

Weather >> snow

32 | 20

Friday: cloudy, 35/25
Saturday: rain, 45/32

Inside



► Penguins wait to hear their playoff fate. Announcement Sunday.

Sports I
see page 7



► He's all kinds of mad about money. Entertainment I see page 8

In Brief

Correction

In a Nov. 15 Jambar article headlined "Prof puts together pictorial history of Mill Creek Park," it was incorrectly reported that authors Rick Shale and Carol Potter will be signing copies of their books at Barnes & Noble in Boardman and Borders in Niles on Dec. 11. The book signing is scheduled for Dec. 10.

ACE receives award

The YSU Association of Classified Employees was honored last Saturday with a Five-Star Local award from the North Eastern Ohio Education Association. The award recognizes educational groups that go beyond local concerns and connect with the larger Association. They received the award for participating in leadership training for local members, meeting with neighboring associations and involving members on the Association's legislative program.

MORE NEWS, PAGE 6

the jambar poll question

Last question

Will the YSU football team be selected to the playoffs?

75% 25%

Yes No

Today's Question: Are Wal-Mart's low prices worth the cost?

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VOLUME 88, ISSUE 31 The student voice of Youngstown State University

YSU

Not everyone smiling at Wal-Mart

By: Steve Lettau
REPORTER

Wal-Mart, known for its smiley mascot rolling back prices, isn't making everyone smile these days.

Recent media attention into the hidden costs of the company's low prices has surfaced recently with the documentary, "Wal-Mart: The High Cost of Low Price."

The topic reached Youngstown State University Tuesday night inside Kilcawley Center's crowded Ohio Room.

Thomas Palley, the former chief economist of the United States-

WAL-MART the high cost of low price

This graphic provided by the makers of "Wal-Mart: The High Cost of Low Price" shows the way some people feel about the mega-chain.

China Economic Commission, presented "Wal-Mart and the Wal-Martization of American Industry."

Sponsored by five different YSU organizations, the lecture attracted nearly 200 attendants. Joseph Wilhelm, president of the Economics Club, was surprised by the amount of listeners.

"We really didn't expect this many people. It's a really good turnout," Wilhelm said.

Palley identified three problems with the way Wal-Mart conducts their business, focusing on Wal-Mart's economic impact on the American economy. The three prob-

lems he gave were low price business marketing, exploitative employment practices and a business model that drives the "race to the bottom."

"Wal-Mart is a phenomena. It exemplifies all the problems we have today," Palley said.

According to Palley, Wal-Mart's low prices are the result of outsourcing jobs and production in China, causing globalization in other markets as well.

Specifically globalization hits hard in Youngstown, with the steel mills and car plants at Lordstown

please see **WAL-MART**, Page 2

YSU

Labor: Health plan unfair

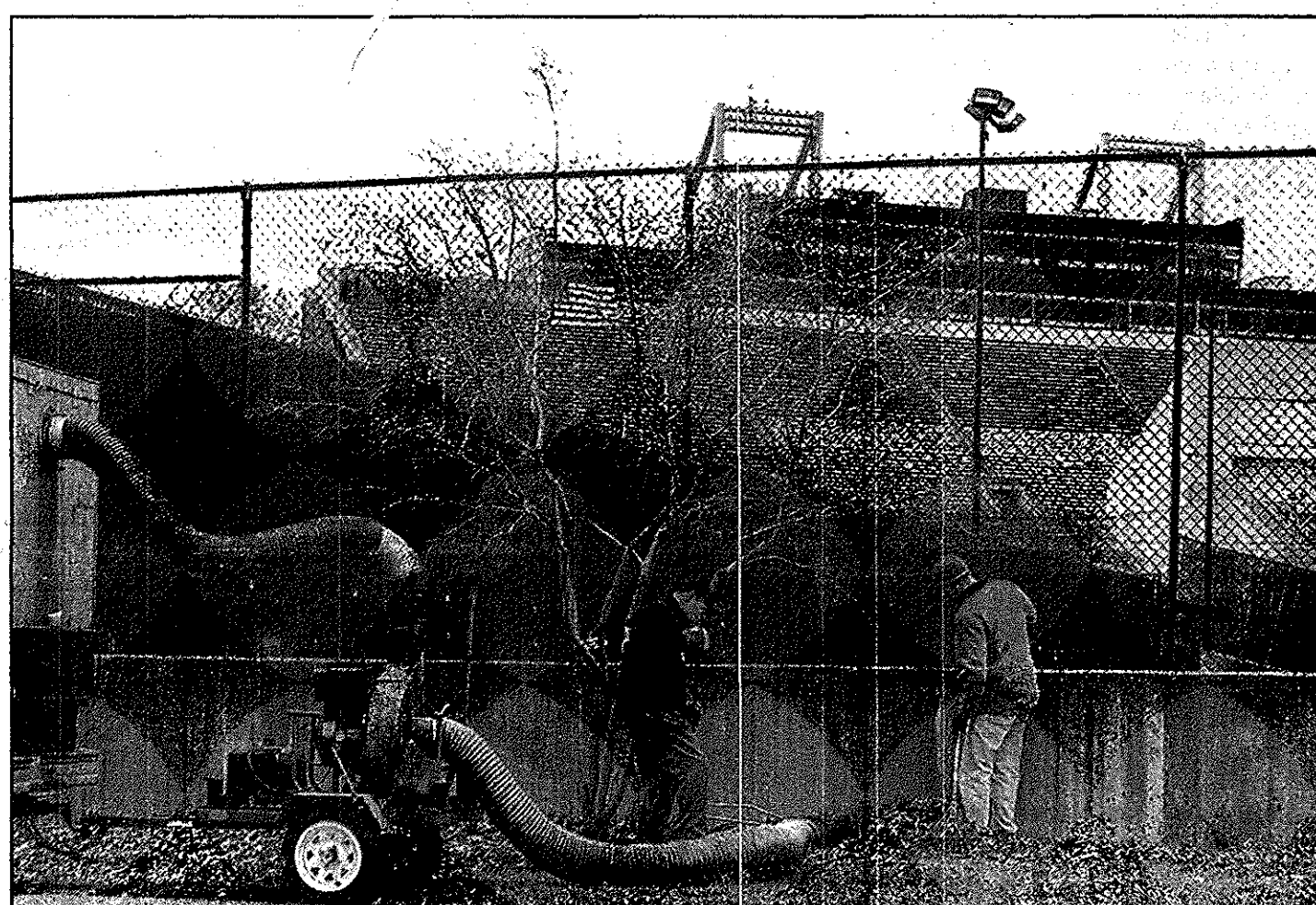
By: Bill Rodgers
NEWS EDITOR

A health insurance contribution plan for exempt professional/administrative staff employees at Youngstown State University was discussed in Tuesday's Administrative Advisory Council meeting. The plan is under fire from labor leaders on campus who say that YSU administration is not treating its employees equally and that the plan protects the highest-paid workers on campus.

Under the plan, exempt employees would pay 1.5 percent of their base salary as a contribution toward family plan health insurance premi-

please see **HEALTH**, Page 2

I've got sunshine ... or not



Jambar / Leonard Glenn Crist

Youngstown State University grounds department employees Matt Romeo (left) and Zeb Edgerly rake and collect leaves Wednesday near the tennis courts behind Fedor Hall. Wednesday's cold temperatures and today's expected snowfall are reminders that Thanksgiving is just a week away.

YSU

White powder in letter proved to be harmless

By: Cheryl Thompson
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

An envelope containing a white powder was sent to Tod Hall, but was revealed to pose no threat after an analysis.

Youngstown State University Police officers and representatives from the YSU Environmental and Occupational Health and Safety Department were sent to the University Development Office in Tod Hall on Nov. 8, to investigate a suspicious envelope.

When Catherine Cala, associate director of internal operations, opened YSU's Annual Fund Business reply mail, she came across one envelope that was different than the others.

According to police reports, Cala said the envelope had what felt to her to be hard crumbling pieces of an unknown substance inside.

"I could feel that there was something in the enve-

"I figured somebody made a mistake or was playing a prank."

— Catherine Cala

lope, and there happened to be a hole in it, then some of the substance fell on the desk, so I isolated it and reported it to the police," Cala said.

It is standard procedure to report any suspicious mail to the University Police Department. A few years ago, during the anthrax scare, the protocol was much stricter.

"We had to open mail in closed rooms and wear gloves. We took the anthrax threats very seriously back then," Cala said.

Cala said she didn't believe the envelope posed a threat to her, or the office staff, but still took the neces-

please see **POWDER**, Page 5

YSU

CISP taking YSU students on globetrotting experience

By: Eric Grosso
FEATURES REPORTER

In Japan, high school student change from shoes to slippers before they can enter the building. In Spain, students get a three-hour break in the middle of the day. For many South Africans, uniforms are required, but books and supplies are not.

How much do you know

about international education?

The Center for International Studies and Programs is celebrating International Education Week Nov. 14 through Nov. 20 with conferences aimed at "internationalizing" current Youngstown State University students.

The focal point for the celebration was a talk on Tuesday by Barbara Nykiel-Herbert, YSU assistant pro-

fessor of English, who worked for more than a decade to improve the education of young children in South Africa.

Nykiel-Herbert is committed to changing the lives of children in South Africa through education. Working with a non-government organization called Read Educational Trust, she would start the movement to

please see **GLOBE**, Page 5

YSU

Mini Pow-Wow, lecture on campus will honor Native American Month

By: Cheryl Thompson
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

There will be a series of events on campus to commemorate Native American Month including a Mini Pow-Wow on Saturday from noon to 4 p.m. in Kilcawley and a lecture presented on Tuesday at 7 p.m. in the Chestnut Room by the president of the Taino Nation, Roberto Mucarro Borrero.

The mini pow-wow, sponsored by the Redhawk Native American Society, will give the community a chance to familiarize themselves with Native American culture through Native American dancing, music,

crafts, story telling and movies.

President Darlene Boseola, said the organization is open to anyone with an interest in Native American culture. Boseola, not of Native American ancestry, said she became interested in Native American culture because she has Native American relatives through an aunt and is good friends with neighbors of hers who are Native American.

This is the first year the event has been held at YSU.

William Blake, the director of the Student

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HEALTH, continued from page 1

ums, or 0.75 percent for a single plan. The plan is similar to ones adopted by the faculty and classified employees unions late this summer during contract negotiations. The plan differs, however, in that the exempt employees' insurance contributions are capped at ten percent of the cost of the annual health insurance premium, a university press release stated.

The plan goes into effect January 2006. Premiums for YSU employees amount to about \$12,000 a year for family coverage. Under the cap, exempt employees would contribute up to about \$1,200 a year, the release stated.

Christine Domhoff, presi-

dent of YSU's Association of Classified Employees staff union, said the plan wasn't fair to faculty and classified workers on campus whose wallets aren't protected by a ten percent cap.

"It certainly is not fair and equal treatment of all employees," Domhoff said.

The faculty union was offered the 10 percent cap during their negotiations in August, but turned it down. The classified union agreed to accept an insurance payment plan identical to the faculty's. President of the faculty union, Julia Gergits said the decision to shirk the offer was made for reasons of fairness to other employ-

ees and to help negotiations.

"We didn't put a cap on ours [contributions] because we thought it was fair that people who made more money pay more for coverage. We hoped it would offset some of the cost to the university so we could negotiate a little better," Gergits said.

Domhoff said that the new plan worked to protect the highest-paid members of the university while requiring that those who make less money pay more for insurance.

"Paying a 1.5 percent rate for health insurance is a fair flat tax for everybody. Instead, they want to have

progressive taxation for people who make less money," Domhoff said.

Tom Maraffa, special assistant to the university president, said that concerns for fairness were irrelevant at this time because there is little uniformity regarding health insurance with the university.

"Right now, some employees are paying no health insurance, some have been paying since 2004 and, some start paying in January. There's no uniformity in the system at all at this point," Maraffa said, citing that two

bargaining units, the Association of Professional Administrative Staff and the university police, need to negotiate their contracts soon.

"To say that everyone should be on the same payment plan isn't possible right now," Maraffa said.

Maraffa said it would be ideal for the same system to apply to everyone, and that might be possible sometime next year.

Commenting on Maraffa's prediction, Domhoff asked for the administration to lead by example.

"They will be negotiating

with professional administrative staff and police soon. I expect they'll be coming after them to pay for health care also. If the administration wants to show that everyone needs to participate in health care contributions for fairness, which is what they told us in negotiations, they should lead by example," Domhoff said.

"It seems ridiculous to ask people who are paid the least to pay more, of their income to insurance than those who get paid the most," Domhoff added.

Call Bill Rodgers at (330) 941-1989.

WAL-MART, continued from page 1

and Delphi. Palley argues that cheaper wages and products can be shipped overseas and that the United States has to match the "China price".

"If Wal-Mart was a country on its own it would be the eighth largest trading partner with China," Palley said. "One-eighth of the trade deficit is with China."

Palley also argued that Wal-Mart has bad employment practices. He used an example of a store in Quebec setting up a union, only to have Wal-Mart shut its doors altogether because the retailer does not want to be unionized. Other examples he included were the treatment of employees and the disappearance of local business.

One YSU student, Jeremy Lydic, formerly worked for a Wal-Mart in Pennsylvania and has seen such results.

"It went good for awhile, until a new manager came in," Lydic said.

Lydic said he made \$7.97 an hour without health care or benefits after five years at that Wal-Mart. Now at Marc's in Boardman he makes \$7.85 an hour and that is after two years.

Lydic also saw the effects that Wal-Mart had on a local grocery store that was located directly next to his store.

"The prices of the supermarket were comparatively low and always got a lot of business," Lydic said. "But out of nowhere the grocery store shut down and Wal-Mart bought up the property and made it into a supercenter."

Two managers of a local Wal-Mart spoke to The Jambar about the criticism, but asked for their identities to not be revealed.

"We want everyone to get all the facts before they make any judgment," one manager said. "Wal-Mart prides itself on running a business that everyone would be proud of."

They also said they felt one scene during the documentary was untrue. The director had used a closed out hardware store as an example of Wal-Mart hurting local business.

"The owner spoke to national media and said that Wal-Mart was not the reason why the hardware store had closed. This store had closed three months prior Wal-Mart moving in," the manager said. "We try to work hard everyday to get the customers the best prices everyday, we try and do the best that we can."

Palley doesn't see such good intentions from Wal-Mart, and went deeper into the issue than customers.

"There is no silver bullet to this. The problem of globalization will not go away if Wal-Mart cleans up its act," Palley said, but added that he had no simple way of preventing globalization.

Call Steve Lettau at (330) 941-1913.

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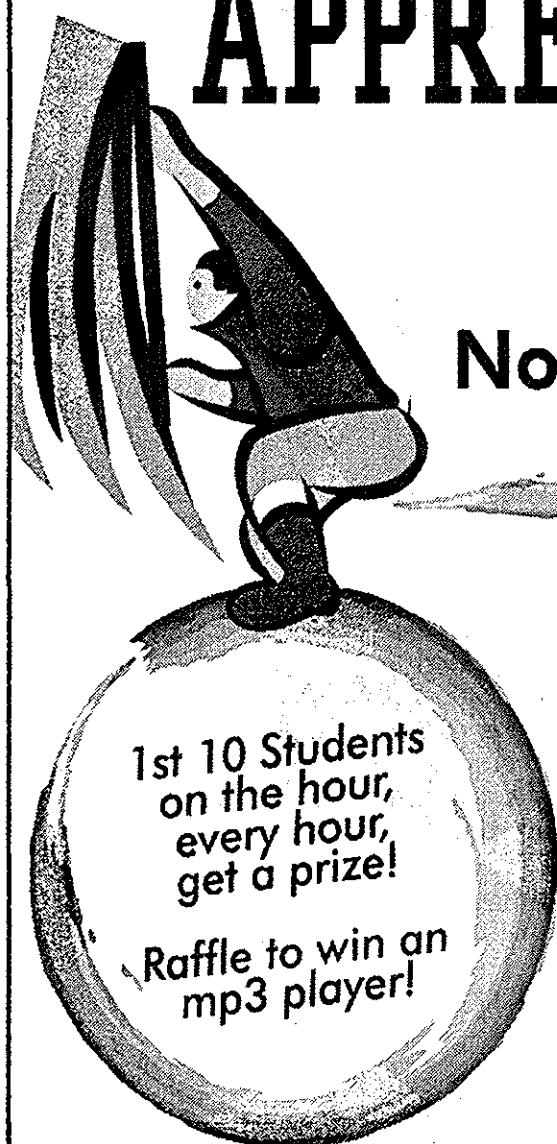
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www.kc.ysu.edu

Mahoning Youngstown Community Action Partnership Customer Service Representative

Job Summary

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Snapshot of Responsibilities/Expectations

- Ability to greet customers
- Ability to input data in computer
- Ability to complete applications & make copies
- Must be proficient in math
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- Flexible hours (Monday-Friday)

Qualifications

- Youngstown State University student
- 18 years old

Fax Resume to:
Mahoning Youngstown community Action Partnership
Attn: Personnel Department
Fax: 330-480-9604
Phone: 330-747-7921, Ext. 1135 or 1137

thejambar
Youngstown State University

Editorial & Opinion

Thursday, November 17, 2005

www.thejambar.com/thejambar@gmail.com/330-941-1991

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OUR SIDE

Real battle ahead for Williams

Jay Williams made history last week in his win for mayor.

In addition to upsetting Democrat Bob Hagan — no easy task in such a staunchly Democratic town as Youngstown — he became the city's first black mayor.

That was the easy part.

Now he has to prove to the city of Youngstown that he deserved it.

Throughout his campaign, Williams downplayed the race card. He often said the city didn't need a black mayor; it needed the best mayor and Youngstown decided Williams fit that position.

But now that Williams is Youngstown's mayor-elect, at least partially due to strong support from the city's predominately black wards, he has a unique opportunity (and perhaps a responsibility) to promote diversity, both of people and of ideas, throughout the city.

There are many problems in Youngstown that might be benefited by a diversity of perspectives: reducing crime, attracting business, bettering education.

However, it remains to be seen if Williams truly has a different perspective. This editorial board endorsed Hagan for mayor, believing his positions on labor and the economy might have better represented the interests of Youngstown's black community than Williams' strong support of business interests and his disturbing stance on the minimum wage.

But Williams won, with 52 percent of the vote. So it is in the community's best interest — even that part of the community that didn't support Williams' run for office — to wish him well and at least give him a chance.

One problem that hits close to home for many Youngstown State University students is the distinct lack of black faculty members teaching classes.

Diversity is pushed as such a strong initiative at YSU, yet we wouldn't know it by looking at the racial make up of YSU's professors and instructors.

Nearly half the city's population is black and YSU's minority enrollment continues to increase each year (this year's tally stood 15 percent of the student population, despite a drop in overall enrollment), yet the number of black professors and instructors at YSU is a dismal 4 percent of the total teaching staff.

Williams, as a strong, intelligent and influential African American leader, should encourage YSU to improve its record of faculty, staff and administrative diversity.

YSU has had close ties with Youngstown under the George McKelvey administration. Those ties are exemplified strongest through the integration of Youngstown 2010 and YSU's Centennial Campus Master Plan.

Williams, who was a vital part of the Youngstown 2010 planning process and campaigned with 2010 as his platform, should take advantage of those close ties the city has with the university by demanding YSU improve its poor record of faculty diversity.

Increasing the number of black professors and instructors at YSU should be included among the many Youngstown 2010 proposals aimed at making Youngstown a better place to live in the future. Diversity and acceptance on campus would set an example that the rest of the community could follow.

EDITORIAL POLICY

The Jambar editorials reflect the opinions of The Jambar and its Editorial Board members. Commentaries and columns reflect only the views of the individual who wrote the piece. Those wishing to schedule meetings with the Editorial Board should call the editor in chief.

STAR TRIBUNE
S&K

OIL EXECS OFFER TIPS FOR COPING WITH OBSCENE HOME HEATING COSTS—



COMMENTARY

Hey Derek Zoolander: Stay away from Flagstaff!

By: Charles Mitchell
KRT CAMPUS

Remember Derek Zoolander?

Many college students do. He is Ben Stiller's character in the 2001 comedy "Zoolander." And it's a good thing he didn't attend Northern Arizona University.

At one point in the movie, Derek says, "Rufus, Brint, and Meekus were like brothers to me. And when I say brother, I don't mean, like, an actual brother, but I mean it like the way black people use it. Which is more meaningful, I think."

To most people, that's funny. To NAU, that would be harassment. Let me explain.

NAU's "Safe Working and Learning Policy" (<http://www4.nau.edu/diversity/swale.htm>) recently earned the dubious distinction of being named the "Speech Code of the Month" (<http://www.thefire.org/index.php/article/6297.html>) by the Foundation for Individual Rights in Education (FIRE). That breathtaking code bans "stereotyping" or "negative comments or jokes" that are "based upon a person's race, sex, color, national origin, religion, age, disability, veteran status, or sexual orientation." It says such things are "harassment."

Read Derek Zoolander's quote again. At NAU, he would have been guilty of "stereotyping" that was "based upon a person's race." And

so might be anyone who watches "Zoolander" — what if someone overhears that awful "stereotyping" and is offended?

That kind of censorship is not just insane — it's also unconstitutional. NAU is a public university, which is to say it is an arm of the state of Arizona. And state entities are legally bound to respect the First Amendment's guarantee of

free speech.

Courts have repeatedly held that vague and overbroad restrictions on speech don't pass constitutional muster; and NAU's speech code is a textbook example.

The worst part, though, is that NAU seems to know that its speech code is unconstitutional. The policy itself states, "When these harassing behaviors become

a high price to pay to protect people from "negative comments" and dirty jokes.

Time for a dose of reality. In the real world, people have to deal with "negative comments" every day. NAU is doing its students an immense disservice by attempting to shield them from such things. As University of Pennsylvania professor and FIRE Chairman Alan Charles Kors often says, "No one who tells you that you are too weak to live with freedom and the Bill of Rights is your friend." That is exactly what NAU is telling its students.

And NAU is not alone in doing that. Countless universities have unconstitutional speech codes, and they use them. For example, FIRE is right now helping a Muslim student at William Paterson University who was convicted of "harassment" for stating his religious objection to homosexuality in a private e-mail. And if you think administrators in Arizona won't violate the law like their counterparts in New Jersey, look no further than Arizona State University, where apparently no one has heard of Brown v. Board of Education. FIRE had to intervene there just last month to stop a racially segregated class.

If that sounds ridiculous, it should. The same goes for a policy that admittedly tramples the Constitution. Those who teach and learn at NAU deserve — and should demand — better.

Negative comments' and 'jokes' are not even close to the line between protected and unprotected speech. If they were, most of the movies college students watch could be outlawed.

free speech.

By enacting a speech code, NAU is by definition not respecting the First Amendment. "Negative comments" and "jokes" are not even close to the line between protected and unprotected speech. If they were, most of the movies college students watch could be outlawed. And "stereotyping" is so vague that it is practically

severe, pervasive or persistent, they may also violate Federal and State law." If you translate that from administrative-ese into English, it says: We are banning more speech than the Constitution says we can.

NAU has the right to ban only what federal anti-harassment law bans. By admittedly going beyond that, it breaks the law. That's kind of

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Cowardly terrorists deserve nothing

Editor:
There's no bigger critic of our government than I — and super critical of all Republican regimes! — However, concerning the status of terrorists and all sympathizers such as the shoe bomber being accorded the same rights as real combatants under the Geneva Convention, I say screw them and my fellow Democrats! These heinous murderers blowing up women and children are cowardly

and lower than whale dung! Unlike the Germans who met us on the battlefield, unlike the Japanese who met us on battlefield, or even David who met Goliath on the battlefield — unlike them all, these mild-mannered faces that lurk in shadows should be denied any iota of justice — the evil SOBs!

And isn't it interesting that the Moslem world wildly condemns the terrorists' agenda "now" (after Jordan and KFC in Pakistan) which they cheered so loudly

when the Towers fell — even right here in America.

As wrong as America is to be in crappy Iraq (bringing them jobs and Democracy — which I CAN NOT get here in Ohio) the only bad thing America did to the terrorists is twist their arms in prison and make them dance naked, which they probably do anyway on warm desert nights in the sand.

All rebutters beware that I have vitriolically criticized blacks and whites, murderers and rapists

— all American religions — including the Pope unrelentingly! How odd it is that we cannot criticize the Arab nation — while right here, they can readily criticize America because a prisoner who beheaded an innocent journalist is prevented from praying to Allah.

To all sides and all idiot religions: god is on no one's side if he couldn't be on the side of six million Jews! Bite Me!

Ted Williams

Got an opinion? Sure you do.
email the editor at: thejambar@gmail.com

YOUNGSTOWN

An academic shoot-out on the ethical frontier

By: Jeff Gamage
KRT CAMPUS

PHILADELPHIA — Last winter, when University of Pennsylvania sociologist Elijah Anderson first heard a colleague's summary of her forthcoming book, he thought he was hearing an echo of his own work.

Today that echo has turned into uproar, a dispute that's set scholar against scholar and led researchers at some of the nation's most prestigious colleges to choose sides.

The charge? "Conceptual plagiarism."

Neither Anderson nor his supporters claim that fellow Penn sociologist Kathryn Edin copied his writings in her new book, "Promises I Can Keep: Why Poor Women Put Motherhood Before Marriage," co-written with St. Joseph's University professor Maria Kefalas.

Instead, they accuse the authors of appropriating concepts and ideas that sprang from Anderson's research, particularly those developed in his 1999 book, "Code of the Street: Decency, Violence, and the Moral Life of the Inner City."

"There's serious under-citation," Anderson says.

The controversy, first reported in the Daily Pennsylvanian, raises issues that reach beyond the halls of academia. In an age of file-sharing and open-source programming, when everything from movies to music can be captured at the touch of a button and when the Internet serves as a worldwide echo chamber, who truly owns an idea?

The stakes are enormous, as countries move ever further

from an industrial economy toward one where intellectual property is the thing of real value. And unlike the verbatim theft of written words — a precise, quantifiable sort of plagiarism — determining the provenance of an idea can be a mushy, mucking affair.

More than a dozen professors at schools including Princeton and Harvard universities have come to the defense of Edin and Kefalas, calling the charge of conceptual plagiarism "absurd." In response, Anderson compiled a list of 22 similarities between the books — both examine motherhood and marriage in the inner city — posting the comparison on the Penn Almanac, a university Web site. Anderson also released a statement saying the two authors "misled readers" by "repeating the distinctive ideas, findings, explanations and terms of Code without citing the source."

Edin declined to be interviewed for this story. Kefalas, who faced questions about attribution in her previous book — questions that were resolved when she posted a list of corrections on the St. Joseph's Web site — declined to discuss the controversy at Penn. But in an e-mail, she said she respected Anderson's work and had cited him more than any other ethnographer in "Promises." "The fact that we study some of the same issues makes some degree of conceptual overlap inevitable," she wrote, "but in no way did we appropriate Dr. Anderson's work."

On Tuesday, a letter signed by 110 scholars who support Anderson appeared on the Almanac, the latest salvo in the dispute.

"The use of ideas is one of the most problematic areas," says John P. Lesko, an English professor at Saginaw Valley State University in Michigan, where he runs the Famous Plagiarists Research Project. "How do you prove for sure that your idea has been taken?"

Further complicating matters: Plagiarism is an ethical concept, not a legal term. The police don't arrest people for plagiarism. Nobody goes to jail. Punishment is meted out in the form of damaged reputations and lost jobs.

Copyright law offers limited protection for a writer's words and none at all for the ideas expressed by those words.

"You can't copyright an idea," says Philadelphia licensing lawyer Peter T. Wakiyama. "That's Intellectual Property 101."

The difference between borrowing and not, between attribution and none, is the reason why few people have heard of Florence Deeks. And why everyone has heard of H.G. Wells.

In 1927, the year Deeks took him to court, Wells was the estimable author of popular science-fiction novels including "The Invisible Man" and "The War of the Worlds." But his wealth was secured by a best-selling non-fiction book, "The Outline of History."

Deeks, an amateur historian, accused Wells of stealing her unpublished manuscript, "The Web of the World's Romance," and lifting its ideas, its analysis, and parts of its text. Wells, she said, even repeated her mistakes.

For instance, Deeks erroneously referred to

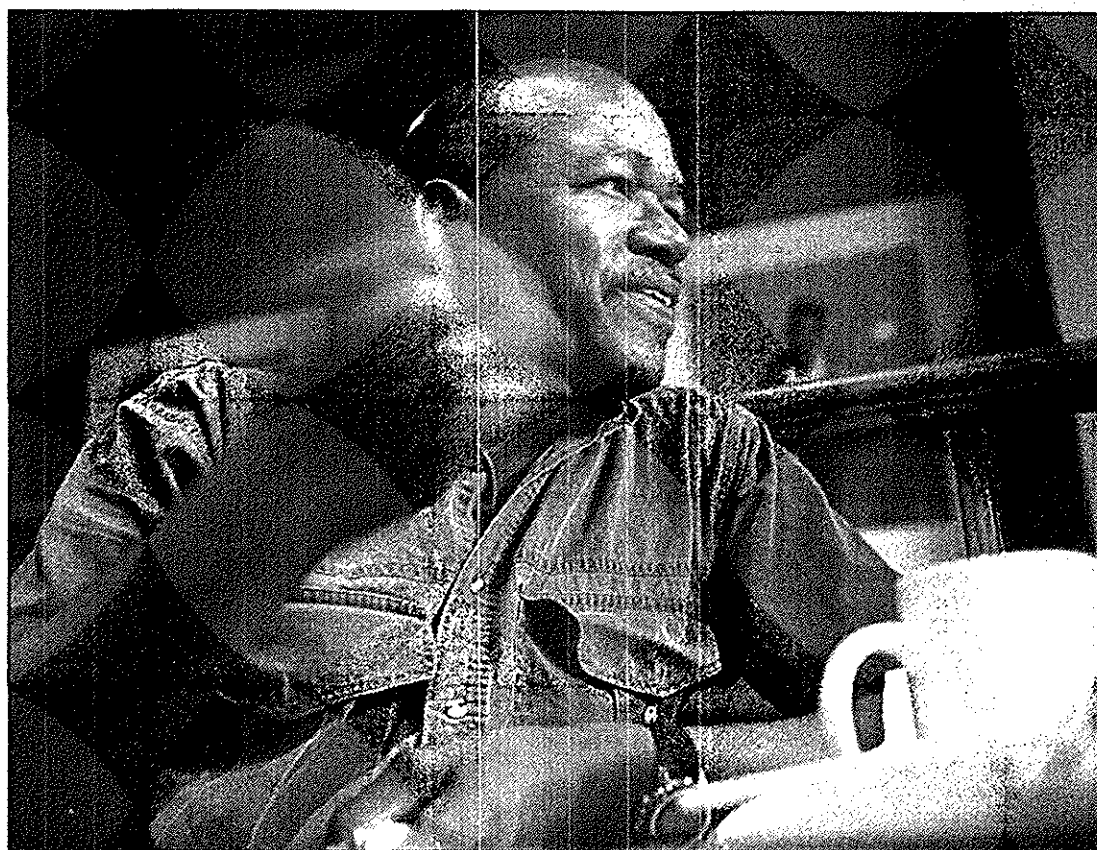


Photo courtesy of krtcampus.com

Author and sociologist Elijah Anderson contends that two authors have used research, ideas and concepts from a book he wrote as the intellectual foundation for their own work. He accuses them of "conceptual plagiarism."

Hatshepsut, the ancient Egyptian pharaoh, as "Hatasu." So did Wells. She gave the wrong date for the start of the Holy Roman Empire. Wells did too.

Deeks sought \$500,000 in damages — the equivalent of \$5.2 million today. But she had two things going against her: One, she was a woman. Two, she was a feminist. An unmarried feminist. In other words, a troublemaker.

Male-dominated courts in Canada and England sided with Wells, who maintained that he'd completed "Outline" with notes taken while writing other books and the help of prominent historians.

Deeks wasn't vindicated until 2002, when professor A.B. McKillop, of Carleton

University in Canada, published his authoritative book, "The Spinster and the Prophet: H.G. Wells, Florence Deeks, and the Case of the Plagiarized Text." McKillop documented how Deeks' manuscript found its way to Wells via his North American publisher.

By then, of course, it was too late for Deeks. After losing in court, she tried to interest publishers in a revised version of "The Web of the World's Romance" but found no takers.

"Your book would be subject to comparison with Wells' 'Outline of History,'" wrote an editor at Little, Brown. "For that reason I think you will have difficulty in securing a publisher."

At Penn, the next steps are uncertain. Neither side has filed an official complaint, which would trigger a more formal inquiry by the university.

The dispute could have ended last summer, in fact, when Anderson and Edin met to discuss their books, eventually reaching a confidential agreement.

But in August, the affair became the talk of the American Sociological Association conference, held in Philadelphia. Afterward, disturbed by what he saw as official silence, Penn professor emeritus Harold Bershadly sent an e-mail to the department faculty, making the charge of "conceptual plagiarism."

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Financial Fitness Ohio

GLOBAL, continued from page 1

change teaching methods and would find ways to not only provide, but also create books for young children in

She also noted there were a number of problems when she arrived in the late 1980s. Before the government

1994 and reformed education three years later, most schools were segregated, resulting in high illiteracy rates. Schools

POWDER, continued from page 1

the educational system. sary precautions.

"I was just following protocol out of concern for the wellbeing of myself and the office staff, but we didn't think it would be anything major," Cala said. "I figured somebody made a mistake or was playing a prank."

An analysis from the Environmental Safety Department revealed the substance in the envelope to be nothing more than a prescription pill.

Along with the substance was a personal check made out to the university as a donation.

"We don't think whomever sent it meant any harm. If they did, why send a donation?" asked YSU Police Sgt.

changed to a democracy in Michael Cretella.

Although the envelope had no return address, Cretella said he was able to contact the sender through information provided by the check.

"The sender said he put the pill in the envelope because he didn't have pockets and forgot to remove it. When it went through the mail, the pill was flattened by the processing machines," Cretella said.

Although the mysterious substance proved to be benign in testing, Cretella said it could have been a threat.

"We were pretty sure it wasn't anything harmful but, you never know,"

also had no supplies, with Cretella said.

YSU police Chief Jack Gocala said to avoid contact with suspicious substances found in mail and to report it to the police department.

"We have a detailed protocol set up to deal with such situations," Gocala said. "The police are trained in the proper protocol to see if the substance is a credible threat."

Gocala stressed the importance of compliance with police when dealing with suspicious material.

"When the police arrive, identify yourself and the package. Cooperation is of the utmost importance in these situations," Gocala said.

Call Cheryl Thompson at (330) 941-1913

one textbook for the teacher who read aloud to students, who then repeated what she said, often without comprehension. Rather than write, students usually spelled words in the air with their fingers.

Because of the lack of supplies and books, teachers had few or no other option than read to students, more than likely from an outdated textbook written for another culture.

Nykiel-Herbert also noted the high AIDS rate, which resulted in 12 percent of the teachers dying annually, resulting in a high turnover rate for educators.

"Not only did the kids not get a chance to read any books in school, but for them, reading as a child and buying books wasn't even part of their culture," Nykiel-Herbert said.

With no books, and more importantly, no suitable books for their culture,

Nykiel-Herbert and the Red Educational Trust set out to create the books. The Trust created many original and popular children's storybooks with the help of donations from various industries.

"When I met anyone, the first thing I'd say was 'Tell me a story from your childhood,'" Nykiel-Herbert said. "We had to create stories that the children could relate to their own culture."

The result was stories and books children could use for education and entertainment. One of the most popular, "Vava," details a homeless dog who attempts to become part of a South African society, was made into an animated television special. The Trust also started and stocked libraries across 19 provinces during Nykiel-Herbert's time in South Africa.

After first traveling to South Africa in the late 1980s with her husband, Nykiel-Herbert travelled to

Johannesburg during her summers off as a teacher in Binghamton, N.Y. The work on the educational system became her life.

"I hated weekends," Nykiel-Herbert said. "I didn't want to be out of the office."

The talk was sponsored by the CISP, the English department and the Africana Studies Program.

Also during the week, CISP and the Honors Program presented information in two informational sessions on study abroad opportunities. The program currently allows students to study in more than 30 countries.

"We're just trying to get the word out that there is a larger world out there," Steve Brown, special assistant to the provost for international students, said. "We want to internationalize YSU, to show how YSU fits into the world."

Call Eric Grosso at (330) 941-3758.

NATIVE, continued from page 1

Diversity Office, said he hopes for a good turnout, but understands it may take time to gain the interest of students.

"It's going to be an interesting event. They will show movies and there will be plenty of activities," Blake said.

November was established National American Indian Heritage Month in 1990 when Congress expanded the period with approval from President George Bush. Prior to 1990, Native Americans were recognized with Native American Awareness Week, which began in 1976.

The terms Native American and American Indian are used to describe the indigenous people inhabiting North and South America and Caribbean Islands such as Puerto Rico,

Haiti, The Dominican Republic and Cuba.

Because there is such a vast area of land covered, people fitting this description are representative of hundreds of different tribes and around 250 languages.

"When people think of Native Americans," Boseola said. "They tend to think in terms of pan-Indian ideals."

The term refers to the stereotypical image of Native Americans perpetuated by television and movies, which often depicted Native Americans belonging to the Lakota Tribe of the Plains States, the Navajo and Apache of the Southwest.

One tribe represented this year is the Taino Nation. The Taino are natives of Puerto Rico, Haiti, The Dominican Republic, Cuba and other Caribbean islands. They are

also related to the Aztec and the Mayans of South America.

It is estimated that 80 percent of Hispanics have Native American lineage because of their connection to the people of South America and the Caribbean.

Rose Quinones Del Valle, an adjunct YSU faculty member in the counseling department, is a member of the Taino Nation and United Confederation of Taino People liaison for Ohio.

The Taino people were the first natives encountered by Christopher Columbus in his journey to the New World. Shortly after the initial encounter, Del Valle said Columbus returned with the intent of killing off the Taino people.

"A year after the first voyage, Columbus returned with armed ships ready to

wage war on the Tainos, to essentially exterminate them," Del Valle said.

Del Valle said that is when the oppression of the Taino people began. They were forbidden by the Catholic Church to practice their native religion or speak in their native tongues.

Del Valle said the government took drastic measures to ensure Native Americans conformed to mainstream American culture by sending them to the Carlisle Indian School in Pennsylvania.

"It was thought for a long time that the Taino people were extinct. That's what it said in any encyclopedia entries on the subject, but obviously we aren't," Del Valle said, citing herself as an example.

Del Valle said keeping the connection between Native Americans and their culture is a necessary part of the survival of the traditions of the people. She also said social attitudes toward Native Americans are becoming progressively tolerant.

Both Del Valle and Boseola said education is needed for people to understand Native American culture. They said they hope to see the use of Native Americans as mascots changed.

"It's disrespectful, but there are bigger fights that need to be fought. Because Redhawk isn't a political organization, we won't protest, but through education, people will realize that using Native Americans in such a way is ignorant and

change it," Boseola said.

"There is a movement in recent years toward people, especially European Americans, in admitting to and tracking their Native roots. Because of discrimination and opposition of Native Americans, it wasn't something people readily admitted to for some time," Del Valle said.

Monica L. Mastran-Czsupor, who is coordinating the events on campus and calls herself "a happy mixture," is doing research to find out more about her Cherokee heritage.

"Having Native American ancestry has shaped the way I view the world," Czsupor said. "I tend to view things more spiritually."

Call Cheryl Thompson at (330) 941-1913.

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Youngstown
STATE UNIVERSITY

MUSIC / SPIRITUALITY

Using hip-hop for a sermon

By: Colette M. Jenkins
KRC CAMPUS

AKRON, Ohio — Jason and Brandon Wallace aren't traditional evangelists.

Their pulpit is the stage.

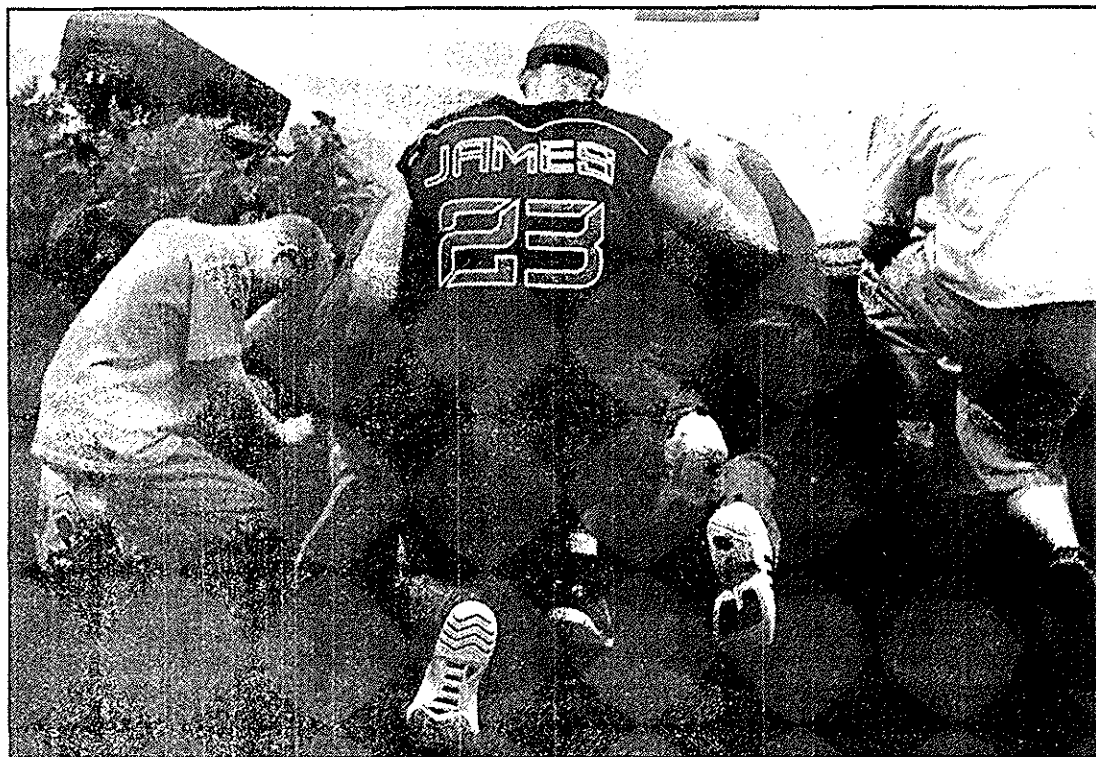
Their congregation is made up of young hip-hop-ers.

Their message is delivered using rap music.

"Hip-hop has been one of the most influential forces in our lives," said Jason Wallace, 29. "We know how much of an influence it can have on the lives of young people."

Armed with that knowledge, the two 6-foot-5-inch brothers are passionately committed to using the music genre as a tool to win souls for Jesus Christ. Jason Wallace (whose rap name is J-wal the Rizon Product) and Brandon Wallace (S.o.L. or Servant of the Lord) make up the duo Divine Soldiers.

The Christian rappers describe their music as "holy hip-hop" and have a style



Members of Divine Soldiers pray at the altar as they perform at a concert at Hope Community Church in Hudson, Ohio, in May 2005.

that borrows from East Coast rap, jazz, Latin music, rhythm and blues and rap-metal.

"We're not a Christian entertainment group. We're a ministry," said Brandon Wallace, 27. "Music can really impact people. Music can move a nation."

As a teenager, gangsta rap moved Brandon Wallace to buy a gun.

"I wanted to be a gangsta," Brandon Wallace said. "I remember showing (the gun) to Jason and he gave me a tongue-lashing, telling me

either I was going to get killed or I could kill somebody else and end up in prison, like our uncle. I ended up getting rid of it, but that is just one example of how powerful music can be."

Gangsta rap became a major force in hip-hop in the late 1980s, and in the mid- and late 1990s it dominated the charts. Before that, rap usually reflected the tone of socially conscious soul music of the 1970s.

Some philosophies trace rap back to ancient African societies where men and

women related their history through spoken word.

The Divine Soldiers, much like those men and women, are using the spoken word to relay their message of hope in Jesus Christ.

"If we could sing, we wouldn't be rapping," Brandon Wallace said. "While the beats may draw some people to listen, what is important are the lyrics because the message is in the words."

The Wallace brothers state on their Web site (www.divinesoldiers.com) that their mission is "to intercept enemy communication by adding a fifth element to the hip-hop culture — Jesus Christ." They say they are at war, trying to help save the lost.

Lyrics from a song called "Desensitized" on their first CD release, "Equivalent to Water," intend to make their mission clear:

*Time's running out so we declare war
Don't want to open your heart I'm gonna kick down the door
You think your life is a game then I think that's a shame
When the circle's been completed you ain't got no one to blame*

*I've come in Jesus name I've come to smother flames
That might burn your flesh I don't do this for fame
Cuz in these last days I'm gonna fight for someone's life
And if I lose mine I'm going home tonight.*

The brothers will release a new CD in November on their own record label, Motiv8tor Records. Samples of their music are available on their Web site, and a pre-release single with three songs from the new release and two remixes is available for \$5.

"There's nothing like the feeling I get when I look out and see people's faces change and know that we've changed their hearts," Brandon Wallace said.



Jason and Brandon Wallace of Divine Soldiers perform at a concert at Hope Community Church in Hudson, Ohio, in May 2005.

POLICE BLOTTER

A CD player and approximately 10 CDs worth \$600 were reported stolen from a red Pontiac Sunbird parked in the R-1 parking lot. The thefts were discovered after Sgt. R. Marsco found the car with a broken driver's side window and further investigation revealed damage to the dashboard and window frame.

A male student was cited for viewing pornographic material on a computer located in Kilcawley Center's Bytes and Picos computer lab. After receiving a call from Ashleigh Santillo, student director of Kilcawley Center, Officer Godoy was dispatched to the lab. Godoy observed the student for about a minute browsing explicit material. The student told Godoy he knew of the policy against viewing sexually explicit material and said he would not do it again.

A Dell Latitude laptop computer worth \$1,200 was reported stolen from DeBartolo Hall Lab B094, between 3 p.m. on Nov. 7 and 8 a.m. Nov. 9. The professor who reported the crime said the lab is always locked when not in use. There were no signs of a forced entry.

Student Joseph Nicholson was arrested Tuesday Nov. 8, by YSU police Lt. Adovasio, mem-

bers of the Mahoning Valley Law Enforcement force, Fugitive Unit and U.S. Marshall's Task Force on an aggravated assault warrant issued through the Youngstown Municipal Clerk of Courts Office. Nicholson was taken to the Mahoning County Justice Center jail by the U.S. Marshall's Task Force.

An officer was sent to Moshel Hall on Nov. 7 in reference to a suspicious person reported by a concerned citizen. The suspicious person, described as a black male wearing a baseball hat, dark coat and pants, carrying a red book bag was seen checking vending machines for money. The subject was stopped by Officer Benko, Officer Varso and Sgt. Remias in Bliss Hall and was identified as Clark Perkins. Perkins, who had been issued trespass warnings in the past, was arrested and taken to the Mahoning County Sheriff's Office jail without incident. He was issued another trespass warning, which he understood and signed.

A student's trumpet worth \$1,500 was reported stolen from Bliss Hall locker No. 288, police stated. The student left the trumpet in its case on 11 a.m. Nov. 7 and was discovered missing when the student returned at 1:30 p.m. the same day.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Pig Iron Press open house

Pig Iron Press, Antiques & Uniques, and the Downtown Copy Center, 26 N. Phelps St., will hold an open house on Tuesday, Nov. 22, from 11:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. The event will include gift ideas, collectibles and antiques. It will also feature more than 20 books written by Mahoning Valley authors. For more information on the event, call (330) 747-6932.

Catholic Student Association bake sale

The Catholic Student Association will hold a Holiday Nut and Poppy Seed Roll sale from Nov. 21 to Dec. 2 at the Newman Center. Each roll will cost \$8 and half the proceeds will benefit toward hurricane relief efforts and the other half going toward CSA programming and the Newman Center. For more information, call the Newman Center at (330) 747-9202.

Holiday Book Sale

Start your shopping now and save up to 70% off retail prices.



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1st Floor

**Monday & Tuesday
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8:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.**

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Classified

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Attention Education and Early Childhood Development students. Would you like to earn up to \$10.00/hr? Have flexibility around your school schedule? If so, and you enjoy working with children, please contact Lorrie at 330-716-4747.

Work with special needs adults. We are accepting applications in person on Monday Nov. 14th & Wednesday Nov. 16th between 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. at 12 S. Phelps St. Youngstown, Ohio.

Lifeguards Wanted: Early bird lifeguards needed. \$8 an hour. Applicants must have current lifeguard, first aid and CPR certifications. Apply in person, at the Jewish Community Center, 505 Gypsy Lane, Youngstown, OH

Help Wanted- Bean Counter Cafe, \$6.00-\$6.50 per hour plus tips, cashier/server, 21 and over. Call 330-747-2326 from 2pm-6pm ask for Jason.

Housing

Rental Specials: 1 and 2 bedroom apartments, \$200 security deposit, 1 month free. 330-270-1781.

6 to 8 bedroom house for rent. 3 bathrooms, central air, walking distance to YSU, secure parking. Includes all appliances and washer/dryer. Call 330-518-4382.

1-4 bedroom apartments and houses. Five blocks from YSU, includes stove and refrigerator. 330-743-7111.

One and three bedroom apartments one block from YSU. 330-549-5518.

Apartment for rent, one or two bedrooms, very nice, clean, and quiet. \$200.00- \$250.00 plus utilities. For more information call 330-743-3887.

Miscellaneous

Pray for the campus. Mondays at noon. Stambaugh room, Kilcawley Center. All welcome.

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AN ARMY OF ONE
(ARMY)

YSU FOOTBALL

Selection Sunday: Penguins await bid

By: Justin Smolkovich
SPORTS REPORTER

It is officially a waiting game for the Youngstown State University football team and head coach Jon Heacock following their Saturday win over Western Kentucky. The Penguins wrapped up their season with an 8-3 overall record including a 5-2 Gateway Conference mark.

The wait will last until Sunday afternoon, when the selection committee will make their choices for eight Division I-AA at-large bids for the playoffs. The eight at-large bids will be paired up with eight conference winners. Despite a three-way tie between Northern Iowa, YSU and Southern Illinois, UNI will receive the automatic bid for beating both teams during the season.

The Penguins are hoping to reach the playoffs for the first time since 2000 behind an eight-win campaign, the team's most wins since 2001.

Heacock still remains optimistic about the Penguins' chances due to their tough conference and their statistical dominance in some categories. The Gateway boasts five teams in the top 25, two more than any other conference in the country.

"We are nationally ranked in some categories," Heacock said. "I think we are ninth in scoring defense in the whole country. Those are some national stats that give us some attention, which is nice to have."

Heacock said that all week-end his players were excited to find out what the next week would hold, and what they could expect.

"They were calling my



Jambar / Ron Stevens

YSU tight end Brian Radakovich fights through would-be tacklers in Saturday's 42-10 victory over Western Kentucky. The Penguins will find out if their 8-3 record is enough for the playoffs Sunday.

house Saturday night," Heacock said. "All through the night, finding out what was going on ... that phone never stopped ringing."

The Penguins, who earned their first conference title since 1987, when they were members of the Ohio Valley Conference, will play this week by ear, but will continue to workout as a team on Thursday and Friday and will wait to see what the committee decides to do.

"Sunday we will be back, looking for our name," Heacock said.

The Penguins currently are

ranked No. 16 in the ESPN/USATODAY poll. However, the wild card could be Grambling, the No. 14 team, which does not take part in the playoff format, and could change the layout of the final 16 teams.

For the time being, Heacock said he was just proud of his team and what they have accomplished this season and proud of what this senior class has done.

"I like seeing their faces when they are smiling, and feeling good about themselves," Heacock said.

Call Justin Smolkovich at (330) 941-3758.

No.	TEAM	RECORD	PIS	PVS	No.	TEAM	RECORD	PIS	PVS
1.	New Hampshire (23)	9-1	1075	1	14.	Grambling	8-1	492	16
2.	Hampton (19)	10-0	1046	2	15.	South Carolina St.	8-2	418	17
3.	Montana (2)	8-2	1016	3	16.	YSU	8-3	426	21
4.	Hurman	8-2	943	6	17.	Richmond	7-3	379	18
5.	Iowa State	8-2	853	8	18.	Eastern Wash.	6-4	315	22
6.	Appalachian St.	7-3	807	7	19.	Brown	8-1	229	19
7.	Massachusetts	7-3	778	5	20.	North Dakota St.	7-3	298	20
8.	Coastal Carolina	9-1	757	9	21.	Eastern Illinois	0-0	262	23
9.	Georgia Southern	8-3	720	11	22.	Montana State	6-4	204	10
10.	Northern Iowa	7-3	686	12	23.	Western Kentucky	6-4	171	14
11.	Southern Illinois	7-3	624	4	24.	Nicholls State	5-3	125	25
12.	Lehigh	8-2	595	13	25.	Illinois State	7-4	115	N/A
13.	Cal Poly	7-3	588	15					

JAMBAR Q & A

San Diego boy makes good in Youngstown

By: Nijma Awadallah
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

It was the final Saturday of the regular season, and the Youngstown State University football team needed a win a share of its first-ever Gateway Conference title. The Penguins dominated No. 12-ranked Western Kentucky, 42-10, at Stambaugh Stadium.

Senior Kyle Smith led the attack, becoming the offensive player of the game. Throughout his career, Smith had impressive numbers, but made his mark with six catches for a season-high 111 yards and two touchdowns. He now has 101 receptions in his career and extended his consecutive games with at least one reception to a school-record 30.

He's tied for ninth in school history for career receptions and sixth-best in Gateway history. He also has 1,536 yards receiving, ranked 10th in yardage. All this despite missing three games due to injuries this season.

After Saturday's game, Smith sat down with a Jambar reporter to speak of his times with the Penguins and his future plans.

J: Where are you from and how was it growing up?

S: I went to high school in Buffalo, New York; St. Francis High School. Now I live in San

Diego. I was playing football since I was six years old. When I lived in Buffalo, my dad worked for the Buffalo Bills; he was director of pro-personnel. He got me a job as a ball boy for 4-5 years. I got to see the work ethic of an NFL football player, and this really helped me to become the player I am now.

J: What would be your dream play?

S: My dream play would probably be a 99-yard touchdown pass or catch, I mean it doesn't get any better than that.

J: How has your experience been with the Penguins?

S: My experience with the Penguins has been awesome. Coming here, I was a little nervous. It was right out high school and stuff like that. The people in Youngstown are really nice and just make you feel comfortable and all the teammates I have had in the past and now are just are unbelievable and are just great people and I think that's the main thing about Youngstown is just good people.

J: How hard was it to sit out

with an injury?

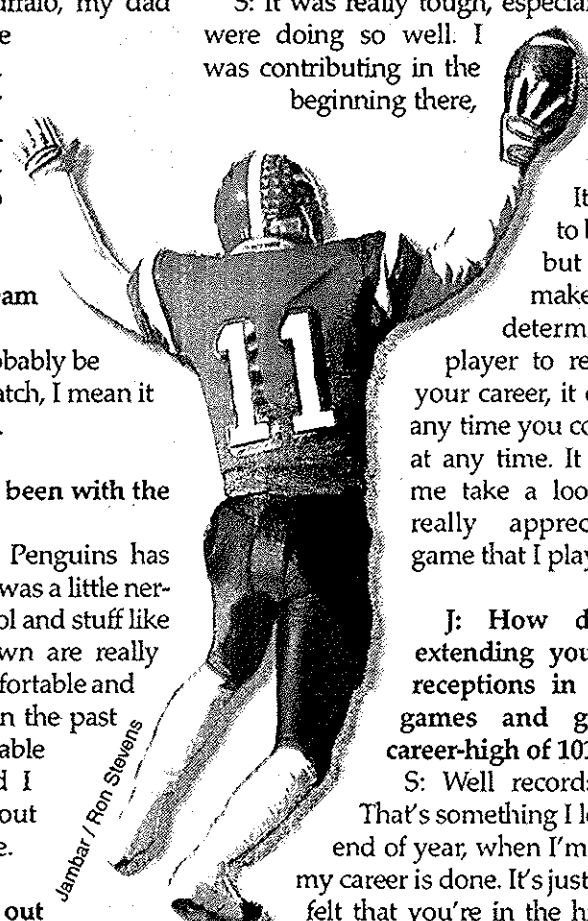
S: It was really tough, especially when we were doing so well. I was contributing in the beginning there,

then I got that injury.

It feels great to be back now, but I think it just makes you more determined as a player to really look at your career, it could end at any time you could get hurt at any time. It really made me take a look back and really appreciate every game that I play in.

J: How did it feel extending your streak of receptions in consecutive games and getting that career-high of 101 catches?

S: Well records are great. That's something I look at, at the end of year, when I'm done, when my career is done. It's just nice to have felt that you're in the history books



Jambar / Ron Stevens

Bishop grabs Gateway honors for special teams play again

By: Justin Smolkovich
SPORTS REPORTER

It is third down and long, and number 19 for the Youngstown State University football team paces the sidelines, waiting to make his entrance. Number 19 plays the one position that fans don't like to see on the field, but he plays one position that can dramatically change the outcome of a contest.

Number 19 is Joe Bishop. Joe Bishop is a punter.

Bishop, a junior, was named the Gateway Football Conference Special Teams Player of the Week following last week's clutch performance that saw two of four punts pinned inside the 15-yard line, while five of his kickoffs were not returned past the 20.

Bishop is a jack-of-all-trades on special teams, where he both punts and handles the kickoff duties for the Penguins. He has held the punting responsibilities since his freshman campaign and has proven to be one of the Penguins' most reliable assets.

Bishop picked up kickoff duty after former kicker Nick Terracina graduated. Despite being tabbed a punter, Bishop said he enjoys kicking from the tee.

"I like kicking off, especially if it is the best thing for the team," Bishop said. "Plus when you are kicking off it means you just scored."

Bishop thus far is averaging more than 58 yards per kickoff, including nine touchbacks. Bishop is also making waves in his punting ability, pinning opponents inside the 20 on 19 of 45 attempts, and that is what Bishop enjoys the most.

"Pinning them deep," Bishop said. "I'd rather do that than anything else. Anytime I can put them against their own goal line, that's what I want to do every time."

While Bishop is still only a junior with another year of eligibility left, he admits that he does look to the future.

"Of course I am going to try and get in somewhere," Bishop said of

Anytime I can put them against their own goal line, that's what I want to do every time.

—YSU punter Joe Bishop

playing professionally.

While Bishop has the ability to boom the ball downfield, highlighted by a career-long punt against Pitt that sailed 67 yards, Bishop said his knack is getting the ball high, allowing his teammates to do their jobs.

"I have always had good hang time. I just need to work on my distance, which I will work on this offseason," Bishop said. "My average isn't the best in the country but my hang time allows my team to get down there."

Bishop is also quick to point out that his teammates are just as vital to his success as his leg. Standing 13 yards deep receiving a snap with sometimes ten defenders diving inches from a kneecap can leave most people rattled, but confidence in his team makes it easier Bishop said.

"Maybe I get nervous a little bit," Bishop said. "But I have faith in my ability and trust the guys in front of me. Maybe my freshman year I was kind of nervous, but not really anymore."

Right now Bishop and the rest of the Penguins sit and await the announcement from the selection committee who holds their playoff hopes in their hands, however Bishop remains positive.

"Sunday is the big day we find out what we are doing, we are all confident," Bishop said.

Call Justin Smolkovich at (330) 941-3758.



YSU punter Joe Bishop may play a role Penguin fans don't like to see, but he's been doing it well all season nonetheless.

Jambar / Ron Stevens

A Few of Kyle Smith's Favorite Things:

Favorite food:

Pizza

Favorite Color:

Black

Favorite Movie:

Vanilla Sky

CD in your CD player:

Dave Matthews

Favorite song:

Howie Day's "Collide"

COMMENTARY

Jim Cramer: The Colonel Kurtz of television

By: Bob Mackey
COLUMNIST

While watching CNBC late at night, I stumbled into the open mouth of madness.

No one stumbles into the mouth of madness on purpose, though, just as no one watches CNBC on purpose. In fact, most of the channel's ratings rely on the slim chance that your remote control will run out of batteries, and you'll leave CNBC on out of apathy or some sort of stock market-related depression. Another possible scenario could involve a large scale alien invasion that causes people flipping past CNBC to be vaporized from their homes, giving the network some much needed tenths of a percent. Whether it's battery failure or the extinction of the human race, CNBC just doesn't care how the ratings roll in. There is no hyperbole in this statement: CNBC is the Pol Pot of basic cable.

In what seems like a desperate attempt to bring ratings (unfunny-man Dennis Miller was getting a 0.0 rating on his show before it was cancelled), CNBC has hired a legitimate crazy man to give stock advice. His name is Jim Cramer, his show is called "Mad Money," and if he wasn't hosting his own show, he would be decapitating grade-schoolers and burning down covered bridges. And if you think cops or perhaps a SWAT team could stop him, then you haven't seen his show; Jim would tear apart a 300-pound man on PCP. Even sending in Matthew Lesko — another insane television personality — to fight Jim would only result in a pile of flesh and the tattered remnants of a snappy question mark suit. Cramer is a seething, angry man who refuses to sit down and

paces back and forth around his studio, sometimes checking computers but mostly frightening terrified producers as he nearly walks off of the set with every lap of his frenetic pacing.

If you're watching "Mad Money," you should be on board partially for the purpose of the show: stock market advice. Does Cramer deliver? Well, his stock advice generally consists of a long string of screamed words (really, everything he says is in a scream) generated with the heat of 10,000 suns. At one point my television screen actually started to fog up and bleed of its own accord. Somehow, Jim knows everything about every company — or at least he pretends to — and has sound effects and graphics that pop up whenever he hits buttons, which is about every nine seconds. It's almost as if the console he marches around is a grownup version of the Playskool "Wacky Workbench." Jim has an assortment of goofy sounds that play when he hits various buttons, but what alarmed me was that the effect he uses most of the time sounds like a baby being thrown out of a window. It's but a mere glimpse of the insanity that has taken over Jim Cramer's fevered mind.

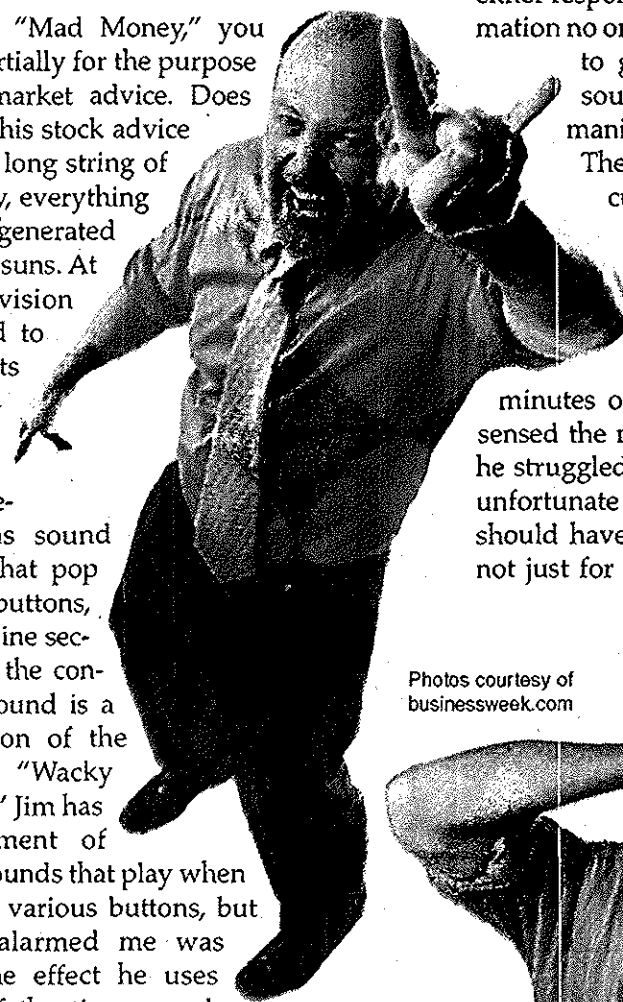
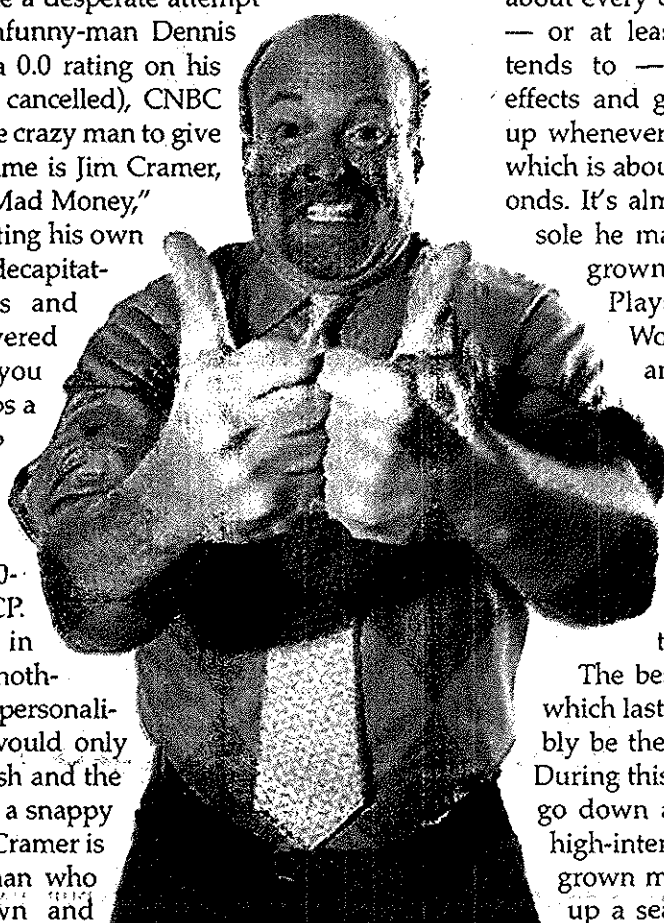
The best part of the show is the "lightning round," which lasts about 19 minutes, marking what could possibly be the longest lightning round in television history. During this round of thunderbolts, the lights in the studio go down and Jim Cramer conjures up a fake storm of high-intensity stock tips. If you ever wanted to witness a grown man fall apart on national television, well, pull up a seat and grab a low-calorie soft drink. In what

feels like a WWE pre-fight interview, Jim violently fields calls left and right. All of the callers simply name a company, and after a look of intense fear crosses Cramer's face, he either responds with "buy" or "sell." He usually gives information no one wants to know, and most of the time you have to guess "buy" or "sell" simply based on what sound effect he plays. Here's a hint: the sound of his manifesto being read is a strong marker for "no."

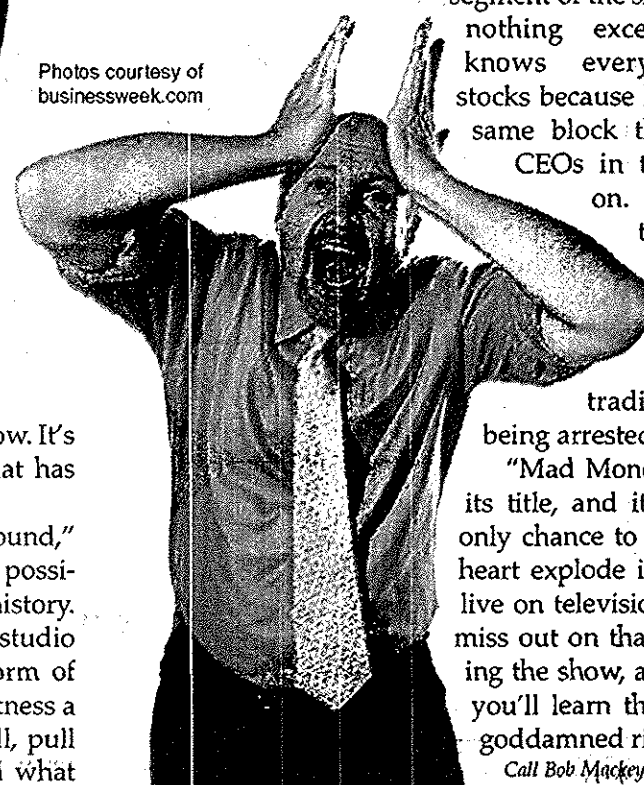
There's also a part of the show where Jim has a discussion with a very calm person who is obviously very afraid of the batshit insane man sitting opposite him or her. In the episode I watched, it was easy to see that this man was terrified because if he ever had to state that he disagreed with Jim, he prefaced it with about two minutes of good points followed by a HUGE "but..." I sensed the murderous rage pulsing through Jim's veins as he struggled to stay seated and not tear the arms off of his unfortunate guest. For this part of the show, they really should have used some kind of Hannibal Lecter restraint, not just for the guest's safety, but for comedy's sake. This segment of the show taught me nothing except that Jim knows everything about stocks because he lives on the same block that all of the CEOs in the world live on. Bowling with the CEO of Home Depot is as close as you can get to insider trading without being arrested.

"Mad Money" lives up to its title, and it may be your only chance to watch a man's heart explode inside his chest live on television. Even if you miss out on that, upon watching the show, at the very least you'll learn that television is goddamned ridiculous.

Call Bob Mackey at (330) 941-1913.



Photos courtesy of businessweek.com



SHOW REVIEW

A 'Blast!' of something different

By: Katie Libecco
COPY EDITOR

Thank God for something different.

"Blast!" — unconventional and beautifully artistic — is unlike any other production. It combines elements of drum corps (for some, think marching band), musicals, orchestras and choirs. The result is an amazing theater-going experience that leaves audiences breathless.

The performance Tuesday night at Powers Auditorium was no exception.

In the way that shows such as "Stomp" and "Riverdance" re-invented what Broadway could be, "Blast!" re-invented the way all forms of music, dance and theater can be presented and interpreted. "Split Commentaries," is a good example of what "Blast!" is. Performers roll stepped on stage in simple and rhythmic movements, slowly adding more and more parts in, resulting in a visual illusion of the musicians spiraling.

"Blast!" with James Mason as artistic director, began on a dark stage crossed with a white grid, a single light shining down on a snare drum. Slowly, a single drummer began playing the introduction to "Bolero." More performers began entering the stage and adding their parts into the mix. The style was slow and beautifully simplistic. As the song progressed, all of the performers, including dancers and a full band, were introduced. The song finished theatrically and musically with power.

As someone sitting behind me whispered after "Bolero," "That was thrilling!"

"Color Wheel" showcased and introduced the range of the

visual ensemble, a culmination of traditional dance and color guards of drum corps. Staying with the marching band reference, think flag and dance lines. Throughout "Blast!" the visible ensemble used flags, sabers and custom made props. Many members also sang and performed additional percussion parts.

Percussionists were also showcased in "Battery Battle." The first snare soloist was Lance P. Kindl, whose mastery of snare technique and flair is matched by few others. The second

horn. As Diaz played powerful the melody, other instrumentalists expressed their interpretation of loss through their instruments and movement.

Act 1 ended with a performance of "Medea," which featured the visual ensemble performing with abstract props, resembling art deco windowpanes. Through the musical arrangement, the musicians' theatrical performances and the visual ensemble, stories of love, loss and betrayal were performed to a glowing heat.

And here's a change — the



Photo courtesy of blasttheshow.com

and soloist was Christopher K. Reidy. The solo began with one stick (you'd never know if you weren't watching) and ended with Reidy playing with three sticks. The song progressed to a full line of drummers playing on a rack of drums and cymbals with black and strobe lights in full force. The drum break on the rack was shorter than in previous tours and the Broadway cast, cutting a part involving blindfolds and the drummers moving in a weave pattern around the rack.

Andrew Smith was featured on trumpet in "Everybody Loves the Blues." His part was complex but comedic and kept the audience laughing. "Loss" featured Roque Diaz on flugel-

spirit of the show was clearly evident during intermission. Some, knowing the tradition, lined the lobby's stairwells and balconies. The sound of drumming became louder as four of the show's percussionists entered the lobby; three carried bar stools and the fourth carried a plastic garbage can.

The crowd, with eyes wide open, surrounded the performers for the unconventional drum break. The performers communicated with the crowd as they performed complicated parts with lots of flair. The performance lasted about 10 minutes and the drummers marched backstage to prepare for the second act.

The finale of the show was

"Malaguena," a moving upbeat song that let each section of the cast shine. The visual ensemble performed with a variety of flags, sabers and more while performing complex movements. Musically, the song is moving and motivating. The percussionists also were stars, as their parts were loud, creative and ever-changing. As the audience stood for an ovation, the cast went into an encore of the song.

Other features of the show included an a cappella version of the spiritual "Simple Gifts," in an arrangement "Simple Gifts/Appalachian Spring" by Aaron Copland and didgeridoos in "The Land of Make Believe."

The touring company of "Blast!" that performed Monday and Tuesday at Powers Auditorium was slightly smaller than the original Broadway cast and previous touring companies. It was eight drummers, four brass performers and four dancers short of prior casts. The cast was still crowded on the smaller Powers Auditorium stage, and only hardcore "Blast!" fans noticed.

A conductor was only apparent to the audience in the finale songs of the act, as he stood in the back of the auditorium and lead the performers with two glow sticks, unnoticed unless the audience turned to see.

"Blast!" will appear at the Orr Auditorium in New Wilmington, Pa., on Friday, Nov. 18 and the E.J. Thomas Hall in Akron on Saturday, Nov. 19.

For more information on "Blast!" and future performances visit www.blasttheshow.com.

Call Katie Libecco at (330) 941-3758.

WEEKEND EVENTS

Friday
Hopewell at Cedar's Lounge in Youngstown. Hopewell stops in Youngstown as part of their East Coast tour. The group, once reviewed as playing "disquietingly beautiful and emotionally powerful" psychedelic rock, bring along their Australian friends The Lovetones, who were labeled as the perfect fusion of John Lennon and 1970s David Bowie in *All Music*.

My Sister the Sun at the Nyabingi in Youngstown. Imagine incense without the commercial pop appeal playing no-frills progressive rock. As their web site says, "Get your asses out to the Nyabingi on Nov. 18."

Povernyneck Hillbillies at The Gellar in Struthers. The Valley isn't just about rock, as the Hillbillies bring original country to the area. And, they're not too shabby to boot — they've been on the *Billboard* Top 100 and get regular display on national country stations.

The Zou at Birmingham Bridge Tavern in Pittsburgh. Support the Youngstown native-rockers as they continue to branch out before they throw a turkey day bash in town next Thursday.

Triple Threat at Salty Grog's. Rock and blues for over ten years, so they must be doing something right. Triple Threat includes former members of Grapic Pink and Special Forces.

Saturday
Gaffa, a two-piece duo from Germany, will perform at the Nyabingi. Playing dark and heavy rock, the group stops in Youngstown as part of their two-month U.S. tour.

Tony Janitone Jr. at Salty Grog's. He's been playing since he was ten years old, and could be considered one of the most accomplished musicians to perform regularly in the area. The guitar virtuoso shares a job as Evans Guitar Products spokesperson along with Alex Lifeson of Rush and Joe Perry of Aerosmith.

The Rage at The Gellar in Struthers. The area's most entertaining cover band, perfect for a night out.

Couldn't get enough of Triple Threat on Friday in Boardman? They'll be at Avalon Gardens on Belmont Ave.

Lowlights at Cedar's. Indie and folk rock from California. Part of a national U.S. tour. Don't be fooled by the name, they're deviously talented.

The Huckin' Hillbillies at the Ice House in Austintown. Call them what you want, but this classic and current rock and roll cover band won't let you leave without having a good time. How many bands have you met that can play AC/DC, The Killers and Billy Idol at the same show?