



Offbeat and a bit out there, The Tone isn't your average advice columnist. **TEEN, C2**



Red Sox purge the curse, win first World Series title since 1918. **SPORTS, D1**

THE CHRONICLE

T E L E G R A M

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50¢

High School Football WEEK 10

Amherst and Avon Lake drenched in team colors

Rini Caudill
The Chronicle-Telegram

Talk about your school spirit. Students at both Avon Lake and Marion L. Steele high schools have been gearing up all week for the showdown Friday that will determine which school's football team takes home the Southwestern Conference championship.

Both teams are 9-0 and Avon Lake has the home field advantage as both shoot for an undefeated season.

Spirit week at both schools will end with the big shebang on Game Day, when students are invited, and very nearly demanded, to wear either the red and gold of the Avon Lake Shoremen or the green and gold of Steele's Comets.

"The football players will be wearing their jerseys, and the faculty and students will be wearing the colors," said Avon Lake Principal Tim Freeman. "I typically wear a shirt and tie, but I may set that aside and wear an Avon Lake pullover over that."

Over at Steele, spirit week is usually scheduled for the week preceding homecoming but was switched this year to coincide with the Avon Lake game.

See **SWC, A2**

GAME INFO

WHO: Amherst Comets (9-0, 6-0 SWC) vs. Avon Lake Shoremen (9-0, 6-0)

WHEN: Friday, 7:30 p.m.

WHERE: Avon Lake Memorial Stadium, Avon Lake High School
TICKETS: Available at 6 p.m. Friday at the stadium. Cost is \$5.

MORE COVERAGE

ON THE RUN: We profile super running backs Alex Knipp of Amherst and Bobby Doyle of Avon Lake. **SPORTS, D1**



Brookside, Avon take aim at LCC title

Nick Houser
The Chronicle-Telegram

The Hundred Yard War has already started in the hallways at Avon and Brookside high schools this week.

Students wearing purple and gold at Avon predict a sure victory on Friday. Those in red and white at Brookside proclaim their team will be the winner.

Even teachers and other staff are part of the football madness, which has been dubbed the "Battle of the Birds."

Sue Baker couldn't fold T-shirts fast enough in the Brookside High School athletic office on Wednesday to keep up with the demand for Friday's historic game against Avon.

This is the last time the rivals will go head to head. After Friday's battle, one team will walk away the final Lorain County Confer-

ence champion, while the other will just walk away.

Avon, along with Firelands and Midview, are leaving to join the West Shore Conference, while Brookside, along with remaining members of the Lorain County Conference, will join the Patriot Athletic Conference next year.

Baker, president of the athletic boosters, already sold 200 shirts that dub the highly anticipated game as the "Battle of the Birds" and placed an order for 250 more by Noon on Wednesday.

And Brookside students have created a buzz around the building that could signal an end to 41 straight years without a title.

"People would ask how much we were going to lose by in my first three years, but now everyone is talking about it in the

See **LCC, A2**



GAME INFO

WHO: Avon Eagles (7-2, 6-0 LCC) vs. Brookside Cardinals (8-1, 6-0)

WHEN: Friday, 7 p.m.

WHERE: Dick Sevits Field, Brookside High School

TICKETS: Available at each school during lunch hours and at the game.

STEVE MANHEIM / CHRONICLE

Prep for the chief

Area police stepping up, work security for Bush's visit

Nick Houser
The Chronicle-Telegram

WESTLAKE — Police officers from three local departments will be a part of the security team during President George W. Bush's campaign stop today.

Nearly 20,000 people are expected to see the president during his afternoon campaign stop and police officers from Avon, Avon Lake and North Ridgeville will be in the middle of it. The three departments will lend mutual aid to Westlake police at and around the campaign stop at the Westlake Recreation Center.

Avon Lake will send eight officers and Avon will send six to the rally. The North Ridgeville Police declined to comment on its contribution to the effort.

Each department hasn't been assigned specific tasks, Avon Lake police Sgt. Duane Streater said, but all the area departments received some training from the Secret Service this past summer.

"Since Ohio is one of the hot states in the election, they came in and

See **BUSH, A2**

TODAY

● President Bush rally at the Westlake Recreation Center, 28955 Hilliard Blvd.
● Tickets are available 8 to 10 a.m. at the Lorain County Republican Party headquarters, 4383 Elyria Ave., Lorain.
● Gates open at 9 a.m. and spectators must be at the center by 12:30 p.m. A shuttle service will run from the Crocker Park Parking Garage starting at 7 a.m.



Judge stops challenges

From Staff and Wire Reports

CINCINNATI — A federal judge on Wednesday temporarily stopped hearings on Republican challenges of thousands of voter registrations, ruling in favor of Democrats who alleged the challenges were an attempt to keep legitimate votes from being counted.

Lorain County was not among the six counties ordered to stop the scheduled hearings in a ruling issued by U.S. District Judge Susan Dlott.

The Republicans challenged as many as 35,000 registrations after mail came back undelivered, saying they could be fraudulent. About half the

See **JUDGE, A2**

INSIDE

VARIATIONS: Different reasons for challenging voter registrations. **A9**
IN THE MUD: Candidate up in arms over attack ads. **A9**

Tiny ancient human discovered east of Java

The Washington Post

Scientists have discovered a tiny species of ancient human that lived 18,000 years ago on an isolated island east of the Java Sea — a prehistoric hunter in a "lost world" of giant lizards and miniature elephants.

These "little people" stood about three feet tall and had heads the size of grapefruit. They co-existed with modern humans for thousands of years yet appear to be more closely akin to a long-extinct human ancestor.

Researchers suspect the earlier ancestor may have migrated to the island and evolved into a smaller dwarf species as it adapted to the island's limited resources. This phenomenon, known as the "island rule" is common in the animal world but had never been seen before in human evolution.

"Not even in primates," said paleoanthropologist Peter Brown, of Australia's University of New England, a member of the multi-

national team reporting on the find today in the journal Nature. "But even though we have evidence of intelligence (in the new species), they were clearly subject to isolation and dwarfing."

Colleagues marveled at the find as an evolutionary aberration — an archaic human that survived to a time in the fossil record when Neanderthals — which had been thought to be the last pre-modern species to share the planet with modern humans — had probably been extinct for more than 10,000 years.

"This is a great fossil find that speaks mounds about evolutionary experiments and the variation they caused," said paleoanthropologist Ken Mowbray, of the American Museum of Natural History. "We have to step back and re-evaluate everything we have. It's really cool."

The research team discovered the new species in a limestone cave on Flores Island, in the

See **HUMAN, A2**

We know we're heavier, but we're taller, as well

The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — Americans have gotten a little taller but a lot heavier in the past 40 years, federal researchers reported Wednesday.

A new analysis of data collected by ongoing long-term national surveys found the average adult was about an inch taller in 2002 than in 1960 and weighed nearly 25 pounds more.

The findings reinforce the well-documented increase in the number of Americans who are overweight by estimating for the first time the average number of pounds that have been gained.

"This is the first time we've put average weight and heights together in one place in this way," said Cynthia Ogden, an epidemiologist at the National Center for Health Statistics, which produced the report.

The average height of men ages 20 to 74 increased from just over 5-foot-8 inches in 1960 to 5-9½ in 2002, while the average height of women in that age range rose from just over 5-3 to about 5-4, the researchers found.

The average weight for men in that age group increased more dramatically than height — from 166.3 pounds to 191 pounds — while the average weight for women jumped, going from 140.2 pounds to 164.3 pounds, the researchers reported.

The biggest weight increase occurred in older men, with those ages 40 to 49 gaining nearly 27 pounds, those 50 to 59 gaining nearly 28 pounds, and those 60 to 74 gaining 33 pounds, on average. For women, the biggest average weight gain — 29 pounds — occurred

See **SIZE, A2**

THE NUMBERS

The average adult male
1940: 5-foot-8, 166 pounds
2002: 5-foot-9½, 191 pounds
The average adult female
1940: 5-foot-3, 140 pounds
2002: 5-foot-4, 164 pounds

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WEATHER

Partly sunny.
High of 60.



COMING

NOT JUST PLAYING

Donald Morrison is a performer, writer, producer, set designer, set builder, costume designer, costume maker and puppet maker with a one-man Halloween puppet show.