



BASEBALL: The YSU slump didn't last long. See PAGE 7.

# The Jambor

The student voice of Youngstown State University

SGA



Jambor / Katie Libecco

Chad Miller, a senior psychology major, was elected to be the next president of SGA with his running mate, junior political science major, Sarah Vansuch. 628 students of more than 12,000 enrolled voted in the elections, just 29 more than last year.

## Miller elected SGA president

Chad Miller and Sarah Vansuch defeated Wayne Penny Jr. and Andrew Eich by 320 votes

By: Cheryl Thompson  
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

Election results are in and students voted senior psychology major Chad Miller and his running mate, junior political science major Sarah Vansuch, as the 2006-07 Student Government Association president and vice president.

The pair beat out Wayne Penny Jr. and his running mate Andrew Eich, both junior political science

majors, by a vote of 474 to 154. Neither Penny nor Eich could be reached for comment.

Miller and Vansuch ran on a platform that emphasized four main points including keeping YSU affordable, making advances in campus-wide technology, increasing student involvement and easing the burden of required courses on students.

Only 628 students of more than 12,000 enrolled voted in the elections, an

increase of 29 people from last year.

SGA Elections Board Commissioner Christin Shullo said a main factor in student voting was whether students had active CUE-mail accounts, which were needed for students to cast their votes.

Shullo said some students simply didn't care enough to wait for the Technology Help Desk to reset the password and activate the account.

"I don't understand

how people don't know how to use CUE-mail. I mean, this is college, it's not that hard to type in a username and password. That's crazy to me," Shullo said.

Miller said voting for next year's election might go back to paper ballots like those used in homecoming voting to be used in addition to electronic ballots.

Shullo said she doesn't think paper ballots are the answer.

"It's 2006, YSU needs to keep up with the times," Shullo said, citing other universities, such as Ohio State University, that use electronic voting systems.

Not only did CUE-mail play an important role in the SGA elections, Miller said the service will play a crucial role in SGA's communication with students.

The reason student apathy seems to prevail, Miller said, is because students may not see the

please see SGA, Page 2

YSU

## Youngstown considers eminent domain

By: Bill Rodgers  
NEWS EDITOR

Colleen Divito said she loves owning University Pizzeria and Italian Eatery on Lincoln Avenue beneath Youngstown State University's campus. She said she doesn't want to leave, even if Youngstown annexes the building under eminent domain.

"I'm going to be here until the wrecking ball comes and I have to chain myself to the building," Divito said.

Divito's restaurant is on land targeted for redevelopment by the city of Youngstown.

The Youngstown City Planning Commission will decide today whether to recommend opening up an area bordered by Lincoln, Rayen and Wood avenues for redevelopment by YSU if the commission approves the plan, it will be taken to the

please see EXPANSION, Page 5

YSU

## Taxpayer Bill of Rights worries some educators

By: Renee' Beauchene  
JAMBAR CONTRIBUTOR

Those who support an upcoming amendment say it's overdue to control a spend-happy state government. Others claim the Taxpayer's Bill of Rights could be the death knell of public education in Ohio.

When voters go to the polls this November they'll be voting for an amendment to the state constitution. The taxpayers' bill of rights, also called TABOR or TEL, is a constitutional amendment that would place limitations on the state government's spending practices. It would restructure the allowable amount of county tax money and place new requirements on local governments' attempts to pass new taxes.

The amendment is supported by the Citizens for Tax Reform and the Ohio Secretary of State and governor hopeful Ken Blackwell.

The proposed amendment would limit state and local government annual spending growth to 3.5 percent, or the sum of the inflation rate and population growth, the

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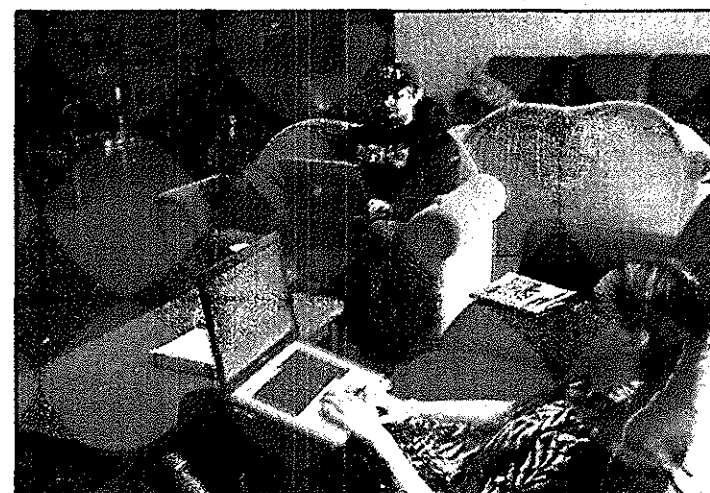
YSU

## YSU Wi-Fi access expands

By: Cheryl Thompson  
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

More students can be seen with their faces glowing from the screens of laptops as wireless hotspots are beginning to crop up across campus, in areas such as the dining rooms in Arby's and Peaberry's and in Maag Library.

The wireless network is something that network services has been working to bring to campus since it brought the wireless initiative to Maag Library in 2003 which allowed students to check out university issued laptops to use in the library's stack area.



Jambor / Leonard Glenn Crist

James O'Rell (left) and Jesse Warneke (right) use their laptops to access the wireless Internet connection in Peaberry's Cafe. Access is now available in some areas on campus.

Phase one of the wireless rollout includes access to Youngstown State University's open wireless network in 10 buildings, Kilcawley Center, Maag Library, Tod Hall, Moser, DeBartolo Hall, Beeghly Hall, Bliss Hall, Ward Beecher, Williamson and

Cushwa Hall. Taylor Dunnivant, a sophomore who first accessed the network last Tuesday, said he is happy to have the wireless Internet access.

"I'm glad we have it,"

please see WI-FI, Page 6

YSU

## Old school: Adults flock to degree programs

Jambor Staff / KRT  
Campus Wire Reports

When 35-year-old Jimi Glancy lost his job three years ago, he had a lot of choices to make. He ultimately decided to come to Youngstown State University.

"When I lost my job with Airborne Express, I realized that I had nothing to fall back on. I realized that I needed to get a degree, I needed something I knew I could get work with," Glancy said.

A 1989 Mineral Ridge graduate, he had worked for the post office and Airborne Express. But when he lost his job, he

enrolled at YSU as a telecommunications major with hopes of becoming a videographer or working in a production house editing.

"I had always been interested in the media and I thought with my mind and creativity, I could really do something," Glancy said.

As a college junior 14 years after high school, Glancy is one of the increasing number of non-traditional students across the country.

Postsecondary schools have learned that catering to working adults attracts a growing market segment — nontraditional students,

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## News Briefs

### Earth Day celebrated at YSU

YSU's annual Earth Day Festival will be held on Wednesday April 19 from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. outside Kilcawley Center. A press conference will be held at 9:30 a.m. in Room 2096 of Kilcawley Center to recognize the city of Youngstown's commitment to a greener future and to emphasize

the strength of partnerships between YSU, Mahoning County and the city of Youngstown.

### Organizations compete in Greek Sing

More than a dozen fraternity and sorority groups will sing, dance and entertain at YSU's 54th Annual Greek Sing celebration 6 p.m. Saturday, April 22 at

Stambaugh Auditorium. This year's theme is "The 90s." Also at the event, 27 students and five honorary members will be installed into the Order of Omega, the National Greek Academic Honor Society.

### Animal rights leader to speak

Susan Marion, founder and

president of Angel's Gate Hospice and Rehabilitation Center for Animals, will speak 1 to 3 p.m. Monday in the Gallery of Kilcawley Center. The YSU Environmental and Animal Rights Coalition is sponsoring her appearance. For more information, visit the Angel's Gate Web sit at www.angelsgate.org.

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**SGA, continued from page 1**

behind-the-scenes work SGA does.

"Many of the projects we undertake don't have our name attached to them, but it is more important to do things than to let students know we are the ones getting them done," Miller said.

However, Miller said the low number did not deter him during his campaign.

"We have to make sure that we are the leaders on campus and that we are here for the students. I am pleased to say that when we were campaigning, not one student we talked would not be affected by the issues in our platform," Miller said.

Vansuch said SGA would take a more visual role in the 2006-07 academic year.

"SGA is going to be a lot more prominent this year," Vansuch said.

Miller said SGA plans to use closed circuit television to advertise campus events, with announcements scrolling across the bottom of the screen and newscasts using telecommunications students.

Although Miller said the plans are rudimentary and the specifics need to be worked out, he said he felt it was a viable strategy to reach students that could give telecommunications majors experience in the field.

In a Jambar editorial, it was suggested that SGA make use of the campus core to address students in an open forum. Miller said while this is good idea in theory, he said he is skeptical as to how many students would actually attend.

"Look at Pizza with the President; how many students showed up for that? About 18. If only around 18 students show up to address the president of the university, how many will show up for SGA?" Miller asked.

In addition to becoming more visible on campus, Miller and Vansuch said there will be changes in the organization of the body in order to reach more goals and use meeting time more efficiently.

In committee meetings for example, members will have assigned areas to research and gather information. Miller said this way, the representatives will be more prepared when they present their reports to the

body.

"When a representative brings an issue to the body, we won't have to spend a half hour debating whether or not the issue is worth looking into because the committee would already have researched the topic," Miller said.

Vansuch said the reorganization will help increase representative accountability.

"We want to make sure that every member of SGA has something to do," Vansuch said.

Miller and Vansuch said they are prepared to handle any personal issues that may arise during the year. Miller said he learned a lot from how current SGA president Bob McGovern and vice president Amanda Mielke handled a conflict between Arts and Science representative Joe Iesue and Secretary of Financial Affairs Josh Hiznay.

"The president and vice president should serve as moderators and try take care of the issue outside of the meeting. If things get too out of hand, we do reserve the right to cut someone off," Miller said.

In addition to electing the SGA president and vice-president, students also elected representatives for each of the colleges. The results for college representatives are as follows.

**The College of Arts and Sciences representatives are:**

Kristen Olmi, who received 69 votes

Ramon Ramos who received 72 votes

Emilie Kiko, who received 77 votes

Samantha Basil, who received 84 votes

Amber Bibey, who received 90 votes

Ashley Ruozzo, who received 100 votes

Dave Spatholt, who received 111 votes

**The Williamson College of Business Administration representatives are:**

Ellen Stafford, who received 51 votes

Katie Marsh, who received 52 votes

Erica Cross, who received 55 votes

Heather Novak, who received 65 votes

**The Beeghly College of**

**Education representatives are:**

Nicole Mraz, who received 46 votes

Jaelyn Elias, who received 47 votes

Victoria Chaney who received 48 votes

**The Rayen College of Engineering representatives are:**

Andrew Mattson, who received 39 votes

J. R. Jackson, who received 56 votes

**The Fine and Performing Arts representative is:**

Erienne Raib, who received 58 votes

**The Bitonte College of Health and Human Services representatives are:**

Jennifer Cvengros, who received 37 votes

Nicole Frease, who received 41 votes

Ariel Foster, who received 48 votes

Allison Miller, who received 55 votes

Call Cheryl Thompson at (330) 941-1913.

**TAXES, continued from page 1**

CTR Web site said. Any unspent money more than 10 percent of the budget would be refunded to taxpayers.

Youngstown State University President David Sweet said an association of Ohio public universities would be creating a committee to study and possibly fight against the amendment, claiming it would result in severe cuts to higher education. John Habat, YSU's Vice President of Administration and future VP of Special Projects will represent YSU on the committee.

Paul Rohrbaugh, the head librarian at the Curriculum Resource Center in YSU's Beeghly College of Education, said he is very concerned about the effects that proposed legislation could have on education and libraries in Ohio.

"It is horrible," Rohrbaugh said. "The state will use a new formula to

determine the amount of taxes that each county will receive."

Rohrbaugh said the new tax formula would be based only on the population of 18 to 64-year-olds. He is concerned about the population demographics of this age bracket locally. Research shows that the numbers are declining because the population is aging and working age individuals are searching for work in other states.

He said another element of TABOR is that if a local government decides to raise more revenue they will be required to pass a tax levy with more than half of the registered voters voting in favor of it.

"We do not have that kind of voter turn out around here," Rohrbaugh said.

Colorado passed similar TABOR legislation in 1992. Research from the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities showed that Colorado's average per-pupil spending fell by more than \$400 in relation to the national average. The state's teacher salary declined from 30th to 50th in the country. Higher education spending declined while student tuition increased by 21 percent.

The Center's research showed that if TABOR would have been in place in Ohio in 2003, reductions in K-12 education spending would have equaled \$900 million. Higher education spending would have been reduced by \$408 million. These reductions would have meant 15,272 fewer K-12 teachers in the state of Ohio.

YSU is specifically mentioned in the Center's research on higher education as an institution that

may have lost all state funding if reductions such as these had been made.

These cuts would have caused a 36 percent increase in student tuition. CTR recently published information explaining why a taxpayers' bill of rights would benefit Ohio. The organization said that the 71 percent growth in government spending over the last 12 years has created a need for TABOR. If this legislation had been in place in 2004-2005 the state would have saved nearly \$2 billion according to the organization's findings.

The Ohio Library Council is opposed to the passage of this legislation.

"The defeat of TEL/TABOR is the top priority in 2006 for the Ohio Library Council," the group said in a press release.

Lisa Rohrbaugh, the director of the East Palestine Library, is actively working to educate voters.


"The amendment contends that it will reduce taxes for citizens in the state. Instead, the amendment calls for people to pay directly for the services," she said in an interview with Lisbon's Morning Journal.

The East Palestine Library has an operating budget of \$450,000 of which 98 percent comes from funding. The library would not be able to remain open under TABOR.

The proposed legislation, if passed, will also affect state medical care, school transportation, 911 services and emergency

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# Editorial & Opinion

Tuesday, April 18, 2006

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## thejambar

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### OUR SIDE

## Sweet's lack of leadership no excuse for faculty

Earlier this month it was revealed that, despite positive recommendations by their departments and colleges, Youngstown State University Provost Robert Herbert denied early promotions to nine faculty members.

The YSU Ohio Education Association faculty union filed a pre-grievance on behalf of these nine faculty members, mostly assistant professors who sought promotion to associate professorships. The promotion would have provided the professors on average with an \$8,000 raise and little change in their responsibilities.

Herbert denied the promotions because the professors had not fulfilled a longevity requirement in the OEA contract. Assistant professors are required to have served at least four years in that position before being promoted to associate professor.

Though there is a provision that says professors who consistently exhibit "outstanding performance" may be promoted before they serve four years, the exception is clearly just a possibility, not a guarantee.

In denying the promotions, Herbert made the best decision he could — considering the language of the faculty contract and YSU's dismal financial situation.

It's not to say the professors don't deserve the promotions — most professors work hard and are underpaid — but times are financially tough and the promotions aren't contractually required, in fact they are barely contractually permitted. Twelve other professors received promotions, a sign that Herbert judiciously weighed each and every applicant up for promotion.

A grievance by the faculty against this matter would only complicate the labor-management healing process. Pressing a matter as arbitrary as whether a professor should be granted an early promotion won't help matters much.

Of course it's hard to blame the faculty when YSU President David Sweet continues to put in a mediocre effort at best with regards to labor-management relations.

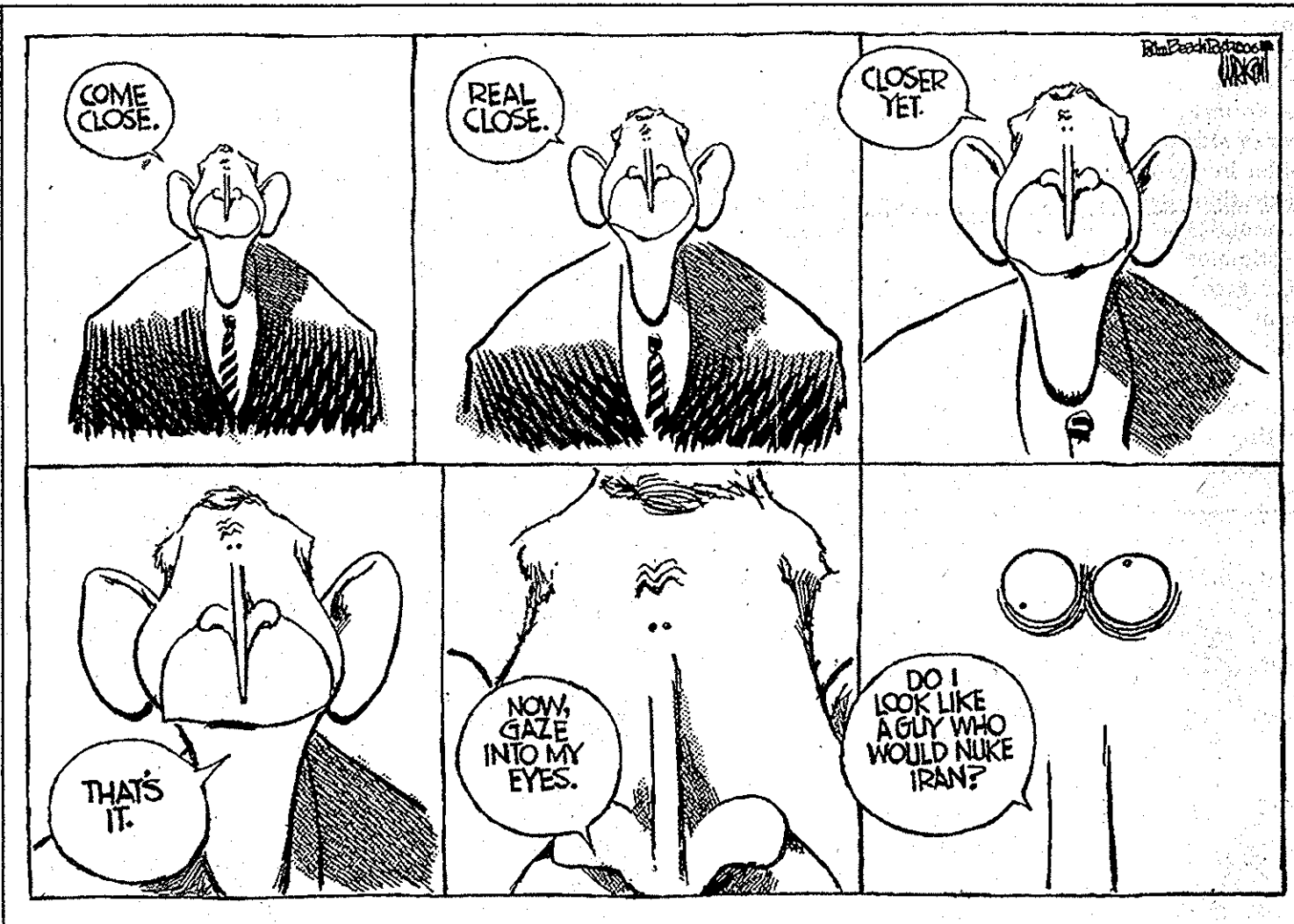
His compromise to remove John Habat, YSU's embattled vice president for administration, from campus but continue to have him work from home for the same salary under the almost laughable title of "vice president for special projects" was perhaps the worst of both worlds.

And Sweet's refusal to rehire Christine Dombhoff, the classified staff union president who lost her job last year when YSU's Cisco Networking Academy closed, has further cemented the view that Sweet is unwilling to make difficult but conciliatory changes in his leadership decisions.

Until Sweet begins to show real leadership, he can't possibly hope for the unions to make concessions. Still, Sweet's deficiencies are no excuse for the union's own lack of compromise in the case of the denied promotions.

#### 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.



#### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

#### Professor denied promotion may withdraw funding pursuit

Editor:

On 27 March 2006, I, along with eight other Youngstown State University faculty members, was denied a promotion in rank by University Provost Robert Herbert despite approval by departmental and college promotion committees. This decision weighs heavily upon how I must now view my role at Youngstown State, especially my pursuit of external research funding. It was made clear by the Provost that my efforts in obtaining \$148,000 in external grants, and my extensive post-hiring publication successes, both with major student involvement, were subordinate to his insistence upon "university service". I therefore intend to volunteer for more department, college, and university committees to "strengthen [my] portfolio in this regard," as suggested in the letter denying my promotion. However, such an additional time commitment will preclude me from the exhaustive tasks of grant writing and, especially, directing research projects once funded. Virtually all of my "extra" time over the past three years (i.e. not in a classroom or in a meeting) has been spent on funded research. Consequently, I regret that I am now considering abstaining from the pursuit of external funding for the foreseeable future, and from all research that cannot be accomplished with the more limited time and resources that would therefore be available. Unfortunately, this might also include my withdrawal from a soon to be submitted \$240,000 National Science Foundation Bio-Math proposal which I had hoped would continue the very productive interdisciplinary program funded by our prior \$100,000 award. Several of YSU's highly touted 2005 Math-fest student award winners (recall the YSU homepage last fall) were funded by this grant, and my Bio-Math research team is submitting a student/faculty co-authored manuscript for

peer review within the next few weeks. If at some future time the university administration chooses to rededicate itself to academic scholarship, then I will be more than willing to once again commit myself to raising Youngstown State University to the kind of institution that we all know it can be. I deeply regret this situation, but it was not of my making.

Thomas P. Diggins  
Assistant Professor  
Biological Sciences

#### Mag and Ted's bogus journey

Editor:

Leaving the Auditorium, Mag, gave me the mask of Janus, saying, "Wear this, we're going to the Time of Mohammed to see what Gabriel really said to him." "Oh," I replied, "the two faces of Janus: Behind us Knowledge, Before us Opportunity; very fitting for Arabia." "Whatta you talking?" "The Mesopotamia! Cradle of Civilization, Mag." "Screw that! The mask is just so's we'll fit into the society like those who come here smiling and shopping, then when called upon, activate, and if caught and searched in airports, cry violation of Civil

Liberties and being Profiled for no reason...."

"Gee," I thought. Then asked: "Um... Mag, you've been here before, which one was God back there in the Auditorium?"

"Remember you're under oath to keep secrets, pinko! Anyway, He was the short one with the Barry Goldwater in 68 button."

"You mean the one talking to David Blaine in the Future about how to levitate in the street without smoke and mirrors?"

"Yeah, — I leapt. "Man, it'da been great to ask why He allowed the majority of Americans since 2000 to become such morons."

"Oh, that's easy; so the Religious Right could elect one of their own mental deficiencies to President. —Ops! I ah, I ah, didn't mean it that way. And if you tell—I swear I'll kick yo'—"

I just sat back smiling as we blasted through Time headed for Mohammed's Time. Soon we came upon a brawl. Taking a closer look, to our disbelief, it was Jesus in the Future dressed as a Rapper; angels were holding him back from fighting with a group of young hooded blacks.

"What's wrong with Jesus?" I asked an angel. "He was telling the

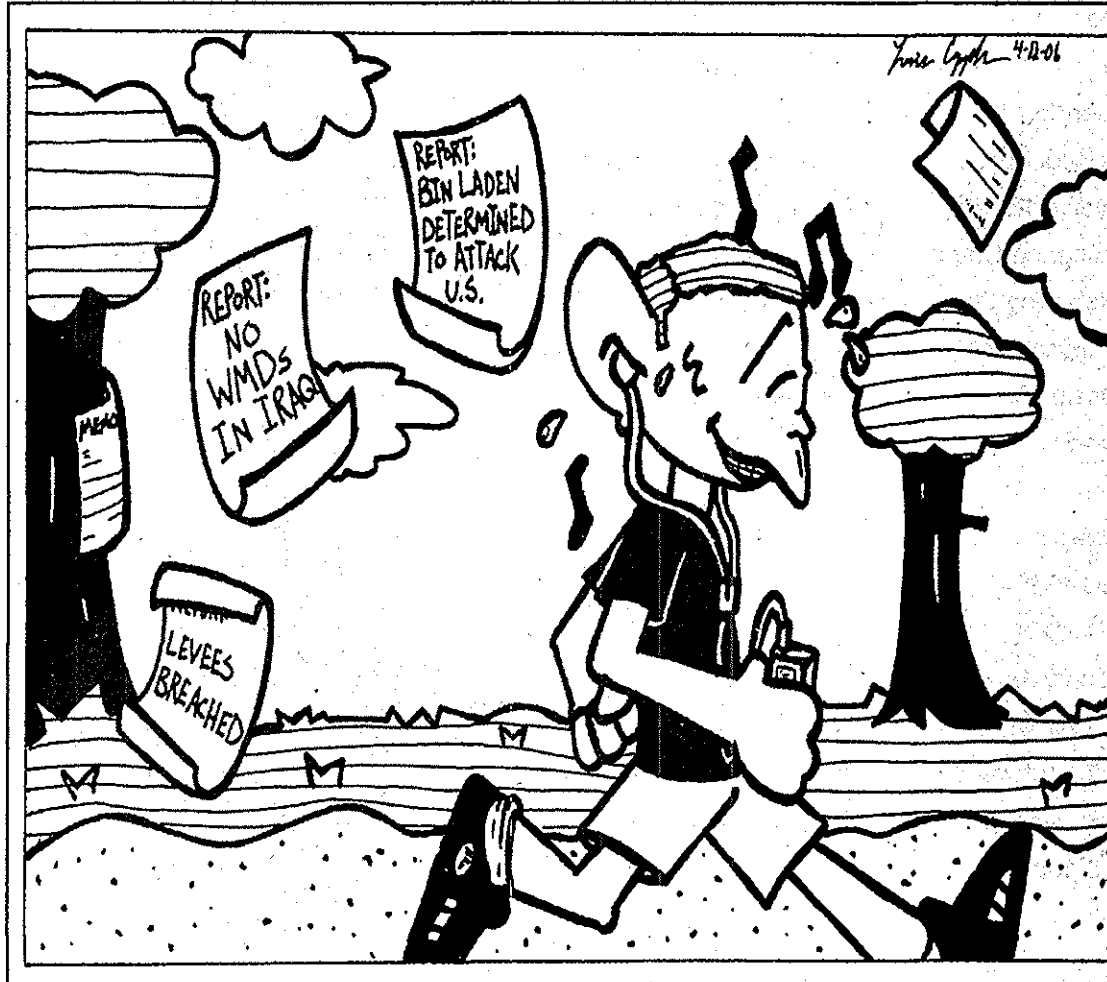
Brothers Elvis learned to shake and sing watching blacks then made racist statements about them after he got famous. Someone yelled that Jesus shoulda done something about it—calling Jesus the N word. Jesus went off explaining the history of the word. That's when the brothers pulled glock nines telling Jesus they'd pop a cap in his... Well, since the Crucifixion, Jesus has a short fuse; he punched two, firing lightning bolts on the others. I reminded Jesus what he said on the cross: 'Forgive them, for they know not what they do.' Jesus said F that and punched 19 more..."

"Didn't Jesus tell them about the Second Coming?" I asked. "Jesus just said 'not in my house,' now this tornado's coming..."

We got the hell out of there.

Ted Williams

Want to send a letter to the editor?  
Interested in writing a guest commentary?  
E-mail us at: thejambar@gmail.com



**DEGREE** continued from page 1

defined as ages 25 to 64, who want a degree for reasons that include earning more money, advancing professionally, experiencing personal growth or finishing a path they started years ago.

Students 25 years of age and older constitute nearly half of the new and returning student population, according to The Association for Nontraditional Students in Higher Education. And the number of students age 35 and older in degree-granting institutions has soared from about 823,000 in 1970 to an estimated 2.9 million in 2001, according to the National Center for Education Statistics.

The desire to make a lifestyle change is often a motivating factor for going back to school.

"I've wanted to do this for some time, but waited for my children to grow up and leave home," said Connie Baker, a 46-year-old who will complete an associate's degree in business administration this fall at Pikes Peak Community College in Colorado Springs, Colo.

"I want to improve my marketability and my income status," she said. "The classes are expanding my vision and getting me out of my mental box."

Some employers are willing to help pay the bill. In 2001, 75 percent of employed adults ages 25 to 64 who participated in adult education received employer financial support, according to the National Center for Education Statistics. Support included payment

or reimbursement for part of or all expenses, such as tuition, fees, books and time off for classes.

Chief Master Sgt. Cari Kent, commandant of the Noncommissioned Officers Academy at Peterson Air Force Base, receives assistance through the military to attend the University of Phoenix. Earning a bachelor's in business management isn't about moving up the ranks for Kent; after 23 years of military service she's attained the highest rank she can.

"The degree adds credibility to what I do," she said, "and those credentials are important. What I'm learning at school mirrors what I'm teaching at work. It allows me to do my job better."

Schools make it as con-

venient as possible for nontraditional students to fit education into their schedules. Phil Maes, a 40-year-old Colorado

Christian University student graduating in May with a bachelor's in human-resource management, said he appreciates the accelerated programs and flexible hours.

"Courses are completed in five weeks, and a lot of the homework and discussion is online," said Maes, who is retiring in six months from Air Force service.

Glori Gifford, a 34-year-old tax preparer with five children and a husband, thought getting a degree would be impossible. She'll graduate from Blair College this month with an associate's degree in business-administration

management.

"I'd been a stay-at-home mom with odds-and-ends jobs. I didn't feel like I was going anywhere. Now everything's geared around my college education, with my husband and I hoping to start our own business," she said.

Glancy said one of the biggest motivators was his wife.

"She understands how important getting a degree is. She has more letters after her name than I have in mine," Glancy said. "She went to school for seven years for everything she needed, so she's been really supportive."

Glancy said he's glad he made the decision to come back to school.

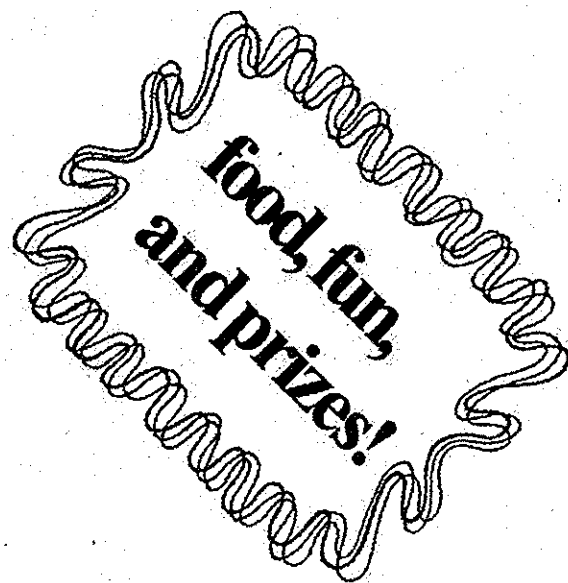
"It's so much safer to

have a degree. I'll have so many more opportunities in the future. That degree is so important," Glancy said. "When I lost my job I didn't know what do without it. That's what worries me about Delphi."

Call Katie Libecco at (330) 941-3758.

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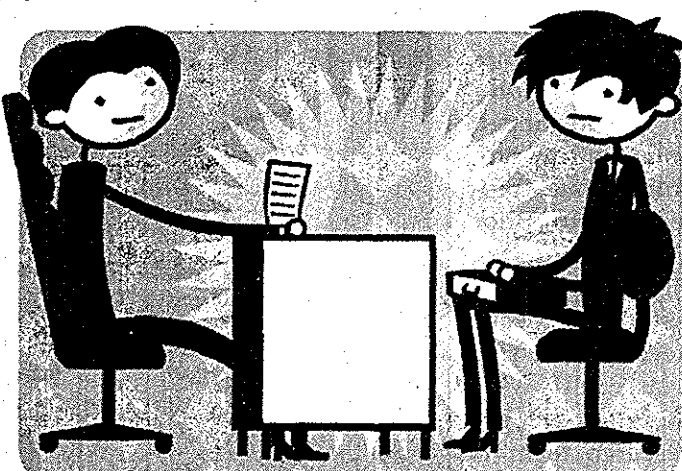


Government & Non-Profit Organizations

These employers are looking for new talent . . .

- Air Force Reserve
- City Year Cleveland
- Defense Contract Audit Agency
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- Department of Homeland Security, U. S. Border Patrol
- Federal Correctional Institution - Elkon
- Glendale Police Department
- Habitat for Humanity International Ohio VISTA Program
- Internal Revenue Service - Dayton Office
- Lawrence County Boy Scouts of America
- Mahoning County Children Services
- National Credit Union Administration
- Office of Personnel Management
- Ohio Rehabilitation Services Commission - Corporate Location
- Ohio State Highway Patrol
- One-Stop System of Mahoning & Columbiana Counties
- PBS 45 & 49
- PENNDOT
- Pennsylvania State Police
- U.S. Army
- U.S. Customs & Border Protection
- U.S. Department of State
- U.S. Social Security Administration
- YWCA Youngstown

They will be at  
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Youngstown STATE UNIVERSITY

# Cost of part-time education is tough

By: James M. O'Neill  
THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS  
(KRT)

By day Katie Colvin works full time as a secretary at a downtown Dallas law firm. At night she goes to college.

She originally enrolled part time, but when the University of Texas at Dallas changed its tuition schedule last year to charge more per credit hour for part-time students, Colvin adjusted, braving a full load of five courses, or 15 credits, this semester.

After work, the Keller resident would battle the rush-hour exodus north on Central Expressway to the UTD campus in Richardson.

She fell behind in school. By February, she decided to drop three courses — losing nearly \$2,000 in tuition. "It was really frustrating, because I really enjoyed those courses," the 21-year-old said.

Now, with UTD again raising tuition more steeply for part-timers than full-time students, Colvin faces even

bigger obstacles.

"Next semester it will cost me even more. I really worry because I have two years to go," she said. She already owes \$35,000 in loans.

Colvin is among a growing group of part-time students frustrated by the tuition changes at UT-Dallas and the University of Texas at Arlington, saying they can't enroll full time because of their jobs.

The two universities have adopted a new pricing structure designed to help recoup the steeper cost of educating part-timers, and to help prod part-timers to take a full load, so they can speed their way to a degree and save money in the long term. Pushing students to graduate faster also frees up classroom slots and helps the universities absorb sharp growth each year.

Call it the Sam's Club approach to tuition — buy in bulk and save. This fall, undergraduates who take six credit hours will pay \$277 per credit, while those taking 15 credit hours would pay only \$217 per credit. Tuition for

the six-credit students would jump about 29 percent, or \$371 a semester, while tuition for 15-credit students would rise a more modest 4.6 percent, or \$143 per semester.

But some students who live on their own and pay their tuition insist they can't possibly take a full course load to enjoy the savings.

## FINANCIAL AID

Conceding that point, UT-Dallas this week announced several increases in its financial aid programs for part-time students.

"Some of them are among our most vulnerable students economically and we feel an obligation to shield them from the full impact" of the coming tuition hikes, UT-Dallas president David E. Daniel said.

UT-Dallas officials also say some part-timers have their tuition covered by employers. That's true, but those paying their own way say they still feel the pinch.

Graduate student Mindy Nall, 25, works days for an insurance company. Her

company pays \$2,500 toward her degree each year, and she pays about \$5,000.

"The tuition increases are frustrating," she said, "but it's not an option for me to take classes full time."

Jennifer Riley, 27, works days as head of inventory loss prevention for a retailer, and takes classes toward her accounting degree three nights a week. She is taking eight credits this semester and plans to take nine in the fall. She pays her own tuition and has accumulated about \$40,000 in student loans.

"It's frustrating," she said of the tuition hikes, "but not surprising." She said the university talks about accommodating its working adult students, but she has not seen that. "I've had academic advisers ask why I couldn't take courses I needed during the day. They say, 'Can't you talk to your boss to get more flexible hours?' And I'm like, 'No — are you kidding?'"

Colvin expressed similar frustration. She said she will only be able to take two courses this fall even if she

wants to handle a full load. That's because only four courses she needs to complete her degree will be offered at night. One she already took, and two others are scheduled at the same time.

The concerns of part-timers highlight conflicting goals for the UT system. On the one hand, there is a desire to improve graduation rates and shorten student time to graduation. But the system also wants to improve enrollment for minority students, particularly Hispanics, many of whom must work full time to pay for college.

Steep tuition increases are not only driven by the desire to push students to take a full-time load. Tuition is up across Texas and the nation, as universities respond to numerous pressures. UT system Chancellor Mark G. Yudof often notes state appropriations have not risen fast enough to address booming enrollment.

In addition, universities face growing competition from their peers and the busi-

ness sector for top faculty, forcing up salaries to retain and lure the best. This year, schools are also pinched by steep increases in utility prices.

The reasons are no consolation to students like Dawn Chang, 28, earning a sociology degree at UT-Dallas. Her story illustrates the kinds of decisions students must make. Chang has a full-time job as a sales associate at an import company in Richardson from 8 to 5, and takes a full-time load of classes at night. She had been enrolled part time, but decided to take on the extra load "because the cost is less and I want to finish as quickly as possible."

She starts work a half-hour early so she can leave early enough to beat traffic and grab dinner before class. She said she might quit her job, work part time and speed the path to a degree.

"With the tuition going up," she said, "Now I really need to finish as soon as possible."

She has 10 courses to go.

## HELP WANTED!

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Visit [www.kc.ysu.edu](http://www.kc.ysu.edu) for details on student employment and position descriptions in Kilcawley Center. Stop in the Kilcawley Staff office for an application. You must be in good standing to apply. Open positions are not known at this time. Applications will be kept on file through October 1st.

[www.kc.ysu.edu](http://www.kc.ysu.edu)

## EXPANSION, continued from page 1

Youngstown City Council for a vote.

The redevelopment would link YSU to downtown Youngstown by extending Hazel Street north to campus, in a move which some hope will help the city benefit economically. YSU wants to house a new College of Business between Rayen and Wood.

The plan is part of Youngstown 2010 and YSU's Centennial Campus Master Plan, redevelopment projects by the city and the university. Hunter Morrison, YSU's director for the center of urban and regional studies, is involved with YSU's part in the projects. He said the proposed plan is in line with one of the main principles of Youngstown 2010: adjusting Youngstown to the new economy.

Morrison said the stu-

dent body at YSU could breathe new life into the city's economy if the city and university were linked. The city and university are severed from one another, he said.

"The university should have a close relationship to downtown. It's part of the city, not in the middle of nowhere," Morrison said.

Bill D'Avignon, Youngstown's planning director, said the plan would ask the commission to consider the 30-acre block as an urban renewal area. D'Avignon said to qualify for a renewal project, more than 50 percent of the buildings must be deteriorated or deteriorating.

D'Avignon said the plan would mark the area for special treatment, which would allow the city to use eminent domain in acquiring property. He said the current plan dictates which property would need to be purchased. He said that the city couldn't use eminent domain unless it was spelled out in the plan or if the property

would be needed for a public purpose such as a pump station or sewer lines.

Divito said she didn't believe the city would approve the current plan, though she and a few other business members in the area wrote letters to Mayor Jay Williams and city trustees about the plan. She said if the university displaced the businesses, it would harm tax-revenues for the city, creating an anti-business environment.

"The bottom line is: is [the plan] really going to build business in Youngstown?" Divito asked.

Morrison said he could understand some business owners being skeptical of the plan at first, but believes that individual business owners would be encouraged to "reinvest" in the city after they begin to see change and progress through the city projects.

Call Bill Rodgers at (330) 941-1989.

# YSU GREEK SING

**FREE "Big Fat" Greek Pen**

Monday, April 17- Friday, April 21. Purchase any 20oz Coca-Cola product at the Bagel Stop or Kilcawley Candy Counter and get a free "Big Fat" Greek ink pen! Hurry!! While Supplies last!

**Go Greek!**

If you would like more information about Greek Sing or how to join a YSU sorority or fraternity, contact Student Activities at x3580.

**Greek Lunch Specials**  
Kilcawley Center


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**2006**

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When: Monday - Friday, 9am - 5pm  
Who: Sergeant First Class Anthony Calrucco

AN ARMY OF ONE

## Lost ... Lost Gone!

All items FOUND this semester, that are not claimed by the end of finals week, will be donated to area charities.

FOUND: Keys, cell phones, hats, gloves, books, bags, etc. The campus LOST AND FOUND is located at YSU Info on the upper level of Kilcawley Center.

**Kilcawley Center**  
[www.kc.ysu.edu](http://www.kc.ysu.edu)

## Wireless spots on campus

The following areas are set to become wireless hotspots during the 2006 calendar year:

- Kilcawley Center – 1st floor lobby (North-East)
- Kilcawley Center – 1st floor lobby (South-West)
- Kilcawley Center – 1st floor Arby's dining area
- Kilcawley Center – 1st floor Marketplace dining area
- Kilcawley Center – 1st floor Peaberry's dining area
- Kilcawley Center – 2nd floor Noodles dining area
- Kilcawley Center – 2nd floor study lounges (North-West)
- Cushwa Hall – 1st floor center atrium
- Cushwa Hall – 1st floor bridge to Moser Hall
- Moser Hall – 1st floor front lobby and adjoining study lounge (North)
- Williamson Hall – 3rd floor study lounge (South-East)
- DeBartolo Hall – 1st floor front lobby (South)
- Bliss Hall – 2nd floor front lobby (North-East)
- Ward Beecher Hall – 3rd floor front lobby (West)
- Beechly Hall – 1st floor atrium (West)
- Tod Hall – 1st floor lobby (South-East)
- Maag Library – 2nd floor front circulation lobby (North-West)

For more information, contact the YSU Tech Desk at (330) 941-1595.

YSU

## Honors Convocation highlights faculty and students efforts

Hundreds of students and 25 faculty members will be honored tonight at Youngstown State University's 47th annual Honor's Convocation, which will be held at 7:30 p.m. in Stambaugh Auditorium.

Awards will be presented for those professors who excelled in their teaching performances, academic work, or public or university services.

"It's an honor to receive it," said Douglas Price, an associate professor of Civil/Environmental and Chemical Engineering who will receive an Excellence in Teaching award. "Especially since the department chair nominated me. I felt encouraged."

Seven other professors will be award-

ed along with Price, each receiving \$2,000.

Among the hundreds of students who will be presented with scholarships for their academic achievements will be the 2006 Quest winners.

"Since it was my first time presenting at Quest, I had no expectations at all," Jonathan Duran said.

Duran, a computer and information sciences major, presented his computer game "Quest: The Adventure" during the 2006 Quest presentation.

"I didn't even know there were awards actually, so when I found out that I'd be receiving a \$1,000 scholarship for the work, I was thrilled," Duran said.

### CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION OF YOUNGSTOWN - DATA PROCESSING AIDE - COMPUTER SERVICES, FINANCE DEPARTMENT - SALARY \$27,500.20.

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Wi-Fi, continued from page 1

Dunnivant said. "I can finally play my Internet games in here."

However, some students said they find access varies depending on the type of computer used. Freshman Jesse Warnake said he is able to connect to YSU's wireless network, but is unable to surf the web.

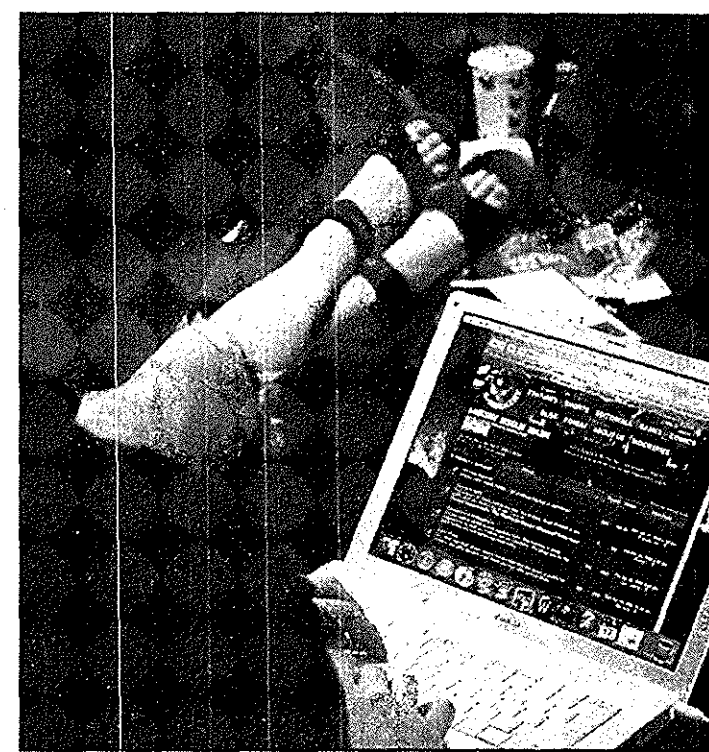
"I guess it depends on the type of laptop you have," Warnake said.

YSU's Director of Network Services said it all depends on which network you login to.

The network is available in two forms. The first one is YSU Online Portal Entry Network or OPEN, which is an unsecured wireless segment that provides access to the YSU homepage and CUE-mail.

Rakers said the OPEN service is ideal for campus visitors because of its easy login option. This option is listed under YSUOPENETWORK at wireless hotspots around campus.

"This service offering provides access to the same YSU Public Access Services available on the Internet. Any YSU Public Access system available from off-campus will also be available to users of the OPEN wireless option,"



Jambor / Leonard Glenn Crist

Sophomore Taylor Dunnivant uses his laptop in Peaberry's Cafe. He said that he has been able to access the wireless network for about a week. Peaberry's Cafe in Kilcawley Center is one of the new wireless hotspots on campus.

Rakers said.

The second wireless option is a secure network that provides remote access to all available YSU network resources, including the surfing the Internet. Rakers said current YSU students, faculty and staff can only access the service and is able to tell whether a user is legit.

"These security processes help ensure a safe computing environment on the YSU network for all users," Rakers said.

The second wireless option will be listed under YSUWIRELESS at wireless hotspots on campus.

The new wireless format supports 802.11b/g compatibility. Rakers said students should contact the Technology Help Desk located on the fourth floor of Maag Library to get connected to YSU's wireless network.

Call Cheryl Thompson at (330) 941-1913.

E-MAIL US AT

THEJAMBAR@GMAIL.COM

HOMERUNS, continued from page 7

newspapers. Vendors at Shibe Park for Game 5 sold little lapel pins honoring their new hero — miniature replicas of his mighty bat tied with a red ribbon.

But baseball owners don't always react quickly to change. It took them nearly a decade to recognize the public's passion for long home runs. It wasn't until 1920, seeking a way to get out from under the Black Sox scandal, that they juiced up the baseball and saw both home-run totals and attendance soar.

Home Run Baker was a symbol — he wasn't even baseball's home-run king during the nineteen-teens, when he led the American League in home runs four times. That distinction went to the National League's perennial home run leader, Gavvy Cravath, a Phillie.

Perhaps to atone for unleashing the home run beast, the local teams have made moves to contain it in every major park they've called home.

In 1929, Phillies owner William Baker installed a 15-foot screen over the short

right-field wall at the Baker Bowl. Baker insisted he did so because "home runs had become too cheap" at the Broad Street ballpark. Others felt it was because Baker had become too cheap. His star, Chuck Klein, set a National League mark with 43 homers in 1929. Had Klein subsequently moved closer to Babe Ruth's record 60, he would no doubt have demanded a substantial pay raise.

In 1933, the A's constructed a 33-foot-high "spite fence" in right field at Shibe Park. Its real purpose was to prevent homeowners on adjacent North 20th Street from turning their rooftops into bleachers, but it, too, made homers more difficult.

In the early 1970s, the Phillies raised Veterans Stadium's outfield fences. Though it ostensibly was done to cut back on the number of ground-rule doubles then trampolining off the artificial turf, its effect was to reduce the number of home runs hit there.

Baker quickly faded into baseball history's shadows.

He held out for a larger salary from the A's, missing the entire 1915 season. In 1916, Mack, during one of his periodic fire sales, sold Baker to the Yankees for \$36,000.

There, Baker became a teammate of the man whose home-run-smashing abilities would obscure both his memory and his records: Babe Ruth.

Baker retired at age 36 after the 1922 World Series with a total of 96 home runs and returned to Maryland. But his role in the saga of the home run wasn't finished yet. Coaching a team in the old Eastern Shore League, he discovered another powerful Maryland farmboy and tipped off the A's. Mack quickly signed the youngster. Before Jimmie Foxx retired in 1945, he would hit more home runs (534) than anyone but Ruth.

Many of the blasts of "The Beast" landed on North 20th Street, right where Frank Baker had won his fame and his nickname and forever changed the game.

### POLICE BLOTTER

According to police reports, a Youngstown State University police officer working in Lyden Hall on April 14 observed Alexandra Lee attempting several times to gain access to the door and then dropping her keys according to the police report. The report said the officer detected a strong alcoholic odor emitting from her breath and said Lee attempted to walk to another door, swaying and staggering. Reports said she told the officer she had not been drinking and then when asked again she said she had a couple drinks at the Courtyard Apartments. Officers then confirmed Lee was 19-years-old. According to the report, Lee was issued a summons for underage consumption of an alcoholic beverage and given a court date.

A YSU police officer was dispatched to Cushwa Hall on April 12 in reference to someone using a computer without permission. It was reported that a male was in Room B037 at 10:30 p.m. April 7, using a computer when someone entered the room and he jumped out of the chair. He showed identification that he was part of the janitorial staff, according to the police report. The history of the computer was checked and it revealed that the computer had been used to access pornographic sites on various dates, according to the report.

► YSU Police Escort Service

(330) 941-1515

- ▶ 4/18 Baseball vs. Cleveland State 3 p.m. - Eastwood Field
- ▶ 4/18 Softball vs. Kent State 3 p.m. - McCune Park
- ▶ 4/18 Women's Tennis @ Detroit
- ▶ 4/19 Baseball vs. Malone 7 p.m. - Cene Park

YSU BASEBALL

# Penguins break losing streak

By: Justin Smolkovich  
 SPORTS REPORTER

A record-tying day and the theft of two of three games from Wisconsin-Milwaukee was just what the Youngstown State baseball team needed as the season heads into the final leg.

The Penguins raised their record to 14-21 overall and a 6-8 Horizon League mark, one game above rival Cleveland State.

With the series tied one game apiece, the Penguins catcher Brandon Caipen recorded a career day lifting the Penguins to a 12-8 victory. Caipen became only the seventh player in school history to record five hits on the day and is the first since 2001.

Caipen's resume for the day included six RBI's including a two-run homerun in the third inning, topped off by a three-run double in the fifth inning that put the Penguins up 7-3. Caipen singled in the first to start off the day.

The Penguins were also helped by their pitching staff. Starter Chuck Schiffhauer went six innings allowing just four runs on 13 hits. Schiffhauer earned the win and brought his season record to 3-1. Ryan Sellman was credited with the save, his third of the year.

The series sweep of the Panthers could prove pivotal for the Penguins. The win Saturday afternoon was their first win since April 8 breaking a five game losing

skid.

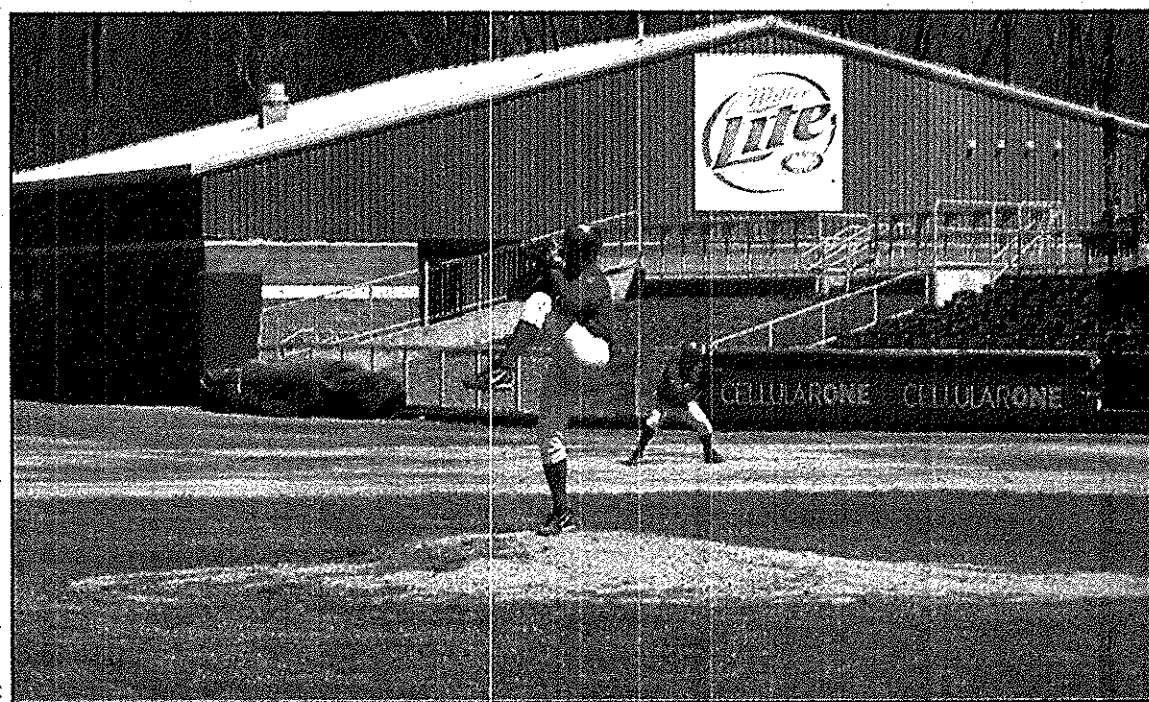
The Penguins return home today for a league battle against Cleveland State that swept the Penguins in two games a week ago. The win for the Vikings was their first win after 22 consecutive losses.

More importantly, the Cleveland State tilt kicks off a 13-game stretch that will see the Penguins play 11 games at home. The Penguins are 3-3 on the season at Eastwood field and Cene Park in Struthers.

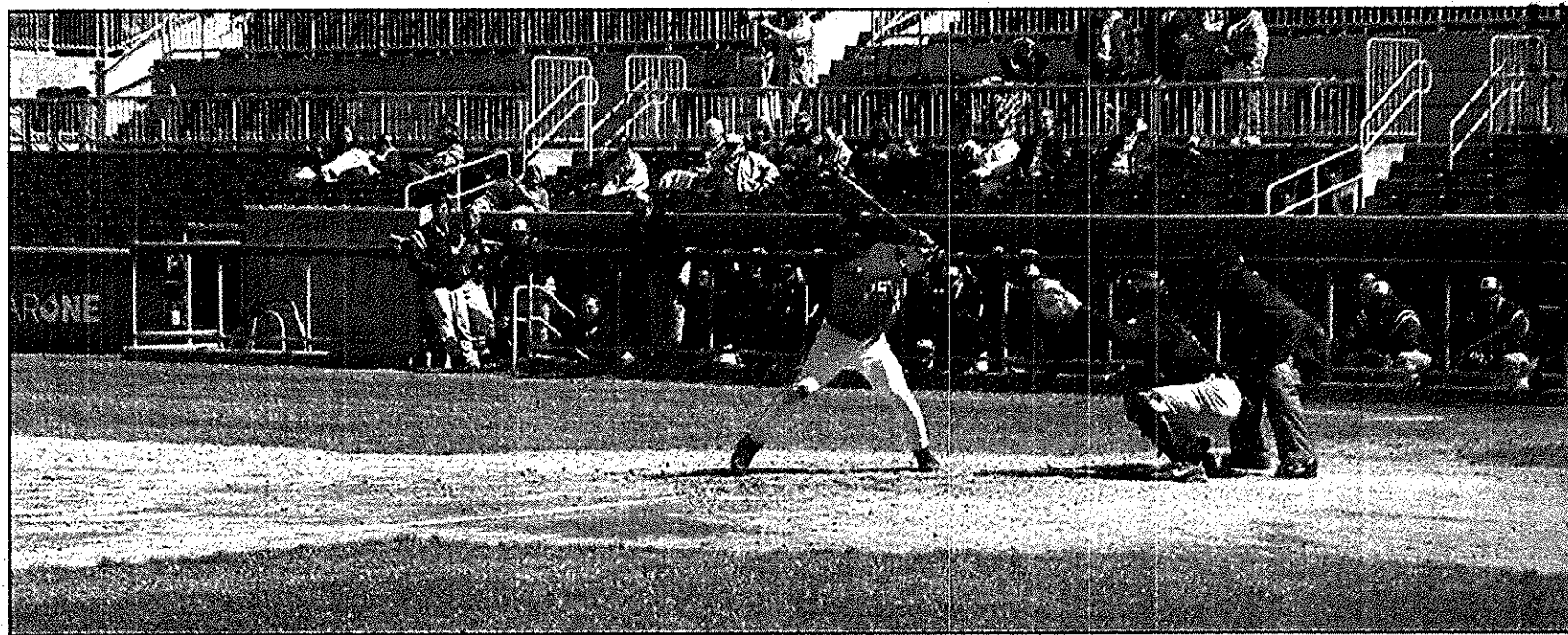
The Penguins have 17 conference games remaining including a series capping off the season against Cleveland State at CSU.

Call Justin Smolkovich at (330) 941-3758.

**RIGHT AND BELOW:** These file photos from April 9 show YSU against Wright State. They will take on Cleveland State tonight at Eastwood field and Malone at Cene Park on Wednesday.



Jambar/ Katie Libecco



Jambar/ Katie Libecco

**Correction:**

Cutlines identifying baseball players in Tuesday's Jambar were incorrect. The hitter pictured is Dustin Thomas and the pitcher is Chris Dennis.

YSU BASKETBALL

## Basketball program draws recruit to YSU

By: Justin Smolkovich  
 SPORTS REPORTER

Head basketball coach Jerry Slocum has been hitting the recruiting trails hard this off-season, scouring the country for the missing pieces to the Youngstown State puzzle.

And it looks like Slocum has found at least one piece of that puzzle.

Devron Bostick, 6-foot-6-inches, signed a National Letter of Intent to continue his hardwood days at Beeghly Center.

Bostick, from Wisconsin, was recently named Division 3 Player of the Year in Wisconsin and led his St. Catherine's squads to back-to-back state titles, ending his prep career on a 44 game winning streak.

Slocum said in a press release that Bostick's impressive resume is what sold the coach on the forward.

"We are very excited to be able to sign such a fine student-athlete as Devron. He fills an immediate need for our program. To have someone who was a Player-of-the-Year in Wisconsin and who has won two consecutive state titles is very exciting for our basketball program," Slocum said.

Bostick said that defense and scoring are two strengths and he expects to make some noise in the paint as well.

"I am a good shooter and defender. Coach (Bob Letsch) said I was the best tipper he had ever coached before in regards to put-back rebounds," Bostick said.

The put-backs will be important this year as the Penguins

lost two starters due to graduation. Dominique Crawford tallied 99 rebounds last season while Derrick Harris recorded 98.

During his senior year Bostick averaged 17.2 points per game and pulled in 6.4 rebounds per game. Bostick will need to be ready as his talent will likely be called upon early in assisting the two current Penguin scorers Quin Humphrey who averaged 19.2 points per game and Keston Roberts who chipped in 14 per contest.

**Becoming a Penguin**

Bostick cited a growing Penguin program as part of the reason he decided to venture to Northeast Ohio from Racine Wisconsin roughly 480 miles away.

"Youngstown State was the only place I visited. I liked it so much that I cancelled all my other visits, I know this is the place for me," Bostick said. "It's a very good program and one where I thought I could grow as a player and as a student-athlete."

Bostick was ranked as the ninth best player in Wisconsin by hoopmasters.com and Second Team All-State voted on by Wisconsin Basketball Coaches Association. He was part of a team that won 52 of 53 games during two-year tenure with St. Catherine's. The only game lost was by a single point.

"I thought if I went there it would be a great opportunity for myself," Bostick said.

Call Justin Smolkovich at (330) 941-3758.

MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL

## Love-hate relationship with home runs has roots in Philadelphia

By: Frank Fitzpatrick  
 KNIGHT RIDDER NEWSPAPERS

In Philadelphia and around the major leagues, baseball just can't get the home-run genie back in the bottle.

In 2006, the homer, which in the last century resurrected the sport from scandal and strike, is under attack.

Fans are raising a stink about steroid-cheapened home-run records. Baseball is raising its efforts to eliminate the illicit substances that transformed the '90s into a decade of record destruction. The Phillies raised Citizens Bank Park's left-field wall.

Still, the dingers keep heading downtown.

Opening Day in Philadelphia brought five home runs, all to left field. Leaguewide, the round-tripper rate early this season is greater than in all but one of the last 10 years.

In Detroit, a guy named Chris Shelton is on pace to hit 108 four-baggers this year. In San Francisco, with Barry Bonds trailing Babe Ruth by six, the nation's next existential home-run crisis is about to get hairy.

But it may be in Philadelphia that fans' love-hate relationship with the tater has its home base. You might say the whole mania started here, when Frank "Home Run" Baker of the Philadelphia Athletics made the whole thing fashionable.

John Franklin Baker was an intense, grim-faced third baseman from Trappe, Md., who had joined Connie Mack's A's during the 1908 season.

In that slap-hitting, low-scoring, big-outfield, dead-ball era, home runs tended to be exactly what their name implied: Players slapped the ball between outfield-

ers and circled the bases. They ran home.

Sam Crawford led the major leagues in 1901 with 16 — and set the all-time record of 12 inside-the-park homers. Because of the mammoth outfields in early ballparks — Shibe Park's opening-day dimensions were 340 to right, 360 to left and an astonishing 515 to dead center — most tended to be of the inside-the-park variety.

But the lefthanded-hitting Baker was unusually strong. His drives frequently cleared outfield walls. On May 30, 1909, the third baseman became the first player to hit a ball out of Shibe Park, which had opened that April.

In 1911, Baker won the first of four consecutive AL home-run crowns with 11. The A's, with their vaunted "\$100,000 Infield" — Baker, Stuffey McInnis, Eddie Collins and Jack Barry — also won a second consecutive pennant that year and faced the New York Giants in the World Series.

Largely because of the two dynamic but polar-opposite Irishmen who managed in it, that 1911 Series became, in the words of local historian/author Bruce Kuklick, "the first ... to receive national and international coverage."

Behind Christy Mathewson, John McGraw's Giants won Game 1 over Mack's A's at the Polo Grounds.

Game 2 took place at North Philadelphia's sold-out Shibe Park. Thousands more milled in the streets outside or bought rooftop seats atop North 20th Street row-houses. In New York, meanwhile, hundreds of thousands gathered to follow scoreboard re-creations of the game at Manhattan newspaper and telegraph offices.

Two future Hall of Famers, Eddie Plank of the A's and Rube

Marquard of the Giants, were locked in a 1-1 tie in the sixth inning when Baker came to bat.

Because Baker had singled off a Mathewson fastball in Game 1, both McGraw and Mathewson had counseled Marquard to give the A's star nothing but breaking balls and off-speed pitches.

But with the count at 1-1, Marquard tried to sneak a high fastball past the 5-foot-10, 173-pound slugger. "The pitch," as a New York Tribune sportswriter wrote the following day, "came billing and cooing along about shoulder-high."

Baker belted it out onto North 20th Street. The ballpark erupted as never before. The sportswriters, as was their habit at the time, quickly sent out hyperbolic dispatches of the long home run that gave Mack's A's a 3-1 win and sent them on their way to a second consecutive world championship.

In a ghostwritten column the following day, Mathewson criticized Marquard's choice of pitches. But in Game 3, back in the Polo Grounds, Mathewson himself threw a fastball to Baker with a 2-1 count. The Philadelphia star duplicated his feat and earned baseball immortality.

This time the circumstances were even more dramatic. His blast into the New York stadium's short right-field grandstands came with one out in the bottom of the ninth inning with the Giants ahead, 1-0. The A's would win in the 11th.

Suddenly, the concept of fence-clearing blasts — particularly in situations as dramatic as the previous two days — was on the minds of everyone in baseball. Power would soon replace guile as the preeminent baseball gift.

Frank Baker became "Home Run" Baker in the next morning's

please see HOMERUNS, Page 6



An Orange County teenager shot himself to death after posting warnings on a Web site for teens and young adults that he was going to commit suicide.

One posting says the 17-year-old boy began communicating his troubled feelings at least a year ago on www.myspace.com. His hometown and pictures of him with his friends were on the site, but his full name was not on his homepage profile.

Friends became alarmed Monday night and posted messages urging him not to hurt himself, but at 8:14 a.m. Tuesday he left a message saying "call the police" and "I'm so sorry."

At about 8:30 a.m., he sent a suicide text message over his cellular telephone.

Friends at Capistrano Valley High School alerted school officials, who called the teen's mother. She rushed home to Mission Viejo, but paramedics were already there and found her only child dead from a gunshot wound in a bathroom.



His classmates remembered senior Jeff Barnes at Tennessee Wesleyan College on Tuesday. Barnes was on a hiking trip at Starr Mountain near Etowah, Tennessee when he lost his footing and fell 100 feet to his death.

Barnes was a 23 year old native of Ducktown, Tennessee. The Tennessee Wesleyan website says Jeff was on schedule to graduate this May with a Bachelor's Degree in Behavioral Science with an emphasis in Criminal Justice and pursue opportunities in broadcasting.

PROFILE

MY DEATH SPACE  
 Provides a look into the life of deaths

By: Katie Libecco  
 COPY EDITOR

As MySpace.com gains popularity, other web sites are finding new and interesting ways to use it to their advantage. One of those is MyDeathSpace.com.

Mike Patterson, 25, is the creator of the web site. He said the web site is a cross between a news site and an online memorial to those who have died.

"Mydeathspace.com is almost like an obituary extension showing a closer look into the lives of the deceased by visiting their MySpace profiles. An obituary might be four or five lines of text with no pictures, but with MySpace everything the dead person was into or was interested in is right there," Patterson said. "Obituaries don't explain why/how a person died...People watch the news for a reason; to find out the facts and this site gives you the details behind the death and at the same time let's you look into the life of the deceased via their MySpace profile."

The site, which was created in December 2005, lists information about recent interesting deaths. Profiles will list information including from news articles, their MySpace profiles and links to newscasts about the deaths. Causes for the deaths range from murders, suicides and natural deaths to soldiers who have died overseas.

It's all information that appears on other public websites, but MyDeathSpace compiles it all. And Patterson said, "When a parent or loved one contacts me and requests that I take their son/daughter/loved one off the site, I remove the listing immediately."

Patterson said the idea came

to him while he was bored at work one day in August 2005 after he read an article about a Fresno man killing his family because of mounting debt.

"I looked up the names of his daughters on MySpace and there they were. During down times at work when I would read online news I kept coming across different articles with young victims and more often than not, they had MySpace profiles," Patterson said.

He then started an online forum to see what people would say about the deaths and to show that teens aren't invincible, that there are consequences that affect more than just themselves. Before creating MyDeathSpace, 3,000 people joined the community.

Patterson created the website after forum moderators received complaints about the 75 deaths posted. He updates all the deaths, suicides, and murderers himself. Visitors to the site also can submit their own profiles and articles about recent deaths.

People are starting to catch on to the site, or at least are curious about it. Patterson said MyDeathSpace.com averages more than 50,000 hits a day.

But not everyone is a supporter.

One recent e-mail read, "You people ARE THE MOST RETARDED PEOPLE ever!!! So what they had Myspaces but they didn't die because of it!! I love MySpace!! It's a great way to talk with your friends and family and you guys are seriously messed up in the fricken head!!! Do you really want to look like jackasses this much!! Because you sure do!!!"

Another read, "Why in the world would you do something like this? It doesn't seem a little

morbid to you? I found out about it on a local radio station and think it's kind of sick."

Other letters are more supportive.

One from Scotland read, "I have to say this is very good tribute site. It's saddening to look through it but nice to see people actually care enough to leave comments for people and their families. Well done I suppose."

Another fan saw what Patterson was trying to do.

"I just wanted to say that what you are doing with the MySpaces of the dead is great. I think it is a great way to remember them and maybe help others who are going through the same thing," the visitor said.

Patterson said he's not surprised by the site's popularity.

"People are naturally curious about death. MyDeathSpace.com helps satisfy that curiosity," he said.

There are updates almost every day with new profiles. Patterson said he is also purchasing software to help enable him give a visual representation of how the deaths occurred.

"Reading an article and placing a face to the tragedy is far more interesting in my opinion. I don't sit there and read obit after obit, but when you come across one with a short lifespan, you have to wonder how they passed away. The obit will always say they died "tragically" or "peacefully", but there's rarely a how. That's what I wanted to focus on," Patterson said.

See for yourself by visiting www.mydeathspace.com.

Call Katie Libecco at (330) 941-3758.



According to someone who went to school with Jonathan:

"I went to school with him. He got a tongue piercing and somehow suffocated in his sleep. It was determined to be accidental. The rumor has it, his tongue hurt so he took something to help him sleep and he somehow suffocated on his tongue because it was swollen. His mom found him dead in his bed or something like that. His mother told me that his tongue was so swollen that it blocked his airway."



Steven Zorn had put the pen gun to his head and clicked before, apparently thinking it was jammed and would not work.

But on the third try, the tiny silver pistol went off as the 22-year-old budding rap artist was drinking to celebrate an impending record deal. He died at a hospital.

The Nov. 18 shooting at Zorn's home in this rural village of 2,000, about 50 miles northeast of Dayton, is believed to have been accidental, according to family, friends and law enforcement officials.

"Steven had a career and his dreams all ahead of him," said Zorn's mother, Lisa McCoy-Horn. She said she wants lawmakers to outlaw pen guns, which are small-caliber, single-shot weapons that resemble pens.

Zorn had taught himself to play the keyboard and record tracks using inexpensive software on his home computer. He tracked down rap artist Miracle in Georgia and urged the crunk artist to listen to a CD of his original recordings.

Photos and profiles from www.mydeathspace.com

COMMENTARY

How to write a Jambor commentary

By: Bob Mackey  
 COLUMNIST

Every once in a while, some misguided person will ask the question, "Where do your ideas come from?" And, in response to this, I feel the need to ask, "Where do your questions come from?" The answer to that is obvious: "The Big Book of Trite Things to Ask People." I may sound bitter, but I can answer this infamous question just as much as I can answer "Why is it when you try to sleep, all you can hear is the wailing of the damned?" At least with that one, I could come up with a more interesting response, including elaborate metaphors that go on and on until the questioner slips away under cover of night. Instead, I'm forced to dream of a world where ideas can be purchased wholesale in barrels, making my job much, much easier.

On the topic of ideas, a writer always fears when they will run dry. After a long stretch of articles over time, a regular Jambor reader may ask, "Gee, Bob after outputting two articles a week for so long, like some giant, mangling piece of factory

equipment, you must wake up every day only to see the pain of others." Then this person may add, "You know, you used to be a lot funnier, and I could have sworn that one of your articles was just a re-typed Chinese take-out menu."

This is why I refuse to take part in hypothetical conversations; they can only lead to violent outbursts with imagined conversation partners. Instead, today I will take you behind the scenes to offer a brief glimpse into my writing process, which will hopefully take up the minimum amount of words required by my employers.

First, we must again return to the subject of ideas. While I normally don't have any problems coming up with them, people can't help but offer their own ideas as topics for my articles. I often hear things like, "Hey Bob, my foot hurts. You should write an article about that!" Or, when a well-trod topic covered by comedians - and Jay Leno - comes into conversation, people will often say, "That sounds like a good idea for an article!" I don't use these suggestions - not because they're bad, of course - but because I don't want to be

accused of stealing. This is why I take all ideas from my friends. About 80 percent of my jokes you see in print come from sources close to me who would dare express humor in my presence. They've gotten used to my habit of constantly taping them, and over time they've begun to look at it as "cute." Shaking them by the lapels while screaming, "Be funny, damn it! Can't you see I'm living a lie?!" is generally frowned upon, and is why my police reports generally refer to me as a "loner."

Once I have a topic, and a handful of misappropriated jokes, I begin to place them in a certain order. While doing this, I think, "How can I possibly piss off the most people?" Of course I don't count all of the subliminal messages I throw in each and every article telling the public which minority group is currently controlling the weather. That would be crazy. Instead, I use a secret mathematical format to squeeze in the most ignorant, unfounded statements I can into every sentence. I make sure to plant special land mines for the groups with the biggest persecution complexes, since they often write the best

hate mail, and tend to be really creative with dead animals they staple messages to and leave in our offices. I had never seen a dead muskrat until recently, and I imagine the living ones look very similar when they're riding around on their little scooters and climbing around in the trees, or whatever it is they do.

Even with a well thought-out article, things can go wrong. There's always the chance that I could run out of lies, or simply not feel vitriolic enough to unleash my hate upon the page. What do I do when I'm tapped out or have not an ounce of human compassion left in my heart? How do I finish an article?

- C7 Cold Sesame Sauce Noodles.....\$3.25
- C8 Spicy Szechuan Sauce Noodles...\$4.25
- C9 Beef Skewer (2).....\$3.95
- C10 Puffed Fantail Shrimp (6).....\$6.95
- C11 Pineapple Chicken Skewer (2)...\$3.75
- C12 Hot Platter (beef skewer, wrapped chicken, spare ribs, fried wonton).....\$6.95

Bob Mackey will write about your foot, if you ask him nicely. He can be reached at (330) 941-1913.