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Bowling Green State University

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Tuesday

January 8, 2007
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CAMPUS

Electing the chair

New USG Internal Affairs chair Lauren Biksacky hopes to complete unfinished business left by former IA chair
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NATION

Suspected case of cannibalism

A Texan man was charged with capital murder for the slaying and possible cannibalism of his girlfriend
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WORLD

Calling on the U.N. to investigate

Benazir Bhutto's husband calls for an outside investigation into his wife's killing
| Page 8

FORUM

Appreciating the American dream

According to columnist Brian Kutzley, American materialism is not always a bad thing
| Page 4

STATE

Released after two decades

A U.S. and British citizen was released after spending over two decades on death row for his now overturned conviction of starting a fire that killed a child
| Page 14

SPORTS

BGSU hockey is having its ups and downs

With a win over the Miami Redhawks and losses to three other teams, the Falcons are having a rollercoaster season
| Page 11



What would you ask a Magic 8 Ball right now?



KRISTEN SPANO
Freshman, Biology

"If I'm going to be rich as hell when I grow up" (Signs point to yes).
| Page 4

PEOPLE ON THE STREET

WEATHER

TODAY
Rain/Thunder/Wind
High: 54, Low: 38

TOMORROW
A.M. Rain/Snow
High: 40, Low: 31

Gone, but not forgotten

By Kelly Day
Campus Editor



Apsana Giri
Graduate biology student from Kathmandu, Nepal



Sweetie Mazumdar
Graduate geology student from Kolkata, India

The University community is mourning the deaths of two international students who were involved in an accident over winter break.

Apsana Giri and Sweetie Mazumdar were driving home with five other international students on Jan. 2 following a trip to Chicago. The accident occurred at 12:20 a.m. near Angola, Ind., when the van entered the median of Interstate 80 East (D/C) and rolled several times.

Giri was a graduate student from Kathmandu, Nepal, study-

ing biology, and Mazumdar was a graduate student from Kolkata, India, studying geology.

"The Bowling Green State University community extends its deepest condolences to the families of two international students killed in the tragic accident earlier today. Our thoughts and prayers are with them, with the five other students involved

in the accident and with our international community in this time of sadness," University President Sidney Ribeau said in a statement.

Director of Media Relations Teri Sharp said several student organizations are in the process of planning a memorial service.

"There's been a real heart-felt pouring of sympathy to the

friends and family of the students who lost their lives in the accident," Sharp said.

Anne Saviers, associate director of the international program, said this tragedy has been difficult for the University's close-knit international community.

"I think everyone just feels a terrible sense of loss," she said.

Grieving students are encouraged to visit the BGSU counseling center or visit the BGSU Web site to learn more about handling grief.

Students may offer condolences to the families by e-mailing sympathy@bgsu.edu.



By David Espo
The Associated Press

MANCHESTER, N.H. — Her voice quavering, Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton struggled yesterday to avoid a highly damaging second straight defeat in the Democratic presidential race. Republicans John McCain and Mitt Romney scrapped for success on the eve of a New Hampshire primary that neither could afford to lose.

"You're the wave, and I'm riding it," Sen. Barack Obama, the new Democratic front-runner, told several hundred voters who cheered him in 40-degree weather after being turned away from an indoor rally filled to capacity.

Obama has been drawing large, boisterous crowds since he won the Iowa caucuses last week, and a spate of pre-primary polls showed him powering to a lead in New Hampshire, as well.

Clinton runs second in the surveys, with former Sen. John Edwards of North Carolina third, and the former first lady and her aides seemed to be bracing for another setback.

At one stop, she appeared to struggle with her emotions when asked how she copes with the grind of the campaign — but her words still had bite. "Some of us are ready and some of us are not," she said in remarks aimed at Obama, less than four years removed from the Illinois Legislature.

New Hampshire fairly crawled with candidates, so much so that at one point, McCain's three-bus caravan drove past Rep. Duncan Hunter of California, a longshot Republican standing on a street corner with two other people waving to cars.

Opinion polls made the Republican race a close one between McCain, the Arizona senator seeking to rebound from last summer's near collapse of his campaign, and Romney, the former governor from next-door Massachusetts.

After sparring over taxes and immigration in weekend debates with McCain and former Arkansas Gov. Mike Huckabee, Romney cast himself as the Republican best able to hold the White House. "I think Barack Obama would be able to do to John McCain exactly what he was able to do

See **PRIMARY** | Page 2

No shots fired, but tensions high between U.S. Navy and Iranian boats.

By Robert Burns
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — An Iranian fleet of high-speed boats charged at and threatened to blow up a three-ship U.S. Navy convoy passing near Iranian waters, then vanished as the American ship commanders were preparing to open fire, the top U.S. Navy commander in the area said yesterday.

No shots were fired and an Iranian official in Tehran said the incident amounted to "something normal."

Bush administration officials complained that the Iranian actions amounted to a dangerous provocation, but one private analyst said the Iranians may have believed they were acting defensively in a narrow waterway that is heavily trafficked by commercial ships, including oil vessels.

The incident raised new tensions between Washington and Tehran as President Bush prepares to depart today on his first major trip to the Middle East.

The three U.S. warships — cruiser USS Port Royal,



PAUL D. HONNICK | AP PHOTO

US NAVY VERSUS IRAN: In this photo released by the U.S. Navy, the USS Hopper (DDG 70) departs Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, Nov. 12, 2007. An Iranian fleet of high-speed boats charged at and threatened to blow up a three-ship U.S. Navy convoy, including the USS Hopper, passing near Iranian waters, then vanished as the American ship commanders were preparing to open fire, the top U.S. Navy commander in the area said yesterday.

destroyer USS Hopper and frigate USS Ingraham — were headed into the Persian Gulf through the Strait of Hormuz on what the U.S. Navy called a routine passage inside international waters when they were approached by five small, high-speed vessels believed to be from Iran's Revolutionary Guard Corps Navy.

The Iranians "maneuvered aggressively" in the direction of the U.S. ships, said Vice Adm. Kevin Cosgriff, the commander

of U.S. 5th Fleet, which patrols the Gulf and is based at nearby Bahrain. The U.S. ship commanders took a series of steps toward firing on the boats, which approached to within 500 yards, but the Iranians suddenly fled back toward their shore, Cosgriff said.

Cosgriff was not precise about the U.S. ships' location but indicated they were about three miles outside Iran's territorial waters, which extend 12 miles from its shores, headed in

a westerly direction after having passed the narrowest point in the strait.

At one point the U.S. ships received a threatening radio call from the Iranians, "to the effect that they were closing (on) our ships and that the ships would explode — the U.S. ships would explode," Cosgriff said.

"Subsequently, two of these boats were observed dropping objects in the water,

See **SHIPS** | Page 2

Crime does not stop for holidays in city or on campus

Dumpster fires, apartment break-ins and menacing phone calls top list.

By Tim Sampson and Ryan Sullivan
The BG News

Students may have gone on holiday recently, but crime didn't. Here's what happened during the last four weeks.

Man thwarted from breaking into University employee's car

An employee at the University was coming into work on Dec. 20 when a suspect approached her car in Lot E and attempted to enter it. He first tried to enter the passenger door, but that was locked. He then tried to go around to the driver's side door, but that door was locked as well. The suspect then fled on foot from the scene. He is described as a white male with black hair and medium build. Campus police are still investigating.

Phone harassment leads to report against disgruntled roommate

A student filed a police report against her roommate on Dec. 29 over some harassing phone calls she was receiving. The student's roommate and some of her friends were making threatening phone calls, including telling the victim the whole east side of Toledo would soon be calling her. The student also reported her MySpace account had been hacked and several things on it had been changed. A report was also filed with the Seneca County police department where the victim lives.

Arson suspect apprehended

On Dec. 30, police responded to three dumpster fires throughout the city. Officers arrested Kyle L. Lauterhahn, 22, of Dayton, near the scene of the third fire. Lauterhahn was charged with complicity to arson. During police questioning Lauterhahn named two other men who are also currently being investigated by police. The case has been turned over to the city prosecutor's office.

More than \$1,400 worth of items stolen from apartment

Someone broke into an apartment at the Enclave on Napoleon Road. Two of the four apartment residents returned to the apartment on Jan. 4 after being out of town on winter break since Dec. 14. The residents returned home to find the door frame had been cracked. They found an iPod home stand, a laptop, an amplifier, two acoustic guitars, a DVD and DVD player had all been taken. The total cost of the stolen goods is estimated at around \$1,465.

Police nab nursing home napper

Bowling Green police responded to a complaint about a strange man sleeping in the Heritage Nursing Home on Klotz Road. Staff at the nursing home found the man sleeping in the library area at around 8 a.m. on Jan. 6. The man left the building through the rear exit, walking a black and brown rottweiler. Police found the man, David A. Shirley, 28, of Bowling Green, wandering outside the building, highly intoxicated. He admitted to having a firearm on him, but had a concealed carry license. Officers found a disassembled .40 caliber handgun and seven rounds of ammunition. Shirley was arrested and taken to the Wood County Justice Center for criminal trespassing, carrying a concealed weapon and violation of a concealed carry permit while intoxicated.

BLOTTER

SATURDAY

12:40 P.M.
Police pulled over a car at the corner of Clough Street and Mercer Road. The driver, Cassandra M. Farson, 18, of Findlay, Ohio, was cited for no seatbelt. The passenger, Rasheen Dunn, 28, of Findlay, was cited for possession of drug paraphernalia after police searched the car and found a glass pipe used for smoking marijuana.

SUNDAY

12:24 A.M.
Tyler William Smotherman, 21, and Ryne E. Toney, 21, of Bowling Green, were cited for disorderly conduct and providing a place for underage consumption of alcohol at a party at their house on South College Drive.

5:37 P.M.
An employee at the Meijer pharmacy reported a woman came in and tried to get a fraudulent prescription filled. She had tried to get the same prescription filled at the Meijer in Findlay, Ohio several days earlier. The woman left the store on foot and police were unable to locate her.

ONLINE: Go to bgnews.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.

SHIPS

From Page 1

generally in the path of the final ship in the formation, the USS Ingraham," he added. "These objects were white, box-like objects that floated. And, obviously, the ship passed by them safely."

The boxes were not retrieved, so U.S. officials do not know whether they posed an actual threat. Cosgriff said the U.S. ship commanders were moving through a standard series of actions — including radio calls to the Iranians that went unheeded — but did not reach the point of firing warning shots.

"We take this deadly seriously," Cosgriff told a Pentagon news conference via video link from Bahrain.

He recalled the October 2000 terrorist attack on a U.S. warship, the USS Cole, in Yemen's Aden harbor by a small boat laden with explosives; 17 sailors died in that attack, which nearly sank the Cole.

PRIMARY

From Page 1

to the other senators who were running on the other side," Romney said as he sped his way through a half-dozen events on a final full day of campaigning.

Mindful of the polls, though, he declined to predict victory in a state where he had led in surveys for months.

McCain wasn't nearly as reluctant. "We're not gonna lose here," he boasted as he set out on a packed day of campaigning through seven cities. In a snow-draped setting in Keene, there seemed little doubt he had Romney in mind when he said voters would reject negative campaigning. "I don't care how many attack ads you buy on television," he said.

Romney has run several TV commercials against McCain in New Hampshire, arguing that the senator's immigration plan would offer amnesty for illegal immigrants and painting him as a disloyal Republican for twice opposing President Bush's tax cuts. McCain responded with an ad that includes a quote from The Concord Monitor that suggested Romney was a phony.

Obama won his Iowa victory on a promise of bringing change to Washington, trumping Clinton's stress on experience. She has struggled to find her footing in the days since, at the same time insisting she is in the race to stay.

Her husband, the former president, pointed out the obvi-



Sen. Barack Obama

Democratic front-runner going in to primary



Sen. John McCain

Republican front-runner in New Hampshire

ous Sunday night in remarks before a college audience. "We can't be a new story," he said, speaking in something of a jocular tone. "I can't make her younger, taller, male."

Still, Sen. Clinton's aides have urged her to show more passion and emotion — including laughter — to give voters a sense of her warmer side.

By coincidence or not, she did so as she set out on a final day in New Hampshire.

"You know, I had so many opportunities from this country. I just don't want to see us fall backwards," she said at a morning campaign stop, her tone changing and voice quavering.

"You know, this is very personal for me. It's not just political. It's not just public. I see what's happening. And we have to reverse it."

Edwards criticized Clinton as ill-suited to bring about change. "The candidate — Democrat or Republican — who's taken the most money from drug companies is not a Republican. It's a Democrat and she's in this race tomorrow morning," he said.

The ubiquitous polls suggested that independents would play a large role in determining the outcome of the Republican race.

"We are going to confront Iran's behavior where it threatens us, where it threatens our allies, where it threatens the integrity of ... international commerce and finance."

Sean McCormack | State Department spokesman

Sunday about 8 a.m. local time and lasted about 30 minutes, Cosgriff said. It was followed yesterday by an unusual but apparently unrelated incident in which two U.S. Navy F/A-18 fighter jets were destroyed in an aerial collision over the northern Gulf. The three aviators involved were plucked safely from Gulf waters and returned to their ship, the USS Harry Truman.

In Tehran, Iran's Foreign Ministry suggested the Iranian boats had not recognized the U.S. vessels. Spokesman Mohammed Ali Hosseini played down the incident, saying it was "similar to past ones."

"That is something normal that takes place every now and then for each party, and it

Men like Darren Garnick of Amherst, a registered independent, called himself politically "schizophrenic" as he crowded in to hear Huckabee speak. "I want someone to fix health care, and I want someone who will stand up to Iran."

Political independents accounted for 41 percent of the vote in the 2000 Republican primary in the state. McCain carried that group, 61-19, over George W. Bush, and won the primary even though Bush won the GOP nomination.

Now, eight years later, McCain hopes to attract enough independent voters once more to defeat Romney.

But Obama's rise presents a challenge McCain didn't face in 2000. The Illinois senator showed strong appeal among independents in Iowa, and pre-primary polling in New Hampshire indicates he is poised to gain substantial backing there, as well.

That left McCain contesting Obama for independents and Romney for Republicans as he worked to climb back into the race after his campaign nearly imploded last summer. At the time, he was struggling to defend the Iraq War, unpopular with independents, and linked to an immigra-

tion position that drove away conservatives. In the months since, he has worked to take the edge off the immigration issue, and the war has receded as a campaign concern as U.S. casualties have declined.

Huckabee, the former Arkansas governor, flipped pancakes yesterday in a state known for its maple syrup, and struck a tone that was both populist and conservative.

"There's a great need in this country to elect someone who reminds them of the guy they work with, not the guy who laid them off," he said in a pitch aimed at independent voters. Speaking to conservatives, he added, "I have also heard folks say people in New Hampshire don't care about issues like family and the sanctity of life. I'd beg to differ."

He finished first in the Iowa caucuses last week on the strength of support from evangelical conservatives, but today's primary appears to offer far less prospect of success.

With the two parties still picking their candidates for the fall, New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg took part in a meeting devoted to bipartisanship, stirring renewed speculation that he will run as an independent.

"People have stopped working together, government is dysfunctional, there's no collaborating and congeniality," said the mayor, who has said several times he does not intend to seek the White House.

City council starts out a new year

By Tim Sampson
City Editor

Sworn-in

At last night's city council meeting, the mayor and five members of city council were all sworn in to new terms.

John Quinn is beginning his ninth year as mayor of Bowling Green as he starts another four year term.

City Council ward members Gordy Heminger, John Zanfardino, Megan Newlove and Mike Frost were each sworn in to additional two-year terms, while council-at-large Terry Dunn was sworn into a four-year term.

Newlove and Heminger were unanimously elected by the other council members to serve as council's president and president pro-temp respectively.

Traffic lights at night

Municipal Administrator John Fawcett addressed council members to inform them that traffic lights in Bowling Green will no longer be flashing red and yellow during late night and early morning hours.

Fawcett cited the findings of a recent state study that found the flashing yellow and red pattern was more dangerous than regular operation.

He said the minor inconvenience was a smart trade-off for increased safety.

State Funding

The council unanimously approved three separate resolutions concerning Bowling Green gaining grants from the state.

Two of the resolutions give the mayor authority to seek funds from the Ohio Department of Natural Resources for use on parks and recreation projects.

The other two resolutions adopted state-mandated conditions necessary for the city to receive grant money.

One of the resolutions adopted general policies laid out in order to receive funds from the Housing Revolving Loan Fund and the Community Development Block Grant Fund. These funds will be used for various community projects. The other resolution adopted a drug testing policy for BG Transit Drivers.

Zanfardino called the resolutions, "no-brainers for the city."

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Some events taken from events.bgsu.edu

8 a.m. - 9 p.m.

GeoJourney

130 Union

8 a.m. - 11 p.m.

Muslim Student Association Prayer Room

204 Olscamp

10:30 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Wal-Mart Gift Card Raffle

Union Table Space

11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Bake Sale/Recruitment

Union Table Space

12 - 1 p.m.

Weight Watchers

316 Union

9:15 p.m.

Greek Leadership Team Meeting

315 Union

9:30 - 11 p.m.

UAO Presents "Zoolander"

Union Theater

USG elects new Internal Affairs chair

By Kristen Vasas
Reporter

Senator Lauren Biksacky was elected as the new Internal Affairs chair at Undergraduate Student Government general assembly meeting last night.

"I was pleasantly surprised by the vote," Biksacky said. "It gives me confidence inside USG that my peers consider me a strong leader."

The IA chair, which was formerly held by Senator Jason Snead, is in charge of the inner workings of USG, which includes upholding bylaws and the constitution as well as monitoring senator duties and controlling the budget.

Biksacky, who served on the IA committee this year and worked closely with Snead, hopes she will be able to follow in his footsteps and continue the progress he has made within the committee.

"Senator Snead left us with unfinished business, and

I will do my best to take care of the issues," she said. "I plan on working with people on the [Internal Affairs] committee and other USG senators about what they wish to follow through on and what they want to leave behind."

Although Biksacky plans on meeting with President Johnnie L. Lewis and other committee heads before making changes within the IA committee, she did note issues with committee schedules that she hoped to resolve.

"We may need to have new meeting times based on current senator schedules," Biksacky said. "I know for me, I missed past meetings based on conflicting interests, and that's something I hope to work on."

Biksacky, who ran for the position against Senators Rahul Guha and April Jackson, won over the votes of USG senators after listing off her many qualifications, namely her pre-law major and personal qualities.

"I have full confidence in Lauren," speaker Jeremy Lehman said. "In my brief stint working with her, she's been fair and honest, and those are important qualities for an IA chair."

Minority Affairs Senator Leo Almeida also noted that Biksacky's ability to clarify issues would help make her a strong chair.

"She can take a complicated rule and really break it down," he said. "We need an IA chair that can explain difficult issues, and Biksacky definitely has that down."

President Lewis, who noted that all three candidates were extremely capable for the IA chair position, was happy with Biksacky's nomination.

"She has an energy about her that's approachable but she's not a complete softy," Lewis said. "An IA chair needs to have that sternness about them and combined with her energy, I think she'll be able to make a difference within the committee."

Duke Divinity gets funky to save water

Students voluntarily refrain from showers on Tuesdays to conserve water during the drought

By Lorenzo Perez
MCT

DURHAM, N.C. — Darick Biondi and other Duke Divinity students call it "Bedhead Tuesday," the one day a week they skip showering to help conserve water.

For the other six days of the week, Biondi and several of his classmates joined a slow but steady trickle of people lined up outside Duke Chapel yesterday to help make their showers a little more guilt-free.

University officials distributed 3,200 free, low-flow showerheads to Duke faculty, staff and off-campus students — a nod to the region's continuing drought. The promise of saving an estimated 7,300 gallons of water a year per showerhead, plus the irresistibility of getting something free, lured people in on an unseasonably balmy December day.

"As a community, it's not a big deal when everybody smells a little," Biondi joked about the divinity school's Bedhead Tuesdays. "Just having that integrated into your week, you naturally already realize the impact of this drought. So when you hear of something like this (showerhead giveaway), you just want to walk over."

As of last week, Durham's supply of easily accessible, "premium" water from Lake Michie and Little River Reservoir had dropped to a combined 45-day

"As a community, it's not a big deal when everybody smells a little."

Darick Biondi | Duke student

supply, with no rain in sight.

Duke spent about \$15,000 on 5,000 showerheads for yesterday's promotion. The university will continue to distribute the remaining 1,800 showerheads, and it plans to purchase more. The money for the project came from a \$5 million fund established by Duke for water conservation efforts.

The largest water consumer in Durham County, N.C., Duke has set out to reduce its water consumption by 30 percent. The measures include replacing more than 1,000 showerheads in campus residence halls with efficient ones that use only 1.5 gallons per minute. (Standard fixtures use about 2.5 gallons a minute.)

Estimates on how much money that move could save on Duke's water bill were not available, although replacing the showerheads could save thousands of gallons of water daily. About 11 percent of the university's water consumption is generated by the residence halls, while the medical school and hospital account for about 40 percent.



RACHEL RADWANSKI | THE BG NEWS

Food, spirits and sports

THE BIG GAME: Last night Charles Morgan (L) and Brooke Carrell (R) watch the BCS National Championship game between OSU and LSU at The Black Swamp Pub in the Union.

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PEOPLE ON THE STREET

What would you ask a Magic 8 Ball right now?



"If I'm going to pass economics" ("You may rely on it").
CHRISTINA VISCIANO, Freshman, Marketing



"Will I graduate in four years?" ("Signs point to yes").
KEVIN COX, Freshman, Marketing



"If OSU is going to win" ("Outlook good").
BECKY JACKSON, Freshman, Marketing



"Should I wear underwear tomorrow?" ("Without a doubt").
LOGAN SMITH, Freshman, Undecided

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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.

What it really means to have all this 'stuff'



BRIAN KUTZLEY, COLUMNIST

January in Bowling Green means — aside from freak weather patterns — the emergence of New Year's resolutions, normally in direct response to Christmas glut. Expect to hear from your fellow classmates, your favorite news sources and maybe even your professors the story of American corporate manipulation and inexcusable greed. They will then vow to really focus on what matters in 2008, to not be so materialistic, maybe even to find inner peace or harmony with the universe.

Now these are all very meaningful goals, and I personally find that I desire fewer and fewer gizmos each holiday season. Heck, the "big gifts" I asked for this Christmas were a floor lamp and dress shoes. Of course I am sure any good postmodernist would tell me I am still a materialist who requires possession of things to sustain my illusion of happiness, et cetera and so on.

Right, well, here's the twist: In the face of all those resolving to live a simpler life, let me simply say, I love materialism. Heck, I even love corporate manipulation in a strange, prodigal-son manner. And if you're still waiting for a punch line, you might want to skip to cartoons.

Before I explain my apparently unique love for American materialism, I should probably throw in a disclaimer. I do believe Christmas is and should remain primarily a religious and family-oriented event, and likewise for any other religious celebration. But that is a matter for individuals and families, so please stop telling Wal-Mart that selling two-for-one-dollar luminaries and menageries is somehow a horrible and manipulative process.

Now then, why do I love materialism? Throughout our history we have aspired to reach a level of universal affluence. We wanted to create a society in which all could have a chance to build a life. And we do not appreciate how far we have come.

I understand that there are poor individuals in America. Some face starvation, exposure to the elements, disabilities and conditions that I could scarcely imagine.

Yet concern for these people is a luxury brought about by the fact that most of our society will never, in any real sense, face these problems. I picked up on a recent poll that stated almost 25 percent of our country has, at one point, worried about homelessness, and almost 50 percent about severe poverty or bankruptcy.

Turn that around for a moment. When in history has 75 percent of a population been not able to acquire housing and necessities, but also have the peace of mind to know that such necessities will remain available?

"Let me simply say, I love materialism. Heck, I even love corporate manipulation in a strange, prodigal-son manner."

Now, we can debate the merits of European socialism versus American not-quite-capitalism, and I am sure we could find faults with both.

But here is the gist of it all. A few years back I read a report stating there were more active cars (based on license tags, I believe) than licensed drivers. We continue to worry about our disposable society in which even our most basic utensils can be purchased in Styrofoam and plastic, then discarded after a single use. The land we drive through is stripped of its natural form and supplanted with crops, billboards and stores.

I challenge everyone, liberal and conservative alike, to take a moment and stop considering the waste. For one minute, stop thinking of the impending/ongoing destruction of our environment, stop fretting over the commercialization of our family gatherings and just look around.

There is no America without materialism. This is not a reiteration of the argument that your purchases somehow stimulate the economy and help everyone — although that bears thinking about. This is a plea to common sense. We want an affluent society, and what is more indicative of affluence than home and transportation? Living quarters for all demographics have expanded dramatically, both in size and quality, and have improved dramatically over the years.

There are always setbacks — housing markets collapse, and so on. But on a whole, we are reaching a goal considered a fantasy only a generation ago. Comparing our per capita consumption to Europe borders on a religious experience for a good capitalist. We possess more land and more advanced products — televisions, refrigerators, cars — per capita than anywhere else on Earth.

So yes, we have problems with the environment, and we have inequalities in our communities. However, I beg that you not overlook the achievement of the American economy. Before you proceed to discard your material baggage, understand that it is not simply the accumulation of worthless junk. It is the deliverance of a promise made by every generation before you: the promise of a better life. And if our generation cannot understand scarcity and thereby truly appreciate affluence, then we are poor inheritors of that dream.

Send responses to Brian's column to thenews@bgnews.com.



MICHAEL WEIGMAN | THE BG NEWS

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Wrong choice of words to describe book buyback

Usually when I pick up a copy of The BG News, I either bypass or skim through Sean Martin's columns, mostly because I know that I won't agree with a word he says and will probably get irritated.

[On Dec. 12], I felt lucky. A column about book buybacks? Finally, a Sean Martin column I could get behind! ["New editions not worth it"].

I turned to the column, expecting some witty diatribe on how the University bookstore likes to buy back \$150 books for less than the cost of a delicious drink at the pub, but instead, found this opening sentence: "Every semester I get molested."

I hate to break it to Sean, but being molested is a whole lot tougher, a whole lot more painful and a whole lot more emotionally taxing than the bookstore taking some of your

money. I found his comment completely insensitive to those who have experienced abuse or sexual assault at the hands of another.

I understand that saying someone was "raped" or "molested" is becoming part of college students' vocabularies, but I'd like to remind and encourage people to remember that as crappy as getting \$5 back for that book was, as unfair as you thought that teacher graded you on that

exam or as poorly as your team did during a game, it in no way can or should be compared to sexual assault.

— Hannah Geyer
Senior, Women's Studies

On-campus recycling has a long way to go

I visited the Bowling Green campus in mid-November in order to use the Ray Browne Popular Culture Archive. I

found everyone on campus — and in the town — friendly and helpful. However, I was horrified at the lack of recycling facilities available on campus — and, indeed, throughout the town.

It is shocking the University does not provide a full recycling program throughout the campus — beside each garbage bin there should be bins for plastic, aluminum, glass and paper. There should also be composting facilities across the campus.

I urge Bowling Green students to lobby the administration to embrace recycling wholeheartedly — if not for the sake of the planet, then to lessen the environmental impact on what I otherwise found to be a charming part of the U.S.

— Stacy Gillis
Lecturer in Modern and Contemporary Literature, Newcastle University, UK

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- E-mail us at thenews@bgnews.com.
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Be sure to read the submission guidelines at the bottom of this page.

Give students the wheel to their education

CONRAD PRITSCHER | GUEST COLUMNIST

"Much more student trust and freedom encourages students to explore what is remarkable, interesting and important for them."

Openness to receive precedes attention. "Words don't mean by themselves; we mean by their use," said an unknown scholar. "Information" often has little meaning by itself, but rather, we give it meaning by its use. Ordinary "professor-telling" courses often emphasize giving students information. Mind-opening type courses provide conditions whereby students not only embrace interesting information, but also learn to think something that can't be found in textbooks or in most lectures.

"Openness to receive" can better help one notice a powerful distinction between "inquiry teaching" and ordinary professor-telling. "Learning to think something that can't be found in textbooks" is what Einstein thought was the purpose of a liberal education. Einsteinian mind-opening-type courses provide condi-

tions whereby students put together and use information in a honed-judgment way.

Ordinary professing gives more attention to training of specific, clearly defined skills. Inquiry teaching, where broad learning and development of self-direction are primary goals, gives more time to the difficult-to-define integration and quality use of specific skills. This integration of skills generates increased deciding for oneself what will secure or endanger one's freedom (this is what Thomas Jefferson said was the purpose of education).

Both "inquiry" and "telling" courses require students to pay attention. At the heart of attention is "openness to receive" — receptivity. Students are more

open to receive what is remarkable, interesting and important to them. Increasing trust and freedom of students is promoted with infrequently used "mind-opening" facilitated by openness to receive. Inquiry teaching activities can now provide conditions for increased student openness and self-direction. Courses which primarily "train" have dominated schools and universities, so don't be alarmed if you don't think as independently as you would like. Don't be surprised if you mainly pay attention to what others tell you to know.

Education includes training but is much broader. "Telling-type teaching" often interferes with education. Education directly includes self-direction and learning what can't be found in textbooks or most professors' lectures.

Providing higher degrees of trust and freedom for students has only been given lip service. Much more student trust and freedom encourages students to explore what is remarkable, interesting and important for them. When students freely explore, their openness to receive increases, as does their trust for their professors and universities. Higher degrees of openness to receive will be needed by students in order to prepare for a period of unusual change. MIT award-winning

See PRITSCHER | Page 5

TO OUR READERS: PLEASE NOTE CHANGES TO THE BG NEWS SUBMISSION POLICY BELOW

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.

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



WAYNE STAYSKAL | MCT

PRITSCHER

From Page 4

author Ray Kurzweil predicts we will have a thousand times more technological change in this century than the last. Schools and universities seem to not be keeping up with that change.

In order to more readily adapt to rapid change, mind openers are unusually helpful. Mind openers are fostered by student receptivity. Remembering disconnected information uses the lowest level of cognitive brain function, yet many professors require remembering discrete pieces of information.

Openness to receive precedes attention. Because openness to receive is most basic, it is infrequently considered. Openness to receive generates self-direction. Openness to receive and attention are one whole, in that each generates each other within a holistic framework. Intention to attend is a part of this whole. In providing conditions such as high degrees of trust and freedom, professors can assist in the development of openness to receive, attention and imaginative intelligence.

Attention and openness to receive are viewed within a holistic experience cycle which the "old-school mind-sets" rarely consider. The old-school mindsets are often determined by the "ruling class," which imply that professors and predetermined curricula indicate what students ought to be giving attention. Some exceptional

"inquiry" professors (like Albert Einstein) did not follow a predetermined curriculum. These inquiry professors plan, but their planned activities often include indeterminate outcomes.

Einstein's $E=mc^2$ simplified complexities of earlier known orders. Einstein's ideas include some practical suggestions for increasing student open inquiry and for creating more self-direction. Einstein said imagination is more important than knowledge. Everything one knows seems to originally arise from imaginative self-direction.

When students pay attention to what they find remarkable, interesting and important, they are actively involved in generating more of their own self-directedness. Einstein's heuristic thinking may now shed light on how universities can simplify activity so students can amplify the basic element of life which many hold is "self-organization." Open minds are required for heuristic thinking since more uncertainties and difficult-to-measure elements are involved. If you ask your professors, deans and provost what they think about openness, trust, self-direction and freedom, most would think they need developing. But most of them would still only give those difficult-to-define characteristics lip service because of difficulty in measuring outcomes. What do you think?

Pritscher is a professor emeritus. Send responses to his column to theneeds@bgnews.com.

TOMORROW IN FORUM

Columns from Levi Joseph Wonder, Sean Martin and new columnist Sean Lutzmann.

Schedule subject to change.

What to do with the price of oil?

THE CHICAGO TRIBUNE
GUEST COLUMNIST

Just a few years ago, some economists said the prospect of oil prices at \$50 a barrel would send tremors through the economy. \$50? What a bargain that looks like now. Then \$60 oil was thought to be the breaking point. But it wasn't. Then it was oil at \$70; then oil at \$80 or \$90. Somewhere along the line, oil prices were going to break us.

Oil traded above \$100 a barrel for a time on Wednesday and Thursday, and there is great speculation that this will be the price point that starts to make the U.S. and world economy buckle like it did 28 years ago. After revolution in Iran and other unrest in the Middle East, oil soared in April 1980 to the then unthinkable price of \$39.50. In inflation-adjusted dollars, that \$39.50 translates to \$102.81. Oil at that price greatly contributed to the worst economic downturn in this country since the Great Depression in the 1930s.

Yet, so far, this time the U.S. economy hasn't buckled. U.S. gross domestic product is expected to have grown about 2.2 percent in 2007, a

"No one is cheering \$100 oil, but so far we're doing a decent job of grinning and bearing it."

bend-but-don't-break year. Growth is expected to be a little weaker in 2008.

An oil spike doesn't have quite the same impact it had in 1980. The economy is a lot more efficient in its energy use than it was then. That's true for everything from factories and power plants to refrigerators and cars. Most Americans first feel the pain of higher energy prices when they fill up the tank. The price of oil has gone up 66 percent in the last year, but the price of gasoline has gone up just 33 percent. There's a difference between the frothy speculation in oil prices by hedge funds and other investors, and the world of taking delivery of that oil and turning it into gas.

And if Americans feel the pinch, they're not acting like it. They still drove more miles over this holiday season than they did a year earlier.

Not to say gas is cheap. In Chicago, unleaded regular averages \$3.16 a gallon,

79 cents higher than a year ago. But Americans spend 4 percent of their disposable income at the pump today, compared with 6 percent in 1980.

And not to say the confluence of a sagging housing market, tightening credit and high oil prices isn't making a lot of people nervous. The White House said Thursday that President Bush may propose an economic stimulus package when he delivers his State of the Union address later this month.

So we fret, sure. But the U.S. economy is in better position to withstand a speculative bubble in oil prices, and in all likelihood, the \$100 price won't last. (Yes, we know people said the same thing about \$70, \$80 and \$90.) If pump prices rise, demand will drop and there will be more incentives to explore alternatives to oil.

No one is cheering \$100 oil, but so far we're doing a decent job of grinning and bearing it.

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Pool	Yes (2 Pools)	Yes	No	No
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Texas man confesses to murdering and cooking girlfriend

By Paul J. Weber
The Associated Press

TYLER, Texas — A man who told a 911 operator he killed his girlfriend and cooked parts of her body faces a capital murder charge, authorities said.

Deputies responding to the 911 call found a gruesome scene: a human ear boiling in a pot on a stovetop and a hunk of flesh on a fork sitting atop a plate on the kitchen table.

Authorities believe the man arrested in the death of his 21-year-old girlfriend cooked parts of her body and may have tried to eat them — actions they said he described to them in the emergency call that led them to the grisly discovery.

Christopher Lee McCuin, 25, was scheduled to be arraigned yesterday on a capital murder charge in the death of Jana Shearer. He was in solitary con-

finement at a jail on a \$2 million bond Sunday night and did not have an attorney, officials said.

Authorities say it is unclear whether McCuin consumed any part of the woman's body.

"We cannot prove that he did," Smith County Sheriff J.B. Smith said Sunday. "He was either going to, had been or led us to think that he was doing it."

McCuin is also the suspect in early Saturday's stabbing of a man described as his estranged wife's boyfriend, Smith said.

McCuin has a criminal record that includes driving while intoxicated and aggravated assault with a deadly weapon charges. When he was arrested, McCuin had an outstanding felony retaliation warrant.

Smith said McCuin was



HERB NYGREN JR. / AP PHOTO

TEXAS SLAYING: Sheriff's deputies and crime scene investigators respond to the scene of a homicide where a man killed his girlfriend, then filleted and cooked parts of her body.

known to authorities and had "a history of violence," including assaulting his estranged wife, his girlfriend and his sister.

Officials believe the horrific chain of events began when

Shearer was taken by McCuin from her home late Friday and killed.

Smith said McCuin then drove to his estranged wife's home, where he stabbed his wife's boyfriend, William

Veasley, 42. Veasley was in intensive care Sunday night.

McCuin was still in that home when deputies arrived, but he jumped into his car and escaped after a short chase, Smith said. "We did not know at the time that he had murdered anyone," Smith said. "We thought it was a disturbance or an assault."

McCuin wasn't seen again until Saturday morning, when he arrived at the home he shared with his mother and called her into the garage so she could "come see what he had done," Smith said.

His mother and her boyfriend saw the remains of Shearer, authorities said. McCuin's mother and her boyfriend fled the home and flagged down a police officer. McCuin dialed 911 after they left and told an emergency dispatcher he had killed Shearer and was boiling

her body parts, Smith said.

When deputies arrived, McCuin barricaded himself in the home for a short time before coming out. After he emerged, a tactical team entered and found Shearer's body, Sgt. Gary Middleton said. They also found the grisly scene in the kitchen.

After McCuin was arrested and placed in the back of a patrol car, he kicked out the vehicle's side window, then was put in additional restraints, Middleton said.

Shearer appeared to have died from blunt trauma to her head, Smith said.

Detectives were trying to determine where the killing happened. They think McCuin drove his truck to his mother's home with the dead woman in the back seat of his extended-cab pickup, Smith said.

FBI data show decrease in national violence

By Lara Jakes Jordan
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Crime dipped slightly for the first half of 2007, the FBI reported yesterday, signaling a stop to a 2-year increase in violence nationwide.

Violent crime — including murders, rapes and robberies — dropped by 1.8 percent between January and June last year, the FBI's preliminary data show. Property crimes also decreased, including a 7.4 percent drop in car thefts and arson by nearly 10 percent.

But violent crime appears to be rising, if slightly, in small cities and rural areas, the data show.

The FBI data, compiled from local and state police departments around the nation, offer a snapshot of crime rates over the six month period. The numbers will not be finalized until later this year.

Still, the data appears to end two years of rising violent crime rates, which increased by 2.3 percent in 2005 and 1.9 percent in 2006.

"The latest numbers from the FBI are encouraging," Justice

"The report suggests that violent crime remains near historic low levels."

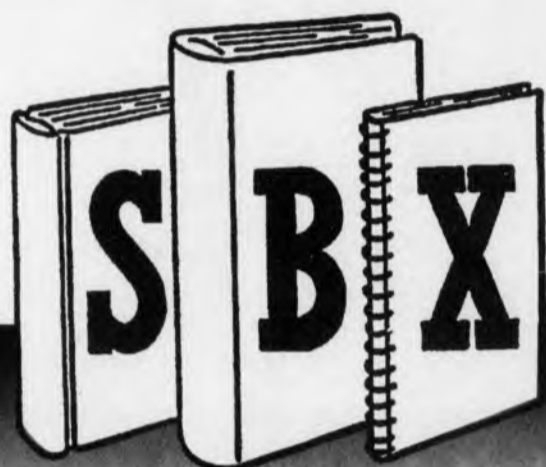
Peter Carr | Justice Department

Department spokesman Peter Carr said. "The report suggests that violent crime remains near historic low levels."

Carr acknowledged some communities continue to face violence, and said the Justice Department "is committed to assisting our state and local partners in combating violent crime wherever it exists."

The data show that violent crime dropped dramatically in big cities with 1 million or more residents, where murders decreased by 6.5 percent and rapes by 14 percent.

Smaller cities and rural areas, however, saw a 1.1 percent increase in violence. And murder rates jumped by 5 percent in suburbs and by 3.2 percent in cities.

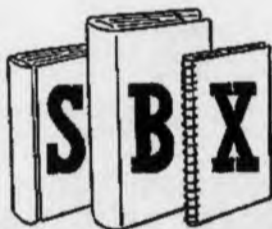


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Bus carrying skiers slides off damp Utah highway

Nine people returning from a ski trip to Colorado perish in bus crash after plummeting 41 feet; 2 high school students among dead

MEXICAN HAT, Utah (AP)—A ninth person died yesterday after a new bus carrying skiers home from a Colorado resort plunged off a damp, twisting highway in southeastern Utah and landed 41 feet below with its tires ripped away and the roof destroyed.

"The bus looked like a convertible," said Jim Hook, the fire chief in Bluff.

Those killed included two high school students from Glendale, Ariz. About 20 other people from the Phoenix area were injured Sunday night, some seriously, authorities and hospital officials said.

"There were lots of head injuries, glass, broken limbs. ... Everybody was just looking for help. We had to sort through it," Hook said.

The ninth victim, a woman, died at Saint Mary's Hospital in Grand Junction, Colo., said Trooper Cameron Roden of the Utah Highway Patrol.

The Arrow Stage Lines bus was southbound on State Route 163 when it veered off the two-lane road and dropped off an embankment.

Weather was not considered the main factor, although it played a role in the subsequent



AP PHOTO VIA UTAH DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

BUS CRASH: In this photo released by the Utah Department of Public Safety yesterday, a charter bus carrying people from a Colorado ski resort sits upright after running off a wet road and rolling several times down an embankment in far southeastern Utah Sunday.

rescue.

"The main thing we're looking at is the driver failed to negotiate the turn," Roden said.

Loose tires and parts mixed with barbed wire, steel posts,

luggage and ski equipment strewn across sagebrush.

Some people were pinned under the wreck, and others were scattered 100 yards from where the bus went off the road,

Hook said.

"It's just a narrow road. No shoulders, sharp curves," he said. "Truckers and buses know that. You don't go in there at night."

A manifest showed 51 passengers were aboard when the bus crashed about 10 miles north of Mexican Hat, in the Four Corners region where Utah meets Arizona, Colorado and New Mexico.

Hook said passengers were a mix of families, people in their 20s and children as young as 5.

Two students at Glendale's Deer Valley High School were killed: Marc Rasmussen, a senior, and Erica Sheffey, a junior, district spokeswoman Sandi Hicks said.

Rasmussen, who was on the wrestling team, was on the trip with his parents, teenage sister and younger brother, she said. The four family members were taken to hospitals, she said.

It wasn't clear whether Sheffey, a cheerleader, was traveling with relatives, Hicks said.

"She got straight As," said Jessica Owen, a classmate of Sheffey's. "She succeeded in anything she did."

Rose June, a clerk at the San Juan Inn, said she rushed to the scene to distribute blankets and towels to people on stretchers.

"They were saying, 'Where's my friend? Where's the ambulance?'" June said. "I tried to

keep the rain off their face."

Arrow Stage refused to identify the organizers who leased the bus for the trip. Roden said it was among as many as 17 chartered for a long weekend in Telluride, Colo.

An Arrow Stage executive, Bruce Neuhauser, said the company and its Phoenix subsidiary, Corporate Transportation 'N Tours, were cooperating with authorities.

The bus was a "new motorcoach that was in perfect working order," Neuhauser said in a statement.

The National Transportation Safety Board was dispatching investigators.

Arrow Stage has had seven bus crashes in the past two years, according to the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration. Four of those accidents involved injuries.

Mexican Hat, named for a rock formation that resembles a hat, is 360 miles southeast of Salt Lake City and has fewer than 100 residents.

Associated Press writers Paul Foy and Ed White reported on this story from Salt Lake City and Amanda Myers reported from Phoenix.

Missing snowmobilers rescued in Colorado

By Robert Weller
The Associated Press

CONEJOS, Colo. — Six snowmobilers missing in the mountains for 2 and a half days while a howling blizzard swirled around them were rescued yesterday — hungry and cold but unhurt — after taking shelter in a cozy cabin and calling 911 on a cell phone when the storm eased up.

The group, consisting of two couples and two teenagers, broke into the cabin, where they huddled around a gas grill and dined on popcorn and chicken bouillon they found inside.

"We counted 18 blankets. We were cozy," 31-year-old Shannon Groen said after rescue crews on

"We were cozy. God was looking out for us. When we knew we were safe we began to worry about the rescuers and we prayed for them."

Shannon Groen | Snowmobiler

snowmobiles brought the group to safety. "God was looking out for us. When we knew we were safe we began to worry about the rescuers and we prayed for them."

Groen and the others were trapped by one in a series of storms that killed at least three people across the West, unloaded as much as 11 feet of snow in the Sierra Nevada range, flooded hundreds of homes in Nevada

and knocked out power to a quarter-million Californians. At least three people — two skiers and a hiker — were missing in the snow-covered mountains of California and Colorado.

Groen and her husband, Jason, had gone snowmobiling with their daughter Aspen to celebrate her 14th birthday. Also along were one of Jason Groen's employees, Mike Martin;

Martin's wife, Missy; and their son, Jessie, 13. All are from Farmington, N.M.

The group had set out on what was supposed to be a daylong adventure but got lost and ran out of gas on Friday night near 10,222-foot Cumbres Pass, just north of the New Mexico line.

They sought shelter in a cabin near the isolated and snow-bound Osier Station, a small wooden building that serves as a summertime stop on a railroad line for sightseers.

Jason Groen, the 36-year-old owner of a car wash, said that his cell phone didn't work in the cabin, and that bad weather kept him from leaving to find a place where he could get a signal until Monday morning.

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Bhutto's husband calls for U.N. investigation of death

By Ravi Nessman
The Associated Press

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan — Benazir Bhutto's widowed husband accused members of Pakistan's ruling regime of involvement in his wife's killing and called Saturday for a U.N. investigation, as British officers aiding Pakistan's own probe pored over the crime scene.

"An investigation conducted by the government of Pakistan will have no credibility, in my country or anywhere else," Asif Ali Zardari, the effective leader of Bhutto's opposition party, said in a commentary published in *The Washington Post*. "One does not put the fox in charge of the hen house."

Calls for an independent, international investigation have intensified since the former prime minister was killed Dec. 27 in a shooting and bombing attack after a campaign rally. Opposition activists denounced the government's initial assessment that an Islamic militant was behind the attack and that Bhutto died, not from gunshot wounds, but from the force of the blast.

President Pervez Musharraf acknowledged that investigators may have drawn conclusions too quickly and mishandled evidence, including hosing down the site hours after the attack. But he insisted the government

"Those responsible - within and outside of government - must be held accountable."

Asif Ali Zardari | Effective Leader

was competent to run the investigation with the help of forensic experts from Britain's Scotland Yard. The United States said it did not believe a U.N. investigation was needed.

In an interview to be aired on CBS' "60 Minutes" program Sunday, Musharraf acknowledged that Bhutto may have been shot, CBS reported on its Web site. "Yes, absolutely, yes. Possibility," Musharraf was quoted as saying.

The British investigators arrived at the site of the attack in the city of Rawalpindi under heavy police guard in a convoy of sports utility vehicles. They spoke to local security officials and repeatedly walked from the park where Bhutto held her final campaign rally to the spot outside where her departing vehicle was attacked.

Local police parked a truck where Bhutto's had been, and the British investigators took photographs of it and filmed it from different angles, including from a nearby rooftop.

Zardari said no government

investigation would satisfy him. He reiterated his demand for a U.N. probe modeled on the investigation into the death of former Lebanese Prime Minister Rafik Hariri and urged "friends of democracy in the West, in particular the United States and Britain, to endorse the call for such and independent investigation."

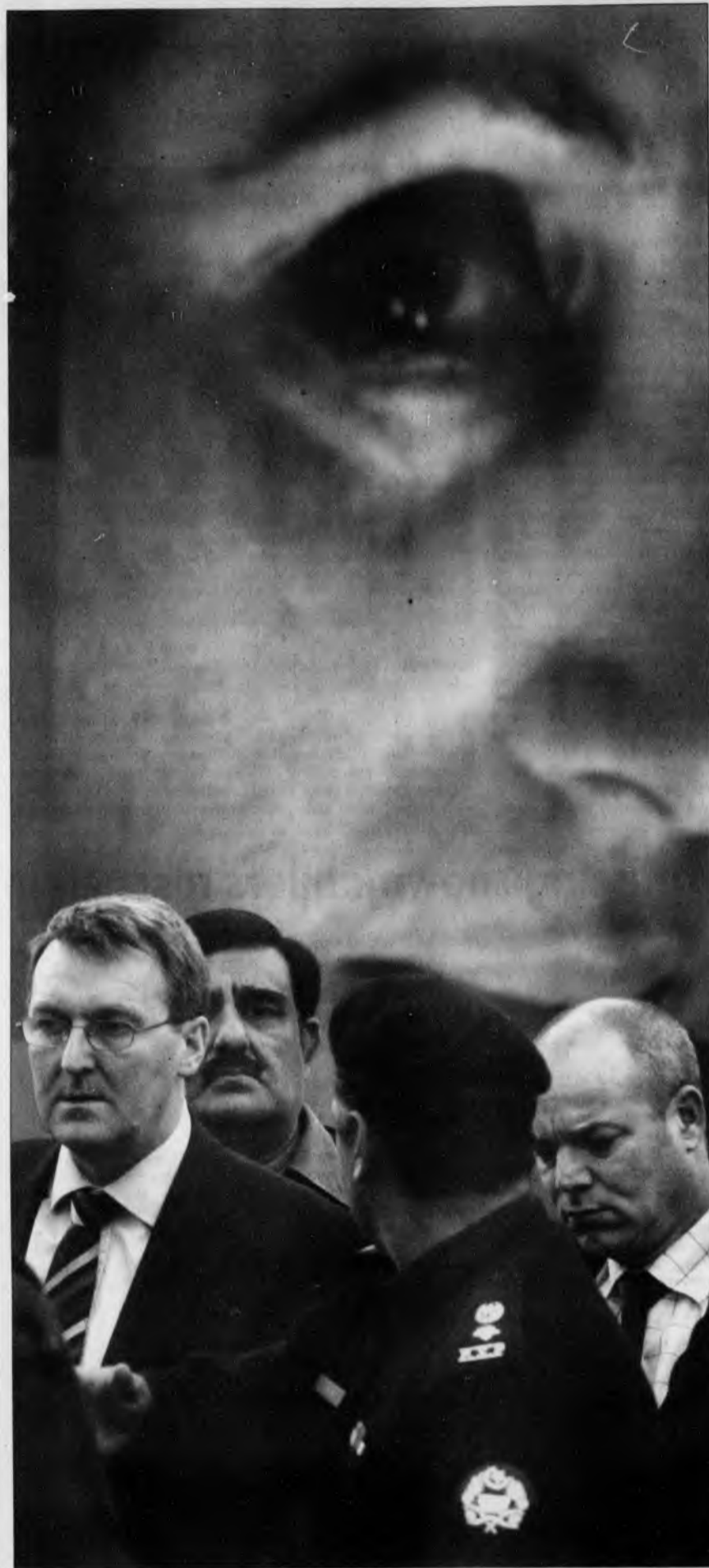
"Those responsible — within and outside of government — must be held accountable," he wrote.

Also Saturday, the government accused a leading international think tank of "promoting sedition" for urging Musharraf, a key U.S. ally in the war on terror, to resign.

The report by the Brussels-based International Crisis Group called Musharraf "a serious liability, seen as complicit" in Bhutto's death.

In a statement, the government said the report "amounts to promoting sedition" and the group "neither has the credentials, nor the credibility and lacks representational standing specially on Pakistan's national affairs" to comment on Pakistan.

Also Saturday, gunmen shot and killed one paramilitary soldier and wounded two others in the southwestern city of Quetta, said Rahmatullah Niazi, a senior police official. The motive behind the attack was not known, he said.



SHAKIL ADIL | AP PHOTO

BHUTTO: Supporters of Pakistan's slain opposition leader, Benazir Bhutto, mourn at her residence in Karachi, Pakistan, on Saturday, Jan. 5. The husband of Bhutto accused elements within Pakistan's government of responsibility for her murder and urged Britain and the United States to support a U.N. investigation of the killing.

PAKISTAN: A Pakistani police officer, back to the camera, briefs to the members of an anti-terror team from Britain's Scotland Yard during their visit to the spot where the Pakistani opposition leader was assassinated, Saturday, Jan. 5 in Rawalpindi, Pakistan.

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Kenyan president seeks peace after violence erupts

By Michelle Faul
The Associated Press

NAIROBI, Kenya — Kenya's president yesterday invited his chief rival to his official residence to discuss how to end the country's election standoff, just hours after the opposition called off nationwide rallies amid fears of new bloodshed.

The signs of softening by both sides came after three days of talks with the top U.S. diplomat for Africa. The African Union president, whose trip to Kenya had been delayed repeatedly as the government rejected outside mediation in the disputed vote, was to begin talks in the capital as early as tomorrow.

The U.S. envoy, Jendayi Frazer, said the vote count was rigged, but declined to blame either President Mwai Kibaki or Raila Odinga, the opposition leader.

"Yes, there was rigging," Frazer told The Associated Press. "I mean there were problems with the vote counting process ... both the parties could have rigged."

Kibaki, who was re-elected after the disputed vote tally, invited Odinga to the State House for a meeting Friday to discuss how to end the political and ethnic turmoil that has already killed some 500 people, according to a statement from the president's press service.

A particularly troubling aspect of the political violence has been its degeneration in some areas into rioting pitting other tribes against Kibaki's Kikuyu, long dominant in Kenya's politics and economy.

Reports of ethnic killings continued to stream in from the countryside, with an official in neighboring Uganda confirming 30 Kenyan refugees were thrown into the border river by attackers, and were presumed drowned.

Two Ugandan truck drivers carrying the group said they were stopped Saturday at a roadblock mounted by militia-men who identified the refugees as members of Kibaki's Kikuyu tribe and threw them into the deep, swift-flowing Kipkaren River, said Himbaza Hashaka, a Ugandan border official.

The drivers said none survived, Hashaka said.

A statement yesterday from the Ministry of Special Programs put the death toll at 486 with some 255,000 people displaced from their homes. The toll, which did not include the drownings, was compiled by a committee of humanitarian services set up by the government which toured areas most affected by riots and protests.

Among those killed was Lucas Sang, an Olympic runner

who made the quarter finals of the men's 400-meter race in 1988 and the same year ran in the finals as a member of the 4x400m relay. Sang, a member of the Kalenjin tribe that has clashed with Kikuyu, was found in western Kenya New Year's Eve with a deep gash to the back of his head and his body badly burned, said Moses Tanui, a former world 10,000-meter champion who was a close friend. Sang was in his 50s.

Odinga called off protests after meeting with Frazer and after Kibaki's government said today's proposed demonstrations were illegal and could provoke violence.

The combination of diplomacy and plain speaking may be particularly effective coming from the United States, one of Kenya's major donors, with overall aid amounting to about a billion dollars annually, according to U.S. Embassy spokesman T.J. Dowling. Remittances and bilateral private trade between the countries accounts for another billion dollars, he said.

Kenya, strategically located in the Horn of Africa and neighboring hotspots Sudan and Somalia, has turned over dozens of suspected terrorists to the United States. The East African nation allows U.S. forces to operate from Kenyan



KENYA ELECTIONS: Kenyans join in prayers at International Christian Church in Nairobi, Kenya, on Sunday, Jan. 6 to pray for the country after bloody violence at the Dec. 27, 2007 elections.

bases and a small team of U.S. military officers train the Kenyan army on counterterrorism and coastal protection.

Odinga told Sky News television that Kibaki's "rigging" himself back into power caused the violence across the country and therefore "Mr. Mwai Kibaki must bear responsibility ... for the deaths we are seeing in our country today."

But Alfred Mutua, a govern-

ment spokesman, said officials were investigating "premeditated murder" of people warned beforehand that they would pay if they voted for Kibaki.

The sharp rhetoric could make compromise difficult, but Frazer had won an offer from Kibaki to form a unity government over the weekend. Odinga then said he was willing to drop demands that Kibaki resign and was willing to

discuss sharing power, but only through a mediator empowered to negotiate an agreement that the international community would guarantee.

The opposition also has proposed an interim government be set up to hold new presidential elections. But Kibaki has said only a court could order fresh elections — an unlikely event since he has packed the judiciary with his allies.

President Saakashvili says Georgia's democracy headed in right direction

By Maria Danilova
The Associated Press

TBILISI, Georgia — President Mikhail Saakashvili said yesterday his re-election demonstrates that Georgia is on the road to becoming a European democracy, while his opponents denounced the vote as fraudulent and vowed to renew street protests.

Saakashvili acknowledged in an interview with The Associated Press that Georgia still has problems, but that it was headed in the right direction.

"I believe there are many aspects that need to be criticized, this is still a country in transition, this is still not a full-fledged, very well-formed, crystallized society, we still have lots of things to do," Saakashvili said. "But I think we are on the right track and this election has just proven that."

Saturday's election, in which Saakashvili received 52.8 percent of the vote according to preliminary results, received a mixed evaluation from the

"I believe there are many aspects that need to be criticized."

Mikhail Saakashvili | President Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, which said it was a significant step for democracy while pointing to an array of violations.

Russia, which vies with the West for influence in Georgia, took a stronger stance, calling the election campaign "hardly free or fair."

Saakashvili narrowly cleared the 50 percent threshold needed to avoid a runoff election. His main opponent, businessman and lawmaker Levan Gachechiladze, received 27 percent of the vote, according to the Central Election Commission.

The narrow victory underlined the deep divisions in Georgia. The OSCE criticism puts Saakashvili under pressure

to bring true democracy to a country once seen as a paragon of reform in the former Soviet Union, and doubts could hurt Saakashvili's aims of bringing Georgia into both NATO and the European Union.

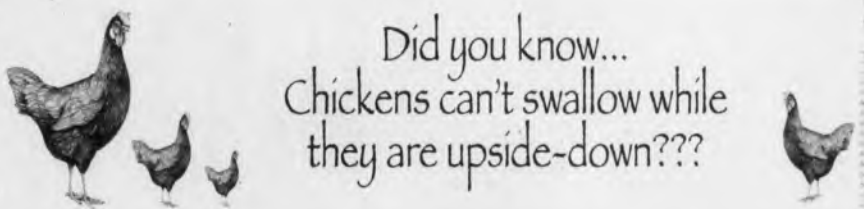
The U.S.-educated Saakashvili, 40, came to power after mass protests in 2003 over a fraud-plagued election. He has brought significant reforms to the country, but critics say his energy and determination have declined into authoritarianism.

In November, police violently dispersed anti-government demonstrations, and Saakashvili imposed a state of emergency and shut down an independent television station.

Saakashvili said he was ready to work with the opposition, but added that concerns over a division in society were exaggerated.

"I would not exaggerate the idea of a deep split," Saakashvili said. "This election campaign

See GEORGIA | Page 10



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GEORGIA

From Page 9

went very well. In any normal European country, if somebody gets more than 50 percent outright in the first round, it is called a landslide and I don't see why Georgia should be otherwise.

"With regard to the political process — yes, we need to be consensus-builders, yes we need to agree on many things. We can never agree on some of the things, because that is how every democratic nation is," he said.

Asked about opposition plans to hold street protests, Saakashvili said peaceful rallies are part of the democratic procedure.

"That's fine. ... Everybody has the right to have peaceful rallies," he said.

"I think unruly behavior will not be tolerated, but peaceful rallies are one of the ways to do political campaigns."

Saakashvili appeared confident and relaxed. He spoke in the presidential suite of the Marriott

Hotel in central Tbilisi, where his staunch ally President Bush had stayed on a visit to Georgia in 2005 — a fact displayed on a plaque on the suite's door.

Saakashvili eagerly posed for photos with journalists and joked that he had gotten some gray hair since being interviewed in that room four years ago during the Rose Revolution that swept him to power.

He praised the fact that Gachechiladze was able to come with a strong showing as a compliment to Georgia's democracy, which lies in a region where the opposition is usually sidelined.

"I lead with a 2-1 margin to the second closest contender, but still, for an opposition candidate to get 30 percent it is very unusual for this region," Saakashvili said. "The election campaign as I said went smoothly and it really showed that everybody was involved in the political process."

Rep. Alcee Hastings, D-Fla., who headed the OSCE mission, said it was unfair to be too critical of the election, describing it as only a step on Georgia's road

to democracy.

"These people are just 16 years away from a level of repression that most Western countries theorize about and they lived," he said by telephone yesterday. "They didn't have a perfect election. They took a step."

Russia, which imposed an economic blockade on Georgia after repeated disputes with Saakashvili, was quick to criticize. "The election campaign can hardly be called 'free and fair,'" the Russian Foreign Ministry said Sunday.

Moscow regards Georgia as part of its historical sphere of influence and resents Western aid to Georgia's military and the use of Georgia as a transit country for Caspian oil headed for Turkey.

Opposition leaders said the campaign was held under unfair conditions and claimed there were widespread violations.

Addressing about 5,000 protesters on a snowy Tbilisi square, Gachechiladze said he finished first and called for a second round. He cited a tally by his supporters who served on election commissions across the country.



SERGEY PONOMAREV | AP PHOTO

GEORGIA ELECTIONS: Georgian presidential candidate Mikhail Saakashvili speaks during the interview in Tbilisi, Georgia yesterday. Saakashvili said the vote demonstrates his ex-Soviet republic is on the road to becoming a European democracy.

Double suicide bombing in Iraq kills head of key U.S.-backed Sunni group

By Elena Becatoros
The Associated Press

BAGHDAD — The head of a key U.S.-backed Sunni group was killed yesterday in a double suicide bombing that claimed at least 11 other lives and highlighted the deadly precision of attacks on Sunni leaders choosing to oppose al-Qaida in Iraq.

The main target — a former police colonel who led resistance to al-Qaida in one of its former Baghdad strongholds — was first embraced by a bomber posing as a friend. Seconds later, the attacker stepped back and triggered an explosion, a witness said.

A suicide car bomber then struck as rescuers tried to evacuate the wounded. At least 28 people were injured in the twin blasts — the latest in a spate of attacks against Sunnis who have joined a U.S.-supported movement against extremists and



ASAAD MOUHSIN | AP PHOTO

IRAQ VIOLENCE: Security volunteers carry the body of Riyadh al-Samarrai, head of a local U.S.-backed armed group, to his burial in the Azamiyah district of Baghdad, Iraq yesterday. The man was killed along with at least six others in a double suicide bombing that wounded 25 yesterday outside the Baghdad office of a government agency.

credited with helping sharply reduce violence around Iraq.

But the mounting al-Qaida backlash has stoked worries of a wider showdown brewing as extremists try to reclaim havens and intimidate the so-called

"Awakening Councils" opposing them. In an audiotape released Dec. 29, Osama bin Laden warned that Sunni Arabs who join the groups will "suffer in life and in the afterlife."

Yesterday's bombing occurred

at the entrance of a Sunni Endowment office, a government agency that cares for Sunni mosques and shrines, and near an Awakening Council office in Baghdad's northern Azamiyah district, which had been a

stronghold of insurgents and a safe haven for al-Qaida in Iraq.

The first bomber approached Riyadh al-Samarrai, a former police colonel and head of the local Awakening Council, and claimed to be a friend, said one

of al-Samarrai's bodyguards, who was wounded in the attack.

"He met him and embraced him and after a few seconds, the explosion took place," the guard said from his bed in al-Nuaman hospital. He spoke on condition of anonymity for fear of reprisals.

As people rushed to aid the wounded, a suicide car bomb exploded just yards away, said Baghdad's chief military spokesman, Brig. Qassim al-Moussawi.

Sunni Endowment leader Ahmed Abdul Ghafur al-Samarrai — who is from the same tribe as the colonel — blamed bin Laden for encouraging the attack. But he said the bloodshed yesterday had "increased Iraqis' strength ... against those who want to create sectarian divisions."

Casualty figures from the attack differed.

Cmdr. Scott Rye, a U.S. military spokesman, said 12 people were killed and 28 were wounded. Earlier, al-Moussawi said six people were killed and 26 wounded.

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sophomore QB Tyler Sheehan kind of came out of nowhere to start, and put together a great season, passing for 3,123 yards and 23 TDs.

3.) Triple-Threat Turner

Former quarterback Anthony Turner became one of the team's MVPs late in the season, rushing, receiving and passing.

4.) Rockets downed

The Falcons torched Toledo at home 37-10, capping off a 4-game win streak that propelled them to an 8-4 record.

5.) Bowling—The Falcons may have lost big in Mobile, but the fact that they got there was great for the program.

Another letdown



CHUCK BURTON | AP PHOTO

LSU defeats Ohio State in National Championship

By Ben Walker
The Associated Press

NEW ORLEANS — Too easy.

No. 2 LSU danced, dodged and darted its way into the end zone Monday night, turning the BCS national championship game into a horrible replay for No. 1 Ohio State. It was over early, with Matt Flynn throwing four touchdown passes in a 38-24 win.

Playing at their home-away-from-home in the Big Easy, LSU (12-2) became the first two-loss team to play for the title. Shouts of "SEC! SEC!" bounced around the Superdome as the Tigers won their

second BCS crown in five seasons. They are the first school to win a second title since BCS rankings began with the 1998 season.

And in a season of surprises, this was hardly an upset: Ohio State once again fell apart in college football's biggest game. A year after the Buckeyes were routed by Tim Tebow and Florida 41-14 in the Arizona desert, they barely did better.

Jacob Hester bulled for a short touchdown, Early Doucet wiggled loose for

a touchdown and All-American Glenn Dorsey led a unit that outplayed the top-ranked defense in the nation. Ohio State (11-2) had little to celebrate after Chris "Beanie" Wells broke loose for a 65-yard TD run on the fourth play of the game.

The Tigers rallied from an early 10-0 deficit, taking a 24-10 lead that held up. Two big plays on special teams kept them ahead — they blocked a field goal, and later took advantage of a roughing-the-kicker penalty.

Hockey highs and lows during break

By Ethan Magoc
Reporter

Winter break brought a few highs, but a few more lows, for the Falcon hockey team.

First the highs — on Jan. 4, the Friday night before most students returned to campus, BG kicked off 2008 by defeating Miami University 4-2. While the Redhawks carried the top ranking in the nation coming into the BGSU Ice Arena, the Falcons had dropped out of most college hockey polls earlier in the week.

An upset if ever there was one.

"We attacked," Jake Cepis said after the Miami defeat in

which he scored two goals. "We attacked on the penalty kill, everyone was trying to score and get chances. When you keep the pressure up on teams like that, it just makes it harder for them to come back, and how great is that [the win]?"

"We just beat the No. 1 team in the country. How many people can say that?"

The other promising moment came the previous weekend during the first game of the 2007 Badger Hockey Showdown. The Falcon freshmen built a 3-0 lead over Northeastern University through the first half of the game.

David Solway opened the

scoring 1:59 into the first with assists by Todd McIlrath and Kevin Schmidt. McIlrath, a sophomore, would help another younger teammate, Dan Sexton, to pick up his fourth goal of the season with six minutes remaining in the first period.

Just as he did in the previous game against Michigan, Jake Cepis scored two minutes into the second period. Unlike that Michigan game however, Cepis wouldn't find the net again and neither would any of his teammates.

With the exception of the

See **HOCKEY** | Page 12



THE BG NEWS

HOCKEY: Over winter break, the highs for the Falcons hockey team consisted of defeating the No. 1 ranked Miami Redhawks 4-2.

Clemens files defamation suit against trainer

Brian McNamee accused Clemens of using performance enhancing drugs

By Ronald Blum
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Roger Clemens beat Brian McNamee to court, filing a defamation suit against the former trainer who claimed to have injected him with performance-enhancing drugs.

Clemens filed the suit Sunday night in Harris County District Court in Texas, listing 15 alleged statements McNamee made to the baseball drug investigator George Mitchell. Clemens claimed the statement were "untrue and defamatory."

"According to McNamee, he originally made his allegations to federal authorities after being threatened with criminal prosecution if he didn't implicate



Roger Clemens

Accused of using performance-enhancing drugs

Clemens," according to the 14-page petition.

Richard Emery, one of McNamee's lawyers, said he would seek to remove the case to U.S. District Court in Houston, then to possibly shift it to federal court in Brooklyn.

"I think it's dismissible on its face. I think it's a press release for Clemens and his career," Emery said. "The case is shoddy at best. The prosecutors acted completely professionally in this

case. This is a very odd thing for me to be saying, but it's the truth. Sometimes you are bound by the truth."

The suit states that when McNamee told others that when he first was interviewed by federal law enforcement last June, he denied Clemens had used steroids or human growth hormone. The suit quotes McNamee as saying he was pressured by Assistant U.S. Attorney Matthew Parrella and IRS Special Agent Jeff Novitzky — key members of the BALCO prosecution — to implicate Clemens. The suit did not attribute where the quote from McNamee was obtained.

See **CLEMENS** | Page 12

Men's basketball survives close one

By Nate Parsons
Reporter

The final seconds of the BGSU men's basketball Mid-American Conference home opener last Saturday were reminiscent of the recent ball drop in Times Square. Luckily for the Falcons, the ball didn't drop this time.

BG narrowly defeated Ohio 52-49 after the Bobcats missed two potential game-tying shots in the final seconds.

Junior Nate Miller led the way for the Falcons with 13 points and 10 rebounds — his second double-double in the past three games.

"Today was a fresh start for us," Miller said. "We were 5-7 after the non-conference season, but we had a 0-0 record in the MAC. We wanted to come out,

try to get this win and make a statement to the MAC."

Ohio's Bubba Walther made it interesting after making two three-pointers in the final minute to help claw away at the deficit.

Walther hit his first three-pointer with 54.4 seconds remaining to cut BG's lead to two. His second three-pointer went through the net with 14.7 seconds left trimming the lead down to three for the Falcons.

After two missed free throws by the Falcons with 13.3 seconds left, the Bobcats went down the court and Walther missed two potential game-tying shots.

Redshirt freshman Chris Knight had 11 points while

See **MENS** | Page 12

THE BG NEWS

WOMEN'S BBAL: A 15-0 run at the beginning of the game led to a Falcons' victory.

Women's basketball dominates home game

By Jordan Cravens
Reporter

The BG women's basketball team ignited for a 15-0 run to begin Saturday's home contest against Chicago State en route to an 80-50 victory.

Sparked by Tara Breske, who scored the first seven points of the game on assists from Kate Achter, the Falcons' ended their non-conference portion of the season at 11-3.

"To finish the non-conference slate at 11-3 I can't be more pleased with the young team that we've performed the way we have in non-conference," said BG Coach Curt Miller.

Breske, who was joined by teammates Jen Uhl and Lauren Prochaska in double digits, paced the team with 20 points in only 21 minutes of play.

"Tara Breske was a monster tonight and if it was a close game I think you would have seen unbelievable numbers by Tara...It was hard as a coach to take out a kid that you consider in the zone,"

See **WOMENS** | Page 12

HOCKEY

From Page 11

aforementioned upset against Miami, one could say it was all downhill from there for the Iceers.

BG surrendered that three-goal lead in the second half of the game, losing to Northeastern by a score of 4-3.

In the third-place consolation game against Wisconsin, the Falcons fell behind 2-0 before Solway and Brandon Svendsen could add goals to tie it up. The momentum swung back in Wisconsin's favor when goalie Nick Eno failed to stop three of their 16 shots in the second and third period, making Sexton's third period shorthanded goal a non-issue.

The 5-3 loss to Wisconsin meant BG took last place in the tournament, but the disappointment from that was quelled somewhat with the win over Miami.

"We've been in a stretch here where we've played a lot of good hockey teams and played well, but we haven't got the wins," Coach Scott Paluch said. "We took a lot of time this week to talk about that. We needed to do a lot of things well, and confidence-wise, it's real big for our program to get a win like that."

The Falcons did go on to lose the final game of the home series against Miami by a score of 5-2 to bring their overall record to 9-9 and 6-6 against Central Collegiate Hockey Association opponents. However, Coach Paluch noted definite positive factors to take away from the recent tough schedule.

"Miami has a lot of depth on their team and they come at you hard, but I think our team showed that our speed can be a factor against a team like that, and I like the fact we stuck with it all weekend, even tonight, when things didn't start so good for us," Paluch said.

David Solway scored once again in the final game of winter break to bring his goal total to seven, good enough for third on this young team behind Cepis (nine goals) and captain Derek Whitmore (13).

As Paluch said, BG "stuck with it" against Miami, and this could possibly launch them back into the rankings this week.

GAMES

12/28/07 #19 BG Falcons vs. #11

Northeastern Huskies (L 4-3)

12/29/07 #19 BG Falcons at #13

Wisconsin Badgers (L 5-3)

1/4/08 #19 BG Falcons vs. #1 Miami

Redhawks (W 4-2)

1/5/08 #19 BG Falcons vs. #1 Miami

Redhawks (L 5-2)

Three goals each for David Solway and Jake Cepis over the four-game break stretch

CLEMENS

From Page 11

"After this exchange, and for the first time in his life, McNamee stated that he had injected Clemens with steroids in 1998, 2000 and 2001," the suit said. "Following his recantation, McNamee has relayed that he magically went from a 'target' in a federal criminal drug investigation to a mere 'witness,' so long as he continued to 'toe the line.'"

The suit said that when McNamee initially refused a request from federal authorities that he speak to Mitchell, he was threatened with prosecution. Clemens said McNamee decided only then to cooperate with Mitchell, and the suit said McNamee told other the interview "was conducted like a Cold War-era interrogation in which a federal agent merely read to the Mitchell investiga-

"I think it's a press release for Clemens and his career. The case is shoddy at best. The prosecutors acted completely professionally in this case."

Richard Emery | McNamee Lawyer

tors McNamee's previously obtained statement and then asked McNamee to confirm what he previously stated."

Clemens asked that damages be determined by a jury.

"Clemens' good reputation has been severely injured," the suit said. "McNamee's false allegations have also caused Clemens to suffer mental anguish, shame, public humiliation and embarrassment."

Emery said McNamee was threatened with prosecution for steroids distribution unless he told the truth. That, according to Emery, was when McNamee implicated Clemens.

The seven-time Cy Young Award winner, who was scheduled to hold a late afternoon news conference yesterday in Houston, sounded indignant and defiant in a segment of CBS's "60 Minutes" broadcast Sunday night, his first interview since McNamee accused him. The two are approaching a potential confrontation if they testify under oath at a Jan. 16 hearing on Capitol Hill.

The most prominent player implicated in last month's Mitchell Report, Clemens steadfastly maintained his innocence and called McNamee's allegations "totally false."

MENS

From Page 11

juniors Darryl Clements and Brian Moten each had 10.

Leon Williams led the Bobcats, who won at Maryland earlier in the season, with 14 points and nine boards, while Walther contributed 13 points.

The Falcons pulled off the victory despite shooting 30.2 percent from the field, but they shot 13 more free-throws and forced Ohio into 20 turnovers including 12 in the second-half.

"We just tried to play solid defense," freshman Joe Jakubowski said. "We had pretty good ball pressure because we didn't want them to get it into the post, and we got our hands in the passing lanes and got some turnovers."

Coach Louis Orr feels more success will come for the team as long as they believe.

"We've just got to believe in

"We wanted to come out, try to get this win and make a statement to the MAC."

Nate Miller | Junior

ourselves and in what we are trying to do, and we took a big step forward today," Orr said. "The more success you have, the more that young people believe in what you are trying to do."

"Whether it is a pretty win or an ugly win, a win is a win, and we'll take it," Orr said.

With the win, the Falcons improved to 6-7 overall.

BG plays next at Kent State on Saturday with tip-off at 7 p.m.

Other Hoops Action From Over the Break

Other than the Falcons' win over the Bobcats, their only other win was a 52-48 victory

over Eastern Illinois on Dec. 29. Miller's double-double — 17 points and 14 rebounds — paved the way for the Falcons. Jakubowski also almost had a double-double recording nine points and 10 boards.

BG shot a season-low 29.1 percent but outrebounded the Panthers by 15.

The rest of break didn't bode as well for the team as BG lost its first three games.

The first loss came in overtime at Northern Colorado on Dec. 6. The Bears came from eight down in the second-half to eventually beat BG, 64-60, in overtime.

The Falcons committed a season-high 24 turnovers.

Senior Ryne Hamblet, who is no longer with the team after being declared academically ineligible, led the team with 23 points.

BG's second loss came at home against Illinois State on Dec. 16.

The Falcons came back from a

16-point second-half deficit, but eventually fell to the Redbirds, 69-58.

Clements led the way with a career-high 18 points, while Knight contributed 14.

Only 659 were in attendance due to bad weather that moved through the area the night before.

The Falcons' third loss came at Indiana State on Dec. 22 as the Sycamores defeated the Falcons, 62-57.

Clements led the team with 12 points, while Knight, Miller and Jakubowski each had 10.

The beginning of the new year wasn't too kind to the Falcons as they lost their first game of 2008 to Duquesne, 96-78.

Duquesne forced the Falcons into 24 turnovers, which led to 29 points for the Dukes.

Sophomore Otis Polk had a career-high 17 points and a career-tying 7 boards.

Knight had a double-double — 14 points and 14 rebounds.

WOMENS

From Page 11

Miller said.

"I need to be more dominant on the inside and so I need to start focusing more on that and I wanted to show that today to get ready for MAC season," Breske said of her performance.

In putting the game out of reach from the start, Miller was able to use his entire bench with no player getting more than 30 minutes of play during the game.

While CSU's Jasmine Dixon dropped in a game-high 22 points, Miller was pleased with his team's defensive efforts.

"Jasmine Dixon is as good as advertised, but we did really a nice job on their other nine players," he said.

With the exception of Dixon, BG's defense held individual opponents to two field goals or less.

While you were gone

Saturday's win capped off the final game played by the team over winter break where the Falcons' went 5-2, with losses to Indiana and Iowa State.

BG's 11 three's were no match for Iowa's State eight second half long balls as they were defeated 74-57 in front of a crowd of roughly 7500 in the first round of Iowa State's Cyclone shootout.

Four of the team's wins over break against Mount St. Mary's, Delaware, Hampton and Tennessee Martin were claimed by a margin of ten points or less.

WOMEN'S BBALL

WINTER BREAK RECORD

5-2

"THE ENGINE"

Kate Achter
15.4 Avg. ppg
5.92 assists/game

NEW KID ON THE BLOCK

Freshman Lauren Prochaska
Avg. 15.2 ppg

AS A WHOLE

Outscored opponents 915-793 this season
Leads MAC in field goal % at .443

There is still much work to be done.

Despite the success shared by the team in the beginning portion of the season, Miller realizes the task at hand.

"When we wake up tomorrow, everybody is zero and zero" Miller said, referring to the start of Mid-American conference play.

But things seem to be coming together according to Achter, one of the team's co-captains.

"We are starting to get together a little bit better defensively and our offense feeds off of that," she said.

Achter believes having playing quality opponents in Iowa State, Hampton and Tennessee Martin will give the team a boost coming into MAC play.

The team's first challenge will be against Akron tomorrow in a home game set to begin at 7 p.m.

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Mon - Thurs 1:30-4:00pm

Mon: 8:00am - 7:00pm

Tues - Fri: 8:00am - 5:00pm

Michael Vick seeks reduced sentence

By Kristen Gelineau
The Associated Press

RICHMOND, Va. — Michael Vick left Virginia yesterday to enter a drug treatment program at a Kansas prison, a move that could reduce the former NFL star's 23-month sentence on a federal dogfighting conviction.

The suspended Atlanta Falcons quarterback is now at the U.S. Bureau of Prisons minimum security facility in Leavenworth, his attorney, Billy Martin, said.

"Mr. Vick hopes to participate in programs offered at that facility, including the Bureau of Prisons drug treatment program," Martin said in a statement.

Vick tested positive for marijuana in September while he was on supervised release following his guilty plea. The residential drug treatment programs at Bureau of Prisons institutions take place in units set apart from the general prison population, lasting at least 500 hours over six to 12 months, according to Bureau of Prisons policy.

Upon successful completion of the program, nonviolent offenders may be granted up to one year of early release. Staff members review the inmates' records and behavior to determine if they are eligible for early release.

If Vick was granted early release, he could be ready to play in the 2009 football season, though he is currently suspended without pay by the NFL.

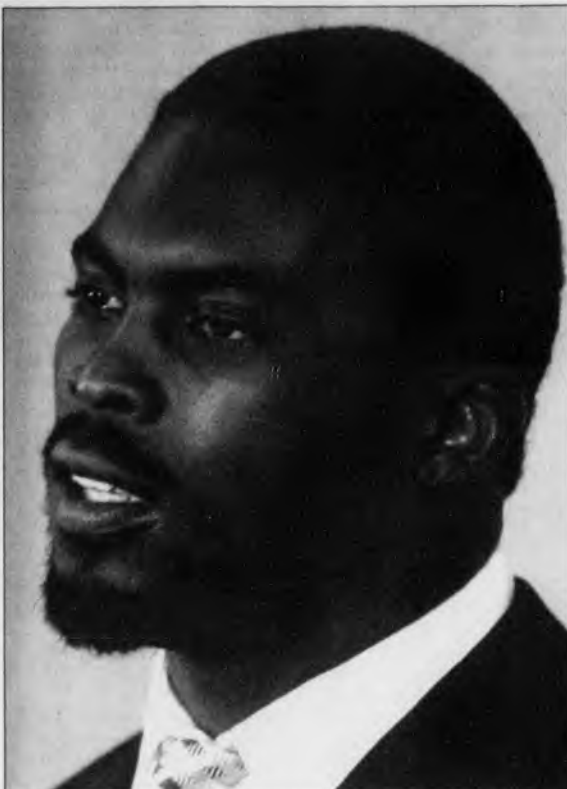
"Mr. Vick looks forward to being reunited with his family upon completion of his sentence," Martin said. "He is hopeful that following his release he will have the opportunity to resume his career as a professional football player."

Vick was accompanied by U.S. marshals when he left the Northern Neck Regional Jail yesterday morning, said Maj. Ted Hull of the Warsaw, Va., jail.

Vick and three co-defendants raised pit bulls and trained them for fighting behind the property he owned in rural Surry County. Several dogs that did not perform well in test fights were executed.

The 27-year-old player pleaded guilty in August, admitting he bankrolled the dogfighting operation and helped kill six to eight dogs. He had been held at the Warsaw jail since he surrendered Nov. 19 in anticipation of his sentence.

Vick lost all his lucrative endorsement deals and still must contend with additional legal woes: He and co-defendants Purnell Peace, Quanis Phillips and Tony Taylor are facing state animal cruelty charges in Surry County.



STEVE HELBER | AP PHOTO

LOOKING FOR A DEAL: Suspended Atlanta Falcons quarterback seeks to reduce his 23-month sentence on a federal dogfighting conviction by entering a drug treatment program at a Kansas prison.

THE BG NEWS SUDOKU								
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	6		4		2			
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6					5	7	8	

SUDOKU

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

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3	7	6	4	9	8	1	2	5
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1	6	8	7	3	4	5	9	2
6	3	5	9	1	7	2	4	8
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This Sudoku Source of "BG News"

Browns extend contract of offensive coordinator

By Tom Withers
The Associated Press

CLEVELAND — Fearing they might lose him to a division rival, the Cleveland Browns signed offensive coordinator Rob Chudzinski to a two-year contract extension through 2011 yesterday.

Chudzinski, who transformed the Browns' offense into one of the NFL's top units in his first season, had been scheduled to interview for Baltimore's head coaching vacancy.

However, Browns general manager Phil Savage stepped in



Rob Chudzinski
Cleveland Browns offensive coordinator

before Chudzinski had a chance to meet with the Ravens and awarded the 39-year-old the extension which will keep him on Romeo's Crennel's staff.

"Romeo and I felt it was important to keep Rob in place as offensive coordinator to maintain our continuity on that side of the ball," Savage said in

a statement. "He did a terrific job this year and we're looking forward to what this group can accomplish next season."

Chudzinski, who re-joined the Browns in January 2007, had been signed through the 2009 season.

Under his guidance, Cleveland's offense scored 402 points, averaged 25.1 points per game and finished ranked eighth in total yards. The previous season, the Browns scored 238 points and ranked 31st in offense.

The Browns were worried that Chudzinski could do the same

for the Ravens, who fired Brian Billick on Dec. 31 following a 5-11 season.

With Chudzinski calling plays, Cleveland was the only team in the league to have a 1,000-yard rusher (Jamal Lewis) and two 1,000-yard receivers (Kellen Winslow, Braylon Edwards). Also, quarterback Derek Anderson, who began the season as Charlie Frye's backup, threw 29 TDs and was named a Pro Bowl alternate.

"Rob did a really good job in his first year as offensive coordinator," Crennel said. "He was knowledgeable with the system,

had a good relationship with the players and I'm glad he will remain with the organization."

Chudzinski was San Diego's tight ends coach for two seasons before joining Crennel's staff. Cleveland's offense carried the Browns, who went 10-6 this season and barely missed making the AFC playoffs.

He was Cleveland's tight ends coach in 2004 under Butch Davis. Chudzinski was also Winslow's position coach at the University of Miami.

Chudzinski grew up as a big Browns fan in Toledo, Ohio, and has enjoyed returning

to the area. His wife, Sheila, recently gave birth to the couple's second child.

"I would like to thank Ozzie Newsome and the Baltimore Ravens organization for considering me as a candidate for their head coaching position," Chudzinski said. "However, at this time it was the best decision for me both personally and professionally to stay in Cleveland and continue the rebuilding process with the Browns."

"I'm pleased with the progress we made as an offensive unit this season and I feel this team is headed in the right direction."

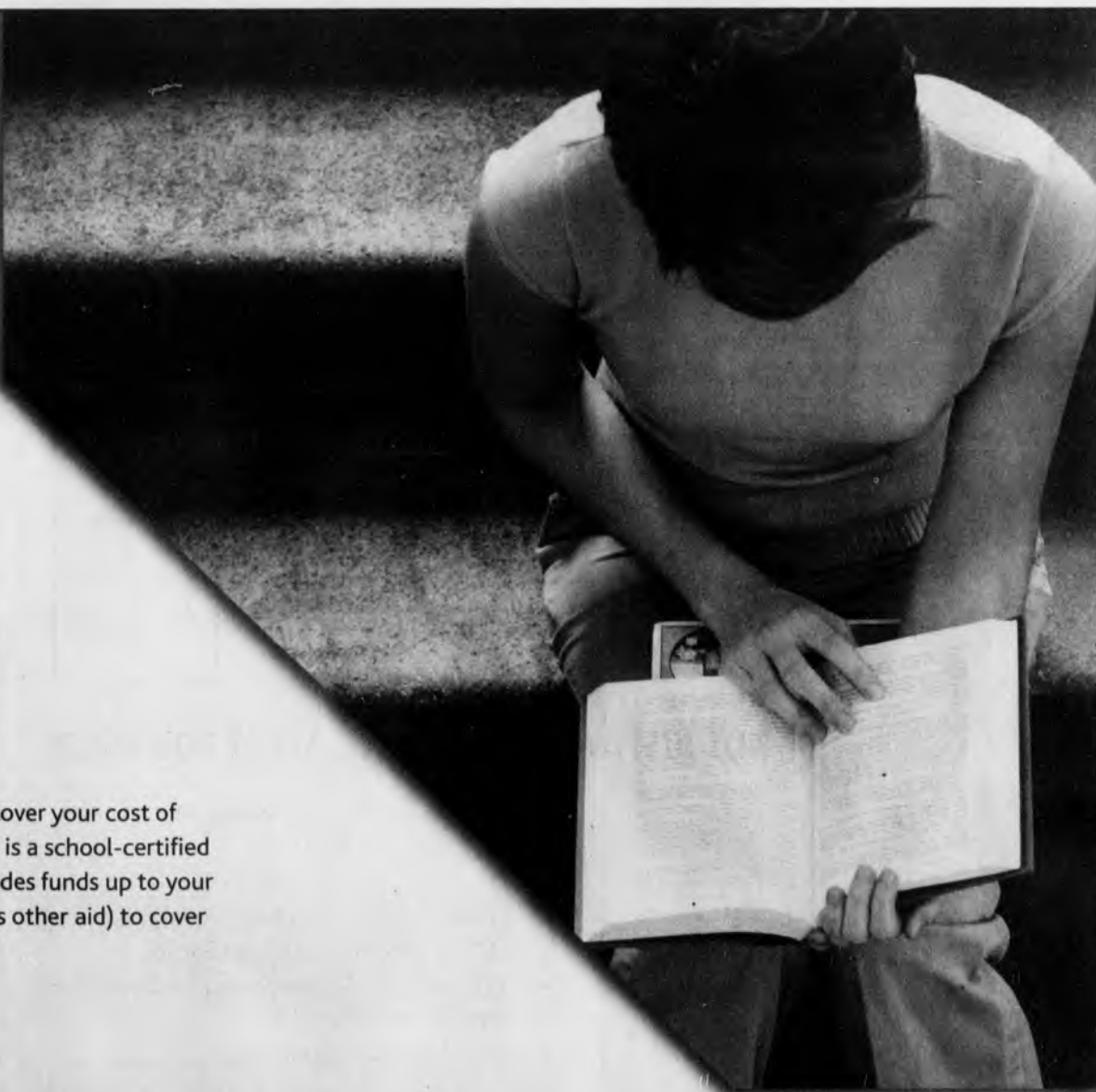
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British citizen released from death row after fire conviction overturned

By John Seewer
The Associated Press

OTTAWA, Ohio — A British citizen who spent two decades on Ohio's death row was released from jail yesterday after pleading no contest to three charges related to a fire that killed a 2-year-old girl.

Ken Richey, who once came within an hour of being executed, walked free for the first time since he was convicted of setting a northwest Ohio apartment fire that killed the toddler in 1986.

"It's great to finally be free at long last, and I'm looking forward to going home to Scotland," said Richey, wearing a blue, yellow and green Scottish cap called a glengarry. "It's been a long time coming."

"He's told me that for 15 years that when he gets out that's what he's going to get," said his attorney, Ken Parsigian.

Prosecutors approved the deal after an appeals court overturned Richey's conviction and death sentence last year. The deal lets Richey, a dual U.S.-British citizen, go home to Scotland without admitting that he had anything to do with the fire.

Richey pleaded no contest to attempted involuntary manslaughter, child endangering and breaking and entering. His hands were cuffed at his waist and his ankles shackled during the half-hour hearing in Putnam County Common Pleas Court.

As part of the deal, Richey, 43, agreed to exit the country within a day, and he plans to leave for Scotland today. Prosecutors told him they were worried about threats against Richey, his family and attorney said.

He'll be free to return to the United States because he is a citizen, but he must stay out of Putnam County for five years



J.D. POOLEY / AP PHOTO

FREE AT LAST: Kenneth Richey, right, a U.S.-British citizen who was on Ohio's death row for two decades until his sentence was overturned, right, smiles as he talks to his attorney Ken Parsigian in the Putnam County Courthouse yesterday in Ottawa, Ohio.

and have no contact with any witnesses or others involved in his trial.

Richey had been set to get out three weeks ago until a trip to the hospital for chest pains delayed his release. He has been in a county jail in Ottawa since then.

Richey was convicted of setting a fire that killed 2-year-old Cynthia Collins and stayed on death row until a federal appeals court determined in August that his lawyers mishandled his case.

The court overturned his conviction and sentence, saying expert testimony could have contended that the fire was an accident and not intentionally set.

Richey was sent to county jail after the decision, and the state was set to try him again in March and seek another death sentence.

Instead, Richey pleaded no contest to the state's charges accusing him of telling the toddler's mother he would baby-sit the girl, but failing to do so and leaving her in harm's way.

Robert Collins, the father of the toddler, told the judge he wishes his daughter "could appeal her death and come back

to life," according to his statement read by victim advocate Shelly Price.

"The situation surrounding the death of my little girl has haunted me for 21 years," Collins said. "The unthinkable reality of her choking, crawling, crying, and her little lungs filling with smoke has been etched in my mind since her death. It's an ongoing nightmare. I will never have closure now that the outcome has changed."

Valerie Binkley, Cynthia's aunt, told the judge she had prepared a six-page statement but was too emotional to read it. She then turned to Richey.

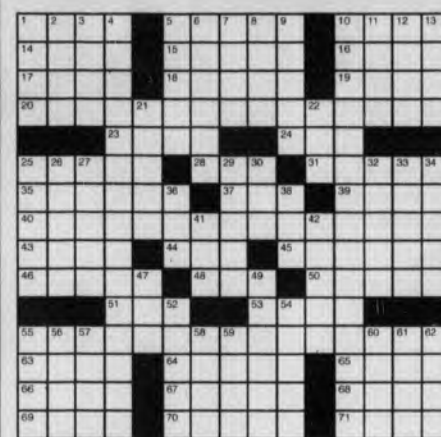
"I want you to know you fooled nobody—not me, not that baby, not any of these people," she said. "You will fry in hell."

Members of Richey's family declined to comment after the hearing. His brother, Steve, said he couldn't talk because he is "under contract."

Richey's case has generated limited interest in Ohio, but his name is a familiar one in Britain, where there is no death penalty. He drew support from members of the British Parliament and the late Pope John Paul II.

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- 1 Bk. before Job
2 Van Gogh's brother
3 Anthracite, e.g.
4 Circular flights?
5 State of India
6 Non-cleric
7 Weightiness
8 Med. school course
9 Anti-Puritan satirist
10 Not miss a trick?
11 Cruising
12 Cabbage salad
13 Car signal
14 Son of Odin
15 Afore
16 "My Name Is ___ Lev"
17 Pathogenic bacteria
18 "Jerusalem Delivered" poet
19 Flower of Texas
20 ___disant (so-called)
21 Bangor's state
22 Laxative from aloe
23 City in NE France
24 Orch. section
25 Verb-forming suffix

- 41 Dog-breeder's org.
42 Top room
43 Sell-out letters
44 Stick
45 Surprise victory
46 Simple tune
47 Coarse fiber
48 Elliptical
49 List of options
50 Edison's middle name
51 Adult-to-be
52 Tender cut
53 Feast on Oahu
54 Safecracker

ACROSS

- 1 Use acid for art
5 Composer Berg
10 Corned-beef dish
14 Bug off!
15 Finnish bath
16 Norway's capital
17 Mallard's cousin
18 "___ Marner"
19 Goneril's father
20 1941 Charles Boyer film
23 "My Friend ___"
24 Period
25 Allstate rival
28 CDs' ancestors
31 Violinist Mischa
35 Singer Boz
37 Polio precursor
39 Refrain syllables
40 Type of insurance
43 Actress Lanchester
44 "Citizen Kane" studio
45 Racial

- 46 Mob melees
48 190
50 Itsy-bitsy
51 Play about Capote
53 Like Keats' poetry
55 Following Dr. Hahnemann's medical system
63 At any time
64 Icy rain
65 Libertine
66 Educator Horace
67 Chris of tennis
68 Graphic image: abbr.
69 Bonus
70 19th-century Chief Justice
71 Comfy

ANSWERS



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slowly and
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back, you
can't sink in
quicksand.



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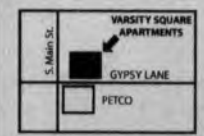
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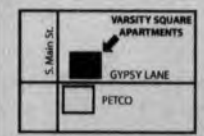
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