

THE JAMBAR

THE STUDENT VOICE OF YOUNGSTOWN STATE UNIVERSITY

Going computer crazy? see page 4

Thursday, July 6, 2006

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HEALTH

Sweet dreams are made of these

By: Jessica Silvestri
JAMBAR CONTRIBUTOR

Youngstown State University joins many other universities and colleges whose students are affected by sleep deprivation every year. When work, class, studying, and social life get in the way, sleep rou-

tines are put on hold. Throughout the semester, students sacrifice sleep for school and work.

So that means summer is the time to catch up on sleep before the fall semester begins, but for some students that is just a dream.

Junior early childhood education major, Christina Fletcher averages five to six hours a night. "When I am stressed out I usually do not sleep well, and the next day I am usually in a very inactive mood," said Fletcher. "If I am

deprived, I often have a hard time eating and functioning all together."

According to the Better Health Channel, "Adults need about eight hours, depending on individual factors. We tend to need less sleep as we age, but be guided by your own state of alertness - if you feel tired during the day, aim to get more sleep."

The BHC is an informational Web site aimed to improve the health of people.

Sophomore Drew Tomko can vouch for how important it is to get enough sleep.

"Sleeping to me is important. When school is in I try to get to bed around 10 p.m., only because I function better when I am fully rested," said Tomko. "If I do not get enough sleep, I can not really do much because I'm so tired."

First year graduate Jamie Gunn, said, "I try to get at least eight hours or

else I am really grumpy, when I am stressed out my sleep is seriously affected."

According to the BHC "a fatigued person is accident prone, and more likely to make mistakes and bad decisions."

Like most college students, Gunn said she is more of a night person. "I usually do not get to bed before 1 a.m. because I do not feel I am relaxed enough to sleep before that," Gunn said.

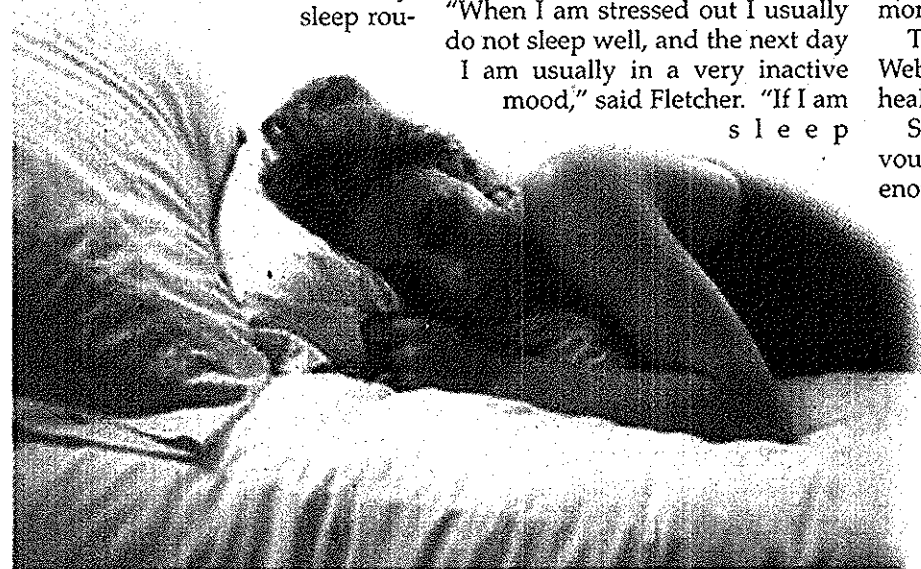
There are many ways to sleep better.

-Purposely going to bed earlier each night

-Don't smoke or drink alcoholic or caffeinated beverages in the hours before bedtime.

-Improve your sleeping environment in any way you can - for example, wear earplugs if you have noisy neighbors.

-Use relaxation techniques to help you fall asleep quickly, and seek professional assistance for sleep disorders such as snoring or sleep apnea.



YSU

Cybertech project gains funds

By: Maysoon Abdelrasul
EDITOR IN CHIEF

Youngstown State University and the city of Youngstown are getting closer and closer to meeting the goal to began the cybertechnology project.

Last week, the Youngstown Technology Center was granted \$750,000 from the Clean Ohio Assistance Fund.

Combined with the \$1 million Rep. Tim Ryan secured and the money from the state of Ohio, the total now is \$4 million according to Jim Cossler, director of the Youngstown Business Incubator.

Cossler is aiming for \$5.5 million to fund the project.

The new 30,000 square foot building will house graduate companies he said and "keep some very high-paying jobs in Youngstown," he said.

For YSU students this is an advantage. Many graduates leave the area to look for jobs because they have a hard time finding one in Youngstown.

Ryan said the new addition to Youngstown will be "a real opportunity for students to make contacts." He said he sees this as a "win-

please see CYBER, Page 2

YSU

Summer festival displays different cultures

By: Adrienne Sabo
COPY EDITOR

The eighth annual Youngstown State University Summer Festival of the Arts takes place July 8 and 9 on the YSU campus.

The Stambaugh Stadium concert, Forte on the 50, kicks off the weekend events on July 7 at 7:30 p.m. featuring the Dana All Star Band and headlining act, The Fern Brothers. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for

children under 12.

This year's festival will feature an open stage, for up and coming performers, over 50 theatre and dance performances, a hotdog challenge, the artist's market place and over 15 ethnic groups selling memorabilia and food.

Lori Factor, Summer Festival of the Arts Coordinator said, "I think that sometimes the perception of the arts is stuffy and

this dispels that. It is a causal family oriented event."

The artist's marketplace is the center of the festival, with over 60 artists displaying their works this year.

Factor said people can see their favorite artist and follow their work at the marketplace. Some are just displaying their works and others are selling their art too.

The Ward Beecher

**Summer Festival
Of the Arts performance Schedule
see page 2**

Factor said that one of the most popular attractions is the children's area. Kids can come and make crafts free of charge, Factor said.

Planetarium will feature shows throughout the festival. Factor said, "People don't usually think to go there, but it's a great place to get a break from the heat."

Factor said that what makes this festival different from others is that it focuses on the visual and performing arts. "We have such a vibrant arts community and it's an opportunity to come down and experience the arts," Factor said.

RECREATION

Beer and boats don't mix

By: Adrienne Sabo
COPY EDITOR

Summer is the time when people go in the water. This includes swimming, jet skiing, and boating.

According to the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, over 3 million Ohioans go boating each year.

Eric Wilson, a computer science major, said for the past five years he goes boating once or twice a month at Berlin Lake.

Wilson said, "Its not summer unless I go boating."

With hot summer days headed

our way, boating season is in full swing and there are safety precautions that need to be taken when out on the waters.

Rick Peppel, Berlin Township Fire Chief said the two most common problems he sees with boaters are alcohol consumption and not wearing life jackets

Peppel said, "Alcohol impairs your motor sensory skills a lot more on water than it does on land."

ODNR reported five fatalities from boating accidents as of June 19. Three of those taking place in Northeast Ohio. Alcohol was a

contributing factor in two of the five cases.

Peppel said that rules of the road apply to the water too. Any person operating a vehicle while under the influence can be cited. Most state parks are strict with these policies, Peppel said.

Ohio law requires that life jackets must be worn while operating a personal watercraft, for children under 10 and when waterskiing or being towed on an inter tube or similar device.

There must be enough life jackets on board for all passengers.

The ODNR recommends buy-

ing the right type of life jacket that will meet a boaters needs.

When out on the water the ODNR suggests following the four S.A.F.E Boating Principles.

Sober boating
Alertness
Fasten life jackets
Education

The ODNR says that proper education and training is most important when operating a boat. Any individual, born on or after January 1, 1982, must complete a boating education course or a proficiency exam from the ODNR.

Pamphlets are available at any

Bureau of Motor Vehicles to pick up and study for the exams.

The exams and courses are required for those who rent or own a boat.

According to the ODNR, more than 72 million Americans went boating during 2004. With boating trends on the way up, staying safe and following the rules is important.

Additional safety tips and copies of rules and regulations can be found at the ODNR Web site, www.ohiodnr.com/watercraft



Local Lakes

Lake Milton -600 foot beach -swimming -picnic area -hunting -hiking trails	Mosquito Lake -600 foot beach -swimming -picnic areas -campgrounds -hunting -hiking trails
--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

Berlin Lake
-camp grounds
-hiking trails

Photo Source: www.quinnsmarina.ca

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Jambar!**

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Study shows cell phones are just as dangerous as driving drunk

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Flag burning raises questions about respect

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Today's Weather >> sunny

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friday: sunny 81 / 57

saturday: partly cloudy 82 / 62

YSU

Cell phones, alcohol and driving

By: Tom Avril
THE PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER (KRT)

Drivers who talk on cell phones may be just as dangerous as those who drink.

That's the sobering conclusion of a study published Thursday by University of Utah researchers who monitored 40 men and women on a driving simulator.

And drivers using hands-free phones were no better than those with the hand held variety, confirming previous studies.

The findings, published in the journal Human Factors, represent a direct blow at a popular pastime that is taken for granted by millions of multitasking drivers.

At any given moment during the day, 10 percent of drivers on U.S. roads are gabbing away on their wireless devices, according to a 2005 estimate by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

Bad idea, said psychologist Frank A. Drews, one of the Utah study's authors.

"It's kind of almost unpredictable how they are driving," Drews said.

When using cell phones, drivers had slower reaction times and more accidents, and they drove inconsistently, sometimes approaching other cars then falling back, he said.

Cellular industry officials acknowledge that phones can be a distraction but said there are ways to use them sensibly. It is unfair to single out phones, said John Walls, a spokesman for CTIA - The Wireless Association, a Washington-based trade group.

"I think there are just a multitude of distractions that are out there," Walls said. "And by focusing on just one, you're creating a false sense of security among people."

In another recent study by the Virginia Tech Transportation Institute, other distractions, such as applying makeup and reading, were found to be much more risky.

In the Utah study, both cell-phone use and alcohol caused participants to "drive" more erratically over the simulated 24-mile course, but in different ways.

Cell-phones users were involved in more "accidents" and they took about 70 milliseconds longer to react when the car on the video screen in front of them hit the brakes - a delay during which a car traveling 55 mph would cover more than 5 feet of road.

When the drivers were drunk - with a blood-alcohol content of .08 - they followed other cars more closely and they braked 23 percent more forcefully, a potential problem for motorists behind them. They also had twice as many close calls as they did when sober, defined as stopping less than 4 seconds away from a collision.

The participants were given a mixture of vodka and orange juice. Their level of drunkenness - equivalent to four drinks in an hour on an empty stomach for a 170-

pound man - was verified with a breath monitor.

By one key measure, cell-phone users were even worse than drunk drivers.

When talking on the phone the drivers had three accidents, but when they were drunk they had none. The drivers also had no accidents when they were sober and not using phones.

Researchers said they were surprised that the drunk drivers were accident-free. They urged people not to misconstrue the results as suggesting that drunk driving is safe; there is no question it is not.

The authors speculated that the lack of drunk accidents may have been due to the study's being conducted during the morning, when participants were well rested.

Because the drunk drivers followed too closely and had more close calls, they would be expected to have accidents in the long run, Drews said.

The only states to ban driving while talking on a hand-held cell phone are Connecticut, New Jersey and New York. Washington D.C. and some other communities have done banned it too.

In New Jersey, police issued at least 7,000 tickets to drivers who were talking on cell phones during the first six months of 2005, the most recent time period available.

The real number of offenses is likely much higher, in part because charges are often negotiated away in municipal court, said Roberto Rodriguez, director of the state Division of Highway Traffic Safety. The law is also fairly new, having taken effect in July 2004, and enforcement may be inconsistent, he said.

Told of the new study, Rodriguez said he was not surprised that researchers found no difference between drivers who used hand-held phones and those who used the hands-free variety that is legal in New Jersey.

"You are not cognizant of what is going on around you" when having a phone conversation, the director said. "That is the danger."

State Sen. Martha Bark, R-Burlington, a sponsor of the state's handled cell-phone ban, said the exemption for the hands-free variety was a compromise in order to get an unpopular measure passed.

Bark said she got her own hands-free car phone only at her children's urging, and that she uses it sparingly and pulls over when possible.

"I do not talk on my phone," Bark said. "I call my office and say 'I'm going to be 5 minutes late. Goodbye.'"

Drews, the Utah researcher, said he never phones while driving. His reason is more than just the safety issue, he said.

"I believe that I don't have to be accessible at any time," Drews said. "I enjoy my quiet time."

News In Brief

Smoky Hollow Run/Walk

The annual Smoky Hollow 5K Run and Family Fun Walk on Saturday, July 8, will begin at 9 a.m. for the run and 9:10 a.m. for the walk at Harrison Field in Smoky Hollow. Honorary chairpersons are Denise DeBartolo York, Dominic Rosselli, and Annie Gillam.

Registration for the event is \$12 for adults and \$5 for children 12 and under. Race day registration starts at 7:45 a.m. at Harrison Field, on Walnut Street behind Bliss Hall. The MVR will sponsor a complimentary post-race brunch for all runners, walkers, and volunteers.

Salem High Wins Academic Challenge

Salem High School students won the 2005-06 Academic Challenge title by overcoming last year's winner, Howland High School, in the final single elimination round.

The Salem team beat over 200 students from school districts in Mahoning, Trumbull, and Columbiana counties.

Traveling Exhibit

A traveling exhibit of the Mahoning Valley Historical Society will take place July 10-23, in the Maag Library on Youngstown State University's main campus.

Upcoming exhibit locations are at the Youngstown and Warren public Libraries and the Canfield Fair. James Sturgill can be contacted for more information regarding this exhibit and other MVHS programs and services at (330) 743-2589. An email can also be sent to mvhs@mahoninghistory.org.

Police Briefs

Window Breaking

A window in the Wick-Pollock building was discovered broken in the northeast exterior door. Youngstown State University police discovered this ajar and broken door on a routine check of the building.

YSU police officers checked the vacant building without finding anything missing or tampered with. The Carpenter Shop was contacted to have the door boarded up.

Unruly Student

YSU police were called in reference to an unruly student in Moser Hall. The student was seeing an academic advisor in the engineering technology department, and was reported to smell of alcohol.

The student used loud and offensive language and was beginning to seem threatening toward the advisor.

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win situation" for business, manufacturing everyone. area and a research and development center."

Allen Hunter, professor of chemistry at YSU and Director of the S T A R B U R S T T CyberInstrumentation Consortium said "it's going to be a combination of With everyone looking for a job after graduation, Hunter agrees with the Ryan and said this is a way for students to get jobs and stay in the area.

Classified

Help Wanted

Attention Students: National Health and Wellness Business seeking young professionals for customer service and sales, will work around all schedules. **\$14.50 an hour.** Apply now www.halejobs.com

Housing

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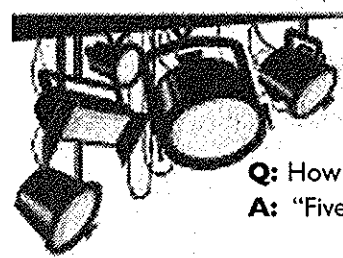
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Miscellaneous

Avon- to buy or sell. Call Meshel at (330) 788-6203



STUDENT SPOTLIGHT Ian Spellman

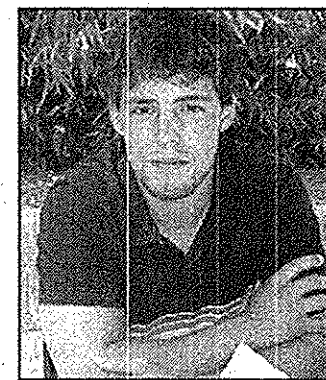
Q: How much sleep do you get a night?
A: "Five to six hours."

Q: Where's the best place to sleep on campus?
A: "The Schwebel Room. No doubt. They have the most comfortable couches."

Q: How often do you sleep during class?
A: "Never."

Q: How often do you miss class to sleep?
A: "Never. If I'm paying for it I'm not going to miss."

Q: What's the weirdest dream you've had?
A: "I can't remember anyone in particular. There was one time when I had to rescue a friend from a terrible dream where he was being crushed by a giant mechanical thing."



Physical therapy major

Summer Festival of the Arts performance schedule

Saturday, July 8 performances

- 10 a.m., 11 a.m. and 12 noon
Conjunto Riquena, Kilcawley Fountain Amphitheater
- 11 a.m. and 1 p.m.
Juggling for Joy jugglers, Main Branch, Public Library of Youngstown and Mahoning County
- 11 a.m. and 12 noon
Great Space Treasure Hunt, Ward Beecher Planetarium
- 11:30 a.m.
"Henny Penny" puppet show, Main Branch of the Public Library of Youngstown and Mahoning County
- Noon and 3 p.m.
Tytely Wound Stryng Band, McDonough Museum of Art (outside)
- Noon and 2 p.m.
Frack's Freak Show, Public Library of Youngstown and Mahoning County
- Noon
Sanity Fare, Open Stage at DeBartolo Courtyard
Harambee Dancers, Festival of Nations Performance Tent
Dana Vocal Society, Butler Institute of American Art (inside)
- 1 p.m. and 3 p.m.
Harpist Kirk Kupensky, Butler Institute of American Art
- 1 p.m. and 2 p.m.
Super Sky Show, Ward Beecher Planetarium
- 2 p.m., 3 p.m., 4 p.m.

Tropical Winds Steel Drum Orchestra, Kilcawley Fountain Amphitheater

- 2 p.m.
Welsh Poetry and Songs, Festival of Nations
Crush, Open Stage at DeBartolo Courtyard
Ballet Western Reserve Hip-Hop dancers, Butler Institute of American Art (outside)
Reptile Mania, sponsored by Mill Creek Metro Park's Ford Nature Center, near children's area
- 3 p.m.
Slavjane Carpatho-Rusyn dancers, Festival of Nations
- 4 p.m.
Paula Horvath, Flamenco dancing, Festival of Nations
- 5 p.m. and 6 p.m.
Billy Beck & Co., Kilcawley Fountain Amphitheater
- 5 p.m.
Peruvian Dancers, Festival of Nations
- 6 p.m.
Sky Pilot, Open Stage at DeBartolo Courtyard
Folklorico Mexican Dancers, Festival of Nations
- 7 p.m.
KeepItReel, Inc. film screening of "What the Bleep", McDonough Museum of Art, Call 330-707-3152 for more info.

Sunday, July 9 performances

- 11 a.m. and 12 noon
Great Space Treasure Hunt, Ward Beecher Planetarium
- Noon, 1 p.m. and 2 p.m.

County Mayo, Kilcawley Fountain Amphitheater

- Noon
Red Hawk Native American Cultural Society dancers, Festival of Nations
DJ Mag Band, Open Stage at DeBartolo Courtyard
- 1 p.m. and 3 p.m.
Nanette Sauline Midgley, singer and songwriter, McDonough Museum of Art
- 1 p.m. and 2 p.m.
Super Sky Show, Ward Beecher planetarium
- 1 p.m.
Barber of Seville Opera film screening, Butler Institute of American Art
Zona Auditorium, sponsored by Opera Western Reserve
Burke School of Irish Dance, Chestnut Room, Kilcawley Center
Raeces Latina Dancers, Festival of Nations
- 2 p.m.
2nd Ave. Project, Open Stage at DeBartolo Courtyard
eXcel Program and Media Rights Media That Matters Film Fest, youth produced videos, The McDonough Museum of Art lecture hall
St. Anne Ukrainian Dancers, Festival of Nations
- 3 p.m., 4 p.m., 5 p.m.
Jamstrate, Kilcawley Fountain Amphitheater
- 3 p.m.
St. John Greek Dancers, Festival of Nations
YSU Chapter of Dance America Ballroom Dance Exhibition, Butler Institute of American Art
- 4 p.m.
Csillagos Hungarian Dancers

THE Jambar

Excellence in journalism since 1931

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OUR SIDE

Global warming

Global warming is one thing that will affect all of us, regardless of our nationality, religion, income, or age. "I don't want to diminish the threat of terrorism at all... but on a long-term global basis, global warming is the most serious problem we are facing," former Vice President Al Gore said in an interview with Australian newspaper, The Age.

Gore is right, global warming, like terrorism, cannot be ignored.

According to U.S. Department of Energy, the United States emitted an estimated 7.1 billion metric tons of carbon dioxide (CO₂), methane, nitrous oxide and other gasses were emitted in 2004, a 7.3 percent increase from 1997.

As China's and India's need for fuel increases, greenhouse gas emissions will continue to rise. According to the Little Green Data Book 2006, China and India are showing swift increases in CO₂ emissions. Between 1992 and 2002 China's emissions have increased 33 percent and India's have increased 57 percent. These increases will continue as their economic growth increases.

Most directly, high levels of greenhouse gasses will raise the global temperature. Higher global temperatures will cause seawater to expand and glaciers to melt, raising the sea level. A higher sea level will erode natural beaches.

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change determined that the global temperature will increase two degrees Celsius at the end of the 21st century.

Such an increase is actually massive. The global temperature during the ice age was about three degrees Celsius lower than today's.

An increase of temperature by two degrees Celsius will raise the sea level by about 50 centimeters and seriously impact sandy beaches.

Along the U.S. Atlantic and Gulf coasts, a rise of one meter would impact much of southern Louisiana and the Gulf of Mexico most seriously.

Global warming will also accelerate the normal rain cycle, possibly expanding the worldwide gap in water availability. Some areas will frequently flood and others will frequently drought.

Something must be done. According to the Environmental Protection Agency, action is occurring at every level to avoid and understand climate changes. But even their detailed reports are vague.

It's not impossible to reverse global warming, its practical and realistic. We need to do what we can, personally, professionally and politically. Promote and follow methods of conservation and encourage alternative fuels.

Climatecrisis.net, the Web site for "An Inconvenient Truth," Gore's movie about global warming, and a public awareness site, has a list of 10 simple actions to help stop global warming, simple things that will conserve energy, reducing emissions.

This is not a political agenda. Republican or Democrat, the effects of global warming are as real as ever.

The Jambar editorials reflect the opinions of The Jambar and its Editorial Board members. Those wishing to schedule meetings with the Editorial Board should call the editor in chief.

LETTERS POLICY

Letters must be typed and should not exceed 400 words. Each letter must include a name and telephone number for verification purposes. Submissions are subject to editing for spelling, grammar and clarity. Letters must be received by noon Friday for Tuesday's edition and by noon Tuesday for Thursday's edition.

The Jambar will not print letters that libel others or threaten harm. The editor in chief reserves the right to reject letters that do not follow policy. The views and opinions expressed in published letters do not necessarily reflect those of The Jambar staff or YSU faculty, staff or administration.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Flag burning is free speech

The editorial of June 29 ("Respect all flags") advocates the adoption of a constitutional amendment that would prohibit the burning/desecration of not only the American flag, but also the flags of all other nations. "In a world consumed with political correctness," the opinion states, "burning flags hardly seems politically correct. Our government is saying that it is constitutionally right to burn the American flag. It just seems wrong." Although that opinion is anchored with the well-meant intention to respect the citizens of all countries, I am impelled to take an opposing stance.

More delicate than the political correctness issue of flag burning is the unwillingness to acknowledge that all nations are not built on the most savory of ideals, and it is not an absolute that all nations are worthy of receiving the respect of the rest of the world.

"Respect" is a word that should not be tossed around casually without much thought; it is neither an entitlement, nor can it be mandated by legislation—it must be earned. And the way it is earned is through the deeds and behavior of a nation.

When a nation fails to extend even the most basic human rights and dignities to its citizens, is it proper that a well-meant, but poorly thought out law should constrain an American citizen from using the desecration of the offending nation's flag as a vehicle for expressing outrage?

Would there have been merit in constitutionally protecting the swastika emblazoned banner of Adolf Hitler's Third Reich, or the colors of a genocidal Rwandan government bent



on the extermination of its Tutsi citizens?

As the son of a World War II infantryman, and myself, a veteran of nine years of naval service during the Vietnam era, I have had mixed feelings about any enactment of flag burning legislation; however, it is my sense of truth that has ultimately prevailed. During the 2000 election debacle, I attended a rally in Los Angeles where I witnessed a protester drag the Stars and Stripes along Wilshire Boulevard. The contempt that I felt for that person does not approach the level of contempt I would feel for the "free society" that would sanction the police slapping handcuffs on that individual and dragging him away.

Although desecrating the American flag is in essence, biting the hand that feeds, that action is the epitome of free speech. To take away that liberty from Americans would seem very wrong.

Howard R. Reese
Senior

Equal adoption

It was first with disappointment and eventually with disgust that I read the two commentaries by YSU faculty regarding Ohio House Bill 515 and "gay adoption". While Dr. Lepak raised the valid point that adopting is NOT an absolute right for anyone, but a privilege subject to careful consideration by all involved, I was dismayed that he generalized arguments in support of adoption by gay Americans as "politically correct slogans". Why should we assume the desires and intentions of a gay couple are any less genuine

Cartoon courtesy of KRT Campus

than, say, those of my wife and I. Is it ONLY because we are a man AND a woman? Or, as Dr. Munro surreptitiously implies, is there something more sinister? If gays adopt, "why not let pedophiles"? Hey, our sanctimonious, divinely-anointed commander-in-chief spouted "Saddam Hussein" and "9/11" together often enough that he convinced 2/3 of the country there was a connection. Well, THAT lie has since been exposed, but maybe we can put the same spin on homosexuality and child molestation.

Respectfully,
Thomas Diggins Ph.D.
Biological Sciences

Faculty opinions disturbing

Two recent letters to the editor regarding Ohio House Bill 515 were quite disturbing. These letters were written by two professors at YSU who did not merely present their viewpoints on the issue, but they presented arguments that lack scholarship and critical analysis.

The American Academy of Pediatrics has recognized two decades of research on gay and lesbian families that has found outcomes in child adjustment that are not different from those of heterosexual families (Downs, Moore, McFadden, Michaud, & Costin, 2004). Moreover, this professional

body, which includes those with more experience and expertise than the two professors, issued a policy statement that endorsed adoption of children in gay families by the partner of the biological parent.

We live in a free country, and people have the right to express their viewpoints. However, as educators at this university responsible for teaching others, these two professors are expected to set examples of academic argument and scholarship. Their letters failed in this standard. These professors criticize Ms. Anderson for alluding to the fact that there is research that supports that gay households can be appropriate environments for children. This criticism by both educators moves into opinion without

any support from specific research that contradicts this point.

An analysis by Charlotte Patterson (2004) of 22 studies of the children brought up in gay/lesbian families found that there is no evidence in any of the studies of the detrimental effects of the children. However, another study (Lewis, 1980) indicated that children can experience some difficulties with stigma as they develop with one of the major causes being the lack of support of society, the type of lack of support that was evidenced in the letters by the two faculty members.

Gay and lesbian adoptive applicants have also been a resource for hard-to-place children. Many of these parents

have financial stability, resourcefulness and an understanding and sensitivity to differences that are important criteria in parenting these special children (Downs et al., 2004). With the two professors opposed to adoption by gays and lesbians, how many of the 150,000 children in this country who are waiting for homes will they be adopting?

Currently YSU is conducting a campaign to promote acceptance of difference. The viewpoints of these professors not only lack acceptance of difference, but also has distorted their ability to engage in rational academic argument on this issue.

Thelma Silver, Ph.D. LISW
Department of Social Work

Special flags, special rules

I read your editorial on flag burning and it really got me thinking. Yes, burning a flag is burning a symbol of all that America stands for, but do you know where all of these flags come from? Flag machines in third-world countries. If you know machine protocol (and not many people do), then you would be familiar with the fact that these giant steam-producing beasts will work for anyone who can give them their precious, precious oils. So all of the flags you see hanging on post office walls and tastelessly draped over the coffins of dead soldiers are made by non-loyal automatons and - more importantly - are predicated on lies!

But since democracy is a two-way street, I propose that we make it illegal only to burn CERTAIN flags. These special flags would be less common than your traditional K-

Mart model, but they would actually stand for everything that is American. To qualify for special flag status, these flags would have to be personally stitched together by veterans with three appendages or less. The material to make these flags must come from within the continental US, and watered with the tears of outrage over flag-burning. Finally, the flag will have to be personally kissed by the President. I predict these new flags will support at least 3.7 troops.

If I haven't won you over yet, think of this scenario. You're lost in the middle of a deadly winter storm, when you stumble across the old abandoned flag factory. Your only chance for survival is to burn flag after flag until you wait for your mom to pick you up. In this Post-Nonflagburnian world, you would be labeled as a war criminal. I hope you're ready for that.

- Bob Mackey



Cartoon courtesy of KRT Campus

TECHNOLOGY

Computer component breakdown

By: Emery Boyle-Scott
NEWS EDITOR

Whether it is for work or play, a computer is part of many Americans' lifestyle. But does everybody understand how a computer's mind works?

Let's just say it's not as easy as ABC.

Most computers can handle basic activities such as word processing, e-mail, Internet browsing, financial recordkeeping and music. A boxed computer off the shelf can handle digital photography and video playback, as well as basic computing, without complaint. Buy the big guns for extraordinary computing, such as video editing or gaming. That goes for desktops and laptops alike.

The standard tower computer is still the cheapest, most reliable and best performer, between a desktop and a laptop, but laptops are becoming more affordable, reliable and

generally better all-around. A laptop's convenient size makes it a hot item for the college student. With a laptop, you're not chained to your desk for web surfing, movies, music or even, if the mood is right, homework.

Before you start looking for your next computer have a realistic price range in mind and do your homework. A basic desktop model starts at \$300 and a laptop around \$500.

Some computer components, such as printers and monitors, are easier to shop for. A basic understanding of the more complex, internal parts of a computer will only aid you while you shop for your new, fall 2006 computer.

Hard drive

The basic function for a hard drive is to store programs and data permanently when the computer is turned off.

Desktop hard drives range between 100-200 gigabytes, while laptop drives usually range between 40-80 gigabytes. Multimedia files, such as movies and games, consume large amounts of drive space. Drives with more storage space are available for more money and additional drives can be installed later.



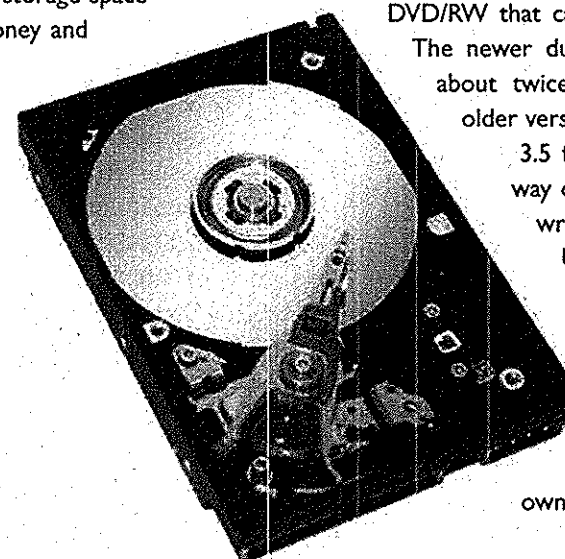
CD Drive

This loads your software, plays music and/or video and backs up data. A combo drive is a must, DVD/CD-RW at the least, so you can play DVD videos and write music and data CDs.

In order to record video you'll need a DVD/RW that can create DVDs and CDs.

The newer dual-layer models can store about twice as much data than the older versions of DVD/RW drives.

3.5 floppy drives have gone by way of the 8-track tape. Cheap writable CDs and reusable USB flash drives take care of most data transfer needs. If you still need to use the floppy disk, they are available upon special request or your own installation.



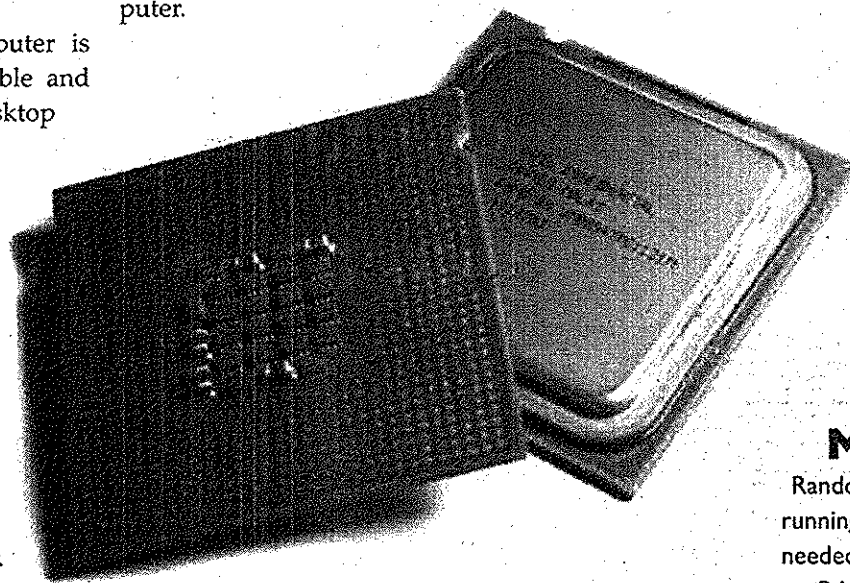
Processor (or CPU)

The heart of the computer, all the computing goes on inside this microprocessor. Generally, the newer the processor, the faster it runs. Processors are labeled by model and speed (gigahertz -GHz). Intel and Advanced Micro Devices (AMD) dominate the processor market.

You don't need the newest to get good performance, single-core processors (Intel Pentium 4, Pentium M and AMD's Athlon 64) are still capable components for today's computer.

Higher-end computers use dual-core processors. Dual-core processors use two less complex processing cores instead of one complex integrated circuit. Dual-core processors require less power and have multi-tasking advantages. Dual-core technology holds the future of processing.

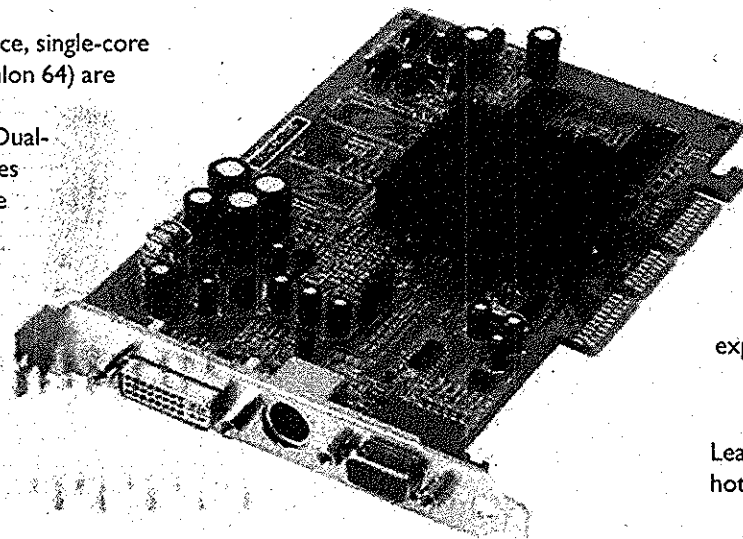
If a processor is designed for gaming or multimedia it'll say so on the shelf sticker, and it's usually safe to follow manufacturer's recommendations.



Memory

Random Access Memory (RAM), stores programs and data while the computer is running. More RAM means a faster, and more reliable, computer. Lots of RAM is needed for gaming and video editing.

RAM is measured by megabyte (MB) and gigabyte (GB). If you want to run Windows XP, nothing less than 512 megabytes of memory will do, and consider upgrading to a gigabyte.



Video

Everything you see on the monitor goes through the video card. The video card included with many models is sufficient for basic computing. A low-end card can't move pixels quickly, and often use the system RAM. Video cards provide dedicated video RAM, most sporting between 128 and 256 megabytes, a feature heavily demanded by videos and games. Serious gamers can spend up to \$600 on the newest video card, but for the casual user, many less expensive options are available for much less.

Learn more about computers at anandtech.com, hothardware.com and pctechguy.com.

COMMENTARY

What to do if...

Common embarrassing collegiate moments

By: Renee Hardman
JAMBAR CONTRIBUTOR

"Have you ever had anything embarrassing happen to you on campus?" Out of 20 people who were asked this question, 14 said, "yes!" While unwilling to disclose their mishaps, the 20 agreed that embarrassing things happen to everyone on any given day.

Taking the plunge

Whether it's the stairs in Kilcawley Center, or the slippery pavement surrounding "The Rock," traveling to class, or simply standing unbalanced, many students on campus have taken a tumble here or there.

Senior Jamie Lemke said she fell early in the morning two semesters ago. "I just parked my car, got out, and started walking. Somehow I managed to fall over and onto the curb. I got back into my car and went home. That was enough for one day," said Lemke.

To prevent future trips, open your eyes a little wider and take your time. If you take notice of your surroundings, have the proper footwear on (excluding high heels, unless you know how to walk in them), and take

your time, then you should arrive at where you want to be without eating the pavement. Besides being embarrassed, no one

on the other side of the room," Lemke said. Although this is not as common as it was in middle school, this unpleasant situation

behind you as you walk down the hall.

"I always, always have a shoe check before I leave the bathroom," says Lemke, "Kick up your heels and check for toilet paper, then you're good to go!" It's as simple as that.

Teacher/Student Friction

Not all students and teachers form a love/hate relationship, but some students have had professors that they loathe, while others students have hand-written thank you notes on flowery stationery, telling their mentor how they've changed their lives.

While there's no easy way to sedate the pain of going to class and being possibly scrutinized in front of your peers, "what doesn't kill you makes you stronger." And, adding another cliché to that, "nothing lasts forever," so suck it up and take it like the scholar you are. If the friction between the two of you is causing serious flames, go to your student ombudsperson, Jack Fahey (ext.1404, jpfahay@ysu.edu), to talk about your issues in confidentiality.

"I sat down next to this person and all I could smell was sour mold, just the worst smell imaginable."

Lindsay Lemke/ Senior

wants a bloody elbow or knee.

Excuse me, you smell

Senior Lindsay Lemke said she remembers a time during her freshman year when she picked the wrong person to sit next to. "I sat down next to this person and all I could smell was sour mold, just the worst smell imaginable. I could only stand it for five minutes, if that. I left class, got some fresh air, and came back into class and sat

still occurs. If there's no way to avoid the specific person, have a talk with your professor. Someone's got to be the "bad guy."

Toilet Paper vs. the Shoe

As difficult as it is to use public bathroom facilities in the first place, what's equally worse to seeing someone not wash their hands before they exit, is figuring out that there is a long strand of toilet paper trailing