

Love him or hate him:
Justin Timberlake
see page 4



THE Jambar

THE STUDENT VOICE OF YOUNGSTOWN STATE UNIVERSITY

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YSU News

Income Tax Preparation starts February 3

The Williamson College of Business and Administration Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program will help people with their taxes.

The program is free and will take place on the fourth floor of Williamson Hall throughout February, March and April. The program is geared toward lower-income individuals and students.

Taxpayers should bring copies of W-2 and 1099 forms, a copy of last year's tax return and photo identification.

To make an appointment, call 330-941-3084. Walk-ins are accepted.

Youngstown murders hit close to campus

Adrienne Sabo
NEWS EDITOR

The police tape is gone. The police cars flashing red and blue lights are gone. Family members screaming in anger and pain are also gone. The empty house sits on its snow-covered lawn, desolate. But the aftermath of Monday's quadruple homicide on the city's south side will resonate in Youngstown for years.

The south side's proximity to Youngstown State University brings questions about the safety of YSU and its students.

YSU Police Chief John Gocala called the quadruple homicide a "reality check" for the community.

"It's a serious situation and makes you aware of how important safety is," he said.

Top 10 most dangerous cities

- | | |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| 1. St. Louis, Mo. | 6. Birmingham, Ala. |
| 2. Detroit, Mich. | 7. Cleveland, Ohio |
| 3. Flint, Mich. | 8. Oakland, Calif. |
| 4. Compton, Calif. | 9. Youngstown, Ohio |
| 5. Camden, N.J. | 10. Gary, Ind. |

Source: Morgan Quinto Press State and City Ranking Publications

The first homicides of 2007 were four young adults ranging in age from 19 to 24 years old.

Allen Pierce, YSU criminal justice professor, said the victims were involved in ongoing disputes and lived this kind of life. He said their lifestyle was "live by the sword, die by it."

The high unemployment rate and amount of broken homes are factors to the high crime in

Youngstown. With the steel mills closing 25-30 years ago, it took about a generation for its effects to catch up, Pierce said.

Gocala said that while no one can offer a completely crime free environment, YSU police are doing the best they can.

"We work hard to make campus safe and secure," he said.

Youngstown City Mayor Jay Williams put the city police department into a zero-tolerance mode. Traffic stops will be made for individuals with minor offenses.

Gocala said that YSU has a zero-tolerance policy on campus and that the best thing anyone can do is report any suspicious behavior to the YSU police.

"Sometimes with those simple traffic stops you find more criminals," he said.

Brrrr! Bundling up at YSU



Jambar/ Elizabeth Boon



Jambar/ Elizabeth Boon

ABOVE: Senior Anthony Saccoccia has his coat zipped all the way to keep warm while traveling between classes.

LEFT: Senior Ray Butler layers clothing to fight the cold as he walks from Fedor Hall to his classes.

PENGUIN WEATHER: YSU students should anticipate temperature drops next week. Sunday will chill Youngstown with a high of 9 degrees and a low of 4. The low temperatures for early next week will fall below zero.

STUDY ABROAD Students cross continents to China

Ashley Tate
REPORTER

It's a small world. The odds of meeting someone on top of a mountain in China during a study abroad trip are more imaginable than presumed.

Nicole Pettenati met another Youngstown native while on top of a glacier during a study abroad trip to China with Ray Beiersdorfer, professor of geological and environmental sciences at Youngstown State University.

Pettenati, a sophomore, said, "It was pretty incredible. ...As I near the top of the glacier, someone from my group says, 'Hey, there's someone from Youngstown up here.' When we met, all of us were like, 'What are the odds of meeting someone from Youngstown on top of a glacier in China on Christmas Eve?'"

Beiersdorfer took YSU students Pettenati, Jenna Barvitski, Sarah Bates and Kelsey Fischer to China and Hong Kong over winter break for their field study abroad trip. He will be giving a presentation today in the Ohio Room of Kilcawley Center at 5:30 p.m.

Beiersdorfer said the students went to discover the geology and environment of southern China. He said they made observations on ideas such as chemical weathering of rocks and mass wasting. They also experienced first-hand plate tectonics close to 15,000 feet in elevation.

Bates, a junior, said that as they traveled and studied rock formations, the Youngstown group bonded with a Chicago group. The biggest impact on Bates was the culture shock.

"I definitely appreciate other cultures more but we have no idea until we go to the culture itself. Even staying at the hotels we got to see two villages and the living conditions were impossible. I've come to the realization that we'll never understand their culture

please see CHINA, Page 2

ACADEMIA

Study habits for straight A's: Can students go by the book?

Rudi Whitmore
FEATURES REPORTER

We all want straight A's. More appropriately, we'd all love the scholarships that go along with straight A's.

Of course, we still want to go out on Saturday night, too, and Thirsty Thursday, and maybe out for a round of movies and video games on Friday.

Most college students pick Saturday night at Buffalo Wild Wings rather than at the library, but a new book by Cal Newport insists that a balance can be reached to make the grade with all A's.

Aptly entitled "How to Become a Straight-A Student," Newport details the study habits of straight-A students at high profile universities like Harvard, Princeton, Yale and Dartmouth.

The 217-page book is split up into three main sections: study basics, quizzes and exams, and essays and papers. The study basics section covers simple but effective time management skills like making a list of everything a student needs to accomplish in a day, cut-

ting procrastination out of the schedule, and studying smartly. The section on quizzes and exams outlines how to take smart notes, arrange assignments by importance, find out what exactly is on tests, and answer essay questions. The final section provides hints for finding good research tips, constructing a sound thesis, marshalling research materials, and

director and geography professor, thinks that while the advice laid out in the book may be a good starting place, study habits differ from one student to the next.

"You can suggest broad guidelines, but they may not be appropriate for all learners. People can crash study and are highly successful; they end up being the best politicians and lawyers because they can pull out important pieces of information. They're flash learners. Other people need to follow procedures with a measured approach for retaining the information," Shaklee said.

Anderson considers these broad guidelines and dismisses them.

"I think it's a laziness and procrastination issue," she says. "But it [crash studying] has always worked for me." Shaklee points out that the book is a good starting point, but students should adjust it based on their own needs. "Sitting and thinking how to approach [studying] is a good start," concludes Shaklee, "it means there is some evaluation of what they need to do."

"I will study an hour or two the night before a test. If it's a huge test, I'll just stay up all night studying."



Tara Anderson,
Junior

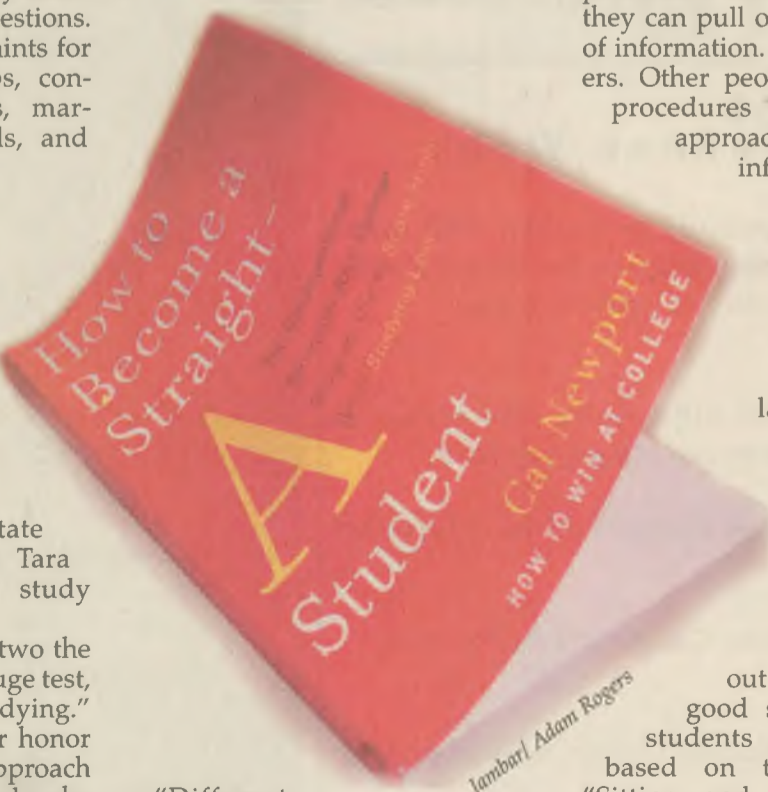
staying organized.

Youngstown State University honor student Tara Anderson described her study habits.

"I will study an hour or two the night before a test. If it's a huge test, I'll just stay up all night studying." When asked if she or other honor students use the kind of approach laid out in Newport's book, she shrugged. "I think I know some serious studiers," she said, but I haven't really talked about it with anyone else."

Ron Shaklee, Honors Program

"Different people have different learning styles. It's documented researched. It's the same thing for test preparation styles."



Jambar/ Adam Rogers

CHINA, continued from page 1

completely. We can study it all we want in textbooks, but we'll never fully understand it."

Pettenati said China was so different from the United States that she can't even explain it.

"The best way to learn about a culture is to experience it," she said. She described how Chinese natives reacted to Americans.

"The people are really interesting; they can be polite and rude at the same time. Everywhere we went I felt like the people were really excited to see us. At the same time they weren't shy about pushing us out of the way," Pettenati said.

For Bates, a music education major, the China trip transcended her area of study. A combination of her

music history class and her trip to China showed her how music and culture are closely related.

ettenati said the trip has broadened her view on the world.

"My experiences in China just give me more to pull from when I have to do class work. The trip has formed connections that never existed before."

Pettenati said that studying outside the country is a great experience and traveling is "incredibly important to education."

"China is becoming such an important part of our lives, even if we choose not to recognize it," Bates said.

Bates called the trip a "humbling experience."

"I think as Americans we think we can understand anything and we

can't. There is so much that I didn't know that I'll never know," Bates said.

Chinese cuisine was a humbling experience in its own for Bates. She said the food was different, but good.

"China was like 'holy moly.' They didn't have any ketchup; I was like, 'I want the Heinz now.' [Chinese] ketchup is like a mixture of sweet and sour, and it was really nasty."

Regardless of cultural differences, Pettenati suggests traveling to all students.

"Being out of your element shows what you are really made of. It really helps you find out who you are. Traveling also challenges the way you think and makes you come up with real information to

back up your beliefs and opinions."

Students who would like to travel and study abroad can contact Annette El-Hayek, international program coordinator for the Center for International Studies and Programs.

El-Hayek said that by studying abroad, students might increase their marketability in the job market, adding that most of our world leaders were study abroad participants.

"Even if in your field you don't work directly with study abroad, your employer knows that you've got experience the average person doesn't have. They know you've done something out of the box."

Classified

Help Wanted

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**2007-2008
Financial Aid Awareness Week**

Stop by one of our tables for information on financial aid for the 2007-2008 academic year. The priority deadline to complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) on the Web or Renewal FAFSA and the YSU Institutional Aid Application is **February 15, 2007.**

The following is list of places, dates, and times when staff from the office of Financial Aid Scholarships will be available to distribute forms and answer questions:

Monday, February 5, 2007 10 a.m.-3 p.m. * Kilcawley Center- 1st floor across from bank

Tuesday, February 6, 2007 10 a.m.-3 p.m. * Kilcawley Center- 2nd floor in main hallway

Wednesday, February 7, 2007 10 a.m.-3 p.m. * Kilcawley Center- 1st floor Arcade-Elevator

Thursday, February 8, 2007 10 a.m.-3 p.m. * Kilcawley Center- 2nd floor in main hallway.

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THE Jambar

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OUR SIDE

Murders should spark change

The execution-style slaying of four Youngstown residents on Monday left an uneasy feeling in the pit of the city's stomach. Youngstown residents are still suffering from gun violence.

The victims, Anthony Crockett, 23; Christopher Howard, 24; Marvin Boone, 19; and Danielle Parker, 22, were found in a second-floor bedroom on the South Side, each shot in the head and body. The deaths of these young adults, all of college age, hit uncomfortably close to home.

Danger lurks in every corner of Youngstown, and incidents such as these are seemingly bound to happen. Although sometimes without reason, most acts of violence in the city are surrounded by underlying circumstances. There were no signs of drug activity at the crime scene; however, three of four victims had criminal records — two of which were drug-related.

Youngstown State University is fortunate to have a safe campus for students, faculty and staff. But potential students will look at more than just campus safety before making a decision to attend YSU. The city that surrounds our college plays a role in choosing a school.

Many low-income neighborhoods exist in Youngstown, therefore lack of resources and opportunities is apparent. Careers and educations are hard to come by, especially when many families can't afford to send their children to college.

We understand there are many initiatives to improve the quality of Youngstown, such as Youngstown 2010. Youngstown City Mayor Jay Williams has made the city of Youngstown his priority, but it is not coming fast enough.

Homicides like this one may be avoided if there are more opportunities for the younger generation. Those aged 18-25 years, like Monday's four homicide victims, are likely contenders for higher education, but not every one can afford college so options in employment must increase. We are the generation of tomorrow, but we need help today's generation to get there.

Too many individuals are slipping through the cracks and creating violence in the city. Our youth need to learn real values and priorities of life. Educators, parents, community and leaders must advocate saving our youth from crime.

The city of Youngstown has a serious problem on its hands. Following Monday's tragedy, Williams called for a crack down on all traffic infractions, even those as minor as littering. The plan is to help reduce the crime in the city. The newly enforced zero-tolerance policy may be too little too late.

LETTERS POLICY

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

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

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

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Sweet, others taking credit for YSU's success

Editor:

The 23 January edition of The Jambar reported that YSU recently received a positive "report card" from the Ohio Board of Regents, which favorably cited us for having low tuition, small class size, high student retention, and high exam scores. This is all true: we are a fine institution! However, it is important to note that this is the result of having the very highest quality faculty and staff and in spite of having an administration and a Board of Trustees who have elevated mediocrity and incompetence to the "highest" levels ever seen at this university in its hundred years of existence.

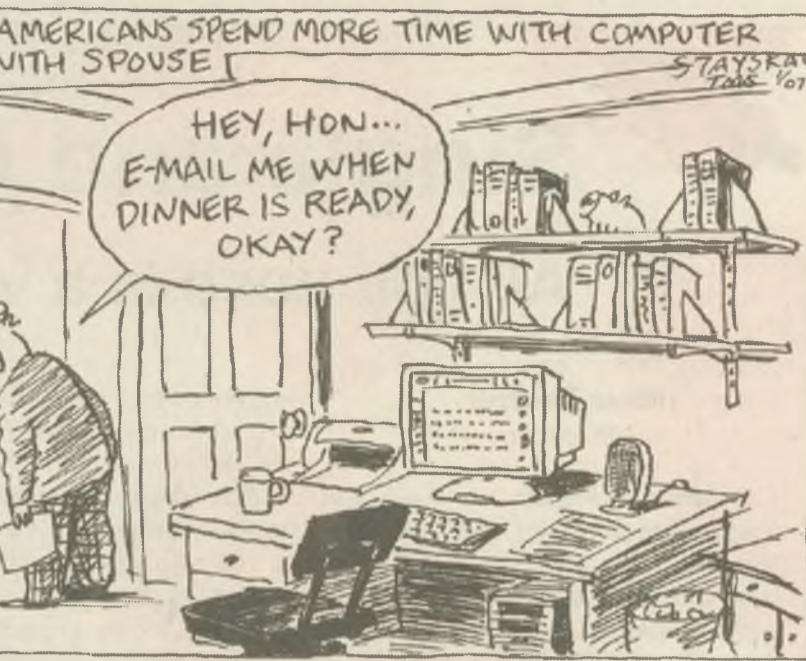
Dr. Sweet's highly touted (by him) Banner system, which is taking over many accounting functions of the older M204 system like a cancer in one's bowels, is a disaster that is happening now. The people running it on campus admit to not knowing how tax deductions are made with it since its output doesn't agree with the numbers they get when they do the calculations "by hand." Remember, this is the expensive system purchased after dozens of University administrators were sent (on vacation?) to Hawaii to learn about it with your tuition money. I'm sure none of us can wait for the next serious problems to arise from its use.

Because of Sweet's clumsy handling of university finances,

tuition WILL rise again. John Hobbit, Sweet's friend and now defunct vice-president of special projects (such as cashing his checks?), is still being paid \$148,000 per year and he doesn't even work for YSU! Sweet has more administrators (aka locusts) on his staff than ever before, all making more than you are. (I, myself, recently applied for the position of vice-president of paper clips for \$114,000 per year but was not hired. Was it something I said?)

Class sizes are also slowly creeping up because of the policies of Sweet's boon companion Herbert the Provost, the master of obfuscation (see The Jambar, 25 January). By cutting part-time budgets, Herbert's actions will raise the number of students in classes taught by full-time faculty. Classes will be larger, certain courses will be cut, and some students will take longer to graduate. Do Sweet and Herbert care?

Herbert the Decider (just like Dubya and with all his intellectual prowess) has also canceled summer classes. His reasoning, if it could really be called as such, is that the summer budget is always in the red. As I have showed in this forum before, summer classes make millions of



dollars for the university. The reason summer budgets run in the red is because they are always severely under-budgeted beforehand by the FUZZY accounting procedures used by this administration. Let me make this clear so that even Herbert can understand: SUMMER CLASSES MAKE MILLIONS OF DOLLARS FOR YSU!!! People who have trouble with basic arithmetic are called innumerate.

The ability of the faculty to do research is also being affected in a negative way by Herbert and his boys. Although contract language requires the university to pay the publication costs of research papers, they are now demanding pre-approval — just one more petty example of small minds striving for relevance.

The Decider's plan for restructuring the university, in violation of the Academic Senate's Charter as determined by the Senate's own Charter and Bylaws Committee, is also running into

serious problems, and he is counting on the faculty to bail him out. Many frightened members of the faculty are unfortunately assisting Herbert in this ill-conceived and pathetic attempt to increase his self-importance because they're afraid of what will happen if he does it himself. This is a mistake. Let him fail so that we might get rid of him before the next round of contract negotiations where I am certain he will force long and destructive strikes on both faculty and staff. (Herbert is now on the administration's negotiating team.)

To summarize, Sweet and his minions dishonestly take credit for everything that is great about YSU. They even take credit for higher exam scores when they're never seen in proximity to a classroom. How much greater could we be without them?

Ronald G. Tabak, Professor
Physics & Astronomy

COMMENTARY

Yes, global warming exists; now what?

Peter Brown
(MCT)

That is what is happening in the United States on global warming, with President Bush and much of corporate America signaling they are through disputing whether temperatures are rising enough to portend future woes.

Of course, even if the disputes about the existence or potential ills of climate change are abating, that doesn't mean the global warming believers will now get the laws they want, or even find that candidates espousing their views win more elections.

In fact, the developing consensus that it is time to deal with the global warming problem rather than argue about its existence is likely to make it less, not more, of a salient domestic political issue.

It is worth remembering that when the Iron Curtain fell and the Cold Warriors claimed victory in the early 1990s, Americans elected a president, Bill Clinton, who was not one of them, and was short on national security

credentials to boot.

That's because with the Soviet Union imploding at the time, voters figured they could move on to other matters. They then turned to the party they had been unwilling to trust with the White House when they were more worried about external threats.

So, while the new political environment no pun intended doesn't necessarily mean that Al Gore is going to be elected president just because he has been out front on the issue, it puts the politics of global warming in new perspective.

The acknowledgment by Bush of the problem and the need to deal with it is just one sign that the tide has turned on the climate change issue. Recently, a number of major corporations that had been skeptical of the global warming threat have signaled they too want to move on to dealing with the problem.

And with Democrats who for years have campaigned against Bush and the Republicans as ignoring the global warming threat — in control of Congress, it

is obvious that something is likely to be done.

But the real question is exactly what that will be. It doesn't mean that Bush and corporate America are going to blithely agree to the ideas of the environmentalists on how to solve the problem.

Don't look for Bush to endorse the principal international treaty on global warming, the Kyoto Protocol. It doesn't require the same steps of China and India, which have the fastest growing and most polluting economies, as it does of Western industrialized nations.

The political argument now will be about the best way to combat the problem and its effects in other words disputes about tactics and efficacy rather than larger, more fundamental disputes.

With the existence of global warming no longer an issue, it is likely the political debate will shift to what steps and what resulting economic costs are reasonable. For instance, reducing emissions invariably increases the cost of energy, at least in the

short run

The current focus of debate will be the proposal advanced by many congressional Democrats and some Republicans for a "carbon tax" and an accompanying system that will allow companies to trade emissions credits.

Supporters call it a free-market solution without massive government interference, but the White House has not signed on to the idea despite some pre-State of the Union speculation that would be the case.

It is not hard to see the political debate over the existence of global warming translating into the age-old dispute between the parties about the wisdom of taxes and regulation.

That is a much more complicated political discussion than whether the global climate is getting warmer, and how unless checked, the world could face rising oceans, melting glaciers, more violent storms, and droughts.

And, it is one on which the political edge is not nearly as clear.

Prioritize students, education by making college affordable

Yolanda Chavez Leyva
(MCT)

College affordability is big deal. Just ask my students.

I teach at a university where 75 percent of the students work to put themselves through school. The majority of students are the first generation in their families to attend college and, each day, many of them juggle school, work and family obligations. They come to the university with the profound hope that higher education will provide them knowledge, stable employment, financial security and a better life

the dreams of college students all over the United States. In recent days, the dreams and hopes of America's youth have been the subject of debate among lawmakers. The U.S. House recently voted to decrease the interest rate on federally subsidized loans to college students from 6.8 percent to 3.4 gradually over the next five years. Recently, both Democrats and Republicans have proposed ways to make college accessible to students, ranging from the cuts in interest rates to increased financial aid. They have also called on universities to lower their

tuitions.

Between 1994 and 2004, the average price for undergraduate tuition, room, and board at public colleges increased by 30 percent, according to the U.S. Department of Education. The increase was even higher at private institutions.

Students considering higher education can face many obstacles. Paying for college is often high on the list. Last fall the Commission on the Future of Higher Education issued a report that said that rising costs discourage students from entering college. The fear of high debt inhibits oth-

ers from considering college.

But a college degree is directly correlated with higher earnings, and, in the past two decades, the difference has grown. In 1980, males with a college degree earned 19 percent more than males with a high school diploma, according to the Department of Education. By 2004, they earned 67 percent more. While the earnings of those with college degrees have increased over time, the earning of those with only a high school diploma has dropped.

Making college accessible to students is one of

the best ways to invest in our nation's future.

Entering the 21st century, students' access to an affordable college education must be a national priority. Democrats and Republicans must continue to work together to find creative solutions to the increasing cost of a college education. At the beginning of each semester, when I look out at the faces looking back at me, I can't help but think about the dreams they bring with them. For our nation's sake, let's help make their dreams a reality.

Making college accessible to students is one of

Single and looking?

All you need is a venue for love

Renee Hardman
REPORTER

Valentine's Day is quickly approaching. Instead of crossing off the feat as a "Hallmark Holiday," why not find someone to share a night of wine, cheesy movies and sweet lovin'? Sharing slobber in a couplet is much more enjoyable than flying solo on a day known for its universal appeal.

The guide below will help any single ladies or gentlemen find their soul mates. Or Valentine's Day mate. If you're single and looking, these are the places to keep your eyes wide open, your ears erect and your best face forward.

The Library

Amongst the stacks of Old English novels, encyclopedias and microfilms, your dream man or woman could be sitting gathering information for his or her next research paper.

Senior Diane Smith said that finding someone who is reading a book is a good start.

"They can't be leafing through a magazine or surfing the Internet," Smith said. "They have to be reading an actual book or it doesn't count."

Smith said the only problem with the library is that you can't communicate effectively.

While Maag Library at Youngstown State University does not tolerate talking, conveniently enough, there is a café called

Jazzman's located on the third floor that lets interested parties fraternize.

Graduate student Nick Angelis said the library approach has worked for him, although "you run the risk of finding a boring genius."

The Gym

There's a way to participate in an activity that not only lets you cruise the opposite sex, but strengthens your muscle tone and tighten your abs. Hint: it's not intercourse.

David Henson, certified compassion fatigue therapist and educator from Lakewood, Colo., said that men should look into taking yoga classes.

"Yoga classes are filled with women. Even if they are all unavailable, they know women who are single," Henson said.

As for women: "Learn to lift weights," Henson said.

Senior Nate Persin said he would look for the opposite sex at sporting events like hockey or basketball games, but particularly at the gym.

The Park

Henson also suggests that women take a stroll in the park. He said working men often take their dogs to parks for exercise.

Senior Justin Waite said that if he were single he would take his multi-talented dog, Gus, to the park to show off to the ladies.

Some local parks to visit and scope out the scene: Mosquito Lake State Park in Cortland and Mill Creek MetroParks in Youngstown.

The Classroom

Classes generally decrease in size after the first couple of semesters. Some students said meeting someone over a shared love of algebra is the way to go.

"Class is a good place to meet the ladies," senior Joe Paloski said. "Move around and sit next to someone that's hot. It's pretty easy to break the ice because you can talk about class and whatnot. Then you can become friends and hang out after class."

Freshman Jenna Koontz doesn't like the idea of meeting someone in class.

"People act differently in class; they aren't on their best behavior," Koontz said.

The Grocery Store

The grocery store is another place to search for a date. Along with the quest for the right diet, finding the right person could determine whether he or she is standing in the meat section or the organic food aisle.

"Whatever food a guy is buying says a lot about him," Smith said.

You just may find someone who shares your love of boxed wine and Triscuits. Just look for a tasty someone pushing around his or her cart solo - a good sign of availability. Exceptions include a man toting Midol, a woman carting men's disposable razors, or a cartful of diapers and baby formula.

The Wedge encourages 'Rockstars' each Thursday

Britta Snowberger
FEATURES REPORTER

Despite the harsh winds, driving snow and dangerous road conditions, nearly 100 people ventured to the first Rockstar Karaoke on Jan. 25 at The Wedge in Austintown. Safely inside the building, attendees situated themselves in front of the stage, ordered drinks and waited for the night's entertainment to begin.

When the clock struck 10 p.m., Rockstar Karaoke proved that it was not your momma's karaoke. There were no machines. There were no lead-vocal-free cassette tapes. At Rockstar Karaoke, volunteers performed with a live rock band.

Fonzie Monroe, a cover band from Columbus, took the stage with the night's first participant, Billy, and blew the crowd away with a Disturbed song. Billy stood stiff and scared, hiding behind the microphone. Voice shaking, his rendition of the song was nearly unrecognizable. That did not bother the diverse Wedge crowd, however, as grown men demonstrated their enthusiasm by playing air guitar among the dance floor tables, headbanging all the while.

Second to the stage was Phoenix, who walked to the front with an alcohol-induced swagger. Before breaking into a hard-rock version of Sir Mix-a-Lot's "Baby Got Back," he yelled, "I need girls with big asses to start shakin' them." So they did.

Throughout the night, volunteers stepped to the stage, grabbed the microphone tightly and sang their hearts out to their favorite pop songs. Some performers brought the house down with their stage presence and vocal demonstration. Others forced neighborhood dogs into a howling frenzy.

If they forgot the words, participants could seek help from a monitor on stage or a member of the band. On many occasions, Fonzie Monroe assisted singers by telling them when to start or by filling in missing lyrics. The band sang backup and harmonized with even the tone-deaf.

Rockstar Karaoke provided the weather-defying attendees with plenty of entertainment, whether ear pleasing or downright annoying. Drinking was optional, but encouraged for nervous performers.

Sami Awaballah, head of security at The Wedge, said that, even though the roads were treacherous, he was impressed with the turnout. In addition, Awaballah was optimistic about future karaoke events.

"I look forward to other Rockstar Karaoke nights, because I think they will continue to grow," he said. "We've already got a lot of calls from people saying it was a great idea."

The Wedge will hold Rockstar Karaoke on Thursday nights beginning at 10 p.m. Visitors must be 18 or older to enter, and admission is \$2.



Jambar / Brian Cetina

Justin Timberlake Love VS. Nate



Jambar / Brian Cetina

Cristina Cala
COPY EDITOR

It's almost time. Saturday is a day that I have been dreaming of for many decadent nights of fantasy. It will be the day that I dance through the doors of the Quicken Loans Arena in Cleveland, proudly present my ticket to a ticket taker, try to get past security with a camera, and enter the glorious ether where I will breathe the very same air as the beautiful, the talented, the object of my affection: Justin Timberlake.

You no longer have to be a prepubescent girl to like J.T. The performer has come a long way from the career-jumpstarting Mickey Mouse Club and the boy band days of *NSYNC.

He's one of his generation's few artists who managed to make a graceful transition from the cheese of '90s bubble gum pop to respectable music today. Loads of pop stars from the last decade of the 20th century have washed up on the other side of the new millennium. But not Justin.

All grown up now, Justin's bringing more than just sexy back. A follow-up to his equally promising 2002 album "Justified," "Future Sex/Love Sounds" was the hottest pop album of 2006, redeeming the genre with a cohesive, collaborative and distinguishing dance/electro sound. J.T.'s inventive

new sound is not only distinctive from his last album, it's ground-breakingly original for pop music.

The guy even has a sense of humor. His Saturday Night Live skit - a song about his special, er, "member" in a box as a Christmas gift for a lady - became an instant hit and the fourth most-searched-for clip on YouTube.

This truly talented artist is at the peak of his career, unlike, say ex-girlfriend Britney Spears. He's got a fabulous new album, a subsequent tour, a fresh breakup with A-list star Cameron Diaz, a supposed new romance with A-lister Scarlett Johansson, and access to the hearts of nearly anyone he wants. What does former pop princess Spears have? Two kids, stretch marks, a divorce with gold-digger and failed rapper Kevin Federline, and probable depression.

I don't care who you are or what kind of music you like, successfully making it through a bubble gum boy band career is sticky business, and Timberlake has made it. Big time. If not for his inventive dance-driven music, sexy choreography, and six-pack abs, nay-sayers should at least commend Justin for sustaining a career in Hollywood, especially after the embarrassing enforcement of matching outfits with four other boy-band men.

If you can wear a Canadian Tuxedo (an all-denim getup, most commonly

jeans and a jean jacket, but Justin and Britney threw in extra offensive accessories like hats and rhinestones) at nationally broadcast awards ceremony without being slaughtered by the fashion police, and people still like you, you're probably Justin Timberlake. On a side note: The Canadian Tuxedo is also a fashion offense off the red carpet; wear at your own risk.

I suppose admitting that the Spice Girls concert was my first, back in '96, that I've seen boy bands like 98 degrees (twice) and LFO (remember "Summer Girls?") in concert, and that my younger years were spent clipping photos of Devon Sawa from Tiger Beat magazine only hurts my argument that it's respectable to like former boy band member Justin Timberlake. But I swear to you, I'm not as fluffy as Spears in an interview on politics. I like good music. And grade-A performer Timberlake's has proven worthy. As a fellow performer myself, with more than a decade of ballet and voice training and performance, I get a say in performance critique.

The man's got vision, skill and flavor, and he deserves the hype.

P.S. Justin, if you want to get me something for my birthday, it's in March, but I'll be available Saturday after your show.

Rudi Whitmore
FEATURES REPORTER

I grew up on rock and roll. When my parents said I could be anything when I grew up, I wanted to be a Rolling Stone. I was ten before they had the heart to tell me I was never going to sound like Mick or Janis, and to stop trying at church. The first concert I ever went to was Lyndyrd Skynyrd when I was thirteen.

So you'll excuse me if I find the idea of a short, white guy with a shorn afro singing drippy, wanksty lyrics in a falsetto a 12-year-old girl would envy a bit repugnant. How is he sexy?? Cameron Diaz was the only credit to his name, unless you count everyone's favorite crotch-flashing, white trash, ex-mouseketeer, mom-of-the-year Britney Spears.

Even if you discount the southern-ghetto tenor he speaks in, where's his real talent?? Does he write his own lyrics? Produce, mix, or (*gasp!* God forbid!) write his own music?? Where's his song about the human condition? Or triumph? Or failure or the devil? Come on, at least

a token "I used to have it rough" song.

His entire repertoire is vapid and self-absorbed, produced for the sole purpose of moving plastic. If the songs aren't about breaking up or hooking up, they're about dancing. ... What? I'm sorry, DANCING is his talent? He can DANCE? So can Mario Lopez. Justin Timberlake is not a naturally occurring triple threat phenomenon. He is a product, manufactured by a skilled team of stylists, handlers, managers, publicists, producers, personal trainers, directors and choreographers. Give that kind of resources, my CAT could be grossing \$24.7 million like Timberlake did on his Justified tour. And SHE has seven toes.

However, like all things manufactured (with the exception of Twinkies, Cher and possibly Madonna) Timberlake has an expiration date. And when I'm on my knees at night praying to the Pistols, Bono, Bruce, Dylan, and the Stones, I can only hope that it's soon. Because as far as I'm concerned, sexy choked on its own vomit and died when Timberlake hit the scene.

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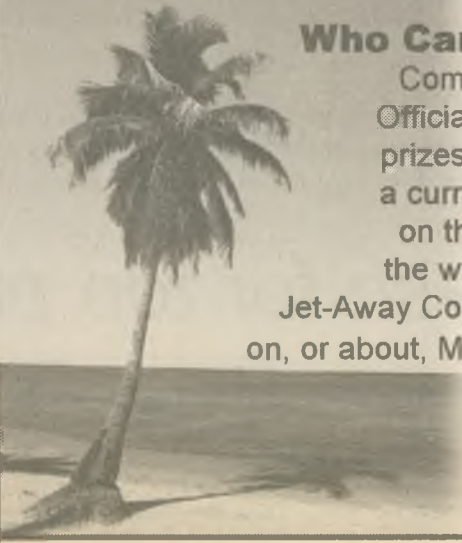
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Who Can Enter?

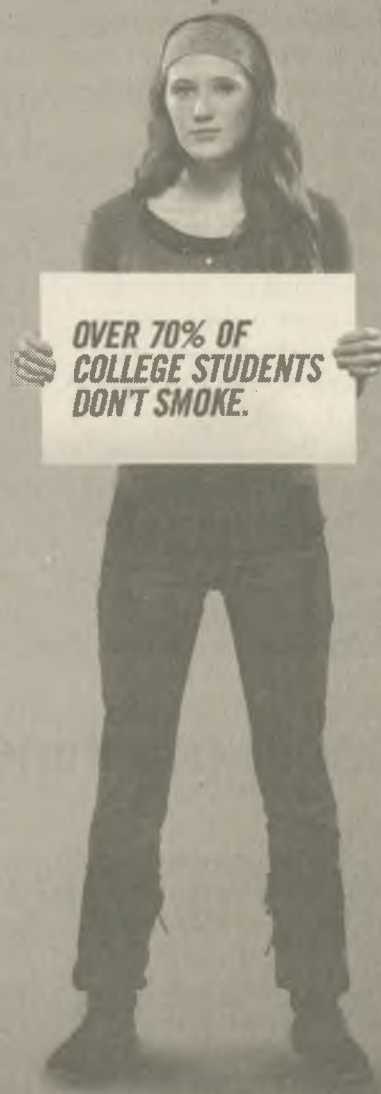
Complete rules and details available on the Kilcawley Center web site. Official rules also posted at each Kilcawley Coke retail location. Weekly prizes can be won by anyone; however the Grand Prize winner must be a current YSU student with a valid student Patron ID number completed on the entry form. Some blackout dates apply to the grand prize. See the web site for more information and Kilcawley locations where Official Jet-Away Contest Entry Cards are available. Grand Prize winner will be drawn on, or about, Monday, March 5, 2007. Sponsored by Coke & Kilcawley Center.



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- ▶ 2/3 — M. Basketball vs. UIC @ 7:35 p.m.
- ▶ 2/3 — W. Basketball vs. Loyola @ 5:15 p.m.
- ▶ 2/4 — W. Tennis @ Marshall

HOCKEY



Photo Courtesy YSU Hockey

The Youngstown State University Hockey club has posted a 14-9-2 record this season en route to its second place standing in the American Collegiate Hockey Association. The team will finish out the season against IUP, Washington and Jefferson, University of Pittsburgh and Duquesne. Bob Walla (22) and the rest of the squad will have to play solidly down the stretch to earn the ACHA's top ranking.



YSU SPORTS IN BRIEF

Arnold leads Penguin swimmers

Youngstown State University sophomore Olivia Arnold won the 400 IM and the 500 free at a dual meet against the University of Illinois at Chicago on Friday at the UIC Natatorium. Arnold accounted for half of the Penguin's four individual victories.

Arnold posted a personal-best time of 4:42.19 in the 400 IM to win by more than seven seconds, ranking her as the second-fastest 400 IM swimmer in YSU history. Her winning time of 5:21.90 in the 500 free was more than five seconds faster than the second-place finisher.

Other winners include freshman Lara Munro in the 200 meter fly and Julia Darling in the 200 meter breaststroke.

YSU will host Cleveland State today at 6 p.m.

Schloemp scores 18 in Penguin victory

Youngstown State University junior Jessica Schloemp scored a game-high 18 points and sophomore Monique Godfrey added 16 to lead the Lady Penguins past Cleveland State, 65-55, on Saturday at the Beeghly Center.

With the win YSU improved to 5-13 overall and 3-5 in Horizon League play.

The team used an 18-0 first-half run to take an early lead, and never allowed Cleveland State to cut the advantage to single digits. The Penguins made seven three-point baskets in the game.

YSU will host the University of Illinois at Chicago, at 7:05 p.m. Thursday, at the Beeghly Center.

Intramural basketball signups extended

The Intramural Sports Department has extended signups for this seasons basketball leagues to Feb. 6. All interested persons can sign up at the Andrews Recreation and Wellness Center.

Penguins, Bears set to clash for top playoff spot

Andrew Berry
SPORTS REPORTER

The time has come for the playoff picture to begin to develop in the Collegiate Hockey Mid-America conference.

With only four games remaining, the Youngstown State University hockey club will be put to the test as it skates toward the post-season hoping to secure a top seed in the conference tournament and a first round bye.

The Penguins played solid hockey during their last home stand of the season winning crucial league games against John Carroll University and Slippery Rock University.

A 4-0 loss to No. 15 West Virginia University ended the stretch Saturday. The Penguins kept the score 1-0 after two periods of play, but three goals by the Mountaineers in the final period was too much to overcome.

Head coach Rocky Russo said West Virginia will be a first-rate addition to the CHMA when the Mountaineers are inau-

gated next season. "Obviously, we would have liked to have won the game, but West Virginia is an established program and could very well win the national championship this year," he said.

Beginning with Friday's match at the Indiana University of Pennsylvania, the Penguins will have to win away from the Ice Zone to stay near the top of the CHMA standings.

Russo said playing on the road can be an advantage as more pressure is put on the home team to win. Senior defender Phil Colucci said the team is more than ready for the rigorous road schedule ahead.

"It's always a little more challenging on the road, but I think we're a pretty good road team and it's nothing we can't handle," Colucci said.

The Penguins previously defeated the Bears on their home rink 4-2 earlier in the season.

The teams expect a physical contest on the ice in

their third and final meeting of the regular season. Freshman forward Mike Poljak believes the squads will be well prepared for a competitive contest.

"Rocky is a good coach and he has a great team. He's going to have them prepared to play."



Dan Hestin, IUP
Head Coach

"We dominated the play last time, and I don't think they're going to want that again. I definitely feel it's going to be a more physical game. Everyone's feeling good, we had a couple days off after the last game, so we're pretty fresh and I think we'll be all right," he said.

IUP head coach Dan Hestin said he envisions a hard fought game down to the wire with the Penguins.

"Rocky is a good coach and he has a

great team. He's going to have them prepared to play," he said.

Hestin believes the key to victory is keeping Poljak on ice and away from the puck. The 5'5" freshman sensation has punched in 32 goals with 33 assists this season.

"Poljak is by far the most dangerous player on their team in my opinion, so we have to try and bottle him up and keep him from doing what he does best," Hestin said.

The Penguins have put together a solid season with

a young team, and Colucci believes the squad has matured over the course of the long haul.

"Everybody on our team understands their role and everybody does what they can to contribute to the win," he said.

Playing unselfish hockey has proved to be a winning formula for the Penguins. Even with a chance to become the league leader in goals scored before the season ends, Poljak said he only has one goal in mind this weekend.

"Just getting the win, that's all I'm worried about," he said.

Collegiate Hockey Mid America Standings

University	Record	Points
Washington & Jefferson	20-8	42
Youngstown State	16-11	30
Slippery Rock	11-8	23
Indiana (Pa.)	9-12	20
Duquesne	6-17	13
Pittsburgh	5-15	11
John Carroll	2-19	6

Source: achahockey.org

NEWS

Super Bowl media machine draws in more than just football fans

Emily Thayer
JAMBAR CONTRIBUTOR

For many Youngstown State University students Super Bowl XLI - which will kickoff at 6:25 p.m., Sunday and feature a match-up between the Indianapolis Colts and the Chicago Bears. It will be a mixed bag of interest, indifference and indulgence.

A lack of local flavor has ruined the game for some YSU students.

"Since the Steelers aren't playing the Super Bowl is a waste of time," YSU student Gina Peretti said.

Even though the 30 other NFL teams will be watching the game unfold on TV, some fans of these squads have divided among the most general lines when choosing which team to root for Sunday.

Lelan Jones, a YSU student and Cincinnati Bengals fan, would like to see the Colts win because they represented the AFC.

Still others are lured in by the big name stars and the even bigger storylines that have been hyped for super Sunday.

YSU student Toby Ellis has been influenced by perhaps the biggest plot point

of the game.

"I'm cheering for the Colts because Peyton Manning deserves to win his first Super Bowl," Ellis said.

Manning, who will be playing to prove that he can win the big game, has drawn fans to the contest for others reasons as well.

YSU student Tyler Griffin disagrees with Ellis and feels that the Bears' defense will be too strong for the veteran signal caller.

"Peyton Manning is whack," he said.

Another major point of interest for many fans will be the historical significance

of the showdown between Colts head coach Tony Dungy and his Bears counterpart Lovie Smith, the first two African Americans to coach in the Super Bowl.

"Although I don't care who wins the Super Bowl this year, I'm just glad that there are two African American coaches," said YSU football player Aaron Pitts.

But for some the showcase of on-field talent comes second to the spectacle of the year's biggest advertising day.

YSU junior Tyler Tea said he's most looking forward to watching this year's

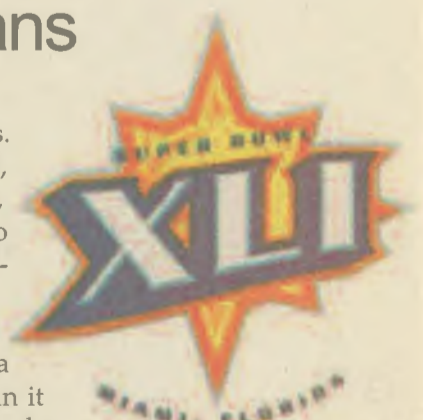
Budweiser commercials.

The much publicized, yet often disappointing, halftime show also draws many non-football fans into the fold.

Whether you're a Colts or Bears fan, a football fanatic or just in it for the entertainment the Super Bowl is always a good excuse to go out and have a good time with friends.

To celebrate the big game Youngstown's Buffalo Wild Wings will have specials on wings along with its daily happy hour from 3 p.m. to 9 p.m.

The Youngstown Sports



Grill will be offer a commemorative Coors Light NFL cup for \$3.00 will all refills costing \$2.50.

Jones said he plans to have a great time wherever he happens to watch the game Sunday.