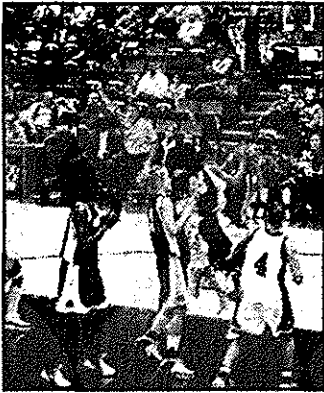


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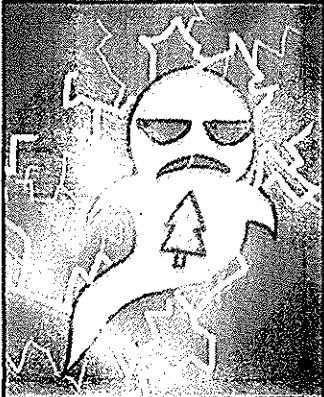
VOLUME 88, ISSUE 35 The student voice of Youngstown State University

Weather >> snow
 23 | 14
 Wednesday: snow, 22/13
 Thursday: cloudy, 27/17

Inside



▶ Women hoopsters in action Monday night. Sports | see page 7



▶ A Christmas story. Yes, it involves ghosts. No, Ernie Hudson won't be there. Entertainment | see page 8

In Brief

Dana 'Carols and Cocoa'

The Dana School of Music will present an evening of "Holiday Festivity" 7 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 7 in Stambaugh Auditorium. The program will include the "Carols and Cocoa" program and a performance of Handel's "Messiah."

Each Child Remembered

YSU's Office of Equal Opportunity and Diversity is collecting gifts for the Each Child Remembered Program, which provides Christmas gifts to children whose parents are incarcerated. Interested participants can get the name of a child from the Equal Opportunity Office on the second floor of Tod Hall.

\$5,000 grant for professor's sabbatical

Greg Moring, associate professor of art, received a \$5,000 University Research Council Grant. The grant is for his sabbatical project, "Public Constructions."

the jambar poll question

Last question

Do you believe YSU officials who say a 6 percent tuition increase is necessary?

47% Yes 53% No

Today's Question: Are you ready for Xmas? **vote online** www.thejambar.com

- INTODAY'S JAMBAR**
- ▶ Classified | 2
 - ▶ Entertainment | 8
 - ▶ Opinion | 3
 - ▶ Sports | 7



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YSU
Tuition hike tabled for now

By: Bill Rodgers
 NEWS EDITOR

Youngstown State University is waiting in tuition limbo after the YSU Board of Trustees narrowly approved a resolution Thursday tabling talks on the 2006-07 tuition rate until the board's next quarterly meeting in March. The unexpected decision, voted 6-5 by the board, was taken after YSU President David Sweet and his administration recommended the university adopt a 6 percent tuition increase for the coming year. The board has routinely voted on the coming year's tuition in December so the office of Financial Aid has enough time to prepare financial aid plans for students for the coming year, Sweet has said. Those who supported the please see **HIKE**, Page 9

YSU
Pre-school pom poms



Rory Schuler, 16 months, from Boardman spends a little time with the Youngstown State University cheerleaders at Monday night's women's basketball game. **GAME STORY ON PAGE 7.**

YSU
SGA to investigate ways to keep tuition down

By: Cheryl Thompson
 ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

The Student Government Association passed a resolution Monday vowing to investigate ways to possibly decrease the proposed 6 percent tuition increase. The Finance and Facilities Committee of the Youngstown State University Board of Trustees decided to postpone consideration of the 6 percent increase till March of 2006, citing better availability of enrollment figures and state support levels. SGA president, Bob McGovern, said the postponement would give SGA a chance to look into ways to help the university run more efficiently. McGovern went on to cite how the transition from mailing grades to students to posting them online has saved the university money and says he hopes SGA can come up with more ideas. "In the meantime, SGA will be doing all please see **SGA**, Page 2

YSU
Jabali paints new picture of Africa

By: Steve Lettau
 REPORTER

Bongo drums, dancers, African food and spirits: The sixth annual Jabali African cultural celebration mixed African tradition and cuisine together Saturday night. Victor Wan-Tatah, the director of Africana studies, welcomed guests and expressed joy that people wanted to celebrate Africa with him. "Relax and pretend you are in Africa; feed your eyes, feed your mind," Wan-Tatah said. Guests also fed their stomachs with an array of African food at the banquet. Jollof rice and Creole bread pudding are some examples of the African dishes that were served. YSU Provost Robert Herbert was on hand to thank Wan-Tatah and the department for their hard work in promoting diversity on campus. "The foundation and commitment of the Africana studies program is the awareness of the world around them," Herbert said. "They seek to give a disciplinary cross perspective." Wan-Tatah reiterated this sentiment by saying people need to appreciate humanity and also look at Africans please see **AFRICA**, Page 4

YSU
Students break the ice for charity



Members of the Penguin Icebreakers brave frigid temperatures and snow on their way from Youngstown to Pittsburgh as part of a fundraising campaign.

By: Steve Lettau
 REPORTER

Many students probably spent this weekend in warm and comfortable dwellings. However, seven Youngstown State University students, were among 14 people walked from Youngstown to Pittsburgh, braving the elements in hopes of raising money for the Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh. With temperatures in the twenties and wind, Tod Pilipovich, YSU admissions coordinator, and the Penguin Icebreakers started their long march Friday morning to the Steel City. The Penguin Icebreakers are a student recruitment group at YSU who hoped to raise more than \$25,000 for the 36 hour, 100-mile walk to Pittsburgh. Pilipovich said the money would be given to the Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh for the free care fund, which helps cover any expenses left after insurance coverage. "That way no one is turned away at the hospital," Pilipovich said. please see **CHARITY**, Page 2

YSU
A new application for hardware store goods: Making some music

By: Cristina Cala
 CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Entering Youngstown's SMARTS Center on Saturday, an eclectic combination of sounds emanate from three student musicians using orchestral bells, electronic loops from a laptop, and percussion from tin sheets, saws and putty knives. With metal appliances unique for music making, the trio's instrumentation is appropriate for Saturday's events: The Steel Valley Art Reception. The trio consists of YSU music performance majors Kyle Farrell, Andy Meyer and Christina Veneron. They perform "free improvisation." "We're not basing the improvisation on preconceived tonal concepts like chord changes. [Free improvisation is] initially based on textures and ambient sounds," Farrell said. Unlike jazz with its 12-bar blues form, free improvisation has no form. "It's generally a little more open. There are initially less constraints than traditional jazz," Farrell said. The musicians said they layer their sound with saxophone, trombone, didgeridoo, guitar effects pedals and anything they might find at a hardware store. please see **SMARTS**, Page 2

SMARTS, continued from page 1

Organized by the Steel Valley Art Teacher's Association, the reception also presented artwork by SMARTS and area students from Mahoning, Trumbull and Columbiana counties. The reception is an example of how SMARTS, or Students Motivated by the Arts, serves all ages.

Director Becky Keck said while offering art, music and theater classes to students in grades kindergarten through 12, SMARTS also offers

opportunities to YSU. Several YSU students teach at the center, and at least five YSU students have featured SMARTS in class projects or assignments this semester.

"It's a living, learning lab for students [who are] becoming teachers. For example, an elementary art education class taught here for six weeks. It's how we serve YSU students while we're serving the community," Keck said.

In all, The SMARTS Center serves 100 to 150 stu-

dents a week and more than 6,000 students a year. The center collaborates with organizations like Salvation Army and Accelerated Christian Learning Centers to raise money to provide free regular programming and classes.

Keck said long-term interaction with kids is a main goal, and refers to Rebecca Banks' sons, Brett, 14 and Bruce, 11.

"Bruce started with our opera and five years later he's still here," she said.

The student-composed and performed opera is part of the "Build-a-Scene" class taught by YSU graduate Amanda Beagle, Nathan Beagle, a YSU theater major, and Craig Raymeley. In six to eight class sessions, students help create the set design, costumes and music for a mini-opera.

Banks said he is considering doing the opera now that his elementary visual arts class is finished.

"It was fun. I drew a

ladyfly - a ladybug and a dragonfly," Bruce said.

Bruce's mother said she is well acquainted with the center and its faculty, as she demonstrated when Keck reenters the room decked with a reindeer hat that students made.

"Becky, wear it Tuesday! I forgot my camera!" Banks said.

On Tuesday, Dec. 6, there will be a holiday open house with caroling and a pizza party. Mahoning Valley art

teachers have invited students to create holiday decorations that will be set up in the SMARTS facility from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Keck said the open house is a chance "for people to check us out," for SMARTS to thank its sponsors and meet people who will become teachers or students.

"Creating art takes focus and discipline. I think most kids that come here really want to be here," she said.

Call Cristina Cilla at (330) 941-1913.

CHARITY, continued from page 1

Pilipovich said he got the idea after he transferred to YSU from Thiel University. He and his fraternity friends had done this fundraiser before and he wanted to bring it to YSU. About seven fraternity brothers joined in on the march this year, bringing the count of walkers to 14.

"This is a good opportu-

nity to give back," Pilipovich said.

Traveling through downtown Youngstown, the group was escorted by the YSU police and made their way to Boardman and Poland, and eventually into Pennsylvania. Other police departments in Pennsylvania cooperated by stopping traffic the

entire 100 miles.

"Once the wind hit, going through Youngstown, people were wondering what they got themselves into," Pilipovich said.

One Penguin Icebreaker braving the conditions was sophomore Ed Cornman. He met Pilipovich while working in the Sweeny

Welcome Center.

Wearing multiple layers of clothes, a hat and gloves, Cornman was ready to leave early Friday. Cornman had some enthusiastic words before he left.

"It feels great to give generosity during the Christmas season. It's all for a good cause basically," he said.

Calling in to a Jambar reporter en route to Pittsburgh, Cornman said people were "coming out of their houses in bare feet giving us donations." He added that it was a "tremendous experience."

Once they arrived at the hospital, Pilipovich and the rest of the group visited

patients and gave them teddy bears.

The hospital invited them to come back and help with a telethon on Dec. 20. Each participant in the walk to Pittsburgh will receive tickets to see the Pittsburgh Steelers play the Detroit Lions in January.

Call Steve Lettau at (330) 941-1913.

SGA, continued from page 1

that we can find cost-saving measures and we hope to have good news to report next semester," McGovern said.

SGA's tuition and fees committee met last Thursday with assistant provost Ron Chordas to review the breakdown of fee information down to the department level.

President of the tuition and fees committee, Shannon Baker, said SGA is planning to send out a CUE mail to students next semester containing statements

from YSU President David Sweet and other officials.

"It will have a blurb from President Sweet explaining where the money is going and then students will have a better understanding of things," Baker said.

Paul Walker, the secretary of external affairs, with McGovern and vice president for student affairs, John Vogel, traveled to Kent State University last week to see how their Student Legal Services operated. SGA is currently discussing implementing a similar program

at YSU.

However, McGovern said further investigation is needed because KSU and YSU have different campus atmospheres and the attitudes of the townspeople differ.

"The people who live in the city of Kent simply don't like the students," McGovern said. "There have been cases of police banging down doors for noise ordinances."

McGovern went on to add that because of these differences, they hope to

observe a legal service on a campus that more closely resembles YSU.

Vice president for financial affairs, Josh Hiznay, estimates around 50 percent of the budget remains after SGA passed a bill appropriating money to five organizations including:

- \$1,500 of \$3,500 requested by the Dana Flute Society to pay for a guest artist to appear at the Dana Flute Festival on Feb. 25.

- \$240 of \$240 requested by Alpha Pi Omega to pay for the performance rights for the Black Box production of "Polish Joke."

- \$500 of \$2,950 requested by the Campus Crusade for Christ to defray the cost of their Leadership Christmas

Conference in Indiana;

- \$1,000 of \$1,000 requested by the Tony Leonardi Double Bass Association to pay for musicians to appear at the Midwest Double Bass Symposium on April 9;

- \$646 of \$646 requested by the Catholic Student Association for their annual Pancake Study: Break during finals week for both fall and spring semesters;

- \$1,760 of \$1,800 by the Catholic Student

Association to pay for student registration for to attend the Collegiate Challenge for Habitat for Humanity over spring break.

The student affairs committee finalized its plans for the second movie night. SGA will be showing "Bad Santa" 6:30 p.m. Thursday in Kilcawley Center's Chestnut Room. There will be free pop and popcorn.

Call Cheryl Thompson at (330) 941-1913.

Classified**Help Wanted**

General Labor Wanted- Pressure wash vehicles, work outdoors, part time weekends or days and afternoons. Clean driving record. Call (330) 743-8383.

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Help wanted in after school program located in Girard. Monday-Friday 3:00 p.m.- 5:30 p.m. Age groups are grades 4-6. Fax resume to 330-545-1584 or call 330-545-1490.

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Spacious 3 BR/2 bath apt. with living room, dining room, equipped kitchen, deck. Walk to YSU. Excellent for 3 or more YSU students. \$350/mo. per bedroom includes utilities. Available now. 330-506-0104.

Near YSU- houses and apartments. 2-3-4 & 5 bedroom. Clean and newly painted, some within walking distance. 330-506-5684.

Miscellaneous

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Great Expectations

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The Jambar is now accepting applications for Sales Manager and Assistant Design Editor.

Assistant Design Editor: Responsibilities include writing stories, assisting in design of the Jambar, looking for a person with knowledge in Quark and Photoshop, but will train the right person.

Sales Manager: Responsibilities include maintaining contact with advertisers and developing new accounts

Applications are available from Lynn Haug in the Kilcawley Staff Office located on the upper level of Kilcawley Center.

YSU Center for Student Progress**Now Taking Applications For SI Study Group Leaders for Spring 2006 Semester****Qualifications:**

1. Overall GPA of 3.0 or above
2. Sophomore status (or higher)
3. Grade of "A" or "B" in the selected course, preferably with the same instructor
4. Competency with course content
5. Excellent interpersonal and communication skills

Primary Responsibilities:

1. Attend 2 days of mandatory training the week before the semester begins
2. Attend all class meetings of the selected course, take notes, do homework and read all assigned materials
3. Conduct three regularly scheduled 50-minute study sessions per week throughout the semester in the Center for Student Progress
4. Complete and submit weekly to the Coordinator paperwork, including attendance records (sign in sheets) and SI session planning and summary sheets
5. Prepare handouts/worksheets/activities for use during study groups and submit copies to Coordinator
6. Attend mandatory staff meetings twice monthly
7. Establish and maintain working relationship with the instructor of the course

Starting pay= \$6.10 per hour and increased to \$6.50 after 100 hours

Positions are available in the following subjects:

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For more information, stop by the Center for Student Progress in Kilcawley Center or call 330-941-2956 (on campus ext. 2956)

Call (330) 941-1991 to tell The Jambar about upcoming campus events.

thejambar
 Excellence in Journalism since 1931
 Editorial & Opinion

Tuesday, December 6, 2005

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OUR SIDE

Speak up,
 YSU students

Like a student who has received an extension on a final term paper, Youngstown State University's student leaders got the opportunity last week to study harder and come up with a better and more convincing argument against tuition increases.

YSU's Board of Trustees played the role of the merciful professor Thursday when it narrowly passed a resolution postponing any decisions on a 2006-07 tuition increase until March.

YSU's Student Government Association quickly responded Monday by passing a resolution of its own, promising to investigate ways YSU might offer a tuition increase lower than the administration proposed 6 percent. SGA President Bob McGovern said Thursday he would be looking for ways that YSU could cut costs, a move that should be applauded. Student Trustee Louise Popio said she would be willing to work with SGA in leaving "no stone unturned."

McGovern is advocating a 4.5 percent tuition increase next year as a reasonable alternative to a 6 percent hike, though a 3 percent hike would be more in line with the inflation rate and no increase at all would be more in line with student's bank accounts.

Trustee William Bresnahan, who voted for the delay, warned that the board's action Thursday should not create any "false expectations." Indeed, students should not get their hopes up that the majority of YSU's trustees will actually vote for anything less than a 6 percent increase come March unless something drastic happens.

While an improving enrollment or state funding picture could persuade some trustees against the 6 percent hike, the most powerful statement students can make (and the best chance for swaying trustees) is an organized effort among YSU's student body to let the administration and trustees know just how continued tuition increases impact their lives.

McGovern organized a campaign that collected student "sob stories" and sent them to state legislators in Columbus last spring. Perhaps a similar campaign for YSU's trustees is in order. Combined with SGA efforts to come up with tuition hike alternatives, such an action might prove to administrators and trustees that YSU's student body means business.

Here's another suggestion: Call the people who make decisions and let your opinions be heard. Are you a student fed up with annual tuition hikes? Call YSU President David Sweet at (330) 941-3101. Do you have ideas about how YSU might save money in the future? Call SGA President Bob McGovern at (330) 941-3591. Are you up to your neck in student loans? E-mail YSU Board of Trustees Chair H.S. Wang at ihswang@yahoo.com.

Without student pressure, there is no incentive for YSU to rein in tuition costs. Make your voice heard.

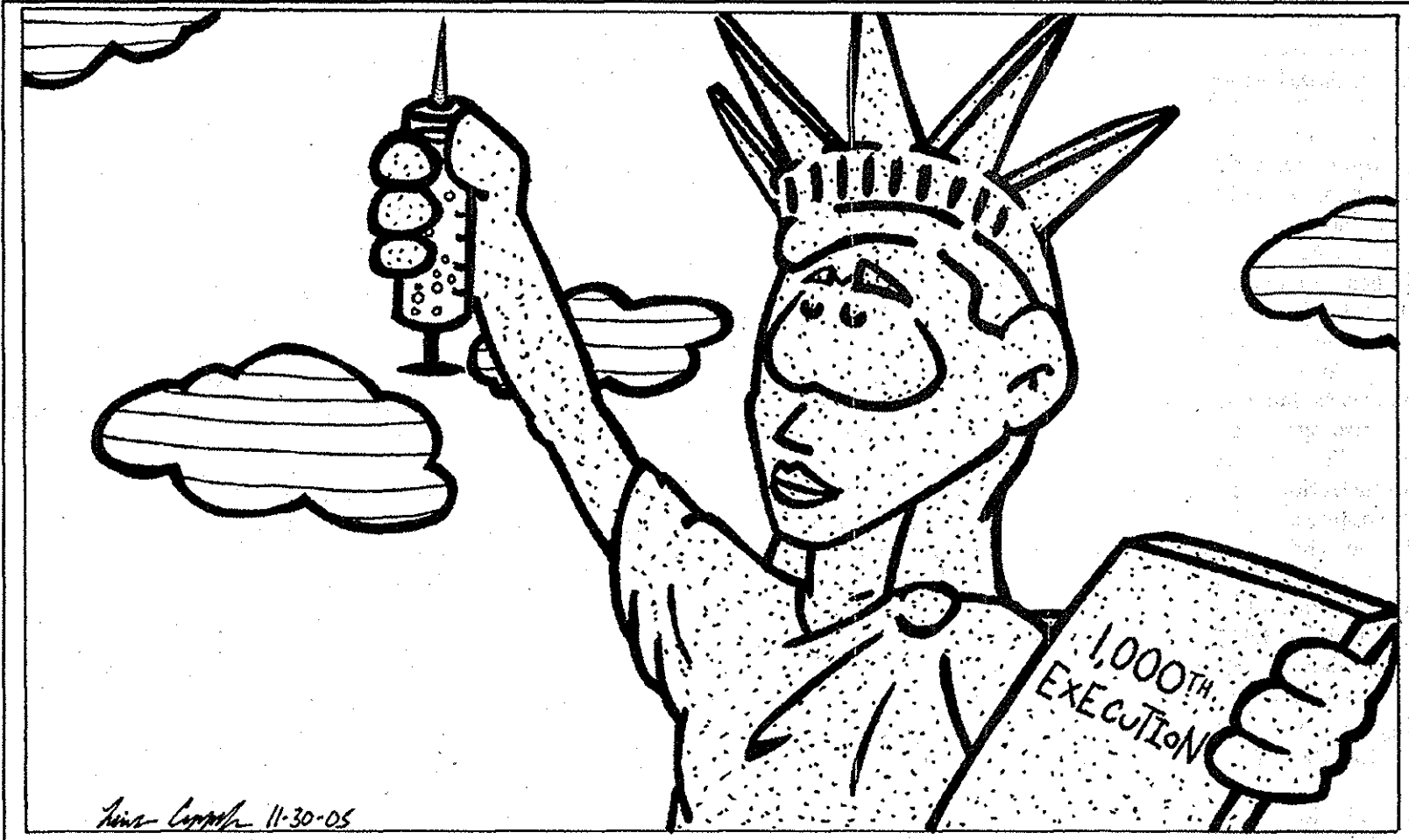
EDITORIAL POLICY

The Jambar editorials reflect the opinions of The Jambar and its Editorial Board members. Commentaries and columns reflect only the views of the individual who wrote the piece. 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 any letter. The views and opinions expressed in published letters do not necessarily reflect those of Jambar staff or YSU faculty, staff or administration.



LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Today's media and war coverage

Editor:

I have always wondered how today's media would portray the Invasion of Normandy. On a single day, it is estimated that 2,500 American troops died on that hill. I wonder if today's media would deem the action of Roosevelt as a reckless endangerment of our soldiers. At the conclusion of the Normandy Campaign, it is estimated that 425,000 soldiers were dead, injured, or missing on both sides. Would today's media criticize Roosevelt for not fighting a war with zero casualties, or praise him for his brilliant strategy?

How would today's media portray the actions of President Harry Truman? After dropping two atomic bombs, it is estimated

that 120,000 people (about 95 percent of which civilians) were killed outright by the blast, and about twice as many over time. Would today's media portray Truman as a mass murderer, or praise him for doing what was necessary to win the war against a brutal enemy. Having seen how the media responds to war today, I can only venture to guess they would declare Truman a murderer. I also wonder if today's media would support Japan's Baton Death March, and scream for the rights of Nazis who tossed babies into the air and shot them.

Nazis are the fascist equivalents of terrorists. Both are ideological institutions, and both will not yield unless dealt with forcefully. The difference is terrorists are willing to die for their cause,

and through religion, are spread across cultures and borders. We are not fighting the Germans or the Japanese, but are fighting a religious, fanatical element of the worst sort.

Iraq is in the heart of anti-Americanism. Although Iraq was not the cause of the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, Bush put our troops on the ground of Iraq and on the borders of countries that harbor this fanatical branch of Islam. He killed two birds with one stone. Bush removed Saddam, a brutal dictator, and put thousands of American troops in the backyard of those who want us dead. He proved to the fanatics that America is no longer a paper tiger, and if you mess with us, expect us to pay a visit.

The media and the far left, in their blatant hatred of Bush as a

person, have gone so far as to support the enemy and ask for an immediate troop removal. They claim things are not going well. I can only imagine what they would say if they heard 2,500 troops died on a single day, or over 100,000 civilians were killed by an atom bomb. Things were definitely NOT going well on either of those days, I can assure you. Roosevelt, however, finished the job. Truman finished the job in Japan. This can be credited to both their willingness not to give up, and pro-Americanism in the media. Maybe it is time to let Bush finish the job he started, without being beat on by the media and left all the time. If Roosevelt had this bad press, he would have lost too.

Alex Mangie

COMMENTARY

Through the looking glass

By: Mike Pingree
 KRT CAMPUS

YOUNG LADY, I NEED TO SPEAK WITH YOU ... NOW!

A teenage girl in Peterborough, Ontario, stole her mother's video camera from her bedroom closet and sold it to a friend for \$200. Unfortunately, the mother and her boyfriend had filmed themselves engaging in vigorous sexual activity, and left the tape in the camera. The daughter did not know this when she made the sale.

It all came to light some weeks later when the mother's boyfriend found that the tape was being shown all around town. Mother was said to be irate.

FOR ONCE, CAN'T WE HAVE A CIVILIZED DISCUSSION?

During an argument over his wife's failure to cook him dinner, a South Carolina man squeezed Cheez Whiz on the kitchen floor. She responded by squeezing cheese onto his pickup truck. So he squeezed cheese into her hair. Then she called the police.

THERE HE IS NOW

A thief stole a woman's car from her driveway in Danville, Calif., home but failed to remove the e-toll tracking device that records the vehicle's location every time it goes through a toll booth.

Police knew every time he crossed a bridge in the area, so they figured out his general whereabouts and arrested him.

TOP O' THE MORNIN' TO YA', OFFICER

A man was arrested for drunk driving in Grösse Pointe, Mich., and was unable to recite the alphabet, count to ten, or stand without stumbling. He admitted that he had been drinking heavily, and blamed his inebriation on the fact that he is Irish.

PAY NO ATTENTION TO THE MAN BEHIND THE BOXES

Investigating a noise in the loft of her home in Macduff, Scotland, a woman discovered her next-door neighbor with whom she had broken off a romantic relationship. He had cut two holes in her bedroom ceiling. When she spotted him, he ran past her shouting, "I wasn't here."

SO IT'S UNANIMOUS, YOU SEE

Two young ladies attracted a crowd in front of a salon in Madison, Wis., when they went into the storefront window, removed their clothes and engaged in sex acts for all to see.

When police put a stop to it, the ladies said they didn't think they were doing anything wrong. The crowd outside agreed.

AND BABY MAKES TWO

A pregnant woman was pulled over on Interstate 10 in Arizona for driving in the car-

pool lane without another person in the vehicle. She explained to officers that she thought that her unborn son counts as a second person.

DOES THIS MEAN I DON'T GET THE JOB?

A woman applied for a Courtesy Patrol position with the Dallas County Sheriff's Department, but, when deputies did a routine background check on her, they found that she was wanted in New Mexico for conspiracy to commit arson.

HEH HEH, THEY'LL NEVER CATCH ME ... WHAP!

A man robbed a casino in Great Falls, Mont., and fled on a bicycle. Minutes later, he was struck and killed by a police car that had rushed to the scene to investigate the robbery.



AFRICA, continued from page 1

here at Youngstown State University.

He also spoke about the African people as a whole.

"We are a stubborn people who are always thirsty for knowledge," Wan-Tatah said.

Saturday's main speaker was Dr. Verijika Fanzo, a professor at the University of

Yaounde in Cameroon. He hails from the same region as Wan-Tatah in Cameroon.

Dr. Fanzo's speech was "Hope for Africa in the New Millennium." It discussed many of the situations that Africa faces today. Such situations are civil wars in places like Angola and Liberia and

the spread of the HIV virus throughout the entire region.

Fanzo said that Americans only see the bad things about the continent on television. According to him, Americans also see Africa as one country, not as a continent made up of numerous independent countries.

"Few Americans have a clear picture of Africa," Fanzo said. "Life is not all misery in Africa. Africans love peace."

The African Soul International Dance group of Cleveland was also featured in the program. The group brought attendants to

their feet, as they clapped along with the drumming and the beat. One dance symbolized abundance and fertility, as the dancers mimicked picking grain and putting it into baskets.

"Life is a dance; its grace, its joy, its movement," Wan-Tatah said.

One hostess, Valeria Johnson, was pleased at the amount of people who showed for the celebration, but she called out anyone willing to see what a Jabali is all about.

"Experience something new, step out of your comfort box," Johnson said.

Call Steve Lettau at (330) 941-1913.

HIKE, continued from page 1

motion to delay a final vote, including trustees William Bresnahan, Donald Cagigas, Sudershan Garg, Dianne Bitonte Miladore, Scott Schulick and student trustee Louise Popio, agreed extra time would allow the university to better estimate next year's fall enrollment. They also agreed extra time would allow the board and administration to pursue other options.

Those who voted against the motion — trustees H.S. Wang, Millicent Counts, Larry DeJane, John Pogue, and student trustee Paul Walker — had reasons for doing so ranging from concern for the financial aid office's ability to prepare financial aid packages for incoming students to the idea that a 6 percent increase was assumed when the board voted on faculty and staff contracts two months ago.

Administration recommends 6 percent

Sweet recommended a 6 percent increase to the board as a result of recent contract settlements with YSU employees and declining state cuts in funding for higher education. The administration expects state support for YSU to decrease by two percent or \$800,000 this year. A 6 percent increase, administration claimed, would nearly balance the university's budget; barring what budget director Jeff Taylor called "budget concerns."

These budget concerns include utilities, summer classes and the university athletics program. Taylor said the 6 percent increase would balance the budget, allowing these concerns to be dealt with by June of FY07.

Sweet said in a memo to YSU Trustees that even with the increase, education was an investment that still pays off for students. In his memo, he referenced the year 1980 when college tuition was just \$1,800 per year at YSU.

"I have no doubt ... that students in 1980 felt just as burdened by that cost as students today... I also have no doubt that those graduates now feel that their tuition was money well spent," Sweet said, predicting 2006 graduates will feel the same way down the road.

Sweet said that the question of tuition boiled down to "What type of university does the Mahoning Valley deserve?" Sweet said that tuition increases in light of declining state support made it possible for YSU to recruit 100 new faculty, engage in community and neighborhood partnerships and fund important student scholarship programs.

Trustees respond
Trustee Cagigas was very**Homemade Chicken Dinners**
Every Wednesday
\$6

Chicken, tossed salad,
Mashed potatoes, gravy & pie!
Take out available, too!



St. John's Episcopal Church
11:30a.m.-1:00p.m.
323 Wick Avenue - Youngstown
330-743-3175
(next to the main library, across from
Y.S.U.'s Jones Hall)

critical of the proposed increase, saying after the recent contract negotiations, YSU did little to shoulder the cost of the new agreements. He criticized the university for passing the cost along to students.

"We're the best of the worst," Cagigas said of the claim that YSU was one of the most affordable public universities in Ohio.

Cagigas asserted that YSU's tuition hikes could soon make the university unaffordable to many area students.

"YSU has a higher percentage of students who pay their own way for school. At what point are we eventually going to outpace YSU in its given market? We're quickly closing the gap here," Cagigas said.

"I understand the university is critical to our region," Cagigas said. "But nothing says that we have to be here in 10 years."

Other trustees, such as Pogue, said the 6 percent increase was inevitable given the events of 2005.

"We voted on this increase when we voted on the contracts. Our ship has sailed, we're committed to making these payments," Pogue said.

Tentative fall enrollment/tuition alternatives to be explored

Taylor said that three factors play into YSU's revenue budget. They are the cost of tuition, enrollment and state support. State support was projected to decrease, leaving next fall's enrollment as a wild card that could determine next year's tuition.

Bresnahan found from special assistant to the president Tom Maraffa that YSU would have a better projec-

tion on next fall's enrollment by late February or early March. In a statement after the meeting, Bresnahan said the decision to postpone tuition would allow the trustees to make a more informed decision.

"[Thursday's] vote to delay action on tuition gives the administration and board members the opportunity to fully explore other options. By March, the university should have more current enrollment projections and other information that should allow us to make a more informed decision on tuition," Bresnahan said.

At the same time, Bresnahan warned that the board's action should not create any "false expectations."

Trustee Schulick said after the meeting that the decision to withhold action would give administration and trustees more time to "tighten our belt" by finding ways to cut expenditures of the university.

However, Vice President of the Administration John Habat said in the meeting that YSU had already looked at several cost-saving measures prior to deciding on the 6 percent increase. Habat cited employee contributions to health care, an early retirement incentive program for senior employees and the elimination of 8-10 vacant positions as examples of cost saving measures the university has already taken.

Habat also spoke of cost-saving initiatives such as re-managing the expenditures of summer school and an energy saving facility upgrades as projects currently underway at YSU.

Taylor said Tuesday that administration would be investigating other budget

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scenarios concerning tuition between now and March, though meetings have not currently been set.

SGA explores tuition alternatives

Student Government President Bob McGovern received last-minute clearance to address the board as the tuition discussion began. McGovern asked that the trustees opt for a 4.5 percent increase rather than a 6 percent increase at the state cap.

He said that the 4.5 percent increase would not only save YSU students \$95, but would also show state lawmakers that YSU was willing to find cost-saving measures rather than increase tuition to the maximum amount. McGovern said the university could make up the lost revenue with cost-saving cuts in departments across campus. He said that this, coupled with a lobbying effort, could work to convince lawmakers that state schools were willing to work with them to save money on higher education.

McGovern also asked that the board consider funding some revenue with money from balance forwards, unspent revenue YSU has at the end of the year, or university budget reserves.

"I understand that the reserves are meant to be saved for a rainy day, but it's pouring," McGovern said to the board.

Taylor addressed McGovern's idea about using money in the budget forward to divert the cost of education yesterday. Taylor said that the money was regularly used to fund other needs of the university. Taylor pointed out that in October, money from the previous budget forward was used to fund the early retirement plan, course fees and research incentive accounts.

McGovern said after the meeting that the board's decision was a good surprise.

McGovern said SGA would try to find ways to cut university costs while avoiding cutting corners, and that he hopes any savings SGA can find would be passed back to students.

"This gives SGA more time to pursue what I had suggested — finding ways to cut costs," McGovern said. "Postponing the vote was probably the only way to give the proposal appropriate consideration."

McGovern said he would keep in touch with student trustees Popio and Walker concerning SGA's work.

Popio said on Sunday that she and Walker had not specifically discussed working with McGovern and SGA but that she would be willing to. Popio said she hoped SGA would have a more detailed plan of tuition alternatives by March.

"A few months will give us ample time to make certain we do not leave any stone unturned as we arrive at the decision of what is best for the students," Popio said.

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YSU

Novak honored with scholarship established at YSU in her name

By: Steve Lettau
REPORTER

Youngstown State University and the YSU Foundation are maintaining their promise to help keep Jackie Novak's legacy alive with a scholarship in her name.

The "Extreme Makeover: Home Edition" episode featuring Boardman's Novak family aired this Sunday. Jeff Novak, the family's father, visited YSU Sunday to thank the crowd of volunteers who gathered in Kilcawley Center to watch the show together.

Joe Cassese, YSU development officer, and Paul McFadden, chief development officer, announced the establishment of the Jackie Novak Memorial Scholarship in a press conference Wednesday morning.

"Students will be honored to receive this scholarship," McFadden said.

While attending YSU, the late Jackie Novak was the recipient of a YSU Foundation scholarship. She graduated in 2001 with a degree in education. She went on to teach in the Jackson Milton school district until her unexpected death on Mother's Day of this year of a lung blood clot on the lung.

Novak's family received attention when her story reached ABC-TV's "Extreme

Makeover: Home Edition" and their Boardman home house was chosen to be rebuilt.

The YSU Foundation said they are aiming to raise a minimum of \$10,000 and said they have received donations from South Range, Eagle Heights Academy and Jackson Milton High School.

The scholarship is open to any YSU student from Mahoning, Trumbull or Columbiana counties that maintain a 2.4 grade point average or higher. It is open to all majors.

Novak's mother, Gerry Morely, spoke on behalf of the family at the press conference.

"This is the most wonderful gift I can think of. Jackie loved going to school, she loved education," Morely said. "This is an absolutely beautiful way to appreciate Jackie."

In October, YSU President David Sweet announced the university would provide scholarships to Novak's three children aged six, two, and six months.

"Her children will follow their mom's footsteps," McFadden said.

Donations may be made through the YSU Web site, www.ysu.edu, or by calling Joe Cassese at (330) 941-2756.

Call Steve Lettau at (330) 941-1913.

TITLE IX, continued from page 7

federal government let Title IX continue as is without significant changes.

"This is the real field of dreams story. If you build it, they will come. If you provide the athletic participation opportunities, the interest in women to participate will grow," Brand said.

A study done in 1999 by the United States General Accounting Office at the bequest of former speaker of the house Dennis Hastert seems to back up the claims

of many Title IX advocates. The study, which examines a ten-year period looking at athletic participation and the effects of Title IX on male athletic programs found that while male athletic participation dropped by nearly ten thousand athletes nationwide, male participation still outnumbered female participation by a tally of 234,706 to 149,502 in all divisions.

Surprisingly, one of the largest drop-offs occurred at

YSU

Student suicide can be prevented

By: Eric Grosso
FEATURES REPORTER

Suicide is the second leading cause of death among college students and the third leading cause of death for youth ages 15 to 24, according to the National Mental Health Association.

Recent statistics released by University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire revealed that at the time of graduation, nearly one-fourth to as much as one-third of all students have thought of killing themselves. About one in 10,000 of those will actually commit suicide with about 30,000 actual suicides per year in the United States alone.

And, according to the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention, someone attempts suicide every minute.

The NMHA links heavy stress as an indicator of future mental health problems, such as anxiety disorders, which often lead to suicide. More than 90 percent of all suicidal college students have a diagnosable, but highly treatable, mental health disorder.

Youngstown State University provides no-cost, confidential counseling to students at Career and Counseling Services in Jones Hall. The center attempts to identify and treat various disorders, such as depression, drug and alcohol problems, phobias, panic and eating disorders. They also help students cope with academic issues such as stress management, test anxiety and career indecision.

The Community Counseling Clinic in the Beeghly College of Education provides similar services to community resi-

dents, often at no cost. The two centers also work as referral services.

Graduate student Greg Rohane said that some small changes can save students a lot of grief during their stay at YSU, especially during the upcoming finals week.

"Just realize, before you get stressed, that you're never going to be able to get everything done at once," said Rohane. "To complete anything, it's going to take time."

Rohane also noted the students need to take a time out during a large task, such as studying for a test, as breaks will allow your body to recharge and then concentrate on the task at hand.

Rohane often uses therapeutic music and herbal drinks to help relax, but urges all students to find exactly what method works

best for them.

"You have to try different things, mix it up a little bit," Rohane said. "What might work for a friend probably won't work for you."

The university also held an audio conference with Gary Pavea, director of judicial programs at the University of Maryland - College Park, titled "Synthesis: Law and Policy in Higher Education." The conference covered university policy and liability, focusing on student suicide.

If you know someone who has thoughts or shows signs of suicide, you can call either counseling center on campus, the Suicide Prevention Action Network, or the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention.

The NMHA insists that the most important step in suicide prevention is asking for help.

Call Eric Grosso at (330) 941-3758

MOVIE REVIEW

'Aeon Flux' lacks luster, point, consequences, other things

By: Chris Hewitt
KRT CAMPUS

"Aeon Flux" takes place in a post-apocalyptic future world where people have mutant limbs, mysterious dreams and kooky, asymmetrical haircuts.

It's a good-looking movie with a fine cast, including four Oscars nominees: Pete Postlethwaite, Frances McDormand, Sophie Okonedo and, in the title role, Charlize Theron. She's fine, but the problems in "Aeon Flux" — which is chilly and humorless — start with Aeon.

She's the only unambiguously good character in the movie, a superhero bent on saving the world and avenging her sister's murder, but we don't care much about her. The film has lots of violence, but there aren't any consequences — it's like a video game, where the worst thing that could happen is you have to start over.

This is especially noticeable in the shootouts, where hundreds of years of high technology still haven't resulted in a weapon that can take down any of the good guys. In a bizarrely

misconceived scene, Aeon is in a room full of people whose mortal wounds are her fault and, as they gasp for breath, she ignores them to tend to a cut on her hand.

There are signs this could have been more involving. The movie ignores its unique love story, involving the concept of cloning, and an intriguing argument about the morality of cloning ("We're SUPPOSED to die," says Aeon) also doesn't get explored.

I suspect that, at one point, this brief film dealt with those themes in more depth, and that's why the cast signed on. But those themes have been eliminat-

ed to give the fanboys plenty of girl-on-girl martial action and to leave the actors wondering, as Aeon says at one point, "Why am I here?"

AEON FLUX

2 stars

Directed by: Karyn Kusama

Starring: Charlize Theron

Rated: PG-13, violence

SHOULD YOU GO?

With no advance screenings, some thought it might be "Aeon Flux," but it's more like "Aeon Lacklux."

GHOSTS, continued from page 8

there, you can inform the ghost of the importance of family planning in times of economic strife, as well as the benefits of a national healthcare system. What you may not know is that ghosts have a lot of pull in Washington; in fact, three of our presidents were ghosts (try and guess which ones). If you have a ghost lobbying for national healthcare, your employees will quit complaining about their lack of coverage, and also the fact that your building is

full of scorpions.

The Ghost of Christmas future is the "Captain Obvious" of the holiday spirits. It shows up primarily to let you know that at one point in the future, you will die. If you're fully aware of your mortality, I say have a little fun with this spirit. Shortly before going to sleep on Christmas Eve, go down to the courthouse and have your name legally changed. Later that night, when the ghost tries to reveal that it's your name on the tomb-

stone, you can cross your arms, chuckle, and say, "Sorry, pal, my name's Lance Millionaire!" At that point, the ghost will probably give you some coupons in exchange for not telling his supervisor.

As you can see, holiday ghosts are a pretty disorganized lot, and it's incredibly easy to avoid being manipulated to get some Dickensian

justice of your own. Just make sure you're not messing with the ghosts of Chanukah Past, Present and Future; they mean business. It should also be mentioned that they are made out of mustard gas and can fire lightning. If you don't believe me, ask your local Rabbi.

Bob Mackey prefers the version of Scrooge that has a peccan pilot and a swimmable money bin. He can be reached at (330) 941-1913.

Call Justin Smolkowich at (330) 941-3758.

Lost ... Lost ... Gone!

All items FOUND this semester that are not claimed by the end of finals week, will be donated to area charities.

FOUND: Keys, cell phones, hats, gloves, books, bags, etc. The campus LOST AND FOUND is located at YSU Info on the upper level of Kilcawley Center.

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NEWS SPOTLIGHT

Army recruiters thrive in rural American cities

By: E.A. Torriero
KRT CAMPUS

WARRENSBURG, Ill. — This is U.S. Army country, where even in the leanest of recruiting years, even in a time of war, young people step out of farms and tiny towns of rural America to enlist.

Nationally, rising anti-war sentiment and news of mounting casualties in Iraq led this year to the most dismal Army recruiting season since 1979.

But in the expanses of the Midwest, the downturn has been much less than in other places.

In dozens of sparsely populated Illinois counties — places with some of the state's highest poverty rates — an average of nearly one in 10 young people joins the military.

That's more than twice the rate nationwide and makes Downstate Illinois one of the prime recruiting grounds in the country.

A sense of duty and muted criticism of the war keep recruiting alive in the Midwest. But more than patriotism is at work. Tough times in the heartland make the military an appealing alternative.

The Army offered a better future than what I could find by staying back home," said Pfc. Tyler Platt, 19, who signed up last summer in this central-Illinois town and is studying information technology in the Army.

Downstate Illinois reflects a national trend: Nearly one of every two recruits comes from outside large metropolitan areas, according to a recent breakdown of recruiting statistics by ZIP codes. And almost half of all recruits come from poor and lower-income families, the Pentagon statistics show.

"Rural America is ripe territory for military recruitment," said Anita Danes, research director for a non-partisan Massachusetts organization, the National Priorities Project, which calculated 2004 Pentagon recruiting data by postal zones.

They are places, as military recruiters put it, without the negative influences they encounter elsewhere in the country.

The non-urban Midwest has hardly a hint of the vociferous campaigns going on in the Northeastern and Western states to rid schools

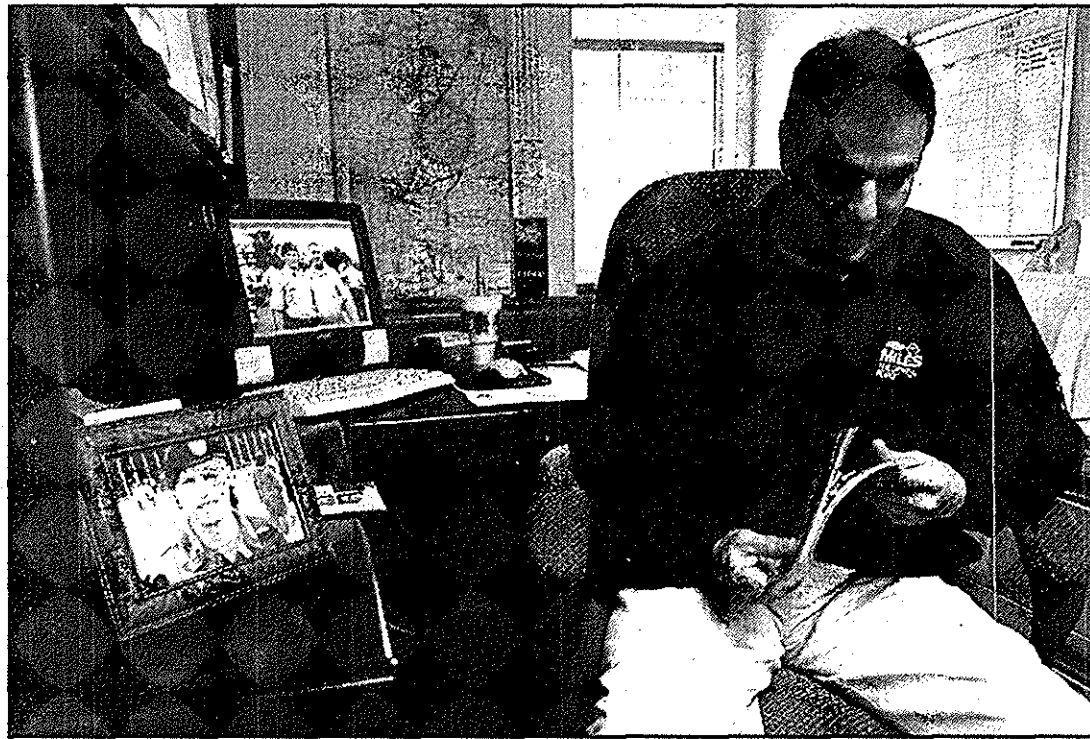


Photo courtesy of krtcampus.com

Jeff Platt goes through family pictures of his son, Tyler, 19, with Sgt. James Pearson, not pictured, who had earlier recruited the younger Platt. In dozens of sparsely populated Illinois counties, places with some of the state's highest poverty rates, an average of nearly one in 10 young people joins the military.

of military recruiters.

All Army battalions missed their recruiting goals in the fiscal year that ended in September. Aiming for 80,000 recruits nationally, the Army signed up 73,373, the first time since 1999 that it failed to achieve its target.

The St. Louis region rated third in the nation for Army recruiting, with 2,279, or 73 percent of its goal, behind San Antonio with 86 percent and Oklahoma City with 78 percent.

"Economic opportunities are limited, and patriotism is high in the Midwest," said Charles Moskos, a Northwestern University sociologist specializing in military affairs. "That combination makes the military awfully attractive to young folks."

The Army is in the midst of a blitzkrieg advertising campaign nationwide. Recruiters in Illinois say increased benefits, such as a \$400-a-month pay boost for those willing to serve in combat divisions, are luring more recruits.

In a recent week in the Springfield recruiting center, applicants included a young bank

teller seeking a better life, a struggling college student and a recent high school graduate looking for adventure.

All mentioned the region's bleak prospects for prosperity as reasons for joining the Army, the recruiters said.

In Warrensburg, Ill., population 1,289, military service has a storied tradition among residents. At Warrensburg-Latham High School, photographs of some 20 enlisted soldiers are proudly displayed in the halls next to the school's sports trophies and academic accomplishments.

Students have been busy lately putting

together 70 packages of goodies to send to alumni serving abroad.

Platt, a former high school football and track standout at Warrensburg-Latham, is one of those whose pictures grace the school hall.

After graduating from Warrensburg-Latham in 2003, Platt worked at an electronics store in nearby Decatur while taking college business courses.

But with an unemployment rate hovering locally at 6 percent, and lower-paying service jobs replacing higher-paying manufacturing positions, Platt figured he faced a bleak future in central Illinois.

Platt talked with former high school friends who had joined the military. And when he walked into the Decatur Army recruiting office in June, he met Staff Sgt. James Pearson.

One of the region's top recruiters, with more than 65 recruits in the last 18 months, Pearson asked Platt questions he asks every potential recruit: What is your goal and why aren't you achieving it?

Then Pearson met with Platt's "influencer," as he calls a recruit's closest contact: his father, Jeff, who sells cars at one of Decatur's biggest dealerships.

At first, Jeff Platt was hesitant. He has misgivings about the war. His oldest son, Ryan, died eight years ago in a car accident when he was 16. The prospect of losing a second son frightened him. Persuaded by Pearson and by his son's motivations, Platt gave his blessing.

Now Tyler Platt is a private first class studying information systems technology at Ft. Gordon in Augusta, Ga.

"I don't think it's a big deal to serve my country," said Tyler Platt, who signed on for six years. "And I know I'd never have these kind of opportunities in Decatur."

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Dec. 27th – Jan. 16th 11am – 8pm

Beeghly Aquatic Center – Lap Swim
Dec. 19th – Dec. 22nd 12noon – 8:30pm
Dec. 27th – Dec. 30th 10am – 4pm
Jan. 3rd – Jan. 6th 2pm – 8:30pm
Jan. 9th – Jan 13th 2pm – 8:30pm

Stambaugh Weight Room
Dec. 19th – Dec. 22nd 12noon – 4:00pm
Dec. 27th – Dec. 30th 12noon – 4:00pm
Jan. 3rd – Jan. 6th 12noon – 4:00pm
Jan. 9th – Jan 13th 12noon – 4:00pm



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- ▶ 12/10 — Women's basketball @ Eastern Michigan
- ▶ 12/7 — Men's basketball @ St. Bonaventure

YSU WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Hill: Penguins lacking intensity

By: Justin Smolkovich
SPORTS REPORTER

After the Youngs-town State University women's basketball team dropped their fourth game of the season Wednesday, head coach Tisha Hill said she is looking for the desire to win from her young squad.

"I'm searching for some intensity," Hill said following the Penguins 61-54 loss to Oakland at Beeghly Center. "We didn't start well at all."

The Penguins looked to be in command of the game early as the Penguins built a 13-8 lead. However, the tide soon changed behind an up-tempo Oakland squad that connected on 48 percent of their shots from the field in the first half, which only added to the Penguins offensive woes.

The Penguins scored their last basket of the first half at the four-and-a-half minute mark and went into halftime trailing 31-22, despite shooting 38 percent from the field including a dismal 0-8 on three point shots.

Hill said her offense was tentative for most of the game and was hampered by missed opportunities.

"We just need to open it up," Hill said of her struggling offense.

The start of the second half proved more of the same for the Penguins as they struggled to get open shots, thanks to a stifling Oakland zone defense. The visiting defense created 18 turnovers on the night, including nine steals.

The Penguins scored their

first basket of the second half on a Ashlee Russo three point shot, ending a seven-minute scoring drought. The Penguins continued to fall behind, trailing by 20 points with just less than nine minutes to go in the game.

YSU tried desperately to get back in the game, going on an 8-0 run. However, they could only muster to climb within six points before the Oakland broke the Penguins press numerous times behind quick passing.

Hill said it was encouraging to see her team climb within six points after a 20-point deficit but said her team should never have been in that position to begin with.

"It was a bright spot," Hill said. "But why get down, why put yourself in that position?"

The Penguins showed their youth tonight, getting significant playing time from four freshmen. Monique Godfrey led the freshman with 22 minutes, Megan Snorf trailed with 13 minutes, Toni Roscoe contributed with 17 and Ashley Pendleton and Nikita Lafleur both added two minutes.

The Penguins were plagued with poor shooting, finishing the night hitting only 39 percent from the field compared to 50 percent from Oakland, which included 16 points off turnovers compared to just 8 from the Penguins. The Penguins were also blanked in fast break points, scoring none while Oakland scored 16, many of which came in the second half as they



broke the Penguins' efforts to create turnovers consistently.

To make matters worse for the 2-4 Penguins, senior guard and team leader Russo left the game in the second half after a collision left her shaken on the floor. After a few tense minutes Russo was helped off the floor after scoring six points and recording six rebounds in only 22 minutes of action on the night.

Jessica Schloemp led the Penguins with seven rebounds on the night.

Hill's squad was led offensively by Michelle Holmes, who scored 12 points. Holmes was fol-

lowed by guard Lauren Branson, who tallied 10 to go along with her two steals.

The Penguins now must look to rebound on the road at Buffalo, the first part of a two-game road trip, which ends at Eastern Michigan on Dec. 10. The game against Buffalo will be one of three contests against Mid-American conference teams this year. The Penguins defeated Ohio University earlier in the season 69-59.

Hill said there is still a lot of work to do before league competition opens up on Dec. 29 at Butler.

"We just need to work a little bit more," Hill said.

Call Justin Smolkovich at (330) 941-3758.



Jambar / Katie Libecco

TOP: The YSU women hoopsters get some advice during a timeout. ABOVE: Penguins Ashlee Russo (24) and Jessica Schloemp (3) look to help out teammate My'Kea Cohill during action at Beeghly Center Monday night. YSU lost, 61-54.

ON THE SIDELINES

Title IX's future in college sports

By: Justin Smolkovich
SPORTS REPORTER

This is the last of The Jambar's four-part series on Title IX.

Myles Brand, president of the NCAA, addressed the annual Title IX seminar in 2003 about the future of the educational amendment that was signed in 1972 and eliminated sexual discrimination from institutions receiving federal operating money.

Speaking to the crowd of college athletic directors and personnel, Brand insisted changes to Title IX would yield negative repercussions in collegiate athletics.

Brand's remarks followed an investigation from the Commission on Opportunity in Athletics that according to Brand, sought not to end Title IX but to change how the law is perceived.

"The commission did not recommend that Title IX itself be changed," Brand said. "Rather, it proposed several re-interpretations which threaten to seriously weaken prospects for gender equality."

One aspect of Title IX many criticize is one of the three "prongs" of the amendment called proportionality, which mandates that the number of athletes for a particular gender must be proportionate with the school or university's student population. Critics blame this prong for the elimination of men's sports to balance out the distribution of scholarships.

Most critics of Title IX, generally coaches of "non-revenue" sports, such as gymnastics and wrestling teams, believe the NCAA should weight its decisions based heavily on student interest at a university rather than stu-



Jambar file photo

dent population.

Dr. Jane Kestner, Youngstown State University's NCAA Faculty Athletics Representative feels more optimistic than Brand about the direction of Title IX and said she believes that no changes are in the immediate future.

"I really don't anticipate any major changes," Kestner said. "The NCAA has taken a really strong stand about Title IX."

Kestner also said using student interest rather than proportionality has its own inherent flaws.

"I think those suggested changes would weaken Title IX," Kestner said about intra-university surveys that schools use to determine student interest concerning which sports and programs a university will offer.

In most cases students are unaware of the surveys and the lack of response is accounted as a lack of interest, Kestner said.

Jack Patrick, who teaches the History of American Sports at YSU, agreed with Kestner that no changes to

Title IX are likely or needed at the moment.

"After three decades, legal challenges have run their course, especially with the conservative federal court system failing to overturn," Patrick said. "Primary opposition comes from the men's Olympic sports that have been crushed as school administrators scrambled to comply with the edict. I anticipate no significant alterations to Title IX for the immediate future."

Brand said many critics have been silenced through direct contact with the amendment and experiencing its benefits.

"Over the last 31 years, the voices of dissent have been less strident regarding the law itself, perhaps as more daughters, granddaughters, sisters and acquaintances have benefited from access to athletic participation," Brand said at the 2003 seminar.

Brand went on to say that Title IX would continue to afford women more opportunities if institutions and the

please see TITLE IX, Page 5

STEELHOUNDS

SteelHounds to host night for students

By: Katie Libecco
COPY EDITOR

The Youngstown SteelHounds will host their first college night at the Chevrolet Centre on Wednesday, the first in what general manager George Manias said he hopes will be a regular tradition for Wednesday night home games.

"This is a fun and exciting place. We're just trying to get more people behind our boys cheering them on. Once someone sees a game, they'll be hooked," Manias said.

College students with a valid ID will be able to purchase a gold level ticket to the game for \$13, regular price \$16, or a silver level ticket for \$8, regular price \$10. Beer will also be \$3 for 12 ounces, usually \$5.25.

Manias said that he couldn't ask for a better hockey audience than a college crowd. "The game is really starting to catch on and the college crowd is exactly the right demographic. It's perfect having Youngstown State University here," he said.

Modifications to College Night at the Chevrolet Centre will depend on how Wednesday night's game goes, said Manias, who also said more events between YSU and the SteelHounds are likely in the future.

"We are very pleased to offer this promotion to the many local colleges whose students are sometimes looking for an entertainment alternative during the week-nights," Manias said in a press release. "Youngstown State University is especially a significant staple to the Mahoning Valley and anything we can offer than might be a benefit to the students is a benefit to the SteelHounds."

Earlier in the year, Chad Miller of YSU's SGA contacted the SteelHounds to create a partnership and seek the creation of a student section or college night.

"We contacted managers there and they were already putting something together," Miller said, adding that he volunteered to help the team with on-campus promotion. Miller said he was optimistic about YSU and SGA's participation in SteelHounds' College Night.

The SteelHounds (7-10-1) will host the Rio Grande Valley Killer Bees on Wednesday. Face-off is set for 7:05 p.m.

Other SteelHounds college nights include: Jan. 11, Feb. 1, Feb. 22, Mar. 1 and March 22.

For more information, visit www.steelhounds.com or call (330) 747-PUCK.

Call Katie Libecco at (330) 941-3758.

TECH SPOTLIGHT

It's my iPod, and I'll jam if I want to

By: Eric Grosso
 FEATURES REPORTER

Gone are the days of lugging that dual-cassette boom box on your shoulder or attaching your Walkman to your belt. Tiny MP3 devices are the newest fad in audio, letting listeners carry their favorite selections or an entire music library.

Tucked away in a coat pocket, hidden in a backpack, or worn around the neck, an entertainment device, often smaller than your cell phone, is reaching record sales and allowing youth to create their own musical style.

Nearly one in every three college students has an iPod or MP3 player, while one in five Americans under the age of 30 have one. About 11 percent of Americans own an MP3 player, 22 million Americans in all, according to a recent survey by Pew Internet & American Life Project.

About one in four with household incomes more than \$75,000 own a device, more than any other income. Those who frequently use

the Internet were four times more likely to own a device, and male owners outnumbered female owners by two to one, according to the survey.

Just one glance across the Youngstown State University campus reveals many students using personal audio devices.

Dan Weilson uses for a few hours a day an iPod Nano he bought earlier this year.

"If I'm walking across campus, I usually have it on. It makes the cold, long walks go a lot faster," Weilson said.

He compared the new personal music fad to other music mediums already popular for many decades.

"People love listening to their favorite music in their car, in their homes, on their computers. What makes listening to it while walking or studying any different?" Weilson asked.

Apple has already introduced products that let users play their iPod through their car or home stereo, hoping the devices will replace traditional mediums.

Even club owners are cashing in on device owners who transport their music library.

Many big city bars allow users to bring their iPods and other portable music players to share their favorites with fellow patrons. Chicago, Boston, New York and Los Angeles have clubs that allow users to share tunes.

According to the Associated Press, new products aimed at digital users create a DJ-esque experience, including a new product by Numark Industries that allows owners of two iPods to mix one song into another. Many professional DJs already use laptops as their music library: The recent surge of portable MP3 players and iPods could make their job even easier, and perhaps, create more competition.

In Boston, the Common Ground Bar and Grill allows amateurs to play 15 minutes of their selected tunes during "mp3j" night every Wednesday.

Not only for leisure, iPods could also become a staple of

the academic world. For the 2004-2005 school year, Duke University passed out more than 1,500 units to first-year students, each of the units equipped with a 20-gigabyte hard drive.

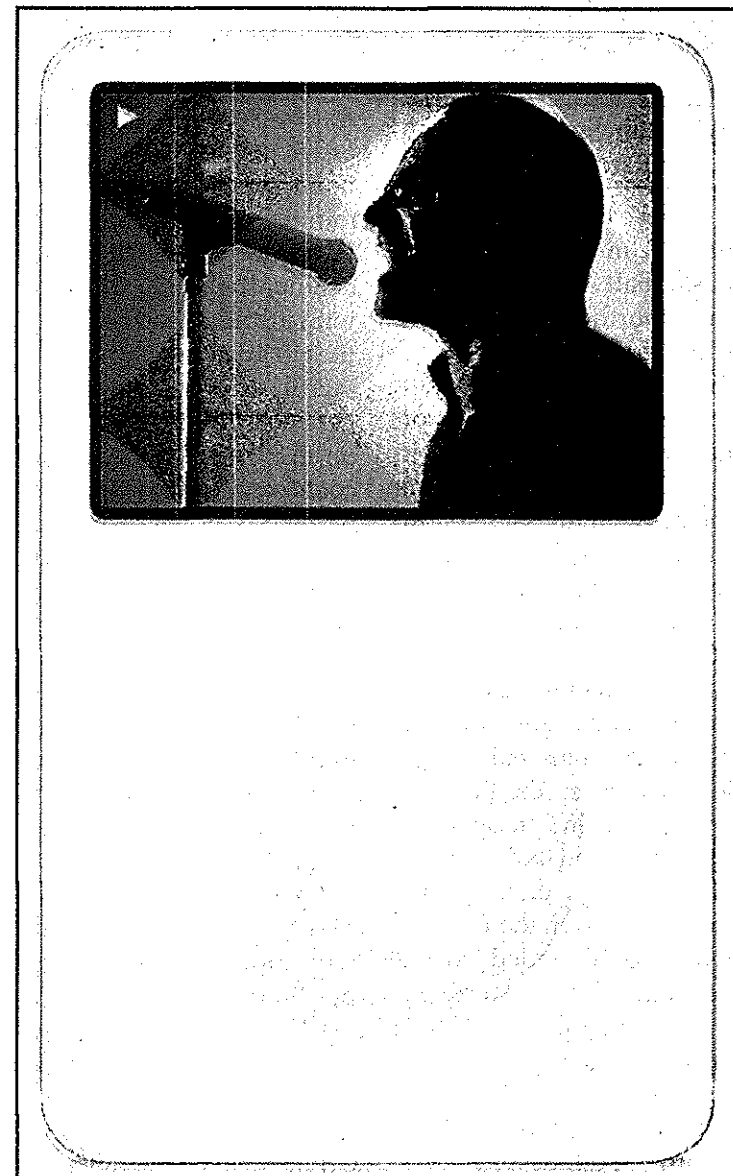
Duke University, who called the one-year program "iPod First Year Experience," said it wanted "to facilitate the use of information technology in innovative ways within the classroom and across campus."

The units came loaded with a message from the university president and advice from upperclassmen.

During the year, students could download course materials, including lectures, audio books and music, foreign language lessons and other Duke-related materials, including fight songs and student calendars and schedules.

The university reported most students used it for foreign language and music classes, but also found that it distracted some students. "iPod First Year Experience" at Duke will continue this year.

Call Eric Grosso at (330) 941-3758.



Some MP3 players now have video capability photo courtesy of krccampus.com

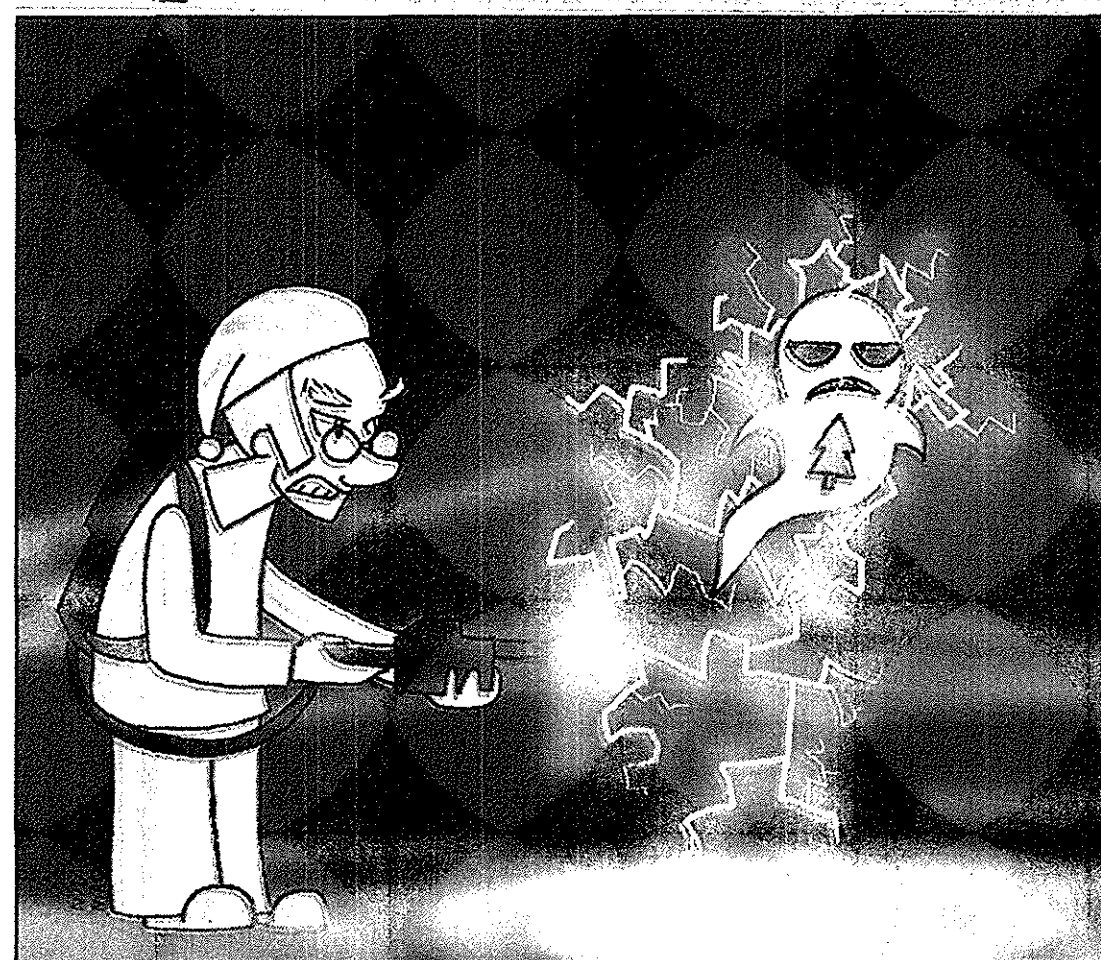
COMMENTARY

Taking down the ghosts of Xmas

By: Bob Mackey
 COLUMNIST

It's happened to all of us at one point or another. It's Christmas Eve, and you've just donned your stocking cap and taken a small hit of ether to chase those worries away. Just as you get less cold underneath your itchy, 19th century comforter, some whiny holiday ghosts materialize and get "all up in your grill, dog," in the parlance of Charles Dickens. What right do they have? Just because you're overworking some worthless slacker whose son is so crippled that the word "Tiny" is affixed to his first name? Well, those ledgers aren't going to write in themselves, at least not until the year 2032 when the automolegder is introduced. These holiday ghosts have no respect for the economy, and just expect you to give out money and geese to any soot-stained peasant that drunkenly ambles up to your doorstep. Quite frankly, that's the government's job, and these ghosts claiming to teach the "meaning of Christmas" are doing nothing but trying to enforce a militant kind of socialism. This is why I'm shouting, "No more!"

You could let each spirit lead you by the hand, and throughout the course of the night learn the error of your ways. Then, only because of the fear of death — not any kind of true altruism — will you embrace Christmas and



become a "better person." That's what I call the sucker's route, and I'll be damned if I'm going to roll over for a bunch of ghosts. Should you encounter any of these holiday ghosts, you'll find that they're fairly easy to manipulate. In the spirit of turnabout being fair play, I recommend that you turn the tables on them and in no way grow as a person.

The Ghost of Christmas Past is usually the first to show up, most of the time taking on the form of a small child possibly named "Gary." This ghost is going to want to

take you to various tragic Christmases in your past to rub in what a loser you've been in some sanctimonious display of ghost judgment. You're probably thinking, "No dice," but you want to make a profit, don't you? Have a large, burlap sack ready, and agree to go with Gary to various points in the past. If you're asked why you need the sack, just say, "for breathing," and remember to stick your head in it intermittently during the trip. When you get to the past, find a way to distract the ghost — possibly by reminding it of its tragic

status as a dead child — and then go to work stealing presents from your various past Christmas selves. You may have to beat up these past selves, if only to make sure that none of the packaging on the various gifts is broken; you're going to want to sell these toys for top dollar once you get back to the present. Just make sure that you don't give your child self any mortal wounds in the process, because if you kill your past self while in the past, the universe will collapse into itself, and it'll be mostly your fault.

The Ghost of Christmas Present, usually a giant, has been replaced by an apparition taking the form of a beautiful woman, but don't get too excited; you can't touch her, not just because she's a ghost, but also because she has a ghost husband who drives race cars. She's going to want to take you to the home of your previously-mentioned put-upon employee and his crippled son, and I advise that you go. When you can get

please see **GHOSTS**, Page 5

SHOW REVIEW

'Nutcracker' a fun holiday romp

By: Katie Libecco
 COPY EDITOR

A collaboration of Youngstown State University's Jazz Ensemble I, Dance Ensemble and the Ballet Western Reserve for a production of "The Jazz Nutcracker" produced a wonderful performance, presenting holiday spirit in a new fashion; eclectic, fun and syncopated.

YSU Jazz Ensemble I, directed by Kent Engelhart, performed three shows over the weekend. The first act of the shows included seven Ellington classics and the second act included nine Nutcracker-themed arrangements by Ellington and Billy Strayhorn.

The second half was a full, nontraditional ballet performed by the Ballet Western Reserve.

Choreographer Anita Lin's interpretation of Ellington/Strayhorn's "The Nutcracker" arrangements presented the audience with a new way of seeing the story. Narrator Jane Hill helped guide the audience through the performance between songs.

Melissa Ramunno's portrayal of young Clara was vibrant and playful. Victoria Ramm as the Sugar Rum Cherry was sultry, as her dance included numerous lifts and jumps with partner Mikel Lewis.

The most unique performance of the show was the song "Toot Toot Tootie Toot," which featured Ballet Western Reserve dancers Lauren Fekete, Ashley Janis, Kathryn Young, Natalia Hagan and Brooke Slemmons. While en pointe, the modern dance was anything but traditional. It included aspects of all kinds of dance, with the dancers in simple red and blue unitards — not

tiaras and fluffy skirts.

In fact, the Linda Terrell's costume design added another element to the show. From sexy flapper dresses in "Sugar Rum Cherry" and "Volga Vouty" to the interpretative dress in "Dance of the Floreadores" and "Peanut Brittle Brigade." The costumes were just another reminder that it wasn't a traditional performance of "The Nutcracker."

The YSU Dance Ensemble also performed two routines in the first act — a solo piece and a routine for seven dancers.

YSU Dance Ensemble member Erianne Raib shined as she confidently performed to Ellington's "Rockin' In Rhythm," the shining moment of the first act. The high-paced tap number was a perfect expression of the jazz classic. Raib was also the choreographer of her solo.

"It's so wonderful to get a chance to play this music and play it with dancers," Engelhart said between numbers.

The group's routine, "Joe's Joint!" to Ellington's classic "Ko-Ko" was one piece that didn't quite fit in. The dark performance to one of Ellington's most-loved tunes was a down point in the show. At times, the dancers in the number seemed a bit bogged down by unnecessarily technical aspects of the routine. A simpler attempt at expressing the atmosphere of nightspots like the Cotton Club would have communicated more clearly with the audience.

The YSU Jazz Ensemble also performed the emotion-provoking "Sophisticated Lady," playful classic "Take the 'A' Train," and the cool, quiet tune "The Mooch" in the first act.

Call Katie Libecco at (330) 941-3758.

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