

# The Jambar

The student voice of Youngstown State University since 1931

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YSU GOES GREEN FOR EARTH DAY



PHOTO BY LAMAR SALTER / THE JAMBAR

## Pride's interim director marches onward

Lamar Salter  
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT  
EDITOR

This summer, Youngstown State University's Marching Pride will be accepting applications for a new director.

Don Linn, the band's director, has accepted a job as assistant director of bands at Kansas State University, a notable Big 12 school, after finishing the 2009-10 academic year working part time as an interim director for the Marching Pride.

Stephen Gage, YSU director of bands, said Linn's position filled the void left after former Marching Pride director Chris Heidenreich resigned in July.

Linn played his role in directing and carrying out the Pride tra-

dition, performing at home football games and pepping the crowd during basketball games.

Despite being contractually obligated for just one year, Linn garnered recognition from colleagues and students for implementing innovative ideas in a short time, specifically the Queen sets performed by the band during the football season.

"He is a fantastic director," Gage said. "We were thrilled with what he did."

Students who worked with Linn shared in their admiration.

Junior and Pride member Alex Seitz said working with Linn was great. He was appreciative of Linn's efforts during his temporary stay.

Regardless of this acclaim, Linn's position was not set in stone, something that he was constantly aware of.

"I always knew there was no guarantee," Linn said. "It would have been nice to stay, but I didn't want to put all my eggs in one basket."

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*"I'm sorry to say it, but we stole him from you and we are glad we did it."*

-Frank Tracz

## Market wounds scholarship investments

Dan Pompili  
ASSIST. NEWS EDITOR

Economic woes have affected Youngstown State University again, but this time reducing the funds available for scholarships through the YSU Foundation.

The Foundation is supported by private donations and earnings on the investments YSU makes with those endowments. At an Academic Senate meeting on April 7, however, President David Sweet said that economic effects have dwindled the Foundation's funds by nearly \$1 million.

Over the past five fiscal years, 2006 to 2010, the Foundation has made more than \$5.3 million available for student scholarships, an average of more than \$1.07 million per year. In 2010, the foundation contributed \$1,100,850 for scholarships.

The reduced funds present a stark contrast to the trend in Foundation contributions, which have grown steadily since 2006, when the Foundation provided \$1,044,603.

President of the YSU Foundation Reid Schmutz said that the problem lies in the market.

"It's based primarily on investments, and the interest in dividends is down," Schmutz said. He said the interest rates have decreased by three to four percent. "We [also] have dividends on corporate stock that are not increasing."

"If you read what's happened to Harvard, that's happened to us too. We're not immune," he said.

Special assistant to the President Tom Maraffa said administration is in the process of developing an adjusted budget for fiscal year 2011.

"It is our intention to present a budget that will meet all of the stu-

dents' scholarship needs," Maraffa said.

One of the primary means of compensation is to allocate additional money from the YSU general scholarship fund. Tuition, fees and state funds support the general fund.

The five-year trend shows that the general fund has contributed roughly three-fourths to five-eighths of available scholarship funds, with the Foundation making up the difference. Now the general fund will have a greater burden.

"That's one of the reasons we were trying to be frugal with the funds that were already designated as scholarship funds," Meshel said.

"It would have been nice if [Sweet] would have put [the decrease in Foundation funds] in a statement seeking support from the board," said YSU Trustee Harry Meshel.

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## Web sites, publications offer info for voters

Andrea DeMart  
REPORTER

'Tis the season for lawn signs. This can mean only one thing: Elections are approaching. Primary election day for Ohioans is May 4. All districts in the state will have individual ballots, but some major state issues will also be listed.

A lot of attention has been placed on State Issue 1, the Third Frontier Program, which is a constitutional amendment that allows additional general obligation bonds to be used to promote economic growth.

Issue 2, as listed on the Ohio Secretary of State's website, is the proposal to change the location of a casino in Columbus previously voted for. The original location of the casino was in the "arena district," but the proposal is asking for the casino to be moved to an abandoned General Motors/Delphi Automotive manufacturing plant.

The primary election is not the same as the general elections held in November each year. Primary elections are mainly for political parties to identify candidates for the general election and also require that voters declare their party affiliation. The primary ballots give an individual the option of voting only within his or her declared party, whereas general elections are open voting.

Many state offices are up for vote in the primary election such as attorney general, auditor, secretary of state and chief justice of the state Supreme Court. Although a vote for an individual does not give him or her the position, it solidifies his or her name appearing on the November ballot as the party representative.

VOTING page 3

### MORTAL COMBAT

YSU theater students Dorian Thomas and Calvin Brown (left) and Rebecca Anderson and Josh Green (right) practice their moves in the staged combat class. Instructor Dennis Henneman said students learn how to create the illusion of a fight onstage in a safe manner. The students concentrate on unarmed combat and how to use a rapier and dagger. Some of the students would like to do medieval fairs, where they are required to work on grass.

PHOTOS BY DAN MARSHALL / THE JAMBAR

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**WEATHER**

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**NEWS BRIEFS**

*Etruscan Press book of poetry wins award*

The Poetry Society of America has selected a book of poetry published by Etruscan Press for a prestigious literary award. Scott Coffell's "Toucans in the Arctic" will be awarded the Norma Farber First Book Prize. The book was published in 2009.

*Annual human resource management conference scheduled for today*

The annual Western Reserve Chapter of the Society of Human Resource Management conference is set to take place today. Jean T. Hauer of the AdvoCare Group in Cleveland will open the conference, the theme of which is "Leading with Vision." The conference is hosted in part by the Youngstown State University Williamson College of Business Administration.

**POLICE BRIEFS**

*Male exposes himself in DeBartolo Hall*

A female student was working in DeBartolo Computer Lab B042 when an unidentified black male turned toward her, exposed himself and performed a lewd act. The woman said the man was looking in her eyes and licking his lips while performing the act. Police were unable to find the suspect.

*Woman found begging in M-24 lot*

A female suspect was found begging for money in the M-24 parking lot Friday. Police found a possible arrest warrant, which could not be confirmed to match the suspect. Police gave the female a warning about trespassing and released her.

*Fire alarm sounded in Lyden House*

Officers and Youngstown firefighters were dispatched to Lyden House on Thursday following a fire alarm activation. Upon investigation, it was found that the alarm had been caused by a faulty hair iron. The building was cleared without further incident.

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## University Affairs committee prepares to pass torch

**Andrea DeMart**  
REPORTER

The Youngstown State University Student Government Association University Affairs Committee met for the last time during the 2009-10 academic year.

The committee decided to create a list for the incoming committee members as to what issues were addressed

and the actions taken.

Among the items addressed this year were campus safety, which includes campus security, campus lighting and crosswalks. Also discussed was parking. The committee looked for information regarding the M-2 parking deck demolition and possible parking replacements.

A new email system for YSU is being researched. The committee decided to back Live@edu. The email system,

powered by Microsoft, works the best with processes already in place on campus.

The committee compiled a report of issues on campus that do not comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act. The report will eventually be handed to Disability Services on campus. They hope to work together on solving the main issues.

The Wick Pollock garden cleanup handles annual maintenance in the gardens. The

committee is hoping that this continues going forward. They feel it is important since the house will be the residence of President-elect Anderson and future university presidents.

Lastly, the committee successfully passed the legislation to recommend that President David Sweet sign the Presidential Climate Commitment. Committee members researched the commitment, realizing that YSU already meets all requirements.

## Fraternity in the process of becoming part of YSU Greek Life

**Krystle Kimes**  
REPORTER

Although the Tau Kappa Epsilon fraternity hasn't been at Youngstown State University since 1992, its members are working to become part of the Greek system on campus again. TKE's brothers, six transfer students, have already purchased and live in a fraternity house on Arlington Street, which is located off of Fifth Avenue. They are determined to bring TKE back to YSU.

The TKE brothers began this process by talking to Greg Gulas, assistant director of Student Programming.

"We are as interested in the TKEs as they are in us," Gulas said.

TKE members are required to get a petition signed by those interested in joining the fraternity. Then, YSU fraternities must vote on if TKE should be the newest addition to the Greek system. The TKE brothers must then send a letter of acceptance to their national charter and fill out paperwork to become a fraternity recognized within the YSU Greek system. Members must also recruit 35 men in two years, according to national requirements.

"First we have to be recognized nationally in order to be recognized at YSU," said Raphael Lima, a University of Akron transfer.

Another Akron TKE transfer Doug Starr said challenges will exist, but getting members won't be one of them.

"I don't think we'll have a problem getting the members that we need to become a fraternity on campus. I think it's more of strengthening the Greek Life in itself," Starr said.

TKE is one of the largest fraternities on college campuses as a social fraternity with 276 active chapters. It was one of the first fraternities to abolish hazing practices, replacing "hell week" with an initiation portraying the positive attributes of brotherhood.

TKE is known for its charity work with Alzheimer's disease and St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

"We really are trying to do something great here at YSU ... we do so much community service and fundraising," said Rees Linville, a Kent State University transfer.

TKE has done charity work such as Relay for Life and Walk a Mile in Her Shoes, where men walk a mile in women's high heels to raise awareness about rape, sexual assault and gender violence.

"Our TKE purpose is to aid college men in moral and social development," Starr said.

Still, the bond of brotherhood among members of the fraternity is also important.

"The best thing about being a TKE is the brotherhood. It teaches you so much. No matter what, everyone has your back," Linville said.

## Professor charged with possession of explosives

**Chicago Tribune**  
MCT

CHICAGO A Rush University biochemistry professor told police that homemade explosives found in his home were simply made to celebrate the Fourth of July, but his girlfriend told them he made the devices to trade for drugs, authorities say.

Police responded to Marcello DelCarlo's home in Chicago on Sunday after his girlfriend called police, saying he had threatened to strike her and had shaken her violently, Assistant State's Attorney Erin Antonietti said at a bond hearing Monday morning.

When officers arrived, DelCarlo wasn't there and the woman was packing her belongings to leave. She told police that her boyfriend had "a box of homemade dynamite which he made to trade for meth," Antonietti said.

Officers found more than a dozen cardboard tubs filled with an explosive substance and capped with plaster \_ one of which ignited as Chicago Police bomb and arson investigators tried to remove them from the home.

The device caused a small fire that was quickly extinguished by the home's fire sprinkler system, Antonietti said, and the remaining devices were taken from the home and de-

stroyed.

Investigators arrested DelCarlo later Sunday at Rush University Medical Center, where he works as an assistant professor of biochemistry. DelCarlo allegedly told police he made the devices to celebrate Independence Day and had exploded one of them earlier in Lansing, a suburban community south of Chicago.

DelCarlo, 36, was charged with felony possession of an explosive or incendiary device and misdemeanor domestic battery. DelCarlo's attorney, Scott Yu, disputed Antonietti's description of the tubes as improvised explosive devices.

"They're nothing more than glorified firecrackers that the defendant was making to celebrate the Fourth of July," Yu said.

Circuit Judge James Brown set bail at \$225,000. DelCarlo is currently serving a sentence of six months of court supervision \_ a form of probation \_ for a January conviction for misdemeanor possession of ammunition without a valid firearm owner's ID card and possession of an unregistered handgun.

In that case, he was initially charged with additional misdemeanor charges of domestic battery and possession of a firearm without a firearm owner's card, but those charges were later dropped.

GRADES page 1

Walker said that incompletes are only given to students who had been passing their courses and should be capable of making up the missed work in a reasonable time.

"It's meant to cover a student who is doing well, passing a course and for some reason, out of their control, they miss something like an exam. You shouldn't need a year to make up an exam," Walker said.

Based on his experiences, Walker said the new deadlines would still be beneficial to students, as some may procrastinate and forget that the one-year deadline is quickly approaching.

"It's not to the students' advantage to wait for a year," he said. "They're in a panic, it's two weeks before the year is up, they haven't studied and they end up failing anyway."

Funding also played a role in the decision, as the university only receives state subsidy for students who pass their courses. Walker explained that if a student fails to finish the incomplete by the deadline, changing the grade to an F, YSU in turn would not receive subsidy for that student.

"It is an outcome-based philosophy for funding. You only get reimbursed for students that successfully complete the course, which is a D or better," he said.

Walker said that students who receive an incomplete in the spring semester, with a deadline of Sept. 1, are given more time because most faculty are not readily available on campus during the summer terms, making it harder to finish the incomplete coursework.

"Professors take off and might be hard get a hold of," he said. "Summer is not a typical term."



## Are you doing anything to celebrate Earth Day?



**"I did not know Earth Day existed."**  
*Matt Pearson*



**"I will recycle, but I do that any day."**  
*Sanket Aryal*



**"I'm going green. Enough said."**  
*Santosh Pant*



**"I guess I could put forth a small effort and recycle."**  
*Sarah Maher*



# New 'Trenta' could soon supersize a Starbucks near you

Joe Giesy  
REPORTER

Starbucks is currently testing a new size for iced coffee and iced tea drinks. The new Trenta size comes in a 31-ounce container, seven ounces more than the iced Venti, the current largest size on the menu.

The Trenta is currently only available at select Starbucks locations in Phoenix and Tampa, Fla. Managers at these locations said the new size has been well-received with positive reactions. Employees from local Starbucks said they have not yet received word on when or if they will be receiving the Trenta.

The announcement of this new size has not been without criticism, however. Ellen DeGeneres made a few jokes on her daytime television show before discussing a tendency for over consumption. Starbucks even got in on the joke by announcing a 128-ounce "Plenta" size on April Fools' Day.

Speaking on the health factors of drinking coffee, Zara Rowlands, registered dietitian and coordinator of the Didactic Program in Dietetics, said the benefits and adverse effects of coffee and caffeine differ from person to person.

One of the more obvious benefits of coffee is its use as a stimulant. Anti-cancer properties have also been found.

Rowlands said studies have found that drinking three to four 12-ounce cups of coffee a day may lower a person's risk of diabetes, but it is important to remain hydrated also.

"One of the bad things about caffeine is ... it's a diuretic," she said.

A diuretic is a substance that increases urine output. Increased urination can cause a loss of fluid and minerals like calcium.

Some adverse effects of coffee Rowlands mentioned are jitters, diarrhea and irritation of ulcers and heartburn.

There have also been studies that find coffee raises low-density lipoprotein cholesterol. Boiling coffee using mechanisms such as the French Press allow the compounds that raise cholesterol to stay in the coffee drink, but using paper coffee filters can reduce these compounds.

According to comments from Starbucks Corporation, an unsweetened Trenta drink only contains 5 calories and a sweetened Trenta drink has no more than 200 calories.

On the Starbucks website nutrition menu, the highest calorie 16-ounce iced espresso drink is the

Iced Peppermint White Chocolate Mocha at 400 calories. The lowest calorie 16-ounce iced espresso drink is the Iced Cafe Latte at 130 calories.

"The downside with most of those [espresso-based drinks] is what you add to them," Rowlands said.

Espresso-based drinks are usually made by blending espresso with milk and water.

Rowlands said the problem with most coffee drinks comes "when you put all those flavored syrups in there, then you have ... whipped cream on top of it and if that's not bad enough, now they have the sprinkles."



## LINN page 1

Despite his involvement, Linn still lacked in what some would say is essential in music education: a doctorate of music.

Traditionally, the Dana School of Music performs a national search in its hunt for new employees. This search would include many diverse applicants, with some possibly holding their doctorates.

Knowing this, Linn would continue to tweak his resume, using his experience at YSU to help boost his chances of employment, whether here or somewhere else.

"Music is a competitive business," Linn said. "Everyone in the program has been incredibly supportive for me."

Some time around December, Linn was contacted by Kansas State for work with the Pride of Wildcat Land marching band.

Around early March, Linn visited the campus and interviewed for the position.

Linn said he was excited about the opportunity to work for a Big 12 school and hoped to use the skills he learned at YSU in his new position.

Kansas State is known for its basketball team, the Wildcats. They made it to the Elite 8 in the NCAA tournament this past season. As assistant director, Linn would be directly in charge of the pep band for the Wildcats, revving crowds the way he did at YSU, albeit on a much larger scale.

Frank Tracz, director of bands at Kansas State, talked about what they saw in Linn during their scout.

"He has lots of talent," Tracz said.

Tracz, who taught in Ohio after graduating from Ohio State University with a degree in music education, said he was familiar with the work Linn had put in at YSU.

"I saw that the YSU music program was struggling a bit with its band, and Linn had done a wonderful job, almost like a miracle worker," Tracz said.

After making "numerous phone calls" about Linn to those familiar and involved with the Dana School of Music, Tracz was convinced the school had found its man.

Tracz said that Kansas State would

prove as a wonderful chance for Linn to move ahead in his career and receive the doctorate he has been determined to earn.

"I'm sorry to say it, but we stole him from you and we are glad we did it," Tracz said with a laugh.

Despite the loss of Linn, Gage was immensely positive about the situation. Besides being thrilled for Linn's new career prospect, Gage was also excited for the renovated position as the Marching Pride director.

Besides upgrading the director to a full-time position, Gage said the program's deliberations would help the band in "growth and improvement."

"We really had to back away from what we had been doing and take a look at things," Gage said as he talked about the immense commitment needed to direct. "There were just too many tasks. The director is a position similar to a

head football coach."

The marching band director is a position jointly shared by the music department and YSU athletics, a department that is no

stranger to resignations and new hires in the last year. Besides managing members, the director works in providing new and unique music to keep audiences and pride members on their toes, which functions similarly to a coach's playbook.

The Marching Pride will not have to wait long for its new director.

With the application posted about a week ago, Gage said he was already waiting to review one application and planned for the position to be filled in by the middle of July.

"Despite what it looks like on the outside, this is actually a really great thing that's happening," Gage said. "We're really excited and looking forward to the future of the Marching Pride."



LINN

## VOTING page 1

Youngstown State University senior Marie-Elizabeth Dohar plans to vote. She is a registered voter in Mahoning County.

"More than likely. I usually do," Dohar said.

Although she's planning to vote, details of the issues can still be confusing.

"I will probably end up looking up the issues when they become more prominent. I usually look in the newspaper to find out what's going on," Dohar said. "I am an educated voter."

In Mahoning County, candidates are vying for the county commissioner seat, which is currently held by David Ludt. Austintown schools are also looking for a bond issue and tax levy and Boardman Township is seeking a renewal of current expenses. Issue 3, the county sales tax renewal, is also a prominent issue.

Student Government Vice President for University Affairs Jack Daugherty knows that voting is important. He explains that at this time, he is not sure who is up for election, but does plan to look into the issues and candidates.

"Yeah, absolutely," Daugh-

erty said, "I'm planning to look on The Vindicator or the League of Women Voters' rundown."

Daugherty feels that the publications put out by the League of Women Voters are most helpful.

"It's a good resource. [It] gives you the pros and cons," Daugherty said. "[It] gives each candidate a chance to respond."

Students should also know that if they are attending college in Ohio, but are not originally from the state, they might be able to vote in the elections. "College Vote Ohio," a resource of the Secretary of State's website, provides students with the information and tools needed to register to vote in the state in which they are attending college. Students need to meet the voter requirements for Ohio and consider Ohio their home.

For more information and detailed explanations of all state issues and to find your voting location, visit the Ohio Secretary of State's website. Issues for Mahoning County can be found on the Mahoning County Board of Elections website.

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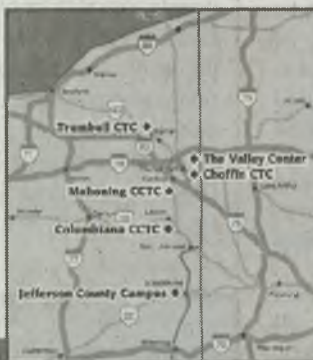
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## OUR SIDE

## The less time to procrastinate the better

The Jambar  
EDITORIAL BOARD

## RELATED STORY

COMPLETION, page 1

Let's face it. Life is unpredictable, and some students at Youngstown State University find that out first-hand each semester when something unforeseen happens, causing them to drop all their classes and attend to something that, at the time, may be more important than coursework.

Luckily for these students not all is lost, as we are able to request a grade of "I," or incomplete, from our instructors and have some extra time to make up the missed assignments. Originally students were allotted up to one year to complete the required coursework and have the grade changed. Failing to do so results in just that, failure of the course. Now the Academic Senate has moved to put tighter restrictions on incompletes, setting deadlines of Sept. 1 for spring and summer semesters and March 1 for fall, giving students less time to finish up that missed coursework.

Less time yes, but also less opportunity to procrastinate, like many of us can be guilty of. Some students waited until the last minute to finish up their incompletes or even forgot altogether, ultimately leading to sub-par grades or even failure.

These new deadlines will hopefully make students become more responsible in regards to completing any incompletes on their record and in turn more responsible as students overall.

As the spring term comes to a close you may be feeling panicked or overwhelmed, some common side effects of procrastination, and you surely don't want to have those same feelings because you forgot to get last semester's incomplete squared away in time.

Be proactive, not reactive, and give your nerves, professors and GPA a break.

## ABOUT THE JAMBAR

Since being founded by Burke Lyden in 1931, The Jambar has won nine Associated Collegiate Press Honors. The Jambar is published twice weekly during the fall and spring semesters and weekly during summer sessions. Mail subscriptions are \$25 per academic year. Additional copies of The Jambar are \$1 each.

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thejambar.com

BLUR The Middle of the Road  
BY CAROLINE HOLLAND



The views of this syndicated artist do not necessarily agree with those of The Jambar.

## You can't be a meat-eating environmentalist

McClathry-Tribune  
MCT

April 22 marks the 40th anniversary of Earth Day. Founded by former Sen. Gaylord Nelson, the original Earth Day put environmental protection on the national radar, leading to the creation of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and passage of the Clean Air and Clean Water acts. Forty years later, Earth Day has gone global. One billion people are expected to participate in Earth Day celebrations this month, from Buenos Aires, Argentina, to Tokyo, Japan.

That's all well and good. But planting trees and cleaning up rivers won't mean much in the long run if we continue to trash the planet with our meat habit. To truly "go green," we must start with what's on our plates.

Raising and killing animals for food wastes so many resources and causes so much destruction, it's hard to know where to begin.

According to the United Nations' Food and Agriculture Organization, 30 percent of the Earth's ice-free land is now involved — either directly or indirectly — in livestock production. As the world's appetite for meat increases, countries around the globe are bulldoz-

ing huge swaths of land in order to make more room for animals and the crops that feed them.

Then there's the energy required to operate factory farms, feedlots, slaughterhouses and trucks that transport animals and the amount of water that is squandered on animal agriculture (it takes more than 4,000 gallons of water per day to produce food for a single meat-eater compared to 300 gallons needed for a vegan). And don't forget the edible crops that are used to feed animals instead of hungry, malnourished people.

What else do we get from all the grain, fossil fuels and water that go into making meat and milk? More waste — in the form of tons and tons of feces.

Pound for pound, a pig produces four times as much waste as a human does. According to the Union of Concerned Scientists, factory farms generate about 300 million tons of manure every year — more than double the amount produced by the entire human population in the U.S.

No federal guidelines regulate how factory farms treat, store and dispose of the trillions of pounds of animal excrement that they produce each year. This waste — untreated, unsanitary and bubbling with chemicals — may be left to decompose in huge lagoons or sprayed over crop fields. Both of these disposal methods result in

run-off that contaminates the soil and water and kills fish and other wildlife. There are numerous reports that humans who live near factory farms have been made sick by the pollution — many suffer from respiratory ailments, neurological problems and more.

Today's meat factories also spew out greenhouse gases that are causing climate change. A 2006 United Nations report revealed that the livestock sector generates more greenhouse gases than all the cars, trucks, trains, planes and ships in the world combined. The report attributed 18 percent of annual worldwide greenhouse-gas emissions to farmed animals, but new research indicates that the figure actually could be much higher. In "Livestock and Climate Change," the Worldwatch Institute estimates that raising animals for food really produces 51 percent of all greenhouse-gas emissions.

It's time to face facts: Most people stop being environmentalists when they sit down to eat. Every time we consume meat, eggs or dairy foods, we contribute to ecological devastation and the wasteful misuse of resources on a global scale.

If we are ever to halt climate change and conserve land, water and other resources, not to mention reduce animal suffering, we must celebrate Earth Day every day — at every meal.

## Scuds for Hezbollah?

McClathry-Tribune  
MCT

Israeli officials last week accused Syria of providing the armed Islamic group Hezbollah with medium-range Scud missiles, which would make the Lebanese militants the first irregular army to possess such weapons, and would enable them to target virtually all of Israel. U.S. officials have not confirmed that the weapons were actually delivered, and Syria adamantly denies the charge. Israel and Syria each are warning that the other is preparing for war, raising concerns about a new military conflict in the region and prompting Republican calls for President Obama to delay sending a U.S. ambassador to Damascus for the first time in five years.

That would be a mistake. The United States does not send ambassadors as a reward to countries for their behavior, but to provide tools for defusing crises precisely like this one.

Syria has armed Hezbollah for decades. The delivery of Scuds, however, would mark a significant advance in its arsenal, further undermining the Lebanese state, although the effect on Israel would be as much psychological as military. During the 2006 war with Israel, Hezbollah used rockets with a range of up to 60 miles, and Scuds could increase that by at least sevenfold. But the large 1950s-era

missiles are inaccurate, and Israel has the capacity to intercept them. Still, Israel would view their introduction as an act of belligerence on Syria's part.

It is hard to see what Syria would gain by giving Scuds to Hezbollah. (Well-armed insurgent groups have a way of escaping the control of their patrons, as the U.S. and Russia have discovered.) Some suggest that Syria and Hezbollah believe Israel is planning a repeat of the 2006 war against a now-rearmed Hezbollah; by this theory, the Scuds serve as a deterrent. Others suggest that Damascus is frustrated at lack of progress in talks with Israel over the return of the Golan Heights, and wants to turn up the pressure. Still others propose that this has been masterminded by Tehran as part of a potential regional response to any Israeli attack on its nuclear facilities. Whatever the scenario, Israel often responds to a perceived threat increase with a strike, as it did on an alleged nuclear site in Syria in 2007.

Jordan's King Abdullah II is reported to have told members of Congress in Washington on Thursday that there is an imminent threat of war in the region. This is further argument for engagement by the United States. Despite the apparent lack of results so far, the United States should continue its efforts to woo Syria away from Tehran. The administration should mediate between Israel and Syria, and should do so with a full diplomatic arsenal. That means the Senate must confirm Robert S. Ford as ambassador to Syria.

Send letters to:  
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got an opinion?



## CAMPUS EARTH DAY EVENTS

### Informational Tables and Resource Fair

- 9 a.m.-2 p.m.
- Campus core

### Fish out of water Kayaking Program

- 9 a.m.-2 p.m.
- Campus core

### Environmental Presentations

- 9 a.m.-2 p.m.
- Peaberry's Cafe

### Vegan Earth Day Meal

- 3-7 p.m.
- Pete's Place



## YSU goes green for Earth Day 2010

Christine Keeling  
REPORTER

The warm weather and blooming trees are not the only reasons to think summer is almost here.

Wednesday marks that halfway point of spring and Earth Day.

This year, the Youngstown Environmental Sustainability Society will host a variety of fun-filled activities designed to provide students with knowledge and skills they can use to preserve the planet at its 12th annual Earth Day celebration on campus.

"It's a reminder that we are just visitors and need to have more respect," said Felicia Armstrong, professor of geological and environmental studies and YESS advisor.

During the day, students can visit information tables and a resource fair at the campus core from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Representatives will be on hand to discuss a variety of topics including citywide beautification projects, environmental justice issues, bird watching, arbor preservation and vegetarianism. At the same time, environmental presentations will take place in Peaberry's Cafe and feature the U.S. Coast Guard's video on ocean preservation and YESS' video from the Chill Out competition.

"It's important for people to be exposed to alternative ways to do something," said Nicholas Leone from Hubbard. "The ways we do things are not always the best way for us or the world."

Leone will present a visual display about straw bale housing in front of Kilcawley Center. He became interested in the topic after his brother went to Mexico to help residents build houses. Although encouraged by his brother to build a home of straw, Leone didn't think straw homes were feasible with the cold climate in Ohio and began to research the subject.

"I tried to prove him wrong," Leone said. "But what I found is that it is very well suited to this part of the country; its insulation value is good."

For students who like a little adventure, the Department of Campus Recreation will present its "Fish Out of Water Kayaking Program" from noon to 1 p.m. The event will offer information about the kayaking programs available on campus.

Armstrong said that even the way a person eats is important to the sustainability of the planet. From 3 to 7 p.m., a vegan buffet created by Clint Kifolo of Youngstown State University Dining Services and Ely from Ely's To Go will be available at Pete's Place. The meal includes a salad bar with locally sourced lettuces, soups, three entree choices and dessert.

"We hope that students will remember what they learn when they leave and incorporate it in their lives and with their families," Armstrong said.

The rain location for outdoor activities will be on the lower level of Kilcawley Center.

## Building the bridge between Brit-Pop and soul: Youngstown's Pictora climbs new heights

Gary S. Angelo  
FEATURES REPORTER

Some former members of Youngstown's charismatic funk collective the Sweet Delights are venturing into Britpop and French pop territories with their new project Pictora.

Pictora includes the perfect amalgam of Youngstown's respected indie music all-stars. The band includes Aspasia Lyras on vocals (from the Sweet Delights), George Lyras on guitar (from the Sweet Delights), Sean Tress on vocals and guitar (from the Sweet Delights), Matt Celio on bass (from November Loop) and Alan Williams on drums (from Modern Life and Wake The Lion).

Even though Pictora is based in Youngstown, the band is working its way up, picking up East Coast and Midwest gigs and airplay. Pic-

tora's sound is a huge change from the Sweet Delights, diving into the triphop waters of Portishead, the French pop of Sebastien Tellier and the well-rounded indie pop ethic of Helium. Tress feels that Pictora has the right amount of pure experimental freedom.

The Pictora saga began when Tress was writing music for a film short that local director Sean O' Malley was creating. All that the band needed to do at this point was lay down some lyrics. The song became Pictora's first and a popular favorite titled "Red Dress."

"The song 'Red Dress' has a poppy bassline. I was listening to the French sounds of Air a lot at the time. I was also listening to the dreamy sounds of Brian Wilson, and then I wanted to create more songs with heavy synth melodies," Tress said.

"Red Dress," written by Aspasia, was based on Tommy Wiseau's film "The

Room." The song embodies the tightly crafted essentials of early-1990s dream pop with a French beat that makes the gem stand completely on its own.

"This project has been building up for a long time. We are still experimenting as a band, finding our own niche and exploring different types of music," Aspasia said.

Tress, who is a bridge painter outside of music, settled on the name Pictora. The name derives from the Latin word "pictor," which means painter. Aspasia, who is heavily inspired by astrology, helped to decide on the name; "pictora" also means "star."

The band is shopping around its latest release, "Choreophilia." The release is on a digital download card with a code for listeners to download Pictora's music. The album's vinyl release will be April 27.

The band is getting exposure and radio play on Britain's Dandelion Radio, which

is a station founded by John Peel, BBC Radio 1's legendary disc jockey, music journalist and presenter. Peel passed away on Oct. 25, 2004, and is famous for helping popular acts such as the Smashing Pumpkins, the Cure, and Gang of Four get radio play through his program, the Peel Sessions.

The band has extensive plans as far as touring. From April to June, Pictora will be gigging around New York. On June 3, the band will make its way back to Youngstown to perform at Cedars Lounge.

Williams, a veteran of the hardcore scene, sees Pictora as a changing experience for the better.

"We are concerned with building a fanbase in Youngstown as well as outside of Youngstown. Pictora is a perfect fit for what I did in past bands I was in at the time. Playing in Pictora has helped me widen my abilities as a drummer," Williams said.

### TODAY

**CREEK GAMES**  
April 20, 8 p.m.  
Up A Creek Tavern

**Teddy Pantelas**  
April 20, 8 p.m.  
The Lemon Grove

**Open Stage**  
April 20, 10 p.m.  
Barley's

**Ultimate Karaoke**  
April 20, 10 p.m.  
Utopia

### WEDNESDAY

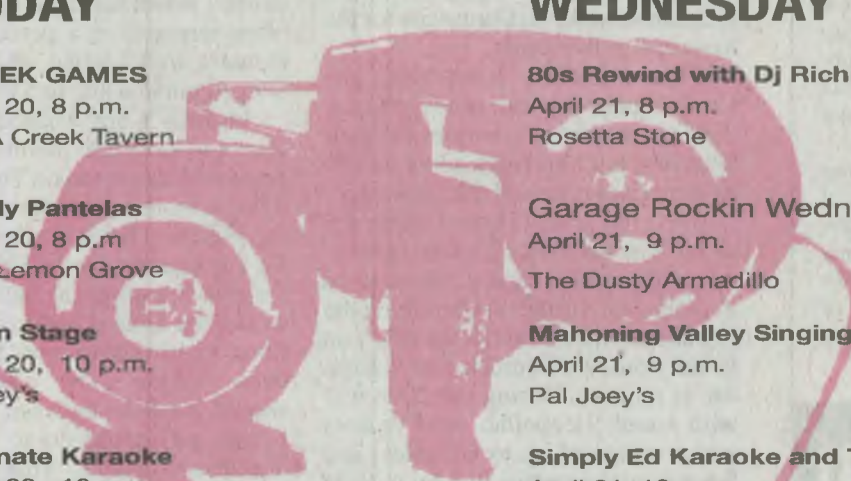
**80s Rewind with Dj Richie**  
April 21, 8 p.m.  
Rosetta Stone

**Garage Rockin Wednesdays**  
April 21, 9 p.m.  
The Dusty Armadillo

**Mahoning Valley Singing Star**  
April 21, 9 p.m.  
Pal Joey's

**Simply Ed Karaoke and Trivia**  
April 21, 10 p.m.  
The Fireplace

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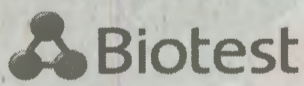
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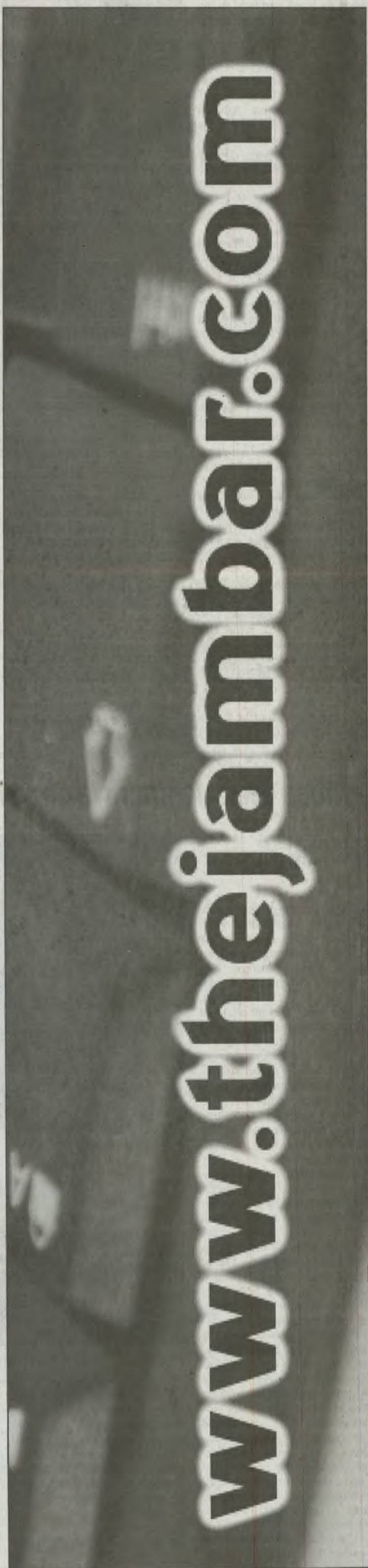
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## Penguins fair well at All-Ohio Championships

Keith Langford Jr.  
SPORTS EDITOR

Personal best times and school records fell once again for the men's and women's track and field teams at the All-Ohio Championships this weekend.

Head coach Brian Gorby was pleased with the effort of the Penguins because he feels Ohio is one of the top five states for track and field in the country and his Penguins did well against stiff competition.

"Overall, I'm extremely happy with the way the All-Ohio Championships went," Gorby said.

The weather in Athens, Ohio, was far from ideal as temperatures hovered around the 40-degree mark. Gorby felt his team dealt with the adversity of the cold weather well and didn't let it effect how they went about their business.

One Penguin who shrugged off the cold temperatures to perform at the highest level was junior thrower Danielle Curry. Curry broke her own school record in the shot put and posted a personal-best throw in the discus.

Curry placed second in the shot put with a throw of 15.48 meters. Curry bested her previous school record in the shot put by over one meter. Her previous school record in the shot put was 14.22 meters. Her throw of 44.42 meters in the discus throw was a personal-best throw for Curry and placed her fifth in the event.

Ever-consistent junior Alisha Anthony had another meet where she dominated.

Anthony placed second in two events at the All-Ohio Championships. Anthony jumped a distance of 5.66 meters in the long jump and soared to a distance of 11.94 meters in the triple jump. Anthony ranks first in YSU history in both the long jump and the triple jump.

"Coach [Marcella] Bohla has Alisha consistent every



Freshman Samantha Hamilton continues to improve every time she steps onto the track in her first year as a Penguin. Her time of 11:24.93 in the 3,000m steeplechase at the All-Ohio Championships ranks her second in YSU history.

week," Gorby said.

Other Penguins had personal-best days to go along with Curry's fantastic day.

Freshman Samantha Hamilton continued her torrid first season with the Penguins as she continued to lower her time in the 3,000-meter steeplechase. Hamilton ran the race in a time of 11:24.93. In her last race at the Sea Ray Relays, Hamilton ran a time of 11:40.88 in the 3,000-meter steeplechase. Hamilton shaved more than 15 seconds off her previous personal-best time.

Senior Robyn Ray finished a couple of places behind Anthony in the triple jump with a fourth-place finish. Her jump of 11.49 meters was a personal-best time for Ray.

Senior Aaron Merrill also had a personal-best day. Merrill threw the hammer throw a distance of 53.10 meters.

Coach Gorby wants his team to perform at a high level but wants to make sure he has everybody healthy going into the stretch run.

"We are going to look some huge [personal-bests] in

the weeks ahead. Every event, we go in trying to improve school records and personal bests," Gorby said. "The focus is to sharpen up a couple things and most importantly, stay healthy,"

Ultimately, Coach Gorby said he wants to get back to where he feels his teams belong, atop the Horizon League standings.

"We are going to try to step inside those top two spots from the third and fifth positions from the indoor season," Gorby said.

## Softball seeks to improve on seventh position in Horizon League

Chelsea Miller  
SPORTS REPORTER

The Youngstown State University softball team has been busy preparing for May's upcoming Horizon League Championships. Sitting in the seventh spot in the Horizon League standings, Coach Brian Campbell feels the team has a good chance at an appearance this season.

"We're halfway through and we're 5-7 [in the conference]. We still have four more games left in conference, and I think that if we put all three areas of the game together, we are right there with it," Campbell said.

Campbell added that he believes the team has a chance to perform well in the tournament if they can hold the sixth spot.

"Even some of the coaches have said to me that we can be a dangerous team. I think that batting .300, or a little over .300, shows that we're hitting the ball well," he said.

The last two conference games played, however, did not fare well for the Penguins. The three-game series held Saturday and Sunday against Wright State University resulted in a 13-7, 10-3, and 4-0 loss for YSU. The Penguins' many errors on Saturday (eight in the opener, and five in the nightcap), as well as Wright State's 33 hits in the three games, contributed to the losses.

Campbell also said the weather had a factor in the outcome of the game.



Freshman Vicky Rumph gets in position for a possible groundball.

"All year long, we really didn't have a lot of mistakes, with the exception of early in the season. Saturday, we had some mistakes defensively. I would say we did put the ball in play," he said. "Both teams were making a little bit due to the weather."

One positive aspect from Saturday and Sunday's games was sophomore Haley Thomas's performance. Thomas put

up four hits, including a triple and a double, in the first game to tie a school single-game record. Batting .550 and totaling seven runs and three RBIs during the week, Thomas earned Horizon League Softball Player of the Week for the second week this season. She said that receiving the award twice is beneficial to YSU.

"I think it's really good for the university. It hasn't hap-

pened in awhile here," Thomas said.

She added that her goals for the rest of the season are for the team to make it into the top six and have a successful running in the tournament.

The softball team's next scheduled conference game will be held Tuesday at McCune Park. The game is scheduled for 4 p.m. against Cleveland State University.

### HORIZON LEAGUE BASEBALL

1. VALPARAISO
2. WRIGHT STATE
3. UIC
4. **YOUNGSTOWN STATE**
5. MILWAUKEE
6. BUTLER
7. CLEVELAND STATE

### HORIZON LEAGUE SOFTBALL

1. CLEVELAND STATE
2. BUTLER
3. VALPARAISO
4. WRIGHT STATE
5. LOYOLA
6. GREEN BAY
7. **YOUNGSTOWN STATE**
8. UIC
9. DETROIT

### PENGUIN SPOTLIGHT



HALEY THOMAS

**POSITION:** Outfielder  
**YEAR:** Sophomore  
**HOMETOWN:** Simi Valley, Calif.  
**AVG:** .418  
**OB%:** .489  
**HIT:** 51  
**HR:** 4

### SCHEDULES

#### BASEBALL

- April 21 **PITTSBURGH**
- April 23 **MILWAUKEE**
- April 23 **MILWAUKEE**
- April 25 **BUTLER**
- April 25 **BUTLER**
- April 27 **KENT STATE**
- April 28 @ Akron
- April 30 **WRIGHT STATE**
- May 1 **WRIGHT STATE**
- May 1 **WRIGHT STATE**
- May 7 @Cleveland State
- May 8 @Cleveland State
- May 8 @Cleveland State
- May 11 @Toledo

#### SOFTBALL

- April 20 **CLEVELAND STATE**
- April 21 **CLEVELAND STATE**
- April 24 **UIC**
- April 25 **UIC**
- April 28 **NIAGARA**
- May 1 @Valparaiso
- May 2 @Valparaiso
- May 8 @Green Bay
- May 8 @Green Bay
- May 9 @Green Bay
- May 13-May15 @Horizon League Championships

#### WOMEN'S TENNIS

- April 23-25 Horizon League Championships

#### MEN'S TENNIS

- April 22-25 Horizon League Championships

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