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Bowling Green State University

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THE BG NEWS FRIDAY

DECEMBER 4, 2009

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ESTABLISHED 1920

A daily independent student press serving the campus and surrounding community

www.bgviews.com

Board approves voluntary employee separation plan

By Gina Potthoff
Editor-in-chief

The University is offering select full-time faculty and staff a chance to fend off future layoffs and furloughs with a voluntarily employee separation program.

At yesterday's meeting, the University Board of Trustees unanimously approved the Employee Separation Plan, which allows faculty and staff with 15 or more years of service to voluntarily leave the University in exchange for a portion of their individual base

compensation to be paid out over a period of time.

The plan will save the University an estimated \$5.6 million during an eight-year payout period.

Chief Financial Officer Sherideen Stoll said the measure is both cost effective and beneficial to participants because they can choose to leave the University on their own terms.

"We know that we are going to be facing some significant [financial] challenges going into 2011," she said. "When you have to make reductions we have to make, indi-

vidual separations are very difficult."

Of the eligible 834 full-time faculty and staff, 138, or 17 percent, are expected to participate in the program, according to Educators Preferred Corporation, the Southfield, Mich., company chosen to coordinate the 45-day opportunity. EPC also created similar plans for Kent State University and Wright State University, both of which had almost as many

See PLAN | Page 2

Eligible faculty and staff

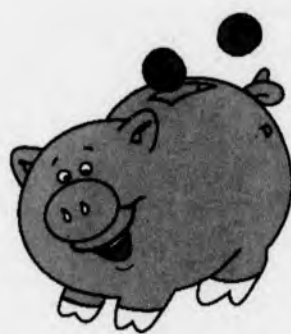
- All employees with 15 or more years of service to the University as of June 30, 2010
- Full-time faculty, faculty on administrative appointments, administrative staff and classified staff
- Employees with 28.99+ years of service as of June 30, 2010; departure must occur prior to June 30, 2011

Eligibility and estimates

- Faculty- 300 eligible, 46 estimated
- Administrative staff- 162 eligible, 22 estimated
- Classified staff- 372 eligible, 70 estimated
- Total- 834 eligible, 138 estimated

Payout terms

- Faculty (nine- and 12-month, Library)- 100 percent of base salary, not to exceed \$65,000
- Faculty administrators- 100 percent of base salary, not to exceed \$75,000
- Administrative staff- 100 percent of base salary, not to exceed \$55,000
- Classified staff- 100 percent of base salary, not to exceed \$25,000



MORE BANG FOR YOUR BUCK

Part four in a four-part series on how to save money

BOOZE ON A BUDGET

Information compiled by Andy Ouriel and Kate Snyder

With the current economic recession and the holidays quickly approaching, some students may need to tighten their pocketbooks. Even with the financial situation limiting students buying luxury items, many still seem to find room in their budget to purchase alcohol. According to alcoholpolicy.com, a Web site physicians use to measure alcohol consumption, college students spend \$5.5 billion on alcohol each year. The BG News decided to take a look at how students who are 21 years old and over can save money on their alcohol purchases.

We looked at five stores:
Campus Quarters (CQ): 1414 E. Wooster St.
Kroger (K): 1094 N. Main St.
Legends Wines and Spirits (L): 1616 E. Wooster St.
Meijer (M): 2111 E. Wooster St.
South Side 6 (SS6): 737 S. Main St.

In no way does The BG News condone underage or harmful consumption of any alcohol products.

HOW THE BRANDS STACK UP

All sales prices are subject to change. Kroger and Meijer prices available with shopper's card. Legends is a state-owned liquor store which has stronger proofs available. Bolded prices are best value.



Captain Morgan Parrot Bay flavored rum (all flavors), 750 milliliters, 42 proof:

CQ - \$13.99
K - \$10.79
L - \$12.99
M - \$9.99
SS6 - \$10.99



Southern Comfort Whiskey, 1.75 liters, 42 proof:

CQ - \$22.99
K - N/A
L - \$29.99
M - \$17.99
SS6 - \$22.99



Popov Vodka distilled, 1.75 liters, 42 proof:

CQ - \$9.99
K - \$8.59
L - \$9.49
M - \$8.99
SS6 - \$10.99



Bud Light 12-pack (bottles):

CQ - \$9.99
K - \$9.99
L - \$9.49
M - \$9.49
SS6 - \$9.99



Smirnoff Ice six-pack (all flavors):

CQ - \$7.49
K - N/A
L - \$7.49
M - \$7.49
SS6 - \$8.79



Natural Light 30-pack (cans):

CQ - \$13.99
K - \$13.99
L - \$13.99
M - \$13.99
SS6 - \$13.99



Franzia Box Wine, five liters (all flavors):

CQ - \$13.99
K - \$13.99
L - \$14.49
M - \$13.99
SS6 - \$14.99

Colleges unite for celebration of the arts

Theater, art and music colleges come together for extravaganza

By Tim Naida
Reporter

Three schools at the University are coming together to display art for the campus and community.

The Department of Theatre and Film, the School of Art and the College of Musical Arts are hosting the Arts Extravaganza, a series of events designed to showcase art students here at the University. The event is today from 6 to 10 p.m. throughout the Fine Arts Center.

Theatre and film Instructor Benjamin Powell said the goals of the event were to show what the different art departments can accomplish together, and to highlight the talents of students.

See ART | Page 2



RYAN PIROG | THE BG NEWS

SUCCESS: Assistant professor Stephen Croucher has been working for the University since August 2006.

Assistant professor receives Young Scholar Award

By Josh Whetherholt
Reporter

The annual Outstanding Young Scholar Award has been handed out, and for the second time in recent years, a member of the School of Media and Communications has claimed the prize.

Assistant Professor Stephen Croucher, a professor at the University since August 2006, was the winner of this year's award, which included a \$1000 research grant and a \$2000 cash reward.

"I was surprised and happy and rather pleased," Croucher said. "It's really cool. I think it just shows [the School of Media and Communications does] good research and the school supports us."

Croucher has also gained much support from

See AWARD | Page 2

CAMPUS

Talent show raises money

Twelve acts performed at the third annual Coffee House Theme Variety Show at the Union last night to raise money for Dance Marathon | Page 3

FORUM

Printing costs concern students

Columnist Ryan Sullivan and guest columnist Zach Tarvin discuss their opinions on ways the University could tighten their budget next semester instead of charging students for printer use | Page 4

SPORTS

Men's basketball wins game

The basketball team triumphs over Savannah State before preparing to go on a month-long road trip to schools including Detroit and Fordham | Page 9

PEOPLE ON THE STREET

What would you keep buying, no matter how expensive it got?



Alex Snell
Freshman, English

"Clothes are pretty important. I don't want to be naked in this weather" | Page 4

PROPER MANNERS, PROPER PLACE SETTINGS, PROPER ATTITUDE



PHOTOS BY COURTNEY STELLAR | THE BG NEWS

ETIQUETTE: Public Relations Student Society of America, or PRSSA, participate in a dinner to learn proper etiquette for future business meals. The dinner was to help teach them how to properly order food, what to order, how to deal with a variety of situations and prepare for business situations they may encounter in their careers.

BLOTTER

WED, DEC. 3

10:58 A.M.

Management of an apartment building located within the 300th block of Palmer Ave. reported unknown subject(s) set off what looked to be a Drano bomb in the hallway of the building.

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

CORRECTION POLICY

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

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AWARD

From Page 1

his colleagues for winning his award.

"I think it's great," said Communications Professor Ellen Gorsevski. "He's got a lot of fantastic publications and it was some stiff competition and the fact that he was chosen under stiff competition is really a credit to him."

Croucher, who received the award in part because of his dedication to mentoring his students, has also been praised by his graduate students.

"He deserved it because he's published very well and he is very hard-working," said fourth-year graduate student Deepa Oommen. "He is always in his office and working very early."

Croucher primarily researches the ways in which religion, predominantly Islam, and intercultural relations affect the way people communicate. He has done research all over Europe, as well as in India, and has done research in the field every summer since being at the University.

Croucher said he plans to use the grant money to go to either India or China during the summer break to look at immigrant adaptation, ethnic media use

and religious fundamentalism. He joked the grant money will partially pay for the plane ticket.

Interim Chair of the Department of Communications Lynda Dixon nominated Croucher for the award. She said she nominated him because he has had multiple articles published in the highest quality publications, the way he mentors the graduate students he teaches and she feels that he has been researching topics that deeply affect the world.

"If people would listen to the things that he says, we would have less conflict today," Dixon said.

Dixon was very impressed with Croucher's ability to get both external and internal research grants, something she said is rare with such a young professor. Croucher came to the University straight out of a doctoral program and already had grants.

The most important thing that Croucher does, according to Dixon, is the way he uses his own grant money to help pay for his students to go to conferences with him to present papers, something Dixon said is not seen often.

"It's a very generous thing to do and is very much in the students' interest," Dixon said.

Oommen has been at the University as long as Croucher

and has had the opportunity to work with him on several papers, along with other students. In the summer of 2008, a group including Croucher and Oommen won the Top Paper award at the International Communications Association Conference in the Intercultural Division. In November 2009, they won Top Paper at the National Communications Association Conference in both the American Forensics Division as well as the Argumentation and Forensics Division.

Because of the amount of hands-on experience Oommen has gotten from working with Croucher, she feels much more prepared to publish her own papers when she one day becomes a professor.

"I've been able to learn the tricks of publishing," Oommen said. "I've learned all that from the research group and it has really helped me for the future."

Dixon has been impressed with Croucher thus far and looks forward to the department gaining from his hard work and dedication, something she said has been "outstanding."

"He has been ready to go forward," Dixon said. "With that kind of attitude, he will have a long and successful career."

PLAN

From Page 1

participants as was originally estimated.

Employees who choose to participate in the plan and retire will receive 60 equal monthly payments of base salary pay over five years contributed to a 403(b) account. Nonretiree participants will receive 96 equal monthly payments over eight years direct deposited to a bank account. Once participants agree to leave the University, they cannot be rehired for 10 years except on a part-time adjunct faculty single course term basis. Some positions left vacant will be refilled, but Stoll said with the restructuring of staffing, some positions may be eliminated.

Stoll stressed the plan was not a buyout, but an employee separation or severance program. A buyout means purchasing service credit, she said, and this plan does not buy additional employee years.

With the plan's approval, EPC sent e-mails to eligible University employees today, who have until Feb. 1 to make their decision. EPC representatives will be on campus as soon as Dec. 15 to provide information sessions and employee counseling.

Ron Shields, faculty chair to the board and chair of the Theatre and Film Department, said the key features of the plan are that it's voluntary and will only be relevant to faculty and staff who choose to participate. Shields, who's been at the University 23 years, said he was glad the University shared some plan details and listened to faculty and staff responses before unveiling it.

"For the vast majority of faculty, I doubt it will matter much. But it gives faculty and staff a choice," Shields said. "I've been here more than 15 years and I'm going to take a look at it even though I'm not ready to retire."

The plan allows a great amount of personal choice, said Sara Zulch-Smith, administrative staff chair to the board. She said with the plan, faculty and staff can have "control of their own destiny."

"I find this to be very respectful to the individuals participating," said Ken Borland, senior vice president for Academic Affairs and provost. "It shows a great deal of character for the University."

Stoll said while the plan will cut costs, it does not guarantee other restructuring measures will not be taken since the University is expecting an \$8.3 million decrease in state funding for next fiscal year.

ART

From Page 1

"The Arts Extravaganza is designed to highlight or draw attention to arts across BG," he said. "It brings together multiple art-based departments and provides a window for the community to see what can happen when [the art departments] get together."

The event will feature performances and displays from under-

graduate and graduate students. They will present works from classes as well as individual works. Events include musical performances, art displays, glass blowing demonstrations and a fashion show. Each room will have different events and arts featured.

Senior Britt Mansell said she is excited to see the glass blowing exhibition, and said the event is good for the school.

"I think it's a great way to showcase the artistic talents of BGSU

students," she said. "It shows that BGSU is a community."

Freshman Josh Powell is performing with Circus Vera during the Arts Extravaganza. He said he likes the focus on the arts at the University, and said it will be fun to perform.

"Here they actually appreciate the arts," he said. "It's cool how they accept everyone and everyone is invited."

The event is free and open to the public.



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Variety show takes center stage to help gather donations

Money collected during show in order to help Dance Marathon and Children's Miracle Network

By Matt Nye
Reporter

Between the guitar riffs and heavenly vocals by the performers at the third annual Coffee House Theme Variety Show were donations benefiting Dance Marathon and the Children's Miracle Network.

Rachel Blesch and Bernadette Wiggin are a part of H2O and helped set up the event.

"I helped with decorating and organizing performers where they needed to go, and helped with advertising for this event as well," Wiggin said. "I love anything musical and it's a good opportunity to show people's talent; it's a good cause for the community as well."

Twelve acts performed, such as singing, comedy and salsa dancing.

"It's an awesome show and everyone is wonderful," said senior Mallory Sanders, an audience member.

But those who organized the event said the main goal of the night was to raise money for the Children's Miracle Network.

"We do sets and things, but we just try to get people gathered to watch and raise money for Dance Marathon," Blesch said. "We accepted donations before and



during [the event]."

Blesch said she really started to get involved with the community by getting into Social Justice Organizations.

"I asked the leaders to put on a coffee house variety show and they agreed, so we decided to go with Dance Marathon because we knew a lot of people were involved with helping the community," Blesch said.

Many audience members were pleased with the talent on display last night.

"I really liked the show," said senior Tommie James. "It's for a great cause with the donations and everybody had amazing talent."

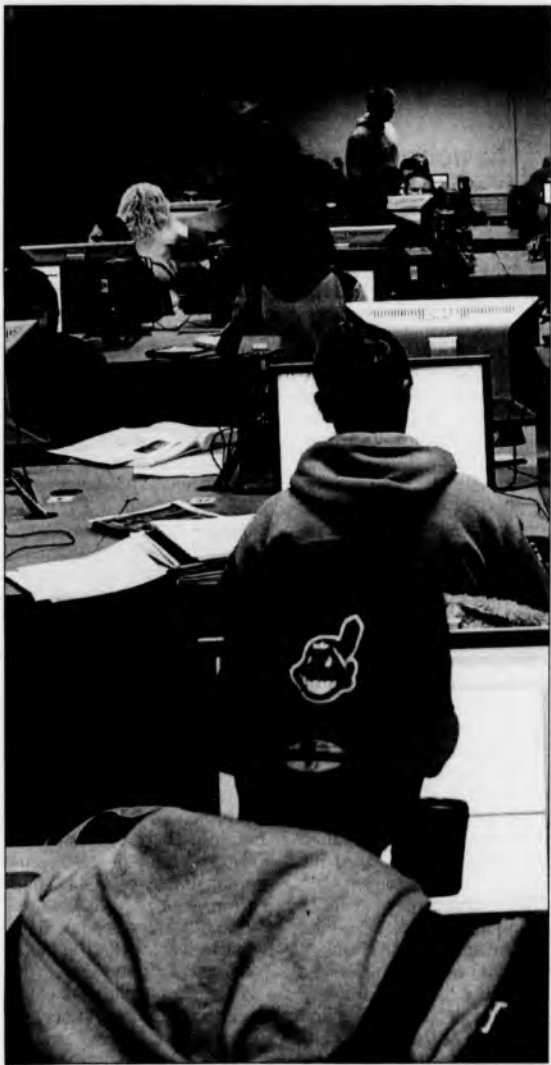


PHOTOS BY COURTNEY STELLAR | THE BG NEWS

SING OUT: Junior Anna Gorman and her brother Sam played a duet yesterday evening at the H2O Variety show. Those who attended were asked to give donations, which went to Dance Marathon and the Children's Miracle Network.

University unaffected by other schools' lab closures

By Austin Arnold
Reporter



WORKING HARD: Students work on homework and surf the Internet in one of the Business Administration building's computer labs.

The University of Virginia has started to close many of its computer labs because they are being left unused. According to www.washburnreview.org, 99 percent of current freshmen at the University of Virginia brought a laptop with them to campus, leading to the diminishing need of computer labs.

Although the widespread use of personal computers may cause some colleges' computer labs to be dormant, this does not appear to be an issue here at the University, according to Debra Wells, director of client services for Information Technology Services.

"I was surprised to hear that a large university such as Virginia would be closing most of its labs," she said. "Yes, a lot of students here have their own computers but as far as shutting down labs, this is just not the case here."

Support Services Supervisor for ITS Josh Von Lehmden said unused computer labs are not a big concern.

"Although there might be a slight decrease in lab use lately, there has been no talk of shutting down any labs on campus."

There are several reasons why students use computer labs on campus, but there is one specifically that will keep them in high demand for some students, Von Lehmden said.

"Students have to rely on computer software a lot more now than they did in the past, software that is available on most lab computers," he said. "And many students don't have that software on their personal computers."

Senior John Van Eman is one student who relies on the software available on campus computers from time to time, he said.

"I'm a VCT major, so when I have a project to do, I use the lab computers

because I don't have programs like Dreamweaver and Flash on my computer," he said.

Van Eman lives off campus and he said that he uses the computer labs one to two times a week.

"I use either the Technology Building lab or the one in the Union, usually the tech lab because the Union lab can get real busy at times," he said.

According to Von Lehmden, during this semester, an average of about 2,000 students use the Union lab in one day.

"The Union and Library labs seem to be the busiest as far as usage on campus," Von Lehmden said. "I notice a lot of people around the Union lab from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. I think that's because most people are on campus at this time of day."

Not only does the time of day affect how crowded campus labs are, the time of the semester also matters, Von Lehmden said.

"The beginning and end of the semester, as well as midterm, are busier times for the labs," he said.

Von Lehmden suggested that students should try going to less frequented labs such as Hayes 025, the Technology Building lab, and the Music Building lab in the basement to avoid congestion.

As the end of the semester is approaching, it may be useful for students to know when the various labs on campus are open, especially during finals week. For a schedule of the labs and the times they are open, visit www.bgsu.edu/its/labs/index.html.

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PEOPLE ON THE STREET

What would you keep buying no matter how expensive it got?



"Shoes."

THERESA SMITH,
Senior,
Early Childhood Education



"Food."

JOY TUTIE,
Freshman,
Finance



"Toilet paper."

DAN METRY,
Junior,
Computer Science



"BlackBerry Curve, it's my life."

MARTINA CHATMON,
Junior,
Marketing

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

Students voice concern over the cost of printing

There is other pork the University could cut, but they would rather get the money out of strapped students



RYAN SULLIVAN
COLUMNIST

The University has a pressing issue that threatens to further alienate students from the faculty.

The rumors have been swirling since the beginning of the semester as to whether or not a charge on students for printing was to be implemented and it seems as if it is now inevitable.

But right now, students have a chance to stand up and tell the administrators "No, I will not be exploited anymore!"

During the presentation to Undergraduate Student Government (USG), the group proposing the charges estimated a savings of \$1.5 million. This figure might seem high but we are also forgetting a few things.

To use this new system, it is only going to create more of a hassle than it is worth. The training for the staff alone to implement the system, the software to pull it off, and the extra time it would require each time you needed to print

something would just slow things down to a slower crawl than it already is.

If the University is that desperate to save money, we can start at the top to find ways to trim the fat.

According to both public record and an AP article published in the Toledo Free Press, President Carol Cartwright is the sixth highest paid president of an Ohio Public University with a staggering salary of \$375,000. This is \$40,000 a year more than Miami's president and \$20,000 more than Akron's.

This wouldn't be so bad, except that when the University is claiming they are trying to save money by charging us to print, they are giving our illustrious leader a raise. Just for having the interim tag removed from her title last year, Cartwright received a raise of \$60,000.

Want another way to trim the economic fat instead of passing the bill to students?

The University owns a house about ten minutes or so from campus that they paid about \$750,000 for about 5 years ago. Would anybody really be surprised to learn that Cartwright is the occupant of said house?

Now, this is by no means an attack on the president. I am simply trying to point out other alternatives to save money as opposed to charging students.

I don't know about anybody else, but it feels as if this is just another way the school is trying to exploit us and unless we do something about it, we are just going to face further repression.

I attended a school prior to the University that charged for printing. About a quarter of the way into the semester, I ran out of "free prints" and was required to pay for printing the rest of the way. I ended up going to Staples the rest of the semester just because they were cheaper.

Yes, shameless plug since I work there — but the fact of the matter is, this will only further divide the administration from the students. Unless the administration is willing to stand up and make the tough choices without hurting the students, we will both be losers in the end.

Respond to Ryan at
thenews@bgnews.com

Saving paper is a good idea, but charging for printing might not be the best way of going about doing it

By Zach Tarvin
Guest Columnist

It was only a matter of time, but it looks like the University decided to use the guise of being environmentally friendly to charge students for printing.

I'd been hearing it would happen since August, but since most of the rumblings were that it wouldn't happen until next fall I didn't care — that's the joy of graduating. But the fact remains that the proposed plan is full of holes in logistics and logic.

Any printing scheme on this campus would require a rethinking of the way our computer labs are run, particularly in residence halls. I frequently find the printer severely low on toner, with little time to get to another lab, let alone call the Residential Community Connection (RCC) to report it.

The University's point about the cost of printing has value, but the move toward metered printing should be a last resort. The first thing that needs to happen is that students, faculty and administrators need to be on the same page about the alternative options to printing.

I'm a creative writing major. In a workshop class, I can easily print 150 pages in a semester. Yet, if I use tools like Word's "Track Changes," I can still share comments and collaborate with my classmates without having to print. Clearly, this option isn't

going to work for every student, every instructor or every program, but it's an effective alternative to charging students to print anything from a one-page response to a term paper.

What's more, the University is more than ready to handle an electronic shift in the way we do academic work. Blackboard and MyFiles can both be configured to act either as a repository or a sharing hub for assignments. I would think if the University were going to offer these services, they'd push students toward them a little more before they outright charged for printing.

It may well be that faculty members aren't using them because they don't know how. If that's the case, the University needs to provide better documentation and training for students and faculty.

Any number of "free pages" would likely be too small for the typical student. The December 2 article on the printing scheme in The BG News shows the University's point not to effectively punish the students who "only print around 25-30 pages." Who's getting by on 25-30 pages a semester? Certainly not anyone I know. I would think a close approximation would be 300 pages or more. This semester I've probably done twice that, but I was printing my senior thesis.

The key thing here is that the University and students are not approaching this issue efficiently. Before we go anywhere near

charging to print, we need to exhaust all other options. Almost every time I go to use a campus computer lab, there's a stack of PowerPoint slides or a discarded second copy of a GSW paper lying on the printer tray.

Sometimes, on weekends, I'll throw some of my own paper in the empty printer to do a small assignment, only to find that there's twelve copies of someone's term paper spooled to the printer, because hitting print eleven more times always fixes things. Simply by better educating students and faculty, we can reduce the need and waste in our printing costs.

If we're really hemorrhaging that much money in paper and ink, maybe the RCC needs to become a sort of SWAT team, sweeping into computer labs and ejecting anyone contributing to waste, be it frivolous printing, or playing Farmville when there are other people who actually need the computer.

It's a little martinetish, but it is more beneficial to the entire campus community.

Respond to Zach at
thenews@bgnews.com

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KEITH PAKIZ | THE BG NEWS

Obama's first year disappoints

"The policy of creating allies in a hostile region through 'nation-building' was a major theme in the authoritarian genre... in both the Soviet Union and Nazi Germany."



MIKE THURAU
COLUMNIST

This probably doesn't come as a surprise to anyone who has been following the hit reality show "Politics," but a politician has broken a promise.

This particular politician is named Barack Obama, and so far Season One has failed to live up to the hype. We are only a few months past the pilot episode, but it looks like the next few years may end up looking not too different from the less successful series "The Bush Years," whose low ratings resulted in it being canceled. While a surprise plot twist may still be in the cards, Obama's intended role as "The Anti-War Candidate" is turning out to be a bad fit.

What I'm referring to is Obama's escalation of the war in Afghanistan. The transference of 30,000 troops into the tiny impoverished nation is the result of not so much a new approach to foreign policy as a slight reshuffling of priorities. This is not the "Change" that audiences had hoped for and disappointment seems to be the result.

While many fans are thrilled to see the replacement of Obama's predecessor and overall change of cast, the script remains largely the same. Despite a consistent lack of evidence, the Obama administration has been unable to stray from the same set of premises that audiences grew tired of in the Bush years.

The idea that the shattered remnants of al-Qaida are still a grave threat to the safety of

viewers everywhere seems to be closed to debate. As are the ideas that they can be destroyed with massive ground invasions and that Al Qaeda has the same goals as the Taliban. Audiences are bored with the same old policies, and this viewer is in the mood for something a little more ambitious — like a reduction of troop levels or an outright withdrawal.

The policy of creating allies in a hostile region through "nation-building" was a major theme in the authoritarian genre and saw considerable use in both the Soviet Union and Nazi Germany, winning (or conquering) audiences all over Europe and Asia. The Soviet Union tried to expand into Afghanistan during the 80s, but the high cost of marketing eventually resulted in this show being canceled due to lack of funds.

The producers of Politics would do well to reexamine these lessons, as the United States has been running at a loss for decades. Issues like unemployment, global warming and the erosion of the middle class are not given nearly the air time they deserve, and are much more pertinent to most viewers' lives. Regardless, it looks like viewers have several more years of war to look forward to.

Also, with stop-loss measures already in place and being utilized to their fullest, Obama will be hard pressed to find the additional cast necessary to extend the war into Season

Two. He had better deliver on his promise of "change" or else he may very well end up being replaced.

Even if this does happen, it is unlikely we will witness a change of script any time soon as the show's producers are quite content with a continuation of the same old show carrying on indefinitely. It is true that Obama has won over a great deal of new viewers, but his lack of originality may very well result in the show's return to the previously dismal viewership of less than half the nation.

With villains and comic relief like Sarah Palin, the show can be downright enthralling at times. However, if the main character turns out to be a limp noodle, audiences will once again choose to change the channel and lose track of the story's progression. It may be that Obama is simply not used to his new role, and it will take some time before he is able to find his place as the star of the show.

Hopefully he finds his voice soon, because with co-stars like Hillary Clinton, Dave Patraeus and Timothy Geithner, the show might have to once again take a back seat to more popular programs such as "American Idol" or "Dancing with the Stars." But with audience participation as it is, I suppose you get what you pay for.

Respond to Mike at
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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.

NATION BRIEFS

BG NEWS WIRE SOURCES

US ambassador: US-Mexico drug war aid on track

McALLEN, Texas — The U.S. ambassador to Mexico said yesterday that programs to provide more than \$1.1 billion in equipment and training to help Mexico fight organized crime are on track.

Ambassador Carlos Pascual's comments followed the release yesterday of a government report showing only about \$24 million of the aid had been spent by the end of September. Congress appropriated the first \$400 million for Mexico as part of the Merida Initiative in June 2008.

Pascual said expenditures had increased several times since the report was completed and noted that five new helicopters would be delivered to Mexico in a matter of weeks.

—Christopher Sherman (AP)

Gay marriage bill up for vote in NJ next week

TRENTON, N.J. (AP) — A bill to legalize gay marriage in New Jersey will be posted for a vote next week.

Sen. Ray Lesniak, a member of the Senate Judiciary Committee, says the bill is scheduled to go before that committee on Monday and will be voted on by the full Senate next Thursday.

Garden State lawmakers who support the idea have been reluctant to post the bill for a vote unless they were fairly certain it would pass. Both houses of the Legislature must pass it before it goes to the governor.

Outgoing Gov. Jon Corzine has said he would sign a gay-marriage bill into law. His replacement, Gov.-elect Chris Christie, takes office next month and says he would veto it.

New Jersey currently has a civil unions law.

More charges expected in NYC terror plot

NEW YORK — Federal authorities expect to file more charges in an alleged plot by an al-Qaida associate to attack New York City with homemade bombs, a prosecutor said Thursday.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Jeffrey Knox told a judge the charges would be contained in a new indictment against Najibullah Zazi, a Colorado airport van driver arrested earlier this year on charges of conspiring to use weapons of mass destruction.

"I think it's likely there will be additional charges," Knox said at a pretrial hearing in federal court in Brooklyn. "The investigation continues."

—Tom Hays (AP)

Pilot who endured torture at 'Hanoi Hilton' dies

JACKSON, Miss. (AP) — Retired Air Force Col. Jack Pitchford, a fighter pilot from Mississippi who survived seven years in the Vietnamese prison camp known as the "Hanoi Hilton," has died. He was 82.

Pitchford's brother, Jim Pitchford, says the former pilot died Wednesday after battling a brain tumor.

The Natchez, Miss., native was shot down in 1965 and taken to the Hoa Lo prison, enduring torture in the same place as U.S. Sen. John McCain and other veterans.

Pitchford was released in 1973. McCain was released the same year after spending five years in the prison.

Pitchford was born John Joseph Pitchford Jr. on May 29, 1927.

Man accused in Levy killing faces new charges

WASHINGTON — The man accused of killing federal intern Chandra Levy in Washington in 2001 has been charged with threatening a witness in the case.

A superseding indictment filed Wednesday in D.C. Superior Court charges Ingmar Guandique with obstructing justice, threatening to injure a person and conspiracy. Guandique was charged in April with first-degree murder and other counts in connection with Levy's death. He has pleaded not guilty to those charges.

The D.C. Public Defender Service, which is representing Guandique, had no immediate comment on the new charges yesterday.

—Sarah Karush (AP)

Demjanjuk trial opens on Nazi death camp charges

MUNICH (AP) — John Demjanjuk sat in a wheelchair wrapped in a light blue blanket, his eyes closed and his face pale as his trial opened Monday on charges he helped kill 27,900 Jews as a Nazi death camp guard.

Lawyers for the retired Ohio autoworker portrayed him as a victim — of the Nazis and misguided German justice. But three German doctors testified the Ukrainian-born Demjanjuk was fit to stand trial.

Wearing a blue baseball cap, Demjanjuk, 89, was wheeled in to the packed Munich state court and did not answer when presiding judge Ralph Alt asked if he could answer basic questions about himself. His left hand twitched occasionally and his mouth was open slightly as though he was in pain.

Calls grow for Ga. speaker to resign amid scandal

By Shannon McCaffery
The Associated Press

ATLANTA — Georgia's iron-fisted House speaker won sympathy from even his political enemies when he revealed last month that he had attempted suicide by swallowing sleeping pills. Then his ex-wife went on TV and accused him of having "a full-out affair" with a lobbyist while still married.

Now calls are growing for Glenn Richardson, Georgia's first GOP speaker since Reconstruction, to step down.

The 49-year-old once thought to be a serious contender for governor went right back to shaking hands at chicken-and-grits fundraisers after trying to kill himself, but he has been silent since his ex-wife claimed this week that he slept with a lobbyist pushing a \$300 million pipeline bill he was co-sponsoring.

It has been a dizzying fall for one of Georgia's most powerful political figures. Sheriff deputies found him

Nov. 8, slumped semiconscious on the edge of the bathtub at his west Georgia home after he called his mother to say he had swallowed pills. A suicide note and a silver .357 Magnum were on the counter next to him. The contents of the note have not been released.

Secretary of State Karen Handel, a leading candidate for governor in 2010, called Richardson's personal turmoil "heartbreaking" but said meetings at the state Capitol were grinding to a halt because he was missing in action amid the worst state budget crunch in the state history.

"We have very serious issues that the Legislature needs to deal with that require leadership and focus and it's clear that we don't have either right now," Handel told The Associated Press.

She and the Georgia Christian Coalition were among those calling yesterday for Richardson to resign.

University of Georgia political science professor Charles Bullock

"Heading into an election year, I think Republicans would rather not still be talking about the life and loves of Glen Richardson."

Charles Bullock | Political Science Professor

said Richardson is known for comebacks, but the latest round of news may have finally damaged him beyond repair.

"Heading into an election year, I think Republicans would rather not still be talking about the life and loves of Glenn Richardson," Bullock said.

Richardson was revered among some conservatives for helping engineer a GOP takeover of the Georgia House in 2004 after decades of Democratic control. But his short temper has often left him feuding with the state's other leading Republicans. In 2007, a red-faced Richardson accused

Gov. Sonny Perdue of showing his "backside" after the two feuded over tax cuts.

He has also been dogged by messy personal and ethical problems, including a 2007 ethics complaint by House Democrats over the same affair ex-wife Susan Richardson accused him of on TV this week. In an interview Monday with Fox 5 Atlanta, Susan Richardson said she had e-mails between her ex-husband and the lobbyist for Atlanta Gas Light that prove the affair actually happened. The couple divorced in February 2008.

In one e-mail, according to

Fox 5, the lobbyist worried that she would be fired if the affair became public. Glenn Richardson responded by saying he would "bring all hell down" on Atlanta Gas Light if that happened.

The 2007 Democratic complaint was dismissed by a legislative ethics panel for lack of evidence, and a defiant Richardson used a breakfast speech before a room full of Georgia business leaders to threaten retaliation against those he said were trying bring him down with "poison."

The bad news, according to Richardson, "is that I survived." And, he continued, "I'm looking for those that manufactured that poison."

The top Democrat in the House, Minority Leader DuBose Porter, said Susan Richardson's allegations should prompt a renewed ethics probe.

Glenn Richardson has not publicly responded to the allegations, and his spokesman did not respond to repeated requests for

comment yesterday.

Perdue hosted a meeting at the governor's mansion Wednesday night with Richardson and his two top deputies, House Speaker Pro Tem Mark Burkhalter and Majority Leader Jerry Keen.

There was no word yesterday on what was said at the meeting, and a spokesman for the governor declined to comment.

If Richardson refuses to step down he could be ousted. Under Georgia law, if 20 members of his GOP caucus sign a petition saying the speaker is unable to perform his duties because of a disability, members of the ruling party must hold a hearing and take a vote on the matter.


State Rep. Austin Scott, a past Richardson ally also seeking the GOP nomination for governor, said he will sign a petition seeking to remove Richardson if there is one.

"I know that caucus is going to do the right thing and there will be new leadership shortly," he said.

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WORLD BRIEFS

BG NEWS WIRE SOURCES

India to slow carbon emissions growth by 20-25 pct

NEW DELHI— India pledged yesterday to significantly slow the growth of its carbon emissions over the next decade, becoming the last major emitting country to announce a climate change policy before a U.N. summit opens next week.

The plan is less aggressive than those announced by the U.S. and China in the last two weeks, and one critic called it nothing more than a reiteration of the status quo.

But the pledges gave momentum to negotiations on emission limits, which had been snagged for months while three of the largest emitting countries waited for each other to make the first move.

—Arthur Max and Muneza Naqvi (AP)

UN warning on cargo plane use by smugglers

VIENNA — Traces of cocaine among the remains of a cargo plane recently discovered in West Africa suggests that large aircraft are increasingly being used to smuggle drugs and even weapons to the region, possibly benefiting terrorists, the U.N.'s anti-crime chief said yesterday.

The burned debris of a Boeing cargo plane was discovered on Nov. 2 in the Gao region of Mali, said Antonio Maria Costa, head of the Vienna-based U.N. Office on Drugs and Crime. It is assumed to have landed on a clandestine landing strip and either failed to take off again or was destroyed on purpose, he said, adding that "ample traces of cocaine" were found on board.

—Veronika Oleksyn (AP)

Putin talks of possible return to Russian presidency

MOSCOW— Wagging his pen and gazing directly into the camera, Prime Minister Vladimir Putin sent his strongest signal yet yesterday that he plans to return to Russia's presidency, telling millions of TV viewers that he will consider running in 2012.

The former KGB spy, who retains huge power despite formally stepping down after his eight-year presidency in 2008, turned in an electric performance during his annual marathon call-in show — cementing his high rating among the electorate and his reputation as Russia's No. 1 leader.

Asked if he was leaving the political stage, Putin grinned and said: "Don't hold your breath."

—David Nowak (AP)

Irish lawmakers open debate on gay rights bill

DUBLIN — Ireland's lawmakers opened debate Thursday on a bill to grant marriage-style rights to gay couples, a social milestone in a country long observant of Roman Catholic opposition to homosexuality.

Justice Minister Dermot Ahern said the bill would give gay couples the same rights as married heterosexual couples on questions of property ownership, inheritance, medical care and access to state benefits — and also the same right to go to court seeking financial support from higher-earning partners when relationships fail.

Ahern noted that the proposal would have been unthinkable only a few years ago in Ireland, a country that defined homosexuality as a criminal offense until 1993.

—Shawn Pogatchnik (AP)

Disguised suicide bomber kills 22 in Somalia

MOGADISHU, Somalia— A male suicide bomber dressed as a woman attacked a graduation ceremony yesterday in a small part of the capital still under government control, killing 22 people, including three Cabinet ministers, doctors and medical students.

The attack was a severe blow to a country long battered by war and underscored the government's tenuous hold even on its small area of Mogadishu. African Union peacekeeping troops protecting the government wage near-daily battles with Islamic militants who hold much of central and southern Somalia and act so brazenly in the capital that they carry out public executions.

—Mohamed Olad Hassan (AP)

UK leader again under fire over condolence letter

LONDON — British Prime Minister Gordon Brown was forced to make fresh apologies to relatives of soldiers slain in Afghanistan, after it emerged Thursday that three bereaved families received belated letters of condolence from the leader — including one that arrived two years late.

The news adds to Brown's struggle in trying to persuade the British public to support an increasingly unpopular war in Afghanistan. Last month, the leader became embroiled in a public spat with the mother of a soldier slain in Afghanistan who said he had misspelled her name in a condolence letter.

Simon Lewis, Brown's spokesman, confirmed at least three letters — all from 2007 — had been mistakenly delayed. He said other messages to offer commiseration for troop deaths in 2008 and this year also may have arrived late.

—David Stringer (AP)

Official: Guinea soldiers open fire on president

By Rukmini Callimachi
The Associated Press

"When you pull a gun on someone, is it your intention to scare him? No. Your intention is to kill him."

Idrissa Cherif | Communication Minister

CONAKRY, Guinea—Arenegade faction of Guinea's presidential guard opened fire Thursday on the African country's leader, a government spokesman said, amid rumors of deep divisions within the army. It was not immediately clear if he was wounded.

President Moussa "Dadis" Camara, who grabbed power in a military-led coup 11 months ago, had left the main military barracks where he lives and works, and had gone to a military camp in downtown Conakry where the shooting occurred, Communication Minister Idrissa Cherif said.

He declined to say if the 45-year-old president had been wounded.

"The president of the republic is still the president of the republic and he is in good health," Cherif said as military helicopters and sporadic shooting could be heard in the background.

The president was shot at by his aide-de-camp Abubakar "Toumba" Diakite, the commander of the presidential guard as well as by Toumba's men, Cherif said. He said Toumba and his men

had fled and the country's security forces have launched a nationwide manhunt. State TV released a communique confirming that Toumba is being pursued.

The incident underscores the deep rifts inside the military clique that grabbed control of the nation of 10 million on Africa's western coast just 11 months ago. Camara had initially promised to quickly organize elections, but then reversed course and began hinting that he planned to run for office, prompting a massive protest Sept. 28.

At least 157 people were killed and dozens of women were raped by soldiers in broad daylight. Many were kidnapped and driven away in military trucks to private villas where they were drugged and gang raped over the course of days, according to three survivors as well as several human rights groups.

The massacre led the European Union and the African Union to impose sanctions on Guinea, including on top members of the junta, who are now the subject of a travel ban. Sources inside the military said it deeply aggravated divisions that were already present and has led to the clique fracturing further. Members of the junta, including Toumba, are believed to lead private armies that are faithful only to them.

Cherif said Camara left the main military barracks located in a suburb of the capital, from where he has run the country since seizing power, and headed Thursday afternoon to Camp Koundara, where Toumba's unit is stationed. It was unclear what caused the altercation, but Cherif said that Toumba's intention was to kill the leader.

"When you pull a gun on someone, is it your intention to scare

him? No. Your intention is to kill him," Cherif said.

He declined to say whether the shot grazed or wounded Camara, or whether anyone else in his entourage was hurt. He repeated that he is "doing well" and that "the situation is under control."

The shooting came a day before a high-level U.N. mission was due to depart Conakry. The U.N. is leading an investigation into the Sept. 28 massacre, including looking at the role of top leaders such as Camara and Toumba. Guineans have been shocked that not a single soldier has so far been arrested and charged. Country experts have argued that Camara, who is not believed to have been at the stadium during the massacre, did not have the power to arrest Toumba, as it could have prompted him to lead a counter coup.

In a recently released report, U.S.-based Human Rights Watch said that Toumba was clearly aware of the rapes being committed by men under his control and yet did nothing to stop them. They cite an opposition leader who described how he was led away by Toumba and passed women in agony.

Pope, Russia agree to upgrade diplomatic ties

By Daniela Petroff
The Associated Press

Berlusconi.

After decades of hostility between the Vatican and the Kremlin during the Cold War, the major breakthrough came when former Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev met with Pope John Paul II in December 1989.

But the lifting of restrictions on religion led to new tensions with the Orthodox church, which accused the Vatican of poaching for souls in traditional Orthodox territory — a charge the Vatican denied.

The standoff prevented John Paul II of fulfilling his wish of making a pilgrimage to Russia.

Vatican officials, however, say that despite improved atmosphere such a trip is not on Benedict's agenda now. The Vatican statement after yesterday's meeting did not mention it.

Benedict had met with Medvedev's predecessor, Vladimir Putin, two years ago. As a gift, Medvedev presented Benedict with 22 volumes of an encyclopedia on the Russian Orthodox Church to complete a set brought by Putin.

VATICAN CITY— Pope Benedict XVI and visiting Russian President Dmitry Medvedev agreed yesterday to upgrade Vatican-Kremlin relations to full diplomatic ties, the Vatican said.

The step forward on the diplomatic front comes at the same time as a warming in previously tense relations between the Russian Orthodox Church and the Vatican.

A Vatican statement said Benedict and Medvedev agreed that Russia will upgrade its representation at the Vatican from a special mission to embassy level and that the Vatican will reciprocate in Moscow.

The two men also discussed challenges to "security and peace" in the world and "themes of mutual interest such as the value of the family and the contribution of believers to the life of Russia," the Vatican said.

Medvedev, on a one-day visit to Rome, met with the German pope for 30 minutes, speaking through interpreters. He had earlier met with Premier Silvio

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COOPY

Student gears music
label toward creativity

By Austin Arnold
Reporter

Music labels often consist of many people and a lot of money; however, one student is proving all that is really needed is the will to share music and originality.

Sophomore Nic Ross, with the help of friends, runs an online record label titled Modicum of Silence, a Web site that exclusively features works from bands and musicians in Northwest Ohio. Ross said the idea for the label came in August 2008 when his band first formed and started recording their own music.

"It started off as a blog and it picked up steam," he said. "Then we started taking music from friends and put it on the Web site, and it's grown from there."

See **RECORD** | Page 8

The sun should set on 'Twilight'

By Aaron Helfferich
Pulse Reviewer

It's tough for a human to be in love with a romantic, charming vampire. It's even worse when a hunky and constantly shirtless werewolf starts to catch your eye as well. That's the dilemma created for the main character of the sequel to last year's "Twilight" novel adaptation. It's no wonder these films attract a die-hard fan base of adolescent girls along with a massive female demographic.

Picking up directly where the events of "Twilight" left off, "New

See **NEW MOON** | Page 8

Letter Grade: D

Rated: PG-13 for some violence and action

Runtime: 130 min.

Starring: Kristen Stewart, Robert Pattinson, Taylor Lautner, and Michael Sheen

Directed by: Chris Weitz



ALBUM REVIEW



■ Artist Name: Lady GaGa
■ Grade: B

"THE FAME MONSTER"

WHAT MATT LIASSE THINKS: Let it be known that there is something different about Lady GaGa. Did she do something with her hair? Did she buy a new outfit? It's hard to put a finger on it.

Actually, the always-changing Lady GaGa has a different tale to tell, and it's a bit of a darker tone. GaGa has traded in her disco sticks, poker faces and craze-for-fame for an all-new attitude on her new reissue, "The Fame Monster," which includes eight new tracks.

If GaGa's debut album "The Fame," released last year, was a desperate year for the pleasures of fame, "The Fame Monster" is the reaction to having that wish come true. The album is still filled with Madonna-ish catchy choruses, outlandish lyrics and crazy concepts, but the mood has changed altogether.

It all becomes evident from the start with "Bad Romance." Between her rah-rah's and her murmuring "I want your love" in French, it's evident that GaGa is taking her music to a more serious tone. The song follows an unhealthy, yet addictive relationship with vocals that can shatter

See **GAGA** | Page 8

Films shine a light on the dark times around us



BRANDON SCHNEIDER
PULSE COLUMNIST

Recently released into a limited amount of theaters, "The Road," starring Viggo Mortenson, has been getting curious reviews this winter. Reviewers have described the acting as brilliant, the visuals as stunning and the pacing as quite tense. Yet what disturbs so many, and probably is the cause of its limited release, is the bleakness of it all.

The film, based on the 2006 novel "No Country for Old Men" by Cormac McCarthy, describes an America decimated by an unknown catastrophic event. The main story opts not for the

See **ROAD** | Page 8

Let's show some loving for the leftovers



TAYLOR
RICHTER
DESIGN EDITOR

I'm fairly certain all my professors are in cahoots, much like Digger Phelps' tie and high lighter are in cahoots

to match in color on College Basketball Gameday. Between final projects, speeches, papers and schmoozing, I'm finding myself on my last proverbial nerve (because as we all know, no one can literally be on his or her last nerve).

Needless to say, students are about as ready to come back to school after Thanksgiving break as Uncle Henry's pants

were willing to stay buttoned after he finished his dinner. While the fading smell of pumpkin pie is still intermingling with the memory of Mom's face when you showed her your new tattoo, you are now realizing that one of the best culinary moments of the year is sadly over.

Not only do you have to get through one more week

and exams, but also you're now loaded up with armfuls of crusty stuffing and mushy potatoes that your family couldn't let you leave home without. But before you try to get back into those yoga pants and reach for the Special K and plain oatmeal, live Thanksgiving just a little while longer, and put those leftovers to good use.

STUFFED CAKES (NO FROSTING REQUIRED)

The worst feeling in the world is when you open up day old stuffing and it's all mushy from the condensation inside of the Tupperware. My microwave seems to get a kick out of this and only makes the situation worse when it turns my shmushy stuffing into warm shmushy stuffing. Instead of nuking your leftovers, try pan-frying the stuffing. Pack it tight into little cakes, and the end result is buttery, crunchy-on-the-outside, soft-on-the-inside awesomeness.

MORNING-AFTER OMELETS

Sauté your favorite breakfast veggies and meats in a large, buttered skillet pan until they are fully cooked and have taken on some color. Some of my never-fails are green peppers, mushrooms, ham and onions. In a bowl, whisk together eight eggs and three cups of leftover mashed potatoes. Once your fixins' are cooked the way you like them, pour the egg and potato soup over the top. Cook until right before the egg is completely done and top with as much cheese as you can manage. A quick trip under the broiler melts all the cheese and finishes the egg. Serve like you would a pie. Eat with as much fervor, also.

IT'S CHICKEN SALAD, ONLY WITH TURKEY

Shred up cold leftover turkey with your fingers until the pieces are bite sized and rustic looking. Next, cut up a fresh, juicy apple (I like pie apples for this) and put all the shreds and apple pieces into a bowl. Top with some mayo, but not so much that the mixture becomes like pudding with lumps. You want the mayo to bind the turkey and apple, not dominate them. Salt and pepper until your heart's content, adding nuts or vinegar for an extra splash of flavor.

GRAMMY TIME

Check out the nominations in the four General Field categories of:

- Album Of The Year
- Record Of The Year
- Song Of The Year
- Best New Artist

See **GRAMMY** | Page 8

TONIGHT IN BG

Papadasio comes to Cla-Zel

Following their self-titled release, the experimental jamband Papadasio comes to the Cla-Zel tonight along with the band Flow Trio. Doors open at 7 p.m. with tickets at \$12/\$15.

TONIGHT IN TOLEDO

Get in the classic Christmas spirit

The classic Christmas tale A Christmas Carol comes to life on the Stranahan Theatre's stage tonight and through this weekend. Tonight and tomorrow night's performances begin at 8. Adult tickets cost \$25, visit www.stranahantheater.com for ticket information.

NEXT WEEK IN TOLEDO

Seabird plays Frankie's Wednesday night

Indie rock band Seabird, whose version of 'Joy to the World' was recently featured on Grey's Anatomy, will bring their tour to Frankie's Inner City Wednesday, December 9. Doors open for their Toledo show at 6 p.m. with \$8 tickets in advance, \$10 at the door. Seabird's sophomore release will follow on December 15.

THEY SAID IT

"I love gay men. I always say it. Inside me there is a gay man who wants to come out!"

-Victoria Beckham

SIDELINES


FOOTBALL
Barnes up for another award

Senior receiver Freddie Barnes was named a finalist for the Underdog Award, which is given to the best mid-major player by www.national-champs.net. Other players nominated for the award are Kellen Moore from Boise State, Case Keenum from Houston and Ryan Mathews from Fresno State. The winner will be announced on Dec. 9.

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OUR CALL

Today in Sports History

1997—Latrell Sprewell suspended one year for attacking his coach.

1977—Cincinnati wins the NFL's 5,000th game.

The List

The Falcons played well last night against Savannah State. Here are the top five performers from the game:

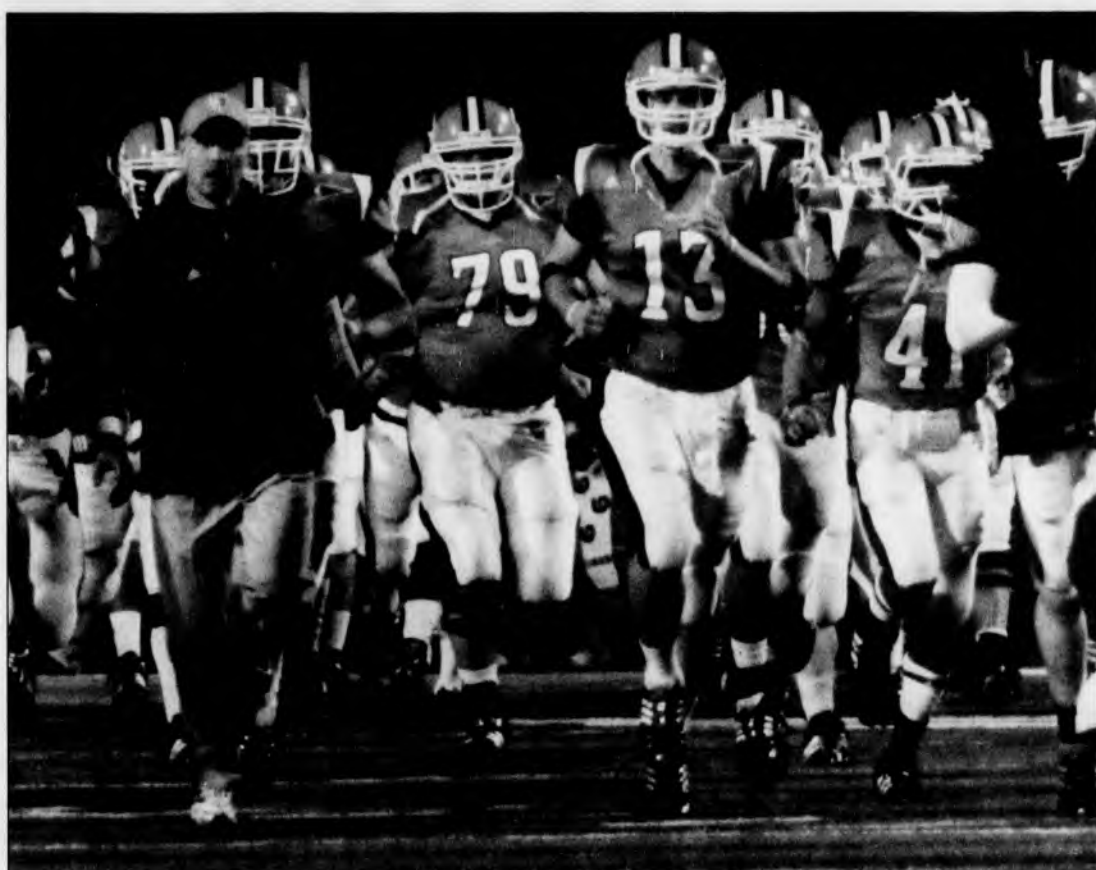
1. Joe Jakubowski: The junior guard scored 14 points in 34 minutes of play last night. He also stole the ball three times.

2. Otis Polk: The senior big man almost earned a double-double with 10 points and eight rebounds against Savannah State. Polk also had three steals in the game.

3. Erik Marschall: Another senior big man, Marschall scored 10 points and grabbed six rebounds off the bench last night.

4. Scott Thomas: The sophomore forward led the team with nine rebounds and also added eight points.

5. Marc Larson: The team's third senior big man had seven points and five rebounds in the win. He also added a steal.



LEADING THE CHARGE: Coach Dave Clawson and quarterback Tyler Sheehan (13) may be leading the team onto the field at the Humanitarian Bowl in Boise.

Humanitarians?

Humanitarian Bowl may be Falcons' bowl destination

By Sean Shapiro
Assistant Sports Editor

It's all but certain BG will be playing a bowl game this season, but which bowl that is, is to be determined by the end of this weekend.

"I don't think there's any chance [we don't get a bowl]," said BG coach Dave Clawson. "With how many at-large teams there are and how many at-large, seven-win teams there are, I don't think we can get shutout."

The Mid-American Conference has three automatic bowl tie-ins, including the Little Caesars Bowl, the GMAC Bowl and the International Bowl. Due to the Atlantic Coast Conference not having enough bowl eligible teams, the EagleBank Bowl will also choose a MAC team this season.

With the automatic berths most likely going to Central Michigan and Ohio, Clawson feels BG's destination comes down to the International

Bowl, the EagleBank Bowl or the Humanitarian Bowl.

It seems the most likely destination for BG will be the Humanitarian Bowl, which is played in Boise, Idaho, against a Western Athletic Conference opponent, most likely the University of Idaho.

"We have no control of whether Boise invites us or not," Clawson said. "If that happens we are very, very excited about it. But no formal invitation has been extended yet."

According to Humanitarian

Bowl Executive Director Kevin McDonald, a BG-Idaho matchup is a "strong possibility," as stated in Monday's edition of the Idaho Statesman.

Alvarado Suspended

Redshirt sophomore defensive lineman Kevin Alvarado has been suspended from competition until the proceedings in an assault case come to a close.

See **NOTES** | Page 10

Falcons get their revenge, beat Savannah State

By Sean Shapiro
Assistant Sports Editor

Joe Jakubowski scored 10 of his 14 points in the second half as BG held off Savannah State to win 59-51.

With the win BG (3-3) continued a two game winning streak and improved to 3-1 at Anderson Arena this season.

Leading by one point with 2:29 remaining, Jakubowski made a running lay-up from the left side to give BG a 52-49 lead. Following a missed 3-pointer by Savannah State, Jakubowski drained a three to give BG a six-point lead one possession later.

Senior center Otis Polk had the assist on both baskets. "Before any of those shots, Otis



MORE BASKETBALL: Get more coverage of last night's men's basketball win against Savannah State on Page 10.

said he was going to look for me since he was getting doubled," Jakubowski said. "We got it down to Otis, he pounded inside, he found me and I just reacted."

Following Jakubowski's 3-pointer, BG held Savannah State

See **HOOPS** | Page 11



RYAN PIROG | THE BG NEWS

TEAM LEADER: Junior guard Joe Jakubowski drives to the hoop last night against Savannah State. Jakubowski led the team with 14 points.

BG hockey team back home to face Lake Superior State

By Paul Barney
Reporter

The BG hockey team is beginning to see their hard work pay off.

Since starting the season 0-7-1, the Falcons have split series with ranked conference opponents Alaska and Michigan, while giving No. 14 Notre Dame all they could handle last week in an overtime loss and shootout win. In their first eight games, BG totaled just two points in the conference standings. In their last nine games, however, the Falcons have accumulated eight points.

BG now finds themselves with 10 points and tied for ninth in the Central Collegiate Hockey Association with Lake Superior,

which is visiting the BGSU Ice Arena this weekend for a two-game series.

Today, the Falcons (2-10-2, 2-6-2-2 CCHA) will suit up for their 1,000th CCHA contest as they host the Lakers (6-7-3, 3-6-1 CCHA) beginning at 7:05 p.m. The two will be back in action tomorrow to conclude the series at 5:05 p.m.

BG has a 41-21-4 all-time home record against LSSU, splitting the series at home last season. This will be the first time in three weeks the Falcons have played an unranked opponent, and even though they have garnered points the past three

See **HOCKEY** | Page 10

BG women travel to No. 16 Vanderbilt

By Andrew Harner
Sports Editor

Coach Curt Miller and the women's basketball team, may have beat Vanderbilt the last time the two teams met, but two seasons can make quite the difference.

The Falcons held on to beat the Commodores 59-56 during their 2007 Sweet Sixteen run into the NCAA Tournament, but this year's team's starting lineup is not filled with seniors like in 2007.

Combine that with injuries and illness that is plaguing the team, and BG (4-2) will probably have a tough time at No. 16 Vanderbilt (7-0) tonight.

Senior center Tara Breske is out with a knee injury and sophomore Maribeth Giese and freshman Jessie Tamerlano have been diagnosed with mono and



ANDREA FEHL | THE BG NEWS

OUT: Without center Tara Breske, the Falcons' production in the paint is weakened.

are not expected to play.

Even with Breske out, the team tried to go inside more during their last game against St. Francis, which resulted in 26

See **VANDY** | Page 11

Clawson makes good on promise to program with help of players



ANDREW HARNER
SPORTS EDITOR

First-year football coach Dave Clawson made a bold statement the day he was hired by the University.

Without hesitation and with a confidence you could trust, Clawson said he would win with the Falcons; not next year or the year after, but this season.

"You don't want to promise more than you can deliver on, but certainly our expectations here – with the players we have in the program and the success that they've had here in recent years – is that this is not a program that needs to be gutted and started from scratch," Clawson said on Dec. 12. "We need players to buy in to what we're going to do, and our goal is win right away."

Yesterday, Clawson revealed that he made an even more powerful statement behind closed doors when he introduced himself to the team.

"Our guys really wanted to win," he said during yesterday's press conference. "The first time I met the team, I said to them, 'The only way this is going to work and we're going to have early success is I'm going to treat you guys as if I recruited you. I'm adopting you. You're my recruits, and you're my players. You have to treat me and our coaching staff like you came here to play for us.'"

"And I don't want to hear that this is what you were told or this is the way you did in the past because none of that stuff is going to help us. It's going to hurt us."

Now a year and seven wins later and on the heels of earning a bowl bid, Clawson has come full circle, showing the athletic department, students and outside fans that he is a man of his word and the type of coach anyone would want leading their program.

Never once has it been about him this season. And I feel confident being able to say it never will be about him. Maybe when he retires from the long, successful career he is bound to have, it will be about him for at least a moment.

But even then, I can see him saying something along these lines at his final press conference. "I've been privileged to meet so many outstanding young men in my years of coaching. The coaching awards and championships have been nice for me, but it's the lasting relationships that I've helped players build that are really the pinnacle of my career."

Asked what grade he would give himself for this season, he refused to give himself a mark, instead choosing to give credit to his assistant coaches.

And in typical Clawson fashion, he rained down praise on his players because he knows that without them, he is just a want-to-be coach holding an empty clipboard.

"I really appreciate our seniors," he said. "I've been involved in other transitions that your senior class, instead of jumping in and buying in, kind of fight you, 'That's not the way we do things and we're not used to that.' We had 20 seniors. Did all of them jump in all the way? No. But most of them did."

Even when the team was 1-4 and on a four-game losing streak, there was never a

See **COLUMN** | Page 10



Rain, winds, record heat hit Northeast during the same day

By David Sharp
The Associated Press

PORTLAND, Maine — A storm packing blustery winds and driving rain knocked out power to thousands of homes and businesses in the Northeast on Thursday before giving way to sunny skies and record high temperatures — all in the same morning.

Utility officials reported sporadic power outages from Maine to New Jersey after wind knocked down trees and power lines early Thursday. Winds reached up to 49 mph in Brunswick, Maine, while the Isle of Shoals off the coast of New Hampshire recorded a 61 mph gust. In New Jersey, wind speeds topped out at 45 mph.

But the rain and wind that battered the region early Thursday gave way to sunny skies and unseasonably high temperatures by mid-morning.

In Boston, the temperature hit 69 degrees, breaking the old record of 65 set in 1932. In Portland, the

temperature climbed to 68 degrees — crushing the old high of 55 for the date. Providence, R.I., had a record high of 66, and Concord, N.H., set a record at 65.

But for others, the balmy weather was just fine.

For many, the day started with lashing rain. Central Maine Power, the state's largest electric utility, reported 6,700 customers in the dark at the storm's peak. In New Jersey, more than 10,000 homes and businesses lost electricity. Other northeastern states, including New Hampshire, also suffered power outages.

Heavy waves pounded the shore, causing beach erosion up and down the Atlantic coast. Coastal flooding closed several roads in New Hampshire at high tide late Thursday morning.

Jim Brown from the National Weather Service says the cooldown will be nearly as swift as the arrival of the record warmth. Seasonably cooler weather is expected by the weekend in the Northeast.

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GIRLS LACROSSE COACHES Perrysburg HS needs experienced players to help coach 2010 season. Several paid openings. Contact: jacketlacrosse@gmail.com

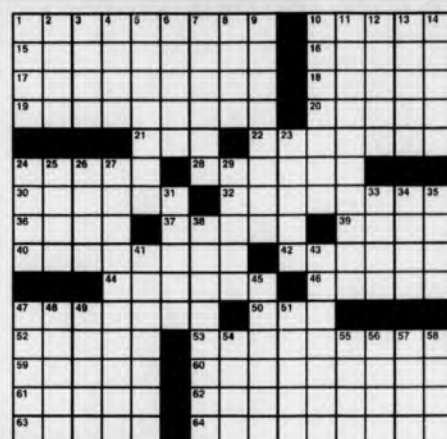
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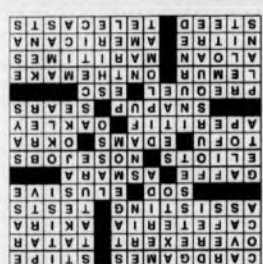


- 1 Caesar's partner Imogene
2 Actress Gardner et al.
3 Court call makers
4 Cologne crowd?
5 Prepares
6 Has an ___ grind
7 Yucatán's capital
8 "___ Brockovich"
9 Child actor's chauffeur?
10 Height
11 Tolerates teasing gracefully
12 Formal answer to "Who's there?"
13 End of a pentamerous serial
14 TiVo option
23 Will Rogers prop
24 "___ grip!"
25 Crooked
26 High wind
27 Unwavering
29 Messy situation
31 Hairlike parts, such as those that help geckos cling to walls
33 St. with counties named Comanche and Choctaw
34 Uncle Remus' ___ Fox
35 Speaks
38 One with immunity
41 Buried
43 One leading a spartan lifestyle
45 Marine bird
47 Blueprints
48 Ignited again
49 Cry on cue, say
51 U.S.: county :: U.K. :
54 Moniker
55 Flaky mineral
56 Latin 101 verb
57 Colleague of Lane and Olsen
58 Those, to Teresa

ACROSS

- 1 War and more
10 R.E.M. vocalist Michael
15 Strain
16 Turkic inhabitant of Russia
17 Place with trays
18 Director Kurosawa
19 Aide's job
20 Doctor's orders
21 Rolls on the lawn
22 Hard to nail down
24 Social blunder
28 Eritrea's capital
30 Ness et al.
32 Cosmetic surgeries
36 Vegan entrée
37 Imported cheeses
39 Cajun pod
40 Sherry, often
42 Buffalo Bill's Wild West Show costar
44 Grab before someone else does
46 It merged with Kmart in 2005
47 Film that's out of order?
50 PC panic button
52 Mammal of Madagascar
53 Seeking advancement at any cost
59 Take out ___ : borrow money
60 Eastern Canadian province grouping, with "the"
61 Saltpeter, to a Brit
62 Smithsonian collection
63 Spirited horse
64 Nielsen ratings subjects

ANSWERS



ODD NEWS BRIEFS

Bubble gum bandits walk, talk and steal

STERLING HEIGHTS, Mich. (AP) — Police said a pack of bubble gum bandits is walking into suburban Detroit gas stations and chewing through the candy aisle. Police said the latest heist happened Nov. 21, when two suspects chatted up the clerk of a Speedway gas station in Sterling Heights, while a third suspect filched \$318 worth of gum.

The Detroit Free Press said police in Warren and Madison Heights also reported similar thefts at gas stations.

No injuries have been reported in any of the incidents.

Man hides in Wal-Mart, takes cash

FAIRFIELD, Ala. (AP) — Fairfield police said a Mississippi man took holiday shopping to another level by hiding in a Wal-Mart and trying to leave with cash. Police said the man hid inside the Wal-Mart on Nov. 25 after it closed at 11 p.m. and took \$54,000 in cash and checks. A guard subdued the man when he tried to leave through locked doors. Police said money bags started falling from his clothes as he shook the doors.

Officers found money strapped to the man's chest, in his backpack and in his pants. They confiscated a key used to enter the cash room but haven't said if he had an accomplice.

Chief Pat Mardis said the man could have escaped if he'd waited 20 more minutes for employees to unlock the doors, but he got nervous.

The 35-year-old was in the Jefferson County Jail Wednesday on robbery and burglary charges with a \$60,000 bond.

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