was a man who wanted equality and would not stop until he reached what he thought was fair.

As a Mexican, he helped many of his countrymen gain higher social status and equality in America during the midtwentieth century. Chavez also wanted to help the lower to middle working class achieve equal rights in the workplace.

Through non-violent techniques, Chavez helped fight for better working conditions toward migrant workers (persons working on farms) for over forty years.

After being born in Arizona, he eventually returned there with his family after his father's business in California was ruined due to the Great Depression. Chavez and his family worked on the farm. There he learned the harsh and brutal conditions a migrant worker experiences on a daily basis.

When Chavez returned from a tour of duty in World War II with the Navy, he joined and later became the full-time organizer of the Community Service Organization. The CSO's main objectives were educating Chicano (a Mexican-American with political determination to make a presence in the United States) residents about the importance of voting. The CSO also focused on fighting against racial discrimination.

"Chavez was a person with political vision," said Francisco Cabanillas, associate professor at the University. "He was very committed in maintaining the dignity of the worker."

While Chavez's passion was helping people understand what voting and battling racism can do to help the public image of Chicanos, he really wanted to help migrant workers due to the poor conditions accompanied by their low wages. Chavez moved backed to California to help create the National Farm Work Association. Through the NFWA, and later the United Farm Workers, Chavez started to become a public figure to Americans with the tactics he used to help get rid of the unfairness major farming and product companies were putting on its workers.

In 1965, Chavez started a fiveyear boycott of the Delano-area grape products and became successful, getting thousands to participate to help and millions following his quest through television, newspapers and the radio.

A 250-mile march was organized from Delano to the capital of Sacramento to plead their case to the state's government. Their slogan of "Si Se Pueda!" (yes we can) would be the union's statement of pride. From all of this support, the NFWA joined the American Federation of Labor Organizations and created the United Farm Workers. He preached tactics of non-violence and used the guidance of Mahatma Gandhi and Martin Luther King to help his charge against the unfair policies of farming.

Cabanillas said Chavez's legacy would go down with these other two historical figures as people who helped achieved equal status for the people they were not only helping and protecting.

Chavez went on to continue to

fight for the migrant worker. Through several boycotts and strikes, Chavez got many big corporations to fold and bargain with the workers. One of the protest tactics Chavez is best known for was his hunger strike.

For days, Chavez would not eat to demonstrate how bad the migrant workers were being treated. In 1968, he went on a 25 day hunger strike from the unfairness of the Delano grape companies. Senator and presidential candidate Robert Kennedy even joined Chavez and stated he was, "One of the heroic figures of our time."

In 1988, Chavez went on another hunger strike lasting 36 days due to high amounts of pesticides being put into grapes. This rallied many people to take interest in his cause and would get millions of supporters, forcing the big companies to agree to better conditions and wages for the average migrant worker.

"He was a person who was fighting for the rights of the forgotten workers, the most unprotected workers," Cabanillas said in response to Chavez going through these strikes and boycotts.

"He is an icon in American labor culture."

Chavez died in 1993, but his legacy is being carried out through the principles he preached. There are many aspects remembering the legacy of Chavez including statues, streets and schools named after him and even his birthday being a national holiday in the state of California (March 31). He even was the recipient of one of the most prestigious awards given in this country. In 1994, **President Clinton honored Chavez with the Presidential** Medal of Freedom-the highest civilian award for distinguished

While many students and readers might not recognize the name Cesar Chavez, or what he did, he truly helped the working-class citizen gain rights they did not have even thirty years ago.

Americans.

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CESAR CHAVEZ'S LEGACY

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- FRANCISCO CABANILLAS

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CESAR CHAVEZ'S, 1927-1993

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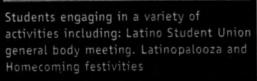






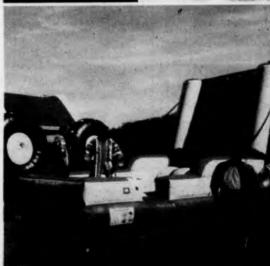














Latino Student Union