

3-23-2010

The BG News March 23, 2010

Bowling Green State University

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Bowling Green State University, "The BG News March 23, 2010" (2010). *BG News (Student Newspaper)*. 8223.

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PISSED?
THE WEEK'S TOP STORIES
SEE FORUM PAGE 4

THE BG NEWS

ESTABLISHED 1920
A daily independent student press serving
the campus and surrounding community

Volume 104, Issue 116

Tuesday, March 23, 2010

www.bgviews.com

Centennial marks founding, not start of classes

By **Becky Tener**
Campus Editor

The University is celebrating its centennial this year when classes began 96 years ago.

"We celebrate now because 1910 is when Bowling Green State University came into being," the Centennial Celebration Co-chair Larry Weiss said. "May 19, 1910, is when the state passed legislation to create two new normal schools, one in northeast Ohio [Kent State University] and one in northwest Ohio."

Weiss said Bowling Green was selected to be the northwestern Ohio site Nov. 10, 1910. After the location was chosen, he said, the state had to find faculty staff and students for the school, and even after classes began in 1914, there still weren't any buildings on campus until a year later.

Celebrating on the dates universities were founded or chartered is a usual practice. Like BGSU, universities all over Ohio have celebrated their anniversaries in conjunction with the dates the state passed legislation for their creation.

According to the Ohio State University Web site, their legislation was passed in 1870 and they celebrated their centennial in 1970.

Ohio University was established in 1804, and according to their Web site, the first students came in 1808, and OU celebrated its bicentennial in 2004. Miami University was chartered in 1809, but classes didn't officially start until 1824 and they just finished their bicentennial celebration in 2009, according to their Web site.

Tom Neumann, associate vice president for University



Jill Carr
Dean
of
Students

Communications and Marketing at Kent State University, said KSU is also celebrating the date legislation passed in 2010, like BGSU.

"Just like Bowling Green, we've been celebrating with all sorts of events throughout 2010 ... but we have decided to celebrate for the academic year, so we began in the fall [of 2009] with our Homecoming celebration," Neumann said.

Like BGSU, KSU did not begin classes in 1910. Classes began in 1912 and they are celebrating the passing of legislation.

"Kent has always celebrated aligning with the 1910 founding," he said. "We did it 50 years ago and we're doing it now."

Dean of Students Jill Carr said the University is celebrating the centennial now and will not celebrate at this magnitude again in four years.

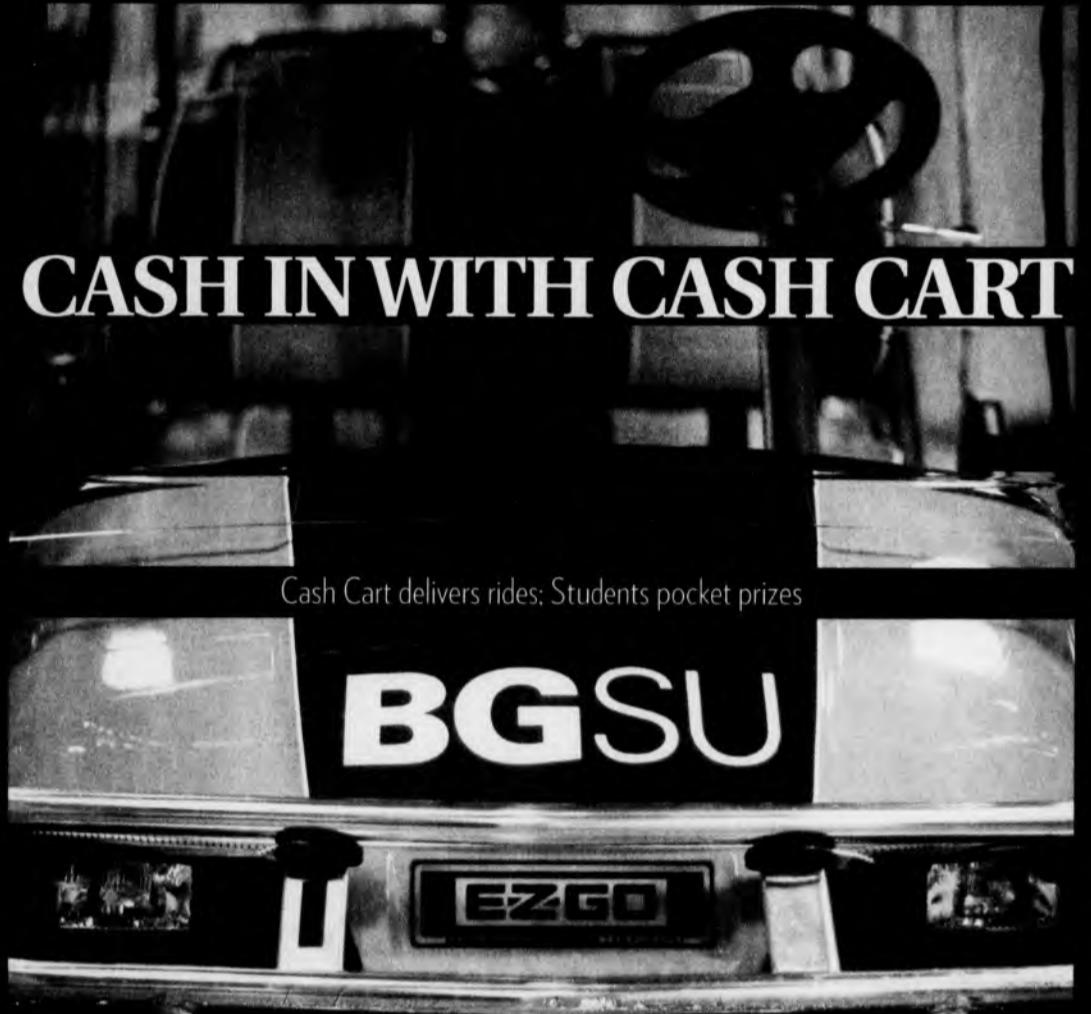
"Perhaps in four years, we will have a media push to recognize the 100 years since the start of classes, but not a full blown celebration," she said.

Carr said the commitment to celebrate this year was carefully thought out and one Centennial Celebration will be enough.

"This time is very important and I think we've dealt with it wisely. We've been very mindful and good stewards of the state's dollars and respectful of tight

See **CELEBRATE** | Page 2

CASH IN WITH CASH CART



Cash Cart delivers rides; Students pocket prizes

ENOCH WU

By **Jess James**
Reporter

With the University's new and improved Cash Cart, students will not only be able to hitch a ride to class, but they will learn ways to improve their budgeting and collect prizes.

Sponsored by Student Money Management

Services, Cash Cart is a modified version of the Discovery Channel game show "Cash Cab."

Contestants are given a ride to their destination and are asked a series of financial trivia questions based on ways to improve spending.

See **CASH CART** | Page 2



SPEAK OUT: Author of "That Takes Ovaries" Bobbie Ausubel address the crowd at the event held in her honor. Audience members shared personal stories as well as hearing excerpts from the book.

Dramatic readings encourage women to act bold, courageous

Christine Talbert
Reporter

Courage was the theme of the "That Takes Ovaries" event held Monday night in the Honors Loft in Harshman Quadrangle.

"That Takes Ovaries" is a unique initiative and nonprofit organization that mixes the arts with activism for women and girls' empowerment. Since 2002 hundreds of "That Takes Ovaries" open mics have been held around the globe.

At an Ovaries open mic, women share stories of when they have acted boldly, and where men can brag about the ovaries in their lives; their mothers, sisters, daughters and friends. Women adapt the phrase "That Takes Balls" to inspire courage.

Organization founder and author of the novel "That Takes Ovaries," Bobbie Ausubel, was the core speaker at Monday's

See **OVARIES** | Page 2

CAMPUS

Monday Trivia Night in the pub

Check out pictures from Trivia Night in the Black Swamp Pub. Students formed various questions about the University | **Page 3**

FORUM

Issues with health care still exist

Forum editor Kyle Schmidlin says that both liberals and conservatives have reasonable concerns about the health care bill Congress passed, and that many people are still uninformed about the bill | **Page 4**

SPORTS

Falcons' look for weekend wins

The Falcons' baseball team hopes to continue their five game winning streak this weekend when they face off against Western Virginia University | **Page 6**

PEOPLE ON THE STREET

If you could be on any game show, what would it be and why?



TREY DUCKER

Sophomore, Film Production

"Is 'Jerry Springer' a game show?" | **Page 4**



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BLOTTER

FRI., MARCH 19

11:57 P.M.
Kayleigh Lipps, of Ostrander, Ohio, was cited for underage under the influence on the corner of Wooster Street and Manville Avenue.

SAT., MARCH 20

Ryan Gutzky, of Garfield Heights, Ohio, was cited for underage consumption and disorderly conduct at the Union.

SUN., MARCH 21

12:07 A.M.
Cory Bowling, 23, of Fremont, Ohio, was arrested for trafficking marijuana and littering within the 200 block of N. Main St.

12:29 A.M.
Shawn Zahel, 19, of Castalia, Ohio, was cited for underage under the influence of alcohol within the 300 block of E. Wooster St.

1:25 A.M.
Subject was warned for trespass within the 100 block of N. Prospect St.

2:31 A.M.
Cory Baker, 21, of Athens, Ohio, was cited for disorderly conduct urinating in public within the 100 block of E. Court St.

7:30 P.M.
Individual reported her jacket, containing her passport, was stolen from Braithaus.

CORRECTION

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

In Monday's sports rail entry, the women's basketball team lost its first-round NCAA game to Michigan State, not Michigan.

OVARIES

From Page 1

event. She said we all have mothers, teachers, neighbors, and other women that have affected our lives.

"They have fed us, befriended us and helped form the people we are today," she said.

Ausubel talked about how she has lived a bold life by taking opportunities to stand out as an individual, first when she was denied access into libraries at Cambridge University for being a woman, to writing a play about the socialization of women through improvisation.

"In 1968, the first female liberation group was created during the Chicago Democratic Convention, where women protested for equal jobs, equal wages and equal opportunities for women," Ausubel said. "This was a terribly exciting time and was the second wave of the civil rights movement that got me interested in helping women."

Ausubel asked audience members what would make the University more equal for men and women. From suggestions of student mothers taking maternity leave, to offering extra stalls in women's bathrooms to decrease lines, and creating a girl's water polo team. Women shouted out ways for campus life to be a more enjoyable experience.

During the event, women acted out different stories located in the "That Takes Ovaries" book, to show the audience the courage women in our everyday lives possess, and told their

own stories of when they were bold.

Sophomore Jessica Myers, an architecture major, told a story from the book about a woman in high school who stood up to men who had been degrading her and her friends. The men would rate the appearances of their body parts on a scale of one to ten everyday at the end of the lunch period. The woman wrote a note to the men telling them to stop, with 150 signatures of other women who wanted the same.

Junior Alisha Hill, broadcast journalism major, caused an uproar of applause when she removed her black cardigan to reveal a hot pink tank top after reading "Why cover what you can't hide," during her storytelling of a curvaceous woman wanting to wear more revealing clothes without being self-conscious.

With dozens of people in attendance, audience members learned how courage is contagious, and by leading a bold life, they could help themselves and their community. Ausubel asked students to form a line at the mic and tell their own stories of when they were bold.

By the end of the event, 21 people had told their story and recognized what they did "took ovaries."

Myers said to audiences she was courageous everyday.

"I am an architecture major," she said. "I am a woman in a field dominated majorly by men. With this as my major and also being as petite as I am, I am not taken seriously. But I stick with it because I love it."

CELEBRATE

From Page 1

resources," Carr said. "I think we've created a celebration that is tasteful and not overdone."

Weiss said the Centennial Celebration is meant to com-

memorate the University from the beginning even before classes began.

"It's why they celebrated in 1960 the 50th anniversary, 1985 we celebrated the 75th anniversary. 1910 is the date Bowling Green came into existence as a school and that's what we're celebrating," Weiss said.

CASH CART

From Page 1

Student contestants will be accompanied by a driver and a celebrity passenger from the administration to serve as the host. Riders are able to phone a friend or even shout out to someone on campus for help. Winners will be able to choose from prizes ranging from hats, sunglasses or \$5 added to a BG Bucks card. When three questions are answered incorrectly the game is over, but students still receive a ride to class.

Patricia Donnelly is the program manager of Student Money Management Services and said the Cash Cart will not only help students learn helpful spending tips, but the look of the cart was an exciting experience and came together nicely in a short amount of time.

"I had a ball working with the manufacturers," Piersol said. "They didn't buck any option or suggestion I threw at them; they just kept telling me 'Make this thing cool.' After I sent the design ideas to the manufacture, the whole thing was completed in 30 days."

The cart was purchased from

cart," Donnelly said. "We collected over \$10,000 from different donors to help finance the cart. We wanted to implicate the idea of saving money and going green, so when the idea for an electric-powered cart came up, we knew we had a good thing going."

Though the Cash Cart has been operating on campus since last semester, designers of the updated version wanted to incorporate an appealing look with an environmentally safe design.

Barry Piersol is the head designer of the new Cash Cart and the director of the electric vehicle institute in the Visual Communication Technology department. Piersol's crew also devised the University's new hybrid electric busses. He said the design process for the Cash Cart was an exciting experience and came together nicely in a short amount of time.

"Cash Cart will be the main marketing tool for our services," Kendrick said. "As of right now, you can only rely on flyers to a certain extent and the cart is something physical that will put us out there so students can see and hear us coming and know who sponsors Cash Cart."

For financial advice, look for Cash Cart on campus or check out Student Money Management at 406 Mosley Hall.

"We wanted to implicate the idea of saving money and going green"

Patricia Donnelly | Program Manager

an electric vehicle manufacture in South Carolina and was introduced to SMM on Presidents Day of this year.

April is financial awareness month and the debut of the new Cash Cart is no coincidence.

Senior Brittany Kendrick is a volunteer at SMM and also drives the Cash Cart. She said the response has been positive but the new cart will give SMM the publicity it needs to get students aware of their program.

"Cash Cart will be the main marketing tool for our services," Kendrick said. "As of right now, you can only rely on flyers to a certain extent and the cart is something physical that will put us out there so students can see and hear us coming and know who sponsors Cash Cart."

For financial advice, look for Cash Cart on campus or check out Student Money Management at 406 Mosley Hall.



KING OF THE ROAD: Students are able to take a chance at winning money when hopping in the cash cart. The new cash cart will be escorting students around campus by the end of the month.

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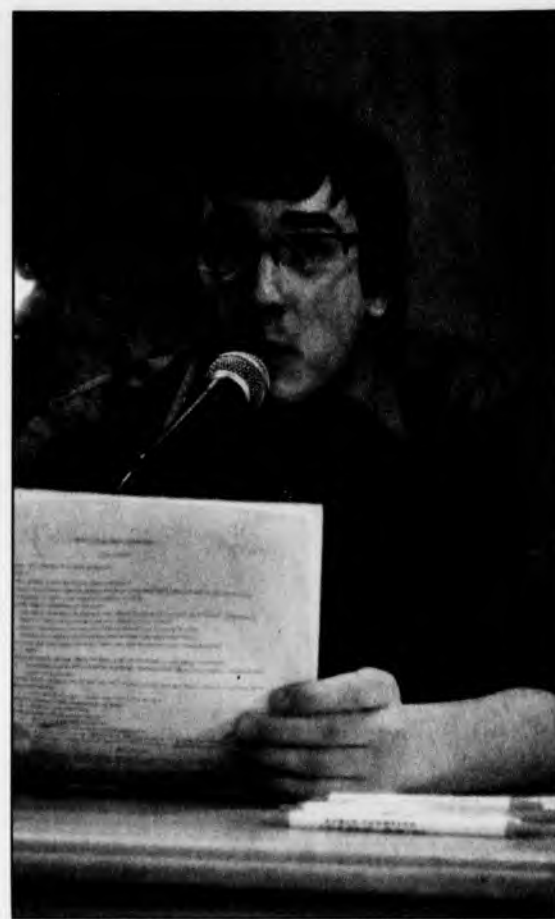


TOP: Lexie Williams (left) and Benji Cates (right) of Team Eradi-Cates collaborate on a BG Sports history question as part of Monday Night Trivia. The event was put on by UAO and held in the Black Swamp Pub.



LEFT: Seniors (left to right) Ben Pushka, Pat Haney, Amanda Hight and Junior Jacob Fricado of "Team Kick Your Ass" deliberate on a question for Monday Night Trivia in the Black Swamp Pub.

RIGHT: Chris Greggila asks, "How much water does BG's Cooper Pool hold?" as part of Monday Night Trivia in the Black Swamp Pub.



It's University Trivia Time

Photos by Ryan Pirog | The BG News

HPV Fact #16:

It is estimated that **each minute** in the US, there is a new case of **genital warts**.

HPV Fact #8:

Guys **can't get screened** for HPV.
So there's no way **to know** if a guy has the **virus** or is passing it on.

Why risk it
Visit your campus health center.

"It's why they celebrate in 1960 the 50th anniversary, in 1985 we celebrated the 75th anniversary. 1910 is the date Bowling Green came into existence as a school and that's what we're celebrating."
 — Larry Weiss, Centennial Celebration Co-Chair on celebrating anniversary four years early [see story, pg. 1].

PEOPLE ON THE STREET

If you could be on any game show, what would it be and why?



"The Korean show 'Star Bell' because it's funny."

ASHLEY WRIGHT,
Freshman,
Film Production



"Double Dare" so I could do the obstacle course."

DURRELL BECTON,
Senior,
Sports Management



"Family Feud" because you get to win vacations."

CHICANE WATSON,
Senior,
Human Development



"The Price is Right" but with Bob Barker, because he's a badass."

RYAN FORMAN,
Sophomore,
VCT

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Have your own take on today's People On The Street? Or a suggestion for a question? Give us your feedback at bgviews.com.



THE BG NEWS PRESENTS FALCON SCREECH

Why are you at a school? You were in so many of my classes, and your resistance to learning never ceases to amaze me. You are doing yourself a tremendous disservice on an intellectual and economic level. If I was paying thousands of dollars a year to intentionally not learn anything, I'd have to reevaluate why I'm here in the first place. It blows my mind how socialism is the new bourgeoisie in a kind of way without saying that the University isn't for people who don't want to learn, but if you also are horrified by socialism, it would be a really important to stay away from a state university (among other things like traffic, sewage treatment, postal service, etc.). I just hope that you all are watching your own money and not federally subsidized loans and Pell Grants.
 —REALLY COLLEGE STUDENTS?

Nothing like complaining about socialism at a state-run educational facility to assuage worry. Also, unemployment benefits suck, Social Security sucks and the postal service sucks. I'd totally hate it if America ever used state run offices instead of private companies to provide services. Dumb conservatives will say anything without thinking about complaining about socialism and start learning to live.
 —WHY CARE?

For this specific you complained about the commuter drivers, I admit that some drivers are pretty low on driving skills, BUT many pedestrians simply ignore the sidewalks and walk where there are no crosswalks or even at crosswalks they don't even look both ways. They simply missed that session in safety class in pre-K. Beth should be a little bit more smart with road safety, no matter who was the right away. About the other post on the c-stores, I work at one. The reason why they made such a big deal about it last year was because the "roll over" stopped. They still do them, ask a student manager at one of the c-stores about pricing one. It doesn't hurt to ask, instead of complaining about it to the newspaper.
 —THINK BEFORE YOU TALK

To "Holiday Distraction" and all who think like them, you are here as a STUDENT. Not as a professional alcohol drinker, though many of you seem to think so. Professors should absolutely NOT have to plan their schedules around the alcohol-dependent section of the student populous. If your primary reason for pursuing higher education is to see how much booze it is possible to consume in four-plus years, then you deserve to lose points for not attending class. But do the rest of us who care about learning a favor and keep your drunk self out of classes today.
 —SICK OF ALCOHOL DEPENDENCE

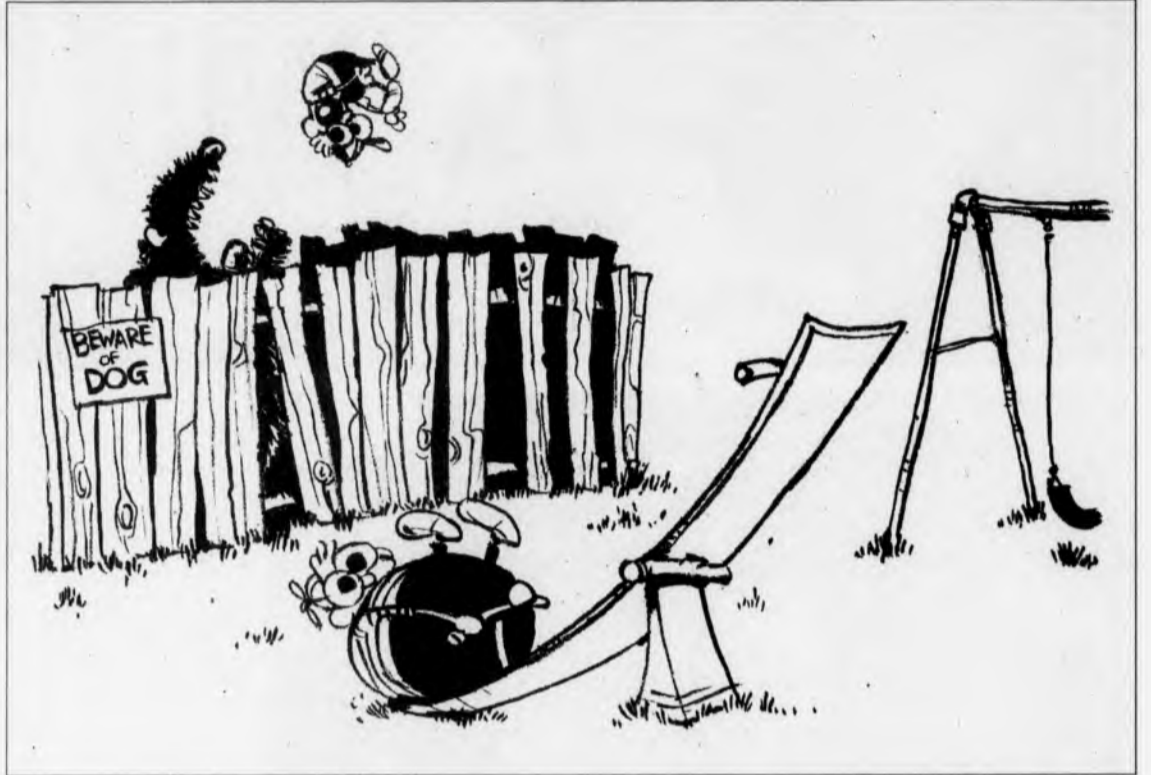
Living in a noisy room is a headache. Literally. The screaming of groups of girls late at night is so obnoxious and loud it seems like they're standing outside my apartment. Also, that's really great that you "want a girl" but nobody else cares. The next time I can hear your screaming (over the music from the party next door), I'll be filing a noise complaint.
 —NOISE COMPLAINER

SPEAK YOUR MIND

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

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

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



KEITH PAKIZ | THE BG NEWS

No matter which side you are on, arguments over health care bill are completely meaningless



KYLE SCHMIDLIN
FORUM EDITOR

In the wake of Sunday night's vote, health care has again become the news of the day.

Commentators and politicians across the spectrum voiced their praises and condemnation. What is most telling in their discussions is how little is actually said.

On the one hand, supporters of the bill declare its passage to be heralding a new dawn in America, a kind of fruition of utopia. Against that is the equally ludicrous view that this is the last straw, the culmination of a long process of hostile takeover of government by socialist fascists and the final nail in the coffin of freedom.

Each view is ridiculous. The health care bill doesn't do anywhere near what needs to be done to treat the health care crisis in America, despite Democrats' enthusiastic patting themselves on the back. The obvious solution — single-payer universal coverage for every American — isn't even mentioned anymore except as some evil bottom line of some slippery slope that is "Obama's radical agenda" (Sean Hannity's oft-repeated words).

From the conservative side, the fear is multi-fold. Doom and gloom scenarios unfold

nightly on Hannity's show and others like it. Coverage may actually be reduced, socialism has won the day and Americans have been stripped of what was left of their freedoms: each of these are possible consequences of the health care bill, according to conservatives.

The problem with these analyses isn't even that they are wrong. The problem is that they don't tell Americans anything meaningful about the health care bill. It's possible to watch CNN, MSNBC and FOX News all day long, and not know a single shred of useful information more than what you knew going in. Quips and buzzwords will be tossed around left and right, but actual distillation of information is marginal at best and never properly contextualized.

In a Washington Post column, Ezra Klein puts the bill into some perspective. Although Congressional opposition can shout about numbers like \$900 billion, they fail to mention that the spending is spaced out over 10 years. According to Klein, in the year the bill finally takes effect — 2014 — Americans will spend \$3.7 trillion on health care, and \$160 billion of that will be the bill's spending. Supposedly, 30 million presently-uninsured will have coverage. In other words, that's 4.3 percent of health care spending covering 10 percent of the population.

Some things about the bill have come to light since its

"But forcing Americans to buy insurance is hardly 'providing' them coverage, certainly no more than we are 'provided' auto insurance."

passing. A handful of recent New York Times articles, including one Q&A piece with reader-submitted questions, help understand the effects of the bill.

One of the measures, and the one which brings about the most ire in conservatives who charge that it's unconstitutional, is the forcing of Americans to buy health insurance. Somehow, mandatory auto insurance doesn't bring out the same level of anger and disgust, but that's the kind of logical inconsistency which has become all too common in mainstream media commentary.

But forcing Americans to buy insurance is hardly "providing" them coverage, certainly no more than we are "provided" auto insurance. For Americans who cannot afford the government program, subsidies will apparently be provided, but the legality, paperwork and bureaucracy of the Democrats' plan falls seriously short of the kinds of sweeping reform we need. We are a long way from achieving "historic" and "landmark" changes.

Still, the bill does, at least from a surface glance, make some important moves. Perhaps the most notable is for college students, at least those fortunate enough to have par-

ents who are still employed. Instead of being cut off at a certain age or after graduation (varying from state to state), the new bill will extend coverage to college students until age 26 under their parents' plans. This is obviously helpful to college students about to graduate, entering a troubled job market.

Essentially, however, the same system will remain in place. According to Klein's piece in the Post, about 90 percent of the country would remain virtually unaffected — their lives wouldn't be any different if the bill hadn't passed. It is expected Obama will sign the bill some time today and the majority of it will go into effect in 2014.

Conservatives may rally against it as being the grossest expansion of government since the New Deal; liberals may hail it as just the thing the country needs to move forward and prosper. They're both wrong. It's a shame the very real, very serious health care crisis has been passed over in favor of limp legislation, given the illusion of strength by vehement arguing over relatively minor nuances, tweaks and details.

Respond to Kyle at thenews@bgnews.com



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

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

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

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

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

STATE BRIEFS

Ohio man accused of fatally stabbing grandfather

WEST UNION, Ohio (AP) — Police have accused a man of fatally stabbing his grandfather and assaulting his grandmother in the couple's southern Ohio home.

Authorities say 43-year-old Thomas Hargrave of West Union was arrested Monday on aggravated murder and aggravated assault charges.

Police say 84-year-old Maxine Holland ran from her home Sunday night calling for help and police arrived as Hargrave charged out the front door. Her husband, 75-year-old Franklin Holland, had been stabbed numerous times.

West Union Police Chief Roy Stricklett says police aren't sure what led to the slaying and assault.

Hargrave was being held in the Adams County Jail, where officials said they didn't know if he had an attorney.

Ohio Democrat Kaptur votes for health bill

WASHINGTON (AP) — One of the House Democrats who had been undecided over the health care bill because of concerns it would put public money toward abortion has voted for the measure.

Ohio Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur had said earlier Sunday that she would support the bill. She was among 219 Democrats who voted yes. No Republicans voted for the bill.

In a statement, Kaptur says she is convinced that the bill will maintain existing law on abortion. She says the bill addresses the nationwide problem of affordability of insurance plans.

Kaptur has been an ally of Democratic Congressman Bart Stupak, whose earlier opposition to the bill because of concerns it would foster public funding of abortion had been a major hurdle for its passage.

Ohio approves plans for large-scale wind farms

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP) — Regulators have approved the first large-scale wind farms in Ohio.

The Ohio Power Siting Board approved plans Monday by Hardin Wind Energy LLC to construct up to 200 wind turbines in Hardin County, about 50 miles northwest of Columbus.

Board Chairman Alan Schriber says the wind farm will play an integral role in assuring Ohio meets new alternative energy standards. Construction is scheduled to begin this summer.

The board also approved plans by Buckeye Wind LLC to build up to 54 wind turbines in Champaign County and authorized JW Great Lakes Wind LLC to construct up to 27 wind turbines in Hardin County.

Under Ohio's alternative energy plan, 25 percent of electricity sold in the state must be generated from alternative energy sources by 2025.

Unions irked at Ohio Democrat over health care

After health care vote, unions pledge no more support for Ohio congressman

By Doug Whiteman
The Associated Press

COLUMBUS, Ohio — Two unions representing tens of thousands of Ohio workers said Monday they would no longer support the state's only Democratic congressman to oppose President Barack Obama's health care bill.

U.S. Rep. Zack Space betrayed union members who campaigned for him in 2006 and 2008, said the Service Employees International Union and the United Food and Commercial Workers union.

"A no vote on health care is an anti-worker vote," said Allison Petonic, spokeswoman for Columbus-based UFCW Local 1059, which has 18,000 members working in food retailing

and processing in Ohio. That includes 1,500 people living in Space's district, she said.

Space was among 54 Democrats who voted against the landmark legislation Sunday. It passed 219-212 with no Republican support.

Space said over the weekend that he had serious reservations about the measure and that he feared it might financially burden the working class by "opening the door to taxing employee benefits as income."

The Democrat, who represents a conservative, Appalachian district, said a version of the bill he supported last year taxed wealthy Americans, not the middle class, to help pay some health care costs for the working poor.

The unions were unconvinced.

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PEOPLE ON THE STREET

If you could be on any game show, what would it be and why?



"The Korean show 'Star Bell' because it's funny."

ASHLEY WRIGHT,
Freshman,
Film Production



"Double Dare" so I could do the obstacle course."

DURRELL BECTON,
Senior,
Sports Management



"Family Feud" because you get to win vacations."

CHICANE WATSON,
Senior,
Human Development



"The Price is Right" but with Bob Barker, because he's a badass."

RYAN FORMAN,
Sophomore,
VCT

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



THE BG NEWS PRESENTS FALCON SCREECH

Why are you at a school? You were in so many of my classes, and your resistance to learning never ceases to amaze me. You are doing yourself a tremendous disservice on an intellectual and economic level. If I was paying thousands of dollars a year to intentionally not learn anything, I'd have to reevaluate why I'm here in the first place. It blows my mind how socialism is the new boogeyman. It kind of goes without saying that the University isn't for people who don't want to learn, but if you also are horrified by socialism, it would be doubly important to stay away from a state university (among other things like roads, sewage treatment, postal service, etc.). I just hope that you all are wasting your own money and not federally subsidized loans and Pell Grants.

—REALLY, COLLEGE STUDENTS?

Nothing like complaining about socialism at a state-run educational facility to create irony. Also, unemployment benefits suck, Social Security sucks and the postal service sucks. I'd totally hate it if America ever used state run offices instead of private companies to provide services. Dumb conservatives will say anything without thinking. Quit complaining about socialism and start learning to love.

—WHO CARES

For the person who complained about the commuter drivers, I admit that some drivers are pretty low on driving skills. BUT many pedestrians simply ignore the vehicles and walk where there are no crosswalks or even at crosswalks, they don't even look both ways. They simply missed that session in safety back in pre-K. Both should be a little bit more smart with road safety, no matter who has the right away! About the other post on the c-stores I work at one, the reason why they made such a big deal about it last year was because the "roll over" stopped. They still do them, ask a student manager at one of the Outtakes about placing one. It doesn't hurt to ask instead of complaining about it to the newspaper.

—THINK BEFORE YOU TALK

To "Holiday Distractions" and all who think like them, you are here as a STUDENT. Not as a professional alcohol-drinker, though many of you seem to think so. Professors should absolutely NOT have to plan their schedules around the alcohol-dependent section of the student populous. If your primary reason for pursuing higher education is to see how much booze it is possible to consume in four-plus years, then you deserve to lose points for not attending a class. But do the rest of us who care about learning a favor and keep your drunk self out of classes today.

—SICK OF ALCOHOL DEPENDENCE

Living anywhere near sorority row has become quite a headache. Literally. The screeches of groups of girls late at night is so obnoxious and loud it seems like they are standing outside my apartment. Also, that's really great that you "want a pin," but nobody else cares. The next time I can hear your screaming (over the music from the party next door), I'll be filing a noise complaint.

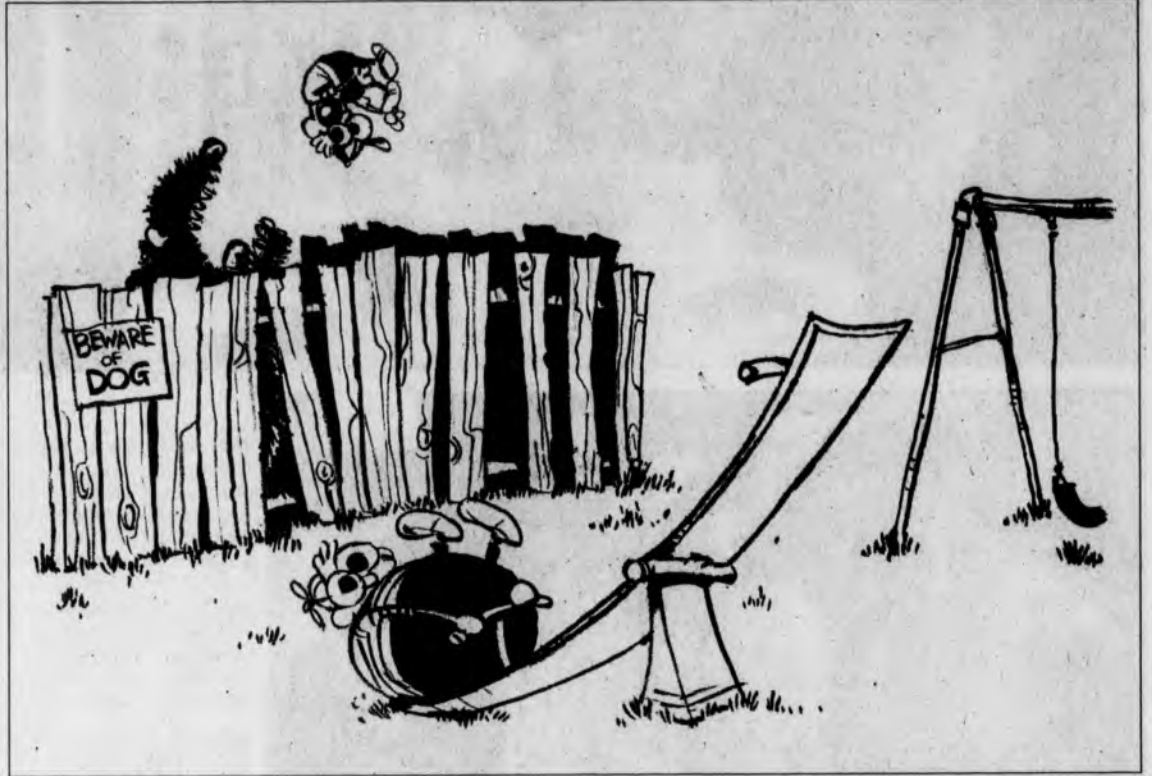
—NOISE COMPLAINER

SPEAK YOUR MIND

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

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

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



KEITH PAKIZ | THE BG NEWS

No matter which side you are on, arguments over health care bill are completely meaningless



KYLE SCHMIDLIN
FORUM EDITOR

In the wake of Sunday night's vote, health care has again become the news of the day.

Commentators and politicians across the spectrum voiced their praises and condemnation. What is most telling in their discussions is how little is actually said.

On the one hand, supporters of the bill declare its passage to be heralding a new dawn in America, a kind of fruition of utopia. Against that is the equally ludicrous view that this is the last straw, the culmination of a long process of hostile takeover of government by socialist fascists and the final nail in the coffin of freedom.

Each view is ridiculous. The health care bill doesn't do anywhere near what needs to be done to treat the health care crisis in America, despite Democrats' enthusiastic patting themselves on the back. The obvious solution — single-payer universal coverage for every American — isn't even mentioned anywhere except as some evil bottom line of some slippery slope that is "Obama's radical agenda" (Sean Hannity's oft-repeated words).

From the conservative side, the fear is multi-fold. Doom and gloom scenarios unfold

nightly on Hannity's show and others like it. Coverage may actually be reduced, socialism has won the day and Americans have been stripped of what was left of their freedoms: each of these are possible consequences of the health care bill, according to conservatives.

The problem with these analyses isn't even that they are wrong. The problem is that they don't tell Americans anything meaningful about the health care bill. It's possible to watch CNN, MSNBC and FOX News all day long, and not know a single shred of useful information more than what you knew going in. Quips and buzzwords will be tossed around left and right, but actual distillation of information is marginal at best and never properly contextualized.

In a Washington Post column, Ezra Klein puts the bill into some perspective. Although Congressional opposition can shout about numbers like \$900 billion, they fail to mention that the spending is spaced out over 10 years. According to Klein, in the year the bill finally takes effect — 2014 — Americans will spend \$3.7 trillion on health care, and \$160 billion of that will be the bill's spending. Supposedly, 30 million presently-uninsured will have coverage. In other words, that's 4.3 percent of health care spending covering 10 percent of the population.

Some things about the bill have come to light since its

"But forcing Americans to buy insurance is hardly 'providing' them coverage, certainly no more than we are 'provided' auto insurance."

passing. A handful of recent New York Times articles, including one Q&A piece with reader-submitted questions, help understand the effects of the bill.

One of the measures, and the one which brings about the most ire in conservatives who charge that it's unconstitutional, is the forcing of Americans to buy health insurance. Somehow, mandatory auto insurance doesn't bring out the same level of anger and disgust, but that's the kind of logical inconsistency which has become all too common in mainstream media commentary.

But forcing Americans to buy insurance is hardly "providing" them coverage, certainly no more than we are "provided" auto insurance. For Americans who cannot afford the government program, subsidies will apparently be provided, but the legality, paperwork and bureaucracy of the Democrats' plan falls seriously short of the kinds of sweeping reform we need. We are a long way from achieving "historic" and "landmark" changes.

Still, the bill does, at least from a surface glance, make some important moves. Perhaps the most notable is for college students, at least those fortunate enough to have par-

ents who are still employed. Instead of being cut off at a certain age or after graduation (varying from state to state), the new bill will extend coverage to college students until age 26 under their parents' plans. This is obviously helpful to college students about to graduate, entering a troubled job market.

Essentially, however, the same system will remain in place. According to Klein's piece in the Post, about 90 percent of the country would remain virtually unaffected — their lives wouldn't be any different if the bill hadn't passed. It is expected Obama will sign the bill some time today and the majority of it will go into effect in 2014.

Conservatives may rally against it as being the grossest expansion of government since the New Deal; liberals may hail it as just the thing the country needs to move forward and prosper. They're both wrong. It's a shame the very real, very serious health care crisis has been passed over in favor of limp legislation, given the illusion of strength by vehement arguing over relatively minor nuances, tweaks and details.

Respond to Kyle at thenews@bgnews.com



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The BG News Submission Policy

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

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

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

E-MAIL SUBMISSIONS as an attachment to thenews@bgnews.com 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**.

STATE BRIEFS

Ohio man accused of fatally stabbing grandfather

WEST UNION, Ohio (AP) — Police have accused a man of fatally stabbing his grandfather and assaulting his grandmother in the couple's southern Ohio home.

Authorities say 43-year-old Thomas Hargrave of West Union was arrested Monday on aggravated murder and aggravated assault charges.

Police say 84-year-old Maxine Holland ran from her home Sunday night calling for help and police arrived as Hargrave charged out the front door. Her husband, 75-year-old Franklin Holland, had been stabbed numerous times.

West Union Police Chief Roy Stricklett says police aren't sure what led to the slaying and assault.

Hargrave was being held in the Adams County Jail, where officials said they didn't know if he had an attorney.

Ohio Democrat Kaptur votes for health bill

WASHINGTON (AP) — One of the House Democrats who had been undecided over the health care bill because of concerns it would put public money toward abortion has voted for the measure.

Ohio Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur had said earlier Sunday that she would support the bill. She was among 219 Democrats who voted yes. No Republicans voted for the bill.

In a statement, Kaptur says she is convinced that the bill will maintain existing law on abortion. She says the bill addresses the nationwide problem of affordability of insurance plans.

Kaptur has been an ally of Democratic Congressman Bart Stupak, whose earlier opposition to the bill because of concerns it would foster public funding of abortion had been a major hurdle for its passage.

Ohio approves plans for large-scale wind farms

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP) — Regulators have approved the first large-scale wind farms in Ohio.

The Ohio Power Siting Board approved plans Monday by Hardin Wind Energy LLC to construct up to 200 wind turbines in Hardin County, about 50 miles northwest of Columbus.

Board Chairman Alan Schriber says the wind farm will play an integral role in assuring Ohio meets new alternative energy standards. Construction is scheduled to begin this summer.

The board also approved plans by Buckeye Wind LLC to build up to 54 wind turbines in Champaign County and authorized JW Great Lakes Wind LLC to construct up to 27 wind turbines in Hardin County.

Under Ohio's alternative energy plan, 25 percent of electricity sold in the state must be generated from alternative energy sources by 2025.

Unions irked at Ohio Democrat over health care

After health care vote, unions pledge no more support for Ohio congressman

By Doug Whiteman
The Associated Press

COLUMBUS, Ohio — Two unions representing tens of thousands of Ohio workers said Monday they would no longer support the state's only Democratic congressman to oppose President Barack Obama's health care bill.

U.S. Rep. Zack Space betrayed union members who campaigned for him in 2006 and 2008, said the Service Employees International Union and the United Food and Commercial Workers union.

"A no vote on health care is an anti-worker vote," said Allison Petonic, spokeswoman for Columbus-based UFCW Local 1059, which has 18,000 members working in food retailing

and processing in Ohio. That includes 1,500 people living in Space's district, she said.

Space was among 54 Democrats who voted against the landmark legislation Sunday. It passed 219-212 with no Republican support.

Space said over the weekend that he had serious reservations about the measure and that he feared it might financially burden the working class by "opening the door to taxing employee benefits as income."

The Democrat, who represents a conservative, Appalachian district, said a version of the bill he supported last year taxed wealthy Americans, not the middle class, to help pay some health care costs for the working poor.

The unions were unconvinced.

"Working class, middle income people who live in the congressman's district really need help to obtain their health care. While this bill isn't perfect, it's step in the right direction," said Anthony Caldwell, spokesman for SEIU District 1199, which represents about 25,000 hospital, nursing home, state and other workers in Ohio.

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NATION BRIEFS

BG NEWS
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Judge hears lesbian teen's suit to force prom

ABERDEEN, Miss. (AP) — Mississippi officials who canceled a prom after a lesbian student asked to bring her girlfriend say there were issues with the event even before that.

The American Civil Liberties Union is suing to force the Itawamba County school district to sponsor the prom and allow Constance McMillen to escort her girlfriend and wear a tuxedo.

County school officials told a federal judge Monday they had discussed not sponsoring the prom even before McMillen challenged the rule prohibiting same-sex dates.

Schools Superintendent Teresa McNeece and school board Chairman Eddie Hood say they had concerns about liability issues, including possible use of alcohol and drugs.

Former California deputy admits to sex with girl

AUBURN, Calif. (AP) — A former Northern California deputy has pleaded guilty to having sex with a 13-year-old girl.

Thirty-nine-year-old Eric Cephus apologized in Placer County Superior Court on Monday, saying he has destroyed his own life and ruined the lives of others.

A judge sentenced him to 18 years in prison and ordered him to register as a sex offender.

Cephus was laid off from the Sacramento County Sheriff's Department in July and was doing contract work for the parks district when he met the girl last month.

Authorities say he drove the girl to a hotel after his shift and they had sex.

Colo. trooper arrested on drunken driving charge

CASTLE ROCK, Colo. (AP) — A Colorado state trooper was arrested Monday on suspicion of driving drunk in uniform while he was behind the wheel of a marked patrol car and carrying a gun, authorities said.

David Nolan, 48, was arrested by Douglas County deputies at about 7 a.m. on Colorado 470, a beltway around southwest Denver, the Sheriff's Department said.

He was being booked on charges of driving under the influence and prohibited use of weapons.

Colorado law makes it illegal for anyone to have a firearm while intoxicated, sheriff's Sgt. Jeff Egnor said.

New York officer shot responding to call in Bronx

NEW YORK (AP) — Police in New York City say an officer is in the hospital after being shot while responding to a call in the Bronx.

The officer was conscious when he was taken to a hospital after the shooting Monday. Police say a person who might have been involved was barricaded in at the address.

Police say the officer was hit twice in the abdomen.

NYC settles jail strip-search suit for \$33 million

NEW YORK (AP) — Two women who claimed they were forced to have gynecological exams and others strip-searched in city jails have settled a class-action lawsuit with the city for \$33 million.

The suit was filed on behalf of people arrested on misdemeanor drug and weapons charges and strip-searched at Rikers Island and other jails.

Under the agreement, class members can receive between \$1,800 and \$2,900 each, depending on how many people respond. The plaintiffs who claimed they were forced into gynecological exams are entitled to \$20,000 each for their alleged injury and suffering, according to the decision reached last week and finalized Monday.

Court takes up ban on fish pedicures in salons

MESA, Ariz. (AP) — An Arizona salon owner wants to use toothless fish to remove dead skin from client's feet during pedicures. State regulators call it an unhealthy practice that violates state law.

A judge is taking up the issue Monday in a lawsuit over a state ban on the practice.

Gilbert salon owner Cindy Vong is challenging whether the state can ban her from using Garra rufa fish — a 2-inch carp that doesn't have teeth.

The Arizona Board of Cosmetology is seeking to have the case dismissed and filed a motion with the judge to do so in December.

Md. woman gets life for killing, freezing 2 girls

By Sarah Karush
The Associated Press

ROCKVILLE, Md. — A Maryland woman convicted of killing two of her adopted daughters and storing their bodies in a home freezer offered no hint of what drove her to torture them, as she was sentenced Monday to two consecutive life terms, plus 75 years in prison.

Renee Bowman, 44, maintained the inscrutable exterior that she displayed during the trial last month, showing no emotion

even as she apologized.

"I am very sorry for the abuse of the girls," she told Montgomery County Circuit Judge Michael J. Algeo in an even voice. "It haunts me. It haunts me every day."

The judge was unconvinced.

"You come across as such a nice, soft-spoken person," Algeo said. "I can only conclude that the Renee Bowman I see before me is a different Renee Bowman from the one who lived in that house in Lusby."

It was in that southern Maryland community that the

bodies of Minnet and Jasmine Bowman were discovered in a locked freezer in September 2008. Authorities searched the home after a third sister escaped from the house and was found wandering the neighborhood.

Investigators concluded Bowman had killed the girls months before, while the family was living in Rockville, and took the freezer with her as she moved around. Even after the girls were dead, she continued to collect subsidies paid to adoptive parents of special-needs children.

"You sentenced these two young innocent children in the dawn of their lives to a death chamber, and for you that option is not available."

Michael J. Algeo | Montgomery County Circuit Judge

A jury convicted Bowman last month of two counts of first-degree murder and three counts of first-degree child abuse. Bowman had earlier pleaded guilty to one count of first-degree child abuse in Calvert County for abuse of the third girl that took place in Lusby. She received a 25-year sentence for that.

Monday's sentence was the maximum allowed under Maryland law.

"You sentenced these two young innocent children in the dawn of their lives to a death chamber, and for you that option is not available," Algeo said.

Bowman's lawyers maintain she did not kill the girls, though they acknowledge the abuse. Public defender Alan Drew said the defense would appeal the

murder convictions but declined to comment further.

Prosecutors painted Bowman as a sadist who derived pleasure from her children's misery as she kept them in a locked room with a bucket for a toilet. All three girls had severe injuries from repeated beatings, and none of them ever went to school. The surviving girl, now 9, testified at the trial that Bowman beat them with a shoe and a baseball bat and repeatedly choked them until they lost consciousness.

State's Attorney John McCarthy quoted from an e-mail Bowman had sent a friend in which she gleefully compared herself to the death-row warden in the movie "The Green Mile." She said she shouted, "Dead man walking," when any of the girls was about

to be punished. "They hate it. Hahaha," Bowman wrote.

At Monday's hearing, Drew asked Algeo to show mercy in sentencing. He cited Bowman's own difficult childhood, saying she was given up by her own mother, who was schizophrenic, and raised by another woman. Bowman had occasional visits with her mother and later, while she was in high school, saw her mother sleeping on park benches, Drew said.

McCarthy said satisfaction at the sentence was dampened by concern about how Bowman was able to adopt in the District of Columbia, despite a previous conviction and financial problems, and how the abuse could go on so long undetected.

He also expressed lingering concerns about the surviving 9-year-old. The girl, who dazzled the courtroom with her poise as she testified with a teddy bear in her arms, again faces an uncertain future after the foster parents whom she repeatedly waved and grinned at during her testimony were rebuffed in their efforts to adopt her, McCarthy said.

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SIDELINES



GYMNASTICS

Guy named Athlete of the Week

Senior gymnast Breanne Guy was named a Papa John's Athlete of the Week this week after matching her season best in the all-around (38.925), as the Falcons posted their highest score in five years (194.375) Sunday in a loss to Central Michigan.

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OUR CALL

Today in

Sports History

1994—Wayne Gretzky sets an NHL record with 802 goals scored.

1992—The expansion Florida Marlins begin selling tickets.

The List

With both the baseball and softball teams in full swing, here are the top players who have enjoyed fast starts to their season.

1. Blanton: Outfielder T.J. Blanton leads the Falcons in numerous offensive statistics, including slugging percentage (.900), runs scored (19), RBIs (16) and home runs (5).

2. Fulk: Freshman infielder Hannah Fulk leads the softball team with a .323 batting average and is tied for the team lead in hits with 10.

3. Berti: Infielder/outfielder Jon Berti boasts a .436 batting average on the Falcon baseball team and his 24 hits lead the team.

4. Berger: Thirteen games into her freshman season, infielder Paige Berger leads the Falcons in home runs (5), RBIs (nine) and slugging percentage (.765).

5. Schlater: Catcher Ryan Schlater has racked up 19 hits in 44 at bats this season for a .432 batting average and .614 slugging percentage.

Swinging for the fences



SWING: T.J. Blanton prepares to take a rip at a pitch in a game last season. The outfielder connected on four home runs last weekend in BG's sweep at Eastern Kentucky.

BG NEWS FILE PHOTOS

Blanton, Falcons look to continue momentum today against WVU

By Justin Onslow
Reporter

Sports are all about momentum, and the Falcon baseball team certainly has plenty of it.

After going 3-1-1 in Florida over spring break and sweeping

Eastern Kentucky University last weekend, the BG squad looks to notch a couple wins this week before opening Mid-American Conference play at home this weekend and continue their five-game winning streak.

The Falcons (6-7-1) will take on West Virginia University tonight in Chillicothe, Ohio.

Chillicothe is the site of the MAC tournament, and tonight's game will be played there as a neutral-site game to cut down on travel distance for both teams. West

See **BASEBALL** | Page 8



EYE ON THE BALL: Missy Bowman takes a cut at a pitch in a game last season.

Softball swings into midweek matchup with No. 4 Michigan

By Brett Wane
Reporter

The BG softball team has completed tournament play and is set to take on No. 4 Michigan Wednesday in Ann Arbor.

First pitch will begin at 4:00 p.m.

Both the Falcons and Wolverines have matched up many times in the past, with UM usually coming out on top.

BG has a 4-18 record against Michigan and their last victory over the Wolverines was in 2003. The last time these teams met, Michigan was able to secure

the 4-0 victory in 2008.

The No. 4 nationally ranked Wolverines have been able to rack up many this season and stand at 22-5.

Four of the five losses suffered by Michigan have come from four nationally ranked teams, including No. 3 Missouri, No. 8 Alabama, No. 9 Georgia and No. 15 Texas.

Fifteen players are returning from the 2009 softball campaign, including nine starters.

In the previous year, the Wolverines finished fifth in the nation and won the Big Ten with an overall record of 47-12 (17-2 Big Ten). Michigan

went on to compete in the NCAA World Series, where they would finish tied for fifth in the nation.

BG comes into the matchup at 4-9 and on a four-game losing streak.

Three of the freshmen Falcons have started all 13 games and have contributed well.

Hannah Fulk, Andrea Arney and Paige Berger are currently leading the team in a number of statistics.

Fulk leads the team with a .323 batting average, with Arney in second (.281) and

See **SOFTBALL** | Page 9

Hafner looking to get back to old form after struggles last two seasons

By Tom Withers
The Associated Press

GOODYEAR, Ariz. — Tipping the scale at a robust 9 pounds, 6 ounces when he arrived in October, Blake Lee Hafner is the apple of his daddy's eye.

Sitting in front of his locker after a morning round of batting practice, Travis Hafner, the Cleveland Indians' easygoing, hard-swinging designated hitter, beams when asked about his newborn son, who has already taken to grabbing objects left-handed — like his father.

"He's got my body," Hafner said with a chuckle. "We're not sure who he looks like yet. We'll see."

The Indians are finally seeing the Hafner of old.

For the first time in two years, Hafner is looking like himself again. Now almost 18 months removed from shoulder surgery, the man nicknamed "Pronk" — part project, part donkey — by teammates years ago, is driving the ball and turning on pitches the way he once did.

He's healthy again, 100 percent healthy, and it shows.

In the past week, Hafner has hit a pair of homers — one a tape-measure shot to center field — that has given the Indians hope he can anchor the middle of Cleveland's lineup the way he did in 2006, when

he hit a career-high 42 homers with 117 RBIs.

Hafner's powerful lefty swing, affected the past three seasons by shoulder pain, doubt and a sagging confidence, has returned.

"It's starting to get close to where it was," said Hafner, who has studied nuances of his swing on video. "You can notice a pretty big difference in my swing in '08 and '09. But this year, I've been able to do some things and hopefully get back to where I was."

A few days ago, Hafner was in the batting cage on Field 1 behind the Indians' training complex ripping line drives to all three fields, when he turned on a pitch and sent it soaring through the arid Arizona air and over the right-field fence. Gone and then some.

"Pronkville," new Indians manager Manny Acta shouted, referring to the right-field mezzanine section at Cleveland's Progressive Field named in Pronk's honor.

Hafner hasn't visited there much recently.

Last season, he batted .272 with 16 homers and 49 RBIs in 94 games.

He had opened the season feeling fine, but wound up on the disabled list in late April with shoulder soreness and didn't return until June. The

"You can notice a pretty big difference in my swing in '08 and '09. But this year, I've been able to do some things and hopefully get back to where I was."

Travis Hafner | Indians designated hitter

statistics aside, what was more troubling was Hafner appeared lost at the plate.

He was fooled by pitches. Outside strikes became weak flies to left. Pitches down the middle were popped up. When he tried to pull anything inside, Hafner topped routine groundouts to second.

After a strikeout, he would bow his head and walk back to the Indians' dugout, searching for answers that remained elusive.

Theories abounded to what was wrong with him. One was that Hafner stopped doing steroids.

He has long maintained he never did performance enhancers, but the decline in his power output puzzled some Cleveland fans, who wondered why the cash-strapped club gave him a four-year, \$57 million contract extension in 2007.

Hafner isn't making excuses. "I didn't swing the bat the way I wanted to," he said. "I just

didn't see the ball the same as I used to. I swung at bad pitches. Hitting is all about consistency."

Hafner was unable to get into a rhythm last season. He would play three days and then rest a fourth, a routine that protected his shoulder but prevented him from working through his issues at the plate. His frustration grew.

"It's what I had to deal with, so you just try to accept that and make the most of it," he said. "I was just trying to keep my swing as simple as I could so it doesn't need a whole lot of work."

New Indians hitting coach Jon Nunnally has been helping Hafner find his stroke.


Nunnally was attuned to Hafner's swing before coming to Cleveland. He played against the Indians' DH in the minor leagues and can remember him spraying baseballs around parks in Oklahoma City and Omaha. Nunnally has been working on Pronk's mechanics — and his psyche.

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



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PATIENCE: Jon Berti waits for the pitch in a game last spring

BG NEWS FILE PHOTO



PITCH: The baseball team is looking to get longer outings from its starting pitchers this season.

BG NEWS FILE PHOTO

BASEBALL

From Page 7

Virginia will be the home team.

The Mountaineers (10-10) have seen a lot of time on the field this year. They have already played 20 games this season, including games against Kentucky, Virginia Tech, Indiana, Iowa and Michigan State.

After a shaky start, they have won six of their last seven games, and will prove to be a tough opponent against a BG team that has seen considerably less action this year due to bad weather.

BG is coming off a sweep of Eastern Kentucky in which the

team scored 37 runs in the three games against the Colonels.

Of the Falcon hitters with 25 at-bats or more, four are hitting better than .432. Senior Logan Meisler is hitting .340 on the year.

The Falcons relied heavily on home runs last weekend.

Senior T.J. Blanton blasted four homers in the series and is now leading the team with five on the season. BG is hitting .319 on the year and will look to continue its hot streak tonight against West Virginia.

The team is still working on extending the pitch count of its rotation and will be looking to get longer outings from its starters.

The Falcons have a team ERA of 6.81 thus far, but have gotten some strong outings from several pitchers, including sophomore Ross Gerdeman, who boasts a 1.50 ERA in 18 innings pitched.

Sophomore Patrick Martin has also been a solid contributor, pitching nine innings for the team this year and allowing only three earned runs on six hits.

Today's first pitch is slated for 3 p.m.

The Falcons' home opener is scheduled for 3 p.m. Wednesday against Central Michigan University, and BG will open MAC play Friday at home against Northern Illinois University. That game is also scheduled for 3 p.m.

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BG NEWS FILE PHOTO

GUNNIN' THE RUNNER DOWN: Melissa West fires to first in a game last season.

SOFTBALL

From Page 7

Berger in third (.265). Berger has hit the most home runs for the Falcons with 5 and leads the team in slugging percentage at .765.

Fulk leads BG sluggers with four doubles, an on-base percentage of .523 and is the most walked member of the team with 11. She is tied with sophomore Rachel Proehl in hits with 10.

The Falcons will have eight of their next 10 games at home when they have their home opener on April 2, a doubleheader against Central Michigan.

The following two days will have BG doing battle against Eastern Michigan, rounding out the home opening weekend for the Falcons.

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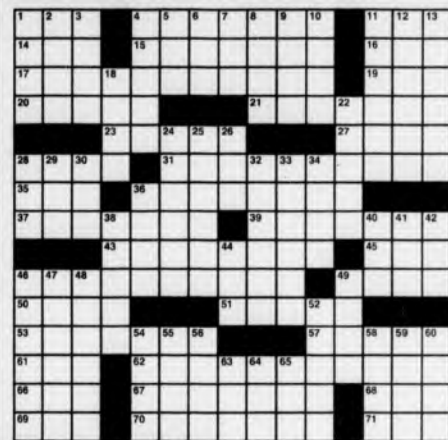
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- 1 Lines on mdse.
2 Arty Big Apple area
3 October birthstone
4 Cuba ... rum drink
5 Opposite of WSW
6 Road sealer
7 Certain bachelor, in ads
8 Relax in the tub
9 New York canal
10 Whirling water
11 Paid male escort
12 Slanted type
13 10 consecutive wins, say
18 Nativity trio
22 Broom-... comics witch
24 Stanley Cup org.
25 Carnival pitchman
26 Singer Sumac
28 Boxer or pug
29 Gardner of "On the Beach"
30 "Deck the Halls" syllables
32 Tries to act like
33 Late news hour
34 Descartes or Russo
36 Florida's Miami-... County
38 Queen of Hearts' pastries
40 EMT's skill
41 Yellowstone grazer

- 42 Prefix with functional
44 Walton of Walmart
46 Like the Six Million Dollar Man
47 Declare true
48 Weapons in which you can find the starts of 17-, 31-, 46- and 62-Across
49 Closely monitored hosp. areas
52 Slugger Barry
54 "Time the essence"
55 Actress Merrill
56 Incubator items
58 Hereditary unit
59 Casual greetings
60 Letter-shaped fastener
63 "Survivor" shelter
64 ... kwon do
65 Java vessel

ACROSS

- 1 Support gp. for the troops
4 Words of deliberation
11 Audience for 1-Across
14 Mom's business partner
15 Concisely put
16 Hairy Addams Family cousin
17 Hotel room cleaner
19 Long-snouted fish
20 "Green" energy type
21 Opening for a peeping Tom
23 Manage, barely
27 Pelvic bones
28 Painter of melting watches
31 Arm-twisting wrestling hold
35 56-Down, biologically
36 Jumped the tracks
37 Electric car's lack
39 Threatened
43 Like glue
45 Tire layer
46 Rodeo event with obstacles
49 Really bugs

- 50 "... ain't broke ..."
51 "Hardball" ailer
53 Gridiron five-yard penalty
57 "You ... to know!"
61 Nothing at all
62 Without prior inspection
66 Ill temper
67 Vigilant against attack
68 Greenwich Village sch.
69 Divs. on some rulers
70 Attaches securely
71 Guinness suffix

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Health care overhaul: this year's changes, plans for future years

By Ricardo Alonso-Zaldivar
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — When President Lyndon Johnson signed the Medicare law in 1965, seniors got their health insurance cards less than a year later.

When President Barack Obama finally gets to hold a signing ceremony for his health care overhaul, the major expansion of coverage for uninsured workers and their families won't come until 2014 — after the next presidential election.

Parts of the plan won't be fully phased in for a decade, but ultimately 94 percent of eligible Americans would have coverage.

Here's a timeline of some changes:

This Year's Changes

• Sets up a high-risk health insurance pool to provide affordable coverage for uninsured people with medical problems.

• Starting six months after enactment, the bill requires all health insurance plans to maintain dependent coverage

for children until they turn 26, prohibits insurers from denying coverage to children because of pre-existing health problems.

• Bars insurance companies from putting lifetime dollar limits on coverage and canceling policies, except for fraud.

• Provides tax credits to help small businesses with up to 25 employees get and keep coverage for their employees.

• Begins narrowing the Medicare prescription coverage gap by providing a \$250 rebate to seniors in the gap, which starts this year, once they have

spent \$2,830. It would be fully closed by 2020.

• Reduces projected Medicare payments to hospitals, home health agencies, nursing homes, hospices and other providers.

• Imposes 10 percent sales tax on indoor tanning.

2011

• The plan creates a voluntary long-term care insurance program to provide a modest cash benefit helping disabled people stay in their homes, or cover nursing home costs. Benefits can begin five years after people start paying a fee for the coverage.

• Provides Medicare recipients in the prescription coverage gap with a 50 percent discount on brand name drugs; begins phasing in additional drug discounts to close the gap by 2020.

• Provides 10 percent Medicare bonus to primary care doctors and general surgeons practicing in underserved areas, such as inner cities and rural communities; improves preventive coverage.

• Freezes payments to Medicare Advantage plans, the first step in reducing payments to the private insurers who serve about one-fourth of seniors. The reductions would be phased in over three to seven years.

• Boosts funding for community health centers, which provide basic care for many low-income and uninsured people.

• Requires employers to report the value of health care benefits on employees' W-2 tax statements.

• Imposes \$2.3 billion annual fee on drugmakers, increasing over time.

2012

• Initiates Medicare payment reforms by encouraging hospitals and doctors to band together in quality-driven "accountable care organizations" along the lines of the Mayo Clinic. Sets up a pilot program to test more efficient ways of paying hospitals, doctors, nursing homes, and other providers who care for Medicare patients from admission through discharge. Successful experiments would be widely adopted.

• Sets up program to create nonprofit insurance co-ops that would compete with commercial insurers.

• Penalizes hospitals with high rates of preventable readmissions by reducing Medicare payments.

2013

• Standardizes insurance company paperwork, first in a series of steps to reduce administrative costs.

• Limits medical expense contributions to tax-sheltered flexible spending accounts (FSAs) to \$2,500 a year, indexed for inflation. Raises threshold for claiming itemized tax deduction for medical expenses from 7.5 percent of income to 10 percent. People over 65 can still deduct medical expenses above 7.5 percent of income through 2016.

• Increases Medicare payroll tax on couples making more than \$250,000 and individuals making more than \$200,000. The tax rate on wages above those thresholds would rise to 2.35 percent from the current 1.45 percent. Also adds a new tax of 3.8 percent on income from investments.

• Imposes a 2.3 percent sales tax on medical devices. Eyeglasses, contact lenses, hearing aids, and many everyday items bought at the drug store are exempt.

2014

• Prohibits insurers from denying coverage to people with medical problems or refusing to renew their policy. Health plans cannot limit coverage based on pre-existing conditions or charge higher rates to those in poor health. Premiums can only vary by age (no more than 3-to-1), place of residence, family size and tobacco use.

• Coverage expansion goes into high gear as states create new health insurance exchanges — supermarkets for individuals and small businesses to buy coverage. People who already have employer coverage won't see any changes.

• Provides income-based tax credits for most consumers in the exchanges, substantially reducing costs for many. Sliding scale credits phase out completely for households above four times the federal poverty level, about \$88,000 for a family of four.

Future Years

• Imposes a tax on employer-sponsored health insurance worth more than \$10,200 for individual coverage, \$27,500 for a family plan. The tax is 40 percent of the value of the plan above the thresholds, indexed for inflation.

• Doughnut hole coverage gap in Medicare prescription benefit is phased out. Seniors continue to pay the standard 25 percent of their drug costs until they reach the threshold for Medicare catastrophic coverage, when their copayments drop to 5 percent.

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