

Weekly World News blurbs

by Risa Dimond
Managing Editor

Poor Haitian residents have been using the expression, *grangou klowox*, meaning “eating bleach” to describe the burning in their stomach they feel from constant hunger.

Due to the rising cost of food in Haiti, April 8, 2008, mobs stormed the presidential palace gates in Port-au-Prince with metal bins. The protesters wanted President Rene Preval, to resign, who promised to restore peace across the country.

The food shortage has

caused at least five deaths in the past week. Haiti has suffered from the rise of food cost mostly because it threatens their already fragile and poor economy.

BBC News reports “violence in Haiti has often been linked to poverty with more than half the population surviving on less than a dollar a day.” The Haitian people complain that the rising cost of living is making it difficult to keep them and their families fed...

Also, Brazil’s government has one of the biggest programs in the world that distributes free

condoms to help fight against Aids. Instead of depending on imported contraceptives, Brazil is now finding a way to produce condoms, using the rubber trees in the Amazon Jungle.

The state-run factory, in the state of Acre, will produce 100 million condoms a year, which will be called Natex.

This factory will benefit at least 500 families and provide about 150 jobs.

The health ministry says this move will actually help preserve the Amazon, because the latex from the rubber trees

on the Chico Mendes reserve are “widely available and can be obtained without destroying large areas of the rainforest.”

The health ministry also says that these condoms will be the only latex condoms produced in a tropical forest.

Brazil’s government says that they are the world’s largest single buyer of condoms, purchasing more than a billion contraceptives in recent years. The government program is most visible during Carnival, which has been criticized by religious leaders saying the program promotes promiscuity.

Tobacco-Free campus being discussed

by Joseph Chilton
Editor in Chief

Next Thursday evening surveys will be distributed in Myers Dining Hall giving students a chance to voice their opinions regarding the possibility of making Brevard College a tobacco-free campus.

“We are considering the need for Brevard College to implement a tobacco-free campus,” said Health and Wellness Committee Chair Shelley Webb in a recent e-mail.

According to Kelley Eyster, a member of the Health and Wellness Committee, there have been numerous complaints recently about dip bottles being left in classes, a concern that helped prompt this initiative.

The surveys will attempt to gauge the campus community’s feelings regarding going completely tobacco free. The new rules would ban cigarettes, cigars, hookahs, and smokeless tobacco from campus.

If the surveys show strong

student support for banishing tobacco from campus, the Health and Wellness Committee bring forming a plan to the forefront of their discussion at their meetings next fall, Eyster said.

“The smoking policy that is in effect now was brought about by a group of students getting involved, so we just really want to hear what students think about either a partial or total ban of tobacco.”

Views around campus on Wednesday afternoon varied regarding the subject.

“I am not hurting anybody but myself with what I do. To me, this is discrimination. I’m a grown ass man,” said John Lange, a smokeless tobacco

user who lives on campus.

Other students felt that the policy in place now is working effectively, but needs to be properly enforced.

“I would be really perturbed if I couldn’t smoke on campus at all. The

policy now is fine, teachers just need to stop letting people dip in class and this won’t be an issue,” said Nicole Kearse.

If the survey finds that students favor a new tobacco

policy, it is unlikely that it would be implemented until at least next spring.

“We don’t have a timetable yet,” said Eyster.

“But ages 18-24 is the only population demographic where tobacco use is rising, so we need to do something.”

Security Report

by Amethyst Green

4/5/08-Drunk and disorderly (non-student)

4/5/08-Knife Assault (off-campus)

4/8/08-Vandalism: Attempt to tip over RA’s car (turned over to Campus Life by Appalachian State University Police)

