

# The day we lost Lennon

Frantic events of 25 years ago recalled. ARTS, E1

# U2, Bono admirable

Tour's new songs hold up. ENJOY, G12

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THURSDAY, December 8, 2005 A B C

News Online [www.ohio.com](http://www.ohio.com)

## FirstWORD

### Heavy snowstorm barrels toward Ohio

The first big snowstorm of the season is heading our way tonight and by the time it is over Friday, up to 9 inches of snow may have fallen, the National Weather Service said in a Winter Storm Watch.

The weather service said a storm would dump 4 to 8 inches of snow across north central Ohio, including Medina, Portage, Stark, Summit and Wayne counties, tonight and Friday morning.

An additional inch of snow is expected to fall Friday.

Temperatures will reach a high of 29 degrees today and Friday and 31 Saturday.

# Air marshal kills passenger

### No explosives found after man claims to have bomb on plane at Miami airport

**Airline passenger Rigoberto Alpizar was shot and killed by an air marshal.**



By John Pain  
Associated Press

**MIAMI:** An agitated passenger who claimed to have a bomb in his backpack was shot and killed by a federal air marshal Wednesday after he bolted frantically from a jetliner that was boarding for takeoff, officials said. No bomb was found.

It was the first time since the Sept. 11 attacks that an air marshal had shot at anyone, Homeland Security Department spokesman Brian Doyle said. Another federal official said there was no apparent link to terrorism.

According to a witness, the passenger ran down the aisle of

the Boeing 757, flailing his arms, while his wife tried to explain that he was mentally ill and had not taken his medication.

The passenger, identified as Rigoberto Alpizar, indicated there was a bomb in his bag and was confronted by air marshals but ran off the aircraft, Doyle said. The marshals went after

him and ordered him to get down on the ground, but he did not comply and was shot when he apparently reached into the bag, Doyle said.

Alpizar, a 44-year-old U.S. citizen, was gunned down on a jetway outside the American Airlines plane, which was parked at a gate at Miami International Airport. Alpizar had ar-

Please see **Plane, A8**

### Frye will start Sunday in Cincy

Crennel says waiting until just before game against division leader wouldn't be fair to either rookie or Dilfer.



Please see article, C1

### Shaping up, filling out



PAUL TOPPLE/Akron Beacon Journal

The new, unnamed airship for Goodyear Tire & Rubber Co. gets 180,000 cubic feet of helium inside the Wingfoot Lake hangar on Wednesday.

## BEHIND THE BLIMP

This is the latest installment in Blimp Garage, an occasional series chronicling the people and milestones involved in building Goodyear Tire & Rubber Co.'s new blimp at Wingfoot Lake.

Later this week, we'll look at what it takes to attach the gondola to the now-inflated envelope.

Coming Sunday, meet some of the people who are building this new airship.

### MORE ONLINE

For more photos and a time-lapse look at the blimp being inflated go to [Ohio.com](http://Ohio.com).

### Mother retrieves children's remains

The mother of two children whose bodies were found Friday visited the shallow grave where they were buried and retrieved their remains Wednesday to take them back to New Hampshire.

During the Hudson visit, Teri Knight met the discoverer of the burial site, Stephanie Dietrich of Akron, and her dog, Ricco.

Sarah Gehring, 14, and her brother Philip, 11, were killed by their father, Manuel Gehring.

Knight and her husband, Jim, then retrieved the cremated remains from Busch Funeral and Crematory Services in Parma and left to return home.

### Grammy nominees announced today

Kanye West . . . 50 Cent . . . Mariah . . . Coldplay.

Nominations for the 48th Grammy Awards will be announced at 8 a.m. today. Few categories have a clear-cut favorite. For coverage and a list of the nominees, go to the Entertainment page of [Ohio.com](http://Ohio.com).

### Today's weather



Late snow  
27° High 22° Low  
NewsChannel 5 forecast, Page B8

### Inside

- Dear Abby E4
- Arts&Living E1
- Business D1
- Classified F1
- Comics E4,5
- Deaths B5-7
- Editorials B3
- Enjoy! G1
- David Giffels B1
- Jumble E5
- Local News B1
- Lottery A2
- Movies G5
- People A2
- Terry Pluto C1
- Sports C1
- Sudoku E4
- TV Listings E3
- Word Game F3
- Mary Worth F3

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Blimp crew workers adjust the 35-pound sandbags holding a net in place during the helium inflation of the new airship at Blimp Base One in Suffield Township.

## Blimp begins to take form months before taking to air

### Snail-like helium process pumps up unnamed airship

By Jim Mackinnon  
Beacon Journal business writer

Looks like all the hard work last week to patch 63 tiny holes in the envelope of Goodyear Tire & Rubber Co.'s newest airship has paid off.

Just a bit after 9:30 a.m. Wednesday, the blimp's massive envelope floated for the first time.

And what had been a wrinkled, stretched-out piece of two-ply neoprene polyester fabric lying on the cold concrete floor inside Goodyear's Wingfoot Lake hangar now looked like



a blimp.

The only thing holding it in place was a huge net weighed down by 16,000 pounds of ballast bags; each sand-filled bag weighed about 35 pounds. It takes that much weight to keep the lift generated by 180,000 cubic feet of helium from bouncing the envelope into the hangar ceiling.

Just 2½ hours earlier, Scott Babbo, airship base superintendent, opened a valve part way on the rear of a tractor-

Please see **Blimp, A7**

## Board lifts deportation order

### Jailed woman hopes to be home for Christmas

By Julie Wallace  
Beacon Journal staff writer

**MEDINA:** Sandra Orantes Cruz, a Medina woman who months ago was on the brink of being deported to El Salvador, learned Wednesday that the deportation order has been lifted.

The decision, made by the Board of Immigration Appeals, should free the mother of three from the Seneca County Jail in Tiffin, where she has been held since the immigration process began.

No release date has been set

for Orantes Cruz, who left El Salvador at age 6 when she was adopted by a Twinsburg couple. In theory, she could be home as early as this weekend if no legal snarls arise.

"Oh my God," an excited Orantes Cruz said via a collect call from the jail. "I screamed.

Please see **Deport, A6**



Sandra Orantes Cruz, 30, left El Salvador at age 6.

## Automated ticket cams challenged

### Stuebenville lawyer says they're unlawful

By John Higgins and Andale Gross  
Beacon Journal staff writers

Is Akron's hotly debated photo ticketing system legal?

A lawyer in Steubenville, Gary M. Stern, doesn't think his city's automated speeding enforcement, which began Sept. 23, is legal and he's trying to bring a class-action lawsuit to stop it.

The plaintiff is his wife, April Stern, who got two \$85 tickets in the mail because she was the registered owner of the car, although she wasn't driving when the car was photographed.

Stern won an early victory on Monday when a Jefferson County Common Pleas Court judge granted a temporary injunction shutting off the cam-

Please see **Ticket, A6**

## Hollywood promotes movie to Christians

### Churchgoers are eager to view 'Narnia' film

By George M. Thomas  
Beacon Journal movie critic

When 1,200 members of the House of the Lord attend screenings today of *The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*, it will be the second time the congregation has shown support for a mainstream Hollywood movie. The first was for the recent film *The Gospel*.

Look for a review in Friday's Movies & More section.

Ohio.com: Watch the trailer on the Movies page.

In recent months, studios have warmed to the idea of presenting movies to an audience that has traditionally been wary of some of the content that spews forth from Hollywood.

Many could claim that *The Passion of The Christ*, with its

Please see **Narnia, A9**



Disney Enterprises Inc. and Walden Media LLC

Aslan, a noble lion, must vanquish the White Witch in *The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*.

Ohio.com: For a detailed map locating the ticketed areas, look for this article online.