

TheNewsreel

New Guinea crater houses new species, including cat-sized rat

Within the Mount Bosavi crater, an extinct volcano in the highlands of Papua New Guinea, close to 40 previously unknown species have recently been found by scientists.

The area is uninhabited by humans, but many unusual species are thriving in this remote crater.

Among the newly discovered species is a vegetarian three-foot woolly rat. As far as the scientists know, this crater is the only place the species of rat is found. The rats are unafraid of humans, allowing the scientists to sit within close proximity, and average about 3 pounds, which may be the largest rat in the world.

"It just sat next to me nibbling on a piece of leaf," Dr. George McGavin, head scientist for the BBC Natural History Unit, said. "It won't have seen a human before. The crater of Bosavi really is the lost world."

More of the unique species found include a fanged frog, camouflaged gecko and grunting fish.



DeGeneres to be new American Idol judge

Ellen DeGeneres will join Simon Cowell, Randy Jackson and Kara DioGuardi as the new American Idol judge.

She will replace Paula Abdul, a past judge who was not invited back to the show after last season.

DeGeneres will join the panel after the January auditions are completed. Until then, guest judges will fill her spot, including Mary J. Blige, Kristin Chenoweth, Joe Jonas and Neil Patrick Harris.

"I'm thrilled to be the new judge on American Idol," DeGeneres said Wednesday. "I've watched since the beginning, and I've always been a huge fan. So getting this job is a dream come true; and think of all the money I'll save from not having to text in my vote."

Doctors discover fetus in 1-year-old's stomach

The parents of one-year-old Kang Mengru, from China, became anxious when their daughter's stomach became enlarged.

Doctors were puzzled by the bizarre swelling and performed a CT scan.

They did not expect what they found: a fetus. The strange mass is what they believe to be a rare type of a parasitic twin.

Mengru is currently waiting to have the fetus removed by operation.

Hubble Space Telescope repaired, new images captured

The Hubble Telescope, once pronounced "doomed," has been repaired and is producing exciting new images.

One of the more captivating images is of a new butterfly-shaped galaxy.

Oxygen, nitrogen and carbon have also been found among the stars and is being scattered by star activity into the cosmos.

The Hubble Space Telescope is estimated to continue to be in full service for at least 10 more years.

"We are giddy with the quality of data that we have with this new telescope," Heidi Hammel, senior research scientist at the Space Science Institute in Boulder, Colo., said.



California wildfire twice the size of Sacramento

The wildfire that has burned for nearly two weeks north of Los Angeles has grown to more than twice the size of California's capital, Sacramento.

Although the fire has slowed over the past week, it has consumed about 160,357 acres, making it the eighth-largest wildfire in California since 1932. About 60 percent of the blaze has been contained through the effort of 4,700 firefighters.

Authorities confirmed arson as the cause of the fire last week. A homicide investigation has also been launched concerning the death of two firefighters in a vehicle crash while driving from fast-moving flames.

The reward for any information on how the flames originated has been raised to \$150,000.

Fire officials have now estimated the cost of the fire is \$57.6 million.

TheWindow



Photo by NOAH DARNELL | The Bison

A Harding student dives onto a slip 'n slide during Student Impact's activities a few days before the fall semester begins.

TheInsideVoice

10 Signs You Should Drop That Class

by KYLIE AKINS
assistant news editor

1. A prerequisite to the class is a master's degree in biochemistry.
2. The first day of class, your professor introduces you to his imaginary friend.
3. You're too exhausted to remember anything from the time you woke up at 7:50 to go to

- class and 9 a.m. chapel.
4. The first few weeks of class have consisted of your professor bursting into tears in the middle of lecture.
5. Your friends cringe at the name of your class.
6. The entire course's reading is in Russian.
7. Your test is next week, and eBay still has not shipped your book.
8. The other students

- don't even bother to open their backpacks. They're dropping the class, too.
9. The required reading weighs more than you.
10. Your professor's first words to the class are, "I hope you enjoyed your summer reading. Now clear everything off your desk, and take out a pencil."

TheWatercooler

"I'm grateful for any car with four wheels because it beats two heels."

— MICHAEL RIVERS, after receiving one of 20 free cars rapper Ludacris gave away to the needy in his hometown of Atlanta.

"Unless somebody can find a way to change human nature, we will have more crises."

— ALAN GREENSPAN, former chairman of the Federal Reserve on why market dilemmas are unavoidable.

"The auspicious number stands for our eternal love."

— ZHANG PENG, while waiting with his girlfriend in line along with thousands of other Chinese couples to be married on 9/9/09, hoping it will bring them a long marriage.

#MyBison



Each issue, this section will feature the Bison editorial staff's favorite Tweets from users on campus. To submit yours, just add #MyBison to your Twitter updates.

Christine Clemons needs a lung transplant. You can help! Donate online: <http://weblink.donorperfect.com/co-taevent> – HUSudents

Living off campus is an adventure all to itself; the housing department doesn't seem to recognize my off-campus status. Hmm. –pthomas123atal

True education and persecution are natural enemies, with little room in between. Speak and listen, or censor and cover your ears. –blakemath