

Thursday  
JULY 15, 2004

Weather > A.M. Showers



High|73° Low|59°

in the red

NEWS IN BRIEF

▶Johnson and Michaelis YSU athletes of the year

The Youngstown State University Athletic Department has named Leslie Johnson and Kurt Michaelis as female and male athletes of the year.

Johnson, a senior, was chosen for her accomplishments in the Indoor and Outdoor Track and Field Horizon League Tournaments. Johnson placed first in the 400-meter dash, and also broke a Horizon League record with the 4 x 400-meter relay team.

Michaelis has received the award for the second time, and was also named Men's Outstanding Track Performer of the Year by the Horizon League. He won the 3,000-meter steeplechase and 1,500-meter run at the Horizon League Outdoor Championship in May.

▶Cleanup seeks volunteers

The second cleanup of the Wick Avenue and Logan Way corridor to Youngstown State University is scheduled for Saturday, July 17.

The cleanup will begin at 8 a.m. at the Time-Warner Cable building on Wick Avenue. Volunteers are asked to bring supplies such as weed-whackers, rakes and brooms.

For more information, contact Jim Petuch at (330) 941-2294.

▶Mike Babul named YSU assistant basketball coach

Youngstown State University men's basketball head coach John Robic announced Friday that Mike Babul joined the men's basketball team as assistant coach.

Babul has formerly worked as an administrative assistant at Memphis and played basketball for the University of Massachusetts. He began coaching in 2002 at Seekonk High School in Seekonk, Mass. He was head coach of the junior varsity team which earned a 15-5 record, and helped coach the varsity team to their first state tournament berth in more than 10 years.

At UMass, he was part of the program from the 1996-97 season to the 1999-2000 season. He played 120 games, starting 100 of them. He served as team captain in 1999-2000 season, and earned Atlantic 10 All-Defensive team honors and Atlantic 10 All-Academic honors as well.

the jambar poll question

Should domestic partner benefits be extended to YSU employees?

vote online @ www.thejambar.com

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E-MAIL US: thejambar@hotmail.com

## 'Nonnegotiable'

YSU-OEA reps say domestic partner benefits must be extended to faculty

DANIEL GRIESEMER | The Jambar

As university officials and representatives of the Youngstown State University Ohio Education Association prepare to negotiate the next three-year faculty contract, recent decisions by four Ohio public universities to extend domestic partner benefits to all staff have refocused attention onto the highly disputed issue.

Though university President David Sweet has not indicated that the university will take any immediate action, YSU-OEA President Michael Finney says it is now the duty of the administration to take the moral high ground by promptly following suit.

"As far as I'm concerned, it is the university's responsibility to extend [domestic partner benefits] to those within the university community," said Finney. "It is no longer a matter for negotiation."

What is up for debate, however, is which university body is ultimately responsible for deciding if the benefits will be extended or denied.

In a phone interview with a Jambar reporter last week, Sweet said both he and the Board of Trustees are "closely monitoring" and "reviewing with interest" the decisions of the other universities, but he said he is confident the issue can be resolved in contract negotiations.

"This is something that can be addressed through the mechanism of the collective bargaining agreement," Sweet said.

Finney and other members of the YSU-OEA, however, do not see the need for university officials to wait until the ratification of a new contract in 2005 to extend domestic partner benefits.

"All it would take is a decision on Sweet's part," Finney said. "Or it could come through an M.O.U. (Memorandum of Understanding) or a vote from the Board. We don't really care how they do it, just as long as they do it."

If the university chooses to take no action before negotiations begin, YSU-OEA chief negotiator Stanley Guzell said that domestic partner benefits would be one of the 'non-negotiable items' discussed during contract formation. While Guzell said he remains hopeful that the process will progress smoothly, there may be sticking points in negotiating the financing of faculty benefits.

Guzell noted that consultants hired by YSU during the previous contract negotiations reported that domestic partner benefits could be provided by the university at little or no additional cost, but stated he was concerned that the administration would still turn the issue into one of finance rather than of principle.

"Hypothetically, if they were to offer these benefits with the contingent that the faculty would have to pay into those benefits, I would view that as an unacceptable trade-off," Guzell said.

The current contract between the OEA and YSU is set to expire in 2005. The current contract between the OEA and YSU is set to expire in 2005.

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## Ohio State University fourth in state to grant partner benefits

Associated Press report

COLUMBUS, Ohio—Ohio State University's Board of Trustees has extended full benefits to same-sex domestic partners of faculty and staff members and their children.

The plan is expected to cost nearly \$1 million annually. Ohio State Executive Vice President Barbara Snyder said the school has not determined how it will pay for the benefits, but that no state money will be used. Snyder said she expects 50 to 100 people to take advantage of the benefits, which include medical, dental and vision plans. The university will pay 85 percent of the cost, as it does for other university employees.

"It was a brave step. Whether or not you are in favor of gay rights, this is great for the university," said Douglas J. Whaley, an OSU law professor and gay-rights activist.

Students and their same-sex

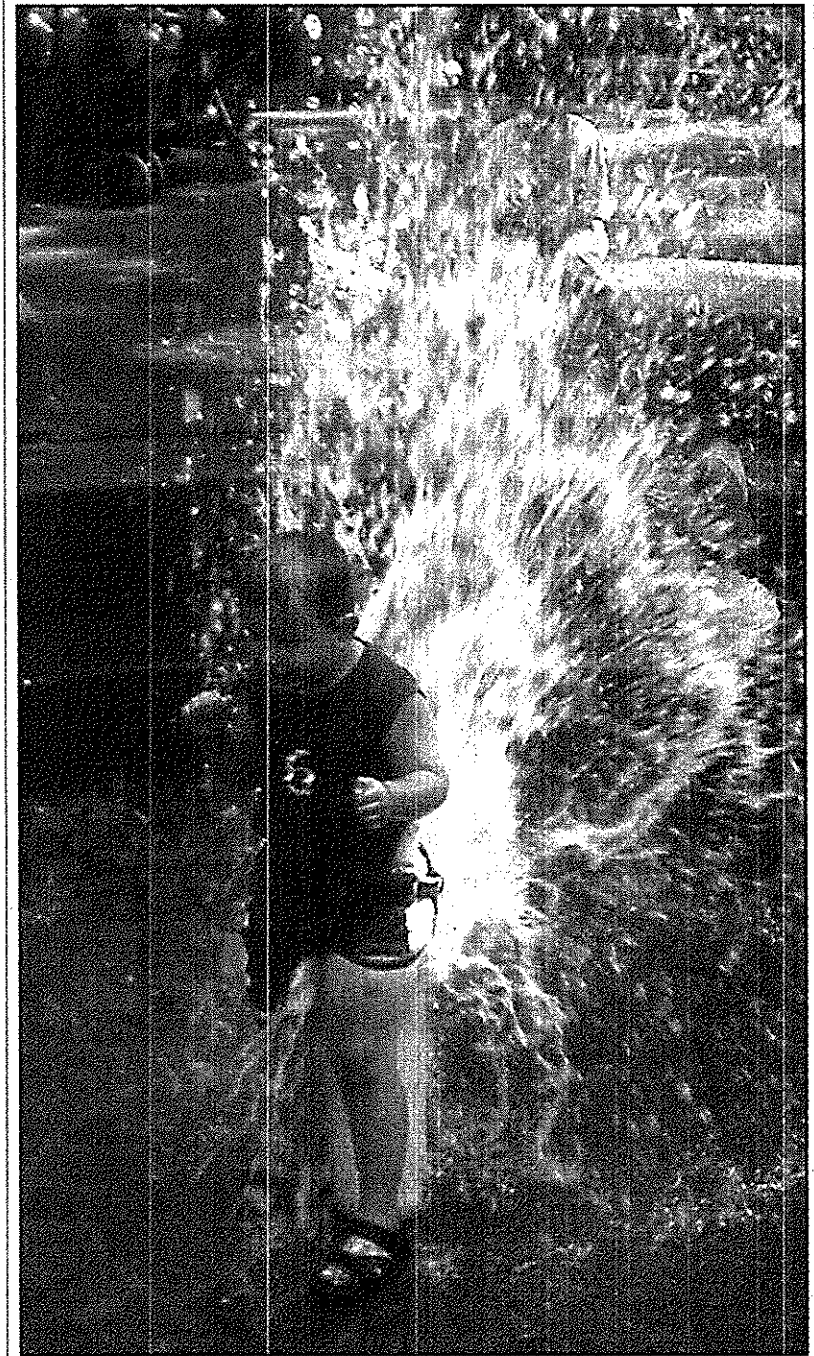
domestic partners, as well as their children, also will be eligible for coverage. The university will not pay for that coverage.

In late June, Miami University and Ohio University became the state's first public colleges to offer full health benefits to domestic partners. Since then, Cleveland State University has announced plans to add domestic-partner benefits.

Snyder said the move Friday was necessary to keep Ohio State competitive with other schools. Board Chairman Tami Longaberger said President Karen A. Holbrook talked with board members individually about the issue and that it was discussed in the past by student and faculty groups.

"We have already heard from a variety of people on this," she said, adding that she was sure faculty and staff members support the measure.

## BRAVING THE TORRENT...



▶Michael Seidler, 4, of Canfield takes a dip in the fountain outside of Kilcawley Center to cool off during YSU's sixth annual Festival of the Arts. The celebration featured local organizations, artists and musicians during the two-day event. The festival also officially unveiled the Parade of Penguins, as each of the sculptures were displayed at various locations around the campus core.

## Biesel named Metro College director

LISA EATON | The Jambar

The newly appointed director of the Youngstown State University Metro College spent his Independence Day holiday weekend relaxing and taking in a Pittsburgh Pirates game.

Other than that, William Biesel, who has held the position since mid-June, has been hard at work and faces many challenges to accomplish his goal of creating "... an expanded awareness of the Metro College in regional economic business growth and development."

The 51-year-old Air Force veteran was chosen for the position after a national search of candidates. His qualifications include a bachelor's degree in secondary education from the University of Akron, both a master's and a doctoral degree in adult and continuing higher education from Penn State University, where he worked for 13 years. He went on to work for Akron University for the last seven years as the dean of workforce development and continuing education.

After all of his experience in higher education, Biesel still said he "enjoys going to work" on a daily basis. Though he admits his new undertaking will be challenging, Biesel said he "... intend[s] to create a sense of identity for the college as it relates to the business and industrial community. The idea is to get adults in the area degrees and work with the area businesses for job placement and retention."

"We'll be creating a new academic master plan for the college, reviewing the organization and creating new marketing and communication plans."

The college, located in Southwoods Commons at 100 DeBartolo Place in Boardman, offers adult learners the opportunity to obtain entire degrees on evenings, weekends and through online study. Degrees include an associate or bachelor's degree in applied science, a bachelor's degree in allied health and an associate degree in business administration. Students may even design their own individual curriculum program.

As part of its workforce development program, the college also works with area businesses, providing training for employees that can be done on site and grants to improve their businesses.

see METRO, page 2

## YSU shuttle bus service not in jeopardy

DANIEL GRIESEMER | The Jambar

Students and staff at Youngstown State University will be able to continue hitching rides with the YSU shuttle bus service despite rumors to the contrary, YSU spokesman Ron Cole said.

Speculation of the program's demise began circulating after parking services started a survey among Youngstown State University housing residents to gauge student satisfaction with the shuttle bus service. The survey had been planned for a while, Cole said, and was not initiated in response to any specific complaints. Director of Support Services Joe Scarnecchia said the results from the survey are encouraging.

"We have only received two negative responses," Scarnecchia said. "Most of the comments concerned routes and timing, and we will continue to evaluate that."

The survey results, which are currently being evaluated by Gary Snyder of parking services, will be used to determine if adjustments need to be made in such variables as bus routes and time schedules.

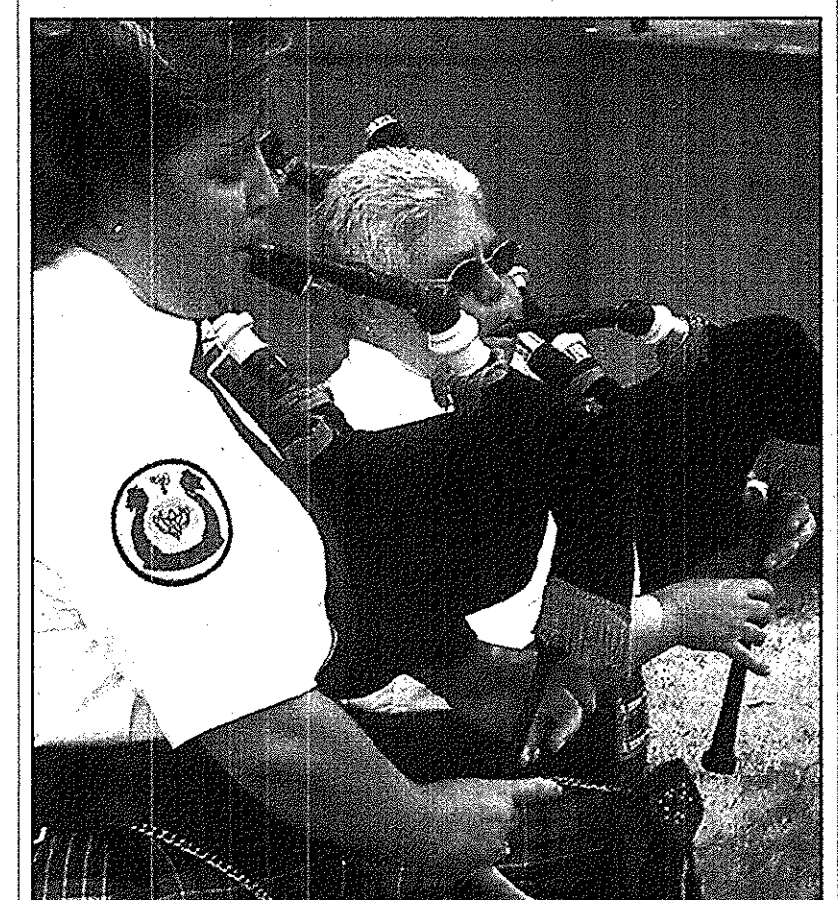
Scarnecchia also said that other aspects of the shuttle service such as bus maintenance and service operation continue to be evaluated to determine how the program can be run most effectively. Currently, these auxiliary services have been contracted out, and are funded through permits and income from special events.

Though the shuttle bus service continues to be run on a trial basis, tallies taken by bus divers during the spring semester estimated the service provided over 12,400 rides, an average patronage of 1,000 rides a week.

The shuttles busses currently make 20-minute cycles in opposite directions of each other on two different routes. The first route is an inter-campus route, moving from building to building. The second route includes stops at YSU parking lots during its loop around campus. The shuttle service is free to anyone with a current

see SHUTTLE, page 2

## SETTING THE ATMOSPHERE



▶Members of the Celtic Flame Pipes and Drums corp perform on the campus greens beside the Wick Avenue bridge Sunday during the Festival of the Arts.

# in the red

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### MammoVan to make stop at YSU campus

The Breast Care Center's mobile mammography system, the MammoVan, will be on campus Monday, July 19.

The MammoVan will be on the corner of University Avenue and Elm Street from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Appointments for mammograms can be scheduled by calling 330-941-3489. All forms of insurance are accepted.

### Charles Smith given YSU citizenship award

A local businessman and Youngstown State University supporter will receive the YSU Distinguished Citizen Award.

Clarence R. Smith, chairman of Diamond Steel Construction Co. and Compo Industries will receive his award at a banquet July 22 at Mr. Anthony's in Boardman. Smith will also receive an honorary doctorate of human letters degree from YSU at the August commencement ceremony.

Smith is active in the community as chairman of the Mahoning Valley Republican Party and is a board member of many community organizations. He is also a member of the Penguin Club, and was a contributor to the construction of Stambaugh Stadium.

The Distinguished Citizen Award has been presented every year to an exceptional community business leader since 1981. It is given by YSU's Office of Alumni Relations.

## SHUTTLE

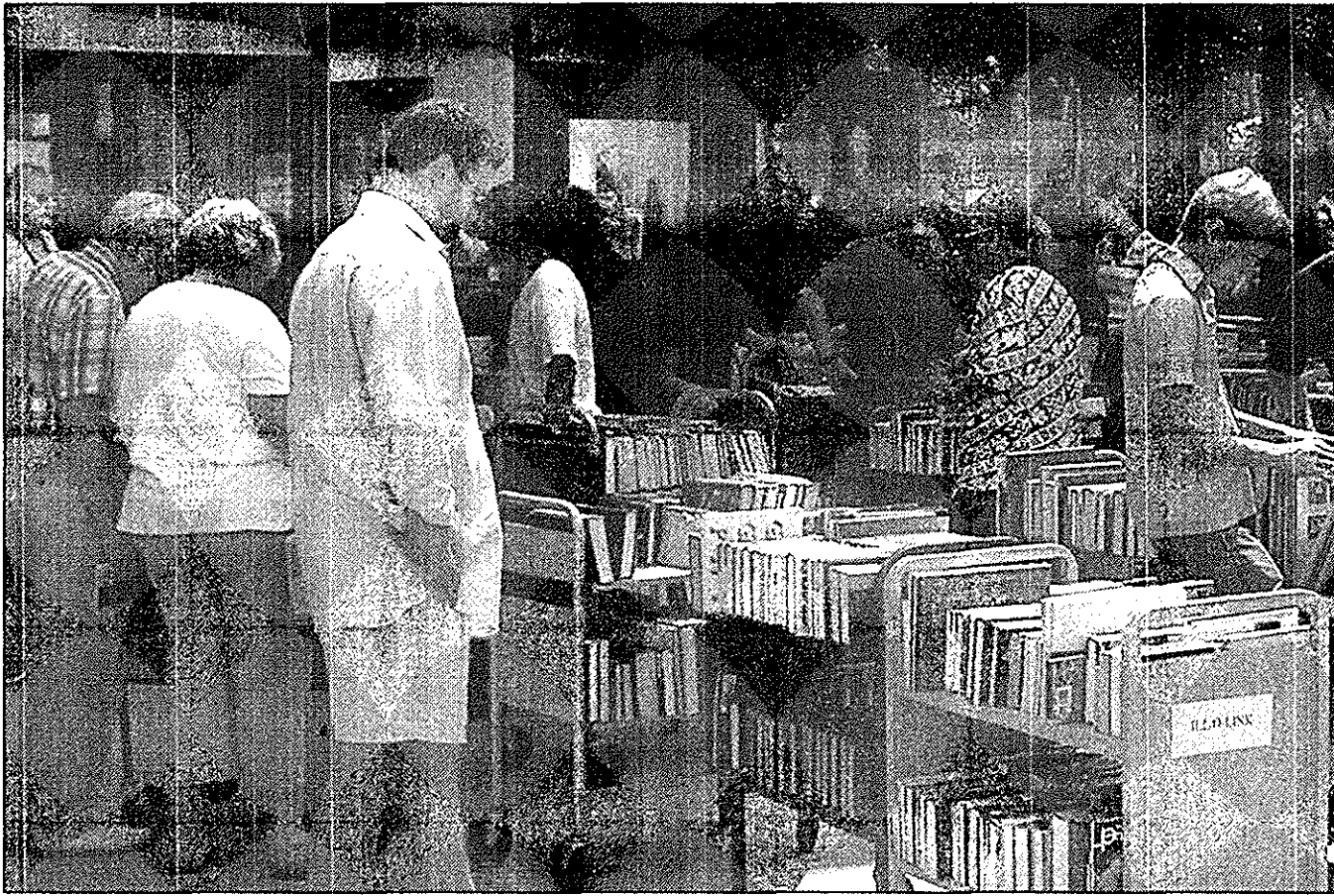
FROM PAGE 1

YSU ID.

The three 15-passenger busses were acquired approximately 4 years ago through a \$150,000 grant written by the university's Equal Opportunity and Diversity Office and the Youngstown Western Reserve Transit Authority. Specially equipped with wheel chair lifts, the busses were part of a project intended to improve the mobility of physically handicapped students around campus. The project temporarily stalled upon facing obstacles in funding and staffing, but was revived and expanded in January of this year to include service to all YSU students and staff.

DANIEL GRIESEMER | 330-941-1807  
JACK GUARNIERI | 330-941-1913

## SUMMER BOOKWORMS



▲ Bargain hunters browse through racks of books Sunday during the used book sale in front of Maag Library.

Daniel Griesemer | The Jambar

## Domestic partner benefits 'nonnegotiable'

FROM PAGE 1

university and the YSU-OEA, approved in August 2002, granted sick leave benefits to teachers in domestic partner relationships, but did not extend full benefits to their partners. The contract was approved three days before the start of the fall semester after months of debate between union representatives, YSU administration and the Board of Trustees.

Opponents to granting domestic partner benefits included former Trustee Joseph Norah, who stated he opposed the benefits based upon religious and moral convictions. Guzell said he believes that religion-based opposition

to domestic partner benefits has weakened, if not disappeared, on the Board of Trustees.

*"We have to look at the issue from all sides to decide what's in the best interest of the university."*

— JIMMY MYERS

Jimmy Myers, director of the Office of Equal Opportunity and Diversity, said that all viewpoints must be taken into consideration when discussing domestic partner benefits.

"I think it's something people usually oppose on religious grounds, and those who support it do it on the basis of

university must keep pace with the other state universities in order to be an effective competitor. Neglecting to provide domestic partner benefits would not only hinder the ability of the college to compete, he stated, but would also have a detrimental effect on the public's perception of the university.

"If President Sweet and Jimmy Myers refuse to take advantage of this opportunity to extend domestic partner benefits, there may be some people out there who will perceive them as bigots," Finney said.

DANIEL GRIESEMER | 330-941-1807

## METRO

FROM PAGE 1

"I look forward to what I feel will be the most rewarding thing about this job — being able to link the resources and expertise of the college with commercial and resource needs," Biesel said. "Being able to enhance the scope and productivity of the college are major concerns."

The college, which also has programs for senior citizens and at three area corrections facilities, has extended hours through the week with classes as late as 10 p.m. It also offers Saturday classes and Sunday classes as needed.

Beisel now lives in Stow with his wife Cheryl, a teacher, and two teenage children, who attend high school there. About the Mahoning Valley, he said, "It's different. And it's definitely in need of the kind of thing we are trying to do at the Metro College."

LISA EATON | 330-941-1913

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Responsible for receptionist, clerical and other support duties. Must be computer literate. Hours will be scheduled around your class schedule preferably 15-20 hours weekly. Work-study applicants preferred. Stop in The Jambar office located in the basement of Fedor Hall or contact Olga at (330) 941-3094 Mon.-Thurs. 8a.m.-2 p.m.

**the jambar**  
thejambar@hotmail.com

## Computer Program Documentation Internship

Looking for a Computer Science major or related field that has knowledge of SQL Language, top down flow charting, & Visio. The position will review Stored Procedures in a SQL server environment & create flow charts based on the program design. There is a chance of some modification of stored procedures if documentation is completed in a timely manner. Must have knowledge of MS Visio, basic understanding of programming Logic, detailed oriented, willingness to learn, interested in Database & knowledge of SQL language.

Please send resume to:  
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9772 Diagonal Rd.  
Mantua, OH 44255  
888-353-3533  
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www.hattielarham.org

EOE "drug-free workplace"

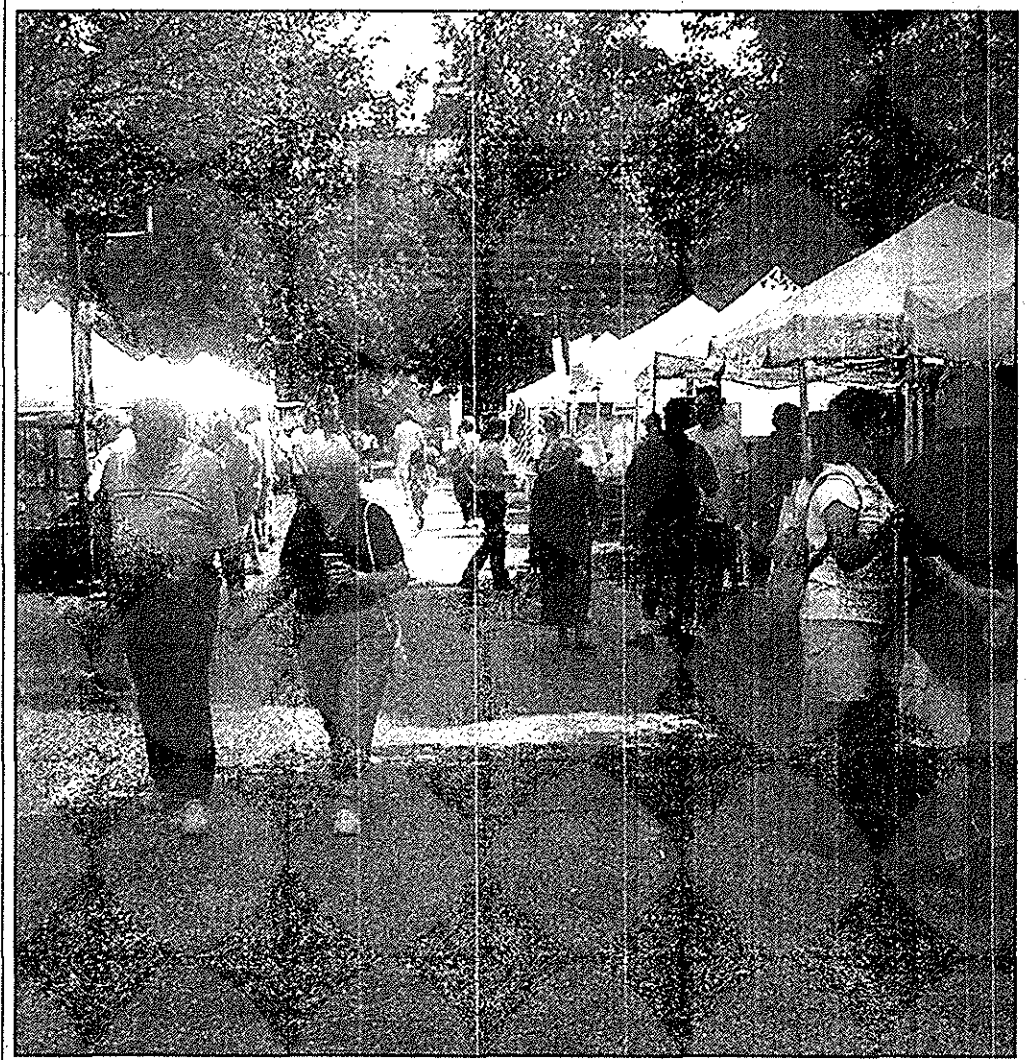
## Help Wanted

Homes For Kids, Inc., a mental health agency in Niles, Ohio is seeking a full-time employee to provide community support services to children, adolescents and families. Mental Health experience preferred. LSW required. Fax resume (330) 544-9379 or call (330) 544-8005

**Summer Work-** Customer sales/service. PT available. Flexible around classes. \$11.15 base appt. Must be 18+. Scholarships awarded. Conditions apply. Call now!!! Boardman: (330) 726-5470 Warren: (330) 394-4155 www.workforstudents.com

**Join the Jambar Fall Semester!**— Distributor positions available beginning August 23. Must be available between 7 and 8

## AN EYE FOR BEAUTY



▲ Festival attendees browse the wares of local artists at the Artist's Marketplace along the sidewalks in the campus core.

## Classified

a.m. Tuesday and Thursday mornings to distribute The Jambar. Must be dependable. For more information, contact Olga at (330)941-3094, Monday through Thursday, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. or stop by The Jambar office located in the basement of Fedor Hall.

## Housing

**\*Don't Pay YSU Parking\*** Completely remodeled apartments. \$300/month + electric. 1 bedroom and up. Building to suit your needs at the edge of campus. (330)746-3355

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Apartment for rent- 1 Bedroom \$200 plus utilities. Very clean. Call (330)743-3887

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1, 2, and 3 bedroom apts. 5 blocks from YSU. Refrigerator and stove included. (330)743-7111

**Miscellaneous**

The Ralph Nader Presidential Campaign underway at YSU! Contact: ysustudentsforamer@yahoo.com or call at (440) 547-3046. The time to break the two-party strangle-hold is now.

**A.00** buys **twenty-five words** (not too shabby...)  
**330.941.3094**  
JAMBAR ADVERTISING MANAGER

# EDITORIAL OPINION

-an editorial-

## YSU should not wait for contracts to provide benefits

This week, Ohio State University became the fourth public four-year university in Ohio to announce plans for extending domestic partner benefits to university employees.

In the past month, Ohio University, Miami University and Cleveland State University have all decided to extend full medical, dental and vision plans to the domestic partners of their employees. OSU is now following suit, with talk of other universities such as Kent State University and Bowling Green University discussing the same possibilities.

The actions of these universities are commendable. They have served as catalysts for advancing civil and gay rights in a state that has otherwise ignored them.

It is our hope that Youngstown State University is the next to join that list.

In YSU faculty contract negotiations two years ago, the YSU Board of Trustees granted only sick leave benefits to faculty members in domestic partner relationships. They refused to grant health benefits, citing mostly religious and moral opposition to the idea of domestic partnerships.

This should no longer be the case. While all opinions should be considered in forming university policies, this type of issue should not be turned into a religious crusade bent on easing the minds of those in disagreement with homosexuality. Instead, it should be a way of granting equal opportunities to all members of the YSU community and a step towards making this university the competitive giant its leaders so hope to see it become. Director of the Office of Equal Opportunity and Diversity Jimmy Myers even said himself that "we have to look at the issue from all sides to decide what's best for the university."

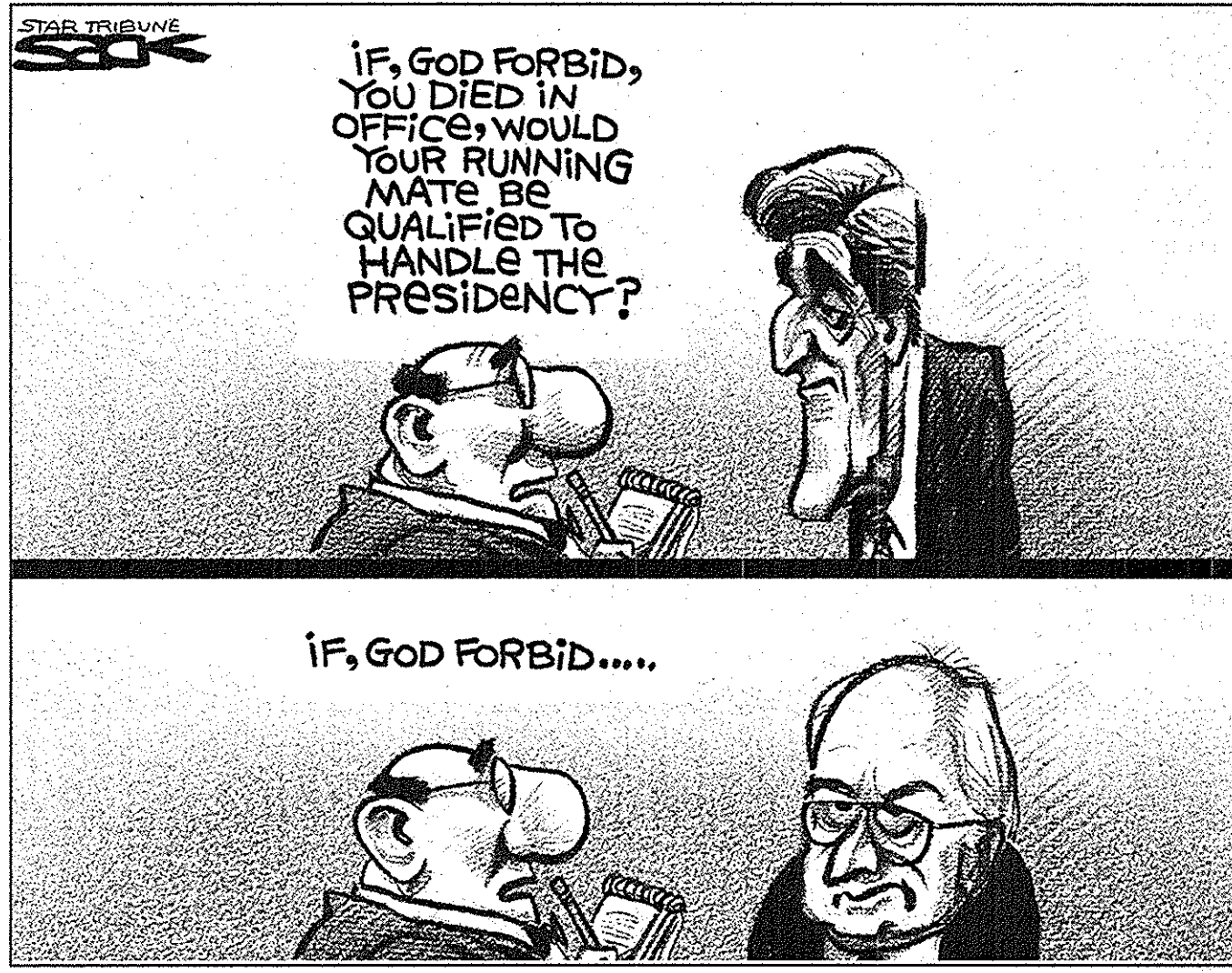
University President David Sweet has not mentioned any immediate actions to be taken in granting domestic partner benefits, but reassured a Jambar reporter that he and the Board of Trustees are continuing to watch the decisions of the other universities. He also said the issue could be resolved in contract negotiations.

But why should the gay, lesbian and bisexual faculty members have to wait a full year for contract negotiations to determine whether or not they can receive domestic partner benefits?

The answer is clear: they should not. All of the universities mentioned above made the decision not of a result of deliberating the fine points of a faculty contract, but rather as a way of diversifying and improving their universities. The university presidents stepped forward and used their leadership, speaking to faculty, trustees and others to make sure the measures taken were appropriate.

We urge Sweet to do the same. Granting domestic partner benefits is not only a step in the right direction for civil rights, but for the university as a whole. Countless times, university leaders have stressed two elements that will make YSU a successful university: competition and diversity. Granting these benefits is surely a quick move toward accomplishing both of these goals. Domestic partner benefits can attract a rich and diverse teaching staff that will enrich the quality of education.

The Jambar editors reflect the opinions of The Jambar and its Editorial Board members. Those wishing to schedule meetings with the Editorial Board should call the editor in chief. Letters 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 and grammar. 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 do not necessarily reflect those of The Jambar staff or YSU faculty, staff or administration.



## Burning Michael Moore

KRT Campus

If the Democrats who championed the McCain-Feingold campaign finance law have any lingering doubts about whether it puts an unconstitutional damper on political speech, consider the impact it may have on their friend Michael Moore. The Washington-based conservative group Citizens United has filed a complaint with the Federal Election Commission, arguing that advertising for Moore's film "Fahrenheit 9/11" will be in violation of the campaign finance law after July 30.

How's that so? Because the law strictly regulates independent expenditures on political advertising that refers to candidates in the weeks before a political convention or an election. Citizens United says that the ads for the film, which portray President Bush in a very unflattering light, should come

under control of the law.

The organization's FEC complaint says that the corporate funding of the ads, and the failure to follow campaign finance disclosure rules, will be

*This is more clear evidence that McCain-Feingold poses a threat to free speech.*

illegal. That's not as preposterous as it may sound. The FEC's general counsel found in June that movie ads probably would not qualify for an exemption from the law.

After briefly mulling over their general counsel's opinion, the FEC members decided to delay a final decision, kicking the can down the road, perhaps until after the November elec-

tion. So the nation may still avoid the spectacle of having the government try to block the advertising of a popular and controversial film that has pulled in more than \$60 million in ticket receipts.

Nevertheless, this is more clear evidence that McCain-Feingold poses a threat to free speech. The government should not be in the position of determining what is permissible political dialogue. Citizens United knows that. The organization has also brought a legal challenge to the McCain-Feingold law, on the grounds that it is an unconstitutional infringement on speech.

Perhaps it wants to use a law it doesn't like to silence Michael Moore. Perhaps it wants to draw more attention to a bad law. Either way, this complaint points to the dangers of campaign rules that give the government power to decide what political debate you can hear and when you can hear it.

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

#### Giving benefits fair, right thing

Editor -  
In the past couple of weeks, the Boards of Trustees of Miami University of Ohio, Ohio University, Cleveland State University, and Ohio State University have approved full benefits to same-sex domestic partners of faculty and staff. Why is David Sweet taking so long to fall in line? Where is the faculty union's negotiating team on this matter? Is David Sweet waiting for contract negotiations so that he can, through John Habat and Tom Maraffa, bargain, or better yet, sell this benefit to the faculty negotiating team? And is that team waiting to purchase it? They all would probably agree to having faculty and staff pay 10 percent of their health care premium as the right price.  
If this is what they're all waiting for, then they are wrong. Other Ohio state universities have simply granted this benefit to their faculty and staff — no bargaining, no selling. David Sweet and the union's negotiating team ought to grant this benefit because it is the fair and right thing to do. And what is fair and right is not negotiable, is not for sale. You just do it.

- Gabriel Palmer-Fernandez  
Director, Dr. James Dale Ethics Center  
Professor, Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies

#### 'Lawsuit crisis' simply rhetoric

Editor -  
Daniel Griesemer writes: "... Edwards made his fortune as an ambulance chaser. Americans are able to play connect the dots between frivolous lawsuits and the rising cost of [health] insurance ..."  
Readers may be inclined to believe the existence of so-called frivolous lawsuits is beyond question. Far from it. The Ohio State Medical Association's Web site offers not a single case citation of a so-called frivolous medical malpractice lawsuit, nor could a Mahoning Valley medical leader do so when questioned recently in a public forum.  
Whether there has ever been anywhere in the United States a malpractice suit or malpractice settlement before trial without expert medical opinion favoring the injured plaintiffs — that is, a frivolous malpractice suit — is unknown.  
The so-called frivolous malpractice lawsuit "crisis" is more a tribute to the American Medical Association's awesome power to short-sightedly twist public rhetoric to its own ends, than it is to the purported excesses of personal

injury lawyers such as Senator Edwards.

- Jack Labusch  
Parking services

#### Commentary not fair representation

Editor -  
In response to your 7/8 Op-Ed piece on John Edwards:  
'Personal injury lawyer' does not necessarily equal 'ambulance chaser.' This term is an insult to all of the honest lawyers who do, in fact, fight for the "little guys" who have been seriously injured by faulty products or negligent professionals. There are far more of this kind of lawyer than there are 'ambulance chasers.'  
'Personal injury lawsuit' does not necessarily equal 'frivolous lawsuit.' If an individual is seriously hurt as the result of a faulty product or a negligent professional, there needs to be restitution, especially in instances in which insurance does not cover thousands of dollars worth of victims' medical bills.  
John Edwards has gotten a lot of donations from lawyers. John Kerry has probably gotten a lot of donations from lawyers, too. And maybe some donations from ketchup people. G.W. Bush

has gotten donations from oil people and defense contractors. This is the way Washington works. No matter from whom one takes a donation, it's never an "arm's length" transaction, because there always appears to be a conflict of interest. Why is everyone suddenly so surprised at the source of John Edwards' campaign funding? And how is it possible that John Edwards' connection to prominent trial lawyers could be more damaging to the Kerry/Edwards campaign than Bush and Cheney's connections to the companies that are directly benefiting from the war in Iraq?

Also, John Edwards EARNED millions of dollars at his job as a trial lawyer, just like I EARN my paycheck every month at my job. He did not ACQUIRE millions of dollars.

- Adam Messner  
YSU Alumnus

#### YEC Enrichment very beneficial

Editor -  
I am currently an eighth grade student at Hayes Middle School. I am involved in the Youngstown City Schools Early College Enrichment Program. This program began the

third week of June and is still being held until this Thursday at DeBartolo Hall (on the YSU campus). As this program progresses I am beginning to realize how I as well as the other students attending this program will benefit from this experience.

During this program I have realized how education plays a vital part in one's future and how hard work and dedication will pay off later in life. This program has opened my eyes to many other options I have in life with college playing a major role. Throughout this program I have been able to explore life on campus, undertake college issues, and interact with college students in an organized atmosphere. I have read some of the Jambar editorials that have made me more tolerant when it comes to certain issues and have made me want to look forward to college. I was also able to see the dorms, explore campus as if I were attending YSU, and I was able to attend field trips pertaining to our college-like activities. I will be able to use these experiences to my advantage and I am sorry that other students are not as fortunate as I in getting to take part in such an astounding program.

- DezaRay Montero

Have an opinion? We want to hear from you! E-mail us at thejambar@hotmail.com

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## SPORTS &amp; ENTERTAINMENT

## Festival brings campus to life



Zachary Smotzer, 6, of Boardman adds his creative touch to the re:CREATED painting wall in YSU's campus core. The wall was one of many events available for children to participate in at the Festival of the Arts.

*The two-day Festival of the Arts brought thousands to YSU's campus from around the Youngstown region to indulge in a celebration of art, music, food and culture*

ELIZABETH TABAK | The Jambar

*The normally quiet summer campus was filled this weekend with music, dancing and artistry as people came from all over to attend the sixth Summer Festival of the Arts.*

Sponsored by Youngstown State University, the Arts Council of Youngstown and Mahoning County and Wick Neighbors Inc., the two-day festival showcased the work of 54 artists from nine states and featured over 100 activities and performances from a range of ethnicities.

Also, Saturday evening featured the annual "Forte on the Fifty" event, which had live performances from area bands and the Grammy Award-winning group The Commodores.

YSU police Chief John Gocala said Saturday evening's event attracted 8,000 to 9,000 people. However, Gocala said that the number of attendees over the weekend was hard to count as so many people had passed through the campus.

Those who attended came eager

to try some of the ethnic food, listen to any number of the bands playing, take in the art or just volunteer.

Barbara Altman was one of them.

A two-year attendee, Altman said she decided to volunteer this year because she was so impressed by what she saw that she wanted to be involved. This year and in years past, she said, she was touched by the overwhelming response of the community and wished officials would expand the festival so more could attend.

"There is so much to see that you would have to spend several hours each day looking around to take it all in," Altman said. "It's a shame that it is only two days long."

This year, Altman sat in at the "chalk on the walk" tent in front of the McDonough Museum with fellow volunteers Rebekah Sturgiss and Shirley Nerone handing out sidewalk chalk to anyone who wanted to create their own temporary art on the sidewalks of the closed off Wick Avenue.

As she sat fanning herself from the oppressive heat, Altman looked at the families admiring others' chalk drawings and laughed.

"This is great, not just little kids are drawing," Altman said. "In fact, just a few minutes ago there was an

older man and his wife and child drawing."

Sturgiss added, "It was really cute, their child drew a picture and then the man drew a big heart on the sidewalk for his wife."

Sturgiss, a junior at Lowellville High School said the big draw for her was to experience others' artwork.

"I love art, and I love seeing people do art," Sturgiss said. "It's fun to see what they are thinking and how they express themselves."

Just a few feet away from the chalk tent stood three of the 31 penguins that dotted the campus as part of the Penguin Parade.

As people milled around looking at the intricate artwork of the statues, three young boys dressed in bright colors burst from the doors of the McDonough Museum, anxious to get a peek at the penguins. The three lined up in front of the penguins and posed with ear-to-ear smiles on their glowing faces.

Two of the children, twin brothers Alex and Andrew Broderick both 12, have been attending the festival since they were about eight or nine, said their grandmother Shirley Broderick. This year, they decided to include their cousin, 12-year-old Tony Stratif because they said there was so

much to see.

"This is the second day in a row that we came here," Shirley Broderick said. "We had to come back because we didn't get to see all of the penguins."

The penguins, the boys said, were their favorite part of the festival. However, they were also interested in tasting some of the ethnic foods from the vendors across the street and perhaps checking out the re:CREATED painting wall sponsored by the Youngstown Environmental Studies Society.

In order to accommodate the large number of artists and for safety purposes, Wick Avenue was closed off from the service road to the entrance of the Wick Avenue parking deck. The closed off area, however, was filled with vendors such as Edy's Ice Cream and a tent featuring informative tables about Youngstown organizations, one of which was Wick Neighbors Inc.

Wick Neighbors Inc., one of the event's sponsors, had historic photographs of the people of Smoky Hollow. Jeff Kelly, director of marketing for Wick Neighbors Inc., said the point of the informative table to raise awareness about the importance of redeveloping Smoky Hollow.

"It's a great idea because we have had a really good response," Kelly said.

As a few bystanders milled around the tent, the sound of bagpipes caught their attention.

In front of the Butler Museum of American Art stood the Celtic Flame Pipes and Drums bagpipe group, entertaining a large group. Moving away from the sound of the bagpipes, the sounds of the steel drum could be heard from the Panyard-Tropical Winds Steel band.

However, Kay Taptik enjoyed sitting by the fountain next to Kilcawley Center.

Swaying to the tune of "When Irish Eyes Are Smiling," Taptik explained that she had been to the festival a few times in years past. Taptik, who is from Sharpsville, said she does not mind the drive out to see the sights, and especially the penguins. She added that she had a daughter who graduated from YSU, and enjoyed seeing the changes that are made to campus and the festival each year.

"This is wonderful," Taptik said. "There have been so many changes, so many improvements. Each year, both of them get better."

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## Chili Peppers and Bones: Two different styles, but the same great innovation

MARK STEVENS  
DANIEL GRIESEMER | The Jambar

**Blood Sugar Sex Magik**  
—Red Hot Chili Peppers

**Dan's take on RHCP**

In all honesty, "Blood Sugar Sex Magik" is not my favorite album of all time. It's not even close. Still, that tragic day when my original copy of the album met a tragic death when it plunged to the floor with my portable CD player, I wasted no time in going to pick up another copy. Why? Listening to the Red Hot Chili Peppers' "Blood Sugar Sex Magik" for the first time was a religious experience. In one funky-out, f---ed-up, off beat, diabolical swoop, it totally recalibrated my entire musical compass.

The year was 1991, and grunge music was assuming its crown. Two singles — "Under the Bridge" and "Give it away" — established the Red Hot Chili Peppers as heirs to the throne. These four guys from Los Angeles, with long hair, jeans in socks, and tattooed-up torsos were every parent's worst rockstar nightmare.

But lo and behold, "Blood Sugar Sex Magik" was not a grunge album. The album shifts from head-banger anthems to mellowed-out sing-a-longs in the blink of an eye. It was the craziest thing I had ever heard in my life, and I loved it. The Chili Peppers mastered the art of music like a preacher does the Good Book. The album starts off appearing to be nothing but a silly, rhythmic bash filled with fun, sex, and tricked out lyrics; then you zoom in and suddenly it's about drugs, and the environment, and race, and losing

those you love, and losing yourself, and finding yourself. It is a tripped out wild rollercoaster-ride that's a schizophrenic's dream come true.

Still, the album mysteriously remains amazingly cohesive — partly because the things sound like sex. Face it: the album is dirty as hell. 8 minutes of "Sir Psycho Sexy" will leave the most chaste of virgins feeling like sloppy seconds when all is said and done. Immensely perverse lines work their way into "Apache Rose Peacock." Line after line, song after song, the band seduces you with their funky melodies and unashamedly raw lyrics. In short — the album is a musical orgy.

**Mark's view of the Peppers**

Not a fan. And I won't try to lie and pretend that I've always been a Chili Peppers fan because it makes me sound like I was cool in the 90s.

Listening to this album now makes me remember why I dig the high energy jam tunes. I even like the slow melancholy tunes. It's the ones in the middle I just don't vibe with.

Hey, the Chili Peppers have put out some classic tracks. Two of 'em are on here: "Under the Bridge" and "Give it Away" are two examples of how well the band dances at the end of the spectrum. So is "Soul to Squeeze," though it's not on this album.

When they're rockin', they rock. When Anthony Keidis is crooning, it's cool. He doesn't have what one might call a beautiful voice, but there's something real about the way he sounds. There's something genuine.

So out of 17 cuts on "Blood

Sugar Sex Magik," there's maybe a handful I can stand. It's no doubt the most popular album from a pretty popular band, if only for the name and "Under the Bridge." It's just not my cup of tea.

**E. 1999 Eternal**  
—Bone Thugs-N-Harmony

**Mark's opinion of Bone**

It's quite the oxymoron actually. Thugs. In Harmony. Kind of like peanut butter and pipe tobacco, you'd never really think the two had a place together.

Somehow Bone, the boys from Cleveland, pull it off.

You wrap a thug's mentality around a true gift of harmonizing and package it all together with a truly unique delivery and you get one of the greatest albums of all time with no distinction being made for genre.

True, it was downhill for Bone Thugs after "E. 1999 Eternal," but for two albums, Bone transcended their genre and actually managed to at least sound unique.

Few artists have ever been able to match the speed of Bizzy, Flesh, Layzie and Krayzie, but even those who might be almost as quick just don't sound as good. There's a smoothness to the flow of Bone Thugs that softens the hard edges of the album.

The production of "E. 1999 Eternal" is slightly above average, but drum machines and record samplings really don't matter here. The instruments of this album are the voices of the artists.

And after they kill you on "Land of the Heartless," they're talented

enough to pull off a rendition of Sinatra. Rappers that can actually sing? Hey, I don't make the news; I just report it.

"E. 1999 Eternal" is a complete album. You can throw it in and just let it play. You don't get bored with it. Of course, you're better off if you have an original release of the album with the original "Crossroads." If not, find it. Burn it. Take my word for it.

It's too bad the best we would get from Bone after this was one song with Tupac. None of the albums they made after this even come close. It's a shame almost, especially considering that no one has been able to fill the void of harmonizing, lightning fast rap. I guess the brightest stars burn out quickly.

**Dan's review of the Bone Thugs**

Lyrical speaking, little separates Bone Thugs-N-Harmony on this album from the countless other mainstream rap artists. The familiar themes of drugs, violence and death are framed in fairly standard phrases. They really didn't give us much to chew on. They didn't have to.

It's the manner in which the lyrics were delivered that set the group apart. The rap quartet from Cleveland possessed a hypnotically melodic flow — frequently in unison — that bordered on singing. They were able to rap together at an absurdly fast pace without losing their sweetness. They were Boys 2 Men meets Run DMC.

The genius of Bone Thugs "E. 1999 Eternal" is that they incorporated with their rap musical qualities

that have traditionally been the foundation of classic rock. The melodies on the album are so crisp and clean that even the most inflexible of musical traditionalists find themselves humming along. Yet, Bone Thugs are still unmistakably gangsta rap to the core — sweetly crooning their threats of violence, while refusing to leave the musical territory of their enemies alone. Their enemies? Yea. Their enemies.

Bone Thugs were fighting for musical ground in a time when right-wing religious radicals and McCarthyistic politicians were leading the attack against rap music. They were accused of "unraveling the moral fabric of America." I feel their pain.

I forgot how much I missed this CD until Mark plopped it on my desk. It was stolen from my car my freshman year at YSU, along with a few dozen other albums I adored. Obvious classics from this project ("The Crossroads," "Mo' Murda"... ) have gotten their just due. My favorite tracks, though, are the two cappella cuts. "Me Killa" pairs a classic melody with haunting lyrics that ring with despair. Similarly, in "Mr. Ouija 2," the rhythm of the howling wind with the cocking of guns sets the mood as Bone Thugs question, "Will I die of bloody murder?"

The end result of "E. 1999 Eternal" is a one-of-a-kind sound that is instantly recognizable, but has yet to be convincingly reproduced.

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