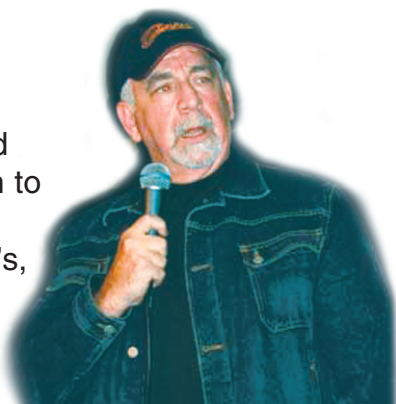


THE Jambor

THE STUDENT VOICE OF YOUNGSTOWN STATE UNIVERSITY

Cleveland comedian to crack up Peaberry's, Page 4



Thursday, January 25, 2007

www.thejambor.com

VOL. 89 NO. 31

IN TODAY'S Jambor



Lady Penguins to kick off home stand against CSU, see page 6

Headlines

PAGE 2

Thrice singer goes back to his roots

PAGE 6

Penguins swim through rigorous schedule, consecutive losses

Pages

- Classified | 2
- Opinion | 3
- Entertainment & Feature | 4
- Sports | 6

Weather

today ▶ snow
20 | 10

fri.: snow 24 / 22
sat.: snow / rain 32 / 23

YSU News

Planetarium plans sky shows

The Ward Beecher Planetarium presents Astro 101: An Ecology of Winter Stars on Friday at 8 p.m. The planetarium also presents Great Space Treasure Hunt at 1 and 2:30 p.m. Saturday and Women Hold Up Half the Sky at 8 p.m. Saturday.

Herbert dodges important issues at Tuesday's faculty and staff meeting

Maysoon Abdelrasul
EDITOR IN CHIEF

Youngstown State University faculty and staff members gathered at McKay Auditorium in the Beeghly College of Education on Tuesday to listen to their chief academic officer discuss his concerns about YSU's future.

Provost Robert Herbert remained squarely behind a podium as he read a written speech to his employees. The crowd quietly listened after Herbert was told a few times that those in the back couldn't hear him. Faculty members were attentive as he emphasized the importance of the upcoming accreditation, the separation of the theater department from communication studies, and other YSU initiatives.

"Student and faculty interaction is the key to engagement," Herbert said. He added that one way to retain students is for faculty to communicate with students inside and outside the classroom.

Moving away from his

podium, Herbert stuttered while attempting to answer a few questions from the audience, and he directed many questions to other people.

Gabriel Palmer-Fernandez, director of the James Dale Ethics Center, asked if YSU was losing money during the summer. Herbert passed the question to Tod Porter, chair of the summer budget committee.

Palmer-Fernandez said he does not think his question was completely answered by Porter.

In a phone conversation on Wednesday with Porter, he said that the budget needs to be read in full to completely understand where the money is going. He also said he wasn't expecting to be a participant in the meeting.

Victor Wan-Tatah, professor of religious studies, inquired about the community college initiative that would offer the remedial classes that YSU is currently offering. Wan-Tatah asked Herbert if there is funding for it because he understood that YSU didn't have the grant.

"Student and faculty interaction is the key to engagement."

— Robert Herbert.



Herbert kicked the question to Assistant Provost Nate Ritchie.

Ritchie said the confusion came when a Vindicator article said that YSU didn't get a grant to fund the community college. He said YSU did not get one grant but has a list of other grants.

Ritchie said the community college initiative is being studied, including how much it will cost the school and YSU students. One idea is to partner with Jefferson Community College to cut costs, but a feasibility study is underway, he said.

During the question-and-answer period, faculty and staff reacted with surprise to hear that the Youngstown Early College students' cumulative grade

point average was 1.87, just below a C.

"Early college students are not doing as well in their classes as we would like them to or as they should be," Herbert said.

Herbert said YSU will find consultants to help YEC students.

Larry Johnson, YEC dean, said there are already after-school interventions and tutors from the Center for Student Progress available to help students. Students 14 to 15 years old can receive help with the college courses they are taking, he said.

Some students are doing extremely well while others are having trouble making the adjustment from a public high school level to a college level, Johnson said.

STUDENT REACTIONS TO STATE OF THE UNION ADDRESS



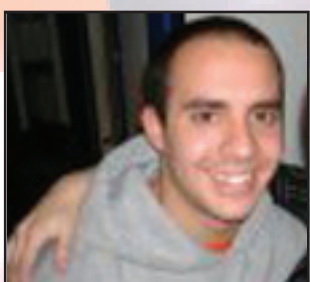
Danielle Wright, Sophomore

What did you think of the plans the President proposed during the address?

It was just a lot of talk, without much relevance. Most of the time, what he says doesn't actually happen.

How do you feel he presented himself?

He talked a lot about the war, and he's promoting it more and more because of his bad PR elsewhere.



Jared Ruiz, Sophomore

What's your opinion of the President's ideas on foreign policy?

[Right now], he just wants to continue the war. I think it's almost a lost cause, from all the time, money and resources we've spent so far.

How do you feel about the President in general?

I think he's just continuing this war due to a promise he made [with the Iraqis], you know? He's trying to be a man of his word.

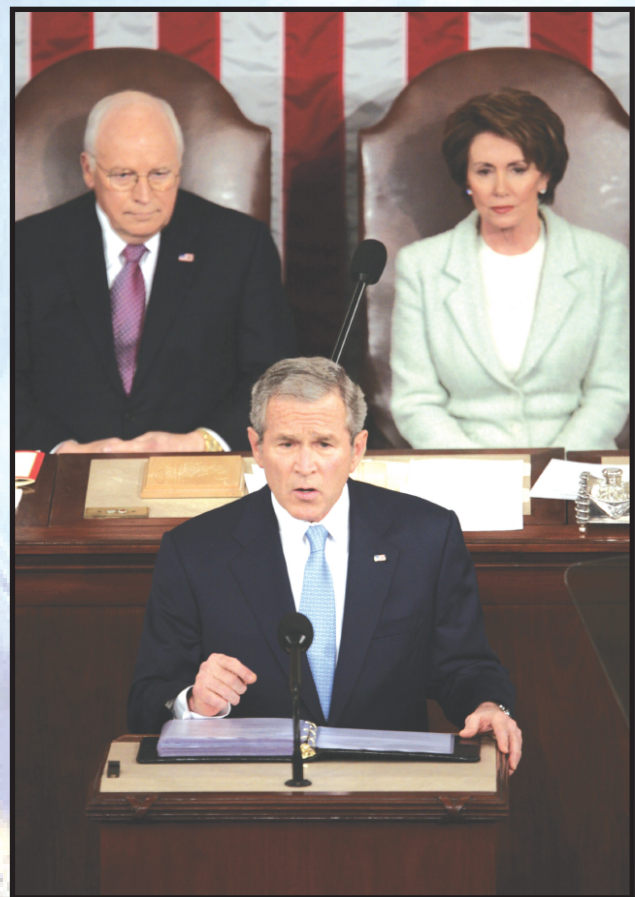


Photo courtesy of MCTcampus.com

President George W. Bush delivers his State of the Union Address Tuesday night. New Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi and Vice President Dick Cheney attentively listen to Bush's future agenda.

YSU

Student loan debt may decrease

Adrienne Sabo
NEWS EDITOR

There's a new bill on the block. Laying before the U.S. Senate, this bill could decrease the interest rates on subsidized student loans over five years.

The College Student Relief Act, co-sponsored by Congressman Tim Ryan, passed the House of Representatives during the first 100 hours.

"In the first 100 hours, what we've been able to do is significant," Ryan said.

In five steps, the act will cut the interest rate by half. The rates are expected to decrease from the 6.8 percent it is now to 3.4 percent in

2011.

"When this year's seniors entered as freshmen, the interest rate was 3 percent. Now that rate is different,"

said James Stanger, associate director of technology and support in the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships.

Stanger said that the interest rate will change a few times before students graduate, and that the interest rate at the time of graduation is the one that is applied to the loan.

Director of the Office of Financial Aid and



RYAN

Scholarships Elaine Ruse said that because the bill is targeting subsidized student loans, only those who have graduated or stopped attending school and begun the repayment process would benefit.

Ryan said that once the act is fully phased in, the average student would save \$4,400 over the course of the loan.

The average Youngstown State University student has \$13,000 of student-loan debt after graduation, according to the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships. There are currently 12, 292 loans taken out every year by students, including students who take out multiple loans a year.

FINANCIAL AID

FAFSA: It's worth a try to apply

Renee Hardman
REPORTER

If you're a student expecting to receive some kind of financial aid in the form of loans, grants, scholarships, work-study, benefits or other sources of aid, you need to fill out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).

In order to be eligible to fill out the FAFSA you must be a U.S. citizen or eligible non-citizen, have a valid social security number, a high school diploma or its equivalent, and be enrolled or accepted into a school

that participates in federal aid programs, such as Youngstown State.

The 2005-2006 aid year led YSU to receive 13,845 FAFSAs. This means that almost 14,000 people had student records at YSU in the 2005-2006 academic year. James Stanger, associate director for Technology and Support, said YSU receives hundreds of FAFSAs for students who don't even attend YSU.

Freshman Darwin Palmer is a YSU student who filled out the application in hopes of getting any amount of financial aid.

"I think it's good for everyone to fill it out to see

"I think it's good for everyone to fill it out to see if they can get some money from the government."

Darwin Palmer

if they can get some money from the government," said Palmer. "It's worth the attempt; you don't lose anything by trying."

An important step in filling out the FAFSA is having your taxes filed early. According to YSU's finan-

please see FAFSA, Page 5

YSU

New campaign is aimed to spike interest in Ohio manufacturing careers

Rudi Whitmore
FEATURES REPORTER

City officials, President Stephen J. Gage of the Manufacturing Advocacy & Growth Network (MAGNET), and university officials like Youngstown State University President David Sweet gathered Tuesday in the Ohio Room for a luncheon to acknowledge the launch of MAGNET's "Dream it. Do it." campaign in Mahoning, Columbiana and Trumbull counties.

"Dream it. Do it." is a \$3 million awareness campaign attempting to entice a new generation into careers in Northeast Ohio's manufacturing communities. As the baby-boomer generation retires,

skilled and interested workers are disappearing. Enter MAGNET's campaign.

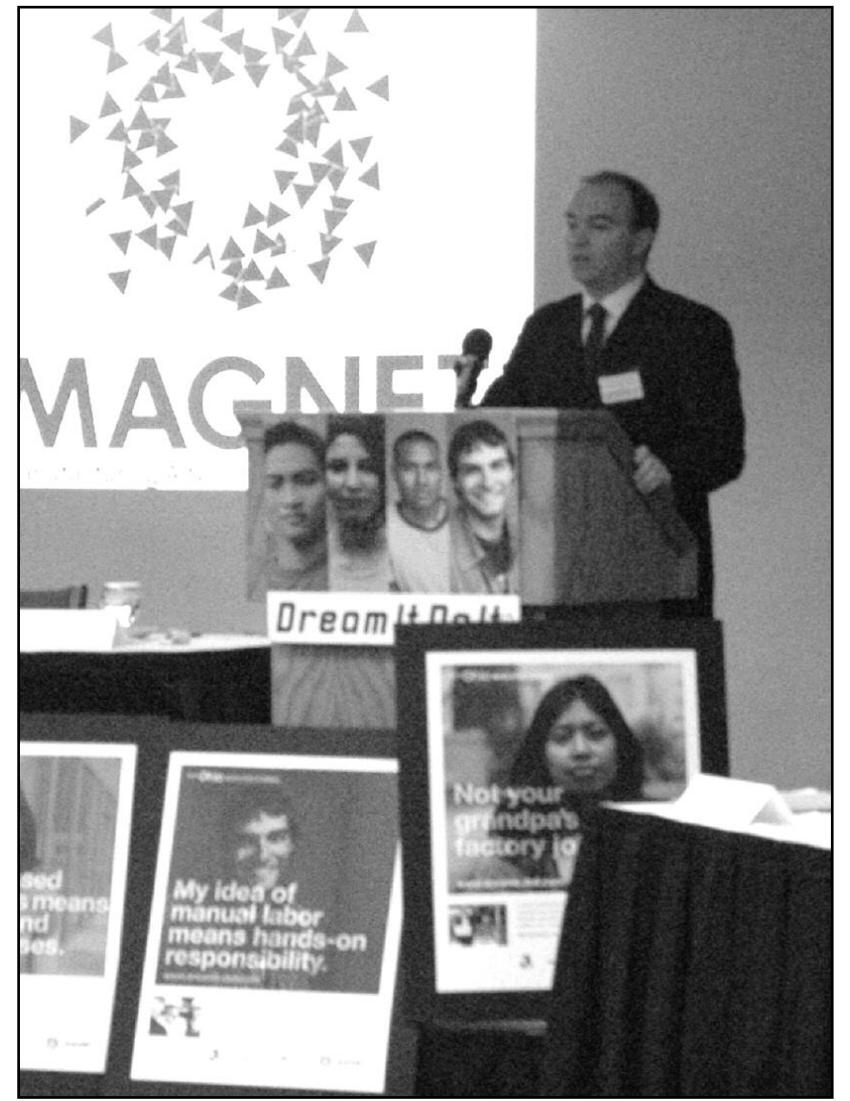
"Dream it. Do it." began in 2005 as a pilot program sponsored by the National Association of Manufacturers (NAM) and its research and education arm, The Manufacturing Institute. According to NAM press releases, the campaign has produced "encouraging results," including the 35 percent raise of enrollment in manufacturing oriented classes at local technical schools. Other Dream it. Do it. campaigns have also begun in Nebraska and Virginia.

A study completed for NAM and the Manufacturing Institute revealed that while over 80 per-

cent of NAM members are having a hard time finding qualified employees, only about 9 percent of 18 to 34-year-olds polled considered a manufacturing job "rewarding," "interesting" or "creative."

MAGNET's "Dream it. Do it." campaign hopes to reverse the loss of youth interest in the manufacturing industry. If apathy continues at its current rate, the projected shortage of skilled workers is estimated to be 13 million by 2020.

RIGHT: Mahoning County Commissioner John McNally speaks at a luncheon held for the launch of MAGNET's "Dream it. Do it." campaign.



Jambar/ Rudi Whitmore

HOPE continued from page 1

Schulick answered, "Three reasons really; for one, it's a good cause, in terms of what [Phi Kappa Tau is] benefiting. Second, I always like to volunteer for events sponsored by YSU groups, like Phi Kappa Tau, and third, I think highly of Tony Spano, who's coordinating the event."

Schulick, like other local celebrity participants, will also be donating money toward the event. Donations are being accepted online and through Home Savings and Loan.

After composing a list of "who's who" in the Mahoning Valley, coordinator Tony Spano and Phi Kappa Tau selected local notables such as Schulick and Williams based on their community-oriented past.

"It's a privilege that we can just call them up now, and they're more than will-

ing to participate," said Spano.

"[The Game] shows that local politicians, community leaders and media personalities are more than willing to help out a great cause while enjoying some friendly competition in the process," said honorary coach Robb Schmidt, news anchor of WKBN/FOX News.

Featured at this year's game will be the Nominated-Player award and Crowe's Cabinet Most Valuable Player Award. All entries nominating a local politician or leader playing in the game have already been submitted and will be revealed at the event. The player who plays the most exceptionally out on the court will also be recognized at the event and presented with the MVP



Award. The game will be open to the public, with tickets costing \$5 per person at the door. YSU students will be able to get in free with valid ID.

SPRING BREAK INFORMATION
800-488-8828
www.sandpiperbeacon.com
FREE SPRING BREAK MODEL SEARCH CALENDAR*

WHAT DO YOU THINK?
SEND US AN E-MAIL
THEJAMBAR@GMAIL.COM

YSU BIBLE STUDY
 • Expository Teaching of Gods' Word.
 • All are Welcome
 Wednesday 12:00pm • Kilcawly- Bresnahan III
 Contact Ben @ (330)692-8385
 brdemar@student.ysu.edu

Pelton Apartments 224 W. Wood St. Youngstown, Ohio 44502
(330)758-2132 or (330)518-3669
 • Newly Remodeled • FREE Parking
 • Student Discounts • Walk to class
 • Earn a FREE Months Rent • Rentals Starting at \$300 / month.
 • Earn a Referral fee



Located at the heart of YSU campus is this beautiful "home away from home" just for women. At Buechner Hall, you can live comfortably, as well as inexpensively. Thanks to the large bequest of the Buechner Family, which completed the construction of Buechner Hall in 1941, more than 3/4 of all residents' costs are still absorbed by the Buechner Fund. Residents are responsible for an average \$1,263.37 per semester for double occupancy or \$1,365.12 for single occupancy. This includes a weekly \$28 cafeteria allowance, for up to 15 meals each week.

Designed Expressly for Working Women and Female Students

This first rate residence hall includes:

- Completely furnished double and single occupancy rooms, including telephones and free cable.
- Air conditioning
- Professional Security
- Weekly housekeeping service
- Decorated lounge areas
- Quiet study environments
- On premise dining room and home cooked meals
- Fitness and laundry room

620 Bryson Street (Off University Plaza)
 Phone: 330-744-5361

Buechner Hall

QUEST 2007 REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS FEBRUARY 20TH
LOGON TO:
www.ysu.edu/quest

Help Give the Gift of Life to Infertile Couples

Seeking: healthy women between the ages 20-35 to donate eggs to infertile couples

All treatments at The Reproductive Center Youngstown, Ohio. Compensation for participant's time and efforts will be discussed at the time of visit.

For more information please call 330-965-8390 or toll-free 877-214-8390. Have blood type available when you call. Anonymity and confidentiality guaranteed.

www.ivfohio.com

The Reproductive Center • Robert L. Collins, M.D.

Get in The Jambar classifieds 330-941-1990

Mill Creek MetroParks JOB FAIR
 Seasonal and Part-time Opportunities
Wednesday, January 31 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.
 Davis Center
 Fellows Riverside Gardens

PARTICIPATING DEPARTMENTS
 Golf
 Horticulture
 Maintenance
 Police (OPOTA required)
 Recreation

MILL CREEK MetroParks

For information call 330-702-3000.

EXPERIENCE FOR YOUR RESUME. MONEY FOR COLLEGE.

Strengthening your personal skills is not the only benefit of joining the Army. You can also receive cash bonuses and money for college. If you qualify, you can receive a \$40,000 Enlistment Bonus, \$65,000 College Loan Repayment or \$71,000 from the Army College Fund. Find out more at GOARMY.COM or 1-800-USA-ARMY.

For more information call (330) 965-1125 or visit GOARMY.COM

Where: 7401 Market Street, #795A
 When: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
 Who: SFC Kenneth Abruzzini

©2004. Paid for by the United States Army. All rights reserved.

JAMBAR Editorial & Opinion

Thursday, January 25, 2007

www.thejambar.com/thejambar@gmail.com/330-941-3758

Page 3

THE Jambar

Excellence in journalism since 1931
PHONE | (330) 941-3095 FAX | (330) 941-2322

MAYSOON ABDELRAHMAN | Editor In Chief (330) 941-1991
ADRIENNE SABO | News Editor (330) 941-1989
BRIAN CETINA | Design Editor (330) 941-1807
ADAM ROGERS | Design Editor (330) 941-1807
CRISTINA CALA | Copy Editor (330) 941-3758
JAKE GLAVIES | Sports Editor (330) 941-3758

OLGA ZIOBERT | Business Manager - 3094
ALYSSA LENHOFF | Adviser - 3095
JENNY BOYCE | Assistant News Editor- 1913
RUDI WHITMORE | Features Reporter- 3758
BRITTA SNOWBERGER | Features Reporter- 3758
ANDREW BERRY | Sports Reporter- 3758
ASHLEY TATE | General Assignment Reporter- 1913
LAURA NEELY | General Assignment Reporter- 1913
RENEE HARDMAN | General Assignment Reporter- 1913
CORTNEY CORDER | Advertising/Sales Manager- 1990

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

OUR SIDE

Paging SGA;

Speak out, represent

When students hear the words Student Government Association, organization, participation and authoritative stance should come to mind. It's SGA's business to make these its priorities.

Upon SGA's Monday meeting, SGA Adviser Chet Cooper made it clear that this is not the case.

Cooper even reprimanded the committee's lack of involvement for the welfare of the student body. The representatives of SGA are supposed to "take the bull by the horns," according to Cooper. Are they actually doing it? SGA President Chad Miller and Vice President Sarah Vansuch chastised the committee members for insufficient involvement and absence of response to even simple matters like campus progress.

The first meeting of the new semester concluded early, and two of the three advisers present had no input whatsoever when the room grew deafeningly quiet. The committee should be prepared for the first meeting and offer ample ideas. However, the only participation included the executive committee members.

In order for any type of change to take place, SGA must be more prepared. The members need to think more for the students. SGA has done a remarkable job in the past with its endeavors to involve students and capture our needs. Beginning this semester with a nonproductive meeting is not starting off on the right foot. As such, a meeting like this week's does not show promising results for the semester.

The services from SGA in the past have always benefited the students and the campus. We would just like to see this as a continuation and hope that there are more ideas and student activities to come.

We, as a student body, vote for representation from each college. These SGA representatives should be our voice. We urge our SGA members to speak out for their fellow students. After all, it's their duty.

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.

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.



LETTER TO THE EDITOR

An Inconvenient Truth

Editor:

I had to chuckle as I read Ms. Khumprakob's commentary on the Republican's vast right wing conspiracy to build concentration camps and swindle the American people. As the president of the College Republicans at YSU, my only question would be why I was not informed of these plans? If there is a conspiracy to enslave the American people, I would have at least hoped my party would have informed me about it ahead of time. Never a good thing to be the last to know. Halliburton's plans for concentration camps are ludicrous. I would not use Impeachbush.com as a source of objectivity, because clearly they have a bias against the man and whomever he may have connections. Cynthia McKinney is a joke. I would be highly suspect of anyone who can get away with assaulting a police officer and not do a day of jail time. Anyone else in America would be put away for years, but not her. I wonder whom she paid off. As for why she is blackballed, I'd suggest listening to her for two minutes: noise pollution in its worst form. If she can get away with assault, there is no reason why she cannot present her evidence about Halliburton. Maybe the press chooses to ignore her because her claims are largely unfounded. Elizabeth cites a slew of other topics, from schools to environmental

decay. That is placing a lot of blame in the hands of Republicans. Social decay is hardly a Republican fault, because if anything, social standards today are as liberal as they ever were. Not much explaining needed, just take a good look around you. Turn on the television sometime, walk around campus. Healthcare should be a nonpartisan issue, though both parties have turned it into a thing of politics. As far as the environment, I would ask you to compare the American EPA and the environmental standards of China or Russia. Thank goodness America has regulations, because these countries do not. I would ask Youngstown State University to accept the request to run "American Blackout" and "An Inconvenient Truth", as well as screenings of "Farenhype 9/11". While these were classified wrongly as documentaries instead of points of view on screen, I as a conservative believe all points of view are worth examining, even ones I strongly disagree. I agree with Elizabeth that apathy is a dangerous thing, and I STRONGLY encourage anyone to at least pick up the paper or watch one of these for the sake of gaining a perspective on the world we will all inherit sooner or later. While I would prefer you as the students to be Republican, I would settle for anyone showing a mild interest in any party.

Alex Mangie
President YSU College
Republicans

Reasons for reassignment

Editor:

Your recent editorial (23-Jan-07) about the reassignments of "three faculty members" has some problems I think.

In addition to them being administrative persons and not faculty,

I specifically wish to point out that there were several reasons for Cynthia Hirtzel's reassignment.

Her reassignment as director of the Center for Transportation and Materials Engineering is based on several realities. She was instrumental and noteworthy in obtaining significant monies for it, and she is the driving force behind reopening our Materials Engineering program.

You also should know that another reason is that the reorganization of colleges relates nicely to Hirtzel's reassignment.

Phil Munro
Department of Electrical
& Computer Engineering

COMMENTARY

When will reality TV, radio pranks run their course?

Jim Boren

McCLATCHY NEWSPAPERS
(MCY)

Unlike much of America, I'm not a fan of most forms of reality television. So when "American Idol" began its sixth season last week, I was not among the more than 37 million people who watched. My colleagues say I'm missing good entertainment, as various oddballs and incredible talents meet on the "Idol" stage. This show is now ingrained in pop culture and not being an "Idol" insider definitely excludes you from the office conversations the day after the show airs.

But I'll take that chance. Now, if another William Hung shows up, I'll catch the re-run. Hung is the guy famous for being such a bad singer that it was actually entertaining listening to him squeak out "She Bangs." I suppose it's in the same category as watching the carnage as you pass a wreck on the freeway.

But if the idea is to see

mediocre performers getting skewered by Simon Cowell, I'll pass. For every Kelly Clarkson, there are thousands of singers as bad as William Hung. It seems that this would get old for viewers, but "American Idol" shows no signs of losing its buzz.

My question is why would people go through the humiliation of being really bad on national television. Does TV continue to be such a novelty that getting your face on the tube doing stupid things sets you apart from your neighbors?

If you want to make a fool of yourself in public and need video to prove it, you can post your antics on YouTube. Reality TV isn't the only area capitalizing on this phenomena. Everyday in America, radio disc jockeys find ways to embarrass some of their listeners and the participants seem to gobble it up. Someone in charge must think that contests, stunts and hoaxes drive ratings because many contemporary music stations have some

variation.

Do people wake up in the morning and decide that they want to be on the radio so badly that they'll do anything the DJ says? Apparently so, and mostly it turns out to be sophomoric fun. I don't get it, but that probably says more about my age than my sense of humor.

"It's a chance to be a star for 15 or 20 minutes so they can tell their friends, family and co-workers they were on the radio," said Todd Lawley, chief executive officer of Peak Broadcasting, which operates seven stations in Fresno. He said the contests and pranks are "old-school radio" and it's questionable if they actually drive ratings.

But sometimes the contests turn tragic. It happened in Sacramento, Calif., recently when the braintrust at a rock station dreamed up a contest to give away Nintendo's Wii, a just-released video game system.

They called it "Hold Your Wee for a Wii" and asked participants to drink as much water as possible without

urinating, according to The Sacramento Bee.

Jennifer Lea Strange, a 28-year-old mother of three, died five hours after the contest after drinking 224 ounces of water. The coroner said her death was consistent with water intoxication, according to The Bee.

There will be lawsuits and a criminal investigation into this incident, and there should be. The Sacramento station, KDND-FM, has fired 10 employees involved in the contest, including three disc jockeys.

You have to wonder what the people are thinking when they come up with such contests. Maybe the brainstorming session is like a frat party with everyone drinking and coming up with the first stupid thing that enters their minds.

I know I'm in the minority on this, but I can't wait for the day when reality television and radio station pranks have run their course not that I'm paying attention.

JAMBAR Entertainment & Feature

Thursday, January, 25, 2007

www.thejambar.com/thejambar@gmail.com/330-941-3758

Page 4

ENTERTAINMENT

Cleveland comedian to crack up Peaberry's

Britta Snowberger
FEATURES REPORTER

A cultured Cleveland comedian, Kirk Bogos hopes to bring a wealth of amusing experiences to the Peaberry's stage today. Sponsored by the Student Activities Office, Bogos' performance will begin at 11 a.m.

Before spending seven years perfecting his craft, the entertainer chose to embark on his comedy-filled journey later in life.

"Once I turned 50, I realized that there were a lot of things I never got around to — like I never got to be a cowboy," said Bogos. "People said I was funny at parties, so I thought I'd try comedy."

Bogos focused in on his ambitions

and completed a comedy workshop in Cleveland. To culminate his training, the comedian performed a five-minute set during open mike night at the Cleveland Improv. After that, he was hooked.

"Those five minutes still make me cringe, but I just couldn't wait to get back on stage again," he said. "Performing is the greatest high."

Using his life experiences, Bogos, whose day job consists of selling advertising time for 3,000 radio sta-

tions, crafted a full-length set to which most audiences can relate. Although he covers topics such as family, relationships and everyday life in his act, Bogos, whose style is one of storytelling, feels he can connect best with a college audience by using selective language and discussing his adolescent drug use.

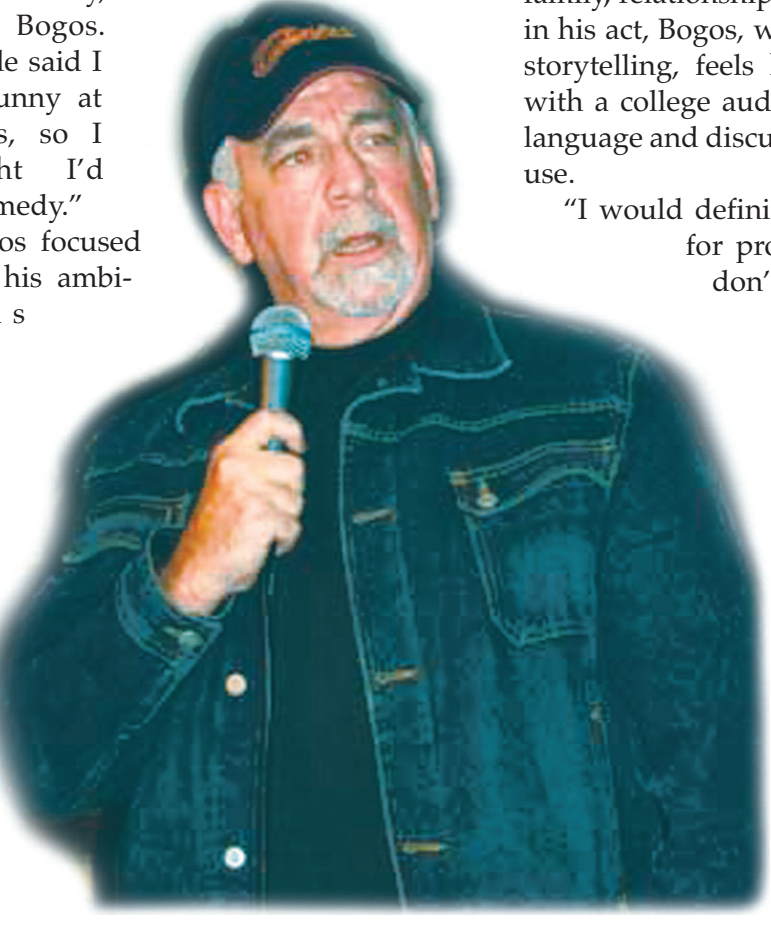
"I would definitely rate my material 'R' for profanity," he said. "And I don't mean to glorify drugs or smoking pot, but I did all the drugs back then I was supposed to. It allows me to relate to a younger audience."

Influenced by Richard Pryor and Steve Allen, the comedian said he is inspired to write material by anything that crosses his life's path. Married for a fourth time with two stepchildren, Bogos



Photos courtesy of www.kirkbogos.com

Kirk Bogos
Peaberry's
11:00 A.M.
Today



joked that he entered the relationship because he knew the children would be teenagers soon, and he needed another source of material.

Discussing his joke-writing process, Bogos said that he writes material as it comes to him, whether it takes several minutes or a few years.

"I love the creative process," he said. "Sometimes I write jokes in 15 minutes. I was fired by President Reagan as an air traffic controller, and it took me two years to come up with a joke for that."

Bogos said he is looking forward to today's act, as he has never performed on the YSU campus before.

Following his stop at Peaberry's, the comedian will grace with his presence the Funny Farm Comedy Club on Friday and Saturday at 7:30 and 9:30 p.m. From there, Bogos plans to perform in New York, Detroit, Philadelphia and Akron in the coming months.

CD REVIEW

Thrice singer goes back to his roots

Brian Cetina
DESIGN EDITOR

Even with worthy reasons to enjoy Thrice's music — the screaming dynamics, the artistic edge that varies from punk to rock, or the surprises that come with each album — this band is not suited for sitting on your back porch with a beer and strumming along on your acoustic guitar on a summer afternoon.

If Dustin Kensrue is known primarily as the voice of Thrice, a respected underground sensation, his solo album "Please Come Home" stands to change all that. It is rare for singer-songwriters to credibly display both sides of their musical personalities (Often times solo projects tend to fail to measure up to their parent projects). With this album Kensrue joins the elite musical ranks of those who can display both sides of that musical spectrum.

Honestly, if you listen to this album without knowing who created it, you would never guess it's the same guy who sings in the punk-rock-alternative band Thrice. This project is so much different than Thrice — on an acoustic level.

The album "Please Come Home" tenders singer Kensrue as somewhat relaxing, compared



Photo Source: www.myspace.com/dustinkensrue

Lead singer of Thrice Dustin Kensrue released his solo album "Please come home" in hopes of getting back to his roots.

to his vocals in Thrice. He tosses out the demands of Thrice's post-hardcore vibe in exchange for an attempt at a traditional approach to songwriting based on folk roots.

Joined by guitarist Teppei Teranishi, Kensrue took his solo material in a direction opposite from Thrice. The song "I Believe" builds from a simple blues riff with a sort of southern delivery you would expect from a country-rooted artist, not someone who comes from the "screamo" scene.

While every guitar-playing punk rocker this side of 1999 has an alternative side

project these days, Kensrue's transformation from post-hardcore to folk-acoustic probably wasn't easy.

"Pistol" is a rare upbeat tune that showcases Kensrue's abilities at crafting a "poppy" love tune, while "I Knew You Before" is just a beer away from becoming a rowdy alternative-country foot stomper.

When he clears the slate, and he does with every song, he is not stuck with the country-boy stereotype that

traps most acoustic-based punks. "Please Come Home" has its fair share of roots and folk, but Kensrue manages to redefine himself away from the post-hardcore side as well as all the alt-country expectations.

Review

Best songs:

"Please Come Home" and "Pistol"

Rating: 3 out of 5

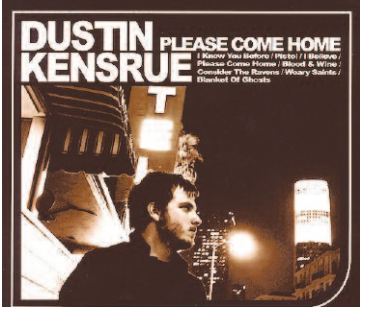
Sounds like: Acoustic Thrice with a Bruce Springsteen influence.

Thrice to his solo album, one constant in Kensrue's work is his strong and distinctive voice.

On guitar he is equally strong and emotional. In some songs he gets a little sappy and strums with molasses style, but it's to draw out the expressiveness of the song.

Some listen-worthy songs on the album include "Pistol," "Please Come Home," and "Blanket of Ghosts." Some highlights of the songwriting include the crescendo of "Please Come Home," where Kensrue's voice absolutely soars. It features his most emotional and honest vocal performance, resulting in quite possibly the best song on the album.

As expressive singer-songwriter music, there is only one reason not to get this album. It's only eight tracks. If you're a Kensrue fan who prefers hardcore Thrice over acoustic/folk, legally download key tracks instead of purchasing the whole album.



Thursday

Kirk Bogos
Peaberry's
11 a.m.

Proof
Spotlight Arena Theatre,
Bliss Hall
8 p.m.

The Number Twelve
Looks Like You
Peabody's Downunder
Cleveland 7 p.m.

Friday

The Warped 12 Years of
Music, Mayhem and More
Rock and Roll Hall of
Fame 7 p.m.

We Famous
Jimmy Pynk
True to life
Cedars
10 p.m.
\$5.00

Proof
Spotlight Arena Theatre
8 p.m.

The Povertyneck Hillbillies
Mr. Smalls Theatre Millvale,
PA
9:30 p.m.

Haven, Tone Trip, Audisea
and Mayfire
The Cellar
9 p.m.

Saturday

Embassy with special
guests Grey Dealer
The Cellar
10:00 pm

Proof
Spotlight Arena Theatre,
Bliss Hall
8 p.m.

Sunday

Proof
Spotlight Arena Theatre,
Bliss Hall
3 p.m.

Upcoming
events

Rec contest proves that three YSU students can dance

Laura Neely
REPORTER

Pink, green and black decorations filled the Andrews Student Recreation and Wellness Center Tuesday night as people were anticipating the start of the dance-filled night.

Line dancing, popcorn, pizza and up-beat music were all part of the "So You Think You Can Dance YSU style" competition. Students were seen kicking, jumping, twisting and sliding to their favorite songs.

Sophomore Alyson Trusz was full of energy and ready to get the dancing party started.

"Dancing is a way of life for me. I am thrilled and excited. When I attended West Virginia University we never did anything like this," Trusz said.

When the competition began, judges walked around and examined the dancers on the floor. For the next 45 minutes, green number tags were passed out to all the dancers the judges deemed worthy of the second dance round. Demonstrating her excitement, Trusz earned the number-three spot in Round 2 of YSU's version of FOX's show "So You Think You Can Dance."

The chosen contestants grooved into the second round to practice a piece choreographed by competition judge Rob O'Bryant, an instructor from Fred Astaire Studio.

"I think this dance event is a good idea;

they should do it more often. It gives people a chance to exercise and have social interaction," O'Bryant said.

Within the hour, contestants learned the eight-count dance steps to the song "Motownphilly" by Boys to Men. Contestants sized up their competition in a studio room as they practiced O'Bryant's routine. Trusz learned the routine quite quickly. After an hour of practice, the sweaty, nervous, excited contestants were ready to show the judges what they'd learned.

The contestants were put into groups of three and were given the chance to show the judges that they think they can dance. People twisted, turned, jumped, spun, kicked and slid all over the floor, hoping to impress the judges. The judges tallied up the votes and the winners to the next round were announced.

Trusz, again, was one of the winners.

The third round was an elimination round, and its winners shimmied into the final round, where they would dance individually and be judged by the audience. Sweaty, tired and hurt, Trusz waited for the judge's decision.

"Go big or go broke, that's how I feel," said Trusz.

The judges announced the winners of the final round, but Trusz was not one of the finalists.

"I still had a great time and I loved every

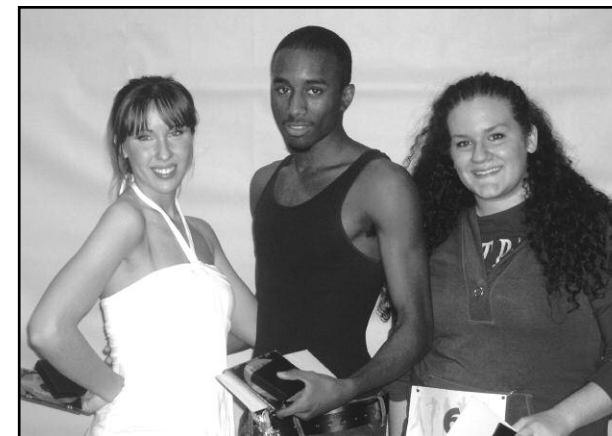
YSU



Jambar/Laura Neely

ABOVE: Contestants in the "So you think you can dance" competition show their best moves to the judges.

RIGHT: The winners of the competition were Jessica Smith, second place, Mark Anthony Hope, first place, and Suzie Taylor third place.



Jambar/Laura Neely

minute of it. I would do it again in a heartbeat," Trusz said, smiling positively.

When the final round was down to four contestants, the audience chose who they thought could dance. The winners were as follows: 1st place, Mark Anthony Hope; 2nd place, Suzie Taylor; and 3rd place, Jessica Smith. The 1st and 2nd-place winners

received dance lessons from Fred Astaire, a practice party and a jump drive, and the 3rd-place winner took home a jump drive.

FAFSA, continued from page 1

cial aid Web site, "Completing the FAFSA is much easier if you have already filed your Federal Income taxes. Although you can provide an 'estimate' of your income using your W2 forms, it is preferable for you to use your completed taxes."

Complete your FAFSA online at www.fafsa.edu.gov. Before filling it out, the student and parent will receive PIN numbers from the U.S. Department of Education Personal Identification Numbers. This PIN allows you to complete the entire FAFSA online. The PIN is used as an electronic "signature"

and you will receive it within 24 to 48 hours after requesting it.

Also according to YSU's financial aid Web site, "The FAFSA is also available for completion in paper format but all applicants are encouraged to file the FAFSA over the Internet, which results in quicker processing."

The official FAFSA Web site lists several ways that students are ineligible to fill out the application: you must not owe a refund on a federal grant or be in default on a federal student loan, you must not be without financial

need, and you must not have certain drug convictions. Also, males between the ages of 18-26 must be registered with Selective Service before receiving any aid.

After your FAFSA has been reviewed and processed, you will receive a Student Aid Report (SAR), which tells you if you are selected for federal student aid. If you are, you will receive an award letter that needs to be signed and returned no later than May 1, in order to "ensure acceptance."

Freshman Janice Stenson thought she wouldn't receive any aid, but after she filled out the

FAFSA, she realized that not only was the application uncomplicated, she was eligible to receive aid.

"For people who don't think that they will get anything, they don't know until they try," said Stenson. "As long as you have your taxes in order, it's easy to fill out."

Your eligibility status for any federal aid depends on four things: your Expected Family Contribution (EFC), your rank in school, enrollment status of the school you will be attending, and the cost of the school you will be attending.

"On the FAFSA there is only

one number," said Stanger. "That number is the EFC. You put all your data into the FAFSA and that one number determines that aid you will receive."

The EFC range goes from zero to nine. Zero means you are not in need of financial aid, and nine indicates the highest need.

"If you come from a low income family, then you are going to have a low EFC," said Stanger. "If you have a higher income, then obviously your number will be higher."

The deadline to fill out the FAFSA in accordance with YSU is Feb. 15.

Want proof? Go to debunkify.com.

DON'T BELIEVE THE MYTH. BELIEVE WHAT'S REAL. **DEBUNKIFY.COM**

- ▶ 1/26 — Swimming @ UIC
- ▶ 1/27 — W.Basketball vs. CSU @ 2:05 p.m.
- ▶ 1/27 — W.Tennis @ Toledo
- ▶ 1/29 — M.Basketball @ Loyola
- ▶ 1/27 — Swimming @ UW-Green Bay
- ▶ 1/31 — M.Basketball vs. Butler @ 7:05 p.m.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Lady Penguins to kick off home stand against CSU

YSU will look to better its 4-13 record as it settles in for a three game run at Beeghly Center

Jake Glavies
SPORTS EDITOR

The Youngstown State University women's basketball team will kick off a three-game home stand at 2:05 p.m. Saturday as the Cleveland State Vikings travel to Beeghly Center.

The Penguins are currently in a three-way tie for sixth place in the Horizon League after posting a 4-13 overall record this season and a 2-5 mark in league play.

According to head coach Tisha Hill, a good showing against Cleveland State won't just improve the team's record but boost its morale heading into the next two games of the home streak.

"We're really hoping to execute offensively. That's where we've been struggling a little bit more ... and really just execute on the offensive end," Hill said.

This will be the squad's second-longest stretch of consecutive home games this season as it went 1-4 in its only other extended stay of the year.

Hill understands that a win against CSU could help the Penguins break loose from the pack and into the middle portion of the league standings as they head into the final games of the season.

"We've got a nice little group-up bunch in our league standings [with] us, Cleveland State and

Loyola all right there in sixth place. This week will really tell how [we] can pull away from them seeing as how we all play each other," Hill said.

Saturday's matchup will be YSU's first of the season against the Vikings.

With an overall record of 5-15 and 2-5 in the Horizon League, the visitors have traveled a road similar to that of Youngstown this season.

Also like the Penguins, CSU has plenty of offensive firepower; its top five scorers are positioned within 1.5 points of one another.

To kick off the team's home stand with a win and snap its recent two-game losing streak, Hill said the squad will have to work on getting the wrinkles out of its game play.

"It's just going to take a lot of hard work this week in going over the things we haven't been doing well, and executing well offensively, and getting those things ironed out before going into Saturday's game," she said.

The biggest problem for the Penguins this season has been consistently putting points on the board.

In the team's four wins this year, it has scored an average of 64.5 points, just over 10 points more than it has in its losses.

If leading scorer Heather Karner can return to early season form and Monique Godfrey can continue her solid play, the team may be able to make its stay at the Beeghly Center

"We're really hoping to execute offensively. That's where we've been struggling a little bit more ... and really just execute on the offensive end."



Tisha Hill,
Women's Basketball Head Coach



Photo courtesy YSU Sports Information

The Lady Penguins will play the Cleveland State Vikings for the first time this season Saturday at Beeghly Center. The two teams are tied for sixth place in the Horizon League standings. YSU's defensive duo of Nikita LaFleur (42) and Anjalia Lyons (50) will have to play lights-out to help the team shut down the Vikings.

count.

Following Saturday's matchup the team will play its next two home games against the University of Illinois-Chicago Feb. 1 and Loyola Feb. 3.

Penguin basketball can be viewed live via the Horizon League Network, which can be accessed at HorizonLeague.cstv.com.



YSU
SPORTS
IN BRIEF

Track teams reunite for weekend meet

Last week sophomore Aaron Merrill set a new school record in the shot put and junior Bethany Anderson was named Horizon League Track Athlete of Week for breaking her own weight throw record. The teams will look to continue their impressive performances as the men's and women's squads will come back together for a two day event at the Penn State National Open beginning Friday at 1:30 p.m. The meet will be the first in two weeks that will have both teams competing for a win at the same facility. The competition will wrap up on Saturday following a 10 a.m. start time.

Tennis to begin spring season

The Youngstown State women's tennis squad is set for its opening spring-season match with a pair of non-conference road matches. The weekend will begin at the University of Toledo on Saturday at noon followed by a stop at Bowling Green University on Sunday. These matches will be the first for the Penguins in 2007 and the first since the ITA Rolex Regionals in East Lansing, Mich. on Oct. 19. The men's team will have to wait to return to action as its first scheduled event will be Feb. 2 in Fort Wayne, Ind.

SWIMMING AND DIVING

Penguins swim through rigorous schedule, consecutive losses

Andrew Berry
SPORTS REPORTER

The 2007 half of the schedule has proven to be a busy agenda for the swimming and diving team at Youngstown State University.

Following the new year the team traveled to San Juan, Puerto Rico for a rigorous 10-day training excursion on Jan. 2. After arriving back in Youngstown on Jan. 11, there would be no rest for the squad as competition was set to begin the next day.

Even in the comfort of the Beeghly Natatorium, the team was unable to overcome the talented squads fielded by Ohio University and the University of Akron. The Penguins went down to the wire with the Bobcats and lost 135-100, then fell to the Zips with a score of 140-85.

Despite accruing another tick in the loss column, head coach Matt Anderson didn't see the defeats as a setback, believing his team put together a solid performance.

"We played pretty well against them. We're looking better every day," Anderson said.

Attributing physical strength to his team, Anderson said the key to improving is "racing better and getting them more confident."

Saturday the team competed in its final home contest until February against two more non-conference opponents in Radford University and St. Francis University in a double dual meet.

The Penguins put on a show and put away Radford with ease in a 155-72 victory. The team nearly took the event outright, but had to settle for the split as St. Francis defeated both the host and Radford for the

dual win.

YSU won 11 of 13 events against Radford with senior Cortney Harless sweeping the diving contests to go along with her first place finish in the 3-meter and a season-best score of 198.00 to claim the 1-meter.

In the freestyle, the Penguins had three different swimmers score first-place finishes.

Jessica Front took the 200-freestyle with a time of 1:59.96 while Leigh Bareman won the 50-meter in a time of 25.12. Natasha Bray's winning time of 5:20.48 in the 500-meter portion of the event rounded out the day for the Penguins.

Anderson said getting the split would be a confidence booster for his team after a strong showing. Even with a few competitors out for the event, Anderson ranked his squad's performance as "outstanding."

"The loss wasn't due to a lack of effort, we just had really good competition," Anderson said.

This weekend will see the Penguins swimming away from home as they set out on their last road trip of the regular season.

The first dual is set for 5 p.m. Friday in Chicago, Ill. as YSU clashes with the University of Chicago-Illinois, followed by a double dual meet at noon Saturday with top-ranked University of Wisconsin-Green Bay and Illinois State University.

Anderson believes the trip is necessary to gear-up the team for the Horizon League Tournament in February.

"Going on the road is always more challenging. For the most part, it's what we have to face to prepare for the championship. We took a few good steps [last] weekend and we'll take more this weekend," Anderson said.

Swimming and Diving at a glance...

Horizon League Women's Swimming and Diving Standings

Teams	Points
UW-Green Bay	805
Wright State	772
UW-Milwaukee	764
UIC	479.5
Cleveland State	358.5
Youngstown State	197
Butler	147

Upcoming Schedule...

- Tomorrow @ UIC
- Jan. 27 @ UW-Green Bay/Illinois State
- Feb. 1 CLEVELAND STATE @ 6 p.m.
- Feb. 2 CALIFORNIA (Pa.)/SLIPPERY ROCK @ 5 p.m.
- Feb. 21-24 Horizon League Championship
- March 1-3 Zone C Diving Championship