

I wish these were brains

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# THE JAMBAR

THE STUDENT VOICE OF YOUNGSTOWN STATE UNIVERSITY

Thursday, June 15, 2006

www.thejambar.com

VOL. 88 NO. 68

## SPORTS

# Accidents, injuries and illness

YSU athletic scholarships are secure in sickness and in health

By: Jake Glavies  
JAMBAR CONTRIBUTOR

Although the Pittsburgh Steelers have yet to play a down of the 2006 NFL season, their hopes of repeating as Super Bowl champions may have been dashed after star quarterback Ben Roethlisberger was involved in a serious motorcycle accident Monday in Pittsburgh.

The extent of his injuries aren't yet known, but after nearly seven hours of surgery the prognosis doesn't look promising: a broken jaw and nose, lost teeth, facial fractures and a laceration to the back of the head.

In the win or you're out world of the NFL, Roethlisberger's ability to get the ball in the end zone has cemented his spot on the Steelers roster, if he is able to play.

Although working on a much less secure contract than their professional counterparts, most collegiate athletes find that after injury their spot at the university is secure as well.

Elaine Jacobs, associate athletic director at Youngstown State University, knows the ins and outs of collegiate athletic scholarships.

"All scholarships are one year. There is a misconception that there are four year scholarships," said Jacobs.

All offers must be renewed on a yearly basis; the decision to present an athlete

with a scholarship for the following season is based on athletic performance, academic standing, behavioral issues and physical health.

Players that suffer non-sports related injuries, like Roethlisberger, are in a much tougher situation, though.

When considering scholarship renewal Jacobs said, "If an athlete

was told not to do something, but they did it anyway, then that would have to be a consideration."

Although their actions are taken into account, Jacobs said of off-the-field injuries, "We have never had a case where a student was hurt participating in an activity that was not related to their sport and then subsequently lost their scholarship."

The situation is much clearer for athletes that suffer career ending injuries during play.

"The NCAA doesn't allow anything to happen to an athlete's scholarship if they can't continue to play," said YSU Head Football Coach Jon Heacock.

Severely injured players will continue to receive a scholarship for the rest of their time at the university, but it will not count against the number allotted to the team by the NCAA.

In some instances these athletes may become student-coaches, help-

please see **SCHOLARSHIPS** Page 2



Photo courtesy of KRT Campus

**Ben Roethlisberger**, Super Bowl XL winning quarterback of the Pittsburgh Steelers, was involved in a motorcycle accident on Monday. He was not wearing a helmet. The accident has raised questions nationwide about athletes and their risky behaviors. Pictured above are the remains of Roethlisberger's motorcycle.



JamBar/ Maysoon Abdelrasul

# Tipping trouble tragedies

## CULTURE

By: Emery Boyle-Scott  
NEWS EDITOR

We all go out to eat, enjoy the food, the company and the drinks. When the bill finally comes there's always that itchy question, "how much should I leave?" Tipping

is a tricky, subjective business, and entirely unavoidable if you eat out at a restaurant.

Rudi Whitmore, Youngstown State University student and waitress for two years at the New Dutch

Country in Middlefield, said, "tipping should be based on service and the amount of your bill."

"How fast your food comes out shouldn't factor into your tip," Whitmore said. Servers generally get paid between \$2.13 and \$2.15 an hour, and rely on tips to earn their wage.

"The worst tip I ever had was a golf tee," Whitmore said. "I kept it for a week in my apron so if he came back I could give it to him."

Tip by percentage. A good tip starts at 15 percent, the industry standard. Servers, managers and customers agree that if the service

is better, the tip should be better.

When she goes out, Whitmore expects good service, and tips generously up to 50 or 75 percent if service is good, but as low as 10 percent if service is "awful."

Answering your questions, a friendly demeanor and checking back are all elements of good service, Whitmore said.

John Stefan, a manager at Inner Circle Pizza said good service is when a server is correct, on time, checks back and makes sure drinks are filled and the food is satisfactory.

Diane Kholer said, "a good server anticipates what you want." Kholer has worked as a waitress

please see **TIPPING** Page 2

"The worst tip I ever had was a golf tee."

Rudi Whitmore

## Student Spotlight

### Tinasha Groves

Tell us about your love-life...

**Q.** What is the biggest lie you've told to get out of a date?

**A.** "That my friends' and I already have plans."

**Q.** The worst pickup line you've heard?

**A.** "So, I see you work at the Info Administration student desk. So, you see a lot of guys works at the YSU info through here? I'll bet you play with dest. their emotions."

**Q.** Best pick up line?

**A.** "Pick up lines are bad, just talk to me."

**Q.** The longest relationship you've been in?

**A.** "Three years."

**Q.** The shortest relationship?

**A.** "Six months."



This Masters of Business

**IN TODAY'S  
JamBar!**

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Weather >> sunny

82 | 50

friday: sunny 86 / 56

saturday: sunny 85 / 64

## HEALTH

# Stay safe in the summer sun

Summer heat can be a killer-literally. If the proper precautions are not taken while in the sun, serious damage can occur to the skin.

Studies have proven heavy exposure to the sun increase the chance of skin cancer.

Resident nurses from Student Health Services at Youngstown State University Judy Pavalok and Sue Ferrier offers some helpful tips for sun management.


- Apply sunscreen liberally 30 minutes before exposure so that the active ingredients can be absorbed into the skin.
- Waterproof sunscreen needs to be reapplied every two hours or after coming out of the water.
- Drink fluids to replace lost fluid.
- Use sun stick for extra protection on ears, nose, or lips.
- Don't break blisters, it may increase the chance of infection.
- Be aware of antibiotics or acne medication that may increase the likelihood of sunburn.

Skin Phototype	Description	Typical Features	Minimum SPF
1	Always burns, never tans	White skin, blue/hazel eyes, blond/red hair	>15
2	Burns, tans minimally	Fair skin, blue eyes	>15
3	Burns minimally, tans slowly	Darker Caucasian skin	10-15
4	Burns minimally, tans well	Light brown skin, Mediterranean	6-10
5	Rarely burns, tans profusely/darkly	Brown skin, Middle Eastern, Latin American	4-6
6	Never burns, always tans, deeply pigmented	Dark brown or black skin	None

Source: www.emedicine.com

## How to tip correctly

Check Amount	Decent Service (15%)	Good Service (20%)
\$5	\$0.75	\$1
\$8	\$1.20	\$1.60
\$10	\$1.50	\$2
\$12	\$1.80	\$2.40
\$15	\$2.25	\$3
\$18	\$2.70	\$3.60
\$20	\$3	\$4
\$22	\$3.30	\$4.40
\$25	\$3.75	\$5
\$28	\$4.20	\$5.60
\$30	\$4.50	\$6
\$32	\$4.80	\$6.40
\$35	\$5.25	\$7
\$38	\$5.70	\$7.60
\$40	\$6	\$8



TIPPING, continued from page 1

on and off for 20 years all over the country, at private country clubs along the Gulf of Mexico as well as Perkins, Bob Evans and other chain restaurants.

Tip good if you're happy with the service, Kholer said. 15 percent is a good place to start when considering a tip, but

Kholer starts at 20 percent.

Kholer found in her 20 years as a waitress that groups of women tip low, groups of men tip high, and groups of college students tip about right or above average, because so many are in the food service industry.

### YOUNGSTOWN

## City addresses properties

By: Adrienne Sabo  
COPY EDITOR

Wick Neighbors Inc. held a press conference Wednesday, to address the problem of nearly 12,000 vacant properties in the city.

Joseph Schilling, director of research and policy at the National Vacant Properties Campaign discussed the keys to redeveloping Youngstown.

Schilling, who took a brief tour of the area earlier Wednesday said that two things need to be in place for the revitalization to work. Schilling said the city needs to have a comprehensive property information system and develop an independent land bank authority.

A land bank will allow the city to acquire the vacant properties and then plan out how those areas will be used.

Schilling said, "The amount of vacancies is striking, but Youngstown is not alone in this struggle, there are many other cities that face the same challenges."

Councilman Richard Atkinson and Terry Abrams from the Home Builders/Remodelers Association and a member of the Wick Neighbors Inc. were also present.

Abrams said, "This is the time to do it. If we miss this opportunity, I don't know when another one will come around."

Abrams said that the revitalization is something that needs to be planned out and will take time.

Atkinson said that the 12,000 vacant lots are a headache and the city is spending too much money for the upkeep of the unused land.

"The city is committed to making things happen. If we can continue with the revitalization of downtown, then the excitement will grow," Atkinson said.

Schilling said that the city should get people organized and enthused about the project and the idea will soon catch on city-wide.

The process will start with neighborhoods and revitalize them and then expand to the city, Schilling said that these vacant properties could be transformed into small parks, community gardens and trails for residents.

During the press conference, Atkinson compared the city to the phoenix, saying what was once dust will rise from the ashes.

### YSU

## Talk of tuition increase

By: Emery Boyle-Scott  
NEWS EDITOR

Youngstown State University may raise tuition 5.75%. The 2006-2007 academic year tuition for an Ohio resident could go from \$6,333 to \$6,697. Tuition has been raised several years in a row. Ohio's financial support of institutions of higher learning may be a cause. John Pogue, a YSU trustee, said the State is paying less, students are paying more. Raising tuition is a "necessary evil," said Pogue.

Bill Bresnahan, a YSU trustee, said the core reason

YSU continues to increase tuition is because the "state continues to chop its contribution to higher education."

Pogue said, "I don't believe it will have an immediate impact [on enrollment.]" The increase in tuition may not adversely affect enrollment, since YSU is still the least costly university in the area.

The gap between other universities' cost and YSU's is widening. Out of Ohio's 11 largest public universities, YSU is the "only state university that didn't go to

the cap." Bresnahan said. The cap, as set by the House and the Senate, is six percent, or \$500 a year, whichever is less.

"I have absolute faith in the administration," Bresnahan said. President David Sweet recommended to raise tuition by as much as six percent in December when the YSU Board of Trustees' Finance and Facilities Committee began discussing a possible increase in tuition.

The Board meeting to formally approve the tuition hike will be June 23rd.

SCHOLARSHIPS, continued from page 1

ing in practice and during games. "Sometimes when an athlete is hurt we make them a student coach. That way they can contribute and earn their scholarship in ways other than playing," Jacobs said.

This solution is not a permanent fix, however.

"They really aren't kept on long as a student coach," said Tisha Hill, YSU Women's Basketball Coach

Not every injury is career ending, with the majority requiring only that an athlete rehabilitate during the regular or off-season.

"When a player is injured they are still on a full scholarship while they rehab," said Hill.

Although not able to physically contribute, these athletes continue to remain close to the team throughout their recovery.

Of the players relationship to the team during their recuperation Hill said, "We try to have them participate as much as possible. They don't travel with the team but they do come to practice. They stay close to the team and help them morally, they lend vocal support."

Unlike in many professional leagues where injured athletes must rehabilitate separate from the other players, the teams at YSU work to make an inclusive environment for their wounded teammates Heacock said

"We try to treat everything as if it's our own family. If a player is hurt, we try to help them through it," Heacock said.

### News In Brief

#### Projector

A new star projector is being installed at the Ward Beecher Planetarium this month. The \$489,000 projector, phase two of a \$750,000 overhaul of the planetarium, replaces the original projector, which was installed in 1967. Previous renovations include last summer's replacing the planetarium's 150 seats, installing new carpet, and cleaning the 40-foot diameter dome. Additionally, a \$200,000 SciDome Projection System was installed, which now allows video to be shown on the full dome. The final phase of improvements will be completed in 2007, featuring the installation of a new \$59,000 digital projection system with three high-definition video projectors.

#### Festival of the Arts

Festivities begin for the Summer Festival of the Arts at 6:30 p.m., July 7, with Forte on the Fifty at Stambaugh Stadium, featuring music and a fireworks display. Admission is \$10 for adults, \$5 for children 12 and under. Summer Festival of the Arts, which runs from July 8 from 10 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. and July 9, from noon to 6:00 p.m.. Parking and admission are free. Also on Saturday, the third annual Smoky Hollow 5K Run and One Mile Family Walk, beginning at 9 a.m. at Harrison Field in Smoky Hollow. The event is sponsored by Wick Neighbors Inc.

#### Piano Workshop

On June 18 - June 25, the Dana School of music presents the Youngstown State University Summer Piano Workshop, intended for students of piano interested in performance. The weeklong workshop launches with a recital by workshop host Michael Schneider at 7 p.m. on June 18 at Bliss Hall. Other highlights include seminars, private lessons, practice time and a recital finale for all participants. All performances are free and open to the public, tuition is \$200, payable to the YSU Piano Association.

### Police Briefs

#### Beggars

A white female was observed begging for money on Lincoln Avenue, according to a police report. A Youngstown State University police officer reported to the scene and discovered the woman was Connie Madison. It was discovered that a warrant had been confirmed through Youngstown Municipal Court. Madison was then taken into custody and was transported to the Mahoning County Justice Center by YSU police.

#### Damaged Property

Five illuminated exit signs were discovered damaged in the University Courtyard Apartments according to YSU police reports. The signs were damaged in building #100 on the first and fourth floors, according to the police report. Digital photos were taken of the damage. Due to the lack of security cameras, there is no known suspects at this time, according to the police report.

## Father's Day Gift Ideas

- Gucci Cologne Box Set \$39.99 Burlington
- Baseball Game tickets prices vary check your favorite team's Web site
- Weber 3 piece Stainless Steel Barbeque Set \$34.99 at Target
- Remington Precision Titanium Personal Groomer \$16.99 Sears
- Practice Putting Green with Automatic Ball Return \$60 Redenvelope.com
- iPod Car Kit \$49.99 JCPenny
- Irwin Strait-Line Laser Level 120 \$34.99 Target
- Wallet for as little as \$9.99 Sears
- Folding Poker Table Top \$39.99 JCPenny
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#### Housing

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2 BR apts. @ 207 and 211 Park Ave. From \$325/ Mo. plus gas and electric. Phone (330)747-0500.

#### Miscellaneous

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### OUR SIDE

## Pro-athlete's ego too big for helmet

Just four months after helping his team win the Super Bowl, Ohio native, Ben Roethlisberger made headlines again. The 24-year-old quarterback was injured during a motorcycle crash Monday morning on his way to training in downtown Pittsburgh.

Ben was not wearing a helmet at the time of the crash. Witness reports said that his motorcycle crashed with an oncoming car and Ben hit the windshield of the car.

Ben was rushed to Mercy Hospital where he went through seven hours of surgery to repair his broken jaw and nose.

Even though the latest prediction has Ben leaving the hospital in as little as three days, the effects of the accident on Ben and the team are long lasting.

Reports say that Ben will have a six to seven week healing period and lose weight and strength during that time. Additional time will be needed. The Steeler star player willingly admitted he prefers to ride without a helmet prior to the accident, citing the laws in Pennsylvania do not require a helmet.

For someone who is such an asset to a team, a franchise and the fan base, he certainly took a big risk with not wearing a helmet.

The \$40 million plus contract he signed in 2004 included nothing about engaging in risky behavior on the off-season, a clause that many contracts will now include.

Riding a motorcycle without a helmet, when you are one of the most well known players on a championship team hardly seems reasonable.

We all understand that players should be allowed to live a normal life, but taking such a huge risk was a big no-no.

Since winning the Super Bowl, the Steeler fan base has grown and the fans, especially the younger ones look up to the players. Ben is the face of the team and should know better than to not wear a helmet.

Regardless of whether you love the Steelers, Big Ben made a mistake. He should have worn a helmet and should have taken better care of himself during the off-season.

The coaches, the Steeler franchise, and his teammates all depend on him to be at his physical peak during the season.

One would think that Cowher's lecture to Ben would have gotten through to him or the fact that Brown's player Kellen Winslow got into a similar accident.

Former Steeler, Terry Bradshaw recently made remarks on Ben's no helmet preference saying that Ben should wait till he retires to ride.

Professional athletes need to take great care and caution with their health and their bodies. That's what's making them money. Some can argue that these clauses restrict the players during off-season, but when you sign a \$45 million contract those restrictions can take a back seat.

With Ben still in the hospital, Steeler teammates and fans won't know the outcome for sure for a little while longer, but one thing is for sure many people will think twice about it.

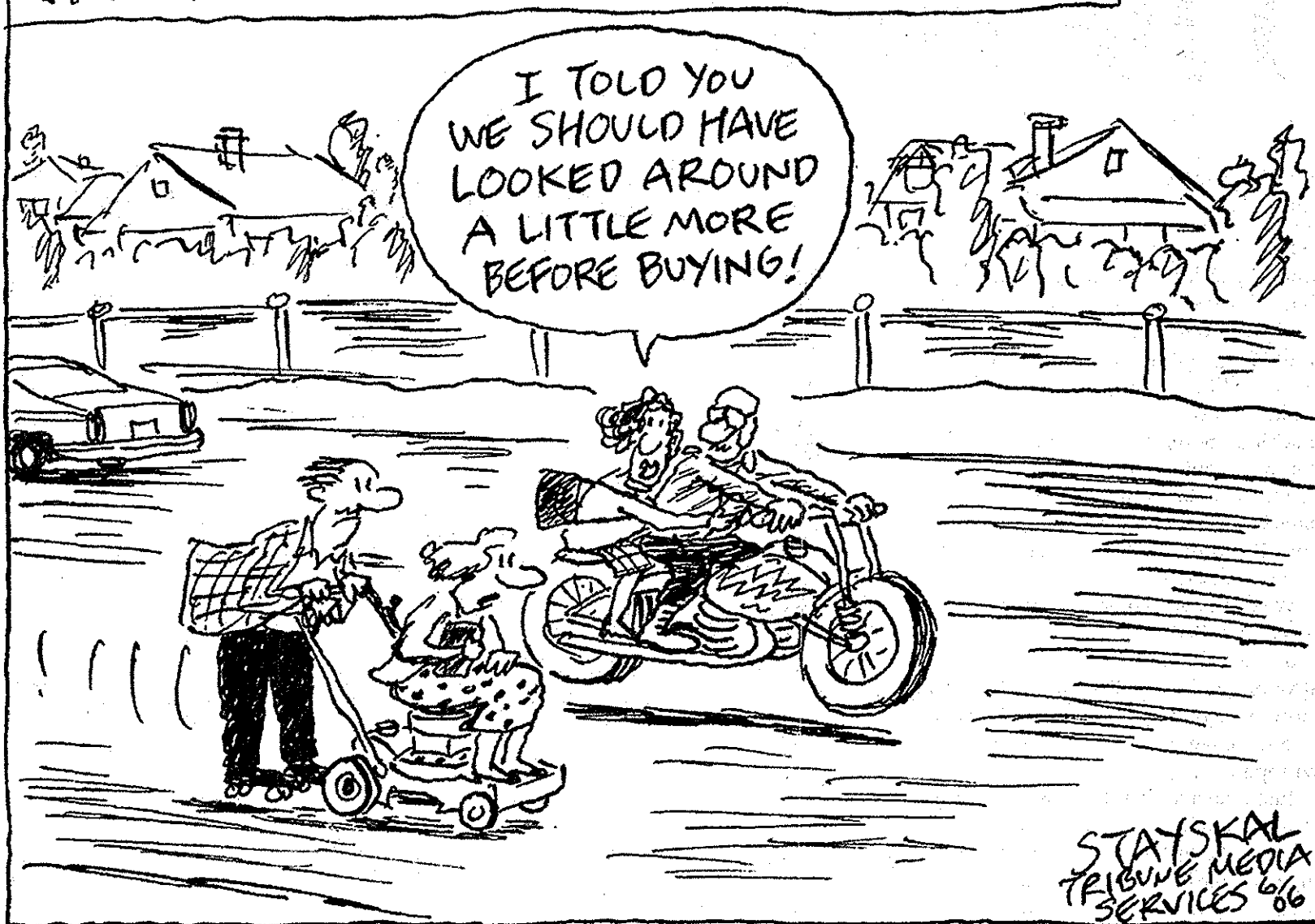
The Jambar editorials reflect the opinions of The Jambar and its Editorial Board members. Those wishing to schedule meetings with the Editorial Board should call the editor in chief.

### LETTERS POLICY

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

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

## GAS PRICES PUSH SALES OF MOTORCYCLES



COMMENTARY

STATSKAL  
 TRIBUNE MEDIA  
 SERVICES '06

Cartoon courtesy of KRT Campus

## What does your t-shirt say about you?

### T-shirt sayings are promoting sexism

By: Cheryl Thompson

JAMBAR CONTRIBUTOR

What does your T-shirt say about you? If you buy into the message T-shirt craze and wear shirts that often promote sexism, bad morals and back stabbing, it says a lot, mostly negative.

The T-shirt says the simplest tasks confuse you because you are a girl. It says you will sleep with anything that has money. It says you have your nose so high in the air that if you stepped in dog crap it would take a week before you realized it. Girls are mean, stupid and easy. If a man were to say this to us, we'd be offended, yet we pay money to send these messages out about ourselves.

The meaner the better, seems to be all the rage with messages T-shirts flaunting phrases such as "Blondes are adored, brunettes are ignored," "Your boyfriend is a good kisser" and "Your boyfriend bought me this shirt" are flying off the shelves at so-called "teen-tailors" such as Abercrombie and Fitch, Hollister and Rue 21.

But the meanness is just the beginning. Many shirts foster sexual inferiority and promote promiscuity. More messages include, "I wish these were brains," "Who needs a job when you've got these," "Too pretty for math," "Spoiled" "Rich Bitch" and "Daddy's money." These shirts portray women as shallow, vapid, back stabbing creatures that need smelling salts to revive them if faced with the challenge of balancing a checkbook or fending for themselves without the help of a man's wallet.

So much for the feminist movement, who needs equal pay when we can get guys to buy us everything?

Even worse than shirts making us out to be spoiled air-headed princesses, some more risqué shirts scream "have sex with me." "A roll in the hay makes everything better," "Dinner \$60, Movie \$40, this shirt off, priceless."

I've seen plenty message shirts around campus and there are some that I find funny. But there is a limit. Many women see the shirts as jokes, being worn in a tongue-cheek manner and insist the shirts are harmless. I think the shirts may be okay for college-age women, but what about teenagers and younger girls? According to the Center for Disease Control, four million women aged 15 to 24 suffer from anorexia or bulimia and a shirt asking, "Do I make you look fat?" does little to help the situation.

One good thing to rise from the negativity, is the creation of more positive shirts for women and girls through the company Emotional Armor. Created by Jennifer Hoffman in response to seeing such antifeminist apparel, the shirts feature sayings fostering independence such as "Princess not in need of rescue."

### Don't take shirt sayings so seriously

By: Cristina Cala

JAMBAR CONTRIBUTOR

What's better than a "Vote For Pedro" t-shirt?

A "Pedro Lacks Political Experience" T-shirt. It offers wit, political inclination, and pop culture heart you can literally wear on your sleeve.

With the recent graphic T-shirt trend sending messages that vary in humor and aptness, one might wonder who to side

which features a man with hairy, bear-like, bare arms.

Then we have the shirts that require us to censor our chuckling. My favorite slogan claims, "Your Retarded." The grammar police might take a day off just to enjoy the irony. However, several people would consider this shirt politically incorrect in regards to the mentally disabled. A controversial toss-up, but your choice. I think anyone who wants to wear double-intentional shirts should. However, in some cases, we must draw the line.

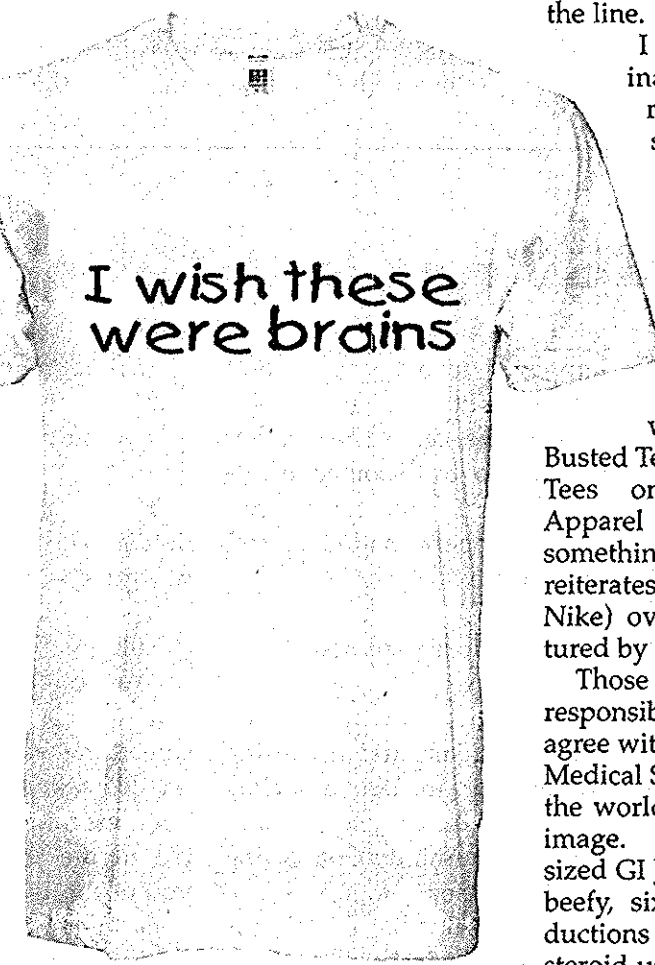
I agree that some shirts display inappropriate, politically incorrect, or pointless messages. One shirt that must go reads, "Sweatshops: Another Day, Another Dollar." Today, over 200 million children slave for 12-hour workdays for as little as a few cents a week. Five-year-olds across the world toil for a country that considers the dollar worth more than a human life.

Busted Tees points out, "We print Busted Tees on sweatshop-free American Apparel brand shirts," but \$17.99 for something so unfunny and demoralizing reiterates how corporate companies (like Nike) overprice merchandise manufactured by child laborers in sweatshops.

Those who consider T-shirt messages responsible for poor self-image might agree with Dr. Harrison Pope, a Harvard Medical School psychiatry professor and the world's leading expert in male self-image. Pope compared the average-sized GI Joe dolls from the 1960s to their beefy, six-packed, bodybuilding reproductions in the 1990s. He attributed steroid use to male obsession with these "fantasy physiques."

Erroneous shirts inquiring, "Do I Make You Look Fat?" certainly could contribute to poor self-images in adolescents. But Busted Tees sells a T-shirt that pokes fun at the truth for Americans opposite bodybuilders or steroid users. A spoof on monkeys' evolution into man, the graphic shows a progression where a man's body evolves from slim to very overweight. Perhaps T-shirts like this will remind the 65 percent of Americans who are overweight to improve their health.

While most graphic T-shirts promote harmless fun, the key lies in choosing age-appropriate and (mostly) tasteful shirts. Mathematically inclined females can disregard the "I'm Too Pretty To Do Math" shirt. Sixth-graders hopefully have parents who disallow the "Me So Horny" rhinoceros shirt or the "I Swear, It's This Big" shirt. But please, poking fun at sweatshop child laborers is hardly fashionable.



with feminists who attribute sexism or self-image problems among females and teens to T-shirt messages, parents who frown on suggestive or explicit messages, or teeny boppers who just wanna have fashion fun.

When it comes to a T-shirt, I lean toward apathy.

If something as seemingly simple as a T-shirt does manage to evoke an emotion, I might feel annoyed, amused, or, occasionally insulted. In an overreacting and lawsuit-crazy society, anything can tip the P.C. scale. For the most part, these T-shirts aim for satirical fun, as implied by Busted Tees' tagline for its merchandise: "Jokes you can wear."

History buffs can sport the Robert E. Lee tee: "Most Likely to Secede, Class of 1825." For a bit of lit, the Shakespearean tee exclaims, "Prose before Hos." To demonstrate Constitutional knowledge, wear "The Second Amendment" tee,

COMMENTARY

## The rules of attraction

By: Bob Mackey  
COLUMNIST

Dating has changed greatly since the kinder, gentler 90s with its sock hops, Black Panther rallies, and Africanized killer bee migrations. Now that we're in the 21st century, our innocence has been lost like so many quarters in that broken bowling alley Zaxxon machine. Sure, you can complain all you want, but the most you'll ever get in return is an order of fried cheese balls which will only console you temporarily until the alley cuisine shuts down your circulatory system.

We can never go back, and in retrospect our 1990s concept of love was about as pathetic and misguided as an alcoholic father's Christmas gift. To be more specific: a September TV Guide errantly covered in a Burger King whopper wrapper.

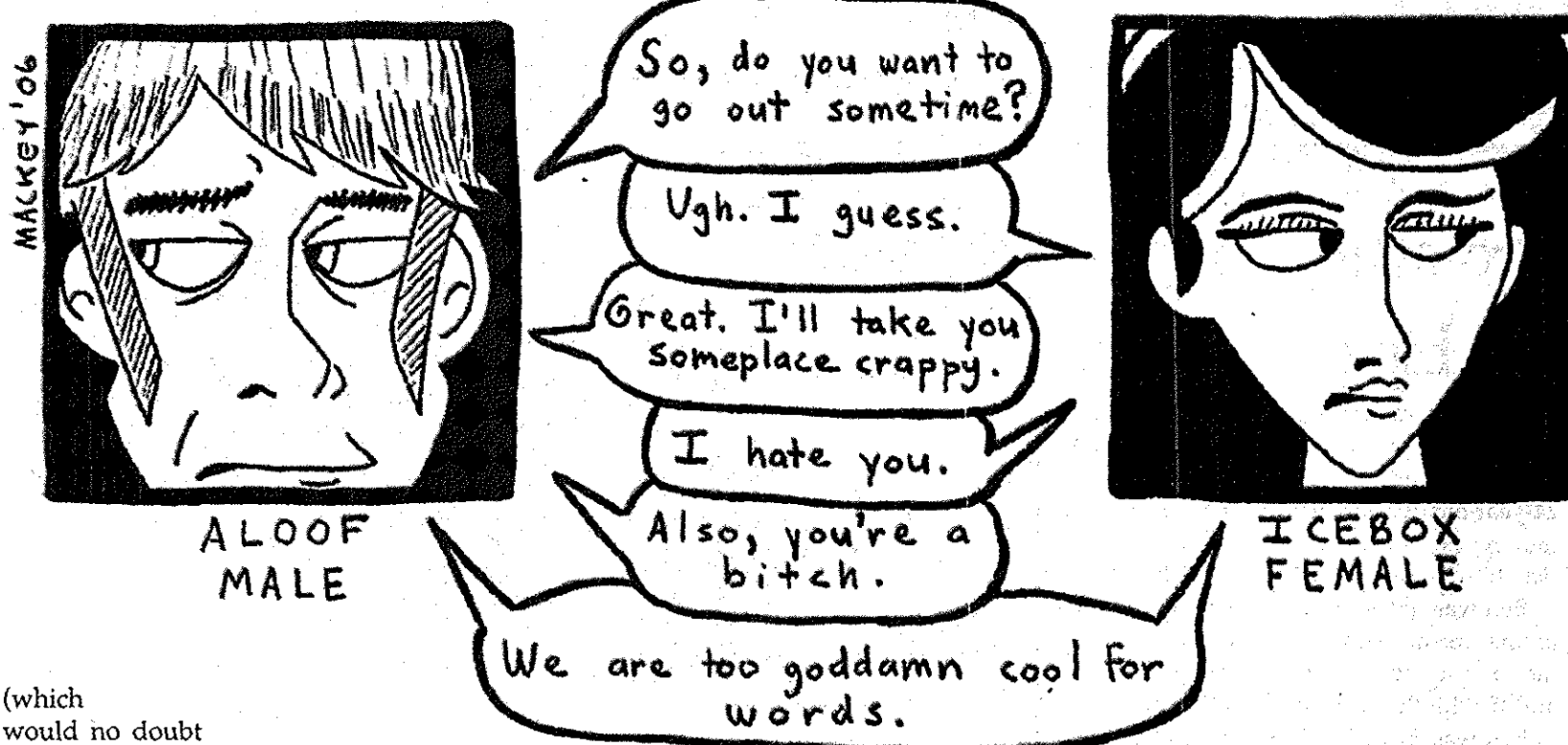
Just take a look at the poster children for 1990s romance: Ross and Rachael of the tragically long-lived "Friends" TV series. It may be hard to remember anything other than the fact that the women on the show never wore bras, but the central relationship in "Friends" is emblematic of just how naïve we were a scant ten years ago.

Take two of the most damaged and septic people you can find, keep ramming them into each other for ten years, and what do you get?

Sadly, many people found this entertaining and in fact rooted for these star-crossed retards. But when the final episode didn't end with a suicide pact and a starving Monica feeding like a vulture on Ross and Rachael's corpses - come on, like you didn't think that was going to happen - we all questioned our perceptions of love. And it's this new meaning of love that leaves many of us floating face-down like unprepared toddlers in the swimming pool of life.

Unfortunately, in the 1990s I was raised in captivity by televisions so I had to learn these new rules the hard way. So many times I would just copy what I saw on TV, like taking a girl back to my place and then painting a line down the center of the room

### RELATIONSHIPS! OF! THE! FUTURE!



(which would no doubt lead to wacky arguments and the inevitable paint fight), or perhaps having some lucky lady try to sneak a horse past my landlord. Much like the viewers of TV Land, these plans were impotent at best.

With so much failure on my hands, I sent my crack research team out and they discovered that my generation values the following things the most: 1.) drinking 2.) downloading episodes of "Family Guy" and 3.) drinking while talking about "Family Guy." But what shocked me the most was number four: not being loved.

In today's atmosphere of hyper-irony, it's never been cooler than to love things that are terrible. Hence, it only makes sense for our generation to despise the things we actually would enjoy! This brings me to my main point of understanding this new form of 21st century love: if you like someone, FOR THE LOVE OF ALL THINGS HOLY, THEY MUST NEVER KNOW.

I always assumed that people would be flattered if they were valued and others enjoyed spending time with them. The

response to this is the same as when people are asked if they remember anything about the first President Bush: "Hell no." And sometimes "Dana Carvey," which really doesn't make sense in regards to the original statement.

I write this if only to warn those who may chase away a future partner with their trenchant enthusiasm. We all know the dangers of smothering and the millions of "this is not a toy" messages on plastic bags around the world only reinforce this fact. But these days a future partner can be scared off by as little as an eyebrow raise or fashioning your hair into a much larger shape to scare away other predators.

Interest isn't the only thing that's reviled; just showing concern for the well being of others shares equal enmity. Why, just last week I bumped into a stranger in the hallway, and when I apologized she gave me the whole "You're a really nice guy, but..." speech. It took 20 minutes and there was a

lot of sobbing, but when I remembered the good times I thought, "Maybe it really was her and not me."

So heed my words: relationships are now a sticky wicket, even for those of us who have never seen a croquet mallet. And even if you are with someone, the new rules of showing interest in the most passive ways possible may make you miserable but in exchange you will retain both your independence and MTV Generation hipness. Eventually, after about six months with someone, both of you should tacitly accept the arrangement and may make such passionate vocal claims as, "I think I may like you in some manner." But just remember to say this in the same condescending tone as you would say, "You own Tron on DVD." After all, you don't want to seem like the John Hinckley Junior to your partner's Jodie foster, do you?

Bob Mackey has a heart of gold and a hydro-electric mind. You can read his blog at <http://www.bobservo.com>.

### RELATIONSHIPS

## Crossing the line: is it flirting or cheating?

By: Cristina Cala  
JAMBAR CONTRIBUTOR

If you asked Youngstown State University freshman Sarah Burnett and Kent State University junior Matt McBride if cheating and flirting are gender specific, you'd get the same answer.

"Girls flirt more; guys cheat more."

The two are friends, both self-proclaimed "hopeless romantics," and both gave the same quote in separate interviews. They agree that guys are more likely to cheat because they may lack emotional attachment.

"Some guys are a little bit more carefree because they don't get as attached [as girls]," Burnett said.

#### But when does flirting become cheating?

"Flirting ends when anything sexual starts," Burnett said. McBride put it less quaintly. "Flirting is just talking. There is no cheating in flirting," he paused. "Not until the flirting is followed by a blow-job is it cheating."

Neither Burnett nor McBride have cheated in a relationship, but a girl did cheat on McBride.

"I just think it's wrong. It's

happened to me, and I don't feel like putting someone else in pain," he said. "The fact that she had to go to someone else for physical contact and emotional support made me feel inadequate."

#### More than lust?

Motivation to cheat is often more than just lust, according to Jennifer Jordan, associate professor in counseling and YSU's Community Counseling Clinic director.

Jordan said that cheating is not usually purely sexual. Jordan indicated a lapse in physical or romantic attraction toward a partner or the stress of a controlling partner as possible motives to cheat.

"Some people really have issues with flirting. People who are pretty controlling want to make sure that no one else looks at their partner. They start controlling what they wear, who they talk to. It plays a role in that person's self-esteem," she said.

This behavior might not be a direct correlation to cheating within a relationship, but a controlling partner can be part of the cycle in an abusive relationship, and can lead to cheating, Jordan said.

If cheating occurs within a relationship, can a couple move forward?

YSU graduates Kerry Boldish and his wife Clare are newlyweds who say they would choose to overcome cheating within their marriage.

"You can't really just walk away from the marriage; it's something you have to work on. [Cheating can be forgiven] after one time. You're susceptible to the trap of lust; now you're forgiven, but if it happens again, then yes, on the spot, no second chances, or third chances," Boldish said.

Whether or not a couple stays together after one person cheats may depend on the couple's history - for example, if one or both partners have cheated in the past, or if the infidelity is a one-time affair.

"I've seen marriages that have been able to move forward - if it's a one-time event or affair. I notice [the couples who overcome infidelity] have a faith-based idea about marriage," Jordan said.

#### What's age got to do with it?

As a married couple, the Boldishes would try to save their relationship if faced with infidelity, but Boardman High

School junior Cory Luscombe has no mercy.

"I've been cheated on after dating six months. We were fighting and she brought it up. I wish she had told me instead of lying about it. I broke up with her on the spot," Luscombe said.

Luscombe said his ex-girlfriend was ignorant and immature to bring up cheating as ammunition in a fight, instead of being to be honest about it. He believes younger couples are more likely to cheat.

Boldish can attest to Luscombe's age factor theory.

"A lot of my friends have cheated. We always hear the saying, 'Once a cheater, always a cheater,' but I know some people who that doesn't apply to, because they haven't yet in marriage. I'd think they made a conscious choice to get married and stop cheating," Boldish said.

#### Wanna talk about it?

The Community Counseling Clinic offers relationship counseling based on where the couple is at in the relationship, and if one partner knows the other has cheated.

"[Counseling focuses on] building the trust back up and helping the person who did cheat build the relationship back up again," Jordan said.

### ENTERTAINMENT

#### UPCOMING CONCERTS

<b>June 15</b> Matsyahu Agora Theatre	<b>June 17</b> Gretchen Wilson Post-Gazette Pavilion at Star Lake
<b>June 16</b> Bruce Springsteen Blossom Music Center	<b>June 21</b> Tim McGraw and Faith Hill Bryce Jordan Center

#### TOP 10 AT THE BOX OFFICE

1. Cars	\$60.1M
2. The Break-Up	\$20.3M
3. X-Men: The Last Stand	\$16.0M
4. The Omen	\$16.0M
5. The Da Vinci Code	\$10.4M
6. Over the Hedge	\$10.2M
7. A Prairie Home Companion	\$4.5M
8. Mission: Impossible III	\$3.0M
9. RV	\$1.9M
10. Poseidon	\$1.8M

#### NEW RELEASES

Friday June 16

Nacho Libre  
The Lake House  
The Fast and the Furious :Tokyo Drift  
Garfield: A Tail of Two Kitties