



## High school football

- Central tops Perrysburg
- Anthony Wayne rips Otsego
- Waite edges Clay

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WEED IT AND REAP



## Polish grandmother

### Hooked West Toledoan on gardening

PEACH PAGE D1

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FINAL

## LEE'S WATERS WASH OUT PENNSYLVANIA



BLOOMSBURG (PA.) PRESS ENTERPRISE/JIMMY MAY

Floodwaters from Fishing Creek obliterate the ramps from Route 42 entering and exiting Route 11 in Bloomsburg, Pa. Rivers and streams throughout Pennsylvania and nearby states have been swamped from the

remnants of Tropical Storm Lee, forcing authorities to declare states of emergency. In many cases, the rivers have become toxic as the waters have washed out sewer plants. SEE STORY, PHOTO PAGE 4.

## PRESIDENT'S ECONOMIC BLUEPRINT

# Ohio to get \$4B boost in jobs plan

## \$3.6B would go to Mich. under Obama proposal

By JIM PROVANCE

BLADE COLUMBUS BUREAU CHIEF

COLUMBUS — Ohio stands to benefit to the tune of nearly \$4 billion in infrastructure improvements to highways, bridges, airports, and schools as well as to keep local teachers, police, and firefighters on the job under the roughly \$450 billion jobs package President Obama put before Congress.

Michigan would receive more than \$3.6 billion, according to figures supplied by U.S. Senate Democrats.

"There are private companies all across America just waiting to get to work," Mr. Obama told Congress and the nation Thursday night.

"There's a bridge that needs repair between Ohio and Kentucky that's on one of the busiest trucking routes in North America, a public transit project in Houston that will help clear up one of the worst areas of traffic in the country, and there are schools throughout this country that desperately need renovating."

It remains to be seen whether the package of payroll tax cuts for individuals and busi-

nesses, infrastructure improvements, unemployment benefits, and government support can win support in a debt-weary Congress.

Mr. Obama plans to visit Columbus on Tuesday as part of a road tour to sell his jobs plan to America.

He plans to visit the Fort Hayes Art and Academic High School in Columbus to highlight the school infrastructure element of his plan.

"The President's \$862 billion stimulus plan did not work, and it is time for the administration to come to the table to hear what small businesses need so that they can help get the economy moving," said U.S. Rep. Bob Latta (R., Ohio).

He said business owners have told him that over-regulation, high taxation, the new health-care reforms, and energy costs are standing in the way of expansion.

It's also unclear, even if Congress should approve the plan, whether Republican governors who've been critical

See **OBAMA**, Page 6

# County Dems' party leader won't resign elections post

## Rothenbuhler rejects Husted office's call to step down

By TONY COOK  
BLADE STAFF WRITER

The chairman of the Lucas County Democratic Party is thumbing his nose at a request from the Ohio secretary of state that he resign from the county's board of elections.

Ron Rothenbuhler, chairman of the county Democratic Party and one of two Democrats on the four-person elections board, fired off a letter to Secretary of State Jon Husted yesterday saying he would not step down.

Mr. Rothenbuhler's letter was a response to a Sept. 7 letter from Assistant Secretary of State Scott Borgemenke

- Two local candidates back on ballot. Page B1.
- To see the letters involved visit: [toledoBlade.com](http://toledoBlade.com)

that requested Mr. Rothenbuhler's resignation.

Mr. Borgemenke wrote: "It is abundantly clear that more cultural change is needed to assure a return of voter confidence in Lucas County" and that a "fresh perspective" was needed.

The letter, which provided no specific reasons for the requested resignation, asked Mr. Rothenbuhler to step down by Sept. 20.



Husted Rothenbuhler

In his response, Mr. Rothenbuhler called the letter "unusual."

"As you undoubtedly know, a desire for 'cultural change' is not a basis to remove a board member," Mr. Rothenbuhler wrote.

Mr. Husted, a Republican, said through a spokesman

that he could hold a hearing to have Mr. Rothenbuhler removed. Under that scenario, the secretary would appoint a hearing officer who would listen to arguments from both parties and then make a recommendation. Mr. Husted could then choose whether to follow the recommendation.

Mr. Borgemenke said yesterday that Mr. Husted has not decided whether or not he'll hold the hearing for Mr. Rothenbuhler.

The board has undergone dramatic change in recent months with the appointment of two new Republicans to the panel, including Jon

See **RESIGN**, Page 3



RICHMOND (VA.) TIMES-DISPATCH

President Obama promotes his jobs plan during a speech in Richmond, Va. The roughly \$450 billion proposal includes tax cuts and spending on roads and schools.

## INSIDE

### Weather

Early fog gives way to late afternoon and evening showers.



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### Prayer vigil

A local interfaith prayer vigil urges peace and unity for the 10th anniversary of the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks.

Second News | Page B1

### Packo's bidders

The receiver in the Tony Packo's case is ordered to make public the names of those who entered bids to buy Toledo's iconic eatery.

Business | Page C8

### 'America Now'

A daily newsmagazine takes Oprah's spot in the lineup of WTOL-TV, Channel 11.

Peach Plus | Page D3

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Recycled and recyclable

### Loyalists attacked

Libyan rebels attack Gadhafi-loyal towns as Interpol seeks the arrest of the dictator.

World | Page 2



### Bible for the king

The Toledo Museum of Art displays its early first-edition King James Bible in honor of the translation's 400th year.

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### College game day

It's the Irish against the Wolverines and the Rockets against the Buckeyes.

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### Scenario

Rep. Marcy Kaptur is mentioned in a redistricting scenario for Cuyahoga County.

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New York City police beefed up patrols in Grand Central Station, left, and Penn Station and increased vehicle checkpoints. NEW YORK TIMES

# Tighter 9/11 security based on hunt for 3 in possible plot

## Al-Qaeda may target N.Y., D.C. bridges, tunnels

BLADE NEWS SERVICES

WASHINGTON — Undaunted by talk of a terror threat, New Yorkers and Washingtonians wove among police armed with assault rifles and waited with varying degrees of patience at security checkpoints yesterday while intelligence officials scrambled to nail down information on a possible al-Qaeda strike timed to coincide with the 10th anniversary of 9/11.

■ Ohio Statehouse holds ceremony honoring those killed in 9/11 attacks. Page 3.

Meanwhile, U.S. intelligence and law enforcement officials scrambled to identify and find three men who supposedly planned to travel to the United States from Afghanistan to detonate car bombs on bridges or in tunnels this weekend in New

York and Washington. Officials said they obtained specific but uncorroborated intelligence this week that two or three individuals with close ties to al-Qaeda leaders in Pakistan had entered the United States in a plot to disrupt events planned to commemorate the 10th anniversary of the Sept. 11 attacks.

The warning came from a

See **THREAT**, Page 3

## U.S. POWER GRID

# Massive blackout caused by 1 employee

BLADE NEWS SERVICES

SAN DIEGO — A blackout that swept across parts of the Southwest and Mexico apparently began with a single utility worker and a minor repair job.

How it then rippled from that worker in the Arizona desert, to southern California and across the border, plunging millions of people into darkness, has authorities and experts puzzled, especially because the power grid is built to withstand such mishaps.

However it spread, Thursday's outage was a reminder that the nation's transmission lines remain all too vulnerable to cascading power failures.

"There are a lot of critical pieces of equipment on the system and we have less defense than we think," said Rich Sedano at the Regulatory Assistance Project, a utility industry think tank based in Montpelier, Vt.

Six million people lost power. See **BLACKOUT**, Page 5