



## Back-tracking

An in-depth review  
of Sole's, Heath's feats  
**Your Sports/1B**



## The man

For now, LeBron  
sits atop NBA  
**Your Sports/1B**



## Table tech

Microsoft talks  
table computing  
**Your e-Life/7A**

TUESDAY  
JUNE 5, 2007

# The Advocate



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## Newark man gets 12 years for molestation

By KIMBERLY DICK  
Advocate Reporter

NEWARK — Judge Jon Spahr sentenced a Newark man guilty of molesting two girls to 12 years in prison Monday.

Loren L. Nethers, 38, was convicted by a Licking County Common Pleas Court jury in May of eight

counts of gross sexual imposition and two counts of sexual battery.

He was indicted on 15 total counts, including rape and other sexual battery charges, involving the molestation of three girls, two of which now are adults.

Nethers was convicted

of sexual contact with two girls, but not a third. But two of the victims were coerced into not giving complete testimonies because they didn't want Nethers to go to prison, Licking County Assistant Prosecutor Dan Huston said previously.

Carl McCoy, Nethers' at-

torney, said Nethers has maintained his innocence throughout his court proceedings and plans to appeal this conviction.

Nethers did plead guilty to the eight gross sexual imposition charges in January then withdrew his plea. He told Spahr he didn't know what he was

doing during the change of plea hearing.

The jury found him guilty of two more charges than he pleaded to originally.

Nethers' common-law wife, Adrian E. Wood, 39, of Newark, has been indicted on two third-degree felonies in connection with

Nethers' case.

Wood faces an endangering children charge for allegedly allowing Nethers to molest the youngest girl and perjury for allegedly lying during Nethers' trial.

Wood allegedly testified she hadn't spoken to the victims in regard to their testimonies. No trial is

scheduled on either of these charges.

Upon Nethers' release from prison, he will be on parole for five years and have to register as a sexually oriented offender.

Kimberly Dick can be reached at (740) 328-8543 or [kdick@newarkadvocate.com](mailto:kdick@newarkadvocate.com).

### REPAIRING VISION: LASER NOT THE ONLY OPTION



Dr. Shahin Shahinfar prepares a Visian Implantable Contact Lens during surgery Monday at the Bloomberg Eye Center in Newark, which is used as an alternative to LASIK surgery. (Morgan Wonorski, The Advocate)

# open your EYES

By MARK SZAKONYI  
Advocate Reporter

NEWARK — When Amy Geist woke up this morning, she could see the time on the alarm clock clearly without the help of her glasses.

She won't ever have to wear her contact lenses or glasses again, because on Monday contact lenses were implanted in her eyes at a Newark eye center.

The Bloomberg Eye Center's cutting-edge procedure of implanting Visian Implantable Contact Lenses (ICL) allows patients who can't have laser-assisted eye surgery remedy their nearsighted vision.

"I'm looking forward to getting up and being able to see," said Geist.

Geist, of New London, said she expects the procedure to save her money in the long run, because she will no longer have to buy glasses, contact lenses and all of the prod-

**"I don't have to worry about contacts drying out or scratching my eyes."**

— Lisa Keaveney, recipient of a Visian ICL implant

ucts required for their upkeep.

The procedure, which doesn't require removing tissue from the eye, works by making a microscopic incision and slipping the rolled-up Visian ICL inside, said Judy Mackey, the center's director of corporate services.

Once between the iris and the natural lens, the Visian ICL unfolds, said Mackey.

The lens is invisible to the patient and others, she said.

**See Implants/8A**

## Senators act to freeze tuition, attract new scientists

COLUMBUS (AP) — College tuition would be frozen for the next two years under a budget proposal by Senate Republicans that they said Monday seeks to boost Ohio's educational level and promote an economy of high-paying science jobs.

The Senate GOP's higher education package, to be woven into the Senate budget bill due Tuesday, also would increase scholarships to students at two-year and technical colleges by \$10 million over the House-passed budget and provide \$50 million in state matching money for colleges and universities to

OSU to require fewer credits, but boarding costs rise 4.7 percent

COLUMBUS (AP) — This fall's incoming freshmen at Ohio State University will need just 181 quarter-credits to graduate, a decision school officials said would give students a better shot at graduating in four years.

The new credit requirement, approved by the board of trustees on Friday, is 10 fewer than what's been expected of previous classes.

It also puts the university in sync with other Big Ten schools such as

use to attract top national scientists to teach in the state.

"There are some that have suggested that a two-year tuition freeze in Ohio

Michigan, Wisconsin and Illinois, which also require about 180 hours.

"It's a four-year degree plan for our undergraduates," said Provost Barbara Snyder. "I don't think any students will be unhappy about it."

Five hours of general education and five hours of electives in a student's major are being cut — the equivalent of two fewer five-day-a-week classes.

The board also raised room and board rates by 4.7 percent, about

is too expensive for the state budget," said Republican Sen. Randy Gardner of Bowling Green, who joined a news conference announcing the plan. "Re-

spectfully, but clearly, we would say that allowing tuition to increase in Ohio is too expensive for students and families."

He said the state will off-

\$345 more for the average resident, raising the yearly average to \$7,581.

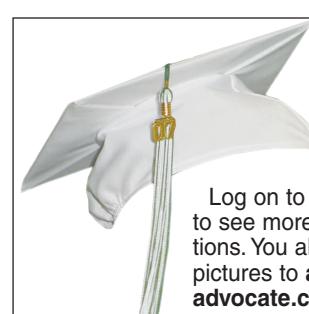
The trustees did not act on a tuition increase because they are awaiting the state's two-year budget.

Democratic Gov. Ted Strickland wants a tuition freeze the first year and a maximum 3 percent increase the second year, while the Ohio House wants the reverse.

The Ohio Senate plans to vote on its budget proposal June 13.

set any losses institutions might experience due to the freeze with \$120 million in additional state subsidies.

**See Budget/8A**



### GRADUATION TIME

**Big milestone**

Log on to [www.NewarkAdvocate.com](http://www.NewarkAdvocate.com) to see more photos from area graduations. You also can e-mail your graduation pictures to [advocate@newarkadvocate.com](mailto:advocate@newarkadvocate.com) to be included online.

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### ■ WEATHER

#### Mostly cloudy

Today, highs around 70. Tonight, lows in the upper 40s.

**Forecast/8A**



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**National forecast**  
Forecast highs for Tuesday, June 5

**Local forecast**

Day	High	Low	Condition
Today	70	48	Partly Cloudy
Tonight	55	48	Sunny
Wednesday	78	55	Sunny
Thursday	90	62	Sunny
Friday & Saturday	87	66	Sunny

Almanac	
Readings are for a 24-hour period ending at about 11 p.m. yesterday for the Newark area. Information is from the National Weather Service, Associated Press, www.WeatherUnderground.com and Newark Water Treatment Plant.	
<b>Precipitation (inches):</b>	<b>Temperatures:</b>
Yesterday .....0.17	High yesterday .....77
Month to date .....0.89	Low yesterday .....62
Normal .....0.55	Normal high .....77
Year to date .....16.32	Normal low .....52
Normal .....17.27	Sunrise: 6:01 a.m. Sunset: 8:54 p.m.

Regional observations			
Information from the National Weather Service			
City:	Location:	High:	Low:
Heath	Newark-Heath Airport	77	62
Columbus	Port Columbus	80	64

**Online updates**

Weather updates, including latest temperature and local weather radar, are available every 30 minutes on [NewarkAdvocate.com](#).

**Budget**

Continued from Page 1A

While early reaction to the plan was positive, advocates for the poor were waiting anxiously to hear where the GOP-dominated Senate planned to get the money to pour into higher education. Senate President Bill Harris, an Ashland Republican, declined to share those details pending a Tuesday announcement.

"You can't pit one need population against another," said Lisa Hamler-Fugitt, executive director of the Association of Second Harvest Foodbanks. "To build a strong Ohio, we need to make sure the needs of our most vulnerable citizens are addressed first. I'm afraid if that doesn't happen, we will be leaving more Ohioans vulnerable."

Senate leaders joined a steady chorus of higher education advocacy that has permeated the Statehouse in recent months. Despite flat funding for colleges and universities for most of this decade, the Republican-controlled Legislature is now positioned to invest, Harris said.

He said lawmakers were not able to give more tax dollars to higher education previously because of an economic recession, an antiquated tax structure and

**Senate higher education initiatives**

- \$120 million will be invested to freeze tuition at state colleges and universities for each of the next two years, rather than the one year proposed by Gov. Ted Strickland and the Ohio House.
- \$10 million in seed money for scholarships to technical and two-year colleges. Named for former Gov. James A. Rhodes, the program ultimately would increase to \$65 million through private matching money.

Source: Ohio Senate

the demands made on state budgets for primary and secondary schools.

"I would argue we are prepared now," he said.

Sen. Jeff Jacobson, a Dayton Republican, said the \$50 million the Senate budget will invest in attracting top notch scientists to the state is only a quarter of what senators hope will ultimately be invested in the Ohio Innovation Partnership Program.

He said universities competing for the state money would get donors, educational foundations and private companies that would benefit from more

science-savvy graduates to match the money. They envision the program extending into the next budget cycle as well, for a total of \$200 million in public and private investment.

Jacobson said the program is modeled after efforts in other states that led to the Texas Advanced Material Research Center, Georgia's Research Alliance, the North Carolina Research Triangle, and California's Institutes of Science and Innovation.

"I don't have worry about

**Police**

Continued from Page 1B

impact on the budget, Barch said, as retirement payouts are now spread out over multiple years instead of one lump sum.

The fire department also has

three vacancies and one upcoming retirement, so the city plans to hire four this year.

Kent Mallett can be reached at (740) 328-8545 or [kmmallett@newarkadvocate.com](mailto:kmmallett@newarkadvocate.com).

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**CITY NOTES**

**JOAN GARRETT DANCE ARTS STUDIO**  
**PRESENTS THEIR DANCE STUDENTS IN THEIR 2007 SPRING CONCERTS.**

Farinacci came to the Cavaliers' team shop at The Q to buy

Eastern Conference champions T-shirts for his wife and two sons, ages 5 and 9.

The city hasn't won a championship since the Browns in 1964 and haven't competed for one since the Indians lost the World Series in 1997.

The team shop sold out of NBA finals gear by lunchtime Monday. Michael Thom, the Cavaliers' director of merchandising, said more was on the way.

The shop still had \$20 and \$24 shirts proclaiming the Cavs as Eastern Conference champions, which were bring printed well before Daniel "Boobie" Gibson started sinking 3-pointers in the fourth quarter Saturday night.

"We were extremely aggressive on our buys with inventory if we won, and it's paid off," Thom said.

**Cleveland fans snap up Cavs gear, get ready for NBA finals**

CLEVELAND (AP) — Bill Baumann walked out of Quicken Loans Arena with two shopping plastic bags loaded with Cavaliers merchandise.

"I bought \$600 worth of T-shirts," he said. "We're in the finals. Wow, you know."

It still hadn't completely sunk in for Cavaliers fans Monday, two days after LeBron James brought home the franchise's first Eastern Conference championship.

Fans spilled out into the streets in celebration Saturday night after the Cavaliers beat the Detroit Pistons in Game 6 and the good feeling continued through the start of the work week.

People on the streets chattered about the Cavaliers and a "Beat Detroit!" shirt hung in a dry cleaning shop window with a "We" added to it.



Cleveland basketball fans look through merchandise Monday at the Cavaliers Team Shop in Cleveland. (AP)

Tony Farinacci of North Royalton sensed the vibe downtown. "Everyone is just really happy and positive. Everything seems to be OK today," he said.

**Implants**

Continued from Page 1A

"With this procedure, you don't have to remove the natural lens to correct the problem," said Dr. Shahin Shahinfar.

Shahinfar has performed about 10 procedures, and they take about 10 minutes each.

"It's a little tricky, because you have to make sure you don't touch the iris," said Shahinfar, the center's medical director and owner.

If the iris or cornea is manipulated accidentally during the procedure, inflammation can result, causing serious problems, such as cataracts, he said.

Shahinfar said it's not the most difficult procedure he performs, but it takes a good deal of concentration.

The technology has been available in Europe for the last two to three years, but it was made available in the United States about a year ago, he said.

The procedure is ideal for patients who can't get Laser-Assisted In Situ Keratomileusis (LASIK) surgery because their corneas are too thin or their corneas have irregularities or scarring, Mackey said.

Lisa Keaveney said she was interested in getting LASIK surgery but couldn't because her corneas are too thin.

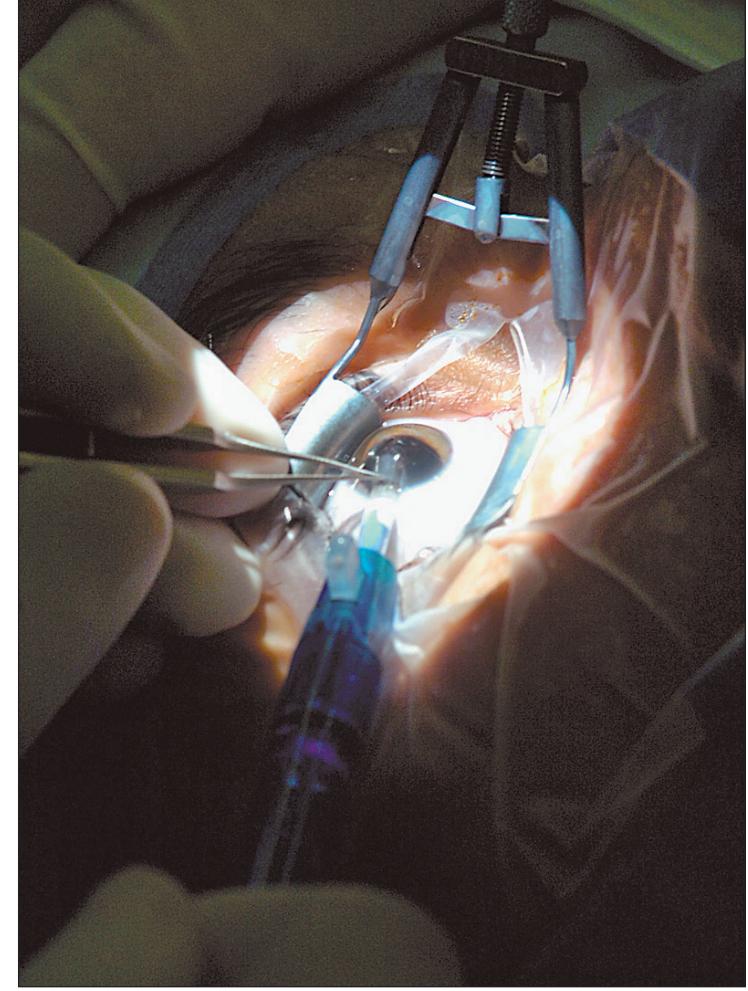
Last month, she got a Visian ICL placed on her right eye and plans to have another placed on her left eye in June.

"I can read signs on the street," said Keaveney, of Marietta. "It really helps to be able to see the street signs."

She said it will cost her about \$3,400 to have Visian ICLs placed on both eyes, but it is worth it considering they come with a virtual lifetime warranty.

There also is value in the convenience it brings, Keaveney said.

"I don't have worry about



A patient stays awake and is responsive as the Visian Implantable Contact Lens is placed behind the iris of the eye. (Morgan Wonorski, The Advocate)

contacts drying out or scratching my eyes," she said.

Mackey said the procedure will help the center keep its reputation as one of the best eye centers in the area.

Unlike many medical facilities that lose patients to specialty facilities in big cities, Bloomberg Eye Center attracts patients from Ohio, West Virginia, Pennsylvania, Kentucky and Michigan, Mackey said.

She said patients, including a tenor that performs with Luciano Pavarotti, have come from as far as Europe to receive treatment at the center.

The center, established in 1970, has been physician-owned and operated since its inception.

**Mark Szakonyi** can be reached at (740) 328-8546 or [mssakonyi@newarkadvocate.com](mailto:mssakonyi@newarkadvocate.com).

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