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The BG News February 11, 2009

Bowling Green State University

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Wednesday
February 11, 2009
Volume 103, Issue 99
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Arts and Sciences names dean

By Heather Linder
Reporter



Dr. Simon Morgan-Russell
Dean of the
College of Arts
and Sciences

Shakespearean literature and chemistry are on two opposing ends of the collegiate spectrum, yet both of these subjects are classified under the College of Arts and Sciences.

And for the newly appointed Arts and Sciences Dean, Dr. Simon Morgan-Russell, such broad-reaching fields of study are just another day in the classroom.

Receiving his B.A. in English and American literature at the University of Kent at Canterbury, UK and his M.A. and Ph.D. in English literature, specializing

in English Renaissance Drama, at Lehigh University, Morgan-Russell's scientific background tends to fade into the background.

"In England, when you are smart and a boy, you are pushed toward science and math," he said. "All through school I was a scientist, and I got into university originally to do chemistry."

Morgan-Russell decided to

take a couple years to work in a laboratory before attending the University of Kent. During that time, he decided upon literature as path of choice.

"I am still interested in science," Morgan-Russell said. "I am a fan of a liberal education." Previously, Morgan-Russell brought his diverse talents to other areas of the University, where he has worked for the past 15 years. Within the English department, he served as an Undergraduate Advisor, Assistant Chair and Chair.

In 2005, he held the position of Associate Dean for Curriculum and Faculty Advancement and was asked to serve as the Interim

Dean of Arts and Sciences. On Feb. 2, Morgan-Russell was officially instated as the Dean of Arts and Sciences.

"Dr. Morgan-Russell has provided outstanding service to the college and the University, and I am pleased he accepted the position," President Carol Cartwright said in a release. "The College of Arts and Sciences plays a role in nearly every aspect of the BGSU educational experience, and I look forward to continuing excellence under his direction."

For his next five years as dean, Morgan-Russell has a big vision for his college and plans to work hard toward advancing academics.

At the top of his list are finding ways to rebuild the faculty after numerous recent cutbacks and making sure old buildings and classrooms get fixed and properly equipped to adequately educate students.

Morgan-Russell also feels strongly that the distribution model for courses in the College of Arts and Sciences should be adapted to keep University students at the forefront of current academia.

"A lot of faculty members feel there isn't enough emphasis placed upon academics," he said.

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CAMPUS

Professional for hire

Students lined up in the Perry Field House yesterday to meet potential employers | **Page 3**

Television considered an addiction

Columnist Jason Kane discusses the powerful threat of the addiction of spending too much time in front of the television | **Page 4**

FORUM

Is television really a source of happiness?

Columnist Marisha Pietrowski discusses television and whether it really fulfills you, or if it just makes you miserable | **Page 4**

NATION

Shutting down one by one

The Peanut Corp., the company being investigated for the salmonella outbreak, has closed a second plant in Texas | **Page 10**

LOCAL

BG leaders discuss future

Community leaders convened to discuss plans for the future of the city in these troubled economic times | **Page 9**

SPORTS

Taking the game up north to UT

The Falcons are on a winning streak and looking for their next victory against the team up I-75 | **Page 6**



Could you survive without television?



ALEX NADER
Junior, Journalism

"I could, but I wouldn't be happy." | **Page 4**

PEOPLE ON THE STREET

Recyclemania in seventh year at University



Saving the Earth through competition

By Courtney Flynn
Reporter

The word "competition" is generally associated with sports, but the University is now partaking in a competition that deals with nothing but recycling.

The University is one of 514 universities or colleges competing in this year's 10 week Recyclemania put on by the National Recycling Coalition.

The competition began on Jan.

18 and will end on March 28, with this being the seventh year the University has competed in the event.

Categories for the events include the largest amount of recyclables per capita collected, the largest amount of total recyclables, the least amount of trash per capita, the highest recycling rate and the most amount of recyclables in tar-

See **RECYCLE** | Page 2

PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY CHRIS WEST | THE BG NEWS

Fun and games promote safe sex to campus through Love is Blind Carnival

By Eric Reed
Reporter



BEN LOHMAN | THE BG NEWS

CARNIVAL: A representative from a sex party organization explains to a few curious students about sex toys and products. Held in the Union yesterday, the Love is Blind carnival was an informative walk through teaching safe sex.

Organizations at the University spent the day promoting sex yesterday. Safe sex, that is.

The Love is Blind Carnival, also known as the Condom Carnival, was hosted by HUE and promoted messages like, "If you're not gonna wrap it, go home and whack it," to students attending the event.

"The Condom Carnival is about promoting safe sex," said Austin Williams, president of Honoring, Urging and Encouraging. "It's also about promoting self-gratification because we'd rather people go home and do that than practice unsafe sex."

The carnival was hosted in conjunction with the Student Wellness Network and LGBT to help promote the Caribbean Association's Love Is Blind event being held today from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. in the Union.

The carnival promoted safer sex in creative ways — the tables in the center of the room being the most attention grabbing.

Cucumbers with different types of condoms strapped to them were spread out across several tables so students could see and feel the dif-

ference between the types of rubbers.

There were also games and tests for carnival goers to participate in.

A taste test of different types of lubes was one game, while a condom tug-of-war, where participants pulled on either end of two condoms that were tied together, was another carnival activity.

But the carnival wasn't all fun and games. Safe sex was being promoted in the form of what Williams

likes to call "info-tainment."

One side of the room had a table full of pamphlets pertaining to safe sex, while the other side of the room had the Wall of Knowledge.

The Wall of Knowledge contained information about chlamydia, gonorrhea, genital warts, syphilis and scabies, and also had pictures of what each of the sexu-

See **SEX** | Page 2

Credit card fee catches parents off guard when online

By Stephanie Spencer
Reporter

Below tuition owed and payment methods, there's that pesky fine print.

As technology makes piles of paperwork a thing of the past, a new frustration has made parents and students alike prime their dialing fingers for the Office of the Bursar.

"E-fees" have recently come under scrutiny because of the

2.5 percent convenience fee tacked onto every online credit card payment that is processed through the Bursar's office.

Although it may not sound like much, it could mean an extra \$120 out of pocket for tuition payments near \$4,000 a semester.

Working at the front desk, student Farrah Garcia fields many

See **FEES** | Page 2

Students help Chinese women attend school, become independent

By Becky Tener
Reporter

From the poorest of conditions, women in China will take a step up in the world with a little help from University students.

Director of the International Studies Program Kristie Foell challenged her students last fall to take action on a global issue that concerned each student personally for their final exam.

"We spent a lot of time in class talking about the problems in our world, including global inequality and the extreme poverty," she said.

Sophomore Janet Sung, one of Foell's students, decided to do something for the impoverished women of China. Sung had a connection to a particular project

See **CHINA** | Page 2

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BLOTTER

MONDAY, FEB. 9

10:16 A.M.

Complainant reported unknown persons used a permanent marker to write graffiti on the interior walls of an apartment building on 6th Street sometime over the weekend.

12:53 P.M.

Complainant reported an unknown subject wrote "Serenity is Mass" on his apartment door in permanent marker.

2:52 P.M.

Complainant reported an unknown person tipped over an air hockey table on the front porch of a residence on Troup Avenue. Rocks were also thrown through the front window of the residence.

10:18 P.M.

Joel Spangler, 18, of Findlay, was cited for underage possession of alcohol after he was observed with a 24-pack of Coors Light Beer on the rear passenger floor of his vehicle. Rachel Nelson, 18, of Bowling Green, was cited for underage possession and consumption of alcohol after admitting to drinking one of the beers. Jenna Coffey, 18, of Carlisle, Ohio, was cited for underage possession and consumption of alcohol after consuming one can of Coors Light.

11:24 P.M.

Phillip Wright, 29, of Bowling Green, was arrested for domestic violence and disruption of public service after he grabbed his girlfriend and threw her to the ground. He also broke her phone, making it impossible for her to call for help.

ONLINE: Go to bgnews.com for the complete blotter list.

SEX

From Page 1

ally transmitted diseases can do to the body.

When not preoccupied with the cucumbers, students in attendance were very interested to be learning about safer sex.

"I learned about sex under the influence," freshman Eloisa Zapata said.

Other than games and information, there were also items for sale.

One table had penis shaped chocolate chip cookies that carnival goers could purchase as a snack.

Another table was being run by Passion Parties.

"Passion Parties are sort of like Tupperware parties," said Marie Keene-James, owner and consultant of Passion Parties.

The company sells items that are romantic and also fun, such as oils and sex toys.

The main drive behind the Condom Carnival was to promote safe sex in Williams' style of infotainment and to break down any myths that people might have about using protection.

"There shouldn't be a negative stigma about using protection," said Amanda Lynch, senior and president of the Student Wellness Network.

RECYCLE

From Page 1

geted areas such as paper, bottles and cans and food service organics.

While the University will be participating in all categories, its main focus is on how much the residence halls can recycle, Interim Sustainability Director Nick Hennessey said.

"I think Recyclemania is really exciting because of the way it is encouraging the residence halls to get involved in saving the planet," said Kohl Hall Resident Adviser Chris Weinland.

Hennessey said he not only sees this as national competition, but also one on campus for the residence halls.

At the end of each week, posters will be hung in the residence halls to show how much each hall has collectively recycled and how much of each material has been recycled.

"We attempt to be as competitive as we can in all areas," Hennessey said. "One of them is the residence area though."

One area the residence halls and the entire campus will not be standing up to the competition is in glass.

Hennessey said the University stopped recycling glass after last

year's Recyclemania due to cost.

"I hoped to be able to recycle glass again this year, but it probably won't happen because we don't have the organization to do so," he said.

However, Kohl Hall is the one place on campus with the will and organization to do so, with glass receptacles located on every floor for staff and students use.

"We decided to continue recycling glass because of the big push by our hall council this year," Weinland said.

According to Hennessey, the lack of glass recycling in the competition can severely hurt the University in all areas because standings are based on weight.

Hennessey said a University recycling bin full of glass weighs 224 pounds while a full plastic one weighs about 14 pounds.

"We are really missing the weight," he said.

Faculty and staff are also encouraged to recycle items and cut down on trash.

"The competition is about raising awareness and resource conservation so it resonates with students, faculty and staff," said Alec Cooley of the National Recycling Coalition.

The posters, bulletin boards and the traveling banner provided by the NRC are meant to target everyone on campus, not

just students.

"Everyone needs to help BG recycle," Hennessey said.

The Recyclemania competition began in spring of 2001 between Miami University and Ohio University. The next year, the University and Harvard joined the competition and the University won, recycling 48 pounds per person.

"It began as an informal challenge in 2001 to get students involved and excited about recycling," Cooley said.

Although it began as an informal challenge, BGSU has a handful of regional competition — which includes Miami University, OU, Ohio State University and new additions Case Western Reserve and John Carroll University.

The purpose of the competition is to encourage recycling and sustainability efforts, but schools with the highest amount of recyclables in each category also receive an added benefit.

"They get glory," Cooley said. Trophies made of recycled materials are also given to the top school in each category for the year.

As of Feb. 6, when the weekly standings were listed on recyclemania.org, the University was not ranked in any of the eight categories.



PHOTO DONATED BY JANET SUNG

STUDENTS AT GRADUATION: Young women ranging from 16-19 years old from impoverished cities in China receive sponsorship to attend school from the organization Development Through Education.

CHINA

From Page 1

in China, Foell said, that trains rural young women and men in machine sewing.

"We in the west may think of Chinese sewing plants as exploitation," she said. "But for a subsistence farmer, or a girl whose only prospects otherwise is to be married off to another farmer, this opportunity to earn cash and perhaps move to a city is a big step up."

Sung said Foell's project encouraged her to do something about the issue.

"I thought it was a great way for me to start a fundraising organization," she said.

Sung began the organization Development Through Education with some of her friends. DTE partners with the Xiamen Tak-Ying Foundation, a school started eight years ago by a German

woman.

"They learn how to make clothes, play piano and dance so they can go out in the world and start their own lives," Sung said.

The women sponsored by DTE are from the impoverished city of Weinan in the Xi'an province of China. Sung said the students are between 16-19 years old and come from poor families. DTE pays about \$430 per student for a semester at the school.

DTE decided this fall to join the University organization Asian Communities United to increase the reach of their cause.

President Michelle Haldeman said ACU strives to create community for Asians and other groups that might not have a place on campus. ACU is also trying to expand the subject matter of their organization and decided teaming up with DTE would be a great way to do that.

"We are trying to become more political not just for Asians here

but for Asians overseas," she said. "We embraced [DTE] and took them as our personal philanthropy, since we are trying to become more involved in issues."

Haldeman said ACU has enough money to sponsor two women but they hope to expand to more as they raise more funding.

ACU will be holding multiple fundraisers to support more women in impoverished parts of China and show how involved they are in world issues.

"This is just great for our growth as an organization because in the past we focused more on cultural things on campus but this broadens us," she said. "We want to take a role and be in the public eye on how we stand."

Foell said she hopes the ACU will be able to raise enough money to send more students to make a better life for themselves, but also that her own students will continue to care for the people of the world.

"It would be too easy for students to walk out of class thinking, 'gosh, the world is an awful place and the problems are so big that nobody can fix them,'" she said. "The truth is, though, we already have the knowledge and resources to fix many of the world's worst problems."

Like Sung, students just have to try to make a difference.

FEES

From Page 1

of the calls from irate parents unaware of the fee.

"When they find out about the extra charge, a lot of people find a different way to pay it," she said. "There are a lot of people who have complained."

But then there's the inconvenience.

A check in the mail may take days longer than it should and could accrue late fees if not received on time.

To side-step waiting on the actual papers coming through the mail, many are opting to pay their tuition online.

But unlike online transactions that show users directly what they are paying for, the convenience fee is added to the credit card statement, not the original Bursar bill, leaving some to wonder exactly where their money went.

Head of the Bursar Tawn Williams-Nell explains these fees are necessary evils in a digital age.

At first, the University footed the \$700,000 bill each year to be paid toward the major credit card companies.

"When state subsidy declined rather rapidly we as an institution had to look at where we could save the most money," Williams-Nell said.

Meaning that if the University can no longer afford the fees, the students will pick up the slack.

Some colleges have opted out of the process altogether.

Boston University is one that

refuses online credit card transactions, and others funnel the merchant fees, a term coined by the credit card companies meaning their cost for swiping your card's information, to a third party lender.

But while students and parents are paying the merchant fees, the University reaps none of these extra costs.

Williams-Nell would argue that the charge is a small chunk of the bigger project - switching over the entire administration's paper filing system to an online free-for-all.

"I know that they wouldn't think that 2.5 percent is a big deal."

Sabrina Faris | Freshman

Beginning in April, Cashnet, a company hired by the University to make the switch, will allow students to access much of their financial history for filing and tax purposes, as peer colleges throughout Ohio make the same changes.

"We're living in an e-society now," Williams-Nell said.

All jargon aside, students and parents will have to decide for themselves whether they want to tithe to the credit gods who create these seemingly unnecessary fees, or use good old-fashioned snail-mail to avoid the extra 2.5 percent.

Being aware and paying attention to fees like this could be the solution to cutting costs.

Freshman Sabrina Faris will be one of the first generation students to see a benefit to an all-electronic billing system, but is sure that her parents would love to save \$100 on her tuition bills.

"I know that they wouldn't think that 2.5 percent is a big deal," Faris said. "[They] would pay it without knowing."

DEAN

From Page 1

"but the reason the University exists is to educate people. Other things are important, but mainly the University is here to show people that there is a much richer world out there than their own experiences. That is what a university should be about."

When first accepting the job as an assistant professor at the University, Morgan-Russell said he wanted to find a way to get out as soon as possible, preferring life in England and on the East Coast to the Midwest.

However, 15 years later, the

University has grown on the Yorkshire native, so much so that he recently passed up an opportunity to take a job elsewhere.

"I realized how hard it would be to leave Bowling Green," he said.

Although leaving the University may not be on Morgan-Russell's horizon, getting back to his roots hopefully is.

"I really miss teaching," he said. "The thing that persuaded me to take working at a university, working with undergraduate students, I now don't do. One day I'd like to go back to that."

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LEARNING OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM



FIELD TRIP: Kids from the Child Development Center at Johnston Hall learn about the Metamorphosis statue during their playtime away from the Center's playground. Melting snow spawned from yesterday's warm weather turned the playground into a muddy and unplayable place.

ENOCH WU | THE BIG NEWS

Job fair opportunity for students, employers

By Matt Schoolcraft
Reporter

Students flocked to Perry Field House yesterday with hopes of taking their first step towards landing their future careers.

Dressed from head to toe in their professional attire, students came prepared to learn more about the demanding job market from the numerous employers attending the Student Expo Job Fair this year.

Twelve rows of tables dissected the basketball courts of the field house, with large displays and free gifts grabbing the attention of every broke college student who walked by.

While some students walked in with a plan, knowing the locations of each company they wanted to talk to, others walked in with their head on a swivel as they tried to build up the courage to begin their descent down each aisle.

Hector Hernandez stood in front of a large display, immersed in a sea of red and white Target logos. Students surrounded him, letting their guards down after seeing the easy going nature of those representing Target.



BEN LOHMAN | THE BIG NEWS

NETWORKING: Many students looking for a future after college attended the Spring Job Expo in Perry Field House. Here a student discusses a career with a field representative.

"We're looking for people to work in our stores who will make great business decisions and really focus on leadership," Hernandez said.

Hernandez, a BGSU alumnus, said Target is very serious about bringing in quality employees from the University.

"BG has a lot of good students and the business program is really good here," Hernandez said. "There is a lot of opportunities for recruitment for us, so we are always a part of BG's job fairs."

Jacqueline Rivers stood in front of a display for Farmers

Insurance Group, welcoming students with a smile and explaining the importance of her company and the job security that comes with it.

"Farmers is a very attractive company, because as the market has ups and downs, farmers offers business that everybody has to have regardless," Rivers said.

Rivers came to the job fair with very real opportunities within her company, offering students entry into a two-year program that ensured them a good job at completion.

But not every company at

EXPO was offering full-time positions, a sign of the struggles being experienced by companies across the US.

News Director of Fox Toledo Steve France came to the EXPO in order to offer students internship positions, wanting individuals to prove themselves before giving them a full-time position.

France said students must gain skills in all aspects of their field instead of being really good at one aspect of their field.

"No one is going to hire someone who has tunnel vision, that can only do one part of the job," France said. "You have to be well-rounded."

Students who made good impressions were rewarded with formal interviews which will take place today, in hopes of taking that first step towards their career.

Group helps glass students learn the tricks of the trade

Ira Sairs
Reporter

It starts as a powdered mixture known as Soda Glass.

However, after being placed in the furnace and reaching a temperature of 2300 degrees, the glass melts into a shapeable liquid that looks like the inside of a lava lamp.

The glass student can then shape and mold it into anything as it sticks to the end of a steel rod known as a "punti," and is reheated in a small opening in the furnace known as the glory hole.

These are just the basics for the members of the Student Art Glass Association, a group comprised of various art students and glass blowers.

"We all depend on each other most of the time," said Danny White, secretary for SAGA, who has been working with glass for two years now.

SAGA allows students to develop their glass skills by bringing in visiting artists for demonstrations and providing members with field trip opportunities to established glass art schools across the country.

Student's glass work, which range from intricate floral designs to drinking goblets, are found all around the studio.

"We're a hugely tight organization," said Jared Rosenacker, a film and art major as well as vice-president for SAGA, who got into glass blowing through a roommate and decided to take a second major in art his senior year. "In that room, everything is so hot and loud we can still band together to produce something that's shiny and nice. I haven't seen another organization with so many aspects that has this much fun doing it."

The glass studio is separated into two sections known as the "hot room," where glass is heated and shaped; and the "cold room," where the glass is ground and polished in its tempered state. According to White, this is the room where most injuries

occur.

"We're not just a bunch of dirty hippies," said Alexander Zimmerman, a Liberal Studies major in his second year of the glass blowing program. "Bowling Green actually used to be called the 'Crystal City.' There were several glass factories here that used natural gas from the swamps."

According to members of SAGA, Bowling Green is an excellent school for glass blowing.

"It's really rich in history," White said. "The Mid-West has a dominant glass trade. Our equipment is outdated, but we're getting new grants and I think Bowling Green is going to be the new hotspot."

Throughout the year, SAGA puts on sales and fundraisers.

"Only so much [money] is in our budget. We try to raise money to bring in visiting artists [who are] successful in the business to work hands on with," Rosenacker said.

This month, famed glass maestro Elio Quarisa will be stopping by, an event not just for glassblowers, but open to any students interested in attending.

"We also use the money for new equipment to keep us on the cutting edge," Rosenacker said.

Right now, members of SAGA feel their equipment is outdated.

"We're going green," Rosenacker said. "We're getting two, 500 pound electric glass furnaces. Everything we use now is gas, so we're cutting our gas bill by 75%. Our new glory holes can go off and on in the flash of a second. Right now it's the difference between a chainsaw and a jet engine."

SAGA has sales during St. Patrick's Day and live demonstrations at the Black Swamp Arts Festival, among other events.

The next event will be taking place this week through Friday in the lobby of the Student Union and will accept cards, checks and BG1 cards.

The sale will include hand-crafted glass such as hearts, flowers and other valentine themed art.

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GET A LIFE

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Some events taken from events.bgsu.edu

8 a.m. - 9 p.m.

Exhibit #9: "You Call That Dancing"

Union Galler Space

9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Puppy Love Stuffed Dog Sale

Union Table Space

11 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Dating Game Show
Union Lobby

5:30 - 6:30 p.m.

Coming Out Support Group
Hanna Hall 107

7 p.m.

McMaster Endowed Professorship: Alice Parker

This event features composer conductor and teacher Alice Parker in "SINGIS". This event is free and open to the public.



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"It's also about promoting self-gratification because we would rather people go home and do that than practice unsafe sex."
— Austin Williams, President of Honoring. Urging and Encouraging on the goals of the Love is Blind Carnival [see story pg. 1].

Wednesday, February 11, 2009 4

PEOPLE ON THE STREET

Could you survive without television?



"I could because I'm so busy with school and work that I barely watch it now."

BRITTANY SPON,
Senior,
IPC



"Not at all, I need cable in my life."

D'LISHA HILL,
Sophomore,
Psychology



"I could as long as I had other things to do."

JOSHUA WILBORN,
Junior,
Telecommunications



"I could go without cable but I still need my video games."

BRANDON KOHNE,
Sophomore,
Digital Arts

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TUNE IN!

AS SEEN ON
TV

Television:
Just another
addiction



JASON KANE
COLUMNIST

In the everyday American living room, couches and chairs are arranged facing a specific direction. Opposite the seats, at or above eye-level, there rests a single vivid screen releasing waves

See **KANE** | Page 5

A television
set is now an
essential good



JUSTIN PLAYL
COLUMNIST

In this age of change and uncertainty, the great leaders of our nation find themselves faced with a laundry list of pressing issues which, if handled incorrectly,

See **PLAYL** | Page 5

Need the key to
happiness?
Watch less TV



MARISHA PIETROWSKI
COLUMNIST

As anyone who knows me (or reads the occasional column I write) may know, I enjoy television. It would be more accurate to say I am fascinated by

See **PIETROWSKI** | Page 5

PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY ASHLEY FOGLE

Facebook isn't a substitute for real face-to-face interaction

By Adam Clair
UWire

I'm not going to do it. I'm not.

I don't care how many times I get tagged in one of those "25 Random Things" Facebook notes, I will not make one.

By now, you're probably familiar with this phenomenon, as it's been dominating Facebook over the past few weeks and has been featured by The New York Times, Time Magazine and MSNBC. But just in case you've missed it, here's how it goes:

Someone makes a note listing 25 unrelated and mostly unknown observations about her or himself and tags 25 friends. If you're tagged, you're expected to make your own list and tag 25 more people. Eventually, everybody knows

what kindergarten Halloween costumes scarred everyone for life and what foods everybody inexplicably fears.

Basically, it's the sort of assignment you'd be equally likely to receive from a therapist or a 10th grade English teacher, which I suppose is why it's fun.

But it's also narcissistic and entirely superficial, furthering the charade that the Internet is in any way bringing us closer together when in fact our culture as a whole is becoming increasingly fragmented.

I clip my fingernails multiple times a day. After being the third-tallest kid in my elementary school, I hate that I'm only 6'1" and partially resent everyone taller than me. I like to eat a lot of nuts before I go to sleep because it messes with my dreams. The only time I ever

get noticeably angry is when I'm driving. When I became a columnist, I promised myself I wouldn't write a column about Facebook (oops).

You now know these things about me, but you still don't actually know me. You know perfunctory facts about me, but you don't actually know about anything substantive beneath them. There is more to a relationship than just facts.

There is nothing inherently wrong with Facebook or MySpace or Twitter, but it gets a bit ridiculous when the ersatz intimacies forged on social networking sites start to actually replace those in real life. That you can learn 25 random things (plus all sorts of other personal information about someone) without even making eye contact with a person — much less talking — is a problem.

We've become so inured to this faux familiarity that our

"There is nothing inherently wrong with Facebook or MySpace or Twitter, but it gets a bit ridiculous when the ersatz intimacies forged on social networking sites start to actually replace those in real life."

actual relationships are suffering for it.

But the Internet is not the only force working to tear apart the seams of our social fabric.

In 1964, the Beatles appeared on the Ed Sullivan Show. The performance was viewed by 74 million people. With all the different television channels available now—plus lots of other media distinct from TV — is it even fathomable that 40 to 50 percent of the population could be watching the same thing at

the same time ever again?

Record labels are losing their influence rapidly, and no one really listens to the radio anymore. MTV refuses to play music videos anymore or even play music beyond what you'll hear in the background of Paris Hilton's My New BFF.

Everywhere, from movie theaters to grocery stores, we are inundated with personal options.

The mechanisms of control have forfeited their sway to the masses; "culture" is now

a democratically steered phenomenon.

But with so many constituents, so many choices, and so much freedom to choose, consensus and majority opinion have become mere specters. Social import can be measured against an individual but never again against society as a whole. An Internet memo can attain some degree of ephemeral penetration here and there, but there is no hope for a lasting imprint in such a fractured cultural environment.

Perhaps this "25 Random Things" deal is a shared cultural experience in and of itself, but it's also symptomatic of a people desperate to connect with one another on a level beyond the detached precision of "John is no longer in a relationship." and "Today is Jane's birthday."

Social networking, as it turns out, is actually antisocial.

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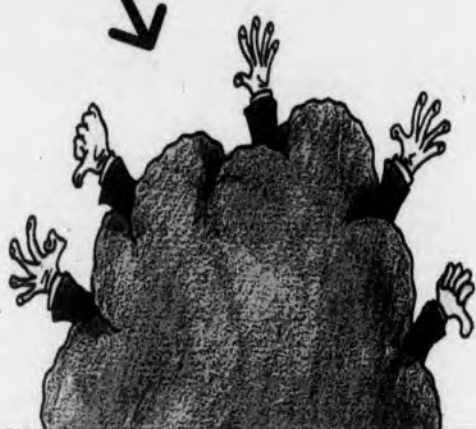
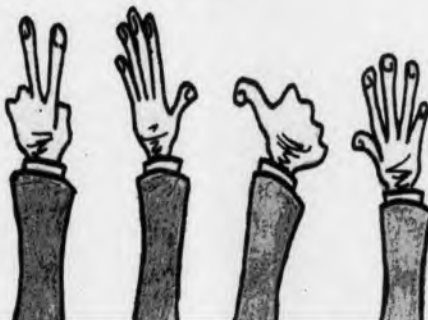
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Congress on issues
such as Health CareCongress on fixing
your TV reception

MICHAEL WEIGMAN | THE BG NEWS

PIETROWSKI

From Page 4

popular culture as a whole, but I especially enjoy the daily or weekly content provided to consumers by the large media conglomerates for our information or entertainment.

Television can yield happy moments in viewers' lives, and that's why we watch. However, does television really make people like me happy? According to a survey conducted by the University of Maryland, it may not.

Of a study of 45,000 people over 35 years, those who identified themselves as unhappy watched more television than those who identified themselves as happy. While 'happy' people watch television, they do so in smaller amounts compared to other leisure activities.

Could this mean the source of countless happy moments in my life is actually causing me to become completely miserable? I don't know about that, and this study is not claiming such, but it's an interesting thought.

I can see why studies would yield this result. Television is an easy choice: It doesn't require effort other than remembering to TiVo your favorites (or, if you prefer to live in the olden days as I do, set up the VCR) and it will provide a sense of entertainment, and possibly happiness. You don't have to be an active participant in a group, such as those self-proclaimed happy participants in the University of Maryland survey who said they went to church.

However, the fulfillment of television watching is questionable. It doesn't provide a great connection to the outside world, and no matter how fascinating shows may be, they still only allow you to live vicariously at best, and you aren't really living your own life.

One thing I have learned about television is that you shouldn't bank all your happiness on the plotlines or general existence of the shows you watch. I learned this the hard way after the Writers Guild of America strike in late 2007, during which most of my favorite shows were forced into reruns.

While I had a great sense of excitement upon the return of the shows I watched, they really didn't make my life much better and my happiness was fleeting. Recently, the shows I watch are not up to the caliber which they were in earlier years or seasons, and this tends to disappoint

me.

Along those same lines, I become frustrated when I hear rumors of an Arrested Development movie happening, only to hear that one actor is preventing it from being made. My life won't be different with or without that film, but I certainly trick myself into thinking it will make me happier.

I worry that I, and possibly others in this study, base too much of their happiness upon the quality of what they watch. Even though the events on screen are not real (and I include "reality" shows in that description) and our lives will not drastically change if an episode is wonderful or lackluster, we may react as though it has some importance.

Plus, regardless of the quality of the shows we watched, the sheer amount of time they take up in our lives can prevent us from engaging in other facets of life.

An example I point to is the possibly sad fact that I have not missed an episode of either The Daily Show or The Colbert Report since sometime in November 2005. I get nightly laughs as a result of these shows, and they're a great way to relax after a day's worth of classes.

However, I did a very rough estimate, and figured out that so far I spent approximately 504 hours from November 2005 to the present watching these two shows, or three full weeks of my life.

Sure, I love these shows, but it could be problematic to spend too much time on them. As a New York Times article about the study states, "The researchers could not tell whether unhappy people watch more television or whether being glued to the set is what makes people unhappy."

It's impossible to say any television viewing causes unhappiness, and no one knows where the boundary is between a satisfying amount of television and so much that it consumes your life.

My main source of happiness (as well as a big source of happiness for other people) is actually causing me to feel miserable. While I may be using television to escape the frustrating and sad moments in life, I may also be preventing myself from enjoying life.

They don't call it the idiot box for nothing.

Respond to Marisha at
theneus@bgnews.com

PLAYL

From Page 4

could bring our nation to its knees. On this list, one can find critical concerns such as climate change, economic recession, terrorism, and television.

Wait, television?

With the anticipated conversion from analog to digital television looming, Congress finds itself grappling with the responsibility of making the transition process as smooth as possible. Though originally scheduled to take place Feb. 17, legislation has been pushed through Congress to extend the conversion deadline to June 12, reports the New York Times.

Apparently, the legislature is concerned that not all Americans have upgraded to digital television, so converting on the scheduled date would deprive these people of their natural rights to life, liberty and reality TV.

Granted, roughly \$1 billion has already been spent on a massive information campaign to prepare the public for the upcoming conversion, so there is really no reason why people who value their TV viewing shouldn't already be ready for the switch.

Additionally, under the proposed economic stimulus package, an additional \$650 million would be spent by the government to help the remaining people who haven't yet upgraded to digital.

Originally, I was confused about our government's concern for people's television viewing. After all, I thought TV was mere luxury, and therefore not worth all this legislative attention and spending. A recent Brazilian court case, however, explained everything to me.

According to Reuters, a man near Rio de Janeiro sued a major appliance retailer for not replacing his faulty television. He claimed "moral damages" caused by his inability to watch soccer games and the ninth season of "Big Brother." The judge ruled in his favor, awarding him \$2,600.

According to the judge, "In modern life, you cannot deny that a television set, present in almost all homes, is considered an essential good. Without it, how can the owner watch the beautiful women on 'Big Brother,' the national news broadcast, or a football game?"

So that explains it — I was wrong; television is not a luxury, but an "essential good." And the

government has a responsibility to protect the public's access to things, like television, which are essential to our lives and well-being. Our government is not spending time and money on frivolous concerns, but rather protecting the public.

I'm sorry; I seem to be dripping sarcasm all over my keyboard, which is not only unprofessional, but also very difficult to clean off.

Honestly, I have no problem with television. It is useful for staying informed and entertained. However, it cannot be called an "essential good." There are other ways than TV to stay informed. In fact, you are holding one right now.

There are also other options for staying entertained, such as reading, listening to music, watching movies, playing games, etc. There is absolutely nothing essential about TV. Anything television can do, other media can do just as well.

So why is the government treating television like an "essential good?" Congress is spending valuable time crafting legislation that will ensure no person is left out of the digital television revolution.

To give everyone an adequate chance to prepare for the conversion, \$1 billion has already been spent. And even if converting to digital TV as scheduled denies some people the ability to watch their television, they are not losing anything crucial or irreplaceable.

Regardless of what the Brazilian judiciary says, television is not an "essential good," and any attempt to treat it as such is irresponsibly wasteful. In treating TV as a necessity, the government is using time and taxpayer dollars to give a small group of people a second chance to obtain a luxury good, rather than attempting to fix more pressing concerns like our economy.

Respond to Justin at
theneus@bgnews.com

THE BG NEWS SUDOKU

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



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KANE

From Page 4

of entertainment. The waves flow through the living room air and meet the enthralled minds of viewers, until finally a thumb (if still conscious) presses down the power button to a worn remote control.

As if an evil trap, the half circle in front of the television seems warm and inviting. Viewers can find a relaxing seat, place a snack and drink on the conveniently-situated coffee table and for hours become absorbed to the vast world of this mass communication medium. But what they may not realize is that within the television viewing experience lurks the threat of addiction.

Similar to cases of substance addiction, condition severity is determined by the degree of use. The more viewers watch, the deeper they fall helplessly into the spiraling pit of this renowned leisure activity.

The more time viewers spend in that disconnected shape, the less drive they will have to give the tube its long-needed rest and remove themselves from their comfortable and mind-numbing seats.

The instant gratification received during a viewing session can last as long as the television remains on. But once it's turned off, that same gratification dissolves to despair, eventually making all other activities seem flat and unexciting, by com-

parison to the awesome television screen.

Keep in mind those suffering from severe substance addiction tend to run into very similar problems. In conflict with the cravings of withdrawal, addicts find the most fulfilling activity to be none other than using. In the case of excessive television, viewers fall victim to their drug.

As written by Percy Tannenbaum of the University of California at Berkeley, "Among life's most embarrassing moments have been countless occasions when I am engaged in conversation in a room while a TV set is on, and I cannot for the life of me stop from periodically glancing over to the screen. This occurs not only during dull conversations but during reasonably interesting ones just as well."

As if a houseplant drawn to the sun's rays shining in through a window, it seems we sophisticated human beings treat television as a necessity, something desperately needed in order to survive. But unlike the plant's relationship to the sun, television is to us something we can simply live without.

A quote from the Stanley Kubrick film "A Clockwork Orange" states it best: "It's funny how the colors of the real world only seem really real when you viddy them on a screen."

Respond to Jason at
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SCHEDULE



HOCKEY

Brandon Svendsen in running for skills competition

Svendsen is running for the Frozen Four skills competition. This year's participants will be selected by way of a fan vote. Fans of Svendsen can vote for the BG senior under the men's west link at www.ncaa.com/frozenfour-skillschallenge

ONLINE

The BG News Sports Blog

Be sure to check out the new BG News Sports Blog. We still have all of the same old features, just with a new look. We'll have a live blog from tonight's men's basketball game in Toledo and tomorrow night's women's game. Live hockey blogs will be on the blog all weekend. Also, look for the newest segments on the new football recruits. www.bgnewssports.com

SCHEDULE

TODAY

Men's basketball
at Toledo, 7 p.m.

OUR CALL

Today in

Sports History

1995—Mark Foster swims world record 50 meter butterfly (23.55 sec.)
1990—James "Buster" Douglas KO's Mike Tyson to win heavyweight championship

The List

Today we're looking at top five players of the NBA's first half. We know who will be at the All-Star Game in Phoenix, but who is the best of them?

1. Kobe Bryant: He is the closest thing the NBA has to the next Michael Jordan. He's leading the league's best team and consistently puts up huge numbers.

2. LeBron James: He's putting up very impressive numbers, but every once in a while, puts up awful ones. Against the Magic, LeBron had a slow day. Against the Lakers, he morphed into "Lebrick" and made only five field goals the entire game.

3. Dwight Howard: He's a posterizing dunk waiting to happen. If only the NBA championship was decided by a dunk contest.

4. Paul Pierce: The leader of the Celtics big three, Pierce has been the glue that kept the team together during their slump a few weeks ago.

5. Dwayne Wade: Wade looks to have returned to form this season. His team is a little way from the top still, and that drops him down to number five.



ETHAN MAGOC | THE BG NEWS

FULL STEAM AHEAD: The Falcons are blasting through the MAC West with a 4-0 record.

Men looking for sixth straight victory

By Jason Jones
Assistant Sports Editor

The men's basketball team will take the program's longest win streak in eight years up 1-75 to Toledo tonight.

The Falcons, 13-9 (6-3 MAC) have stretched their win streak to five straight games, and is one win away from matching their Mid-American Conference win total from a year ago.

"We're maturing as a team," head coach Louis Orr said. "Our confidence is growing, especially late in games."

Tonight the Falcons will put their streak on the line against a struggling Toledo team, 4-19 (2-7 MAC).

After knocking BG out of the MAC Tournament last season, the Rockets have opened their new arena with a dismal season.

BG will enter the game a perfect 4-0 against opponents in the MAC West Division. They've already beaten the division leading Ball State Cardinals, and have taken down Northern Illinois and Central Michigan on the road.

Those three teams are all having better seasons than UT.

"I have respect for Toledo, their coaches, and their talent," Orr said.

Orr will do his best to make sure his team doesn't take this game too lightly, or get caught up in the rivalry.

"Every game is a big game, the next game is the biggest of the year," Orr said. "You really don't need added incentive."

Leading the Falcons into the game offensively will be senior Nate Miller.

Miller is fresh off being named the MAC East Player of

the Week, a week in which he averaged 15.5 points per game and 12.5 rebounds per game.

Otis Polk has been holding a block party recently. His 115 total blocked shots in his career put him just two shots shy of having sole possession of second place in BG history.

The Falcons have made it clear that their goal is a MAC championship, be it regular season, tournament or both.

If the Falcons hope to achieve either of those goals they'll need to take care of business against UT. A championship team cannot afford to lose winnable games.

If the conference tournament started today, the Falcons would be the four seed, and would get a bye. As long as they win games like the one tonight, they stay in that favorable position.

Silence spoke volumes

Former Falcon track star remembered

By Christopher Rambo
Reporter

If we are all lucky we encounter at least one person in our lives who seems to have a positive effect on everyone they meet. A person who's ebullient spirit seems to overflow with kindness and generosity. Someone who radiates a passion and joy for life.

We are naturally drawn to people like this, their enthusiasm is contagious, their compassion is genuine.

Jane Herrmann was one of these all-too-rare individuals.

The Portsmouth, Ohio native was a student at the University, and a member of the track team from 1978-1981. On the surface Herrmann appeared just like any other college student.

She was involved in a litany of activities, which included the track team, (where she competed in discus and javelin) as well as Delta Psi Kappa and the University's Health, Physical Education and Recreation Club. Herrmann also had a strong interest in aerobic dancing and was organizing a dance club for the University.

However, Herrmann lacked one basic characteristic that many of her peers enjoyed. The ability to hear.

When Herrmann was 18 months old, it was discovered that she had been born with a severe hearing loss. Her parents wanted her to live as normal a life as possible and were told that this could be accomplished if they would enroll her in an oral school. So, when she reached the age of 5, her parents made the gut-wrenching decision to send their little girl away from home,

enrolling her at the prestigious St. Joseph's Institute of the Deaf in St. Louis, Missouri.

"I think her parents deserve a tremendous amount of credit for Jane's development," Janet Parks, one of Herrmann's professors said. "They insisted that she lived a normal life in the hearing world and they went all over to find the best school possible for her."

It was at St. Joseph's that Herrmann learned how to lip-read and how speak herself. This was in addition to learning all of the general subjects such as math and English which are found at typical schools. After 10 years at St. Joseph's, she was ready to move back to her hometown of Portsmouth and tackle another challenge, four years at a normal speaking high school.

She enrolled at Portsmouth's Notre Dame High School, a small Catholic school of about 250 students.

The first month at Notre Dame was very tough for Herrmann, who, for the previous 10 years, had been surrounded by peers who shared her disability. Initially it was very difficult for her to adjust both socially and academically to her new climate.

However, as was the case all her life, her dogged determination paid off and she eventually became acclimated at her new school. Through a wide range of activities, she quickly made a host of friends. She began to take on a strong interest in athletics and became involved with the volleyball, basketball and track teams. She was co-captain in volleyball and basketball, and in track she placed second in the discus at the Ohio State Meet her senior year. She was also a mem-

ber of the pep club, the Spanish club and the school newspaper.

After graduating high school, Herrmann chose to continue her track and academic careers at BG.

A major college represented a new set of challenges for her, but as usual, she attacked them head-on.

"Jane didn't want any special favors," Dolores Black, her academic advisor said. "She wanted to be treated just like everyone else. She did not consider being deaf to be a handicap."

As a member of the track team, Herrmann had trouble learning how to properly spin when throwing the discus. This was a direct result of the balance problems that those who are deaf commonly experience, but she overcame this problem with rigorous practice and a relentless attention-to-detail.

"Jane was extremely hard-working," Liz Sheets, Jane's roommate and former teammate said. "She observed other throwers on our team who were very experienced. She was always dedicated to getting better. If she had a bad practice or meet, she would always ask for feedback the next day."

Herrmann's coach, Patricia Brett, described her as a steady performer, who was made more persistent by her handicap because of the fact that she had more to overcome than the other athletes.

Herrmann's determined efforts paid off, and in the summer of 1981, she was selected to participate in the World Games of the

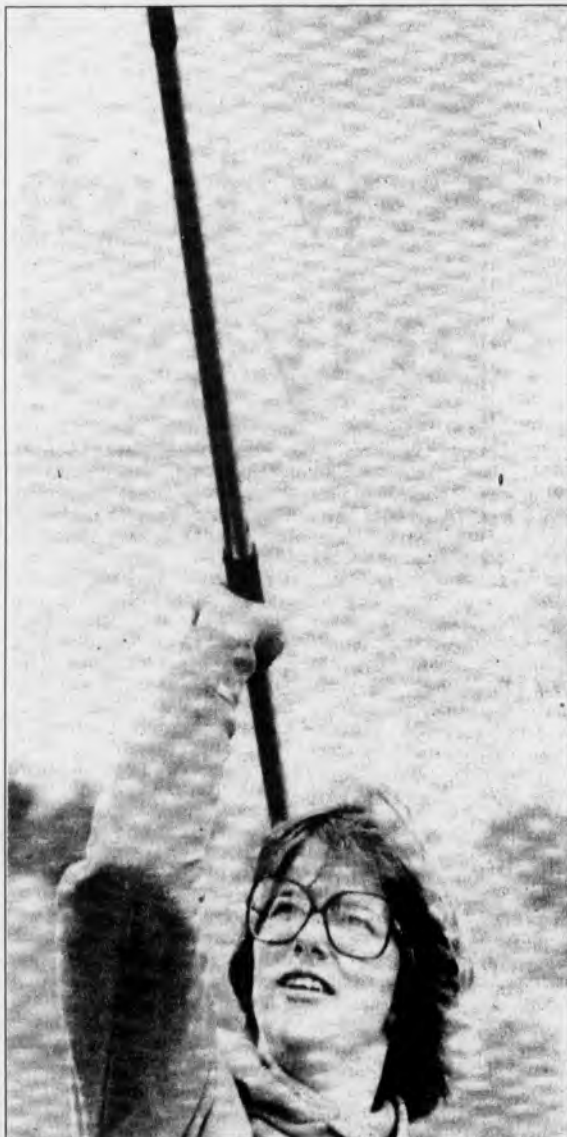


PHOTO PROVIDED BY BGSU TRACK TEAM

ROLE MODEL: Herrmann never let her handicap stand between her and her goals.

See **TRACK** | Page 7

Tennis team rips through Xavier and Cincinnati

By Morgan Carlson
Reporter

Different weekend, same story for the BG tennis players.

Once again, the women have walked away unscathed from their matches, bringing their record to 5-0.

Xavier University and the University of Cincinnati were the Falcons' latest victims, with scores of 6-1 and 7-0, respectively.

Expected to be a difficult opponent, Cincinnati did not seem to pose an issue for the women, according to coach Penny Dean. She feels the two weekend wins will help to motivate the team next weekend.

"Two dominating wins against good teams is easy to build on," Dean said. "[Next weekend] there won't be a problem staying focused."

Playing in tie-breaker matches against both schools, senior and co-captain Kelsey Jakupcin beat her UC opponent 4-6, 6-2, 1-0 (8), but



BEN LOMAN | THE BG NEWS

PERFECT: With two dominating wins on Saturday the Falcons moved to a perfect 5-0.

fell short against XU (7-5, 4-6, 1-0 (6)).

"I think the one against Xavier could have gone a little better, but it was a long match and she played well," Jakupcin said. "I worked my hardest to find her weaknesses and

See **TENNIS** | Page 7

Hockey players leaving team mid-season

By Ethan Magoc
Reporter

When it rains, it pours, and that has been the case for BG's hockey team this season.

With an overall record of 9-18-3, last-place BG has lost eight of its first 10 games in 2009 and takes a five-game losing streak into this weekend's home series against Ferris State.

But there have been other losses for the team besides games this season.

The Falcons started 2008-09 with three senior defensemen, but with three weeks left before conference playoffs begin, only one, Kevin Schmidt, remains.

Tim Maxwell, one of the team's original captains this season, left the team in late November for "academic reasons," according to coach Scott Paluch. Russ Sinkewich departed early last week to join the Johnstown Chiefs of the East Coast Hockey League.

Another defenseman, freshman Dean Petiot, went home to Daysland, Alberta for Christmas



ETHAN MAGOC | THE BG NEWS

SO LONG: BG has already said goodbye to four players during this season.

and did not return for "family reasons" following the death of his father earlier in the season. Petiot is not likely to return for 2009-10.

The vacancies were certain-

ly unexpected, according to Paluch.

"No one has a crystal ball," he said. "You go with what you have and these guys are playing real hard."

The losses have not been limited to the defense core.

Jacob Cepis, a sophomore forward and the team's second-leading scorer in 2007-08, left BG for personal reasons in December.

Senior Brandon Svendsen, named an assistant captain when Maxwell was stripped of his captaincy in October, said the loss of Cepis came as the biggest shock to him.

"We weren't really expecting it," Svendsen said. "It's been tough to lose players, but it's for the benefit of themselves. You have to worry about yourself and I think that was the best thing for him."

At the same time, Svendsen said, he is enjoying his final col-

See **HOCKEY** | Page 7

TRACK

From Page 6

Deaf in Cologne, West Germany. She represented the U.S. in the discus and javelin.

In the classroom, she faced challenges from professors who were sometimes unaware or forgot about her hearing impairment. If a professor faced the chalkboard while speaking, or had a beard or mustache, it would be very hard for her to read their lips and understand the material. Whenever this would happen, Herrmann was not afraid to speak up and say that she did not understand. One considerate professor even went so far as to shave off his beard and mustache so she could understand him.

"Although Jane was supposed to be our student, she was actually our teacher," Black said. "She taught us not to talk to walls or chalkboards, but to face the class and clearly communicate what we were trying to say so that it was comprehensible to each and every student."

Herrmann was much more than just a student-athlete, however. She was extremely com-

mitted to raising awareness about athletes with disabilities, as well as helping others who were deaf to realize their potential. A devout Christian, she was also heavily involved in church activities.

She would frequently give talks to other classes regarding her experiences as a deaf athlete, and after leaving BG, she professed a desire to move on to graduate school with the goal of one day teaching physical education at Gallaudet University in Washington D.C., possibly the most-renowned college for the deaf in the United States.

"Jane was very focused on what she wanted," Parks said. "She had big dreams and wasn't afraid to reach for them."

However, before Herrmann had a chance to realize these hopes and dreams, her life came to a sudden and tragic halt on the night of Dec. 6, 1981.

While she was driving her car over a railroad crossing on Derby Avenue, Jane was struck by an oncoming train that she failed to see. She died early the next morning, five days before she was scheduled to graduate.

Jane's untimely death sent shockwaves throughout the

campus. However, thanks to the tireless effort of those whose lives she touched, her indomitable spirit has endured.

To honor her memory, students and faculty in the School of Health, Physical Education and Recreation created the Jane Herrmann Professional Series in Physical Education. The series, which was held annually throughout the '80s, was a one day event, comprised of various speakers and presentations designed to reflect the interests and activities Herrmann pursued as a student and also to showcase advancements made by disabled athletes.

The track team also renamed an event in her honor, calling it the Jane Herrmann Invitational. The event was dropped after a few years, but when current coach Cami Wells was approached last fall with the idea of bringing it back, she was more than willing. "I thought it was a wonderful opportunity to celebrate someone who meant a lot to both the track team and the community," Wells said.

On Jan. 23, 2009, for the first time in more than 20 years, BG hosted the Jane Herrmann Invitational. The meet, which

"Although Jane was supposed to be our student, she was actually our teacher."

Dolores Black | Academic Adviser

included a moment of silence in Herrmann's honor, consisted of Bowling Green, Dayton and IPFW.

With the event now back on the schedule, a whole new generation of BG students and athletes will have the opportunity to hear the heartwarming story of Herrmann's courage and perseverance.

"I talked to our girls before the meet about Jane's life and what she did," Wells said. "They seemed really touched and motivated to go out there and compete hard."

When asked if she could pick out one thing to have today's University students remember Herrmann by, Liz Sheets said, "I would tell people to always be genuine, be kind and truly listen to others. That's what she always did."

TENNIS

From Page 6

capitalize on them."

Jakupcin is proud of her team for doing well this past weekend.

"Everyone on our team is successful right now and we all have the best attitudes and mindsets from how we have been playing, especially since we did so well this past weekend against two of the toughest teams on our schedule," Jakupcin said.

After establishing a 3-0 record at the Perrysburg Tennis Center, the Falcons are ready to hit the road again this upcoming weekend. Their first stop is Michigan State University, and then Detroit.

"We will keep our focus by remembering what we have been doing each week in practice and remembering how successful we have been playing on the weekends," Jakupcin said. "We know these next two matches, especially Michigan State, will be a test for us and we will stay intense and disciplined the whole week leading up to our matches."

Dean is also looking forward to preparing for the upcoming matches.

"There are just little things in each player's game that need more work," Dean said. "[We are] hoping to practice next week on some fast courts to get ready



BEN LOMAN | THE BG NEWS

BOMBS AWAY: The Falcons have been ripping through other teams with ease.

for MSU."

The women will face MSU on Saturday, Feb. 21 at 12 p.m., and Detroit on Sunday, Feb. 22 at 6 p.m.

HOCKEY

From Page 6

lege season because the team has not fallen apart through each case of adversity.

"I don't think we were ever divided or anything like that," he said. "It's nice to see a group of guys stick together as well as we do and be as positive as we are when you're having a struggling season."

"It's a tough thing to deal with."

It is also tough to envision the Falcons losing as many players as they have in the past three months if they were higher up in the Central Collegiate Hockey Association standings.

BG held a 5-7-2 record and was coming off two losses to Notre Dame when Maxwell left and had lost five of its last six games when Cepis quit a few weeks later.

Leading up to Sinkewich's

departure and continuing this weekend, the Falcons have now failed to sweep a conference opponent since Nov. 15, back when the team's original roster was still intact.

Paluch declined to comment on whether the team's poor record has affected players' willingness to stay.

"I want to talk about our players we have on the team," he said, "and the team that we have coming up."

That would be Ferris State, whom BG hosts for two games at 7:05 p.m. on Friday and Saturday.

Swendsen said he too is focused on the task ahead—climbing from the CCHA's basement in the final three weeks.

"You have good seasons, you have bad seasons," the senior forward said. "It's part of the game. It's part of life. I think we'll do well in the next few weeks and be able to put something together for a playoff run."

Tejada charged with lying to congress about steroids

By Devin Barrett
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — All-Star shortstop Miguel Tejada has been charged with lying to Congress about steroids, the latest baseball player to get caught up in an extensive web of cheating and juicing that has stained the sport.

Tejada is scheduled to appear in court today where he is expected to plead guilty. The charges against Tejada, who currently plays for the Houston Astros, were outlined in documents filed in Washington federal court yesterday.

The documents indicate that a plea agreement has been reached with Tejada, who won the 2002 American League Most Valuable Player award while playing for the Oakland Athletics and is a five-time All-Star. The court papers were filed a day after superstar Alex Rodriguez acknowledged past use of performance-enhancing drugs. The New York Yankees third baseman does not face charges.

The FBI also is investigating whether Roger Clemens, a seven-time Cy Young winner, lied to Congress last year when he denied using steroids or human growth hormone. Clemens and Rodriguez top a list of big name, drug-tainted stars, including Barry Bonds, Mark McGwire and Jose Canseco, whose actions cast doubt on their on-field accomplishments.

Tejada faces as much as a year



PAT SULLIVAN | AP PHOTO

BAD NEWS: Tejada used steroids, and lied. Now he'll have to face the consequences.

in jail if convicted on the misdemeanor charge of making misrepresentations to Congress. Under federal guidelines, he would probably receive a lighter sentence.

The charge came in a legal document called a "criminal information," which only can be filed with the defendant's consent and typically signals a plea deal. A hearing is scheduled for 11 a.m. EST today in Washington, and Tejada and his lawyer plan to hold a news conference later in the day in Houston.

Messages left for his attorney, Mark Tuohy, were not immediately returned.

In the documents filed yesterday, Tejada is charged with lying to investigators for the House Committee on Oversight and

him "of the importance of providing truthful answers," according to the court papers.

During the interview, Tejada denied knowledge of an ex-teammate's use of performance-enhancing drugs.

The teammate is not identified in court documents, but is referred to as having played with Tejada on the Athletics.

Tejada "unlawfully withheld pertinent information from the committee because defendant Tejada, before and during his interview with the committee staff, then and there well knew that player 21, one of his teammates on the Oakland Athletics, had used steroids and HGH," the papers state.

Former Rep. Tom Davis, a Virginia Republican who chaired the committee in 2005, said he believed Tejada lied.

Government Reform in 2005. Congressional staffers did not place Tejada under oath when they questioned him, but they advised

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Furn. Or Unfurn. Two Bdrms, One Bath.
One Year - One Person - \$410.00 per month.
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School Year - One Person - \$460.00 per month.
School Year - Two People - \$590.00 per month.

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810-815 FOURTH STREET
Furn. Or Unfurn. One Bdrm, One Bath.
One Year - One Person - \$370.00 per month.
One Year - Two People - \$410.00 per month.
School Year - One Person - \$435.00 per month.
School Year - Two People - \$485.00 per month.

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One Year - One Person - \$455.00 per month.
One Year - Two People - \$565.00 per month.
School Year - One Person - \$545.00 per month.
School Year - Two People - \$665.00 per month.

835 FOURTH STREET
Furn. Or Unfurn. Two bedrooms, 1.5 Bath.
One Year - One Person - \$440.00 per month.
One Year - Two People - \$490.00 per month.
School Year - One Person - \$500.00 per month.
School Year - Two People - \$590.00 per month.

840-850 SIXTH STREET
Furn. Or Unfurn. Two full baths.
One Year - One Person - \$490.00 per month.
One Year - Two People - \$550.00 per month.
School Year - One Person - \$550.00 per month.
School Year - Two People - \$650.00 per month.

831 SEVENTH STREET - Pets Allowed
Furn. Or Unfurn. One Bath & Hall Vanity.
One Year - One Person - \$430.00 per month.
One Year - Two People - \$490.00 per month.
School Year - One Person - \$480.00 per month.
School Year - Two People - \$565.00 per month.

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Popular candidate loses, causes turmoil

By Steve Gutkin
The Associated Press

JERUSALEM—Foreign Minister Tzipi Livni's Kadima Party was forecast to eke out a surprising victory in Israel's election yesterday, but exit polls showed strong support for hard-line rivals that will make it difficult for her to form a coalition government.

The exit polls announced on Israeli TV stations said the centrist Kadima had a narrow edge over Benjamin Netanyahu's hard-line Likud Party. The results, if confirmed, marked a stunning turn of events for Netanyahu, who had held a solid lead in opinion polls until just before the parliamentary election.

At Kadima's election night headquarters, the crowd erupted in cheers when the results came out, with some supporters jumping up and down, giving each other high fives and hugs, and screaming and whistling. Netanyahu's party also claimed



YOTAM RONEN | AP PHOTO

OUTBREAK: Israeli police officers fight with an Israeli Arab demonstrator in a town in northern Israel yesterday. Israeli Arabs were arrested after throwing stones and scuffling.

victory, saying it was in a better position to put together a parliamentary majority.

A hawkish coalition would complicate things for President Barack Obama, who is promising an aggressive push for peace by his administration.

Israelis vote for parties, not individuals. Since no party won a parliamentary majority, the leader of one of the major parties must try to put together a

coalition with other factions — a process that can take up to six weeks.

The exit polls predicted that ultranationalist Avigdor Lieberman, an advocate of stripping Israeli Arabs of their citizenship, would play a key role in the next coalition.

Netanyahu, who was prime minister a decade ago, portrayed himself as the candidate best equipped to deal with the

threats Israel faces — Hamas militants in Gaza, Hezbollah guerrillas in Lebanon and behind them an Iranian regime that Israel believes is developing nuclear weapons. He has derided the outgoing government's peace talks as a waste of time, and said relations with the Palestinians should be limited to developing their battered economy.

Livni, who has led Israel's peace talks for the past year, has pledged to continue the negotiations with the moderate Palestinian government in the West Bank. At the same time, she has advocated a tough line against the Hamas government in the Gaza Strip, and was one of the architects against a bruising Israeli military offensive in Gaza last month.

Even if the TV exit poll predictions hold up — and they sometimes do not when elections are close — it's not clear if Livni will be able to form Israel's next government and become prime minister.

Iranian president gives speech of hope

By Ali Akbar Dareini
The Associated Press

TEHRAN, Iran — Iran's hard-line president told crowds celebrating the Islamic revolution's anniversary yesterday that the country is ready for talks with the United States, the strongest signal yet that Tehran welcomes President Barack Obama's calls for dialogue.

President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad made the comments in a speech to hundreds of thousands celebrating the 30th anniversary of the revolution, which ousted the U.S.-backed shah and installed rule by hard-line Muslim clerics. The event led to a collapse in relations between the two countries and years of enmity.

As usual at such gatherings, there were chants of "Death to America," along with the burning of U.S. and Israeli flags. But the chanting stopped as Ahmadinejad spoke of dialogue with the United States, and the firebrand president refrained from the denunciations of America that often mark his speeches.

Since Obama's election, Iranian leaders have struck a cautious tone over his campaign promises to open a dialogue with Tehran, signaling that the government was undecided on how to respond. Yesterday, Ahmadinejad made it clear Iran is prepared to talk, citing terrorism, the elimination of nuclear weapons, restructuring the U.N. Security Council and fighting drug trafficking as possible areas for discussion.

"The Iranian nation is ready for talks (with the U.S.), but in a fair atmosphere with mutual respect," Ahmadinejad told the crowds in Tehran's Freedom Square.

His comments came the day after Obama said his administration was looking for opportunities to engage Iran and pledged to rethink Washington's relationship with Tehran.

But Ahmadinejad also declared that Iran is now a "superpower" — pointing to the recent launch of the first locally made satellite into space — and made clear it expects to be treated as an equal.

"If you really want to fight terrorism, come and cooperate with the Iranian nation, which is the biggest victim of terrorism so that terrorism is eliminated. ... If you want to confront nuclear weapons ... you need to stand beside Iran so it can introduce a correct path to you," he said.

Ahmadinejad did not elaborate, but in the past he and other Iranian leaders have criticized the U.S. for its nuclear arsenal.

His speech comes as he begins campaigning for a second term. He faces a formidable challenge in the June elec-



Mahmoud Ahmadinejad
President of Iran is ready for talks with President Obama

tion from Iran's top reformist politician, former President Mohammad Khatami, who entered the race over the weekend. Khatami has supported improving ties with the West.

Asked about Ahmadinejad's comments, Secretary of State Hillary Clinton said the Iranian government has an opportunity "to unclench their fist and to begin a serious and responsible discussion about a range of matters."

"We still persist in our view that Iran should not obtain nuclear weapons, that it would be a very unfortunate course for them to pursue, and we hope there will be opportunity in the future for us to develop a better understanding of one another and to work out a way of talking that would produce positive results for the people of Iran," she said.

Tehran and Washington severed relations nearly three decades ago after the 1979 Iranian revolution and the takeover of the U.S. Embassy in Tehran by hard-line Iranian students.

But relations deteriorated even further after the Sept. 11 attacks when former President George W. Bush declared Iran belonged to an "axis of evil." Ahmadinejad widened that gap after he was elected in 2005 and defied the U.S. and its allies by pursuing Iran's controversial nuclear program.

The U.S. believes Iran is secretly trying to pursue nuclear weapons, but Iran has denied this accusation, saying its program is solely for peaceful purposes such as electricity.

Years of negotiations between Tehran and Europe over its nuclear program have failed to make any breakthroughs, with Iran repeatedly rejecting U.S. and European economic incentives to suspend parts of its program and brushing off U.N. sanctions.

But Washington and Tehran did cooperate closely in the 2001 ousting of Afghanistan's Taliban — before Bush's axis of evil speech. The Bush administration also held direct talks with Iran on stabilizing Iraq, and the U.S. military later reported a reduction in Iran's arming of Shiite militias in the country. Tehran has always denied arming the militias.

Iranian political analyst Davoud Hermidas Bavand suggested that talks on stabilizing Iraq and Afghanistan would be "good topics" to start with. "That may open the way for talks on Iran's nuclear program and Iranian concerns about U.S. Mideast policy," he said.

Rebel fighters kill 16 patients, 19 civilians in area attack

By Ravi Nessman
The Associated Press

COLOMBO, Sri Lanka — At least 16 patients being treated at a makeshift hospital in the northern Sri Lankan war zone were killed by shelling, the Red Cross said yesterday, as the military accused rebel fighters of killing 19 other civilians fleeing the area.

The United Nations, meanwhile, said it was outraged by the "unnecessary" deaths of hundreds of people inside rebel territory and urged both sides to avoid fighting in civilian areas.

The government accuses the

Tamil Tiger rebels of holding civilians hostage in the war zone to use as human shields against the military's offensive. The rebels deny the accusation.

International human rights groups say more than 200,000 civilians are believed trapped in the patch of territory still under rebel control.

Reports of civilian deaths have increased in recent weeks, and the Red Cross, the last major aid agency allowed to operate in rebel-held territory, said at least 16 patients were killed Monday in shelling near a community center in the town of Putumattalan, where medical workers had evacuated many sick and wounded civilians.

"We are shocked that patients are not afforded the protection they are entitled to," said Paul Castella, head of the Sri Lankan delegation of the International Committee

of the Red Cross. Castella did not say who was behind the shelling.

Yesterday, local fishermen helped Red Cross workers ferry about 240 of the patients to a specially chartered boat anchored off Putumattalan to evacuate them from the war zone, said Sarasi Wijesinghe, a Red Cross spokeswoman.

The patients' injuries were making the operation difficult, she said.

"Most of them can't sit upright. They have to be lying down. A lot of care has to be exercised," she said.

She said 140 other patients remained at the makeshift hospital, but the aid group hoped to evacuate them yesterday.

The patients had fled the last functioning hospital in the war zone in Putumattalan, last week after it came under repeated artillery barrages that killed several patients.

In recent days, the military has reported an increasing flow of civilians out of the war zone.

Military spokesman Brig. Udaya Nanayakkara said the insurgents fired yesterday on a group of more than 1,000 trying to escape the war zone in Udayarkattu. The attack killed 19 and wounded another 75, the military said.

Confirmation of the reported shooting was not possible because independent journalists are barred from the war zone. The rebels could not be reached for comment because communications to the north have largely been severed.

More than 1,000 civilians fled yesterday, and 6,599 reportedly crossed Monday, even as a female bomber killed 19 soldiers and 10 civilians at an army checkpoint. The government earlier said the blast had killed 20 soldiers and eight civilians.

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COMMUNITY LEADERS CONVENE



ALAINA BUZAS | THE BG NEWS

COMMUNITY: Bowling Green City leaders met to discuss many city projects. Among those projects were future plans to renovate Main street, the new recycling program that has been implemented in Bowling Green and the financial crisis.

City leaders battle economic troubles

By Kristen Vasas
City Editor

With the financial crisis affecting communities across the country, Bowling Green city leaders took the next step in preparing for the future by talking about their upcoming plans to battle the economy during the annual State of the City address.

Held in the Wood County Public Library, the address was presented by Mayor John Quinn, Utilities Director Kevin Maynard, Public Works Director Brian Craft, Finance Director Brian Bushong and Municipal Administrator John Fawcett.

"The thing we're all worried about today, the thing we go to bed with every night and wake up with every morning is the financial crisis," Quinn said as he began the address. "We're going to be talking a lot about financial problems today."

Although many different topics were proposed in reference to the crisis, Bowling Green's budget became the focus for this year.

Fawcett said he became concerned with the budget after realizing there was a \$1.6 million

gap between what the city was receiving and what expenses were.

As a result, Fawcett said a number of expenditures will be reduced this year, including limiting part-time and seasonal employees, funding for expenditure training and funding for overtime.

And though nothing is finalized yet, Fawcett said the city may also have to consider redistributing income taxes or seeking a tax rate increase if the budget does not get balanced.

"We have to keep an eye out for reducing expenditures," Fawcett said. "We will continue to study how it will impact citizens."

Also taking center stage during the address was the upcoming renovation of North Main Street, which is scheduled to begin in 2011.

Craft said the construction was planned after the Ohio Department of Transportation named the city street as one of the top 200 hot spots in the state for accidents.

"If you go out there on a Friday afternoon, you're going to see a long line of cars," Craft said. "That's one of the reasons there

are so many side and rear angle collisions there."

Renovation plans for North Main include a widened center road, new traffic signals, improved street lighting, new sidewalks and curbs and a new water and sewer line.

"When the project is over, the flow of traffic will be greatly improved," Craft said.

For Bowling Green resident Steve Smith, 50, the expected improvements to North Main Street was one of the most pivotal issues discussed at the address.

Because of the number of accidents on the street, Smith said it is necessary to make changes for the betterment of the community.

"The appearance of the city is important and the flow of traffic is important," he said. "I have problems with North Main the way it is now."

And along with the improvements to the city streets, city administrators also focused on the new curbside recycling program during the address as a way to clean up the community.

With over 5,100 containers having been handed out to city

residents since the start of the program on Jan. 20, citizens were interested in whether or not Bowling Green businesses could be included in the recycling program as well.

"What comes to mind here is the bars," Quinn said. "There are probably things we could do that we haven't done."

Kelli Kling, from the Wood County Historical Society, said the administrator's ability to recognize recycling as a major issue is something she personally feels is a step in the right direction.

By taking advantage of the renewable resources available to Bowling Green, including the infamous wind turbines, Kling said she thinks Bowling Green is on its way to becoming an eco-friendly city.

"Recycling is something I personally support and it's nice to hear the city talk about changes they've done and plans for the future," Kling said. "It's nice to know they are filling in all the gaps."

INSIDE: Watch the State of the City address online at www.bgnews.com.

Forceful winter storms lead to raised salt prices

By Courtney Flynn
Reporter

The city of Bowling Green has been repeatedly hit by snow and ice storms this winter, increasing the use of salt on the roads.

Bowling Green started off the winter with a purchase order of 2,500 tons of salt from the supplier Cargill.

Cargill was the only contractor to put a bid out to Bowling Green when the market opened in the fall.

This year the price of salt increased from \$42.81 a ton to \$65.17, Bowling Green Public Works Director Brian Craft said.

"The increase was expected and I was actually pleased with the increased price," Craft said.

About 1,100 tons of salt have already been used, leaving around 1,400 tons for the rest of the winter, Craft said.

"In December and January, the salt was going out the door," Craft said. "I was hoping we'd have more salt on hand by now."

To substitute for the lack of salt, the city purchased salt brine, a liquid pretreater for the roads, and brine applying equipment, said Craft.

"Before the snow and ice storms the brine acts as a barrier and gives us a head start," Craft said.

One ton of salt is equivalent to 1,000 gallons of salt brine, said Craft. This ratio has helped Bowling Green during this salt shortage by allowing them to use more salt brine and less salt so there is still a surplus of

"The increase was expected and I was actually pleased with the increased price."

Brian Craft | Public Works

salt for the upcoming winter months.

University freshman Ann Briggs does not think the alternative efforts to help keep the roads safe has been helping.

"I'm from Cleveland so I'm used to lots of snow and ice," she said. "But, even though I'm used to it, the roads in BG were bad [and] they didn't do a great job plowing."

In order to conserve, the city has also been mainly salting only major roads and intersections.

Craft said he has noticed that car traffic has helped disperse the salt on the roads beyond the targeted spots.

The city of Perrysburg has also been conserving salt in any way possible.

"I would love to salt everything, but we're just not able to do so," Perrysburg Director of Public Services John Eckel said.

Perrysburg received a bid from Morton Salt in the fall for 2,000 tons of salt and they had a 600 ton surplus from the previous year.

To add to the conservation efforts, Perrysburg was able to receive 350 tons of a distressed salt product from Morton Salt which can be mixed in the actual road salt, said Eckel.

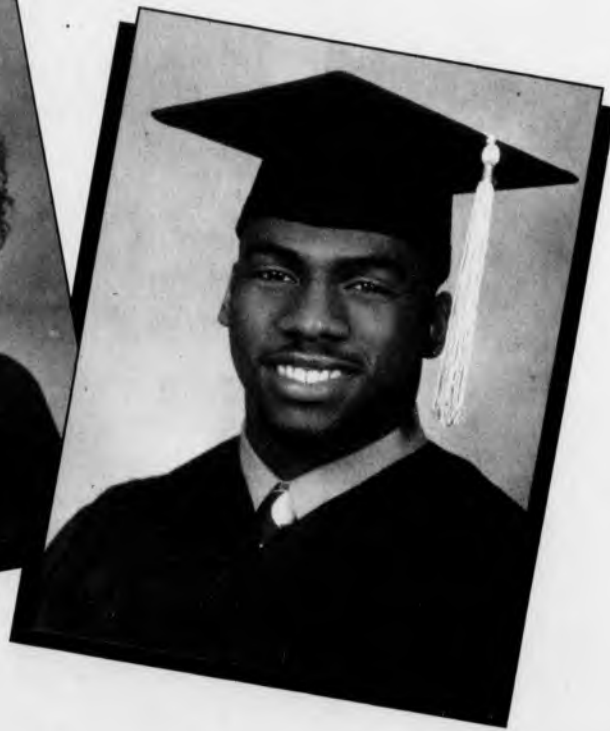
"It may not be as good, but it works," said Eckel.

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RICHARD PORTER / AP PHOTO

POISON OUTBREAK: A Peanut Corporation of America processing plant in Plainview, Texas, voluntarily suspended operations while officials completed an investigation.

Peanut plant shuts down after tests reveal potential presence of poison

By Kate Brumback
The Associated Press

ATLANTA — Private lab tests show there may have been salmonella at a second plant operated by the peanut company at the center of a national outbreak, but the potentially tainted products were not sent to consumers, Texas health officials said yesterday.

The Peanut Corp. of America temporarily closed its plant in Plainview, Texas, Monday night at the request of health officials after the tests found "the possible presence of salmonella" in some of its products, the Texas Department of Health said in a statement.

The Texas plant produces peanut meal, granulated peanuts and dry roasted peanuts. Texas state health officials said that possibly contaminated peanut meal and granulated peanuts had not been sent to customers. Potentially contaminated dry roasted peanuts were shipped to a distributor, but were caught before reaching the public, state officials said.

The company is being investigated in connection with an outbreak that has sickened 600 people and may have caused at least eight deaths. More than 1,840 possibly contaminated consumer products have been recalled.

Peanut Corp. closed its plant in Blakely, Ga., last month after federal investigators identified that facility as the source of the salmonella outbreak. Company spokeswoman Amy Rotenberg did not immediately return a call seeking comment yesterday.

The Texas closing came a day after the FBI raided the company's plant in Georgia, hauling off boxes and other material. Agents

executed search warrants at both the plant and at Peanut Corp.'s headquarters in Lynchburg, Va., according to a senior congressional aide with knowledge of the raids. The official spoke only on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to speak publicly on the matter.

During their investigation at the Georgia plant, Food and Drug Administration inspectors found roaches, mold, a leaking roof and other sanitation problems. They also found two strains of salmonella. Though different from the outbreak strain, the discovery of the bacteria at the plant signaled a hole in food safety.

The FDA said last week the company knowingly shipped salmonella-laced products from the Georgia plant after tests showed the products were contaminated. Federal law forbids producing or shipping foods under conditions that could make it harmful to consumers' health.

FDA spokeswoman Susan Cruzan said the agency is still investigating the Plainview facility. It was not immediately known if the discovery would lead to broader product recalls.

"The FDA has collected its own samples and is awaiting lab results," Cruzan said. Initially, agency officials had indicated that the salmonella problems seemed to be limited to Peanut Corp.'s Georgia plant.

An Associated Press investigation last week revealed that the Texas plant, which opened in March 2005, Plainview Peanut Co., operated uninspected and unlicensed by state health officials until after the company came under investigation last month by the Food and Drug Administration.

Man accused in murder case, 30 years after killing

By Todd Richmond
The Associated Press

FOND DU LAC, Wis. — A man accused of killing a young go-go dancer three decades ago told his soon-to-be wife years later that at the same nightclub, he had met someone once and things went "horribly wrong," according to a criminal complaint filed yesterday.

Thomas Niesen faces one count of first-degree murder in the 1976 death of 19-year-old Kathleen Leichtman. Conviction would mean a mandatory life sentence.

Fond du Lac County Circuit Judge Dale L. English set bail for Niesen yesterday at \$500,000 and scheduled a preliminary hearing for March 6.

Leichtman, from Milwaukee, came to Fond du Lac on July 14, 1976, to work as a go-go dancer at The Other Place nightclub. The next morning, a motorist found her body on a road. Her throat was slashed and she had been stabbed multiple times.

Detectives put together sketches of two men seen leaving The Other Place with Leichtman but never made any arrests. According to the criminal complaint, a photo of Niesen from around 1976 matched one of the sketches.

A DNA sample taken from Leichtman's body yielded no matches at the time.

Last October, however, the state crime lab matched the DNA to Niesen, who had been forced to submit a sample after he was convicted of child abuse in Brown County, prosecutors said. Police arrested him last week in Ashwaubenton, near Green Bay.

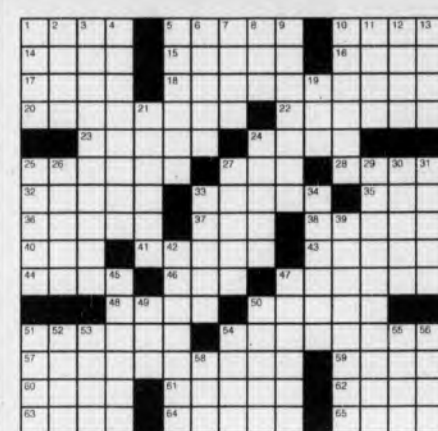
In January, detectives spoke with Ja Cee P. Crull, Niesen's ex-wife, and she told them she and Niesen used to frequent The Other Place. Shortly before they got married in 1986, Niesen told her he hadn't been to the club in a long time because the last time he was there he met someone, things went "horribly" wrong and the woman ended up dead, the complaint said.

Niesen and Crull divorced in 1997.

District Attorney Dan Kaminsky said police have spoken to the man they believe is depicted in the second sketch, but he wouldn't elaborate. He wouldn't comment on why Crull hadn't come forward earlier, on a possible motive.

The Daily Crossword Fix

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- 1 Prohibits
2 Air show maneuver
3 Chip in chips
4 Act right
5 Rummy call
6 Hurler's stat
7 Speck
8 Late-night bite
9 Protective headgear
10 Dahl and Francis
11 1966 hit by the Beatles
12 Shaq of the NBA
13 Prohibited acts
18 Cork populace
24 Musial or Mikita
25 Portion out
27 W. alliance
28 Leaf end
29 Leer at
30 1981 hit by Elton John
31 Abominable snowmen
35 Sting
37 Pianist Thelonious
38 Word with water or pop
40 Slaughter of Cooperstown
42 One of HOMES
- 45 Fact book
47 Permit
50 City near Rawalpindi
52 Room recess
53 Greek letter
54 Voiced disapproval
55 Geneva's lake
59 Unruly crowds
61 Three-spot
62 Transition point
63 Russian ruler
68 Grande
67 Serving of corn

ACROSS

- 1 Spill the beans
5 Japanese entertainer
11 Silent assent
14 World-class
15 Presser
16 Lennon's lover
17 1966 hit by Heart
19 Sebaceous cyst
20 Asparagus unit
21 Top point
22 Boater or bowler
23 Passport stamp
26 Canine hotels
28 With frankness
32 Salty droplet
33 Conceit
34 Alan and Nathan
36 Goblet parts
39 River of Hamburg
41 1963 hit by the Ortons
43 Melville novel
44 Infamous Helmsley

- 46 Jeweled coronet
48 Plus
49 Toy person
51 Ceylon, today
53 Very bad
56 Legendary archer
57 Toward the bottom
58 Uh...pardon me
60 Two quartets merged
64 Hawaiian staple
65 1984 hit by Berlin
68 Barnyard layer
69 Saudi
70 Brightest star in Lyra
71 Spots on TV
72 Bleep out
73 Beholder

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