



SOFTBALL: The 'Guins go 1 for 2 against the OU Bobcats. See PAGE 7.

The Jambor

The student voice of Youngstown State University

YSU

Market value causes salary gaps Average salary for YSU full-time faculty is \$65,900

By: Bill Rodgers
NEWS EDITOR

A salary review released by the National Education Association showed full-time faculty at Youngstown State University earn more than full-time faculty at similarly-sized public universities in Ohio.

However, the averages hide large pay gaps between professors in different fields of study. Faculty in some departments can earn more than faculty in others because their field has more market value.

The NEA study showed YSU's full-time faculty, which includes full, associate and assistant professors, and instructors, earned an average salary of \$65,900. The figure was almost 5 percent higher than the University of Akron, the next highest university at \$62,900.

The average salary at YSU is also higher than Bowling Green and Kent State University's main campus.

YSU will spend \$29.32 million on salaries for full-time faculty in 2006, according to university budget documents. YSU will spend 20 percent of its base revenue on the salaries.

A full professor at YSU earns \$78,900 on average, according to the study.

However, Julia Gergits, president of the Ohio Education Association,

This is the first in a three-part series on those who teach us at YSU.

In the next article: Part time, or adjunct faculty earn far less than their full-time counterparts. They're also a source of concern in higher education as well as YSU where they make up 56 percent of the total teaching staff.

YSU's faculty union, said the numbers aren't that simple.

Full-Time Faculty Salary Gaps

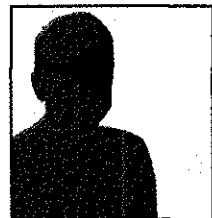
Gergits said professors in some departments earned more than professors in other departments based on market value. Gergits said the pay divisions have caused some turmoil within the faculty union.

"The resentment can build. Who's more valuable?" Gergits said.

Gergits said a professor hired in the field of accounting could earn more than a faculty member in the English Department, regardless of service to the university or how many years they've worked at YSU. She said these separations lead to tensions within

please see **SALARY**, Page 2

Top-paid YSU professors



Elsa Parsegian

Accounting and Finance
Employed since 1984
Salary: \$105,547



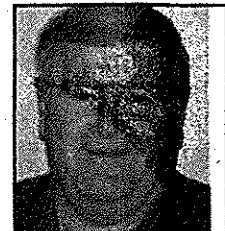
Theodore Chrobak

Computer Science and Information Systems
Employed since 1963
Salary: \$104,439



Gregory Claypool

Accounting and Finance
Employed since 1986
Salary: \$103,183



Christopher Sweeney

Psychology
Employed since 1968
Salary: \$102,436



James Tackett

Accounting and Finance
Employed since 1984
Salary: \$101,346

Source: YSU Human Resource

YSU

Rate my prof: Students give the grade

By: Megan Anderson
JAMBAR CONTRIBUTOR

College students, get ready to turn the tables. On the Web site, www.rate-myprofessors.com, students are the ones who do the grading.

With a click of a mouse, college students can see which professors are easy, which are hard, and even other students consider "hot."

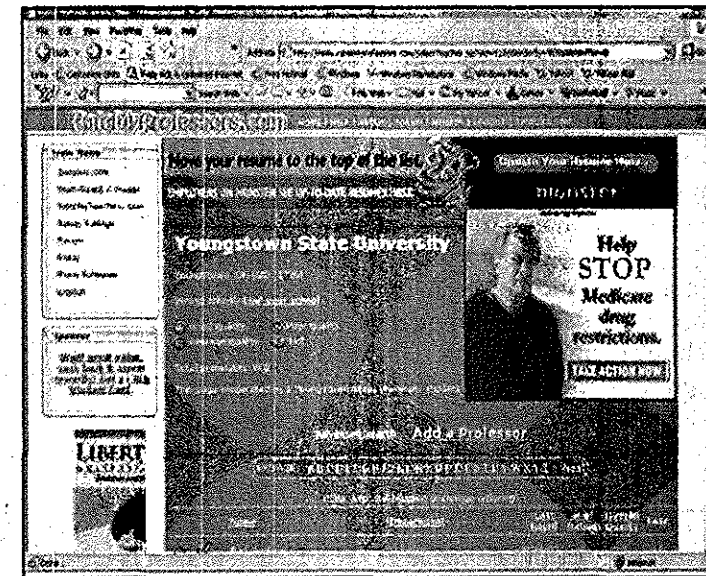
Youngstown State University has 597 professors listed, and out of that total, 424 professors received a yellow smiley

face next to their names, showing a good overall quality rating from students. Frowning blue faces sit next to 112 names, signifying a poor quality score.

The rating system judges professors on three qualities: easiness, helpfulness and clarity. Professors then end up with an overall quality score based on a maximum score of five, and students also have the option of leaving a comment.

Just for fun, students can also rate a professor as being "hot" by putting a

please see **RATE**, Page 2



The Web site RateMyProfessor.com features student reviews of professors. There are 597 YSU professors listed on the site.

YSU

Survey shows about 18 percent of evaluations reported plagiarism

By: Jeremy Lydic
JAMBAR CONTRIBUTOR

During the last few weeks of each semester, students must wade through the dank, stress-inducing mirth of Finals Week. Study guides and old work sheets are excavated from underneath beds and between pages of textbooks as students prepare for an onslaught of exams. For one week, the mettle of a student is truly tested as the prepared rest easy and the doomed sweat.

In addition to the dreaded cumulative final exam, term papers contribute to the five-day nightmare. Frantic and frustrated, some students will be tempted to stray from the path of honor and present work that is not their own. Plagiarism is a serious offense in the eyes of professors, and can cancel a semester's worth of hard work in an instant.

Gary Althiser, an Integrated Language Arts major, attended Kent State University before coming to Youngstown State

"It's plagiarism to hand in someone else's paper. Period."

Julia Gergits, YSU Professor and PWE Director

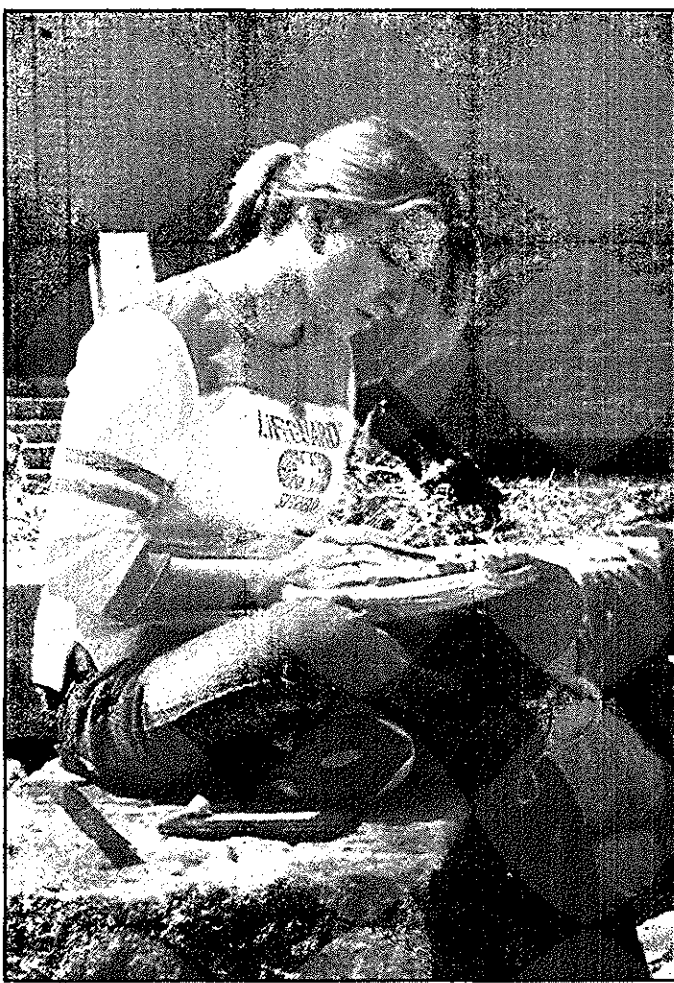
University. Althiser said he has not seen evidence of plagiarism on YSU's campus, but recalls one instance while attending Kent.

"I knew a kid that bought a paper online," Althiser said. "He didn't get caught and got an A on the paper. He paid \$10 for a 10-page paper."

One site, www.termpaperrelief.com advertises custom papers, written specifically for your request by experienced writers, delivered before due dates, and are completely non-plagiarized for \$9.95 per page. Does that mean that turning in one of these papers doesn't count as plagiarism?

"It's plagiarism to hand in someone else's paper." please see **PLAGIARISM**, Page 6.

Sunlit Sketch



Jambor/Katie Libecco

Freshman Krista Gallite sketches the Butler Institute of American Art from the Student Diversity Council Rock Garden, near Maag Library, on Wednesday afternoon.

MyYSU transition leaves Cue-mail unaccessible

By: Cheryl Thompson
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

An Internet portal for Youngstown State University students to use has been in talks for some time, but the day it can be used by everyone is just around the corner.

YSU students will soon have one-stop access to Cue-mail, grades, billing, class registration and schedules through MyYSU, the newly developed luminous portal.

If a user goes to the YSU homepage and clicks on the MyYSU banner, an informational page about the portal will appear. Starting fall semester, it will link to the actual portal.

One major change will be moving from the YSU homepage to the MyYSU portal page. Ron Cole, YSU's news and information manager and member of the MyYSU implementation team, said students

should pay attention to university e-mail over the summer.

"The concern is that students will come back to school in the fall that they will find that their Cue-mail has been moved and not know where to find it," Cole said.

The manager of YSU's Website, Robert Tupaj, said in order for students to check their Cue-mail, there will be a transition process beginning this summer.

During the transition process, which will start alphabetically by last name, students, faculty and staff will not be able to read, view, send or receive e-mail through Cue-mail.

Tupaj said he doesn't know how long the transition will cut off e-mail access, but he said a test group will go through the migration beforehand to calculate how much time it will take.

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Weather >> sunny

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Friday: sunny 64 / 34

Saturday: cloudy 68 / 47

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Youngstown walking tours given Saturday

The Mahoning Valley Historical Society's Young Leaders Advisory Board, with Youngstown CityScape and YSU are sponsoring, "At the Crossroads: A walking Tour of Youngstown's Historic District" 4 to 8 p.m. on Saturday.

Chemistry student presents implants research

Cortney Hoch, a senior chemistry major, will present her research on breast implants at the exclusive Council for Undergraduate Research's "Poster on the Hill" at the U.S. Capitol on Tuesday.

NEWS BRIEFS

YSU links with Rescue Mission

Students in the Family and Consumer Studies Program will conduct a workshop for female residents of the Rescue Mission of the Mahoning Valley 6 to 9 p.m., April 26 in Room 3112 of Cushman Hall. The workshop will cover stress management, parenting and nutrition.

Alumni golf outing scheduled for May 15

The 21st Annual Youngstown State University Alumni Society golf outing will take place on May 15 at the Trumbull Country Club. Registration will begin at 11 a.m. with a shotgun start at 1 p.m. A social hour with prizes will begin at 6 p.m.

Jambor poll

Last Question: Do you support legalized gambling? YES NO 50%

Today's Question: Have you used ratemyprofessor.com?

vote online

www.thejambor.com

Online: thejambor.com thejambor@gmail.com

RATE, continued from page 1

red chili pepper next to his or her name. Currently, 185 YSU professors sport chili peppers next to their names.

Students viewing the site are able to search for a specific professor by name or class, or they can browse through the professors listed under YSU.

According to the site, it was designed to help students decide which professor to take classes from. However, one problem with the site is that the teachers rated often don't get helpful feedback. Plus, because it's a student resource, many professors aren't even aware of it.

"I've heard it's a resource for students, and that's about it," psychology professor Jeffrey Coldren said. "I would question how valid it is."

Out of the 13 reviews left for Coldren, 11 were positive, such as the most recent comment left which said, "Very helpful, nice, funny...enjoyed his classes thoroughly...highly recommended."

Though Coldren has a good quality rating on the site, he said he prefers the YSU evaluations given to students, because they represent a better, more balanced sample.

"Students probably wouldn't go on the Web site unless they really like you or really dislike you," he said.

But education professor Randy Hoover had a different take.

"I think it probably is helpful," Hoover said. "Students are entitled to discuss and share their opinions."

Hoover, who has a good quality rating, said he would be interested to read what students have said about him.





Comments left for Hoover were a mix between good and bad. Out of 10 reviews, six were positive. The assessments ranged from "a legend and an icon" to "knows a lot about nothing."

Overall, there are more than 5 million ratings on the Web site, with more than 700,000 professors listed from 5,683 colleges. According to the site, more than 9 million students use the site.

RMP was created in 1999 to be a resource to students, and a place where students could anonymously say what they liked or disliked about their professors. The Web site's founder, John Swapceinski, states on the site that students use the site to help plan their classes, and to improve the quality of their education.

SALARY, continued from page 1

Average Salaries among Ohio colleges

	Full-time faculty	Full professorship	Assoc. Professor	Assistant Professor	Instructor
 Youngstown State	\$65,900	\$78,900	\$63,000	\$52,800	\$40,700
 Bowling Green	\$57,200	\$83,500	\$64,400	\$52,500	\$37,200
 Kent State University	\$61,100	\$88,900	\$63,000	\$51,300	\$40,200
 University of Akron	\$62,900	\$80,100	\$59,600	\$49,900	\$37,000

NEA Higher Education "Advocate"

the faculty bargaining unit. For example, Huaiyu Chen is an assistant accounting and finance professor. He was hired in 2003 and earns \$94,842, according to a faculty pay report from YSU Human Resources. Chen, with three years on campus, earns more than full professor Michael Finney in the English department. Finney earns \$78,728 and was hired in 1980.

YSU Provost Robert Herbert said these gaps occur because the market favors some fields over others. Herbert said professors in accounting, engineering and business can be hired at higher starting salaries.

Herbert said the higher starting salaries were to make the job more competitive to faculty who could be hired elsewhere. When considering a faculty member's starting salary, Herbert said he con-

sults the National Faculty Salary Survey, which contains the average salary of faculty members, broken down by discipline. The study is published by Cupa-HR, a human resources in higher education research group.

"Is that fair? I don't know. That's just the nature of the marketplace," Herbert said.

At the lower end of the spectrum is assistant history professor Eleanor Congdon, who began in 2002 at the minimum faculty salary allowed in the union contract. After four years at YSU, Congdon earns \$45,224.

Congdon attended school for 10 years and said she ran up a lot of debt before earning her degree at Cambridge, England. She said her life was financially stressed.

"History is important, but it doesn't have market value. There's a heck of a lot of

schooling, but the rewards are minimal," Congdon said.

Congdon said she published seven papers and won the prestigious Franklin Research Grant, but she won't have a shot at a higher salary until next year when she's up for promotion.

Herbert said other than yearly raises and promotions in rank, there wasn't a way for faculty to earn more money through longevity or service to the university.

Gergits said the gaps caused problems when the faculty was discussing the university's proposed health care co-pay. During this summer's contract negotiations, YSU administration wanted 1.5 percent of the faculty's salary to pay for family health coverage, meaning it would have cost the higher-paid faculty more to participate in the plan.

"The negotiations were skewed in that way. We have to represent everyone," Gergits said.

Some bridging of the gap could be on the way due to a section in the new faculty contract. The contract calls for the faculty union and the administration to form a committee to study salary inequities. After the joint study, the university could have \$50,000 to make individual salary adjustments. The plan starts next year. A union representative could not be reached for comment.

Congdon commented on the salary differences based on market value.

"I don't know if it's fair. It's a difficult issue for the union, colleges, or the university to handle," Congdon said.

Call Bill Rodgers at (330) 941-1989.

Live at Stambaugh Auditorium

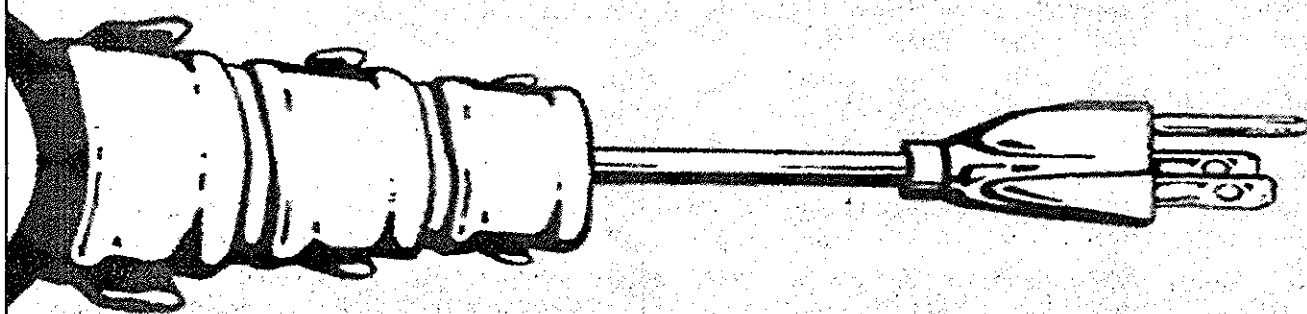
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Editorial & Opinion

Thursday, April 27, 2006

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OUR SIDE

Congress should protect Network neutrality on Web

The end of the Internet may soon be nigh. Behold the dawning of a more exclusive beast: the Internets, a multi-headed hydra that may deny you access to your favorite Web sites.

On Wednesday, the U.S. House Energy and Commerce Committee voted down an amendment to the proposed "Communications Opportunity, Promotion and Enhancement Act," or COPE Act, which would protect Net neutrality.

Net neutrality is an Internet networking principal that states all Web sites must be treated equally and service providers, like Time Warner or AT&T, must offer the same service for a small personal Web site as it would for a large corporate Web site.

Net neutrality has been in practice since the inception of the World Wide Web, however the COPE Act may open the floodgates of Internet discrimination.

An elimination of Net neutrality would mean that a service provider could slow access to certain Web sites that don't pay "protection money" (in the words of the pro-Net neutrality group Save The Internet) while offering the highest speeds to provider-preferred Web sites that have ponied up the extra cash.

More simply, it means that an Internet service provider could reduce your access to Google while increasing the speed of Yahoo, thereby discouraging or perhaps eliminating your choice of preferred search engines.

Further, without Net neutrality, the Internet could be cut up like cable television service currently is, with certain Web sites only available to certain service providers. To visit LiveJournal you might have to be with Comcast, to log on to MySpace you might have to use Verizon.

The rich telecom companies pushing for a COPE Act without Net neutrality protections argue that high-bandwidth applications like file-sharing take precious bandwidth from more important uses and that it is only fair to charge Web sites more for these frivolous and potentially illegal uses.

But the Internet has thus far proved an amazing, innovative and profitable marketplace of ideas and services. Changing it and allowing telecoms to deny access to the little blogger trying to be heard in cyberspace cannot be good for the future of the Internet or the freedom of speech, which sadly, may soon become much more expensive.

EDITORIAL POLICY

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

E-mail us at thejambar@gmail.com
Visit us online at thejambar.com



GUEST COMMENTARY

Supreme Court's refusal to hear case jeopardizes free speech at universities

By: Tara Anderson
JAMBAR CONTRIBUTOR

The U.S. Supreme Court announced recently that it would not hear a case involving the censorship of a university newspaper.

In 2001, three staff members from the Innovator at Illinois's Governors State University sued the school when Dean Patricia Carter ordered they hold all future issues until she had read and approved them in advance. The newspaper's editors, who had published articles criticizing the administration, refused Carter's demands.

The Supreme Court's

decision to not hear the case lets a June 2005 ruling stand that gives university officials authority to censor school-sponsored speech by public college students and faculty in Illinois, Indiana and Wisconsin.

In 1988, the Supreme Court case *Hazelwood School District v. Kuhlmeier* ruled that faculty may supervise and determine the content of student newspapers in public elementary and high schools. The 7th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals ruled that this restriction on First Amendment rights applied to colleges and universities as well. The court wrote in

this decision, "There is no sharp difference between high school and college newspapers."

The appeals court decision contrasted three decades of law that gave free speech protection to college student journalists and protected them from school officials' censorship.

By refusing to hear the case involving Governors State University, the Court extends a censorship standard to college students that was meant to oversee speech by students as young as five-years-old. The ruling only applies to three states and it conflicts with other state and federal

court decisions. Now in Illinois, Indiana, and Wisconsin, a college newspaper must convince its school to declare it a public forum to grant it editorial freedom.

No newspaper staff should have to convince anyone that they deserve freedom of the press — a right guaranteed by the Constitution's First Amendment. A college newspaper should have just as many rights as a regular city, state or national newspaper. The Supreme Court needs to hear the new case as soon as possible.

Free speech is in jeopardy.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Eminent domain outrages Mangie

Editor:

After having read The Jambar's last article on eminent domain, I couldn't help but think of a question that should be asked to every resident of the city of Youngstown: "How would you like it if Youngstown seized YOUR property?" Might be very fitting for a campaign, wouldn't you think? Democrats and Republicans alike should be outraged at this abomination.

The ruling on eminent domain by the Supreme Court is a sham and deserves to be challenged and struck down. If I recall, the 5th Amendment provides: "nor shall private property be taken for public use, without just compensation." Where "seizing property for private development to benefit the public" comes from in that statement, I do not know. That is a stretch at best, and only opens the door for abuse. Frankly, fair market value is not necessarily fair when you consider how much money is put into a business or home. Is it fair? Not a chance in hell.

If you are not scared of this, you should be. The government should not be seizing

property for the purpose of development by a private outfit. They say it is for the public good? I ask what about those people who are losing their homes or business for the public good? If measured under an objective standard, a reasonable person would say displacing these people is not good for the public, because these very people ARE the public.

Something must have been up in the Supreme Court when this ruling came down, because I find it hard to believe that such a ruling would come to be on a normal day. Maybe if the houses of these Justices were seized for private development, they would reconsider their decision in a big hurry. After all, what is good for the population is certainly good for the Supreme Court, and maybe America should let them know that.

Alex Mangie

Stop the Insanity

Editor:

Fire Rumsfeld — why? First, fire Bush, then all the idiot military commanders calling the shots in Iraq because Rumsfeld idiot policies has nothing to do with

preventing a goddamn IED from killing. This is the major crime of this idiot war that should have never taken place. At least in Vietnam you were killed by attacks, scrimmages, and occasional friendly fire—but this everlasting walking down the road and getting blown away is Bush's and his ground commanders' fault—not Rumsfeld's.

Once again, let's kill several birds with one IED—I'm talking jailbird who have committed heinous crimes from mass murders to child rape murders. Clean out the prisons of these undeserving to go on living bastards and drop them in the war zone tethered with ropes about their necks to walk ahead exploding IEDs, saving lives more worthy than their own.

No! What this idiot country does is tell the BTK mass murderer because he's been a good boy, he is entitled to watch TV and paint cartoons in his cell, while TAX Payers continue his upkeep and good health for having so brutally murdered innocents. Or what about finally bringing the priest to trail for chopping up the Nun he got pregnant—26 years later. These are the candidates for IED removal.

Blaming Rumsfeld's policies for how the war is going

is as massively insane as every Arabs blaming America's policy towards Israel as the root of their plight. This is right up there with the logical act of stoning women to death for embarrassing them or a brother or father killing the female because she exposed her ankle while walking. No different than religious white racist, such as Strom Thurmond during his Klu Klux days, banging his black maid making kids, who in turn have nothing to do with the blacks thinking themselves white.

But Arabs killing Jews on planes, boats, and Olympics as well as kids on school buses just because they can't live on the Gaza Strip—What??—Try living in housing projects, under bridges, and local parks in the richest country in the world.

Yet, with all its faults—and this idiot Bush War is its greatest since taking this land—nothing compares with the F-ing Evil Moslems commit in these brutal around the world murders just because they're pissed with white America. Hell, I'm still bent that I couldn't talk to white girls when I was growing up. Cripes!

Ted Williams

TECHNOLOGY

Battle of the formats in high-definition DVDs

By: Leslie Suzukamo
KNIGHT RIDDER NEWSPAPER
(KRT)

ST. PAUL, Minn.—Every so often, technology comes to a crossroads, and nobody knows which direction will win out. A generation ago, Betamax and VHS battled over which format would dominate for video. Those who bet on Betamax won't soon forget the experience of getting stuck with irrelevant technology.

Now, a format war is brewing over high-definition DVDs, and Oakdale, Minn.-based Imation Corp., maker of all kinds of data storage, is in the thick of it.

Normally, creation of a new data-storage format would make Imation jump for joy. As anyone who's gone through the process of replacing tapes with CDs or videos with DVDs knows, new formats generally mean more sales. That's good for Imation, which makes DVDs, CDs and other removable media.

And there's a fair amount of excitement over high-definition DVDs, which promise a life-like sharpness on video conventional DVDs can't match, fans say.

But which high-definition DVD would Imation make?

On one side is a format called HD DVD, backed by technology giants like Toshiba, NEC Corp., Intel and Microsoft.

On the other is Blu-Ray, a format created by Sony that had support from Phillips, Dell and Apple Computer.

As the giants of technology chose sides in this winner-take-all battle, both factions tried to recruit Imation. But choosing sides makes Imation uncomfortable. Historically, Imation has tried to make sure its products work with the equipment of as many technology providers as possible.

"Both formats clearly would have liked us to take their side, and we knew early on that we couldn't do that," said Stephen Bradley, who maps out Imation's product strategies worldwide. "Our customers expect us to deliver solutions based on what they need, whether they choose HD DVD or Blu-Ray."

So the answer was clear: Imation decided to make both.

With worldwide sales of recordable DVDs at 3 billion and growing, most consumers are only dimly aware that a new DVD standard is on the horizon.

But the industry is betting consumers will start shelling out top dollar to get movies and TV shows in a format that has been described as practically three-dimensional in clarity.

By the end of this year, 22 percent of the TV sets in the

United States will be capable of receiving high-definition signals, according to Solutions & Understanding, a technology consultancy in Great Britain.

"That's a large percentage of the U.S. population, and they're waiting to feed the high-definition monster," said Jim Bottoms, joint managing partner at Solutions & Understanding.

But which type of high definition to use? Movies made for Blu-Ray will not work on a video player made for HD DVD, and vice versa. And since both formats are read with a blue laser instead of the red one in conventional DVD players, neither of the new formats will work on the old players. That means if consumers want to watch a high-definition video on DVD, they will have to buy a new player that can cost upwards of \$1,500.

Few consumers will buy both kinds of high-definition players, so the electronics and entertainment industries have been warily choosing sides.

Movie studios are divided. Blu-Ray is backed by Sony and Disney studios, while HD DVD has NBC-Universal in its corner.

Tellingly, Warner and Paramount have hedged, saying they will release movies in both formats. Studios on both sides have committed to releasing only a handful of their titles so far.

At least one analyst thinks the makers of the new high-definition DVD players ultimately may have the most influence. "It probably comes down to who's going to be more aggressive on the hardware side who's going to subsidize losses on the short term to try to drive adoption," said Dan Renouard, an analyst for Robert W. Baird in Milwaukee. A \$2,000 high-definition player may not sell, but one for \$500 might, he said.

Analysts say it may not be until after 2007 at the earliest when they can declare a clear winner.

Until then, Gartner Inc., a technology consultancy in Stamford, Conn., is advising companies to "be an arms merchant to both sides" if they are large enough to manage both, said Laura Behrens, a Gartner analyst. That's Imation's strategy.

Manufacturers of blank discs like Imation are captives of the hardware makers and movie studios, Renouard said. They can only wait and follow.

First, they must figure out how to make two new formats. Imation outsources its manufacturing of CDs and DVDs but decided to take on the manufacture of the new formats, despite their being more complicated than anything it's made

before.

Both high-definition formats hold far more information than conventional DVDs three to five times as much. That means a high-definition movie can fit on one DVD, but there are some differences in how the DVDs are put together.

The HD DVD is slightly easier to make than Blu-Ray because its architecture is most like a conventional DVD it sandwiches its data on a metallic layer in the middle of the disc and is assembled like an Oreo cookie. It can hold 15 gigabytes of data 30 gigs on a double-layer format. But it has to fit on a disc that is exactly the same size as a conventional disc, so it must be even more precise.

The Blu-Ray disc carries 25 gigabytes of data on a single layer and 50 gigs on a double. But the Blu-Ray is more complicated because it puts data on a metallic layer at the bottom of the disc to be closer to the laser that reads the data. It protects that data with a thin adhesive film that is stamped out cookie-cutter style and smoothed onto the disc, not unlike applying a decal.

Taking on two new manufacturing processes is a more calculated bet for Imation than it might sound. Decades ago, as a division of 3M, Imation helped develop the optical disc, and it believes its patents on the mastering process give it an edge over competitors.

Imation spent \$10 million on the patents and a new manufacturing facility. That's not a bet-the-farm investment for a company that had sales of \$1.2 billion last year, especially not compared to the \$55 million it spent to build its next-generation magnetic tape plant in Weatherford, Okla.

The company's high-definition DVD manufacturing operation is buried in the bowels of the Discovery Building, where the company conducts research and development on optical discs.

Jim DePuydt, the manager in charge of developing the company's advanced optical products, pointed through a clean-room window to two DVD "mastering benches," which are long, unremarkable-looking rectangular boxes. But the benches are key to the manufacturing process, because they mold the glass masters or "pucks" used to make the discs.

One glass master, etched with tiny tracks to position the data, can make millions of DVDs, but it needs to be perfect.

"Quality is of the utmost importance to us," DePuydt said. "Our philosophy is to drive quality to zero defects."

Although the assembly

process is designed to run 24 hours a day and seven days a week, Imation so far is only firing up the line for one shift a week, switching from Blu-Ray one week to HD-DVD the next. The company was able to build a modular manufacturing process, so the two formats have some steps in common.

The process is largely automated, so few workers are needed. When it's running, a mechanical arm picks up a newly molded blank hi-def DVD hot off the presses inside a clean room and moves it to a spindle to cool every nine seconds.

The low volume is a sign of how new high-def DVD is. High definition DVD burners aren't due out for several more months, and even then, the company expects sales to be slow. It plans to outsource manufacturing when demand picks up.

A few makers of recordable DVDs have declared allegiances for one side or the other. TDK, for instance, has sided with Blu-Ray. But Imation is firmly agnostic.

It's a studied neutrality, driven by caution. "We don't know who's going to win," CEO Bruce Henderson said.

In the short term, the stakes will be small. Solutions & Understanding, the technology consultancy, estimates the global market for high-definition DVDs at 250 million units or roughly \$1.5 billion by 2010 a fraction of today's DVD market. Even then, there's no way to say how much of that market Imation will end up with.

Eventually Imation thinks high-definition DVDs will overtake DVDs, just as DVDs are eroding the market for CDs.

But what if they held a war and nobody came?

Henderson, a self-confessed gadget addict, said the first buyers will be the "early adopters, like me. The people who can't wait to get the latest and greatest."

Personal technology gurus are advising consumers to sit on the sidelines for now to avoid getting burned the way Betamax buyers did decades ago.

That's bad news for Imation and everyone involved in the high-definition DVD struggle. For them, war isn't hell; waiting may be.

Imation accepts that growth will be slow. It won't say how many discs it can produce on its equipment but said the Discovery Building plant should be adequate through the end of 2007. That's when everyone expects the fog of this latest format war to clear.

POLICE BLOTTER

A female made a report with the Youngstown State University Police Department on April 24 in reference to a threat made to her. According to the report, she told police she has been receiving verbal threats. On April 22, she was at a party where she saw several of her friends begin to fight with unknown people, she said in the report, which went on to say that she tried to break up the fight when she was hit by one of the people involved. According to the report, she received a verbal threat while walking through Kilcawley Center. She then received several phone calls saying that the suspect is threatening to cut and stab her, the report said.

According to the YSU-PD reports, officers were dispatched to McGuffey and Wick avenues on April 25 in reference to a YSU student who flagged an officer down. He told police an unknown male subject flashed a handgun at him in the intersection of McGuffey Avenue and

Albert Street. Reports said an officer interviewed a clerk at the McGuffey Speedcheck, who said a possible suspect was walking on McGuffey. According to the report, officers stopped the subject and a background check revealed an active warrant out of Liberty. He was then transferred to Liberty Township Police Department, the report said.

On April 23, reports indicated that a YSU police officer observed a male grab a female by the shoulders and call her "fucking bitch" while clearing from fights and large party calls on Indiana Avenue. The officer told the male to stop, but he refused according to the police report, and became even more combative. The report said the officer took a beer from the male and arrested him, taking him to the station. He was issued a summons and then released, according to the report.

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Mentoring taps into knowledge of younger workers

By: Cindy Goodman
KNIGHT RIDDER NEWSPAPER
(KRT)

MIAMI — Brash young workers have always felt they know more than senior management. The truth is, they might.

The wave of 20-somethings heading full force into the working world know how to set up a blog. They know how to text message with their eyes closed. And they know how to maneuver obscure browsers to research global statistics to make critical business decisions.

Now, older workers are looking to Generation Y to understand the nuances of the marketplace. Reverse mentoring no longer is the formal corporate movement that former General Electric CEO Jack Welch pioneered when he ordered his top managers to meet regularly with young workers and learn how to use emerging technol-

gy. "Mentoring should work both ways," said Christopher Pollack, 51, president and CEO of Fort Lauderdale, Fla.'s, chamber of commerce. "I would like to find a mentor. There are younger workers who are using technology to look for potential clients."

Reverse mentoring is the informal discussions or spontaneous meetings that 40-, 50- and 60-somethings are using to glean new skills or advice on trends from their younger colleagues. It is about bouncing around ideas and being in touch. It is about learning how a different generation wants to be managed.

"It's about staying fresh and current on all trends relevant to your work," says Tom Kelley, author of "The Art of Innovation" and general manager of IDEO, a San Francisco design firm.

Kelley has asked two of his

younger employees for the chance to chat with them regularly. From one, he learned how to host a blog for an online magazine. From the other, he learned why many young people don't wear wristwatches (they use their cell phones).

Kelley says he realizes he must go outside his circle if he is going to help clients stay innovative.

"If I just talk to my pals in their suburban homes, I might think everyone still watches TV. They don't. Now I know I'd better figure out a way to make a product live in cyberspace somewhere."

With skilled-labor shortages looming, some employers are keeping their older employees up-to-date and on the job. Procter & Gamble, Deloitte & Touche and Seattle public schools have made formal reverse mentoring a success. These employers found role reversal can reduce training

costs, too. It also can keep a small business competitive.

The benefits in reverse mentoring often flow to both parties — a 61-year-old supervisor passes on historical knowledge or leadership tips to a 25-year-old. The Gen Xer helps the baby boomer discover new ways to rejuvenate his current position.

The biggest obstacle to reverse mentoring is pride.

"Sometimes status gets in the way," says Matt Starcevic, CEO of Center for Coaching and Mentoring. "It takes courage to say you need to know something, especially if you're in a powerful position."


It's important to be specific about what you want to learn from your mentor. For some, going outside their organization may be more appealing. You may want to scout professional groups or chambers of commerce. Or you may want to tap bright 20-somethings from a different department.

Kelley says the first conversation may be awkward when you are trying to convey what you want your mentor to teach you.

"That's the reason it's such a good idea," he says. "Having the first conversation means it never has to be awkward again."

Alicia Blair, vice president of information systems for Visa International in Miami, says managers must understand what motivates each generation.

Gen Y, she says, wants flexibility and work-life balance. They plan to change jobs often, and careers too. And, says the frequent speaker on generational issues, they use technology to solve problems.




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YSU

SMARTS selected as semifinalist for award

By: Kelli Noyes
JAMBAR CONTRIBUTOR

Youngstown State University's SMARTS program has been selected from hundreds as one of 50 semifinalists nationally for the 2006 Coming Up Taller award.

"We are thrilled and honored by this national recognition," Becky Keck, Director of SMARTS, said in a recent press release. "SMARTS' success is the result of much hard work and dedication by the SMARTS staff and teachers, the generosity of many local foundations and donors, and the support of YSU."

The 15 finalists for the award will be selected by the end of June. Each finalist will receive \$10,000. According to the press release, the Coming Up Taller Award recognizes community arts and humanities programs that celebrate the creativity of children and provide them with learning opportunities and chances to contribute to their communities.

"With our SMARTS program being selected as a semifinalist, it acknowledges that we aren't a grassroots organization anymore. We've earned

national recognition," Keck said.

The press release said SMARTS is an education project of the College of Fine and Performing Arts, the Beeghly College of Education and local art organizations. SMARTS also gives YSU education majors early teaching opportunities. SMARTS was created in 1997 by a group of 45 people, including teachers, community members, and YSU administration, faculty and staff.

"SMARTS is about discipline, focus, self esteem and working in groups. Everything the children could learn from sports, we teach them here," said Keck.

Between 100 and 150 students visit the center each week in kindergarten through 12th grade. SMARTS classes are free and open to the public by application and include music, dance, theater and visual arts. In 2003, the SMARTS Center moved into the historical Symphony Center downtown. The Center includes administrative offices, a public gallery, private practice rooms, a large and small music ensemble room, a visual arts classroom and a dance/theater workshop.

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B.J. Alan/Phantom Fireworks is seeking full-time Administrative Assistant for our Public Relations Department. Candidates should have Excel, Microsoft Office experience, be proficient in on-line, must be organized and able to multi-task. Three years previous administrative assistant experience required. If interested, send resume and salary history to: awitzeman@fireworks.com, or: Human Resources-PR, B.J. Alan/Phantom Fireworks, 555 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., Youngstown, OH 44502-1102.

B.J. Alan/Phantom fireworks is looking for an entry level-sales representative for our whole sale/chainstore division. Must have strong selling background. Must be willing to attend trade shows as well as make sales calls on major big box stores and have strong computer skills. This is an excellent opportunity to join the leader in the industry in consumer fireworks. If interested, send resume and salary history to: B.J. Alan/Phantom

Fireworks, Human Resources - Sales/Marketing, 555 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., Youngstown, OH 44502-1102, Fax to: (330) 746-4401, or email resume to: awitzeman@fireworks.com.

B.J. Alan is seeking a part-time, seasonal Human Resources Assistant. Previous human resources experience would be a plus. Previous experience with credit/criminal background checks, unemployment and workers' compensations forms, setting appointments, screening resumes and interviewing. This position would be for approximately 20 hours per week, with increased hours during mid to late May through the 4th of July. This would be an ideal position for a college student. If interested, send resume and salary history to: B.J. Alan/Phantom Fireworks, Amy Witzeman - HR, 555 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., Youngstown, OH 44502-1102, or email resume to: awitzeman@fireworks.com.

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PLAGIARISM, continued from page 1

Period. It's also dishonest, but ethics get lost in this discussion, unfortunately," Julia Gergits, English professor and YSU's Professional Writing/Editing director, said. "The worst aspect of this, of course, is that students falsify their credentials by cheating through college. They aren't prepared, nor have they earned their degrees. They cheat themselves and their prospective employers."

"It is plagiarism anytime you turn in work other than your own. Faculty will usually become suspicious when work is turned in that is not consistent with previous assignments. When that happens, a faculty member would research further and test the integrity of the work," the Dean of the College of Fine and Performing Arts, Joseph Edwards, said.

"This is a dangerous area to challenge, but the consequence for a student caught in this behavior is substantial and critical to their academic career," Edwards said.

Information gathered from the 2005 fall semester YSU faculty evaluations showed 18 percent of 22,387

total surveys reported knowing of plagiarism in class.

Detecting plagiarism in the college classroom and keeping it sedated is not a job simply for instructors. In truth, a solid amount of classroom plagiarism discovery comes from the very element the faculty is supposed to monitor: the students.

Edwards said question 23 on the Faculty Evaluation surveys administered at the end of every semester is a helpful tool used by school officials when designing class structure around the discouragement of cheating. If even a small percentage of students identify plagiarism in the class, it sends up a red flag to faculty and administration.

The existence of plagiarism in a class is not uncommon, Edwards said. In his experience, teaching jobs have not been lost, nor has the curriculum been adversely affected due to plagiarism.

"When plagiarism surfaces (in the classroom) I talk to the instructor and bring it to their attention," Edwards said.

"Lots of times, students

see cheating, but they don't want to get someone in trouble and don't turn them in," Gergits said. "I don't know of any instance when it's been held against a teacher."

The importance of students identifying plagiarism goes beyond simple ethics. Since its existence in a classroom is not necessarily a reflection of the instructor's qualifications to teach, Edwards said it is viewed as a good indicator for faculty members to step back and reevaluate their methods for preventing plagiarism. One preventative measure is how faculty administers exams.

"In classes where there are lots of students sitting close to each other, handing out different versions of the exam works well," Edwards said. "Using the same questions but putting them in a different order mostly eliminates the opportunity to copy answers."

"It's not hard to monitor it, but it takes additional grading time and adds to the frustration level. I try to design assignments that are hard to plagiarize (it's getting harder to do that). I teach directly to the problem occasionally, especially if

several drafts included plagiarized material, and I intervene individually when needed. It varies according to the class and group of students," Gergits said.

There doesn't seem to be any noticeable trends concerning plagiarism in correlation to class size, nor is plagiarism more of a problem for certain colleges. Gergits noted she has heard of plagiarism from her colleagues across campus, and the country. And she said she's had to reprimand students for it every semester, at every level.

"It's a problem for everyone who assigns writing in the class," Gergits said. "I collect rough drafts, so I usually catch it in the draft phase, and I can tell the student to fix it. If a student skips the draft and hands in only a final copy, I'll return it with no grade and request a rewrite if it's the first instance, or I'll simply give it a zero if it's a second instance. In very serious cases, I've flunked the student for the semester. I have that right even on a first instance, but I don't usually do it."

MYYSU, continued from page 1

"We are planning to keep downtime to a minimum," Tupaj said.

Aside from easy access, a benefit of moving Cue-mail, Cole said, is increased storage size.

"The portal will provide a more robust storage capacity," Cole said.

The portal's homepage includes access to Cue-mail, campus news, personal announcements and space to send group e-mails and an events calendar.

Cole said the events calendar, paired with the group e-mailing system, could take the hassle out of planning events.

"In the past to plan a large event, you had to call everyone and e-mail everyone individually. Now the portal will make everyone accessible at once," Cole said.

MYYSU also features customizable channels that will show users the news they want to see, including sports statistics, weather

and campus events.

"If I'm interested in whatever, I can make sure it appears on my MyYSU homepage," Cole said.

The ability to form online groups is a popular feature of web sites such as Facebook and MySpace included on MyYSU.

The groups, unlike some Facebook groups, will be more serious in nature, Tupaj said citing groups such as "I want to catch a campus squirrel."

Since MyYSU is an internal system, Tupaj said the YSU Tech Desk will be on hand to help students and employees set up the portal in off-campus locations.

Cole said he sees MyYSU as the future central communication's hub.

"The portal has the potential to create a virtual online community for the campus," Cole said.

Call Cheryl Thompson at (330) 941-1913.

MOVIE REVIEW

Gretchen Mol as 'The Notorious Bettie Page'

By: Craig Outhier
THE ORANGE COUNTY REGISTER
(KRT)

Mary Harron and Guinevere Turner don't give Bettie Page enough credit.

For most or all of "The Notorious Bettie Page," their inert if tantalizing profile of the distinctively coiffed icon, the filmmakers portray Page as a passive figure, routinely victimized and exploited and blissfully noncomplicit during her run as a 1950s soft-core fetish queen. In short, they've turned her into the whip-wielding lost cousin of Chauncey Gardiner in "Being There," and while that serves a solid artistic vision, it doesn't always make for propulsive storytelling.

Director Harron ("I Shot Andy Warhol") and co-writer Turner who previously worked together on the epochal anti-yuppie screed "American Psycho" pick up the action during a 1955 Senate investigation into juvenile delinquency, where Page's bondage photos are the talk of the day.

David Strathairn plays the presiding congressional inquisitor, which coupled with Harron's period-faith-

ful black-and-white photography ironically brings to mind the actor's Oscar-nominated work in "Good Night, and Good Luck."

While the Senate debate rages, Bettie (Gretchen Mol) waits in the foyer to give her testimony. Meanwhile, the filmmakers lead us through a steady, episodic overview of her cloistered Deep South upbringing (sprinkled with insinuations of sexual abuse), abortive first marriage (her husband, played by Norman Reedus of "The Boondock Saints," hits her) and pilgrimage to New York, where she meets the part-time photographer who suggests concealing her high, broad forehead by combing forward her bangs (later to become her trademark).

While studying to be an actress, Bettie finds her way into the world of private camera clubs, a fascinating spectacle in which scantily clad models pose for an eager platoon of amateur shutterbugs in somebody's living room, or in the park. Ultimately, Page is swooped up by Irving and Paula Klaw (played by Chris Bauer and Lili Taylor, respectively), friendly smut pioneers who distribute Page's fetish pics (quaint by

today's standards) to wealthy clients. Bettie, ever the God-fearing mama's girl, rarely thinks twice about the wrist restraints and whips. It's camp. Harmless.

"The Notorious Bettie Page" makes for a fine, fascinating study in social tolerances, but what do we learn of Bettie herself? She's a pleaser, that's for sure, and maybe a little dim, despite her penchant for good grades. But is she so outlandishly naive that she could fail to recognize the lurid, fetishistic impulses stirred by her work? It doesn't compute, especially for a woman who experienced abuse first-hand.

Consequently, we have to wait until the last few frames to find a glimmer of moral sentience in Mol's pretty features, leaving us to wonder how much sharper, dirtier and challenging the movie might have been if she had betrayed anything, resembling psychological depth. For fans of Harron and Turner arguably the top feminist filmmaking tandem working today it will prove undernourishing. In the past, they've shaped their characters with a serrated edge. Here, they use a butter knife.



YSU

SADD offers chauffeur service during finals

By: Christina Poe
JAMBAR CONTRIBUTOR

Youngstown State University is joining league with many colleges across the country through the creation of a chapter of Students Against Destructive Decisions.

Students in Mark McConnell's Public Relations class created the chapter as part of a class project. They came up with the idea of Survive Another Final Exam Week to introduce the group to YSU and raise drunken driving awareness, said Toni Marie Gordon, vice president of campus communications for YSU SADD.

Gordon said students can sign up on the YSU SADD Web site with their CUE-mail account to print out a pass for one free ride for them and their car during finals week if they are too drunk to drive. The service will be provided by one of the event's sponsors, DD4HIRE. The company specializes in providing designated drivers, using the customer's own car.

Gordon said other sponsors are Superior Beverage and the Student Government Association. She added that when students sign up on the Web site, they will also be entered to win one of three \$100 Sheetz gift

cards.

Gordon said about 65 students are involved with YSU SADD and the number is growing "by leaps and bounds." She said it is important for students to be aware of how the consequences of driving impaired will affect those around them.

"Everyone should think of their friends, their teammates and even themselves, because driving drunk is just as serious as all of their lives," Gordon said.

Gordon said YSU SADD chose S.A.F.E. Week because it seemed the most suitable for attaining the organization's goal of potentially saving a life.

A report from the National Center for Statistics and Analysis of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration showed Ohio was 10th in the nation with 418 traffic fatalities in the "High" blood alcohol content category of .08 or higher in 2004. Ohio was also ranked seventh in the "Very High" category of BACs of .16 or higher with 297 fatalities.

Neighboring Pennsylvania was ranked fourth in both categories, with 541 fatalities for BACs of .08 or higher and 335 for BACs of .16 or higher in 2004.

NCSA's report also went on to show that

the 21-24 age group was the highest percentage of alcohol related fatalities in 2004 at 32 percent, followed by the 25-34 age group at 27 percent.

A report by the Ohio State Highway Patrol showed that 27 of the 60 traffic fatalities in Trumbull, Mahoning and Columbiana counties in 2005 were alcohol related, specifically 15 of the 30 in Mahoning County, eight of the 19 in Trumbull County and four of the 11 in Columbiana County.

The same report showed 36 percent of the 1,326 2005 traffic fatalities in the state were alcohol related.

Students showed shared reactions about the effectiveness and necessity of the upcoming S.A.F.E. Week.

Freshman Cheri Robbs said she thought a SADD chapter was "well overdue" for the area and was happy issues with drunk driving were finally being addressed.

Robbs added that although she wouldn't have time to drink during finals and wouldn't probably not take advantage of the service, she said many of her friends would.

Sophomore Bryan Ashman said the new SADD chapter and S.A.F.E. Week were good ideas, but questioned how many peo-

ple would use it.

Like Robbs, Ashman said he wouldn't have much time to get drunk during Finals Week and didn't know many others who planned on "getting plastered." He added that anyone that was planning on it probably weren't the kind to think about making that phone call.

"It's kind of unrealistic," Ashman said. "Anyone who is going to get trashed after their finals probably aren't thinking ahead to how they're going to get home in one piece."

Senior Dave Sabine said he knows a lot of his friends would not only benefit from, but also would use the service. He added that he planned on signing up and would use it if necessary.

Sabine said he didn't agree with the practice of drunk driving, but knows peers that frequently do it and could be better informed about the effects of their decisions.

"I'm not a fan of [drunk driving], but I know it happens," Sabine said. "It's good at least that someone's trying to do something about it."

- ▶ 4/28 — Football Red vs. White
- ▶ 4/29 — Softball @ UW-Green Bay
- ▶ 4/29 — Baseball vs. Butler
- ▶ 4/30 — Softball @ UW-Green Bay

YSU BASEBALL

Dropped lead causes Penguins loss

By: Steve Lettau
 REPORTER

For nearly four innings, Youngstown State University pitchers were untouchable.

Guarding a 3-0 lead against the Akron Zips at Cene Park in Struthers, the Penguins were enjoying a strong start by senior southpaw Chris Dennis for two innings as well as scoreless relief performances by Andy Svitak and Josh Wells. Momentum seemed to be going their way.

Enter pitcher Joe Antinone for the Penguins in the fifth.

After a walk and two hits off Antinone, Akron was poised to take advantage of a bases-loaded situation. Antinone minimized the damage — only allowing a sacrifice fly by the Zips' Kurt Davidson, cutting the lead to two.

From that point, the Penguins lost whatever momentum they had.

With the lack of momentum, bad defense and control problems the Penguins lost 8-4 in the final two innings, falling to 17-24

on the season.

The Penguins jumped to an early lead with the big bat of Erich Diedrich. Starting off the bottom of the fourth, John Koehnlein drew a walk from Akron's starting pitcher, Stephan Williams Jr. Following a Brandon Caipen single, Diedrich drove the ball over the right field fence. It was Diedrich's team leading eighth homerun and 44 runs batted in on the year, raising his batting average to .355. YSU finished the game with six hits, including a 2-4 day by Caipen.

"It was a nice hit but what did it do? It didn't get us the win," Diedrich said.

Scoring their final run in the fifth, it was up to YSU's pitching and defense to deliver. But with four errors, five walks and two hit batsmen, YSU couldn't finish.

Kevin Lilbeg took the loss and fell to 0-5 on the year, after allowing a two-run single by Brian Kimutis in the eighth. Akron broke open the game in the ninth after two Penguin errors and a walk with Ryan Frazee's base-clearing double. The win gave

Akron a 10-26 record, winning three of their last four games.

Diedrich called the loss "disappointing."

"It's overall just disappointing. We have to make those little plays. It got out of control at the end and it seems like there has been a little much of it this year," Diedrich said.

Assistant Coach Kyle Sobecki agreed the Penguins need to focus and pitch better.

"Anytime you have seven free passes, that's not good and you're not going to win. We struggled," Sobecki said.

Over the weekend, the Penguins will look to improve on their Horizon League record of 8-10, facing Butler in a two-game series at Eastwood Field in Niles. Sobecki said the games will be important to the Penguins.

"We better bring our A game this weekend. Conference games we are always in for a fight and we need to win two games," Sobecki said.

Call Steve Lettau at (330) 941-1913.



Photo Courtesy of Ron Stevens

Sophomore Joe Antinone pitches to an Akron Zips batter during Wednesday's 8-4 loss. The Penguins dropped to 17-24 with the game. The men will start a three-game homestand against Butler on Saturday at Eastwood Field in Niles.

YSU FOOTBALL

Players drafted for annual Red and White game

By: Justin Smolkovich
 SPORTS REPORTER

With the NFL draft days away, the Youngstown State University football team held their own draft Tuesday afternoon in the DeBartolo Room atop Stambaugh Stadium.

Players were chosen as evenly as possible for Friday night's annual spring game. The 24 seniors were split evenly into two teams and acted as both the White and Red team's general managers.

Having won the initial coin toss, the Red team chose cornerback Jarvis Richards, who recorded two interceptions last Saturday in the jersey scrimmage.

Tight end Max King, who will play on the white squad, said the draft can get competitive even before selections are made.

"All our competitive sides come out," King said afterwards.

The annual spring game, now in its 34th year, is a learning experience for players and coaches, but King said they will treat it as much as like a regular game as they can, and have a little fun.



Source: ysusports.com

Cornerback Jarvis Richards was selected first in the draft by the Red Team for Friday's Red and White Game. The 34th annual game will be played at 7:30 p.m. in Stambaugh Stadium.

"There will be a little bit of trash talking, but it is all in good fun," King said.

Head coach Jon Heacock said performances in the spring can go a long way in determining a successful season.

"I think for the most part we have been excited about the spring," Heacock said.

"Leadership between now and August will be absolutely critical."

The Penguins are ripe with leadership

this off-season, as 24 seniors return for the Penguins this fall.

Heacock said while the competitiveness will be high, he looks at the spring game as a reward for the hard work and effort the team has put in during the spring season.

"I want our guys to enjoy themselves, I want them to have fun," Heacock said. "I have been appreciative of their effort."

Heacock also said that he believes his team is where they need to be at this point of the season. He also stressed that improvement early in the season is critical, since there are only 44 opportunities before the first game in late August against Slippery Rock — including spring and summer practices.

"I think we are where we need to be," Heacock said.

However with the spring game only a few days away, Heacock was hesitant to declare a winner in the contest.

"YSU is going to win again," Heacock said.

Call Justin Smolkovich at (330) 941-3758.

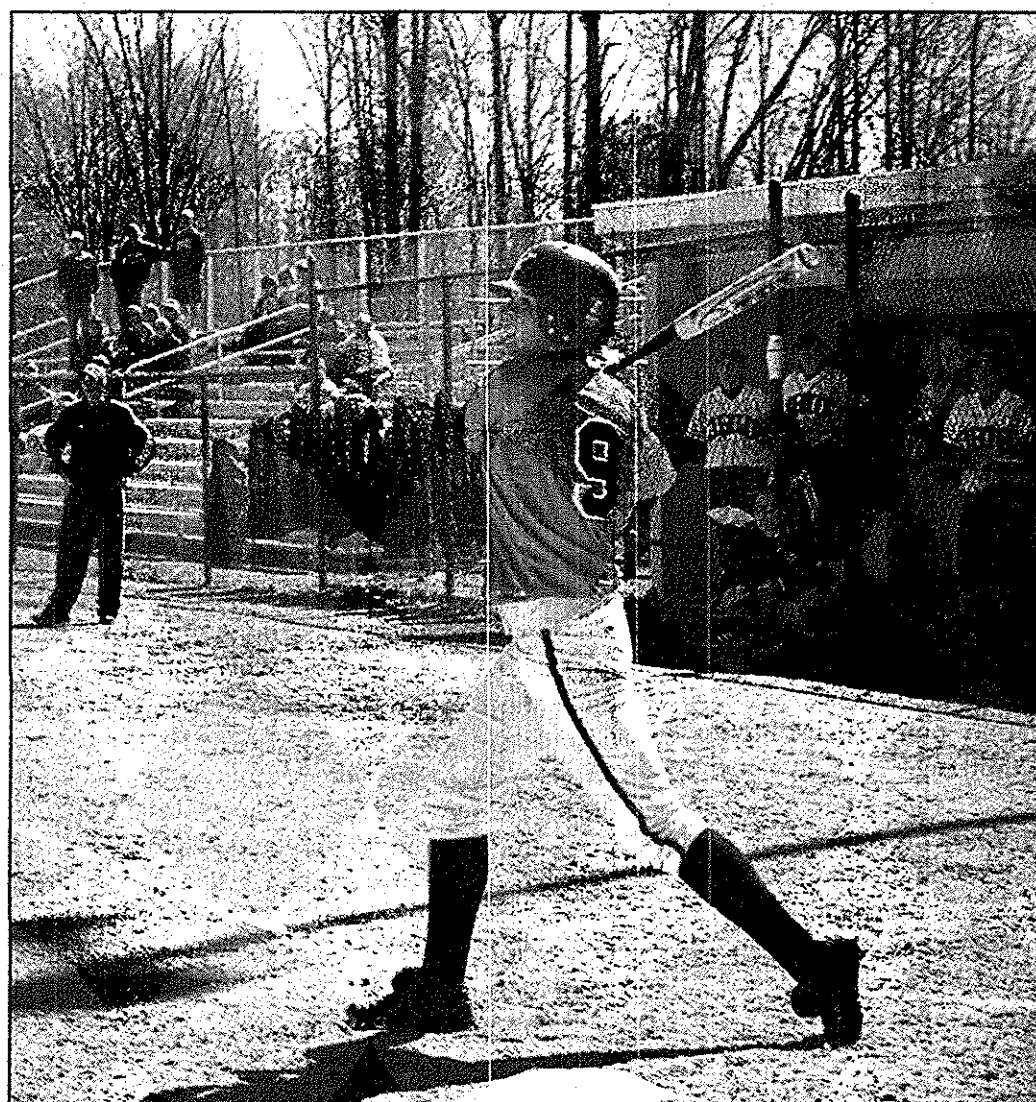
You win one, you lose one



Jambar/ Katie Libecco

ABOVE: Sophomore Shauna Barry slides into home during Wednesday's first game in a doubleheader against Ohio University. The Penguins won 8-2 in the first game, but dropped the second game 4-2 with only six hits in the loss. Their record fell to 16-20.

RIGHT: YSU's Sarah Conklin watches as a hit goes foul in game one against the Bobcats. The girls recorded 14 hits in the first game. Conklin's two-out single in the second game Wednesday brought in the night's last run. They'll face UW-Green Bay on Saturday.



Jambar/ Katie Libecco

LOCAL MUSIC

Aura focuses on live experience

By: Cheryl Thompson
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

To Nick Miller, performing music is all about the fans.

Miller is the front man for Aura, a local rock band that prides itself on the experience it gives fans.

"It's more than just playing good music, it's about putting on a good show. People come to see a rock show and that's what they are going to get," Miller said.

Miller said Aura's sound draws its influence from a number of rock and grunge bands including Smashing Pumpkins, Our Lady Peace and Incubus, with sound comparisons made to Staind and Nickelback.

The band's lineup features Miller on vocals, two guitarists — Robert (Magallon) and Chris Ochtun, Travis Hatmaker on bass and Dave Mauerman on drums. The lineup has been in place for about two years. Before joining up with Aura, members were part of local acts such as Alias X, Arsenic, Cyrus and Indifference.

Ochtun said Internet



Special to The Jambar! Jen Stevens

Aura band members (from left to right) Robert Magallon, Travis Hatmaker, Nick Miller, Chris Ochtun and Dave Mauerman will perform at Stambaugh Auditorium 7 p.m. Saturday with River's Edge, Since '86 and Relic.

groups, especially MySpace, have helped more people discover the band.

Miller said that while he has yet to experience any Aerosmith-worthy rock star moments, he and his band mates are recognized from time to time.

"It's nice when people come up to you on the street and go 'Hey, you're that guy from Aura,'" Miller

said.

In addition to playing for Aura, Ochtun and band mate Mauerman are college students. The junior marketing major said that sometimes it's hard to keep a balance between school and the band.

"This semester's been tough. We'll go on practicing for 30 days straight," Ochtun said.

A YSU graduate, Miller

said he could relate to his band mate's challenge to dedicate time to the band and coursework.

"It's a tough balance. It's all about what your priorities are," Miller said.

Having performed in bands for the past five years, Miller said his family has supported his decision to be a musician.

"All of our friends, families and fans have been very

supportive of us and our biggest achievement is being able to offer them a solid CD," Miller said.

While Miller said his parents offered support from the start, Ochtun said his parents were a little more skeptical at first.

"Up until I started playing with Aura, my parents have been a little apprehensive about it, but now that they've realized that this is

what I want to do, they've been pretty supportive," Ochtun said.

Miller said living in Youngstown, an area in the midst of an economic recession, has definitely influenced the band's music, adding a sense of realism to the songs.

"Some musicians might write or sing about things they don't know about, but since we've experienced it first hand, we feel like we're speaking to the audience. Connecting on an eye to eye level," Miller said.

To drum up support for the release of their debut CD, Aura will be performing with River's Edge, Since '86 and Relic at 7 p.m. Saturday at Stambaugh Auditorium. Tickets range from \$5 to \$10 and can be purchased at www.stambaughonline.com or ordered by phone from the Stambaugh Box Office at (330) 747-5175.

The CD hits stores May 2 and will be available at Barnes and Noble, Borders and F.Y.E.com.

Call Cheryl Thompson at (330) 941-1913.

COMMENTARY

It's supposed to be about the music

By: Bob Mackey
COLUMNIST

Hey guys, let's start a band.

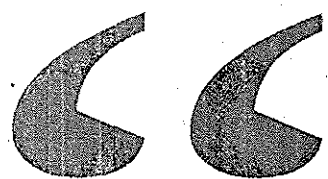
No, I'm serious; and it's definitely not for the fame, money, drugs, TV shows about rehab, and the inevitable guest spots as a commentator on VH-1 shows about pop culture — once Michael Ian Black kills himself. Being a musician may involve entering a realm of poverty that is completely unknown to writers, but it comes with the exchange of making me a true creative spirit.

I'm so tired of the rigorous fame and the endless train of women that comes with working at a college newspaper that I'd be willing to forego eating for a few months to be a musician, and not just a hypocritical hack. I think I can hold out, because just last week at one of The Jambar's million-dollar parties the bathtub ran out of Crown Royal, and I thought, "I bet this is what being poor is like!" Yes, the delivery man showed up within minutes and held me while I cried, but it was a learning experience.

As a writer, I can't help but feel like a sellout. I've given in to the true evils of capitalism, betraying the Che Guevara T-shirt I bought when I was an idealistic young college student with a firm grasp on political science. No one will ever paint murals of me, not just because my beard is pathetic, but also because of how much of a tool of 'The Man' I've become. For example, for writing this sentence, I will get \$100, and \$100 more for every sentence after that. And I can just keep doing this. All day. And no one will stop me. I have to escape from this life! Did you know our system is so corrupt that I get a bonus of \$500 just for using exclamation points?! I know what you're thinking: "I! Can't! Believe! It!!!"

When I become a musician, it's not going to be about the money. We've all seen those greedy so-and-sos playing in our public parks, their open guitar and oboe cases a black hole for what some guy once called the root of all evil. When I pass one of those chumps I can't help but feel the need to fill their greed boxes with vomit. I'm dif-

"I'm so tired of the rigorous fame and the endless train of women that comes with working at a college newspaper..."



Bob Mackey

ferent than them because I refuse to be a cog in the music machine of corporate Amerikkka. I see stores selling shirts that say "rockstar" and "geology rocks," but do they require certification of rocking from the people who buy them? The answer is a decidedly plebian "no."

This is the joke that being a musician has turned into, much like how in nature a Wachowski brother occasionally becomes a Wachowski sister. And can you believe that there are music stores that actually sell music to people in a physical format? I can't help but lean in front of these shops wearing a T-shirt made out of burlap and electrical tape featuring a band that those squares have never heard of while shouting, "You're turning art into a disposable product!" as well as "Is there an Orange Julius anywhere around here?!" You see, all of this shouting brings forth a thirst that can only be quenched by the brilliant mixture of oranges and dairy byproducts.

Now that my manifesto is solidifying, I bet you're all wondering what the name of my act will be. That's just like modern day society, wanting to put a label on everything; I refuse to let your gerunds and modifiers chain me down to the almighty dollar. My musical act will be represented — in the manner of Prince — by an unpronounceable symbol, which can be found in Microsoft Word by punching the upper-left area of the keyboard three times. As much as I would like to print this symbol here, I'm afraid it would break the printing presses, which run on the blood of human labor. This particular symbol can only be reproduced by mimeograph, the copying utility of the free that also have access to grade school supply closets.

So after all of this, everyone must be excited to see me perform. I'm sorry, but that's not going to happen. I've never played guitar for money, and even though people have paid me generously to stop piecing together the few parts of chords I know, the dozens of times this has happened really shouldn't count. I'm not going to dance around like a monkey for the enjoyment of the beer-swilling public who never wants to share any of their beer. You know those jerks that you pay money to see? They're not playing music for you, they're playing because they get some kind of sick, perverse enjoyment out of it. Musicians should be in constant suffering at all times for our lady art, not smiling and having fun like every tight-pantsed stage-strutter in existence.

I've also worked out a unique way of getting my music to you, which will bypass the slave-ocracy of the music industry. Here's how it works: you give me a call, and I'll lend you a blank CD. Then, later in the evening I will call you and play my acoustic guitar over the phone — please note, it's acoustic because I'm not about to use electricity like some sellout. This will not be a performance, merely a data transfer; as I play, you will etch 1s and 0s into the face of the CD with the laser tools you capitalist pig-dogs probably have hundreds of. And as you play it back on your CD player, which was built by underage foreign workers burned alive to heat the electronics factory, you'll say, "That Bob's — a real rockstar." But you'd be wrong. I am a musician.

Bob Mackey has a shrine to Radiohead and Tool in his mudhut. He can be reached at (330) 941-1913.

WEEKEND EVENTS

Friday:

Red Wanting Blue returns to Youngstown for an all-ages show at The Cellar, 162 S. Bridge St. in Struthers. **A View from Everest** and **Sunny Daze** are scheduled to open. Doors open at 6 p.m. and the show starts at 7 p.m. Tickets are available from Ticketmaster. For more information, visit www.thecellarrocks.com.

Cedar's Lounge, 23 N. Hazel St., will have a great local show with bands **Posture Coach**, **Love Circuit** and **Third Class**. (21+)

The Dana Clarinet Festival, will be 9 a.m. — 5 p.m. in the Bliss Recital Hall. For more information, call the Dana School of Music at (330) 941-3636.

The Nyabinghi will host a night of heavy rock with **Kitchen Knife Conspiracy**. Philadelphia's **Omegalord** is slated to open.

Saturday:

Rockers that have been making some noise nationally, **Switched**, will perform at The Cellar with **Aielle**, **Drift** and **Noetic**. The show's open to all ages and starts at 7 p.m.

Cherry Monroe will headline the Student Government Association's show at the Chevrolet Centre. **The Rydells**, **Asleep** and **Firestone Elementary** will open the show. Doors open at 6 p.m. and it's open to all YSU students and their guests.

Aura with **Since '86**, **Relic** & **Rivers Edge** at Stambaugh Auditorium, 1000 Fifth Ave.

YSU Concert Band and **University Band**, directed by Reed Chamberlin and Shawn Vondran, will perform at 4 p.m. in Powers Auditorium, 260 Federal Plaza West downtown.

When All Else Fails, **Wandering Carcass**, **Black Casket**, **The Casimir Funk** at the Nyabinghi. (18+)

Want to be included in the Weekend Event Calendar? Let us know what's going on by e-mailing thejambar@gmail.com.