

# THE JAMBAR

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VALLEY'S THUNDER ROLL INTO NEW SEASON

THE SIDEBAR



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|           |   |         |
|-----------|---|---------|
| Today     | ☁ | 52° 38° |
| Friday    | ☀ | 58° 39° |
| Saturday  | ☁ | 58° 43° |
| Sunday    | ☁ | 43° 32° |
| Monday    | ☀ | 52° 35° |
| Tuesday   | ☁ | 54° 38° |
| Wednesday | ☁ | 51° 39° |

Remember to recycle your copy of The Jambar.

## CUTTING CLASSES

### Deans advised to cut summer class workload

Samantha Pysher  
REPORTER

In order to reduce the summer semester budget deficit, Provost Ikram Khawaja has advised college deans and department chairs to reduce their class workloads by 10 percent.

Khawaja said by reducing the summer workload by 10 percent, up to 20 percent of the deficit would be covered. However, students' needs would still

be kept in mind, Khawaja said. "At this point we'll have to take it one step at a time," Khawaja said, adding that at the moment, these cuts are set solely for this summer.

Khawaja said the sooner students enroll for summer semester courses, the better, because administrators will have a better idea of what enrollment will be like.

"There's a budget and we've exceeded that for many summers, so we're trying to reduce the size of the deficit," Khawaja

said. Dean of the Williamson College of Business Administration Betty Jo Licata said adjustments to the summer schedule workload were made in a way that will enable students to take the courses that they need.

"Our first priority is always meeting the needs of the students," Licata said. "Decisions on which courses to drop were based on part of last summer's enrollment. We didn't drop any courses that students may need in order to graduate."

Licata also said it is vital for students to register for summer classes early, and preferably in April.

Other Youngstown State University colleges have cuts similar to the WCBA.

Janice Elias, interim dean of the College of Health and Human Services, said two things were kept in mind when making cuts.

Elias said the first was to reduce the number of sections some of the classes are offered,

CUTTING page 2

## YSU reduces energy costs

Emmalee C. Torisk  
NEWS EDITOR

Through various campus-wide energy efficiency improvements, Youngstown State University's electricity usage has dropped approximately 10 percent since 2005.

Campus electrical usage has decreased about 4 million kilowatt hours since the implementation of an energy-efficiency plan through Johnson Controls Inc., a worldwide building efficiency and power solutions company, said YSU facilities engineer Ralph Morrone. In 2008, 40.5 million kilowatt hours were used, as compared to 44 million kilowatt hours three years prior.

Morrone said a great deal of this reduction could be attributed to the campus lighting conversion, which "saved a significant amount of energy." As per the performance contract, more energy-efficient lighting was installed in all campus buildings. Thus far, the switch from T12 to T8 light bulbs has resulted in a "major reduction in energy and electrical energy," Morrone said.

Additionally, included in the list of energy-efficiency improvements across YSU's campus were upgrades to the cooling and steam heating systems. Morrone said the cooling systems, or "chillers," are the driving force behind summer air conditioning and run from April 15 to Nov. 15, while the steam heating systems are used to heat campus in the winter.

Without improvements made in the last few years, Morrone said YSU's electrical usage would have reached 50 million kilowatt hours in 2008. Each kilowatt hour is equivalent to approximately 7.5 cents; a reduction of 4 million kilowatt hours thus saves YSU a little more than \$300,000 per year. Similar savings for this year are predicted.

The goal of the Johnson Control's contract is to grant a yearly energy savings of \$1.3 million, Morrone said. Additionally, YSU is approaching that goal, which the contract guarantees.

YSU is currently looking for additional ways to reduce utility costs in the future, Morrone said. One plan involves water conservation measures that consist of collecting rainwater from campus building roofs, among other locations, and using rainwater, instead of water purchased from the city, to water various places on campus.

Another utility cost reduction measure would be to clean air handlers and coolers. Morrone said this would promote a better heat transfer and improve their efficiency. Morrone also suggested LED or high-efficiency lighting for landscaping and parking lots and decks, as well as modifications to the central utility plant, which produces all chilled water for campus.

Morrone said YSU has been pursuing various environmentally friendly solutions for several years. Prior to Ohio's House Bill 251, the Advanced Energy Law, YSU had already met the governor's requirements of the bill and reduced a great deal of the utilities across campus.

"We're ahead of the curve," Morrone said. "We try to take a pretty proactive approach to energy and being green."

## Real guitar heroes

Members of The Dana school of Music's Guitar program, such as Benjamin Dague, right, perform solo pieces at the Recital Hall Wednesday evening for the Dana Guitar Ensemble recital. The annual performance also included quartets such as the Dana Quartet 3.



## Small business internships may increase under Fingerhut's plan

Dan Pompili  
REPORTER

According to a March 17 press release from the Ohio Board of Regents, Chancellor Eric Fingerhut is requesting grant proposals from colleges and universities across the state for the Ohio Cooperative Education and Internship Program.

The program would distribute \$250 million over five years to "establish and expand co-op and internship programs throughout the state."

The OCEIP is part of Gov. Ted Strickland's \$1.57 billion Ohio Bipartisan Job Stimulus Plan, which includes initiatives to create new jobs.

According to several professors at Youngstown State University, the OCEIP could expand internship and co-op op-

portunities among small to medium sized businesses.

Jim Ritter, director of undergraduate student services at the Williamson College of Business Administration, said there is a distinct lack of internship and co-op opportunities among those businesses and therefore they would "by default, be the target."

Dr. Steven Rodabaugh, interim dean for the College of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics, elaborated upon this point. He said small and medium sized businesses in Northeast Ohio do not have the resources to provide internships or co-ops, or to provide the training for their employees to mentor students.

Rodabaugh said there is a need for better student placement regionally, and current internship and co-op programs

are not optimally and mutually beneficial for the colleges, businesses and students.

"We're hoping the state will provide funding to help us turn that around," said Rodabaugh.

Traditionally, YSU has had its best success with Business and STEM related internships and co-op programs.

However, Shearle Furnish, dean of YSU's College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences, said while the program may allocate funds to expand existing programs, he believes the state will be more interested in proposals for new programs.

"There are at least two proposals coming from [CLASS.] but I haven't talked to everyone yet," said Furnish.

The two programs he specifically said may benefit from the OCEIP are gerontology and journalism, though sociology

and applied history were also mentioned.

Furnish outlined three primary benefits of the OCEIP as he understands it. He said it would make more opportunities available for more students, increase the number of paid internship positions, and leverage small businesses to allocate time and resources for interns and co-op students.

In general, Furnish said all disciplines will be under pressure to increase opportunities for students and to make paid internships more common.

The possibility of colleges paying stipends to the employees of businesses who hire interns was also mentioned. However, Furnish said colleges would probably not want to raise the expectation for this to become common practice.

## News Briefs

### Chris Yambar displays artwork at SMARTS center

Youngstown native Chris Yambar will be displaying his work at an exhibit held at the SMARTS center until May 9. Yambar is a nationally acclaimed neo-pop artist. A special artist reception will be held on April 1 from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

### "Miss Julie" to open in the Spotlight Arena

A vivid depiction of the battle of the sexes, "Miss Julie" will open tonight in the Spotlight Arena at 7:30 p.m. It will also run March 27-29 and April 3-5. Tickets are free to YSU students.

### Homecoming committee accepts apps for chair

Applications are being accepted for anyone who wants to serve as 2009 Homecoming Chair. Those interested should drop off a letter of interest at the campus recreation and student programming office in Kilcawley Center by 4 p.m. April 10.

### Controlling Board released \$1.3 million to improve Spring Street

YSU will receive money to make improvements to Spring Street similar to the recent improvements made to University Plaza.

The state Controlling Board released \$1.3 million to improve Spring Street, which sits in between the Andrews Student Recreation and Wellness Center. Ron Cole, manager of news and information services, said the money would be spent on improvements to the streets, landscaping and lighting. Cole also said the university will be putting in a traffic circle, similar to the one on University Plaza.

The improvements are part of a larger effort to turn Spring Street into a center of campus activity.

## Police Briefs

### Car parked in lot with old sticker

An officer was sent to the R-2 lot on March 23 in reference to a vehicle parked in the lot displaying a YSU parking tag for spring 2009 with a fall 2008 validation sticker. Two tickets were issued due to the car having two owners.

### Woman loses laptop

On March 23, an officer was dispatched to Cushman Hall in regard to the theft of a laptop computer. The victim stated that she had left her property inside the restroom while she in a stall. Upon exiting, it was missing.

### Missing wallet found

On March 23, an anonymous subject handed an officer a wallet that they had found on the Lincoln Avenue sidewalk. When the victim was located, he advised that while all other cards were in the wallet, 98 dollars in cash was missing. The officer later found the money in the victim's car.

### Man put under arrest

On March 23, a suspect was summoned to the Kilcawley Coordinator's Office where he later received a warrant for his arrest issued from Youngstown Municipal Court for theft. The suspect was arrested and transported to the Mahoning County Jail for his arrest booking.

# Award-winning alumni credits YSU for successes

**Alicia Pattillo**  
REPORTER

When Craig Duff enrolled in college at Youngstown State University, he could not imagine the journey life would take him.

Duff, who is now an award-winning broadcast journalist, producer and writer said, "YSU was very valuable to me."

"My life has been a series of experiences of who I am and what I am today, based on my experiences from YSU," Duff said.

While a YSU student, Duff said several significant experiences came from being highly involved on campus. His time spent at the university's theater, student government, radio and music organizations gave Duff an experimental ground.

Duff said that even during his time teaching at Princeton University, he still found his experiences at YSU to be priceless.

After earning a bachelor of arts degree from YSU, Duff earned a master's of arts degree in radio, television and film from the University of Texas at Austin.

Austin.

"After you graduate, you don't stop learning," Duff said. "I encourage more education; for me, earning my master's degree was like becoming a ripened fruit before I hit the market," Duff said.

Duff and his many accomplishments have been honored by numerous awards, ranging from Emmy's to honors from the Huston, Chicago and Columbus educational film festivals.

Additionally, Duff has had many unforgettable travel experiences. From his week spent on an aircraft carrier to floating in the sky in a hot air balloon over the Masai Mara, Duff has seen it all. Still, Duff cherishes his time in the Middle East.

In May 2003, Duff traveled to Iraq for a program on the hunt for Saddam Hussein. He called this the "golden moment."

"I was probably in more danger than I realized," Duff said. "I'm not afraid of many things, [but] I am afraid of people with guns."

Regardless, Duff said, "If it hadn't been for me to experience life in the Middle East, I would have never understood their issues."

their issues."

Duff said living in Cairo was an amazing experience for him, and that he now "understands that region so much better."

Currently, Duff is the director of multimedia for Time's Web site. Duff said his position there challenges every level of experience he has had thus far.

Duff describes himself as "incredibly lucky" for his accomplishments.

"I have placed myself in situations where these opportunities can happen," Duff said.

Duff is thankful to have been in the presence of great people, such as past teachers, mentors, family and friends.

Duff said former YSU professor Dick James was an instrumental and inspiring part of his time at YSU.

"Dick James nudged me just enough to encourage me that I could be and do something in life," Duff said.

"When you live in a society where everything is so interconnected, it doesn't matter where you're from, whether it is from Youngstown or Egypt or Baghdad; don't ever let anything get in your way," Duff said. "There are no limits."

### CUTTING page 1

while maintaining a range of course offerings.

"Most courses will still be open, just with less sections," Elias said.

The second was not offering those courses where only a few students may have enrolled during previous semesters.

Although she said students "may find it difficult to get their ideal summer schedule," Elias said she believes the 10 percent cut for summer semester courses is the best way to reduce expenditures without creating hardships for students.

"I think given the current economic situation, it's unavoidable," Elias said.

However, YSU junior Chrishayra Whitfield does not agree with the planned summer semester cuts.

Whitfield said she thinks the cuts will hurt students who want to catch up on classes. She also said it is possible that some cut classes may have been essential for students, especially if summer is the only time they are able to take courses.

A better way to make the 10 percent cut for the summer semester would be to cut an unnecessary program, Whitfield said.

Junior Mycah Wells does not agree with the 10 percent cut in the summer workload this coming summer semester either.

"It's stopping the furthering of an education," Wells said, adding that students are losing the luxury of being able to take some summer courses.

Furthermore, with the cut, students might be unable to take the classes they might want to take, she said.

"It hasn't happened to me so far, but the idea of it makes me mad," Wells said.

If the class she needs is not offered, Wells said she would write a letter to campus administrators saying that the cut has prevented her from graduating when she was supposed to.

"It might not work, but it never hurts to try," Wells said.

## Classifieds

### HELP WANTED

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#### April Fool...NOT!

Chris says any 2009 housing lease signed by April 30th gets 2008 pricing. 1 & 2 bedroom apartments + 4 & 5 bedroom homes available now or in August. 330-743-7368 (RENT)

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2 bdrm, apt less than 5 min from YSU 400 mo. Includes stove fridge washer dryer water & sewer + gas & Electric. 330-759-2966.

### LOST

LOST Diamond and Blue Sapphire Bracelet on Thursday AM, 3-5-09, in Beeghly Center, 1st Floor. Reward. Call 330-978-7225.

### EVENT

Taize Prayer Service, Thursday, March 26th at The First Presbyterian Church at the corner of Wick and Wood at 7:00p. This will be a special Lenten Prayer Service of beautiful music and prayers. There will be Taize hymns, readings, and periods of silence for meditation and prayer--one-half hour service.

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# YSU SPRING JOB EXPO 2009

Tuesday, April 21 • 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.  
Kilcawley Center Chestnut Room

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AFLAC  
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Antares Management Solutions  
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Associates in Counseling & Child Guidance  
AVI Foodsystems, Inc.  
Becker Professional Review  
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Custom Valve  
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Intertek Testing Services NA, Inc.  
Kettering Police Department  
National City Corporation - RDP  
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Are you looking for real experience to help land that real job? Then look at the *Jambar* or *Penguin Review Literary Magazine*. Applications are now being accepted for the upcoming 2009 summer and 2009-10 academic year [August-May] student positions. All positions receive a paid stipend. Applicants will be interviewed by the Student Publication Committee in mid-April.

### Who should apply?

To apply for a paid position you must:

- (1) be enrolled in YSU's spring 2009 semester,
- (2) be in good standing,
- (3) be enrolled for 12 or more hours,
- (4) and you must have completed course **ENG #2622 News Reporting** or be currently enrolled in ENG #2622 for spring 2009. [Also listed as JOURN #2622]. If you do not meet all four of these requirements you will not be considered for a PAID *Jambar* position; however please do email the *Jambar* for VOLUNTEER staffing opportunities at [thejambar@gmail.com](mailto:thejambar@gmail.com).

■ Editor and Manager positions also require the successful completion of initial journalism and/or professional writing and editing courses.

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Application Deadline: 1pm, Tuesday, March 31, 2009

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## Derby girls steeled for competition

Melissa Mary Smith  
REPORTER

Tiffany Griffith, league member and coach of the Little Steel Roller Derby Girls, knows there are misconceptions out there about roller derby.

"If you say roller derby, everybody's like, 'is that the sport where girls punch each other in the faces?' Griffith said.

Despite the stereotype, roller derby has evolved. While players are allowed to use their butts and bodies to block, punching, elbowing and tripping are not allowed, Griffith said.

Now, local women have a chance to partake in the sport.

After watching other leagues in various cities, Griffith created the Little Steel Roller Derby Girls in Youngstown in November.

"We were like, 'Well, let's just do it; let's bring it to Youngstown, see how it goes. You know, if it goes great, if not, then we tried,'" Griffith said.

While Griffith admits to having no personal history in roller derby, she said that her background in skating comes from ice skating when she was younger.

The one league member who has roller derby experience is Mandy Tucker. Tucker used to be on the Northeast Ohio Rocking Roller Girls league.

After moving to Youngstown, she has helped out the Little Steel league with her knowledge of the game and its rules.

As far as the rest of the 17-member league is concerned, Griffith said that

there are skaters of many different backgrounds.

"Everybody is either just a recreational skater, you know, interested in skating, hasn't skated for 10 years, but wants to skate," Griffith said.

Apart from finding more sponsors for Little Steel, Griffith said she is recruiting new members and at some point is expanding the league to at least 45 members before officially starting a season. Having more members means the league could divide up into four teams during matches.

Although it's a newly formed league, Griffith appears to be goal oriented in what she wants to accomplish in the

terms of recommendation from coaches of other leagues stating that the team and its members are ready to play.

Griffith uses the WFRDA rule book as their set of guidelines when practicing.

Since forming, Little Steel has been deep in training and has two-hour practice sessions at Youngstown Skate in Boardman every other Sunday.

"Normally, leagues would practice up to two to three times a week, but since we're fairly new and don't have any large sponsors; we just don't have the money to do that yet. [Its] kind of expensive to rent the rink out by yourself," Griffith said.

"When the ref blows the whistle, the pack takes off and they'll blow a second whistle for the jammers and the jammers will take off," Griffith said. The two jammers compete to get through the pack of girls.

They score one point for each player that they pass on their opposing team.

The round lasts two minutes and in that time, the jammers try to score as many points as possible while going around the circumference of the track.

The sport has attracted women who also like the sport for its social benefits.

Youngstown State University freshman Amanda Sigler joined Little Steel after being contacted through MySpace by Griffith last winter, and is now the league vice president.

"One of the main reasons that I joined was because of the camaraderie. I've met so many really cool people," Sigler said.

Sigler also said that being in the league has served as a social outlet and allowed her to make really good friends from Youngstown.

Still, Sigler also believes that there are misconceptions to roller derby.

"Another one of the misconceptions is that we're just like a bunch of brute women. Most of the girls on our league are college educated. Lisa [Vario] has a master's."

"There's very intelligent people.



We're smart and successful, but we just like to have fun," Sigler said. YSU graduate and Little Steel member and treasurer, Lisa Vario

joined the league in the summer of 2008.

"I really like everyone in our league. I think that the camaraderie between everyone is really good," Vario said.

Former YSU student and Little Steel member Sarah Cragle joined the league last October.

Cragle explained that her interest in roller derby was first piqued after watching a reality show about roller derby girls a few years ago.

"I love it. [I] just like meeting new girls, you know, and just putting something into the community," Cragle said.

Griffin said that the idea of the roller derby league has already been met with good reception.

"The public loves the idea. Anybody I talk to loves it," Griffith said.

As far as campus relevance is concerned, Griffith said that the league recently received approval for its own YSU roller derby interest group.

Griffith said that if girls are interested in joining the Little Steel Roller Derby Girls, the league isn't strict in its recruiting: Players must be 21 and have health insurance.

"We pretty much give everybody a chance. If they don't like it, they go and if they do like it, they are able to join the league," Griffith said.

Photo courtesy of Little Steel Derby Girls.

*"One of the main reasons that I joined was because of the camaraderie. I've met so many really cool people."*

Amanda Sigler

coming months.

"Our first season would hopefully be next year," Griffith said.

"The goal of your league is to be sanctioned by the Women's Flat Track Roller Derby Association. So that would be something that we'd like to get done if not next year, the following year," Griffith added.

In order to achieve the sanctioning Griffith discussed, the league usually has to have a year and a half's worth of experience, a bout with three other established leagues and lastly, three let-

The Little Steel Roller Derby Girls' practice sessions entail warm up of jogging, 10 to 15 minutes of dynamic stretching, 20 minutes of endurance skating, scrimmaging and in the last hour, drill work and cool downs.

While roller derby is a new idea to Youngstown sports, some might not understand the point of the game.

The point of the game is to score points. Five players are on each team. Two jammers stand back about ten feet behind the pack of girls that make up the rest of the game.

## Hit the rec: April clinics scheduled

Josh Stipanovich  
SPORTS REPORTER

Though the semester is winding down, the Andrews Wellness and Recreation Center still has a variety of clinics to give students a second opportunity to get into shape by summer.

The final three clinics of the spring semester are approaching quickly, and each has different objectives to help students, faculty and members.

Working out and maintaining those abdominals is not always the easiest job, but the More for the Core Clinic will help the desired participant make and maintain a program based on their own needs.

This clinic will also give more knowledge of lower back exercises as well. Most of the exercises involve body movements which target specific areas of the core using workout programs and toys such as Pilates, medicine ball, stability ball, isometrics and stabilization.

Fitness graduate assistant and strength conditioning intern, Ryan Monti, explains that the program is efficient because it does more than just teaches the exercises.

"It's taking those exercises and implementing them into your program," Monti said.

The clinic will be split into two halves. Monti said that one half will be in a lecture format, and the other half will be interactive.

"You hear what the exercises are, and then you would go through it yourself," Monti said.

The Bench Press Competition is the second clinic

that's held in April, and the third annual competition at the Recreation Center. It will be held on Saturday, April 18 from 10 a.m.-1 p.m.

According to Monti, participants will be divided into weight classes to help determine their max-out weight along with how many repetitions can be done at their own body weight.

Monti encourages participants to sign up as soon as possible because some of the other skills associated with this clinic will be determined by the number of people who sign up.

The Need for Speed Clinic will be the last clinic of the semester, and it will be held on Thursday, April 30 from 4:30 p.m.-5:30 p.m.

Monti said it is an agility based program that is designed to increase speed and agility performance.

Exercises involved include plyometrics, isometrics, speed training, coordination and resistance training, all of which will help all types of people.

"It's [the clinic] higher-performance, but it's not just designated for the athlete as well as designated for the recreational person who wants to improve their shooting quality, performance on the basketball court or performing simply in physical activity in daily living," Monti said.

Any student, faculty or member can attend the clinics. There are no sign up deadlines for the clinics, but you can sign up at the administrative office suite at the recreation center with the secretary or student staff worker.

Monti recommends that participants sign up before the clinic so they know what to prepare for.

All clinics will be held in the Aerobics Studio inside the Rec Center.



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The JAMBAR The Jambor at YSU

Wall Info Photos Boxes

### Facebook adds 'we're related' application

Britney Perkins  
REPORTER

By now, many Facebook users are no doubt cautious of their online actions, because they know future employers can use the social networking site to obtain background information.

However, there is now another group to be watching out for: family.

According to an August 2007 Business Week article, in June of 2007 the amount of Facebook users over the age of 35 doubled to 11.5 million.

Family members on Facebook are becoming so popular that there is now an application for them. The "we're related" application is designed to help users

find their family members, build a family tree and share news and photos with family. There are 15,636,941 active users on this application as of March 23.

Additionally, a "family tree" application has similar functions.

On the opposite side, there is now a group titled "Adults need to stay off Facebook" that is against parental units having Facebook accounts. As of March 24 the group has 553 members.

Facebook first became available to Youngstown State University students in 2005. In order to join, the user had to have a college or university e-mail address. Later, Facebook opened itself up to high school students, and in September 2006, Facebook opened up its virtual doors to everyone.

Youngstown State University students have differing opinions on parents and relatives creating Facebook profiles.

Senior David Munnell is becoming more cautious about what he puts up on his Facebook page.

"I just had an aunt who friended me on Facebook. I am really careful about what I post on my wall now because there are some things that I wouldn't want my family to know," Munnell said.

However, senior Angelica Wooden likes to use Facebook to keep in contact with two of her cousins, who go to school in Chicago and Japan.

"We are close and it's nice to have this to keep in contact. We really haven't been home since high school," Wooden said.

## Social networking pushes beyond the virtual spectrum

Wailin Wong  
CHICAGO TRIBUNE

For Brad Bretz, social networking brought gaming out of the basement.

Eight years ago, the video game enthusiast started lurking on TeamXbox.com, a community site for fans of the Microsoft gaming system.

He eventually became an active participant on the forums. In 2005, Bretz got a press pass to shoot pictures at E3, an annual gamers confab, where he was

able to meet other Team Xbox members in person.

Today, the freelance Chicago photographer keeps in touch with gaming friends he's met through the site and sees them at offline events.

His E3 photos got him noticed by Microsoft, which invited him to the 2006 convention as an official photographer for the company and awarded him for his contributions to the community.

"Gaming (now) seems more family-oriented," said Bretz, who started his own site at XboxPulse.com.

Social networking has "dealienated the gamer from the status

of 'you're in your basement' or 'you're just staring at your screen.'"

Some skeptics believe online social networking isolates rather than connects, since it enables users to substitute Web-based interaction for human contact. But Bretz's experience shows how the opposite can be true. Forms of entertainment that start as mostly solitary pursuits can gain new meaning when social networking features are added to the mix.

Hulu, the site run by NBC Universal and News Corp.

that makes TV shows available online, introduced "Hulu Friends" recently. Users who sign up for the service and connect

with their friends can see what others in their network are watching, as well as their ratings and comments on shows.

This might be oversharing for some people I don't need my friends knowing that I stayed in over the weekend to watch old episodes of "Party of Five" but I can see the appeal. After all, TV shows and movies make for some of the best conversation fodder, whether it's between strangers at a cocktail party or good friends over dinner.

Last month, while I was watching the seemingly interminable Academy Awards telecast, I logged on to Twitter to look at

Oscar-themed chatter. It wasn't like going to an Oscar party at a friend's house, but it was amusing enough and hinted at the potential of what a more personal experience could be like, had more of my real-life friends been online at the same time.

Motorola Labs staff has tested several prototypes of this social TV system. One feature lets connected households see what the other is viewing in real-time and switch to the same program, while also chatting via on-screen text or an audio connection. While the concept is still being tested, it's not hard to envision a future where your TV set

or bundled cable and broadband Internet subscription comes with optional social features. Xbox users can get Xbox Live, a premium service that allows online multiplayer gaming, video and voice chatting, and even streaming movies from Netflix.

"I don't think a lot of us were aware how big a service like Xbox Live would be," Bretz said. "PC gaming had some roots in community-based, online play. But it hit the console in the living room. ... It's grown so much."

Years ago, you couldn't have imagined the impact that this service would have socially."

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### ABOUT THE JAMBAR

Since being founded by Burke Lyden in 1931, The Jambar has won nine Associated Collegiate Press Honors. The Jambar is published twice weekly during the fall and spring semesters and weekly during summer sessions. Mail subscriptions are \$25 per academic year. Additional copies of The Jambar are \$1 each.

### OUR SIDE EDITORIAL

## Breaking the mold

#### RELATED STORY

ALUMNI, page 1

THE JAMBAR EDITORIAL BOARD

Even out of the most depressed of cities, there are examples of why all hope is not lost.

Youngstown State University alum Craig Duff is one of these examples. Duff is on campus to discuss his work as director of multimedia for Time magazine's Web site.

Duff's example is encouraging on two levels. First is the example he sets for young journalists, who are constantly inundated with bad news about their field. Rather than abandoning journalism for other endeavors, Duff has adapted with a changing medium. Journalism isn't dying, it's just struggling to find its new identity in multimedia.

The other example he sets holds a broader appeal to everyone at YSU. Following his bachelor's degree, Duff continued his education and has been able to find success.

Youngstown doesn't have to be a curse.

People who graduate from YSU instead of some other, more prestigious university do not have to settle for mediocrity. Education is the key. Those who work hard to learn as much as they can will have opportunities to succeed regardless of the school they graduated from or the town they were born in.

It is true that some will look down at a YSU education. They may see it as inferior to other institutions. If we recognize that we have to work that much harder, we are still able to rise above this stigma.

Students at some institutions may get opportunities handed to them, and it is true that at YSU this is not the case. We know that we must work for each of the bullet points under "work experience" on our resumes. Still, one can argue that the effort we put in to achieve our success sets us apart from those who didn't have to work as hard.

### OUR SIDE POLICY

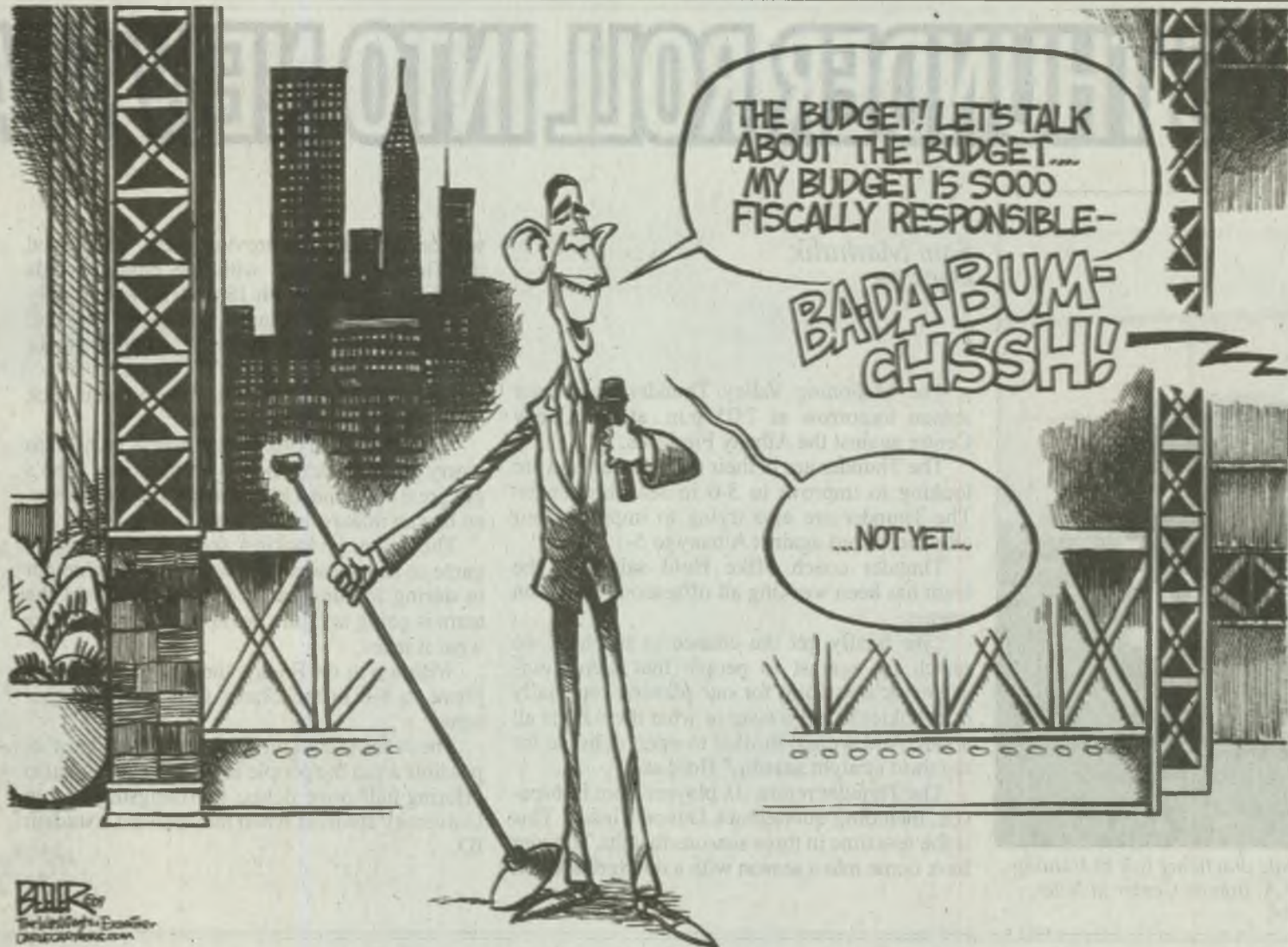
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THE TONIGHT SHOW with BARACK OBAMA

The views of this syndicated artist do not necessarily agree with those of The Jambar.

### LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Editor,  
The Jambar editorial board stated in Tuesday's Preserving History that the university has plans to tear down the Pilgrim Collegiate Church.

However, according to a statement issued by Hunter Morrison, director of Campus Planning & Community Partnership, on Feb. 11, "YSU has made no decisions concerning the future of the building."

We are exploring all reasonable options. To this end we will be undertaking the following actions: - Conducting a thorough analysis of the historic value of the building, its integrity and its contribution to the larger Wick Avenue district; - Conducting a thorough assessment of potential future university uses of the building as a whole; - Conducting a thorough review of the property as a site for possible future development; and - Conducting a thorough review of an interim use of the site — absent the sanctuary and the classroom building — for surface parking and enhanced landscaping that will establish an attractive entrance to the campus from downtown Youngstown.

We welcome pragmatic recommendations for the future of this important site and are open to meeting with parties seriously interested in exploring realistic alternatives for reuse of the building and grounds."

A student ad-hoc committee was formed on March 16 to explore possible uses for the building.

Mikaella Miller  
Student

### COMMENTARY

## The making of a suicide bomber

Abaceen Nasimi

THE INSTITUTE FOR WAR AND PEACE REPORTING

The school seemed normal enough at first.

"For a year, they gave us religious lessons, and they would also preach jihad," said the young man originally from Helmand province in Afghanistan of the madrasa he attended in Pakistan.

Slowly, however, the lessons began to change and the school's true mission became clear.

"They started to tell us that we should go to Afghanistan and fight," said the youth, who asked that his name not be used because he feared reprisals from his former classmates. "They were preparing suicide bombers."

Only when he returned home for a brief visit and witnessed an attack did he decide to withdraw from the school.

"I saw how innocent people suffered in those attacks," he said. Still, he said, "I thought about my fellow students back at the madrasa. I could under-

stand the suicide bomber."

With the education system in troubled Helmand province all but collapsed, an increasing number of young men are being sent by their parents to religious schools in nearby Pakistan to continue their education. While many are legitimate, others are little more than terrorist training grounds.

Helmand is especially fertile ground for such recruits. The province is not only one of the epicenters of the Taliban insurgency, but also leads the world in opium poppy production. The nexus of the drug trade and the insurgency means normal life has all but ceased in the area.

Many schools in the province have been forced to close over the past three years. According to the provincial Department of Education, about 54,000 school-age children regularly attend classes this year, less than half the number that attended school a year ago, and only one-fifth of an estimated 245,000 school-age youths in the province.

According to Sher Agha Safi, the head of Helmand's education department, schools are currently operating in only

three of Helmand's 13 districts.

Only a few madrasas operate in the entire province, he said.

"We would like a madrasa in each district," said Safi.

So, while families might like to keep their sons closer to home for their education, they have no choice other but to allow them to travel to Pakistan.

While Gulab Mangal, the governor of Helmand, has promised to address the problem of higher education in his province, it remains a relatively low priority given the current security concerns.

"Those students who are in Pakistan are being misused," Mangal said. "Pakistan is brainwashing them and using them for suicide attacks. I call on all Helmandis to take their children out of Pakistan."

A high-ranking official in the education ministry, who asked that his name not be used because he is not authorized to speak to the press, said that Pakistani madrasas had been training radicals since at least the 1990s.

"It is true that jihadists are being recruited in Pakistan," he

said. "I was a madrasa student in Karachi in the mid-1990s, and there were foreign students Arabs, Chechens training there then."

Not that operating a madrasa in Helmand province doesn't have its own difficulties.

"There are problems if you stay in Helmand," said one father, who asked that his name not be used out of fear of reprisals. "The Taliban come to the madrasas and try to put pressure on the students to join them, to fight against the foreigners and the Afghan government. They say that the students should kill anyone who benefits from the government, no matter whether he is a doctor, a teacher, an engineer, just kill them."

So, parents face a choice: Keep their sons at home to be recruited by the Taliban or send them to Pakistan to be trained as a suicide bomber.

"I sent one of my sons to Pakistan," said another parent who asked not to be named. "I had to, because the Taliban were coming and trying to take him away. So I sent him to school in Pakistan, where he was trained to become a suicide bomber."

### COMMENTARY

## The biggest Ponzi scheme in history

Dan Edge

THE UNDERCURRENT

Bernard Madoff's \$50 billion hedge fund scam is being called "the biggest Ponzi scheme in history." Over the past ten years, Madoff scammed individual investors, hedge funds and charities out of billions of dollars, embezzling money that was supposed to have been invested. When the stock market tanked in late 2008 and Madoff's victims tried to withdraw their money, his fund had less than \$7 billion left. The sheer enormity of his fraud has rocked the financial world and shocked the nation.

According to the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), a Ponzi scheme is a form of fraud in which "money from new investors is used to pay off earlier investors until the whole scheme collapses." Usually, investors are ensnared by promises of inordinately high returns. Those few who wish to withdraw their money may do so. On paper, everyone seems to be doing very well.

But there is a much greater Ponzi scheme at work in the U.S., one which has duped millions of people out of trillions of dollars for over 50 years. The title of "biggest Ponzi Scheme in history" rightfully belongs to Social Security.

Social Security was set up as a Ponzi scheme from the beginning. Money taken from new "investors" was used to pay off earlier "investors," or to pay off those who never invested money at all. The money taken from one's paycheck each month is not saved for his retirement but is immediately spent on other retirees.

As with other Ponzi schemes, at first this structure appeared stable. The Baby Boomer generation was much larger than the preceding generation, so there was plenty of money to go around. But now, as the Boomers are beginning to retire, the consequences of this massive fraud are becoming apparent. The government has delayed the inevitable collapse of the program by raising the retirement age and continually raising the Social Security tax rate. On the face of it, the Madoff scandal and Social Security seem completely different.

The real difference between Bernie Madoff and the federal government is that Madoff is subject to prosecution for his fraud, while the U.S. government can and does commit its theft with impunity. Madoff is a criminal, and deserves the emphysema he has received.

## Zoos: Boredom behind bars

Lisa Wathne

PETA

Did you hear the one about the elephant in a zoo who was so bored they built a gigantic treadmill? Or how about the octopus in an aquarium that passes its days shorting out the lights by squirting jets of water at them? These examples along with a recent story about a chimpanzee in a Swedish zoo who stockpiles rocks to throw at gawking visitors may sound like fodder for late-night comics, but they are actually heartbreaking, all too real, anecdotes.

It is impossible to imagine being confined for our entire lives, as captive animals are. The very essence of freedom is being able to come and go as we please, decide when and what to eat, hang out with people we like and avoid those we don't, choose and court our mates and decide whether or

not to have children. We punish criminals in our society by denying them these liberties. Yet animals in zoos, who have committed no crimes, are denied all of these important choices.

We assuage our guilt about keeping animals in captivity by convincing ourselves the animals don't "know any better." But any living beings who are denied their freedom instinctively know they are missing something. Natural instincts don't somehow disappear just because an animal isn't where he or she is supposed to be. Just like us, animals want and deserve to live their lives as nature intended.

Whatever their cognitive abilities, animals will do whatever they can to alleviate the unrelenting monotony of captivity. Those fascinating octopuses, for example, never miss an opportunity to express their dissatisfaction. Staffers at a California aquarium recently walked in to find the

facility flooded after an octopus pulled the plug on her tank.

Dottie, a boxfish who lives at a British aquarium, passes the time playing with a giant die, her only "companion." Unbelievably, aquarium officials admitted that they had hoped Dottie might eventually come to see the die as a mature and friendly adult boxfish.

Some animals become so disoriented by their artificially regimented lives they engage in behaviors they would never exhibit in the wild. Jenny, the lone elephant at the Dallas Zoo, is often doped up on mood-altering drugs in order to control her aggression and self-mutilating behaviors. Gus, a polar bear at New York's Central Park Zoo, spent so much of his time swimming figure eights in his pool he had to be put on antidepressants.

It's exceedingly rare for mother animals to reject their babies in the wild, yet mothers in zoos are

so far removed from their wild roots that birth often leaves them bewildered and afraid.

After enduring invasive and traumatic artificial insemination procedures, female elephants are frequently chained by all four legs as they give birth. It's little wonder they can become crazed and panicky.

Freedoms are more than just the ability to move about. True freedom means being able to love and play, seek pleasure, pursue interests, fulfill one's desires and live comfortably. Freedom is self-determination. All living beings, humans and animals, want those same things.

Our freedom is so precious to us we set aside a day every year to celebrate it. So how can we justify denying animals the freedoms they hold dear?



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## VALLEY'S THUNDER ROLL INTO NEW SEASON



Sam Marhulik  
REPORTER

The Thunder defense calls a play while practicing live at training camp last week at The Mayor Ralph A. Infante Center in Niles. Photos by Sam Marhulik/The Jambar.

The Mahoning Valley Thunder open their season tomorrow at 7:05 p.m. at the Chevy Centre against the Albany Firebirds.

The Thunder are in their third season and are looking to improve to 3-0 in season openers. The Thunder are also trying to improve their all-time record against Albany to 5-1.

Thunder coach Mike Hold said that the team has been working all offseason the season opener.

"We finally get the chance to see how we match up against to people that aren't ourselves. It's exciting for our players, especially our rookies to get a taste of what the AF2 is all about. And we are thrilled to open at home for the third straight season," Hold said.

The Thunder return six players from last season, including quarterback Davon Vinson. This is the first time in three seasons that the Thunder have come into a season with a quarterback that

was on the team the previous year. Vinson led the Thunder last year with 708 passing yards on 53 completions with 18 touchdowns to only three interceptions. Vinson also carried the ball nine times rushing for 49 yards and three touchdowns.

Coach Hold is excited to have Vinson back in the lineup.

"He knows that offense so there is no need to worry about getting the playbook down ... he's got great size, and a big arm. He's already proven he can make all the throws in this league."

The team is looking forward to Friday's game to showcase all the work that they've put in during training camp. Coach Hold said the team is going to figure out how to win no matter what it takes.

With a win on Friday, the Thunder will improve to 8-8 in the Chevy Centre in two seasons.

The team is looking for as much support as possible from the people in the area and are also offering half-price tickets to Youngstown State University students when they present a student ID.



## Hockey squad lands four recruits for next season

Josh Stipanovich  
SPORTS REPORTER

Since losing a heartbreaker to Indiana University of Pennsylvania just one month ago in the opening round of the Conference Hockey Mid-America playoffs, head coach Rocky Russo and the Youngstown State University men's hockey club have already signed four new players to their 2009-2010 squad.

Three of the four players are coming from junior hockey teams and will be attending YSU in the fall, while the fourth is a transfer student from Robert Morris College in Chicago.

Michael Evans, Ian Hardenbrook, Vince Famiglietti and Nick Walters are the chosen ones, and they will have their chance to help the Penguins maintain their powerhouse status in the CHMA.

The old saying is that defense wins championships, and

that was the Penguins' scheme all year long, which led them to their second playoff appearance in three years.

All four of the recruits will greatly impact and add to coach Russo's defensive mentality.

Evans is a 5-11, 180-pound forward who is coming from the Cleveland Lumberjacks Junior A team.

"Evans is a gritty power forward. He's a good skater and is sound defensively," Russo said. He has size and is a physical presence to opponents, he added.

Hardenbrook played with the Chicago Force's Junior A team last season, which is the same team that second year defenseman Alex Arnold played with before signing with the Penguins before the 2008-2009 season.

Hardenbrook and Arnold were partners on the ice defensively for the Chicago Force Junior A Squad, and they will now have the opportunity to play at the collegiate level together and dominate the ice defensively for the

Penguins.

"He is already in the top six, defensively," Russo said. He is a great addition to the team he added.

Famiglietti is a forward coming from the Pittsburgh Penguins' Junior C team, and according to Russo, Famiglietti is a "speedy forward," and has a knack for scoring goals.

"He is a big-time player for us," Russo said.

Former Eagle from Robert Morris College in Chicago, Nick Walters, made the decision to play at YSU next season because of the academics, Russo said.

He will be making a jump from Division II to Division I hockey next season, but Russo believes that will not make a difference.

"Nick has the experience. After playing in San Antonio and with Robert Morris at the collegiate level, he is definitely capable of playing in Division I," Russo said.



Forward Michael Stokar executes the zone defense that took them to the playoffs for the second time in three years. Photo by Josh Stipanovich/The Jambar.

## Lacrosse club looks toward first win, Autism tournament

Keith Langford Jr.  
SPORTS EDITOR

The Youngstown State University lacrosse club looks to get win number one as they battle the Ohio Dominican University Panthers at 2 p.m. Saturday at Stambaugh Stadium.

The season has not been a kind one for the Penguins lacrosse team.

The Penguins are 0-2 after suffering losses against Kent State University and Indiana University of Pennsylvania. KSU won the game on Feb. 18, 11-1 and on March 21, IUP got the best of Penguins with a score of 9-1.

Team captain junior Frank Bavero feels that even though

his team has struggled in the early part of the schedule, they can and will bounce back. "I'm not going to lie, it's been pretty brutal and rough so far this year. We have a solid team and there is no reason we can't be above .500 this year," Bavero said.

Bavero attributes the slow start to a lack of teamwork.

"Lots of guys are trying to do it themselves instead of using teamwork," Bavero said.

Still, Bavero feels confident in his team's ability to beat the Panthers this Saturday. The Penguins scrimmaged them in the fall and beat them twice. Bavero thinks because of that, his team should be victorious come Saturday.

If the Penguins' can control possession, Bavero likes the Penguins chances against the Panthers.

"In lacrosse, the team who has the ball the most usually wins. If we do that, we should crush them," Bavero said.

On April 25, the lacrosse team will host a three-team tournament to benefit the Rich Center for Autism. Bavero, whose major is special education, was working with an autistic child last summer and found out about a Web site named lacrosse4autism.com.

Bavero said he figured putting together the benefit was fitting, since the Rich Center for Autism is on campus. The Penguins will take on California University of Pennsylvania and Xavier University. Donations of five dollars will be collected at Stambaugh Stadium gate for the event.

## Welcoming warmer weather

Keith Langford Jr.  
SPORTS EDITOR

With the onset of warmer weather, the Youngstown State University men's and women's track and field teams have been able to use this to their advantage as they head from the indoor season to the outdoor campaign.

For their first outdoor meet of the season, the Penguins will travel south. There, they will take on much bigger ACC and SEC schools as they compete this weekend at the Raleigh Relays.

The Penguins have used the reasonably warm weather for this time of year to practice outdoors. Sometimes at this time of the year, there is still snow on the ground and the track and field teams are unable to practice outdoors. However, this year, the team has been fortunate.

"We have been blessed with good weather. Coach Cobey has been blessed with the good weather as his throwers are farther along from where they normally are this time of year," said coach Brian Gorby.

This season, Gorby wants his team to keep the momentum the men's and women's teams gained from finishing as runner-up in the indoor season to transfer over to the outdoor season. He wants his best athletes to hit their regional marks so they can advance to regionals in June. Finally, he wants his team to improve every week and set some school records and personal best times.

"Aaron Merrill is ranked in the top 30 in the country for

throwers and we have him coming back after redshirting the indoor season," Gorby said of his junior top thrower. "We have Kip [Kiplangant Tisia] in the 5000. He has a great opportunity to break a school record, also."

Sophomore Breanne Romeo, senior Kari Kruetzfeld, sophomore Jerril Hall and senior J.R. Hodge were other track athletes Gorby said could possibly set school records this upcoming outdoor season. Gorby said personal bests, school records and regional bests are how success is measured at each meet.

Gorby said getting key athletes such as Merrill, and seniors Yandeh Joh and Emily Wollet back for the outdoor season after all of them sat out the indoor season will be helpful for his team. Merrill, Joh and Wollet all redshirted the indoor season to be available for the outdoor season.

"We were lacking them in the indoor season and hopefully

we can look for them to get us to the top from the runner-up spot," Gorby said.

Gorby pointed out that getting healthy was key.

"The healthiest team is usually the best team in track and field. If we can get 100 percent healthy, we can do some damage," Gorby said.

With the shortest outdoor season the team has had in a while, Gorby said his team has to focus but have fun as well. The team usually has an eight to nine week outdoor season, but this is only a five-week outdoor season.

"We have to make the most of our opportunities because of the short schedule. We have to go after goals, but have fun and stay relaxed," Gorby said.



Aaron Merrill is ranked as one of the top throwers in the country. Photo courtesy of Sports Information

LACROSSE FOR AUTISM

Saturday, April 25 Noon-6 p.m.

Stambaugh Stadium