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Monday

May 4, 2009
Volume 103, Issue 151
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Last meeting of the year

The Graduate Student Senate talked about their priorities for the upcoming year at their last meeting | **Page 3**

A word to the wise: don't tell me what to do

Faculty columnist Phil Schurrer believes the government controls too many aspects of our lives —using the new snack food legislation as an example | **Page 4**

Fall proves fatal for hiker

A Muskingum College student who was hiking in a state park took an accidental fall from a cliff that ended up killing him | **Page 5**

Sex abuse cases fall apart

A majority of the charges against individuals accused of performing ritualized sexual abuse have been dropped | **Page 8**

Falcons move toward the top

After sweeping Ohio over the weekend, BG baseball moved into a three-way tie at the top of the MAC East | **Page 6**

CAMPUS

FORUM

STATE

NATION

SPORTS

PEOPLE ON THE STREET

WEATHER



What would you like to see as a People on the Street question?



LEXI PSYCHOPAIDAS
Sophomore, Exercise Science

"What would you rather jump in: needles or pudding?" | **Page 4**



TODAY
Partly Cloudy
High: 68, Low: 46



TOMORROW
Mostly Sunny
High: 71, Low: 51



Some businesses help people cope with the death of their pets

By **Kyle Reynolds**
Senior Reporter

It should have been an exciting day for sophomore Ashley Ruffing. On April 20, 2007, she interviewed for a scholarship given out by a local business, prom was coming up on Saturday and graduation was rapidly approaching. That morning she noticed her tabby cat Whiskers, a 6th birthday gift for her and her twin sister, was looking "very languid and started spitting up white stuff." "I wanted to skip the interview and take him to the vet," Ruffing said. She reluctantly went to the interview and rushed home to be with her companion of nearly 15 years. "I got home at 3 o'clock and called his name, but I heard no response," she said. "I knew something was wrong. I searched through the house and saw him lying on the bathroom floor. He didn't respond to anything. I just sat there petting him and crying." The loss of Whiskers was especially hard for Ruffing because he had been part of her life for so long. "We grew up with him," she said. "He was always there." Like when losing a family member, pet owners go through a grieving process for their pets, said Tina Bulucea, a psychotherapist specializing in death counseling. Bulucea decided she wanted to help those like herself and

Ruffing who have dealt with the loss of pet. In 2004, she opened Immortal Paw Prints in the Cleveland suburb of Shaker Heights. Some of the services Bulucea provides include public support groups, in-home private grief counseling, pet memorialization, euthanasia decisions and pet funerals. The death of a pet can sometimes be a tougher grieving process than the death of a family member, Bulucea said. Often people who've never had pets can't understand that, but she said she has heard people say, "I cried when my pet died, but not when my mother died." "Pets offer unconditional love, they are never not available, they never judge people and never have conflicts with you," Bulucea said. "Often pets have been with people through their own conflicts, such as the death of a family member, and the pet is there to comfort them." The death of a pet for an elderly person can be especially difficult, said John Bayliff, president of Bayliff and Son Pet Crematory in Cridersville, which is seven miles south of Lima. "Pets are very much a part of the family today," he said. "Especially with older folks who might not have children living with them, pets become family members and friends." Ruffing held a small teary-eyed funeral with family members and neighbors within

See **PET DEATH** | Page 2

CAMPUS BRIEF

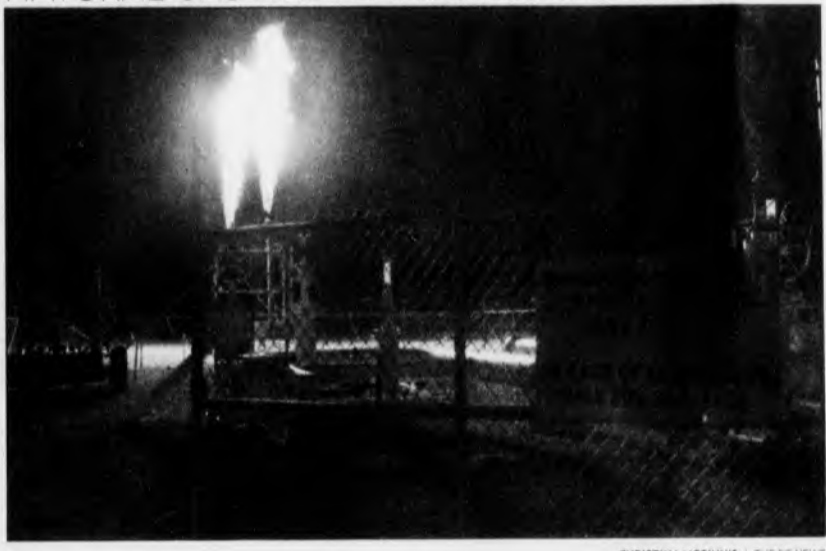
Rodgers Quadrangle to close next year

The Office of Residence Life received a call on Thursday, April 23, with news that Rodgers Quadrangle would not be opening for the next school year. Senior Associate Director of Residence Life Sarah Waters said the residence hall will not be opening due to remodeling, renovating or reconstructing as per the upcoming Residence Life Master Plan that will be released on June 30. "Kreischer-Ashley is opening to take in all the students and staff which may be displaced," Waters said. The students affected by this announcement, those who had previ-

ously signed up to live in Rodgers, can either relocate to Ashley or call into the Office of Residence Life to make a preference choice as to where they want to live. Rodgers, which traditionally has an occupancy of more than 500 students, only had around 200 students enrolled to live there the next academic year, Waters said. That is another reason why the residence hall was closed. "We had 556 total students at the beginning of this year in August," she said. "About 150 of those were returners, so it should have been more likely to have higher occupancy numbers." Waters said there have been no finalized decisions made as to the future of Rodgers.

because the upcoming Master Plan hasn't been finalized, but there should be serious discussions over the next three to six months. "We've had focus groups about renovating it or knocking it down completely and starting over," she said. "We just don't know what the use will be for Rodgers yet until the Master Plan decides." Waters said most of the affected students are confused because of the change but have reacted well. By closing Rodgers now, the Residence Life Master Plan is sped up, Waters said. And while she can acknowledge the change for students is frustrating, she said the closing is a step in the right direction.

NATURAL GAS LINE FLAMES TORCH THE SKY



FLAME ON: For the past week residents of Pemberville have had these two large flames lighting their skyline. The fire is from Dome Petroleum venting their natural gas lines.

Farmers market offers fresh produce to local communities

By **Freddy Hunt, Matt Schoolcraft, Steve Kunkler and Richard Autry**
The BG News

At Corn on the Curb, the day's selling doesn't begin at the market until the cowbell rings. "It's just one of those things that start off the event," said Jeremiah Garcia, vice president of membership development for the greater Findlay area. "The bell helps add to the unique nature of the farmers market." Residents of Northwest Ohio are able to get fresh fruits, vegetable, herbs, vinegars, potted plants, cut flowers and even homemade soaps at the nostalgic farmers market. With an unemployment rate at 9 percent for the state of Ohio and 11.3 percent in Wood County, according to Wood County Employment Resource Center, farm marketing may be a growing market. Francisco Espinoza, of the Wood County Ohio State University Agriculture Extension Office, said growing and buying local has three main benefits: it supports local economy, yields fresher produce and cuts back on carbon emissions from long distance shipping. In the midst of one of the worst economic downturns the country has experienced, Espinoza said most local buyers do so because it supports their neighbors. "People feel more comfortable with how close it is," he said. "You know the farmers, you support your farmers. ... Cut out the transportation cost and the middleman, and it may even be cheaper." Last year, Espinoza said the Wood County extension office was looking at creating a position that would focus mainly on promoting local farmers. Because of budget reductions, however, the position has since been put on hold. If the position ever becomes a reality, whoever fills it will have their hands full. In 2007, Wood County was

"People feel more comfortable with how close it is. You know the farmers, you support the farmers. ... Cut out the transportation cost and the middleman ..."

Francisco Espinoza | Agriculture Extension Office

the number one producing county in Ohio of soybeans and wheat, and number two for corn, according to the Ohio Department of Agriculture's annual report. Those crops, however, were never meant to feed Wood County residents. Instead, Alan Sundermeier, director of the Wood County extension office, said the corn feeds cows in the Carolinas or is converted into ethanol. The wheat is processed in Toledo and distributed across the country in Hostess products, and the soy is processed in Leipsic, Ohio. In 2006, Wood County farmers made \$30,658,000 in corn cash receipts, \$33,362,000 in soybeans and \$12,801,000 in wheat, according to the Ohio Department of Agriculture annual report. In other crops, such as tomatoes, cucumbers and peppers, Wood County made \$32,362,000 in 2006. Northwest Ohio was once one of the largest tomato producing regions in the country, Sundermeier said, with both a Heinz plant and the largest Campbell's Soup plant in the area. But the Heinz plant closed down, he said, and Campbell's stopped buying Wood County tomatoes. The Campbell's Soup operation in Napoleon, Ohio, was acquired in the '40s when it was a beverage plant producing V8, said John Faulkner, the director of brand management at Campbell's. Soon after, he said the company expanded and began producing beverages and soups. "We bought the brand and then we bought the plant, and subsequently we developed the soup plant and expanded the beverage plant and have done a whole bunch of other stuff there," he said.



GROW LOCAL. BUY LOCAL: Corn on the Curb offers fresh produce at low prices to residents of Northwest Ohio.

In an effort to support local agriculture, Campbell's adopted a '100-mile principle,' putting an emphasis on securing most of its ingredients from farms located within 100 miles of each plant. Wood County was once the main supplier of tomatoes to the Napoleon plant, but Campbell's no longer uses the 100-mile principle in obtaining its tomato supply. They now buy most of their tomatoes from two plants in California, with the rest of the supply coming from Mexico. "Probably 85 to 90 percent of our tomatoes come from California," Faulkner said. "We've got two plants in California that are dedicated to processing our tomatoes, either into paste, where we process it aseptically, or into diced tomatoes." Due to the size and scope of the Campbell's brand, mass producing their own tomatoes was a necessary move, according to Faulkner. While Campbell's has tran-

See **FARMERS** | Page 2

BLOTTER

FRIDAY, MAY 1

4:38 P.M.
Complainant reported his leaf blower was stolen from a house on Conneaut and Wintergarden by an unknown subject in an older gray van.

4:49 P.M.
Complainant reported three girls driving in a vehicle threw a kiwi at his mailbox on Pine Valley Drive.

6:54 P.M.
Three juvenile males were arrested for receiving stolen property and burglary after entering a residence on Cardinal Road and taking an X-Box, Wii and Compaq Presario laptop computer.

11:35 P.M.
Loni Potts, 20, of Bryan, Ohio, was cited for prohibited acts after using someone else's identification to gain entry to Uptown/Downtown Bar.

SATURDAY, MAY 2

12:43 A.M.
Clayborne Johnson III, 21, of Moreland Hill, Ohio, was cited for criminal trespass after he was observed being physically removed from a party he had been attending at a residence on East Wooster Street.

1:38 A.M.
Patrick Roesch, 22, of Cincinnati, was cited for disorderly conduct after risking physical harm to himself by doing pull-ups from a crosswalk signal while intoxicated.

1:47 A.M.
Elmer Fink, 22, of Toledo, was arrested for assault after striking a victim in the face and causing minor injuries.

10:06 A.M.
Complainant reported unknown subjects smeared cat poop on the front door of her residence on East Napoleon Road.

10:46 A.M.
Complainant reported unknown subjects appeared to have jumped on his vehicle sometime overnight, causing a dent in the hood and \$1000 in damages.

1:02 P.M.
Shaunelle Scott, 18, of Bowling Green, was cited for slingshot, bow and arrow, paint gun or air gun after she was observed shooting a paint ball gun from her balcony on East

Napoleon Road into the parking lot, striking a vehicle.

1:09 P.M.
Complainant reported their children's brown playhouse was stolen from their residence on Timber Ridge Drive.

SUNDAY, MAY 3

12:15 A.M.
Brandon Russo, 19, of Olmsted Falls, Ohio, was cited for disorderly conduct and underage drinking after he was observed in a physical altercation with another subject in an alleyway.

12:52 A.M.
Kyle Watson, 19, and Jason Brickner, 20, both of Fostoria, were cited for open containers of alcohol in a motor vehicle and underage possession after they were observed sitting in a parked car drinking from beer cans.

1:06 A.M.
Amber Shedrick, 18, of Toledo, was cited for prohibited acts after using someone else's identification to enter Uptown/Downtown Bar.

1:52 A.M.
Veronica Griff, 20, of Lima, Ohio, was cited for prohibited acts after using someone else's identification to enter Uptown/Downtown Bar.

2:04 A.M.
Cody Swartz, 21, of Fostoria, was arrested for inducing panic and obstructing official business after grabbing a steak knife and threatening to kill himself.

2:09 A.M.
Nichole Combs, 32, of Fostoria, was arrested for disorderly conduct and resisting arrest after pushing and forcing her right arm across a passing complainant. When asked for identification, Combs attempted to walk away and became violent when stopped.

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

CORRECTION POLICY

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

FARMERS

From Page 1

sitioned its business operation, others remain fervent in their support of local agriculture.

Hirzel Canning Co. & Farms produces the Dei Fratelli line of foods in Northwest Ohio pride themselves on using all local ingredients.

It may cost more to use all local produce, but Lou Kozma, president of Hirzel Farms, said there are several advantages that come with this practice.

"By sourcing locally, we can pack and press the product," Kozma said. "By sourcing locally, it also supports the local industry as well as the surrounding communities."

An emphasis on use of local agriculture is not limited to businesses, as the trend is beginning to affect consumer purchasing habits as well.

With a grow local and buy local phenomenon sweeping the country, Gary Silverman, director of the Center for Environmental Programs at the University, said more small farms will start producing more crops for the kitchen table, rather than for processors.

"People are interested in local food," he said. "If people are providing local food, there's a market for it."

The Area Office on Aging for Northwest Ohio offers the Senior Farmer's Market Nutrition Program, which is a program funded by the USDA aimed at providing seniors citizens with coupons valued at \$50 for fresh, locally grown fruits, vegetables, herbs and honey.

"Our program has been extremely successful," said Rebecca Libes, executive director of AOOANW. "We are in our ninth year and have served over 21,000 low income older adults."

This program benefits many individuals as it provides senior citizen with nutritious food and supports local growers.

"We provide fresh produce to senior citizens to support our local growers," Libes said. "We have 115 farmers who participate in this program from 10 counties in Northwest Ohio."

Christine Haar, director of dietetics at the University, said there's a good chance that fresh local produce may contain more nutrients than produce found in the grocery store.

Produce from the local farms are handled with tender loving care, Haar said, picked at its ripest and delivered directly to the consumer down the road. Produce found in grocery stores are likely to have been picked too early and handled roughly during the shipping process, she said.

"It takes time for the nutrition values to peak, so the longer it's on the vine the better," she said. "The less it has to travel from the vine to your mouth, the better it's going to be."

In the grand scheme of things, Haar said promoting the consumption of fruits and vegetables, local or from California, is the most important dietary concern facing Americans today.

"One of the biggest things we struggle with as health care professionals, I think people think that if it's not fresh it's not worth it," she said. "Well, that's not the case. ... We would never discourage someone from eating fruits and vegetables, but there certainly are obvious benefits to buying local."

Libes is also proud to say the agency on aging is going green by eliminating shipping cross-country.

"The environment does play a role in our efforts to support local growers," Libes said. "It reduces our carbon footprint."

While fruits and vegetables sold at the Corn on Curb may have spent less time off the vine, are more nutrient dense, yield a smaller carbon footprint, support local farmers and are possibly more affordable, there is one major drawback to buying local in Northwest Ohio: Corn on the Curb, like most farmers markets, is only open several months out of the year.

"We'll all starve to death if we rely on the part-time local products," Sundermeier said. "[Local growers] cannot supply enough off season."

Last year the Wood County Extension Office set up a booth

"The less it has to travel from the vine to your mouth, the better it's going to be."

Christine Haar | Director of Dietetics

at several of the local farmers markets to provide local growers with information on how to can their products. Sundermeier said they invited local growers to bring in their old canners to be inspected for food safety purposes.

With home canning, Sundermeier said, farmers can stretch their dollars.

Stretching the Ohio climate to that of California is a whole other initiative.

Many farmers across Ohio are building hoop houses. As the name suggests, hoop houses are greenhouse-like houses built by stretching greenhouse plastic over a series of plastic, metal or wooden half-hoops. Unlike greenhouses, hoop houses have no heater or ventilation fan and are heated by the warmth of the sun.

Amy Hoops, assistant director of Dining Services at the University, said the University does its best at buying local produce. The only problem, she said, is students are on summer break during the local harvesting season.

However, Hoops hopes to extend the season by implementing hoop houses at the University.

"The hoop houses can be found all across Northwest Ohio and are used in a limited fashion," Hoops said. "However, the hoop house I am interested in participating is experimental as it is used to grow products in the ground during the winter season. The impact would be saving transportation from California to Bowling Green from November to April."

With initiatives in the Bowling Green area to help boost local agriculture and an increase in demand for fresh, nutrient-dense fruits and vegetables, the cowbell at Corn on the Curb may be ringing earlier and more often in years to come.

Flu cases hit 226 as labs catch up

By Malcolm Ritter
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — The government's tally of confirmed swine flu cases in the United States jumped yesterday to 226 in 30 states, but officials said that's largely from catching up on a backlog of lab tests rather than a sudden spurt in new infections.

The new count, up from 160 in 21 states on Saturday, reflects streamlining in federal procedures and the results of tests by states, which have only recently begun confirming cases, said Dr. Anne Schuchat of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta.

Because states are now contributing their results, and because there are many cases to analyze, "I expect the numbers to jump quite a bit in the next couple days," she told reporters yesterday.

Beyond eating into the backlog, the new number also reflects that "we do think this virus is fairly widespread," she said.

"Virtually all of the United States probably has this virus circulating now. That doesn't mean that everybody's infected, but within the communities, the virus has arrived."

Later yesterday, a few more states reported their first confirmed infections.

Mexico's health secretary said yesterday that his country's outbreak is "now in its declining phase," but Schuchat noted that the United States got off to a later start. "We believe we are just in the upswing here," she said.

PET DEATH

From Page 1

a couple days of Whiskers' death.

"I was still crying," Ruffing said. "I hadn't accepted he was gone yet."

Her twin made a clay gravestone reading "In loving memory of Whiskers" with paw prints imprinted underneath.

The gravestone sits under a big pine tree in the middle of a long tree line in their backyard. It was his favorite place to be, Ruffing said, because of the shade.

Choosing a burial location for a pet is a very personal choice for a pet owner, Bayliff said.

Often families don't tell Bayliff what they will do with the ashes, but he said many

people who do tell him don't like to have the urn on display in their home.

"Some place the ashes in a family farm and some scatter the ashes in the backyard because that was the pet's favorite place to be," he said.

A good share of families who get their pets cremated at Bayliff and Son request that they be buried with their pet's remains, Bayliff said.

"One woman bred shelties and we had cremated six of them for her, and all six of the pet urns were placed in her basket with her," Bayliff said.

The most important part of Bayliff's job is to serve as a good listener to grieving families, he said.

"We let them tell us what they might need," he said. "It's one of those things where there is no standard pet service, so we tailor it to a family's needs and desires."

A photo collage of Whiskers is what Ruffing has to remind her of her fallen feline friend.

"It is really hard to look at," she said. "It does take me back to all the memories I have of him."

These memories include her and her twin putting Whiskers in diapers and pushing him around in a stroller.

"I guess we kind of played harshly with him, but in the end

"Pets are very much a part of the family today. ... Pets become family members and friends."

John Bayliff | President of pet crematory

we still loved him," she said.

Not all pets die naturally like Whiskers, and the hardest decision a pet owner has to make is whether or not to euthanize a sick pet, Bulucea said.

This is a decision she has made before and one she helps others face.

"It was a difficult decision because I had to decide whether I was ready to make that decision for my pet," Bulucea said. "Since his quality of life was poor and he would be unhappy it made it easier to make the decision and to go through the grieving process."

Bulucea offers to go to the veterinarian with those going to euthanize their pet to support them during the process.

"Often veterinarians don't know how to deal with someone crying over their pet," she said.

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GSS looks to University's strategic plan, plans for next year

By Kate Snyder
Assistant Campus Editor

At their last meeting of the year on Friday, the Graduate Student Senate recapped this year and previewed the upcoming year.

University President Carol Cartwright spoke about the administration's strategic plan for the University, and she asked GSS to endorse what the planning committee has done so far and plans to do in the next few months.

"[We're] looking for endorsement that we're going in the right direction," Cartwright said.

There are four planning phases of the strategic plan, and three have been completed so far.

The first two, strategic planning readiness and community engagement, were completed by September 2008. The third, strategy development and prioritization, was completed this March, and the fourth, plan execution, is slated as on-going, following the Board of Trustees' approval of the plan.

The strategic plan started under University President Ribeau, and Cartwright said not much has changed from his original game plan.

In a cross-representation of faculty and staff, more than 200 ideas were submitted on what the strategic plan should focus on.

Of those 200, Cartwright said they narrowed it down to seven priorities, which include ideas on expanding enrollment, enhancing the University's capacity for conducting research, increasing diversity and aligning the goals of the individual and institution.

"So, that's the plan," Cartwright said.

Pending the Board of Trustees approving the plan, Cartwright said it will be sent to all academic and administration personnel.

The second guest speaker at the meeting was Lisa Chavers, the assistant dean of the Graduate College.

Chavers spoke about the innovations in online learning, and how the University is adding degrees to the Web.

Over the next three to five years, master's degrees including communication studies, food and nutrition and history will be added to online learning.

"Distance learning is not going away," Chavers said. "It's definitely an emerging opportunity."

But some senators thought taking only online courses are not enough preparation for jobs after school ends.

Chavers said that would depend on the program and the individual, but it will need to be looked at.

GSS also passed two pieces of legislation, one for supporting an optional \$5 green fee for students, and one in support of adding dental insurance options for grad students.

President Emmanuel Guillory discussed changes that would happen next year.

A 2.86 percent increase in housing costs will hit incoming and returning students looking to live on campus.

"This will affect grad students because grad students can now live on campus," Guillory said.

Twenty-seven spaces in Founders have been reserved for grad students, which hasn't happened since 1991, he said.

He also went over enrollment, and said the University is poised to hit 9200 admissions with a new fall class of 3200 students who decide to accept and come.

Guillory updated the senate on the top 10 concerns of graduate students, and said they changed what they could this year, including getting the option for dental insurance for grad students, and what they couldn't change will continue to be an issue next year.

"Parking is still an issue," he said. "The conversations about parking still need to continue."

This week in BG News history ...



- April 29, 1999 — The Department of Popular Culture celebrated their 25th anniversary.
- May 5, 1981 — Two University students were found guilty of murdering another student.
- May 8, 1974 — The Health Center on campus cut back their 24-hour schedule to 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, and 8 a.m. to noon on Saturday.

Our Views, Your Views. BGSU and Bowling Green

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GET A LIFE

Some events taken from events.bgsu.edu

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228 Union - Multipurpose Room

8 a.m. - 11 p.m.

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204 Olscamp

5 - 9 p.m.

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"Pets offer unconditional love, they are never not available, they never judge people and never have conflicts with you."

— Tina Bulucea, a psychotherapist specializing in death counseling [see story, pg. 1].

PEOPLE ON THE STREET

What would you like to see as a People on the Street question?



"What's your favorite Taylor Swift song?"

JASON RICE,
Junior,
Education



"What's your favorite thing to do when you're not in class?"

LINDSEY HOFFER,
Freshman,
Undecided



"What's your favorite swimming stroke?"

MICHELLE RUCKER,
Sophomore,
Digital Art



"What will you do after classes?"

ALVIN DAWSON,
Freshman,
Music Education

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

'Nanny State' is too controlling



PHIL SCHURRER
FACULTY COLUMNIST

Senator Tom Harkin has introduced new legislation concerning snack food sold through vending machines in the nation's schools. Concerned about its nutritional value and citing "poor diet and physical inactivity," he vowed, "we must take preventative action now."

Excuse me, but who appointed him head of the Childhood Diet Police? The answer, in his view: the federal government, which conducts a breakfast and lunch program for U.S. schools and spends \$11 billion annually in the process.

Who writes the law that creates and sustains this program? The Senate Agriculture Committee. And who chairs this committee? Senator Tom Harkin.

It's really none of the federal government's business what's being sold in vending machines at the local high school. This is, or should be, the domain of the local school board, and the National School Boards Association agrees. Also, \$11 billion is a lot of money to spend for children's meals — meals that should be prepared by their parents or guardians, and for a lot less money.

But since the government sets nutrition standards through the Agriculture Department for the lunch program, why not just expand those standards to the vending machines outside the lunchroom? After all, we want our kids to be healthy.

Welcome to the Nanny State, where Big Brother (a.k.a. Uncle Sam) wants to tell you what you can buy for a snack. These are the same people who, years ago, had quite a debate regarding whether ketchup was a vegetable, since its principle ingredient

is the tomato.

These are the same people who mandated a seat-belt interlock system for cars. Unless the belt was fastened, the car wouldn't start. Sounds good in theory, unless you merely want to back the car out of the garage so you can sweep the floor.

These are the people who fly the President's jet around New York City for a "photo-op," who buy \$600 toilet seats and \$300 hammers, who have given us the "Making Work Pay" tax credit but have incorrectly computed the new withholding tables for many taxpayers. Result: some of that money will have to be repaid to our Uncle in Washington, so he can presumably fund more regulations about snack foods and purchase more hammers and toilet seats.

This is the world some of you will be entering after you take "the walk" May 9 and receive your diploma. Regardless of the degree or your major, you'll be entering the world where the intelligencia in Washington is presumed to know more than, and to care more for you, than you do yourself.

Part of the problem with the Nanny State is arrogance and hubris. They obviously know more since they have access to governmental bureaus and departments that churn out reams of reports, data and summaries about everything under the sun.

Another part of the problem is the Nanny State's assumption that they can protect your own interests better than you can. After all, "they're from the government, and they're here to help." When someone says this, do two things: run, and hold onto your wallet.

Yet another part of the problem is the beguiling good intentions being offered as justification for their actions. After all, who doesn't want healthy children? However, remember the

road to hell is paved with good intentions.

Hypocrisy runs rampant. The very people in Congress, who received a briefing about the CIA's interrogation techniques and were silent, have miraculously found their voice and are protesting these same actions. Why now? It's a new day, my friends, and we're surrounded by "change we can believe in."

We've also become surrounded by something else: an overprotective, over-watchful government that ignores the Tenth Amendment and tacitly encourages the abandonment of personal responsibility. It stinks, and it's undermining our morality, our sense of responsibility and our decency. Not to mention the drain on the Treasury. Remember, these programs and regulations cost money — your money.

There is, however, a better day dawning. Young graduates, though many have heard only one side of the story during their college days, are becoming more and more eager to hear all sides of an issue. A university education is supposed to create lifelong students. We need them to ask the awkward questions some don't want to have uttered.

So, congratulations and best wishes. You'll need to assume the role of a warrior regarding employment, maintaining your ethics and sense of fair play, and the monitoring of government at all levels.

As Ben Franklin said when asked what kind of government the Constitutional Convention provided: "a republic, if you can keep it." Keeping our way of life safe from outside enemies and well intentioned but destructive ones within requires constant vigilance.

God bless you and good luck.

Respond to Phil at theneus@bgnews.com

WALKING IS STILL HONEST



KEITH PAKIZ | THE BG NEWS

Radicals have valid complaints, invalid methods and solutions

By Alex Menrisky
The Post

I've noticed that almost all of the radical organizations I've explored have one thing in common: They all have at least some pretty good ideas or complaints — they just go about addressing those problems in irrational ways. I find that funny because if they'd only look at the issues in a different light, people would probably take them a bit more seriously.

Take, for example, Concerned Women for America. The basis for the group itself is very upstanding: A nationwide effort of American women to come together in spirit to support their common goals and beliefs. The organization is based in Washington, D.C., and advocates positions in areas such as education and certain civil liberties, especially in religion.

True, this is all very good. This group supports development in very key areas of the country's well-being. However, there are several more areas in which they work, and with considerably less support for civil liberty.

For starters, the group is anti-United Nations, believing the United States should be entirely independent and allowed to do whatever it wants, both within its borders and around them. It is also

firmly planted in the concept of "the Biblical design of marriage" in that marriage should be limited to being between a man and a woman, which they define as the concept of family.

So Concerned Women for America is like any other opinionated group: It has its widely acceptable ideas, those that are mostly supported by the majority of the country, and then its smaller-scale, radical ideas (I classify the denial of some liberties, such as gay marriage, and the idea that the United States shouldn't take into account what the rest of the world thinks as pretty radical). Most organizations are made up like this, and that fact is not necessarily a bad one. It is important to have many competing views on issues.

What I find wrong, however, is how some groups go about justifying their movements. When arguments are made from a societal or psychological standpoint — that is, when groups can prove certain ideas are good or bad or have significant reason to believe so based on sociological evidence — then they are valid and acceptable. However, when you delve into vague justifications, such as religion or other variable standpoints, then you are making arguments that cannot possibly be accepted by the population as a whole, and thus the argu-

ments are not entirely valid.

Concerned Women for America bases its entire philosophy on biblical evidence (which, may I point out, is widely interpreted to begin with). Nowhere do they take their influence from widely accepted fact or proof. This wouldn't be an issue if everybody accepted their method of verification, but because not everybody does, there is a distinct flaw in their rationality. If they expect to change the way the country operates, they need to find a reason that everybody can agree on. Otherwise their point is null and void.

The same goes for their complaints about other groups and organizations. As they continue to accuse others of being radical, they only serve the perpetuation of their own radical actions in the way they justify their accusations. Concerned Women for America is just an example. Unfortunately, far too many organizations make this mistake. They make their points based on rules and opinions that in themselves are not universally accepted, and as such cannot possibly justify any arguments. As long as people continue to argue circularly, feeding their arguments with more arguments, no convincing will ever be done on their part, and they will be committing the same error as those they accuse.

Obama's first 100 days a success

By Craig Hardt
Bowdoin Orient

Last Wednesday, April 29, marked 100 days since that historic day when a man born to a white mother from Kansas and a black father from Kenya became the 44th President of the United States of America.

In that time, we have seen our new president implement an ambitious (and expensive) economic plan to prevent Americans from feeling the brunt of a serious economic downturn while setting up the infrastructure America will need to continue leading in the increasingly competitive 21st century.

He has begun troop withdrawal in Iraq but at a more conservative pace than he had suggested during the campaign. He has closed down the infamous Guantanamo Bay detention facility and taken steps towards creating a more transparent, efficient government.

While some have questioned the wisdom of some of his policies (the massive government spending being the primary concern), one thing is clear, Barack Obama's presidency will be as important to the direction of this country as any in recent history.

Unlike others' first 100 days in office, the 44th president's have been anything but a honeymoon. Greeted by a credit crisis spiraling

out of control, ongoing wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, and growing threats of instability in Iran and Pakistan, Obama has had little time to get comfortable with his new surroundings. The good news is it doesn't seem like he's needed it.

His aggressive response to the credit crisis has appeared to stabilize (at least for now) a market that was so unpredictable it may as well have been a slot machine. According to a new AP survey, a majority of Americans now believe that America is heading in the right direction. Compare that with the 17 percent who thought so last October and we can surmise that, if nothing else, Obama has improved the spirits of a nation badly in need of a boost.

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THE BG NEWS

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

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

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

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

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

Increase in police layoffs causes Toledoans to worry about crime

TOLEDO (AP) — Few Toledo residents say they're optimistic the city will remain safe in the wake of layoffs that have put 75 police officers out of work.

The layoffs went into effect Friday night, part of Mayor Carty Finkbeiner's strategy to solve a \$21.3 million budget deficit.

"Now there ain't going to be no constraints for the gangs," said 49-year-old Asian Andrews, who said it's already dangerous going outside in his north Toledo neighborhood at night. "The gangs will be recruiting, and it's going to be up to the parents now to know where their children is at all times."

The layoffs means fewer detectives and vice squad members and will affect the department's ability to investigate crimes, police Chief Mike Navarre said. But the number of street officers will remain about the same, he said.

Shopkeeper Janet Allen said

she expects more break-ins at her Community Variety Store near downtown. And in recent weeks, more Toledo residents have signed up for gun classes at Cleland's Outdoor World in nearby Monclova Township in preparation for the police layoffs, said co-owner Theresa Cleland.

Finkbeiner originally proposed layoffs for 150 officers as part of a larger plan to reduce the city's payroll. Laying off 75 officers instead allows the police department to keep its SWAT team and gang task force.

However, the mayor has said more police layoffs are possible.

But even before Friday's layoffs, Toledo had fewer officers per capita than other large Ohio cities, said 21-year-old resident Donald Dukett.

"We're already short enough as it is," he said.

Before Friday, Toledo's force of 616 officers amounted equated to 2.1 officers per 1,000



AMY E. VOIGT | AP PHOTO
PREPARING FOR THE WORST: Asian Andrews, a resident from Toledo, is worried about the layoffs of 75 Toledo police officers.

residents. Now, there are fewer than two officers per 1,000 residents, compared to Akron's 2.2, Cincinnati's 3.4, 3.7 in Cleveland and 2.5 in Columbus.

Maybe the manpower shortage will persuade officers to stop hassling the city's transient population, said Jason Eiche, an out-of-work construction work-

er who is staying at a homeless shelter.

"They need to worry about more of the gang violence, the drugs, and other serious things going on in the city other than an open container or something petty," the 34-year-old said. "Now the cops can feel how the rest of us feel to be laid off."

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

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.

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

Effort to bring back chestnut takes root in Ohio

AKRON, Ohio (AP) — Forestry officials and volunteers in Ohio are working to revive the American chestnut tree, the woodland giants that once dominated forests across the eastern United States.

The effort is part of a larger one across the country to gradually change the chestnut's genetics, which volunteers hope will make the tree more resistant to the Asian fungus that wiped out the trees in Ohio in the 1920s and 1930s.

"It may be the biggest ecological restoration ever undertaken in the United States and maybe in the world," said Bryan Burhans, chief executive of the Asheville, N.C.-based American Chestnut Foundation.

American chestnuts that grew up to 120 feet once accounted for more than 20 percent of the forests in the eastern half of North America before the blight was discovered in New York City in 1904.

An estimated 3.5 billion

"How often do you get to reintroduce a species that was all but lost?"

Brian McCarthy | Professor

American chestnuts were destroyed in the decades that followed. By 1950, few were left in the eastern United States.

Ohio Division of Forestry chief David Lytle is working with others to preserve the genetic stock of the region's native American chestnuts — a necessity since trees from Ohio might not do well in, say, North Carolina or Tennessee.

Last year, a small state-run nursery was started in the Mohican-Memorial State Forest in Ashland County with the goal of producing and harvesting enough nuts to ensure that the Ohio trees' genetic material remains alive.

The American Chestnut Foundation's Ohio chapter is also working with the state's Department of Natural Resources to use the trees to reclaim acidic strip-mined lands in Ohio.

"How often do you get to reintroduce a species that was all but lost?" asked Ohio University forest ecology professor Brian McCarthy, who is among those aiding the effort to bring the trees back.

Another approach has been to cross-pollinate the American chestnut with the squat Chinese chestnut, which can resist the blight. The resulting trees are then repeatedly rebred with pollen from American chestnut trees, making each generation slightly more American.

Only the trees that are most resistant to the blight are used in the process.

Muskingum student dies in hiking accident

CAMBRIDGE, Ohio (AP) — Authorities say a Muskingum College student who fell from a cliff while hiking in an eastern Ohio state park has died.

Salt Fork State Park assistant manager George Ayers says a witness called 911 Saturday at 2:26 p.m. to report that a woman fell from a cliff at Hosak's Cave. He says Amy Adams of Baltimore was flown to Akron General Hospital and died yesterday at about 1:15 a.m.

Ayers says Adams fell about 40 feet into a creek bed after wandering from a marked trail to access the top of the cliff.



TY GREENLEES | AP PHOTO

MELTDOWN PILOTS: Student pilot Patrick Walker, left, speaks to flight instructor Shawn Riffe at the Dayton-Wright Brothers Airport in Dayton, Ohio. Officials at Ohio airports say the number of students taking lessons is shrinking because of the recession.

Slumping economy causes issues for aviation industry

By James Hannah
 The Associated Press

DAYTON, Ohio — Ivan Nogalo can often hear small planes buzzing over his machine shop in Cleveland.

"You want to be up there," the 33-year-old said.

But Nogalo can't be. The would-be pilot has been grounded because the economy has forced him to tighten his belt.

It's the same for Ryan Fisher, who spent an estimated \$10,000 on flying lessons before losing

his job with a real estate developer. The 37-year-old was two weeks short of being certified as a private pilot when he couldn't afford further training.

"It's frustrating," said Fisher, of Cleveland Heights. "I miss being up in the airplane, that sense of freedom. It's kind of transcendental."

The slumping economy has forced some student pilots to put their dreams of flying on hold, threatened to accelerate the decline of the U.S. pilot population, and put a financial chokehold on flight schools.

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SIDELINES



HOCKEY BG announces 2009-10 ticket prices

Season and single-game ticket prices were announced for the 2009-10 hockey season over the weekend. The Falcons are scheduled to play 18 home games next season. See a full list of ticket prices at The BG News Sports Blog.

ONLINE

The BG News Sports Blog

Be sure to log on to The BG News Sports Blog for continued coverage of your favorite Falcon sports teams. Please continue to visit the blog over the summer as we will continue to produce updates on Falcon sports as well as other teams around the MAC.

www.bgnewssports.com

OUR CALL

Today in Sports History

1991—Mets pinch hitters Mackey Sasser and Mark Carreon hit back-to-back home runs.

1963—Dodgers pitcher Bob Shaw sets record with five balks in one game.

1918—The Yankees beat Babe Ruth of the Red Sox.

The List

The Chicago Bulls have been through their fair share of historical playoff series. Despite losing this year, the series can be argued as the greatest ever. Today we list five of the Bulls' greatest playoff series:

1. 1997 Finals: In this series, the Bulls beat Utah with a buzzer-beater in game one, an ill Michael Jordan in game five and a near last-second shot to wrap it up.

2. 1993 Conference Finals: Without home court advantage, the Bulls downed the Knicks with four straight wins after losing the first two.

3. 1998 Finals: Again against Utah, each of the six games except one finished within four points. Another near last-second shot gave the Bulls the title.

4. 1989 Quarterfinals: Cleveland fans remember "The Shot" very well as Jordan's jumper over Craig Ehlo propelled the Bulls ahead.

5. 1993 Finals: It was MJ versus Sir Charles Barkley, and Jordan prevailed, averaging 41 points per game in the series.



DOUBLE UP: Catcher Tyler Elkins had a pair of doubles in the first game of the weekend series against Ohio.

BEN LOHMAN | THE BG NEWS

Push to the top

Weekend wins help move BG toward top of the standings

By Chris Sojka and Sean Shapiro
Reporters

BG busted out the brooms and picked up the weekend sweep over the visiting Ohio Bobcats this past weekend.

Like most weekends at Steller Field, it was an offensive showcase as BG outscored the visitors 34-23 during the series.

The weekend series improved BG to 23-18 (13-8 MAC) and dropped the visiting Bobcats to 22-19 (13-8 MAC).

The win also moved BG into a three-way tie for the top spot

in the MAC East with Kent State and Miami. Next weekend, BG will face off with one of the MAC's worst teams, Buffalo.

Friday: BG 12, OU 9

Starter Brennan Smith went seven innings and only allowed three runs, but the BG bullpen allowed six runs to make it interesting late.

Aside from the third inning, Smith was outstanding only allowing five hits and striking out 10 improving his season record to 7-3.

"As the game went on he got stronger," said coach Danny

Schmitz. "And once he got past the top of the third, he got into a groove, and that was a big shot in the arm there."

However, after Smith, four different relievers struggled to finish off the Bobcats allowing six runs before Kacy Dwornik finally retired the last Ohio batter.

At the plate, BG took advantage of multiple Ohio mistakes scoring five unearned runs and sending 42 batters to the plate during the eight innings.

"We were aided by some errors, it's kind of a tough day to play. When they made mistakes we capitalized," Schmitz said.

Catcher Tyler Elkins went 3-for-5 with two runs batted in, while also crossing home plate three times.

Saturday: BG 13, OU 7

When OU scored, BG came back in the bottom of the inning and scored even more, making sure the momentum stayed on their side throughout the game.

In the Falcons' 13-7 victory, they scored all but one run in two innings and had at least one hit from everyone in bat-

See **BASEBALL** | Page 7

Falcon softball splits another weekend set

By Chris Rambo and Paul Barney
Reporters

A weekend that started out with hope before fading into heartbreak ended with elation for the BG softball team. The Falcons emerged from an exhausting, and oftentimes exasperating, four game stretch as owners of the eighth and final spot in the Mid-American Conference Tournament.

In a manner befitting their entire regular season, the Falcons did not make things easy on themselves. After opening the weekend with a crisp, clean victory over Central Michigan, BG suffered through two agonizing defeats before rallying to vanquish Eastern Michigan in a winner-take-all duel Sunday afternoon, earning the right to face top-seeded Ball State in this week's tournament.



Hayley Wiemer

Closed out her regular season career with a win yesterday

Friday, Game 1: BG 3, CMU 0

Pitching on five days rest, senior Hayley Wiemer took to the circle in game one and delivered a five-hit shutout in BG's 3-0 win over Central Michigan.

After a scoreless first four innings, the Falcon offense finally got to CMU starter Ali Pettit in the fifth.

After Missy Bowman led off with a double, Haleigh Bielstein connected on a two-run homer, giving BG a 2-0 lead.

With Wiemer in control, the score remained 2-0 in the seventh, where Bowman was at it again. This time the sophomore gave BG a huge insurance run, delivering a solo home run to right center field to increase the lead to 3-0.

Wiemer closed the door in the bottom of the inning, sealing the 3-0 win for the Falcons. She went the distance, dealing seven strikeouts while allowing no runs on five hits.

Leading the offense for BG was Bowman, who went 3-for-3 with two runs scored.

Friday, Game 2: CMU 4, BG 3

Wiemer enjoyed a great out-

See **SOFTBALL** | Page 7

Mine That Bird could run Preakness

Beth Harris
The Associated Press

LOUISVILLE — Mine That Bird stood regally, his ears pricked, his gaze fixed on the rows of clicking cameras. Then the 50-1 upset winner of the Kentucky Derby put his head down and began munching on grass, leaving his human handlers still in shock about his stunning 6-length victory a day earlier.

"It's hard to believe we come in here and actually won this thing," bareback rider-turned-trainer Bennie Woolley Jr. said yesterday morning. "Right now it's a little overwhelming."

As proof, Mine That Bird wore a cream blanket with embroidered red roses proclaiming him as the Derby winner.

Whether he moves on to run

in the 1 1/16-mile Preakness on May 16 will be decided in the next couple days, Woolley said.

"The Preakness tends to be a little more speed-biased and I don't know that that's going to fit our horse all that well," he said.

If Mine That Bird skips the middle jewel of the Triple Crown, he'll be pointed toward the Belmont Stakes in June. Woolley believes the grueling 1-mile "Test of the Champion" would suit the gelding, whose father Birdstone won the 2004 Belmont.

The Derby winner hasn't bypassed the Preakness since 1996, when Grindstone was injured between the two races and retired. The Derby winner has followed up by winning the Preakness seven times in the

last 12 years.

Mark Allen wants to see the horse he and Leonard Blach purchased for \$400,000 before last year's Breeders' Cup run in Baltimore.

"If this horse is doing good, you bet we'll run, but he's going to have to tell us," he said. "The horse will tell us. We don't owe nobody nothing."

Going into the Derby, Woolley, along with co-owners Allen and Blach, had the modest goal of finishing sixth or better with the gelding they vanned from New Mexico to compete against some of the sport's priciest horseflesh.

"The horse was training good, we knew that," Allen said, "but we were going against guys like

See **DERBY** | Page 7



LEAP OF GLORY: Britani McNeal had a strong showing in the long jump, setting a new personal record and nearly getting a leap good enough for regionals.

Track has strong showing at UT

By Craig Vanderkam
Web Editor

In the largest Toledo Invitational in years, the Falcons recorded 40 top 10 finishes and 10 athletes finished in the top 10 of multiple events.

There were 22 different universities and colleges represented in the 25th anniversary of the Invitational, including BG's Mid-American Conference rivals Toledo and Central Michigan.

Coach Cami Wells said the meet was an ideal set-up given its competition and timing.

"This was a decently sized meet with decent competition, and it

gave us a chance to stay close to home with finals coming up and compete with our entire squad," Wells said.

BG would have no athlete finish lower in 18th in their event, and Wells was satisfied with the overall performance of the team.

"I was very pleased with the effort of the team," she said. "We wanted to have a good team effort leading into the MAC meet, and we got a good overall team effort with several strong performances in several events."

Sophomore Heather Conger

See **TRACK** | Page 7

Women's basketball team holds banquet

- * Player of the Year: Lauren Prochaska
- * Falcon Award: Lindsey Goldsberry and Randall Clark
- * Power Player of the Year: Tara Breske
- * Playmaker of the Year: Tracy Pontius
- * Impact Player of the Year: Goldsberry
- * Most Improved Player: Jessica Slagle
- * Scholar-Athlete of the Year: Laura Bugher
- * Fran and Marty Voll Senior Achievement Award: Goldsberry



LINDSEY GOLDSBERRY

BASEBALL

From Page 6

ting order, totaling 18 hits on the afternoon.

"Swinging the bat and putting runs on the board is very important," Schmitz said. "It allows the pitching and defense to not have to worry about each and every pitch, and that was huge today."

The Falcons got an early 5-0 lead in the second inning when Derek Spencer was hit by a pitch to open the inning and Logan Meisler doubled to left field, putting runners on second and third.

Dennis Vaughn then came up to bat and drove both runners in with a single, Jon Berti followed with a single and Mark Galvin hit a sacrifice fly to left field to drive in a run.

With the bases open, T.J. Blanton singled through the left side, and Ryan Shay came up to the plate and hit his 11th home run of the season to make it 5-0.

OU cut the BG lead to 5-4 in the sixth inning on Brandon Besl's three-run home run, look-

ing like it was going to be a close game.

But then the Falcons scored seven runs on seven hits in the bottom of the sixth.

In the inning, eight of the first nine batters reached safely and the Falcons sent 11 batters to the plate.

OU threatened with three runs in the eighth inning, but were unable to overcome the Falcons' two big innings.

Matt Malewitz earned his fourth win of the season, and Schmitz was glad to see him back to his old self.

"Matt pitched like Matt did earlier in the year," Schmitz said. "He was attacking the zone with all three pitches. I thought he pitched very, very well, did a great job and really competed out there for us."

Sunday: BG 9, OU 7

For the first Sunday this season in Mid-American Conference action, the Falcons were able to take out their brooms as they swept OU, winning the final game of the three-game series, 9-7.

The Falcons took an early 1-0 lead in the first inning when

Shay reached first base on a fielding error and then reached second base on a failed pickoff attempt by OU's starting (and losing) pitcher, Bryce Butt.

Brian Hangbers then grounded out to the second baseman, which advanced Shay to third, and Elkins singled up the middle, which drove in the first run of the game.

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In the game, both teams had 11 hits apiece.

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ETHAN MAGOC / THE OKLAHOMA CITY NEWS-BOULEVARD

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SOFTBALL

From Page 6

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Once again the Falcon offense struck first with Susan Sontag delivering a solo home run in the second and a two-run single in the third to give BG a 3-0 lead.

The Falcons took a 3-1 lead into the bottom of the seventh, but a lead-off single followed by back-to-back singles with one out scored a CMU run to make it a one-run ball game.

The Falcons were able to get the second out of the inning, but a single to right center with two on gave the Chippewas the 4-3 win. Wiemer got the loss, pitching 6.2 innings while allowing four runs on 11 hits.

Leading the Falcon offense was Sontag going 3-for-4 with a home run, three RBIs and a run scored. Also recording multiple hits were Bowman, who went 2-for-3, and Melissa West, who went 2-for-4.

Despite the harrowing setback in game 2, the Falcons still found themselves in control of their own fate. All they needed was a win Saturday against Eastern Michigan and a tournament berth would be theirs.

Saturday: EMU 8, BG 7

Needing a victory against the

Eagles to wrap up a spot in the MAC Tournament, the Falcons came tantalizingly close before surrendering five runs in the bottom of the seventh, turning a 7-3 lead into a stunning 8-7 loss.

Things started well for the Falcons, who bolted out to a seemingly insurmountable 7-1 lead on the strength of home runs from Wiemer and Zada Lines. Although Wiemer, who was throwing her third consecutive game, gave up a pair of runs in the bottom of the sixth, the Falcons lead of 7-3 appeared to be safe as she strode back out for the seventh inning with a postseason berth in sight.

However Wiemer, for the second straight day, lost her command late as the Eagles erupted for five runs to steal away the game and keep their own tournament aspirations alive. The winning runs were supplied via a two-run single by Kaylee Tolliver.

The dramatic victory propelled the Eagles ahead of the Falcons in the standings, and set up a do-or-die showdown yesterday, with the winner advancing to the postseason and the loser going home. Despite suffering a second straight heart-wrenching defeat, coach Shannon Salsburg said her team's mood did not remain sour for long.

"After the game, we were down for about 10 minutes before the attitude shifted to picking ourselves up and getting the job done on Sunday."

Sunday: BG 6, EMU 3:

Heading into yesterday's series finale with the Eagles, BG knew there would be no tomorrow without a victory.

In a gutty display of both mental and physical fortitude, Wiemer headed back out to the circle for the fourth consecutive game seeking for the second straight day to pitch her team into the tournament.

Once again, the senior from Sylvania was sharp early on, holding the Eagles scoreless through the first four innings. Meanwhile, Bielstein ensured that Wiemer had the necessary run support, hitting a two-run single in the third and a three-run homer in the fifth, to give the Falcons a 5-0 cushion.

This time there would be no late-inning heroics for the Eagles, whose single runs in the fifth, sixth and seventh were not enough to overtake a Falcon team that was, at long last, able to relax and celebrate a postseason trip with a 6-3 victory. Following the game, Salsburg could not say enough about the performance of her trusted senior.

"She was just terrific for us the entire weekend," Salsburg said. "She really only had two bad innings the whole time, and to come out and throw the way she did today was just phenomenal."

The Falcons will now take on Ball State in the first round of the MAC Tournament at a time to be determined.

TRACK

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Senior Jamie Roflow won in the 3000 meter steeplechase (10:57.66) with fellow senior Kylie Korsnak the runner-up. Other accomplishments to

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Senior TaKarra Dunning won the shot put with a season best throw of 15.08 meters, and senior Whitney Hartman placed second in the shot put and won the discus throw (46.10 meters).

Freshman Jessie Rowland set a personal record in both the discus throw and shot put as did freshman Ashley Harris in the discus.

Sophomore Brittani McNeal won the long jump with a dis-

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DERBY

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SIDELINES



HOCKEY BG announces 2009-10 ticket prices

Season and single-game ticket prices were announced for the 2009-10 hockey season over the weekend. The Falcons are scheduled to play 18 home games next season. See a full list of ticket prices at The BG News Sports Blog.

ONLINE

The BG News Sports Blog

Be sure to log on to The BG News Sports Blog for continued coverage of your favorite Falcon sports teams. Please continue to visit the blog over the summer as we will continue to produce updates on Falcon sports as well as other teams around the MAC.

www.bgnewssports.com

OUR CALL

Today in Sports History

1991—Mets pinch hitters Mackey Sasser and Mark Carreon hit back-to-back home runs.

1963—Dodgers pitcher Bob Shaw sets record with five balks in one game.

1918—The Yankees beat Babe Ruth of the Red Sox.

The List

The Chicago Bulls have been through their fair share of historical playoff series. Despite losing this year, the series can be argued as the greatest ever. Today we list five of the Bulls' greatest playoff series:

1. 1997 Finals: In this series, the Bulls beat Utah with a buzzer-beater in game one, an ill Michael Jordan in game five and a near last-second shot to wrap it up.

2. 1993 Conference Finals: Without home court advantage, the Bulls downed the Knicks with four straight wins after losing the first two.

3. 1998 Finals: Again against Utah, each of the six games except one finished within four points. Another near last-second shot gave the Bulls the title.

4. 1989 Quarterfinals: Cleveland fans remember "The Shot" very well as Jordan's jumper over Craig Ehlo propelled the Bulls ahead.

5. 1993 Finals: It was MJ versus Sir Charles Barkley, and Jordan prevailed, averaging 41 points per game in the series.



DOUBLE UP: Catcher Tyler Elkins had a pair of doubles in the first game of the weekend series against Ohio.

BEN LOHMAN | THE BG NEWS

Push to the top

Weekend wins help move BG toward top of the standings

By Chris Sojka and Sean Shapiro
Reporters

BG busted out the brooms and picked up the weekend sweep over the visiting Ohio Bobcats this past weekend.

Like most weekends at Steller Field, it was an offensive showcase as BG outscored the visitors 34-23 during the series.

The weekend series improved BG to 23-18 (13-8 MAC) and dropped the visiting Bobcats to 22-19 (13-8 MAC).

The win also moved BG into a three-way tie for the top spot

in the MAC East with Kent State and Miami. Next weekend, BG will face off with one of the MAC's worst teams, Buffalo.

Friday: BG 12, OU 9

Starter Brennan Smith went seven innings and only allowed three runs, but the BG bullpen allowed six runs to make it interesting late.

Aside from the third inning, Smith was outstanding only allowing five hits and striking out 10 improving his season record to 7-3.

"As the game went on he got stronger," said coach Danny

Schmitz. "And once he got past the top of the third, he got into a groove, and that was a big shot in the arm there."

However, after Smith, four different relievers struggled to finish off the Bobcats allowing six runs before Kacy Dwornik finally retired the last Ohio batter.

At the plate, BG took advantage of multiple Ohio mistakes scoring five unearned runs and sending 42 batters to the plate during the eight innings.

"We were aided by some errors, it's kind of a tough day to play. When they made mistakes we capitalized," Schmitz said.

Catcher Tyler Elkins went 3-for-5 with two runs batted in, while also crossing home plate three times.

Saturday: BG 13, OU 7

When OU scored, BG came back in the bottom of the inning and scored even more, making sure the momentum stayed on their side throughout the game.

In the Falcons' 13-7 victory, they scored all but one run in two innings and had at least one hit from everyone in bat-

See **BASEBALL** | Page 7

Falcon softball splits another weekend set

By Chris Rambo and Paul Barney
Reporters

A weekend that started out with hope before fading into heartbreak ended with elation for the BG softball team. The Falcons emerged from an exhausting, and often-times exasperating, four game stretch as owners of the eighth and final spot in the Mid-American Conference Tournament.

In a manner befitting their entire regular season, the Falcons did not make things easy on themselves. After opening the weekend with a crisp, clean victory over Central Michigan, BG suffered through two agonizing defeats before rallying to vanquish Eastern Michigan in a winner-take-all duel Sunday afternoon, earning the right to face top-seeded Ball State in this week's tournament.



Hayley Wiemer

Closed out her regular season career with a win yesterday

Friday, Game 1: BG 3, CMU 0

Pitching on five days rest, senior Hayley Wiemer took to the circle in game one and delivered a five-hit shutout in BG's 3-0 win over Central Michigan.

After a scoreless first four innings, the Falcon offense finally got to CMU starter Ali Pettit in the fifth.

After Missy Bowman led off with a double, Haleigh Bielstein connected on a two-run homer, giving BG a 2-0 lead.

With Wiemer in control, the score remained 2-0 in the seventh, where Bowman was at it again. This time the sophomore gave BG a huge insurance run, delivering a solo home run to right center field to increase the lead to 3-0.

Wiemer closed the door in the bottom of the inning, sealing the 3-0 win for the Falcons. She went the distance, dealing seven strikeouts while allowing no runs on five hits.

Leading the offense for BG was Bowman, who went 3-for-3 with two runs scored.

Friday, Game 2: CMU 4, BG 3

Wiemer enjoyed a great out-

See **SOFTBALL** | Page 7

Mine That Bird could run Preakness

Beth Harris
The Associated Press

LOUISVILLE — Mine That Bird stood regally, his ears pricked, his gaze fixed on the rows of clicking cameras. Then the 50-1 upset winner of the Kentucky Derby put his head down and began munching on grass, leaving his human handlers still in shock about his stunning 6-length victory a day earlier.

"It's hard to believe we come in here and actually win this thing," bareback rider-turned-trainer Bennie Woolley Jr. said yesterday morning. "Right now it's a little overwhelming."

As proof, Mine That Bird wore a cream blanket with embroidered red roses proclaiming him as the Derby winner.

Whether he moves on to run

in the 1 1/16-mile Preakness on May 16 will be decided in the next couple days, Woolley said.

"The Preakness tends to be a little more speed-biased and I don't know that that's going to fit our horse all that well," he said.

If Mine That Bird skips the middle jewel of the Triple Crown, he'll be pointed toward the Belmont Stakes in June. Woolley believes the grueling 1 1/2-mile "Test of the Champion" would suit the gelding, whose father Birdstone won the 2004 Belmont.

The Derby winner hasn't bypassed the Preakness since 1996, when Grindstone was injured between the two races and retired. The Derby winner has followed up by winning the Preakness seven times in the

last 12 years.

Mark Allen wants to see the horse he and Leonard Blach purchased for \$400,000 before last year's Breeders' Cup run in Baltimore.

"If this horse is doing good, you bet we'll run, but he's going to have to tell us," he said. "The horse will tell us. We don't owe nobody nothing."

Going into the Derby, Woolley, along with co-owners Allen and Blach, had the modest goal of finishing sixth or better with the gelding they vanned from New Mexico to compete against some of the sport's priciest horseflesh.

"The horse was training good, we knew that," Allen said, "but we were going against guys like

See **DERBY** | Page 7



LEAP OF GLORY: Britani McNeal had a strong showing in the long jump, setting a new personal record and nearly getting a leap good enough for regionals.

BEN LOHMAN | THE BG NEWS

Track has strong showing at UT

By Craig Vanderkam
Web Editor

In the largest Toledo Invitational in years, the Falcons recorded 40 top 10 finishes and 10 athletes finished in the top 10 of multiple events.

There were 22 different universities and colleges represented in the 25th anniversary of the Invitational, including BG's Mid-American Conference rivals Toledo and Central Michigan.

Coach Cami Wells said the meet was an ideal set-up given its competition and timing.

"This was a decently sized meet with decent competition, and it

gave us a chance to stay close to home with finals coming up and compete with our entire squad," Wells said.

BG would have no athlete finish lower in 18th in their event, and Wells was satisfied with the overall performance of the team.

"I was very pleased with the effort of the team," she said. "We wanted to have a good team effort leading into the MAC meet, and we got a good overall team effort with several strong performances in several events."

Sophomore Heather Conger

See **TRACK** | Page 7

Women's basketball team holds banquet

- * Player of the Year: Lauren Prochaska
- * Falcon Award: Lindsey Goldsberry and Randall Clark
- * Power Player of the Year: Tara Breske
- * Playmaker of the Year: Tracy Pontius
- * Impact Player of the Year: Goldsberry
- * Most Improved Player: Jessica Slagle
- * Scholar-Athlete of the Year: Laura Bugher
- * Fran and Marty Voll Senior Achievement Award: Goldsberry



LINDSEY GOLDSBERRY

BASEBALL

From Page 6

ting order, totaling 18 hits on the afternoon.

"Swinging the bat and putting runs on the board is very important," Schmitz said. "It allows the pitching and defense to not have to worry about each and every pitch, and that was huge today."

The Falcons got an early 5-0 lead in the second inning when Derek Spencer was hit by a pitch to open the inning and Logan Meisler doubled to left field, putting runners on second and third.

Dennis Vaughn then came up to bat and drove both runners in with a single, Jon Berti followed with a single and Mark Galvin hit a sacrifice fly to left field to drive in a run.

With the bases open, T.J. Blanton singled through the left side, and Ryan Shay came up to the plate and hit his 11th home run of the season to make it 5-0.

OU cut the BG lead to 5-4 in the sixth inning on Brandon Besl's three-run home run, look-

ing like it was going to be a close game.

But then the Falcons scored seven runs on seven hits in the bottom of the sixth.

In the inning, eight of the first nine batters reached safely and the Falcons sent 11 batters to the plate.

OU threatened with three runs in the eighth inning, but were unable to overcome the Falcons' two big innings.

Matt Malewitz earned his fourth win of the season, and Schmitz was glad to see him back to his old self.

"Matt pitched like Matt did earlier in the year," Schmitz said. "He was attacking the zone with all three pitches. I thought he pitched very, very well, did a great job and really competed out there for us."

Sunday: BG 9, OU 7

For the first Sunday this season in Mid-American Conference action, the Falcons were able to take out their brooms as they swept OU, winning the final game of the three-game series, 9-7.

The Falcons took an early 1-0 lead in the first inning when

Shay reached first base on a fielding error and then reached second base on a failed pickoff attempt by OU's starting (and losing) pitcher, Bryce Butt.

Brian Hangbers then grounded out to the second baseman, which advanced Shay to third, and Elkins singled up the middle, which drove in the first run of the game.

The Falcons scored two more in the second inning and had a big four-run fourth.

To start the inning, Berti lead-off with a double and Galvin singled up the middle, which scored Berti.

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SOFTBALL

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Despite the harrowing setback in game 2, the Falcons still found themselves in control of their own fate. All they needed was a win Saturday against Eastern Michigan and a tournament berth would be theirs.

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In a gutsy display of both mental and physical fortitude, Wiemer headed back out to the circle for the fourth consecutive game seeking for the second straight day to pitch her team into the tournament.

Once again, the senior from Sylvania was sharp early on, holding the Eagles scoreless through the first four innings. Meanwhile, Bielstein ensured that Wiemer had the necessary run support, hitting a two-run single in the third and a three-run homer in the fifth, to give the Falcons a 5-0 cushion.

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Most charges dropped in Missouri ritual sex abuse cases

By Maria Sudekem Fisher
The Associated Press

WASHBURN, Mo. — There was a lot of public attention when leaders of two obscure churches in the Ozarks woods were accused of ceremonially abusing girls, preparing them for "service to God" by molesting them.

The allegations involved extended families in southwest Missouri, a largely rural area that has one of the state's highest rates of reported child abuse and has had other high-profile abuse cases.

But nearly three years later, the cases have almost completely unraveled: Only one of the six defendants remains charged, and he is free on bail while waiting for a yet-to-be-scheduled trial.

All six defendants, related by blood or marriage, pleaded not guilty. Hearing after hearing was held. Many of the approximately 100 members of the churches moved away.

"This is exactly what I didn't want to happen," said Erin Willis, attorney for one of the accusers. "What I wanted is for them to feel vindicated, for them to come through it feeling like the legal process served them as it was meant to."

"I'm not sure we accomplished that here." The charges surfaced 2006 when a handful of young women from Grand Valley Independent Baptist Church and Grandview Valley Baptist Church North told authorities they had been sexually abused, some since the 1970s.

Raymond Lambert, pastor of Grand Valley Independent Baptist Church in McDonald County, was charged with molesting two girls with the help of his wife, Patty Lambert, over 10 years. The girls were allegedly told their bodies were being prepared "for service to God."

Also accused of abuse were Tom Epling, 54, and his brother, Paul Epling, 56. Tom Epling's wife, Laura Epling, was accused of helping Lambert abuse a girl.



MARK SCHIEFELBEIN | AP PHOTO

ABUSE CHARGES DROPPED: A gate barricades the road leading to Grand Valley Farm near Washburn, Mo. The farm's land serves as a home and religious compound for several extended families. The case of ritual abuse in the rural church has been whittled down to only one of the six defendants remaining charged, and he is free on bail while waiting for a yet-to-be-scheduled trial.

George Otis Johnston, Lambert's uncle and pastor of nearby Grandview Valley Baptist Church North in Newton County, was accused of telling an alleged victim he "was ordained by God to fulfill her needs as a woman" and that "if she would have sexual intercourse with him that she would remain a virgin and remain pure."

The girl told investigators she refused intercourse but continued to be molested.

However, the statute of limitations led to dismissal of charges against the Epling brothers since their alleged crimes had taken place in the 1970s and 1980s.

In late 2007, McDonald County prosecutors abruptly dropped charges against Patty Lambert, 51, and Laura Epling, 52.

And in June 2008, McDonald County Prosecutor Janice Durbin dropped all charges against Raymond Lambert, just weeks before he was to stand trial for child molestation, statutory sodomy and sexual abuse.

She said the charges were dropped because the alleged victims decided "they can no longer subject themselves or their families to the ongoing

"In small, rural communities, everybody knows everybody else."

Victor Vieth | Director of NCPTC

scrutiny and pressures of a very public proceeding."

"In no way does this dismissal reflect the state's opinion about the validity of the charges against the defendant," Durbin said.

Charges are still pending against Johnston, 66, who has pleaded innocent to 17 felonies. His lawyer, Andrew Wood, did not return calls seeking comment.

Child abuse cases can present challenges in rural areas, said Victor Vieth, director of the National Child Protection Training Center in Winona, Minn.

"In small, rural communities, everybody knows everybody else," Vieth said. "They've known everybody else for generations. But that doesn't mean it can't be handled successfully."



JOHN VUCETICH | AP PHOTO

WOLVES RECOVERED: A pack of gray wolves is shown on Isle Royale National Park in northern Michigan. Wolves in parts of the Northern Rockies and the Great Lakes region are coming off the endangered species list, but several prior attempts to remove protections for the predators have been rejected by judges and new legal challenges are certain.

Wolves in Northern Rockies no longer on endangered species list

By Matthew Brown
The Associated Press

BILLINGS, Mont. — Wolves in parts of the Northern Rockies and the Great Lakes region are coming off the endangered species list today, opening them to public hunts in some states for the first time in decades.

Federal officials say the population of gray wolves in those areas has recovered and is large enough to survive on its own. The animals were listed as endangered in 1974, after they had been wiped out across the lower 48 states by hunting and government-sponsored poisoning.

"We've exceeded our recovery goals for nine consecutive years, and we fully expect those trends will continue," said Seth Willey, regional recovery coordinator for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in Denver.

With the delisting, state wildlife agencies will have full control over the animals. States such as Idaho and Montana plan to resume hunting the animals this fall, but no hunting has been proposed in the Great Lakes region. Ranchers and livestock groups,

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Seth Willey | Recovery Coordinator

particularly in the Rockies, have pushed to strip the endangered status in hopes that hunting will keep the population in check.

About 300 wolves in Wyoming will remain on the list because the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service rejected the state's plan for a "predator zone" where wolves could be shot on sight. Wyoming Gov. Dave Freudenthal and a coalition of livestock and hunting groups have announced a lawsuit against the federal government over the decision.

Freudenthal, a Democrat, claimed "political expediency" was behind the rejection of his state's wolf plan.

Wolves were taken off the endangered list in the Northern Rockies — including Wyoming — for about five months last year. After environmentalists sued, a federal judge in Montana

restored the protections and cited Wyoming's predator zone as a main reason. In the Great Lakes, the animal was off the list beginning in 2007 until a judge in Washington last September ordered them protected again.

Environmental and animal rights groups have also said they planned to sue over the delisting, claiming that there are still not enough wolves to guarantee their survival. The groups point to Idaho's plan to kill up to 100 wolves believed to have killed elk.

"We understand that hunting is part of wildlife policy in the West," said Anne Carlson with the Western Wolf Coalition. "[But] wolves should be managed like native wildlife and not as pests to be exterminated."

The delisting review began under the administration of President George W. Bush and the proposal was upheld by President Barack Obama's administration after an internal review. In a recent letter to several members of Congress, Interior Secretary Ken Salazar wrote that he was "confident that science justifies the delisting of the gray wolf."

Police search woods for Georgia professor suspected in killings

By Kate Brumback
The Associated Press

BOGART, Ga. — Officers in pickup trucks bounced down dirt roads and search helicopters whirred overhead after authorities found the Jeep of a former professor suspected of killing his wife and two others. The academic, however, was proving a much more elusive target than the wrecked vehicle found in a ravine.

Authorities said they think George Zinkhan's Jeep had been in the dense woods of northeast Georgia for several days and could have crashed or been left soon after the April 25 shootings. The professor, an avid hiker, hasn't been seen since he dropped off his two children with a neighbor after the shootings.

More than 200 law enforcement officers scoured the forest Friday for Zinkhan, some of the searchers crammed in the back of pickup trucks that crisscrossed dirt roads through dense woods.



VINO WONG | AP PHOTO

SEARCHING FOR THE MISSING PROFESSOR: Law enforcement agents work near a wooded area where the red Jeep belonging to murder suspect and former University of Georgia professor George Zinkhan was found in Bogart, Ga.

Investigators said Zinkhan, 57, knows his way around the wilderness. But they reported no signs of the man and the Jeep was hauled away on a flatbed truck hours after the discovery.

Athens-Clarke County Police Capt. Clarence Holeman said the vehicle may have been left the day of the shootings.

Zinkhan also had a plane ticket to Amsterdam, and authorities

in Europe and throughout the U.S. have been on the lookout.

"He's not the typical type of fugitive police have to deal with," said John Bankhead, a spokesman for the Georgia Bureau of Investigation.

FBI Agent Greg Jones said a signal from one of Zinkhan's cell phones helped police find the Jeep in Bogart, a rural town about 60 miles east of Atlanta.

Declining economy leaves Rockford reminiscing about the good ol' days

By Tammy Wabber
The Associated Press

ROCKFORD, Ill. — People here used to joke that they could lose a job in the morning and get another by the afternoon.

There were auto parts makers, aerospace companies, machine shops and gadget manufacturers. Almost half of workers took home a factory paycheck — often holding the same job for 40 years — making this northern Illinois city among the most prosperous in the country.

But those days are just a memory in Rockford, birthplace of the dollar bill changer, the electric brake and the rock band Cheap Trick. In fact, this city hasn't been the same since its unemployment rate soared to a national high of 25 percent in 1983. Manufacturing today provides



M. SPENCER GREEN | AP PHOTO

MELTDOWN MISSED OPPORTUNITIES: James Tucker, a machinist who has lost three full-time jobs in the past 25 years, takes part in mock interview sessions with Jennifer Dickinson.

only one-fifth of jobs. Per-capita income is about 15 percent below the national average. Schools are struggling. And vacant storefronts line once-bustling streets.

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Iran: American journalist's case will get fair review

TEHRAN, Iran (AP) — Iran's foreign minister assured his visiting Japanese counterpart that the case of an American journalist imprisoned in Tehran for allegedly spying for the United States will get a fair review on appeal.

Foreign Minister Manouchehr Mottaki said 32-year-old Roxana Saberi's appeal will be "reviewed justly and humanely." He spoke at a joint news conference Saturday with Japan's Hirofumi Nakasone, who expressed concern over the case during his visit to Iran.

Saberi is a dual Iranian-American citizen who was born in the United States and grew up in Fargo, North Dakota. Her father is Iranian and her mother is Japanese. She was arrested in January in Tehran and sentenced last month to eight years in prison after a one-day trial behind closed doors. Her case has raised an international outcry and her



THE FOREIGN MINISTERS: Iran's Foreign Minister Manouchehr Mottaki, right, and Japanese Foreign Minister Hirofumi Nakasone attend a news conference in Tehran, Iran.

lawyer in Iran has appealed the verdict.

Saberi's father, who is in Iran with her mother trying to persuade the government to release Saberi, said last week she had gone on a hunger strike after she was convicted and has since become

"very weak." Iran's judiciary denies she is on hunger strike.

Washington has called the spying charges against Saberi "baseless" and insisted Iran release her. U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton last week reiterated those appeals.



GEMUNU AMARASINGHE | AP PHOTO

PROTESTS: A supporter of Nepalese student's federation, affiliated to Nepali Congress Party holds his party's flag during a protest against Prime Minister Pushpa Kamal Dahal's decision to fire army chief Rookmangud Katawal, in Katmandu, Nepal, Sunday. Dahal fired Katawal Sunday, accusing him of defying government orders, officials said.

Protests erupt in Nepal after prime minister fires army chief

By Binaj Gurubacharya
The Associated Press

"It has become almost impossible for the Maoists remain in government ..."

Ameeta Dhakal | Newspaper editor

KATMANDU, Nepal — Nepal's prime minister fired the army chief yesterday after a struggle over admitting former Maoist rebel fighters to the military, sparking mass protests and jeopardizing the survival of the country's first elected government.

President Ram Baran Yadav, meanwhile, rejected the ouster of army chief, Rookmangud Katawal, in a letter, calling it unconstitutional. The letter was delivered to Katawal's office late last night and copies were also sent to Prime Minister Pushpa Kamal Dahal's residence.

Yadav was the first person elected as president in this Himalayan country, where a centuries-old monarchy was abolished last year. The army is officially under the president's command, not the prime minister.

However, since the country's constitution is being rewritten, many things are unclear, including who has the power to fire the army chief. The president is a member of the Nepali Congress, the main opposition party, which vowed to fight the decision.

The army chief's dismissal prompted a key political party to withdraw from the ruling coalition and frayed already tense

relations between the government, dominated by former Maoist rebels, and the military they long fought.

The fallout could pose the biggest challenge yet for Nepal's troubled leaders who are new to politics and already struggling to provide basic services in the impoverished country.

The dispute between the prime minister — a former Maoist rebel leader — and Katawal centered on the difficult question of how to integrate former rebels as required by a U.N.-brokered peace agreement into the ranks of the army they fought for a decade.

Since giving up their bloody rebellion in 2006 and joining the political mainstream, the Maoists have confined their fighters to U.N.-monitored camps and locked up their weapons. Dahal wanted them freed and admitted to the national army but Katawal resisted the move and clashed repeatedly with the government

over the issue.

The government says Katawal also ignored orders to stop recruiting soldiers, boycotted last month's national games, and allowing eight army generals to continue working past their tenure.

"The army chief was removed because he failed to give a satisfactory explanation on why the government orders were ignored," said Information Minister Krishna Bahadur Mahara.

The Communist Party of Nepal (United Marxist Leninist), the second largest party in the coalition government, withdrew from the coalition yesterday "to protest the prime minister's unilateral decision," the party's general secretary, Ishwar Pokhrel, said.

Leaders from several smaller parties walked out of the Cabinet meeting after Dahal announced his decision. They were debating last night whether to withdraw their support completely.

Political analysts said the government could be on the brink of collapse.

"It has become almost impossible for the Maoists to remain in government in the present situation," said Ameeta Dhakal, editor of Republica, a leading newspaper in the capital Katmandu. "It's a big crisis for the country now."

Israeli-run zones shield West Bank criminals

By Ben Hubbard
The Associated Press

HEBRON, West Bank — When Nasser Qaout went to investigate strange sounds in his sheep pen late at night, a gang of armed thieves shot him in the leg and made off with half his flock.

He and Palestinian police know who the thieves are — and even where they are — but a year and half later, they're still in their homes about three miles down the road.

Police say they can't arrest the crooks because they live in an Israeli-controlled area, which Palestinian forces can't enter freely. It's a unique dilemma for Palestinian law enforcement: How to maintain security when criminals have more freedom of movement than police do.

The international community considers the Palestinians' abil-

ity to handle internal security a prerequisite for independence. European countries gave \$5.3 million last year to bolster Palestinian security forces, and the United States has given more than \$160 million for that purpose since 2007.

The European and U.S. emphasis is on bolstering the strength of Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas against the militant Islamic movement Hamas and similar groups. Israel is constantly demanding Abbas' Palestinian Authority crack down on militants.

But Palestinian police also must fight common crime, and they say the jigsaw puzzle of security zones that cover the West Bank, dividing it between Israeli- and Palestinian-controlled areas, hampers their work. Israel occupied the territory in the 1967 Mideast war and main-

tains overall control, although international agreements have given the Palestinian Authority limited autonomy in some areas.

Palestinian police can only enter Israeli-controlled areas of the West Bank with permission, which they say is often difficult or impossible to obtain, making these virtual black holes ideal hideouts for criminals.

This can have dangerous — and sometimes deadly — consequences.

Officers can't wear uniforms, carry guns or chase criminals on main roads that enter Israeli-controlled zones, making it easy for car thieves and drug dealers to escape, police said. Outlaws are also known to seek refuge in villages close to Israeli military installations or Jewish settlements, knowing Palestinians police won't be allowed in to arrest them.

Iraqi Sunni fighters detained for past attacks

By Brian Murphy
The Associated Press

BAGHDAD — A Sunni militia leader who took up arms against insurgents now faces charges linked to bloodshed before joining the U.S.-led battle — setting up another potential showdown over how to sort out the messy histories for thousands of tribal fighters who went from enemies to allies.

The question took on a sharper edge yesterday as some Sunni leaders denounced the arrests of the Sunni militia chief and his two brothers as a sign the Shiite-led government may be more interested in settling past scores than finding reconciliation.

A similar dispute in March touched off two days of deadly clashes in Baghdad that required U.S. forces to intervene.

"This arrest is a plot to undermine our strength," said Sheik Mustafa Kamil al-Jubouri, a leader in southern Baghdad for the so-called Awakening Councils, who turned against al-Qaida and other insurgents in recent years in one of the pivotal alliances of the war.

Mohammed Khalil Ibrahim,



KARIM KADIM | AP PHOTO

VIOLENCE: People gather around a vehicle destroyed in a car bomb blast in Baghdad's Shiite enclave of Sadr City, Iraq, Thursday. Twin car bombs ravaged a popular shopping area in Baghdad's biggest Shiite district Wednesday, killing at least 41 people in another powerful strike by suspected Sunni insurgents seeking a return to sectarian chaos.

a top deputy for the arrested Awakening Council leader, threatened to disband the group in the area they control north of Baghdad unless he was freed by early today.

But the accusations against the three arrested Saturday north of Baghdad — Mullah Nadhum al-Jubouri and his two brothers — are sweeping.

Al-Jubouri is suspected of links to killings of "prominent figures" around his base in Dujail, about 50 miles (80 kilometers)

north of Baghdad, said Ahmed Abdul-Karim, deputy governor of Salahuddin province.

Other Iraqi officials said the charges also include carrying out attacks in 2005 and 2006 such as the downing a U.S. helicopter and targeting a police station near Duluyiah, about 45 miles (75 kilometers) north of Baghdad.

The officials spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not allowed to release the details of the case.

Italian premier Berlusconi's wife seeking divorce

By Nicole Winfield
The Associated Press

ROME — Premier Silvio Berlusconi's second wife has for years lived a very separate life from her billionaire husband, rarely participating in his official events or travels. Yesterday, she confirmed she was seeking a divorce, citing his reported flirtations with younger women.

After 19 years of marriage and three children, former actress Veronica Lario said she had hired an attorney to begin separation and divorce proceedings against the media mogul-turned-politician, the ANSA news agency said.

"I was forced to take this step," La Stampa newspaper quoted Lario as saying in its Sunday edition.

Berlusconi issued a one-line

statement saying: "It's a personal issue that pains me, that is in the private sphere, and which seems necessary not to speak about."

Last week, Lario publicly voiced outrage over reports that Berlusconi's political party was lining up TV showgirls and starlets as European Parliament candidates.

"The impudence and shamelessness of power offends the credibility of all [women], damages women in general and especially those who have always struggled to defend their rights," Lario said in a statement to ANSA.

She also lashed out at the premier's reported attendance at an 18-year-old woman's birthday party in Naples, saying she was surprised "because he never came to the 18th of any of his children, even though he was invited."

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Senators want next justice to have wide experience

By Douglass K. Daniel
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON—President Barack Obama's search to replace retiring Supreme Court Justice David Souter should extend beyond the current roster of federal judges, senators from both political parties said yesterday.

"I would like to see more people from outside the judicial monastery, somebody who has had some real-life experience, not just as a judge," said Vermont Sen. Patrick Leahy, chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee that will hold hearings when Obama makes his nomination.

Noting that all nine justices came directly from the federal appeals court, senators on the committee said someone with a wider breadth of experience would be a plus.

When he was discussing the qualities he would seek in Souter's successor, Obama said last week he wanted someone with empathy for average Americans. Conservatives fear that means the president would consider "judicial activists" for the seat.

Leahy said he expects the next justice to be confirmed by the court's new term in October and that the president will consult with lawmakers from both parties.

"I would like to see, certainly, more women on the court. Having only one woman on the Supreme Court does not reflect the makeup of the United States. I think we should have more women. We should have more minorities," Leahy said.

Sen. Arlen Specter of Pennsylvania, a committee member who last week switched from the Republican to the Democratic Party, suggested someone in the mold of a statesman or stateswoman, and said he could imagine a nominee who was not a lawyer, if that a person had the right credentials.



HEADING OUT: In this Sept. 3, 1990 file photo, Supreme Court justice nominee David Souter is sworn in before testifying to the Senate Judiciary Committee on Capitol Hill, in Washington, for his confirmation hearings.



MIKE GROLL / AP PHOTO
MAKING A CHANGE: In this June 7, 2007 file photo, a pump handle for E85 fuel is shown at a gas station in Albany, N.Y., President Barack Obama's commitment to take on climate change and put science over politics is about to be tested as his administration faces a politically sensitive question about the widespread use of ethanol: Does it help or hurt the fight against global warming?

Ethanol to test Obama White House on climate change, science

By H. Josef Hebert
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Barack Obama's commitment to take on climate change and put science over politics is about to be tested as his administration faces a politically sensitive question about the widespread use of ethanol: Does it help or hurt the fight against global warming?

The Environmental Protection Agency is close to proposing ethanol standards. But two years ago, when Congress ordered a huge increase in ethanol use, lawmakers also told the agency to show that ethanol would produce less pollution linked to global warming than would gasoline.

So how will the EPA define greenhouse gas emissions from ethanol production and use? Given the political clout of farm interests, will the science conflict with the politics?

Environmentalists, citing various studies and scientific papers, say the agency must factor in more than just the direct, heat-trapping pollution from ethanol and its production. They also point to "indirect" impacts on global warming from worldwide changes in land use, including climate-threatening deforestation, as land is cleared to plant corn or other ethanol crops.

Ethanol manufacturers and agriculture interests contend the fallout from potential land use changes in the future, especially those outside the United States, have not been adequately proven or even quantified, and

should not count when the EPA calculates ethanol's climate impact.

"It defies common sense that EPA would publish a proposed rule-making with harmful conclusions for biofuels based on incomplete science and inaccurate assumptions," complained Sen. Charles Grassley, R-Iowa.

He was one of 12 farm-state senators, both Democrats and Republicans, who wrote EPA Administrator Lisa Jackson in March, urging the agency to stick to assessing only the direct emissions.

Ethanol, which in the future may come from cellulosic sources such as switchgrass and wood chips, is promoted by its advocates as a "green" substitute for gasoline that will help the U.S. reduce its reliance on fossil fuels, especially foreign oil. That transition is a priority of the Obama White House.

In 2007, Congress ordered huge increases in ethanol use, requiring refiners to blend 20 billion gallons with gasoline by 2015 and a further expansion to 36 billion gallons a year by 2022.

Congress said any fuel produced in plants built after 2007 must emit 20 percent less in greenhouse gases than gasoline if it comes from corn, and 60 percent less if from cellulosic crops.

Meeting the direct emissions would not be a problem. But if indirect emissions from expected land use changes are included, ethanol probably would fail the test.

Nathaniel Greene, director of the Renewable Energy Policy at the Natural Resources Defense

Council, an environmental advocacy group, said that wouldn't mean the end of ethanol.

Ethanol from existing production facilities is grandfathered and "there are ways to produce advanced ethanol's that would comply with the greenhouse thresholds," even using land use climate impacts if the industry chose to adopt them, Greene said.

But farm interests and their allies in Congress are pushing to get the EPA to at least postpone any consideration of the land-use impacts issue, arguing the science surrounding the issue is uncertain.

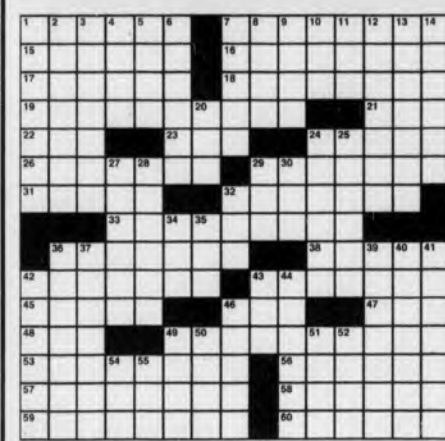
The senators' letter said that an overreaching regulation by EPA on ethanol's link to climate change "could seriously harm our U.S. biofuels growth strategy by introducing uncertainty and discouraging future investments."

Environmentalists say there have been enough studies on the indirect impact of ethanol on greenhouse pollution to justify the science.

Ignoring the indirect impacts "will undermine the environmental benefits" of the renewable fuels program "and set a poor precedent for any future policies attempting to reduce global warming pollution," 17 environmental group wrote Jackson in response to the senator's plea.

Greene said the EPA's handling of the ethanol rule will be "a test of our ability to follow sound science" even when it conflicts with the interests of powerful interests.

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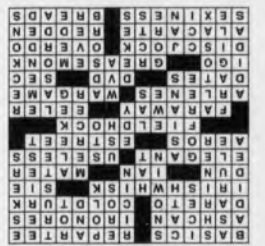
- 1 Playboy's founder, fondly
- 2 Fauna starter?
- 3 Tin Tin
- 4 Picked up the tab
- 5 Football kick
- 6 Rabbit residence
- 7 The Moor of Venice
- 8 Journalist Jacob August
- 9 Piercing cry
- 10 Abe Lincoln's boy
- 11 Snow
- 12 Watery expanse
- 13 Handle capably
- 18 Husky-voiced
- 21 Quito's country
- 22 "The Silver Streak" co-star
- 23 Comet heads
- 24 Stow
- 27 Only fair
- 29 Afternoon show
- 31 Element fig.
- 34 -majesty
- 36 Spills the beans
- 37 Start
- 39 Factual
- 41 Pass through a membrane

ACROSS

- 1 ABCs
- 7 Banter
- 15 Depth charge, slangily
- 16 Magnetite et al.
- 17 dream: optimist's philosophy
- 18 One shivering atop Mount Ararat?
- 19 Tool in a Belfast bakery?
- 21 Vous, in Weimar
- 22 Pester for payment
- 23 Follower of Christ?
- 24 Alma
- 26 Polished
- 29 Of no value
- 31 Houston team affiliated with the NHL's Minnesota Wild
- 32 The Boss's address?
- 33 Desperate farmer's transaction?
- 36 Distant
- 38 Catcher with a pot
- 42 Actress Francis and others
- 43 Military exercise

- 45 Sees
- 46 Netflix rental
- 47 "Gimme a _"
- 48 "Here _ Again" (Whitesnake #1 hit)
- 49 Abbey resident in a rock-'n'-roll musical?
- 53 Serious Frisbee thrower?
- 56 Work too hard
- 57 Dinner alternative
- 58 Blush
- 59 Allure
- 60 Covers with crumbs

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