

THE JAMBAR

The student voice of
Youngstown State University
since 1931.

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THE SIDEBAR



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WEATHER

Today		75° 62°
Wednesday		82° 62°
Thursday		77° 57°
Friday		74° 50°
Saturday		76° 54°
Sunday		71° 52°
Monday		70° 48°



Remember to recycle your copy of The Jambar.

CLUB WITH A NEW COACH

Josh Stipanovich
NEWS EDITOR

The Youngstown State University men's hockey club is four days away from opening up their 2009-2010 season at Ohio University — without a head coach.

Former head coach Rocky Russo, who would have been entering his third year with the Penguins, was offered another job as assistant coach of the St. Louis Bandits. The Bandits are a part of the North American Hockey League and an affiliate to the National Hockey League's St. Louis Blues, youth hockey director Curtis Carr said.

"It's actually a really good move for him. It says a lot for the program," Carr

"To have to walk away in what I feel is going to be the best year that Youngstown State hockey's ever had was very, very difficult."

Rocky Russo

said. He added that the hockey program and the staff at the Ice Zone have already hired a new head coach. Although Carr could not give a name, he said the coach

HOCKEY page 8

Official figures in, enrollment totals 14,682

Jennifer Tomerlin
REPORTER

According to the Youngstown State University Office of Institutional Research, enrollment for the fall semester is officially 14,682 students.

Of that 14,682, 13,247 are in-state students, 144 are from out-of-state, 151 are international students, and 797 applications were from the Western Pennsylvania Advantage area.

"The Western Pennsylvania Advantage not only advances our enrollment possibilities, but it makes a strong statement about YSU and its role at the center of the Tech Belt emerging between Cleveland and Pittsburgh," President David Sweet said at his State of the University Address.

When the fall semester began, residence halls were over 100 percent full. Orientation experienced a 353 student increase, and 2,505 students had attended SOAR for 2009-2010 when last year only 2,152 students attended last year.

"We had a very successful opening to our academic year," Dr. Cynthia Anderson explained. "Many people worked very hard to provide students with a smooth transition into the university. Serving 14,682 students was a huge challenge, and staff and faculty on the YSU campus certainly stepped up to the plate on behalf of service to our students. They deserve much thanks and praise."

President Sweet said YSU's enrollment will have a positive effect, not only on campus but also in the surrounding communities.

"Enrollment growth is really about enhancing the lives of more of our students through their experiences with our faculty and staff and engaging in our community," he said.



Safer Sex Week kicks off with debate

Dan Pompili
ASSIST. NEWS EDITOR

Among the myriad of events scheduled for Safer Sex Week at Youngstown State University, students engaged in an open forum lecture on sex and relationships in the basement of Lyden Hall Monday night.

The lecture — titled "What's Love Got to do With it?" — was presented by Lance Hartshorn, area director for the Northeast Ohio Fellowship of Christian Athletes, and his wife Kristin. They focused on marriage and the relational differences between men and women.

Hartshorn and his wife explained the ways men and women relate to each other in relationships and how differently both genders view and approach sex.

Various topics incited sexually-tensioned debates, including conversation on the "five love languages" to which women respond in a relationship.

"We wanted to address all aspects, like communication," said Emily Wollet,

a graduate assistant in residential education. Wollet said the emphasis was on showing that sex is more than an act.

"We want it to be about more than sex," said Kristin Hartshorn. "We want their relationships to last."

"We've been talking marriage to kids for a while now, and found that they really want to listen to it," Lance Hartshorn said.

Hartshorn and his wife cited a 60 percent national divorce rate.

Following the lecture, Wollet made condoms available, as well as raffle tickets for one of two iPod Shuffles that will be given away as a participation incentive for Safer Sex Week.

Other events throughout the week will include forums on date rape and sexual assault, healthy relationships, sexually transmitted diseases, a game of Battle of the Sexes and a Spice of Life Party.

More details, including dates and times, are available on the YSU Housing and Residence Life Web site.

Winslow's to reopen under different management

Lamar Salter
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

Winslow's Cafe, located inside the Butler Institute of American Art, has found new management.

The Antone's Restaurant Group, a franchise known throughout the city for its Italian cuisine, will be taking over the cafe.

Kathy Earnhardt, director of public relations at the Butler, said a new menu would come with the new management. Earnhardt said the new lineup should provide "more options for students to choose from."

One of the main differences in the menu selection will be availability. Earnhardt said the new cafe will have a breakfast and carry-out selection.

Winslow's Cafe has undergone renovations since Sept. 15. The Butler's Web site originally said renovations would be complete by Sept. 22, but the date has since changed to the 30.

Earnhardt, however, said the alterations will not be completed until much later.

"To be honest, I don't expect to see the cafe open until about October," Earnhardt said.

Despite new management, the cafe will keep the same name.

News Briefs

SMARTS Gallery to feature work of two YSU graduates

The work of two Youngstown State University alums will be featured in an exhibition presented by Students Motivated by the Arts. From Sept. 25 through Nov. 13, an exhibition by local artists Samantha Grbinick and Jason Vaughn will be shown in downtown Youngstown's SMARTS Center Gallery. The exhibit is titled "Through the Eyes of Travel, a Collection of Illustrations," and will feature anatomical sketches and dream-like images. The gallery is open Tuesdays through Thursdays from 10 a.m. until 4:30 p.m.

Youngstown Business Incubator partners with YSU

This fall, the Youngstown Business Incubator and YSU's Williamson College of Business are pairing up to begin the Entrepreneurial Internship Program. Interns will perform 225 hours of work per semester; their salaries will be paid by YBI and WCBA's Monus Entrepreneurship Center. The goal of the program is to provide students with professional experience and expose them to entrepreneurship.

Police Briefs

Items stolen from intramural office

On Thursday, an officer was sent to a Stambaugh Stadium intramural office storage room in regard to a theft. Among the items taken were six footballs and 12 black and white referee-style shirts. Also taken was a 24-pack of bottled water. There were no signs of forced entry.

Two males arrested on Wick Avenue

On Thursday, campus dispatch received a call from a citizen that two intoxicated males were walking on Wick Avenue. One subject was intoxicated and placed under arrest for disorderly conduct. After being taken to the YSU Police department, the arrestee became ill and vomited in their holding room. The arrestee was assisted by an officer until paramedics arrived, and then taken to St. Elizabeth Health Center for further treatment.



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Online shopping: friend or foe?

Alicia Patillo
REPORTER

Senior Mara Porter confesses she is a shopping addict, but with the six classes at Youngstown State University this semester, she said she hasn't seen a mall since August.

With classes Monday through Friday and work schedules that fill weekends, some students say online shopping is their break from reality. Luckily for the people with the all-day, everyday schedules, shopping without leaving the house is available, and some use it as their only option for purchasing everything they need.

"I went shopping almost every day in the summer," Porter said. "It's that bad. An item here, an item there ... but as of late, I haven't been in a while and it's killing me."

Porter, who works Friday through Sunday at her uncle's diner, said when she gets off

work, she shops online to relieve stress.

"After I work on Saturdays, I go home, get on my laptop and start shopping, it is my relaxation time," she said.

Sophomore Kerrie Anthony said it's more about the great deals she finds online compared to shopping malls.

"I absolutely love shopping online," Anthony said. "The prices are dramatically different. I'm a college student. I can't afford anything very expensive, and online, I definitely find some great deals."

Fashion and interior merchandising professor Dr. Tacibant Turel agrees with the accessibility and convenience of online shopping.

"I personally do all my shopping online," Turel said. "I don't have time to shop in the mall; it's so exhausting. A lot of people nowadays don't have the time to go out and shop, so the better alternative is online shopping."

Although Turel said she does all her shopping online,

she is still a little wary of buying clothing online.

"With clothes, it's a little tricky. You may see something online that looks good, but fits totally different," Turel said.

For James Creamon, online shopping is simply something he does in his spare time.

"I don't necessarily ever buy anything when I browse online, but I do compare prices, and from my research they have been cheaper than in-store merchandise," Creamon said.

Freshman Katie Wells said she shops online because of the variety that's not always in stores.

"I can go to Aldo Shoes in a Pittsburgh mall and look at the sale rack, and then go home, look online at <http://www.aldoshoes.com> and find a whole variety of shoes on sale that weren't even on display in the store," Wells said.

Junior Hunter Henderson is not a fan of online shopping, and said some Web sites are not legit.

"How do you know if these websites you buy from are real? You're basically gambling your money. You don't know if you're really going to get what you pay for or if it will even come," Henderson said.

Freshman C.J. Thompson said he will pass on online shopping.




"I enjoy going to the mall and trying clothes on. I don't want to order something that doesn't fit and then have to return it. Now that's exhausting," Thompson said.

For freshman Lesley Richardson, the experience with online shopping was an ill one, literally.

"I will never online shop again. I ordered some face cream from this beauty Web site and I applied it every day. It was supposed to make your face feel more glowing, but what I got was a breakout that took a trip to the dermatologist to get fixed," Richardson said.

JAMBAR
What's on your mind?

How do you feel about President Obama calling Kanye West a jackass?

"I think it was too light. . . I don't think he used enough swear words."

Ryan Hamraceh

"I think since it's leaked out it shows he's an ordinary person. At least he expressed his feelings. It's not the nicest thing to say, but it's kind of true."

Moe Ramahi

"I think it's funny and rude. It was inappropriate, but at the same time what Kanye did was too."

Geisha Cobero



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Wednesday, September 23

8 a.m.-2 p.m.



Interactive whiteboards replacing chalk and blackboards to upgrade college classrooms

Robin Erb
DETROIT FREE PRESS

DETROIT — Today's college classrooms are high-tech marvels, overhead projectors and grease pencils replaced by document cameras, hand-held clickers, and interactive whiteboards.

And faculty most of them see technology as a way to better connect to students in their interactive, multi-tasking, apps-ready world.

"Some are ... not going to change without kicking and screaming. But for the most part, even our older faculty are embracing it," said George Preisinger, Oakland University's assistant vice president for classroom support and instructional technical services.

The school recently spent \$15,000 in technology upgrades in each general purpose classroom for students, Preisinger said.

In some classrooms, a professor can watch each student's computer screen simultaneously to monitor their progress on a project or even catch

them Facebooking.

A lot has changed since his first days in the tech department, Preisinger laughed: "We were the ones wheeling the old AV carts around."

Of course, technology has its limits and it still takes a skilled speaker to engage students, said Charles Parrish, political professor at Wayne State University.

"A good professor is a good professor," he said. "Socrates sat under trees and didn't have PowerPoint."

Central Michigan University this year opened its \$50-million Education and Human Services Building. Inside is 76 miles of Internet networking cable, 11 miles of phone cable, and 27 "RoomWizards" keypads outside classrooms to allow users to reserve rooms.

Motion-sensitive cameras follow a pacing professor or link out-of-town students with the classroom. Whiteboards upload to e-mails. Elsewhere, clickers, tiny remotes in which students send answers instantly to a professor's hand held computer screen allow professors to pop-quiz a class or

take quick surveys.

At Wayne State University last month, Tynise Penn, 29, was studying at the library. She finished her master's degree through classes and her laptop, finding the most up-to-date research and discussion online.

Books? She shrugged, chuckling: "No, never picked one up."

The contrast of education old vs. new is tangible at Eastern Michigan University, where an ongoing \$90-million upgrade to the Mark Jefferson science complex will offer state-of-the-art, reconfigured class and lab space. The university has set aside about \$2.5 million for audiovisual and communications technology and security, Scott Storrar, head of facilities planning and construction.

Nearby is a one-room schoolhouse — much like the one where Eastern's President Sue Martin began her education in the 1950s. But just as her teacher engaged 30 students every day with no more than shelves of books and a piano, good teaching transcends

time and light-speed changes in technology.

"A faculty member still has to lead the experience," Martin said.

Such gadgetry is hardly a surprise for many students.

Even in the K-12 system, book reports have been replaced by interactive presentations on interactive whiteboards.

"It even changes the idea of show-and-tell," said Denise Brandt, media specialist Lone Pine Elementary School in Bloomfield Hills (Mich.) Schools, a district that has installed more than \$2 million in interactive whiteboards, projectors, document cameras, sound amplification and playback equipment in every classroom.

Still, how much is too much?

A dean of Dallas-based Southern Methodist University recently stripped computers from lecture halls. Meadows School of the Arts Dean Jose Bowen challenged staff instead to "teach naked," as in, without computers in the

classroom.

But technology has its place. Today's faculty should offer podcast lectures, hyperlinks, and online study sessions to prep the students with materials before class, leaving classroom time for discussion and debate, Bowen said.

Yet all this leads to yet another pedagogical debate. If, in a wired world, knowledge is hyperlinked and answers are searchable, how do you test?

For example, should a student be able to consult with the Internet during a test to find the answer to a complex math formula? asked Jim Gilchrist, Western Michigan University's vice provost and chief information officer.

The definition of "cheating," Gilchrist said, hinges on the definition of learning.

"Does successful learning mean you've memorized something and can bring it back without looking it up?" he asked. "Or is successful learning knowing how to find the necessary information?"

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OUR SIDE EDITORIAL

Use your head

RELATED STORY

Safer Sex, page 1

THE JAMBAR
EDITORIAL BOARD

Another school year, another week of passing out free condoms, information on STDs and hosting sex toy parties.

Although the subjects of the activities and seminars are uncomfortable at best for some, we cannot stress enough the importance of the information being provided.

As college students, our maturity levels vary widely, but our objective ought to be the same...education.

Yet, the YSU community is providing free education on a subject far more applicable to your life than the Keynesian theory of economics or the impact of McCarthyism on U.S. foreign policy, and most of you will just laugh and ignore it.

Too often, young people think they are invincible to consequence. Make no mistake, though. Nearly everything that happens to you is your own fault, because you place yourself in the position to let it happen. Ignoring knowledge that could separate you from AIDS or an unwanted pregnancy is to turn your back on the spirit of why you are even on this campus.

Yes, enjoy the festivities, laugh, blush in embarrassment a little bit too... but learn.

We are here at this institute of higher learning because we do not yet know everything. We pay a pretty penny for some courses that serve little more purpose than filling our schedule. This week is an opportunity to learn for free about issues that may determine our success or failure as students and citizens and people.

Your sexual decisions affect more than just you. Wrap your head around the knowledge to help you choose intelligently. For Pete's sake...it's free!

OUR SIDE POLICY

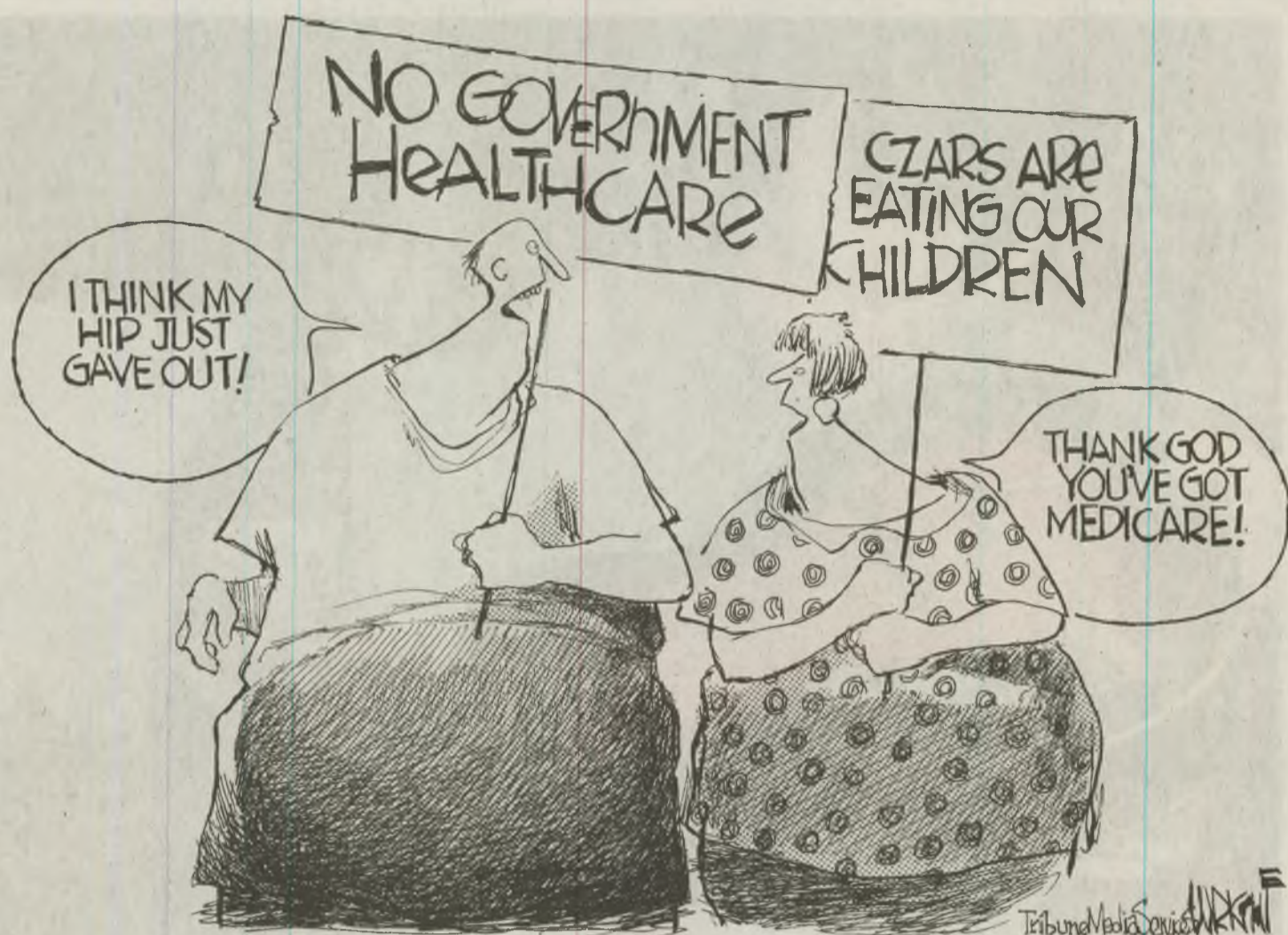
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The Jambar encourages letters to the editor. E-mail submissions are welcome at editor@thejambar.com. Letters should concern campus issues, must be typed and must not exceed 400 words. Submissions must include the writer's name and telephone number for verification and the writer's city of residence for printing. Letters are subject to editing for spelling, grammar and clarity. The editorial board reserves the right to reject commentaries that are libelous or that don't defend opinion with facts from reliable sources. The editorial board will request a rewrite from the submitting writer based on these requirements.

Letters will not be rejected based on the view expressed in them. Letters may be rejected if they are not relevant to Jambar readers, seek free publicity or if the editorial staff decides the subject has been sufficiently aired. The Jambar will not print letters that are libelous, threatening, obscene or indecent. The Jambar does not withhold the names of writers of letters or guest commentaries.

The views and opinions expressed in letters and commentaries on the opinion page do not necessarily reflect those of The Jambar staff. Editorials do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the faculty, staff or administration of Youngstown State University.



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

Letter to the Editor

The collapse of the Lehman Brothers on Sept. 15, 2008, and the subsequent financial meltdown at Wall Street started the worst national economic downturn that economists now refer to as "The Great Recession." One irony of the economic recession is that many U.S. academic institutions are now enjoying a sharp enrollment spike in general and in economics classes and majors. Three possible reasons can be offered to explain the increased curiosity for economic knowledge at this time. First, people may simply want to have a better understanding of their immediate economic circumstances in the current economic environment so that they can make proper financial adjustments for their future security. Second, some may just want to comprehend the economic consequences of the various government policies and programs that have been implemented in an effort to alleviate the current economic crisis, such as the Troubled Asset Relief Program (TARP) and the Car Allowance Rebate System (CARS) aka the Cash for Clunker program. Third, people may rationally be responding to the reality of today's marketplace: there is a surge in the

demand for economists by businesses, governments and non-profit organizations. A recent published study titled "Best Undergrad College Degrees By Salary" (<http://www.payscale.com/best-colleges/degrees.asp>) shows that the median starting salary of \$50,200 for a bachelor's degree in economics ranks as number 17 when compared to other disciplines. For those students who are still undeclared, the time to major in economics could not have been better. For those of you majoring in economics, this is also the time to seriously consider pursuing a graduate degree in economics. Fall 2009 enrollment at Youngstown State University is the highest in 17 years and part of that comes from an historic enrollment increase in the graduate economics program. A record number of 32 students are enrolled in our master's degree program this fall; 16 are new students while the rest are continuing students. Of the 32 students, 20 are full-time students while the rest are part-time students. By specialty, 13 specialize in economics while 19 specialize in financial economics; these are the two elective tracks that we offer in our master's degree program. The mas-

ter's degree in economics is designed to provide students with a solid background in applied economics, whereas the master's degree in financial economics is designed to provide students with a solid background in applied economics and financial markets.

The department boasts a diverse body of graduate students from far (China, Ethiopia, Ghana, Nigeria) and near (Hiram College, Kent State University, Miami University, Ohio State University, Virginia Polytechnic University, YSU). The fact that all of our graduates in the past three years are today gainfully employed or pursuing a Ph.D. degree attests to the quality of our master's degree program.

So what are you waiting for? Please come in and talk to me about how to apply for admission into the master's degree program in economics, the admission requirements and the possibility of graduate assistantship. We welcome inquiries from majors in other fields including business, mathematics and engineering.

Ebenge Usip, Ph.D. Professor and director of graduate program, economics

Petting Zoo



Melissa Mary Smith
COLUMNIST

For the past two years, I've participated in a scholarship fashion show put on by the American Business Women's Association.

If you've never modeled in a fashion show, I can tell you that it's very awkward and nerve-wracking.

Days before the actual show, your outfits are chosen and then you go through the rigors of trying them all on. If an outfit doesn't look good or fit right, you move on to the next one.

On the day of the actual fashion show, you have to arrive early where a quick run-through of the show takes place.

However many outfits you wear is equal to how many times you walk the runway.

Guess what? This year I wore three outfits, so I had to walk three excruciatingly long times.

When the show starts, you're required to do lightning-fast wardrobe changes and model, set to bad techno music, in front of a room full of strangers.

I almost missed all of my stage cues, but it's a good thing no one noticed.

Despite these somewhat off-putting aspects, I can truly say it's a thrill modeling fancy clothing — most of which I could never afford — and getting my hair and make-up done beautifully. The whole process of polishing and dressing and primping is thoroughly girly; being a longtime tomboy, this is a unique and refreshing experience.

During my time modeling in the shows, I have had the pleasure of meeting very kind women who are working professionals around Mahoning County as well as fellow scholarship awardees.

In addition to meeting new people, seeing how other scholarship and ABWA make-over recipients look after they've been dolled up means the most to me. They have a genuine look of happiness on their faces that I could definitely relate to.

Another interesting part of fashion shows is observing how make-up artists and hair stylists create something truly glamorous out of everyday styling routines.

I can say that while every year I have qualms about being on stage and the hour-long period it takes to remove my mask of makeup, I never regret occasionally being the center of attention.

What about Rangel?

Chicago Tribune
MCT

The House of Representatives wasted no time in lowering the boom this week on the rude and inexcusable conduct of Rep. Joe Wilson, Republican of South Carolina. Wilson yelled out "you lie" while President Barack Obama was delivering his health-care reform appeal to a joint session of Congress last week.

It took just six days for the House to approve a formal rebuke of Wilson.

OK. So far, so good. Now, what about the questionable conduct of some other members of the House?

Take Charles Rangel, D-N.Y., chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee. Rangel has been under investigation by the House Ethics Committee for 10 months.

Granted, this is more complicated than one lout shouting "You lie."

But Rangel's alleged conduct could be far more damaging to the reputation of the House. He faces allegations that he:

Controlled four rent-stabilized New York City apartments, one of which he illegally turned into a campaign office.

Took a homestead exemption on a Washington house, which is only available for a primary residence. Under New York law, a rent-controlled apartment must be your primary residence.

Solicited donations on congressional letterhead for the Charles B. Rangel Center for Public Service at City College of New York and worked to preserve a tax break for an oil drilling company after its top executive donated \$1 million to the center.

Failed to report to the IRS and pay taxes on \$75,000 in rental income from a beachfront property in the Dominican Republic.

Underestimated on his House ethics statement the value of a Florida condo he and his wife owned.

Violated House disclosure rules by failing to report the full details of some privately sponsored trips.

There's more. Last month,

Rangel amended his House financial disclosure forms to report profits from the sale of a Harlem townhouse, thousands of dollars in mutual fund dividends and two checking accounts valued at \$250,000 to \$500,000 each.

Rangel has displayed an appalling lack of candor and care in his financial affairs, yet he remains chairman of the tax-writing Ways and Means Committee.

Did the House Democratic leadership learn nothing from the political price that Republicans paid for their ham-handed handling of ethics issues when they were in charge of the House?

By not dealing swiftly and forthrightly with Rangel, the Democrats are telling the public that ethics doesn't really matter. Charlie Rangel? He's too important for that.

Democrats, rap Joe Wilson for being a boor. He was.

But you still have a much larger problem in your midst.



Tom Diggins, professor and guitar enthusiast will be opening a guitar shop in the city. Photo courtesy of Tom Diggins.

Jangle, buzz, howl: Hootenanny vintage guitars

Gary S. Angelo
FEATURES REPORTER

Dr. Tom Diggins, a biology professor at Youngstown State University, will be opening a new business: Hootenanny Vintage Guitars. The shop will be located at 14 N. Phelps St. in Youngstown.

Diggins will carry an extensive guitar selection, ranging from pre- and post-war model electric, acoustic and archtop guitars. Hootenanny will also carry pre- and post-hipster novelties such as handmade jewelry and incense.

Besides being an avid vintage collector and player, Diggins does restoration work on his vintage hollow gems. He purchases his inventory of guitars from eBay merchants.

"The difference between junky old guitars and vintage guitars is getting them to play well," Diggins said.

One of the first things Diggins does when he purchases a vintage guitar is

"Musicians love the wear and tear and original designs of vintage guitars."

Dr. Tom Diggins

clean and polish it.

"The reason why I clean them first is because most vintage guitars are quite neglected because many people will possess guitars, but not play them," Diggins said.

Often the guitars Diggins purchases for his business come in slightly rough condition, frequently eroded by dust.

"The guitars I get range from just needing a good cleaning to major repairs," Diggins said. Such major repairs include re-gluing the neck and repairing the internal body bracing. "It's common for vintage guitars to

have the glue in the neck joint loose because the glues are brittle and dry, due to the fact they are many decades old."

Diggins, however, does not refinish vintage guitars, because refinishing oxidizes guitars and takes the vintage quality and sound away from the instrument.

"Musicians love the wear and tear and original designs of vintage guitars," he said.

Diggins said finishing a guitar in weathered condition takes various procedures. These procedures can sometimes take 8,000 micro buffing pads plus micro buffing compounds, followed

by special polishes to get a vintage model in substantial shape.

"I have practiced restoration techniques on many inexpensive guitars to get proficient at working with more elaborate models, such as Gretsch guitars," Diggins said.

An unusual aspect of Hootenanny Guitars is the rare and foreign brands Diggins will carry. Hootenanny's main electric attractions are the '60s surf garage punk models, crafted after the traditional Fender Mustangs and Jazzmasters.

"I enjoy the '60s surf guitars mainly for their tone, but my best guitars I sell right now would be my selection of archtop acoustic guitars," Diggins said.

Diggins was always a huge fan of archtop guitars because they remind him of the many art deco styles.

Top-end brands include 1940s and 1950s Gretsch and Epiphone brand guitars. He has been avoiding selling and collecting old Fender and Gibson models, mainly

because of their high price point, which can range up to \$15,000.

"With my business, I am catering to the player verses the collector," Diggins said.

The building is still going through construction inspection; Diggins is confident the store will be open in a month.

"We are all ready to go with inventory, and I built a decent-sized business," Diggins said.

Despite the trend of collectors buying vintage guitars overseas, Diggins has one mission: to start a hip community and business close to YSU.

"Locating near YSU is my way of tapping into the needs of local musicians," Diggins said.

He also plans on booking acoustic acts to do sidewalk gigs outside of Hootenanny Vintage Guitars during business hours. Diggins will also be participating in various downtown festival events, including Youngstown Pride and the Pig Iron Press Festival.

'Informant' puts new twist on spy genre

Tyler Landis
JAMBAR CONTRIBUTOR

"The Informant!"
Starring: Matt Damon, Scott Bakula, Melanie Lynskey, Joel McHale

GRADE: B

Matt Damon has never been better, starring as true life whistleblower Mark Whitacre. A doughy Damon packed on 30 pounds, sported a ridiculous wig and grew what looked like an uncomfortable mustache to portray Whitacre, a big shot who worked for a lysine developing company called ADM.

The film, directed by auteur Steven Soderbergh is breezy, fun and a little confusing at first, but reveals its layers gradually due to its solid script written by Scott Z. Burns. The film starts in

Decatur, Illinois, where we are introduced to the simple world of Whitacre, one that will surely be changed and be flipped on its head throughout the film. He's nearing a position in upper management at his company until the FBI comes sniffing around and use Whitacre as a mole to uncover price-fixing and corporate kick-back schemes. All of this is very detailed, and amusing, as the audience shakes their heads the whole time at what transpires.

"The Informant" is an odd little film, filled with '70s spy music and a loopy performance by Damon that should remind filmgoers that he is truly an A-lister, one who never receives enough credit. Do yourself a favor: picture the action star in the Bourne films and then go see this movie. Damon transforms himself. Whitacre narrates most of the film, quietly offering his commentary on not so important things. It's mainly just him ... talking.

The film is cast well, but it's Damon's film from beginning to end. Rounding out the cast are Scott Bakula, in a nice supporting role, and Joel McHale from TV's "The Soup," both of whom play FBI agents who monitor Whitacre throughout the film. Melanie Lynskey plays Whitacre's confused and disapproving wife Ginger, and several other familiar faces pop in and out of the film as well.

For amusing laughs and an original twist on the spy genre, "The Informant!" offers plenty to admire and chuckle about. One can tell that Soderbergh and Damon had fun making this film which was shot in only 30 days. This film could have been portrayed many ways, but Soderbergh and his writer were spot-on in making this a comedic vehicle for Damon to cruise along with.

TYLER LANDIS CONTRIBUTES TO THE JAMBAR. HIS ARTICLE PREVIOUSLY APPEARED ON HIS BLOG.



Matt Damon packed on 30 pounds for his role as Mark Whitacre in the dark comedy; "The Informant." MCT Photo.



PHOTO FROM HTTP://WWW.MYSPACE.COM/JORDANDEPAUL/USC

DePaul and the Reputations to headline Pre-Party

Jeff Mamounis
REPORTER

Since the fall of 2007, the Penguin Pre-Party has been dedicated to providing Youngstown State University students with Thursday evening on-campus entertainment. All Penguin Pre-Party events have free entertainment, free food, prizes and much more.

On Thursday, the Pre-Party is welcoming musical guests The Narrative and Jordan DePaul and The Reputations.

The Narrative is a band consisting of members Suzie, Jesse and Charlie.

"We're all from New York, we live on Long Island, we live in Manhattan, we live in Brooklyn," The Narrative said in an interview with <http://www.absolutepunk.net>.

The name "Jordan DePaul and The Reputations" should ring a

bell. Here's a hint: they're 2009 Vexfest performers and Northeastern Ohio natives. In 2008, they released an album titled "Town of Statues."

DePaul describes the band's music as "a mixture of Snow Patrol and Kings of Leon." Jordan DePaul and The Reputations have been playing together for about a year and a half, minus the recent addition of a new guitar player, who has been with the band for a few months.

The band consists of Mike Cleland on guitar, Michael McGiffin on bass, Ryan Daley on drums, Joey Verzill on guitar and Jordan DePaul as the frontman.

"We are going to play an acoustic set so people can expect not to be blown out of a coffee shop by loud music," DePaul said. "It's not what we usually do, but it'll be nice and chill ... good, easy to follow music for people to listen to on a Thursday night."

Documentary highlights city's 'Meltdown' at DeYor

Nicholas Kloss
REPORTER

There once was a time in Youngstown when blast furnaces cast a reddish haze across the midnight skies and the clang from within steel producing giants rang free. Then it was gone.

"There's an entire generation that doesn't remember the steel mills," explained filmmaker Kevin DeOliveira, whose documentary, "Steel Valley: Meltdown," is scheduled to premiere at the DeYor Performing Arts Center on Friday.

Using Youngstown as the example for an economic plague and industrial decline that has swept the Midwest, DeOliveira's documentary sets out to illustrate what he calls a "disconnect" between his generation and the generations of the city's steel age.

The film begins by diving into Youngstown's founding and early history before it progresses into the present and speculates about the city's uncertain but hopeful future.

"We wanted to go all the way back to John Young when he founded

Youngstown and tell the story from there up to the present," DeOliveira said. "That's the only way to really understand what happened here."

Made in association with Stuck in Ohio Productions, a local film production company, DeOliveira confessed there is a lot of bleak subject matter and negativity in his film, but consciously opted to be somewhat more optimistic.

"[Steel Valley: Meltdown] really refers to a new point," he said. "It's about taking what we were, melting that down and reforging the valley into something else."

DeOliveira shot the film using various local plants that are still functioning or are an eerie, abandoned shell in order to create an environment on the big screen that puts the viewer in a situation from inside the mills, creating a gritty industrial experience.

"We tried make the film edgier to appeal to a younger audience," DeOliveira said. "We wanted people to be watching this film and get the feeling of what it was like to be in one of these mills."

"Steel Valley: Meltdown" features interviews with United Auto Workers leaders, Mayor Jay Williams and Kent State and Youngstown State University professors including Sherry Linkon.

"She is a storyteller at heart," DeOliveira said of the YSU professor. "She had a lot of insight on how the steel mills impacted the people of the Mahoning Valley."

The director admits he was somewhat shocked with the interviews conducted and how those interviewed that are not in contact with each other all seemed to have similar ideas and points of view.

"We'd do an interview with the mayor and someone who wouldn't normally be in contact with him would have a similar point of view," DeOliveira said. "It's confirmation that everyone is aware of what's gone on here and is on the same track to a solution."

The premiere will begin at 7 p.m. with DeOliveira and Phil Kidd of Defend Youngstown speaking prior to the showing. Copies of the film will be for sale at the premiere. The premiere is free and open to the public.

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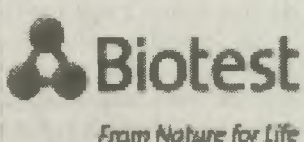
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THURSDAY
LADIES NIGHT

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FRIDAY

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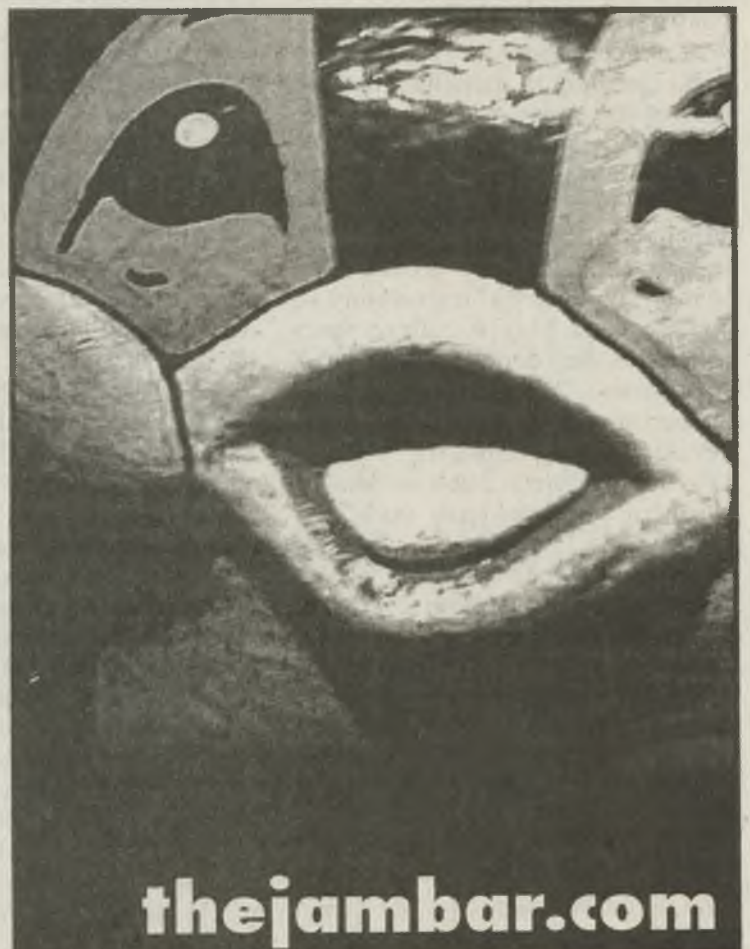
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HARD WORK GOES INTO EACH INTRAMURAL SEASON



Intramural coordinator Joe Conroy, shown in the red by the waste basket, goes over the rules and regulations at a captain's meeting for flag football and soccer.
PHOTOS BY KEITH LANGFORD JR./THE JAMBAR

Captains meetings, referee training and promoting are all necessary for success

Keith Langford Jr.
SPORTS EDITOR

The madness and bragging rights for fall semester began as the Youngstown State University intramurals league kicked off Sunday with a full day of flag football.

Although Sunday was the first day of actual competition, a lot of work goes on before any team breaks the huddle. Also, the intramural referees have to go through extensive training in the various intramural sports to gain the knowledge necessary to call a fair game.

The captains of the flag football and soccer teams had to attend a captains meeting to go over some bylines and rules for the upcoming season. At the meeting, intramural coordinator Joe Conroy said teams must verify the eligibility of players, read the rules online and bring identification to games.

Many teams this season turned their registration forms in late; they are now on the waiting list, hoping another team forfeits or quits. Dennis Pixley, a student intern for intramurals, said there are four teams on the waiting list for flag football, while three teams are waiting for a soccer team to drop.

"We had so many teams and we had late arrivals. We had a team come at 9:45 to try to play," Pixley said about the popularity of flag football this fall.

The schedule of games this year slates seven flag football games for all who signed up, a three-game hike from last year's four-game schedule.

The process of coming up with the schedule for the 32 teams takes time and patience. First, the number of divisions and the amount of teams in each division must be determined. Next, the teams must be sorted into divisions. This process takes several hours.

"I turned around to look at

the time and the [Rec] Center was closing down while we were walking out," Conroy said, adding that putting the 32 teams together took from approximately 8 to 11 p.m.

Conroy and Pixley also had to contend with the derogatory names typical male college students came up for team names.

"For five teams we had to change their names to different names. For the good of the cause, we changed their name to a more sensible name," Conroy said.

The strong turnout of 32 teams to play flag football and 27 teams to play soccer can be attributed to the countless hours the intramural staff puts into promoting their product.

During the first three weeks of the semester, the intramural staff was at Kilcawley Center from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays to promote and get teams signed up for intramural sports. Tuesdays and Thursdays were designated for all-



Student intern Dennis Pixley (l) and intramural staff member Kingsley Ansah (r) are just two of the many intramural staff members who make the intramural program a success.

day promotion at the Andrews Student Recreation and Wellness Center.

In addition to intramural sports promotion, nights were dedicated to referee training in flag football, soccer and volleyball. Conroy said staff training lasted "six hours a week for three weeks in a row."

Because of more teams this season, Conroy had to move last year's flag football start-

ing time of 10 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. this season. Also, in 2008, games ended around 3 p.m., but this year, games will end at 4:30 p.m.

The top four teams from each division will make the playoffs after the seven-game regular season. Flag football playoffs are slated for Nov. 8, 15 and 22.

Walk-on athletes find sticking with their sport eventually pays off in the end

Caitlin Cook
REPORTER

De- v o t - i n - g the maximum number of hours permitted by the NCAA for practicing and conditioning during and out of season, along with competitions appears a fair trade for a lucrative athletic scholarship. At Youngstown State University, however, out of 325 student-athletes, there are approximately 50 choosing to participate for the love of the sport, associate athletic director Elaine Jacobs said.

YSU competes in six men's and eight women's NCAA Division I athletic programs. The YSU athletic department intends to provide any student the potential opportunity to continue and play a college sport as long as they comply with NCAA regulations. "We definitely believe in the other characteristics that get developed or polished by being a Division I athlete, such as leadership, discipline and team work," Jacobs said.

Once admitted through the NCAA eligibility center, walk-ons are held to the same standards as scholarship athletes.

"At this level, when you have football, there's a gender equity that comes along with it," Jacobs said. "So by having that we give our coaches for our women's programs a challenge to try and encourage more walk-ons. On the backside of that though, unfortunately, on our men's sports we don't necessarily encourage it because we're already at ro-

ter size."

Second year head baseball coach Rich Pasquale conducts a one-day, pro-style walk-on tryout looking for players who can contribute to the program, stating that, players "have to be better than" what the baseball team already has. Pasquale found two hopeful walk-ons for the fall season noting, "they're hungry to play Division I baseball and competition is a great thing and that's what these two guys bring."

Men's basketball looks for those eligible and willing to contribute on a day-to-day basis during practice and compete with the rest of the team, assistant coach Brian DePaoli said.

After three years of hard work and no pay, senior forward Zack Rebillot was awarded an athletic scholarship for men's basketball. To begin with, Rebillot decided to play because it was fun and kept him busy.

"[The scholarship] was unexpected, but I felt I earned it and paid my dues," he said.

After a year of watching basketball from the stands, sophomore guard Makala Gasperek found her way back to the court. "I couldn't not play-I went to all the games and watched. I had to play again," Gasperek said.

After her first season, Gasperek was also awarded an athletic scholarship and would tell future walk-ons to, "keep the right mind set, work as hard as you can and success will come eventually."

HOCKEY page1

is from Canada and a former Division I college hockey player who played in the minor leagues. He is coming from a team in which he had the opportunity to play as well as coach.

"He's just waiting on his visa, and as soon as he crosses, he will be taking over," Carr said. "We feel that this one individual's the top choice to go with."

Carr added the new head coach will also be taking over as the director of rink at the Ice Zone as well.

If the current head coach's visa has not cleared by Friday, Carr said an unnamed interim coach would be stepping in to take on the responsibilities.

Although the move came quickly and just before the start of a new season, senior defenseman Kevin Pawlos said it was the right move for Russo.

"I was kind of surprised, but you can't really blame the guy because you work to get to the highest level possible and hopefully he's moving his career forward," Pawlos said. "It's something that he had to do."

Pawlos said he doesn't think the coaching move will cause any distraction to the team heading into the new season because of the mental strength that each player has, especially the older guys.

"We have a really strong [group of] core leaders ... we got a lot of sophomores and juniors that are capable of stepping up, and last year definitely helped us with getting them experience," Pawlos said. "It's going to be tough, but we're all looking forward to [Ohio University] on Friday, and we can't wait until it gets here."

Pawlos and the other group of seniors have been forced to hold their own practices and workouts since Russo's departure, but said that his concerns are to get everyone prepared for the season opener Friday.

Once finding out the news, Russo had to say goodbye to the team, including the seniors he had been teaching, coaching and learning from since they were freshmen.

"It was probably one of the toughest moments I've ever had to deal with in my

life because there's 25 guys in that [locker room] right now that are great guys, great individuals, great hockey players and there's a great team there," Russo said. "To have to walk away in what I feel is going to be the best year that Youngstown State hockey's ever had was very, very difficult."

Russo said he made the decision because he knew it was something that he needed to do to better his coaching career.

"At the end of the day, it was best for my coaching career to take the step and coach with the Bandits ... [the NAHL is] a developmental league, and here I have the opportunity to develop players to potentially move onto NCAA Division I hockey and the NHL," Russo said. "That was an opportunity I just could not pass up."

Russo said it wasn't something he was aware of for a long time, and that it wasn't the most opportune time to make the move.

"It wasn't the best timing for me or for the Youngstown State program, but sometimes timing can be that way, and you have to take the opportunity when it presents itself," Russo said.

With three years of memories under his belt at YSU, coach Russo said the most memorable moment of his coaching career was how his team bounced back after a tough season two years ago.

"The ability for the team to pick up after a rough season two years ago where we only won four or five games ... to be able to step back and re-evaluate and become a contender again in our league and continue to bring players in," Russo said. "The opportunities that I had to spend with my seniors that are there this year were just fantastic, and it's a shame that I had to walk away from some of the younger guys because there's a lot of talent that came in here, and I will be watching closely to see how those guys progress because I think they're going to have an absolutely fantastic year."