



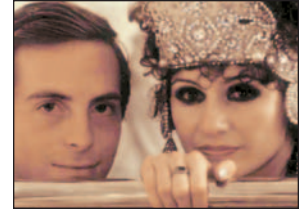
**WALSH JESUIT 77  
KEYSTONE 73**

No. 1-ranked Wildcats fall in overtime. **Sports, C1**

**OLMSTED FALLS 80  
ELYRIA 70**

**WORLD OF FILM**

Cleveland film fest will be a mix of movie magic. **Encore**



# THE CHRONICLE

T E L E G R A M

36 pages

FRIDAY, March 12, 2004

50¢

**NORTH RIDGEVILLE**

## Teen bomb makers injured in explosion

**Brad Dicken**  
The Chronicle-Telegram

**NORTH RIDGEVILLE** — Two 16-year-old boys were injured Thursday when a homemade pipe bomb one of them was holding exploded. One of the boys' left hand was shredded in the explosion, and the other boy had cuts on his hand and a puncture wound in his abdomen, police said.

One boy was flown by helicopter to MetroHealth Medical Center in Cleveland. The other boy was taken by ambulance to Fairview Hospital. Their conditions were not available Thursday night. The Lorain County Bomb Squad was called in to dispose of three other pipe bombs found in a bucket in the backyard of 6362 Stoney Ridge Road.

Bomb Squad Commander Karl Yost said the bombs were made of 3/4-inch pipes about four inches long and capped at each end. They were filled with a gunpowder-like explosive that is easily obtainable at hobby shops, Yost said. The boys were attempting to detonate the bomb using a remote device connected to the bomb with

several yards of wire. Yost said the remote device was similar to what is used to launch model rockets, but added that tests would need to be run to determine just how the devices worked. North Ridgeville Patrolman Jim Larkin said two other boys, ages 16 and 18, were also at the house, which belongs to Randy Holland, when the explosion

happened at 3:40 p.m. No parents were home at the time. The other two boys weren't injured in the explosion. Larkin said they told him the injured boys had walked over to check on the pipe bomb when it failed to explode. Neighbors said the incident explained explosions they've heard occasionally since last summer.

"It's sad that we didn't say anything before this happened," said Carol McMahan, who lives two doors down from the Holland's large home, which is set far back from the road. She said they were never absolutely certain where the loud noises were coming from because of all of the construction in the area, but she said

See **BOMBS**, A2

## Bloody day in Spain

Al-Qaida claims responsibility for blasts that kill 192 in Madrid



A sign reading "For the children, victims of this unjust attack sits among candles at a vigil outside Madrid's Santa Eugenia train station on Thursday." AP PHOTOS



Rescue workers remove victims at the Atocha train station in Madrid after one of several explosions in the city.

## Backpack bombs explode in rush-hour attack

**The Associated Press**

**MADRID, Spain** — A series of bombs hidden in backpacks exploded in quick succession Thursday, blowing apart four commuter trains and killing at least 192 people and wounding more than 1,400. Spain at first blamed Basque separatists but a shadowy group claimed responsibility in the name of al-Qaida for the worst terrorist attack in Spanish history. Panicked rush-hour commuters trampled on each other, abandoning their bags and

shoes, after two of the bombs went off in one train in the Atocha station in the heart of Madrid. Train cars were turned into twisted wrecks and platforms were strewn with corpses. Cell phones rang unanswered on the bodies of the dead as frantic relatives tried to call them. "March 11, 2004, now holds its place in the history of infamy," Prime Minister Jose Maria Aznar said. The bombing came three



Thousands of people demonstrate in a street in Vitoria, the capital of the autonomous Basque region, to protest the attacks.

See **SPAIN**, A2

**LORAIN**

## Police have suspect in baby's death

**The Chronicle-Telegram**

Police have a suspect in the death of 5-month-old Riley Harris Smath, and evidence against the person is expected to be presented to a county grand jury soon. Acting county Prosecutor Gerald Innes declined to identify the suspect. "Our criminal people are going to take a look at it and analyze it and then decide whether there's anything to present to the grand jury," he said. Riley died at The Hospital for Orthopaedic & Specialty Services, also known as Amherst Hospital, as a result of brain injuries caused by blows to the head, Coroner Paul Matus said Wednesday. Matus said the injuries were inflicted the day the boy died, but he refused to provide details of the incident or say where it occurred. The infant's mother, Eileen Callahan-Smath, of Duxbury Place in Amherst, said Thursday that "it was too soon" to talk about Riley's death.

See **BABY**, A2

## Anti-animal fence wanted for airport

**Cindy Leise**  
The Chronicle-Telegram

**NEW RUSSIA TWP.** — Deer and coyote roam the Lorain County Regional Airport, and officials want to keep them out by installing a 10-foot-high fence that would cost more than \$1 million. Federal money could pay for the cost of the fence, but the airport first must authorize a \$23,624 Wildlife Hazard Assessment study, said Mike Barth, the airport's executive director. A fence now protects about a third of the perimeter of the airport's 1,100 acres, but it is

See **AIRPORT**, A2



An airplane takes off at the Lorain County Regional Airport on Thursday. STEVE MANHEIM / CHRONICLE

## ISG to restart steel mill

**The Associated Press**

**CLEVELAND** — International Steel Group Inc. said Thursday it will restart steel production at a part of its Cleveland Works that has been idle for nearly three years. The company also revised its fourth quarter and 2003 earnings reported last month to reflect accounting for a one-time, non-cash dividend. The new production will help ISG meet what is expected to be greater steel demand this year. The company will hire about 140 laid-off employees, bringing the site up to 1,440 workers. Past employees are being contacted to determine who wants to come back. A steel caster and furnace were closed in June 2001 by former



International Steel Group's Cleveland Works will restart and produce steel by May. AP FILE

See **ISG**, A2

### INSIDE

#### Spy charges

Ex-congressional aide charged with spying for Iraq. **World & Nation, B2**

#### League of our own

Cleveland hopes to restore old League Park to its former glory. **World & Nation, D7**

#### WEATHER

Windy and cloudy. High of 31. For complete AccuWeather forecast, see Page A10.



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**GRAFTON**

## Children sickened after school trip

**Dave Perozek**  
The Chronicle-Telegram

**GRAFTON** — More than two dozen fifth-graders at Brush Elementary became sick after a class trip to Mohican State Park earlier this week, county Health Commissioner Ken Pearce said. At least one student went to the hospital for treatment. "Apparently we've got a common outbreak of some sort," Pearce said. "It appears to be causing gastroenteritis, vomiting and diarrhea." Pearce said Thursday he

was not certain about the cause of the outbreak, but said the department is investigating. He said he is presuming the illness originated from something the kids ate. The Lorain County Health Department learned about the outbreak Thursday morning. Communicable disease nurse Janine Trotter said she knew of 30 students who were affected. "I only know of one that went to the hospital, but I didn't talk to everybody," Trotter said. "I talked to

See **SICK**, A2