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OPEN AND SHUT?
 Tiger stumbles, still leads
SPORTS, E1



SIMPLY SMASHING
 Cricket catches on in central Ohio
LIFE, H1

The Columbus Dispatch

SUNDAY, JULY 17, 2005

Noe probe could cost state millions

By Alan Johnson
 THE COLUMBUS DISPATCH

It's costing Ohio taxpayers and companies at least \$50,000 a day for dozens of consultants, investigators and auditors to investigate Maumee coin dealer Thomas W. Noe and the Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation. Some are making hundreds of dollars an hour, and the state is picking up the tab for

Investigators think the price of Noe-related investigations could exceed the total loss from his investments in coins, collectibles and other things.

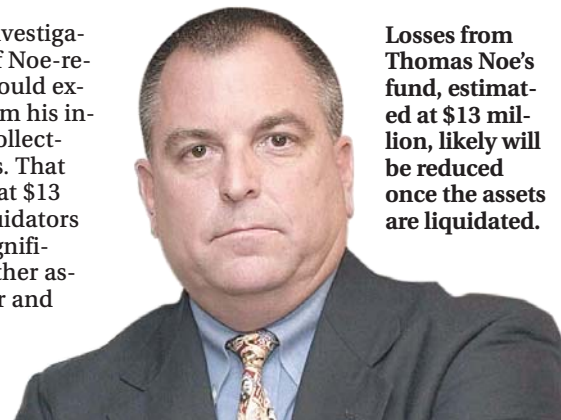
their lodging, meals and other expenses, as well. The total cost, conservatively estimated, is expected to top \$6.1 million. That doesn't include the cost of 30 to 35 county, state and federal investigators, ranging

from the FBI and State Highway Patrol to county prosecutors and the Ohio Ethics Commission. Those agencies consider the cost part of their duties. It does, however, include

\$750,000 the Ohio General Assembly recently approved for Inspector General Thomas P. Charles, to help him tackle the largest investigation in his 10 years as state watchdog. Likewise, the Ethics Commission is racking up expenses and is expected to need more money. The commission is investigating financial-disclosure statements filed by Gov. Bob Taft and former chief of staff Brian K. Hicks.

In the end, some investigators think the price of Noe-related investigations could exceed the total loss from his investments in coins, collectibles and other things. That amount is estimated at \$13 million, although liquidators expect to reduce it significantly as coins and other assets are accounted for and sold in the coming

See **NOE** Page **A4**



Losses from Thomas Noe's fund, estimated at \$13 million, likely will be reduced once the assets are liquidated.

LOCAL ARCHITECTURE

It takes money, love to preserve city's gems

By Bill Mayr
 THE COLUMBUS DISPATCH

Most of the Columbus area's architectural landmarks are holding up nicely, thanks to tax dollars and other revenue.

The Statehouse, Ohio Judicial Center, Ohio Stadium and Wexner Center for the Arts — all recently renovated at a combined cost of nearly \$450 million — are in near-mint condition.

The four icons are among 20 buildings identified in a *Dispatch* survey as the region's most architecturally significant. More than 20 architects, academics and other specialists participated in the survey, which identified the 10 most important buildings in metropolitan Columbus and 10 runners-up.

Although most of the buildings are in good shape, some — the LeVeque Tower, Wyandotte Building and the old Toledo & Central Ohio Railroad station, for example — have suffered to varying degrees from a lack of tenants, rising maintenance costs and growing obsolescence.

See **GEMS** Page **A4**

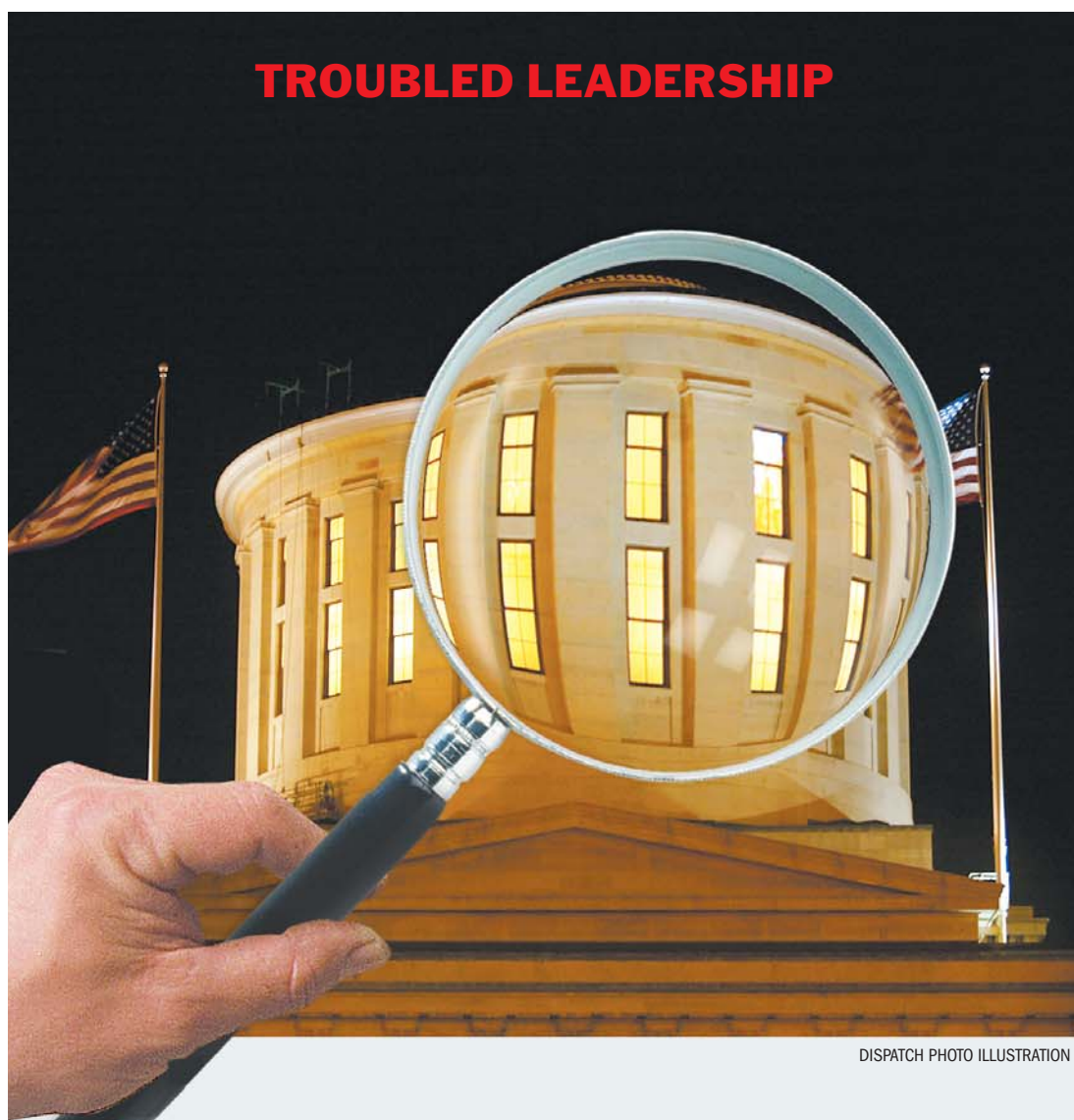


Construction workers install a new roof on the building owned by the law firm of Bricker & Eckler, which has spent a lot of money to maintain it.

Capital jewels

- ▶ Bricker & Eckler
- ▶ COSI Columbus
- ▶ Knowlton Hall (OSU)
- ▶ LeVeque Tower
- ▶ Ohio Judicial Center
- ▶ Ohio Theatre
- ▶ Orton Hall (OSU)
- ▶ Statehouse
- ▶ Wexner Center (OSU)
- ▶ Wyandotte Building

Tour Columbus' finest buildings | The Arts, D1



DISPATCH PHOTO ILLUSTRATION

Sad state OF affairs

As scandals plague Ohio's politicians, investigators swarm Capitol Square

By Joe Hallett
 THE COLUMBUS DISPATCH

The activity in a suite of secure rooms in the Rhodes Office Building belies the cliched story line of television cop dramas.

Instead of FBI agents and local authorities sneering at each other over turf, investigators from eight federal, state and county agencies work side-by-side, sharing information on what possibly is the biggest government corruption investigation in state history.

Ohio Inspector General Thomas P. Charles arranged for the use of two large rooms next to his headquarters for investigators from his office, the State Highway Patrol, Ohio Ethics Commission, U.S. attorney's office, Lucas and Franklin County prosecutors, the FBI and the Bureau of Workers' Compensation fraud unit.

"It's more efficient," Charles

Piling up

Ohio is getting a reputation outside the state as corrupt. At least 20 cases involving government officials — some concluded, others still going — have contributed to that perception. See **Page A8** for details.

said. "We're working together, we're all getting along, and we're sharing information. It's a team effort."

Scandals involving scoundrels angling for a piece of state government largesse — Ohio now spends about \$26 billion a year — have been all too common in the past 25 years. But veteran observers have trouble recollecting a time when so many investigations were occurring at once.

"There's more of them going on now than I can ever recall in

See **STATE** Page **A8**

Suicide blast kills at least 60 in market

Bomber touched off fuel tanker in small town south of Baghdad

By Alissa J. Rubin
 LOS ANGELES TIMES

BAGHDAD, Iraq — A man with a bomb strapped to his waist walked up to a fuel tanker and blew himself up yesterday, setting off a roaring inferno in the crowded and cramped streets of an impoverished town south of Baghdad that killed at least 60 people.

The explosion ripped through the marketplace in the heart of the predominantly Shiite town of Mussayib when it was packed with families buying ice cream and shoppers who had come out as the worst of the day's heat ebbed. Many had gathered at the nearby Shiite mosque around the time of the evening prayer, police sources in Mussayib and Baghdad said.

The warren of streets was so congested, it was difficult for people to escape as fire raced through the surrounding buildings.

Local police told Baghdad officials of a hellish scene in which the flimsy houses behind the mosque almost immediately went up in flames and charred body parts lay scattered around the market and in surrounding streets.

"There was no electricity in the town, so people were coming out to get some air, eating ice cream to cool off," said a police source in Baghdad who asked not to be named because of security concerns.

See **IRAQ** Page **A7**

ALLEGED MALL-BOMBING PLOT

Somali man wasn't suspect until he talked, prosecutors say

By Kevin Mayhood
 THE COLUMBUS DISPATCH

A Somali man would be deported by now, instead of facing charges linking him to terrorists, if it wasn't for all he told federal prosecutors, they said in court filings.

Authorities on Nov. 28, 2003, arrested Nuradin Abdi only on suspicion of immigration violations. They said they later filed the criminal charges because of admissions he made about a plot to attack a shopping mall.

Abdi's attorney, Mahir T. Sherif, says the government is grossly overstating what Abdi said and did.

Both sides refused to comment but their positions are laid out in motions filed in U.S. District Court in Columbus.

Abdi, 33, is scheduled for trial in September on charges of conspiracy to assist al-Qaida, conspir-

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SO TO SPEAK

Family life gives him right stuff for high court

After careful reflection, I've decided I will accept President Bush's nomination to serve on the U.S. Supreme Court.

If he calls, I'm sure he will because I have broad experience in settling domestic disputes.

I know what my nomination will mean: tough confirmation hearings in which my lack of legal training will be raised again and again by partisan opponents. To

them, I say: Does the education I gained from watching countless hours of *Law & Order* count for nothing?

I think my judicial record speaks for itself. Allow me to briefly review my most important legal opinions:

Blundo vs. Blundo

In the landmark 1996 case, I ruled that my children would have separate-but-equal accommodations in the back seat of a Toyota for the duration of a 12-hour drive to Myrtle Beach, S.C.

The case turned on what remedies could be applied when the petitioner thought that equality had been compromised.

To quote from my opinion: "An accidental and inconsequential intrusion by Child A onto Child B's 'side' of the back seat does not constitute a material breach of the agreement between the two parties. But Child A is hereby notified that throwing Cheetos at Child B constitutes neither accidental nor inconsequential intrusion. I'm not going to say this again.

"Moreover, Child B's threat to respond to Child A's aggression by making herself carsick and throwing up on him is expressly prohibited. Do you hear me, young lady?"

"Both parties are instructed to

See **BLUNDO** Page H4

GENERATION X

'Slackers' finding way, reaching middle age

By Katherine Yung

THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS

The "slackers" are growing up.

Pigeonholed as a bunch of overeducated, underemployed cynics, Generation X this year reaches a milestone: The oldest members are turning the big 4-0.

To many of them, the slacker stereotype popularized by Winona Ryder and Ethan Hawke in the 1994 film *Reality Bites* no longer applies — if it ever did.

The oldest Xers, as they embark on middle age, are coming into their own for the first time, according to generational experts.

They're having weddings, starting families and embracing traditional values that set them apart from the "Me Generation" of baby boomers.

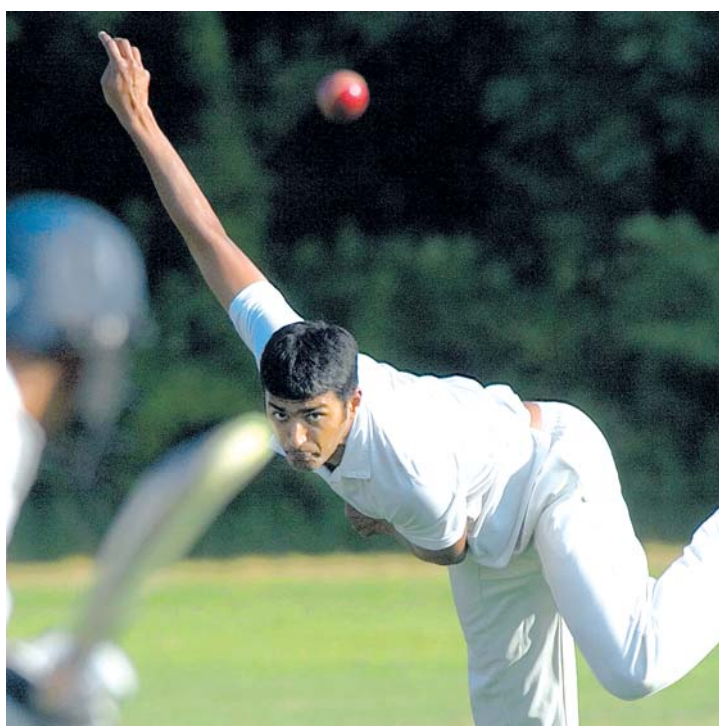
"At 40, you are beginning to see a blossoming of a generation," says Ann Fishman, president of Generational-Targeted Marketing Corp. in New Orleans. "Many of them are just beginning to find their place."

"They've come very much into the mainstream," says Peter Francese, a demographic analyst at the New York advertising agency Ogilvy & Mather. "Like most young people, they had some trouble finding their way."

The United States boasts roughly 58 million Xers, born from 1965 to 1981.

The "X" moniker entered the public lexicon courtesy of *Generation X: Tales for an Accelerated Culture*, a 1991 book by Douglas Coupland that concerns three

See **GENERATION X** Page H4



JAMES D. DeCAMP | DISPATCH

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: During a recent practice of the Columbus Cricket Club, Amit Atrey takes aim at a batsman; Sean Rodrigues secures a batting helmet; Vineel Katipally releases a ball; and Murthy Ayyagari, with Vinod Kosike watching, makes contact.

Cricket starts to click

Enthusiasts in central Ohio take a swing at pastime more popular elsewhere

By Meredith Heagney
 THE COLUMBUS DISPATCH

Rounding up a cricket team at Ohio State University in 1988, students had to scrounge for players and travel as far as North Carolina for opponents.

The team remained the only cricket game in town for eight years.

Since then, the sport has hit central Ohio like a bowl to the wicket.

Today, bolstered by a wave of immigrants from cricket-playing nations, the area boasts 10 cricket clubs.

And, next month, it will host a regional tournament.

"When these people come from other countries, they lose the opportunity to play the sport," said Abhijeet Deshpande, a

member of the Columbus Cricket Club who immigrated from India five years ago. "I consider myself fortunate to be in Columbus and have a chance to play cricket."

For athletes who like their sports fast and loose, the game might seem uninviting: "Batters" sometimes hold the plate for hours at a time, with matches often lasting days. Final scores reach the hundreds.

Yet what is foreign in America is a way of life elsewhere.

"I've been playing cricket right from my childhood," said Columbus Cricket Club captain Bharat Jataprolu, who left India for the United States in 1994.

"I come from a subcontinent that's cricket-crazy, where it's a religion. A cricket bat is

See **CRICKET** Page H4

How the game goes

Cricket is played with two teams of 11 players each. The teams, as in baseball, take turns at bat and in the field. In cricket, the "batter" is called a batsman; and the "pitcher," a bowler. Two batsmen meet one bowler.

Runs

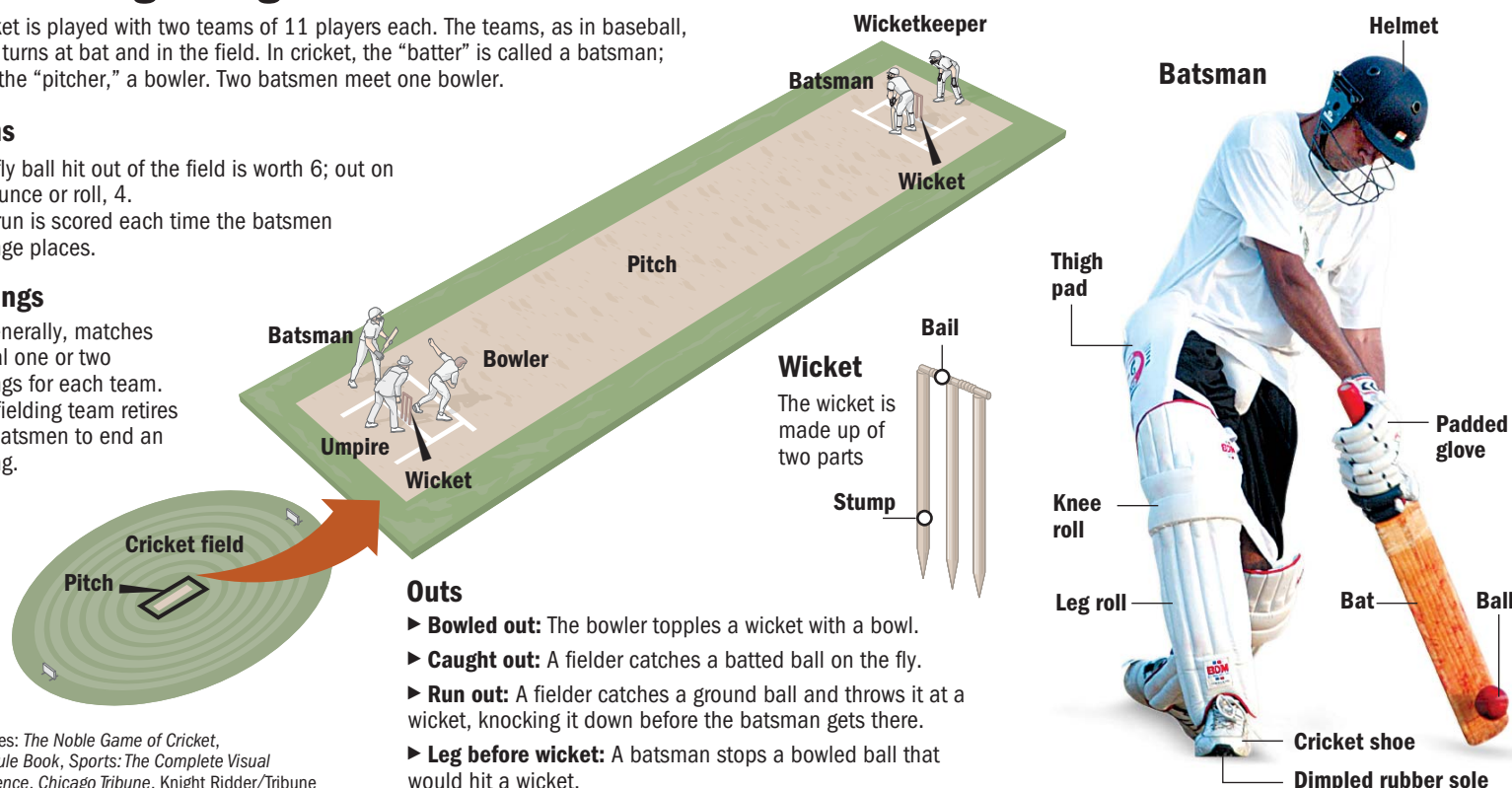
- ▶ A fly ball hit out of the field is worth 6; out on a bounce or roll, 4.
- ▶ A run is scored each time the batsmen change places.

Innings

- ▶ Generally, matches equal one or two innings for each team. The fielding team retires 10 batsmen to end an inning.

Outs

- ▶ **Bowled out:** The bowler topples a wicket with a bowl.
- ▶ **Caught out:** A fielder catches a batted ball on the fly.
- ▶ **Run out:** A fielder catches a ground ball and throws it at a wicket, knocking it down before the batsman gets there.
- ▶ **Leg before wicket:** A batsman stops a bowled ball that would hit a wicket.



Sources: *The Noble Game of Cricket, The Rule Book, Sports: The Complete Visual Reference, Chicago Tribune, Knight Ridder/Tribune*

HEALTH

Good habits easier to swallow in small doses, experts say

By Julie Deardorff
CHICAGO TRIBUNE

CHICAGO — Perhaps you've noticed them: the neighbor who uses walking lunges to get to the mailbox; the co-worker who sits on an exercise ball instead of a chair; or the family member who sprinkles ground flaxseed on salads, cereal and ice cream.

They all are part of a burgeoning "stealth health" movement, a simple new wellness trend de-

signed to sneak healthful behavior into the lives of time-pressed Americans.

Stealth health involves taking small steps to incorporate permanent lifestyle change: blending tofu into cheesecake, pressing your forehead into your palms while sitting as an isometric neck stretcher and strengthener, deciphering labels and avoiding foods that contain trans-fatty acids or high-fructose corn syrup.

"We've long talked about the value of ounces of prevention, but with patients, that doesn't sound so light and easy. It sounds like a lot of work," said Dr. David Katz, a preventive-medicine specialist and director of the Prevention Research Center at Yale University. "We thought, 'What if we carved (good health habits) into tiny pieces and let people slip them into their lives one bit at a time?'"

That germ of an idea sprouted

into a comprehensive 415-page preventive-medicine bible by Katz and health writer Debra Gordon. The guide, called *Stealth Health: How To Sneak Age-Defying, Disease-Fighting Habits Into Your Life Without Really Trying* (Reader's Digest, \$14.95), contains more than 2,400 easy lifestyle tweaks.

The idea behind stealth health is to pick three new strategies and try them for four consecutive days. Once a new

behavior has become a regular part of the day, even if it's something as small as drinking a glass of water first thing in the morning, add another.

Registered dietitian Evelyn Tribole first popularized the concept in her 1998 book *Stealth Health: How To Sneak Nutrition Painlessly Into Your Diet* (Viking).

Tribole not only gives tips on how to slip more fiber, beans, soy, calcium, fruits and vegeta-

bles into a diet but also includes more than 100 recipes that address what she calls the major stumbling blocks to good nutrition: flavor, convenience and prejudice.

"People want to eat healthy, but there's a . . . bias that healthy food tastes bad," she said. "Yet if I make a delicious chocolate marble cheesecake (with tofu) and have a person taste it (without mentioning the ingredients), I get raves."

CRICKET

FROM PAGE H1

the best gift a kid in India can get."

Cricket remains largely an immigrant passion in central Ohio, with more than 95 percent of the players from overseas, said Deshpande — whose teammates hail from India, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and the West Indies.

Many of the immigrants began arriving in the late 1990s, drawn by growth in the technology industry.

The number of Franklin County residents from India alone rose from 3,395 in 1990 to 8,582 in 2000, according to the U.S. Census Bureau.

Some players hope for the crossover success that soccer has enjoyed.

"People perceive this as too complicated," said Ravi Mangipudi of the Columbus Cricket Club. "But golf is very complex, too, and people play that with great passion. Those who are willing to think would actually love this game."

About 10,000 folks in the United States play cricket each weekend, according to the Associated Press. They are concentrated in California and Florida, and around East Coast cities.

Cricket, as its players point out, is a forerunner of baseball.

The ball is thrown by the bowler to the batsman. Included, too: fielders and an umpire.

In a country where even the national pastime is widely considered too slow, however, cricket faces an obstacle: A game doesn't end until all 11 players on each side are out — or until each team has "bowled," or pitched, 210 balls.

One element that Americans



JAMES D. DeCAMP | DISPATCH

Members of the Columbus Cricket Club practice at Hanna Park in Gahanna.

might find appealing: Strikeouts don't exist.

Clubs in the Columbus area play the quickest possible game, which lasts about six hours.

(One version of international cricket lasts five days.) Still, it requires endurance — which ar-

dent players love.

"This is not your mocha latte that you can get at Starbucks," Mangipudi said. "This is your coffee you need to brew."

Not to mention the fact that players field rock-hard balls with their bare hands.

"I tease my (American) friends that in baseball you get sissy gloves," Deshpande said.

If more people shared their enthusiasm, cricketers think, the four central Ohio fields could be improved or expanded.

The OSU and Rhodes Park

grounds are considered the best in the area.

"These towns and cities have money for 30 soccer fields," Mangipudi said. "We definitely deserve a little more attention and a little more respect when we ask for support."

Even a subpar field, though, doesn't deter the faithful.

"To be able to come together and play like this, this is huge for us," he said. "We get to be kids again for a couple of hours, twice a week."

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TREASURE

Many seek loot of legend

By Michael Hill
ASSOCIATED PRESS

PHOENICIA, N.Y. — Dutch Schultz's long-lost millions might be buried in patch of pines, if Hayden Henningsen is reading the sketchy treasure map correctly. Searchers perk up when a metal detector skimming the forest floor starts sounding.

Could it be?

Maybe these four guys out on a bachelor-party weekend jaunt will succeed where generations of searchers have failed. Maybe they will uncover the gangster booty buried in the Catskill Mountains during the Depression. Maybe they will strike it rich.

Like many before them, the group came to the Catskills looking for its most elusive, or illusory, attraction. Millions in loot was supposedly hidden near Esopus Creek by Schultz before he was mowed down in a New Jersey tavern in 1935.

Details are worse than foggy; they're contradictory — a confusing set of stories about fedora-wearing gangsters digging by moonlight in different places. But no matter. The thought of treasure underfoot has been enough to leave local woods pockmarked with holes for decades.

Schultz lingered in a state of fevered delirium after he and his henchmen were shot the night of Oct. 23. As police questioned him, he spewed out a soliloquy resembling surreal haiku.

"Oh, oh; dog biscuit, and when he is happy he doesn't get snappy," he said. And later: "We don't owe a nickel; fold it! Instead, fold it against him. I am a pretty good pretzeler."

Schultz died the next day.

The treasure stories came sometime after.



MIKE HILL | ASSOCIATED PRESS

In search of long-lost millions, from left: Matthew Polis; Hayden Henningsen, kneeling; and Jared Polis



Dutch Schultz

had henchman Lulu Rosenkrantz bury it during a trip to Phoenicia, marking a nearby tree with an "X." Schultz and Rosenkrantz were rubbed out before they could make a withdrawal.

Details of the story vary. The stash was cash. It was gold and jewels. It was Liberty bonds. It was buried by a sycamore. It was buried between two pine trees, which — considering that the Catskills are a state forest preserve — would be like burying something in a desert next to a sand dune.

"I hate to say it, but I felt if anybody could find it, I could," said Gary Bennett, a Holyoke, Mass., resident who was inspired to search four years ago

after seeing the story on *Unsolved Mysteries*.

Bennett made a half dozen treasure-hunting trips to the Catskills, sometimes with his wife and two boys. He also read up on the story, looking for clues.

Like a lot of persistent tales, it can seem plausible.

Still, there is no definitive proof that Schultz buried anything anywhere.

But the story seems too good to die.

"Dutch Schultz! Where are youuuu?," Jared Polis hollered, heading deeper into the woods.

Taking all theories into account leaves a search area more than four times the size of Central Park in Manhattan. Searchers have tried everything from backhoes to psychics to even the odds. But even if the treasure existed, it might be gone by now.

Polis and his pals hedged their bets by trying a few sites, but in the end they had no better luck than other diggers.

GENERATION X

FROM PAGE H1

20-somethings in search of meaning.

The most educated generation in U.S. history has long lived under the shadow of the older and more dominant boomers, who number about 76 million. Experts say that Xers have waited longer than previous generations to get married, have children and find satisfying careers.

In the process, they have formed an identity far different from that of their predecessors.

Many are shunning the "Success at all costs" mantra of the boomers, refusing to climb the corporate ladder intent on acquiring the trappings of wealth: a big house, fancy cars and designer clothes.

Instead, they're placing a high priority on spending time with family and friends.

"Now is the time to make sure you don't miss the things that are in front of you," says Melanie Messner, a financial trader and mother of three who turned 40 in early June. She's spending more time with her young children after realizing that her dream of making enough money to retire early isn't as important to her anymore.

BLUNDO

FROM PAGE H1

maintain silence until we hit the South Carolina border. Failure to do so will result in one or both being encased in bubble wrap and duct tape for the next 100 miles."

Blundo vs. Blundo

In the 1998 case, Child A petitioned the court for relief from the obligation to remove seven months' worth of dirty laundry, 11 partially eaten bags of potato chips and four dozen empty beverage cans from "his" bedroom.

My opinion put the constitutional right to privacy in the proper perspective:

"Just as a citizen's freedom of speech does not permit him to

The divides

A snapshot of how some experts define the generations:

- ▶ **G.I.** (1901-24): 63 million people
- ▶ **Silent** (1925-45): 50 million
- ▶ **Baby boom** (1946-64): 80 million
- ▶ **Generation X** (1965-81): 58.5 million
- ▶ **Millennial** (1982-present): 80 million-plus

Source: the Generational Imperative

"It's a generation much less willing to give their life to their job and career," says James Chung, president of Reach Advisors, a market research and consulting firm in Belmont, Mass. that studies Xers. "It's a generation looking to retain a piece of their soul."

Highly independent, the so-called MTV generation was the first to grow up with personal computers.

This generation had reason to be cynical, experts say. Many were latchkey kids and the children of divorce. They grew up hearing about Watergate, the dangers of unsafe sex and corporate downsizing. And rapid technological changes and global competition means many of

yell 'Fire!' in a crowded theater, Child A's right to privacy does not grant him authority to maintain a compost pile in his room. Now get this mess cleaned up before I call the Environmental Protection Agency."

Blundo vs. Blundo

The dispute from 2004 involved four parties with different tastes in pizza. To summarize: Party A likes anchovies, while Parties B, C and D consider the mere sight of them cruel and unusual punishment. Moreover, they disagree among themselves on the best pizza.

The case posed a severe test of my judicial temperament because I was involved in the dispute on the pro-anchovy side.

My ruling set a new dietary precedent:

the high-paying jobs that enabled their parents to advance economically have either disappeared or moved offshore.

"The Xers are the first generation that will not live as well as their parents do," Fishman says. "They would be almost idiots if they weren't cynical."

Many of the oldest Xers, such as Rusty Holmes, are finding contentment either in unconventional job arrangements or by becoming their own boss.

For the last four years, Holmes, who will turn 40 in February, has worked as a contract employee for Benefit Corp., selling medical, dental and other types of insurance to small and medium-sized businesses. He works on commission, doesn't report to a boss and sets his own work hours.

David Farris of Dallas, who will turn 40 in August, also sought more job flexibility. In February, he left his job at LSG Sky Chefs to launch his own catering consulting firm for the hospitality industry.

Although he's working harder, he can go to the gym in the middle of the morning if he wants.

"I wanted to do more than I was able to do at a traditional job, and I wanted a better quality of life," Farris says. "The only plan for myself is at all costs to be happy."

"Party A's eminently reasonable suggestion that the pizza be ordered with anchovies on one-fourth of it has been rejected by Parties B, C and D on grounds that the proximity to anchovies is as bad as the eating of them.

"Party A finds this line of reasoning to be without merit. He could make the same claim against pepperoni, which oozes grease like a ruptured super-tanker. But in the interests of preserving domestic tranquility, he agrees to waive his rights to anchovies.

"Nothing in this ruling shall be construed as permission to order a pizza with pineapple. Now, for heaven's sake, let's eat."

Joe Blundo is a Dispatch columnist.

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