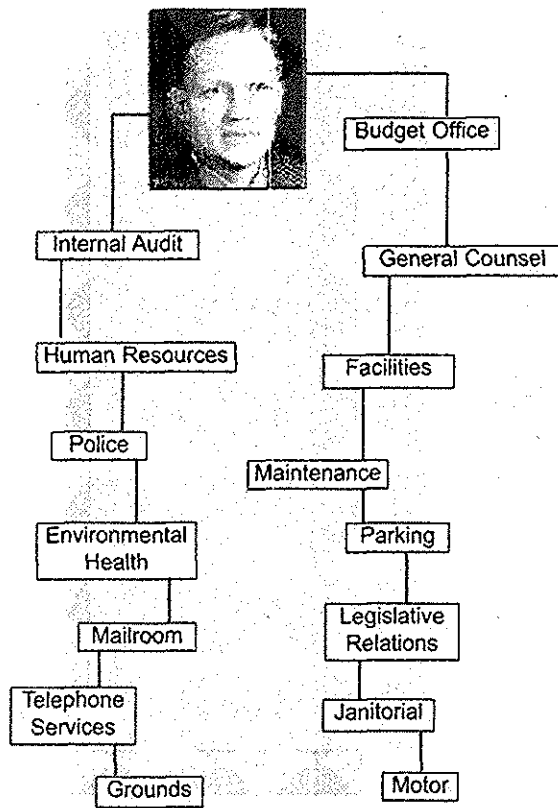


## Officials question Habat's many jobs

### Branching Out

The many positions of John Habat



By MICHAEL J. BALALE  
The Jambar

University Vice President for Administration John Habat has final say on how nearly all university funds are used and is also in charge of auditing how that money is spent — a practice that one top administrator called “a bad idea.”

Habat now has control over 15 different departments, including budget and auditing. Earlier this month, Habat was named interim assistant general counsel.

Habat, who earns \$133,385, has supervisory responsibility for the university budget, internal auditing, facilities, police, motor, maintenance, human resources, janitorial, telephone services, grounds, environmental health, general counsel, parking, the mailroom and legislative relations.

Vice President for Administration  
See HABA, page 6

## Lawyer reassigned

By ELIZABETH TABAK  
The Jambar

Sandra Denman will not be rehired as university general counsel and instead is being shuffled to director of Environmental Health and Occupational Health and Safety — a position for which she says she has no background.

The appointment, which became public earlier this week, is drawing criticism from some faculty members who are questioning if Denman is the best candidate for the job.

In a telephone interview Wednesday, Denman confirmed that she received notification in December from University President David Sweet that her contract as univer-

sity general counsel would not be renewed after June 30.

Denman, who is paid \$91,560 as the university's lawyer, said Sweet gave her the option to assume the position of director of Environmental Health and Occupational Health and Safety vacated when Leonard Perry retired in December. Her salary for the new position is not known yet, said University Spokesman Ron Cole.

University Vice President for Administration John Habat, who is a lawyer, will now be handling legal

matters for the university that occurred after January. Denman will continue working on legal issues that took place before January.

Habat was named interim assistant general counsel, an existing position that was vacant. Cole said Habat would not be paid any extra money for the added duties.

Sandra Senedak is currently acting as interim director of Environmental Health and Occupational Health and Safety. Senedak holds a bachelor's degree in biology and various credentials, including certified environmental specialist, registered sanitarian and hazardous material super-

See DENMAN, page 2

### THE ISSUES



Bush

VS.



Kerry

How President Bush and Democratic presidential candidate Sen. John Kerry compare on major issues:

• Proposes cutting \$521 billion deficit in half within five years via higher tax revenues from a better economy, cuts in domestic spending

• Supports school standards, accountability through No Child Left Behind law, which requires states to have plans for student proficiency in math, reading

• Opposes; may support constitutional amendment that would define marriage as union between a man and a woman

• Supports plan to help small businesses band together to provide worker coverage; wants refundable tax credits to help poor workers afford health insurance

• Proposes \$40.2 billion for homeland security across all government agencies for 2005, includes \$1.9 billion for port security

• Says war was necessary because Iraq was “grave and gathering danger”; war was part of Bush's post-Sept. 11 policy against perceived threats to U.S.

• Wants Congress to make permanent all tax cuts enacted since 2001, which are scheduled to expire by 2011

• Advocates open markets, free trade via regional pacts, World Trade Organization; wants trade zone for all Western Hemisphere nations except Cuba

#### Deficit

• Use revenue from repealing Bush tax cuts for those with incomes above \$200,000 to pay for education, health care, homeland security initiatives

#### Education

• Create National Education Trust Fund to pay federal share of education costs; smaller class sizes; rebuild crumbling schools

#### Gay Marriage

• Believes marriage should be between a man and woman, but advocates civil unions for gays to guarantee gay couples same rights as married couples

#### Health Care

• Tax breaks to employers, tax credits to individuals to ensure access to same health care program available to members of Congress and federal employees

#### Homeland Security

• More resources for local police, firefighters; revamp domestic intelligence gathering; eliminate Patriot Act provisions that endanger civil rights

#### Iraq

• Voted to authorize war; says Bush should have created a larger coalition; wants to internationalize reconstruction with help of U.N. allies

#### Taxes

• Repeal Bush cuts for those earning more than \$200,000; provide credits for college education, health care; business incentives to create jobs; eliminate some corporate tax breaks

#### Trade

• Supports trade pacts, would crack down on nations that violate them.

KRT Campus

## Cancer survivor ignored symptoms

By COLLEEN HAVENS  
The Jambar

Julie DelSignore looks like your average, healthy college student.

But she is not. She is an open, confident, young woman, but one battling a rare form of Hodgkin's Lymphoma disease.

DelSignore, a sophomore at YSU, said her ongoing battle with Hodgkin's disease has made her want to get the message out there that cancer can happen to young people.

A 4.0 student, the 21-year-old said she

“I had a biopsy done on the two inch lump on the back of my neck. It was then that the doctors realized I had only six pints of blood in my body, which is half of what people are supposed to have.”

— JULIE DELSIGNORE  
Student

remembered her symptoms first starting when she went away to school for the first time to the University of Akron at age 18. She said she remembers having night sweats and back pain, and she noticed

three lumps on the back of her neck. She also became anemic.

But it wasn't until she was home for the summer that she did anything about her symptoms.

“My mom made me go to the hospital before I went back to school,” she said. “I had a biopsy done on the two inch lump on the back of my neck. It was then that the doctors realized I had only six pints of blood in my body, which is half of what people are supposed to

have.” Unable to help her, DelSignore's doc-

See ILLNESS, page 5

## Stennis recalls case that changed his life

By CHRISTINA POE  
The Jambar

tory changed his life and the direction of a nation.

Stennis said he and other YSU faculty, staff and volunteers from Mahoning, Trumbull and Columbiana counties came together and formed the Brown vs. the Board of Education 50th Anniversary Committee.

Stennis, chair of the committee, said from March 1 to

See STENNIS, page 5



STENNIS

Initiatives Leon Stennis recalled how a moment in his-

### Sneak Peek

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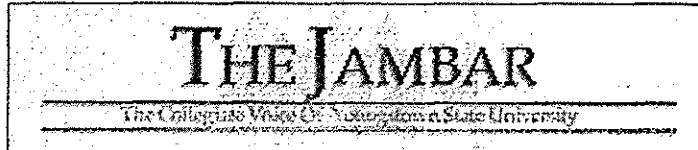
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## Inside today's issue:

Can new rapper save hip-hop?  
Page 8



thejambar.com poll question:



Is YSU Vice President for Administration John Habat taking on too many responsibilities?  
Vote @ www.thejambar.com

YSU baseball, softball squads set for season. Page 4





# Kos uses Brazilian experience in classroom

By WILLIAM LEHN  
The Jambar

A Youngstown State University professor is helping bridge YSU with a Brazilian university's MBA program.

Professor of management Tony Kos returned Saturday from a seven-day stint as a visiting professor at the University of Sao Paulo. As part of an exchange program between YSU and the USP, Kos said he learned more than he taught.

"As much as USP benefited from my subject matter, the ability for me to bring information about operating a business in another culture into the YSU classroom is more important," Kos said.

The focus of the exchange is to share knowledge amongst students and professors from each university.

As a required part of their curriculum, Executive MBA students travel to Brazil every other year. Fifteen students went in March 2003 and fourteen are slated to go in spring 2005, MBA Program Coordinator Linda Mohn said.

"In a marketplace that is serviced by multinational corporations, this experience gives our students access to cutting edge ideas in international business," Kos said.

The study tour involved the introduction of a United States company into the Brazilian marketplace.

Management department chair Ram Kasuganti, who went to Brazil in 2003, said the goal of the exchange is twofold.

First it is to enhance MBA students' awareness to other business cultures. Kasuganti said by becoming immersed in the business practices of an economy like Brazil's, students' exposure to international business is enhanced on a first hand basis.

Kos said the whole reason for this partnership is to cultivate relationships from academic, personal and business standpoints. Last year, Kos and Kasuganti accompanied the Executive MBA students to Brazil for two weeks.

"The prestige of USP is like Harvard, Yale, M.I.T. or Stanford in the United States," Kos said.

In a school of 60,000 students, slots for the MBA program are at a premium. Kos said it is not unusual to see CEO's of large international organizations enrolled in the MBA program at USP.

"But more importantly, YSU stu-

dents are able to shed many stereotypes about the culture of Brazil," Kos said.

"It's the epicenter of business in South America."

This year, Kos taught a course to a group of incoming MBA students and graduating students. The subject of the class was human resources management, and Kos said he was amazed by the differences in cultural perceptions and by their work ethic.

"If you want to operate in Brazil, you must understand their customs and parameters," Kos said.

The second goal of the exchange is that it allows professors to cultivate contacts and be part of a research stream. Kos recently finished a research project with two faculty members at USP. Their pricing model proposal deals with the attributes that would make a car most attractive in the South America market. Kos said he is awaiting confirmation to present their findings at the Academy of Management International Conference in August.

Kos said relationships are the key to developing ties between two different cultures.

Kos said his hosts in Brazil were very generous, and he extended the same courtesy last fall when he hosted a party at his house for the Brazilian group visiting.

The exchange started in 1998 when marketing professor emeritus Terry Deiderick traveled to Brazil with fellow marketing professor David Burns to speak at the Provar Institute in Sao Paulo. Their topic was YSU's mall management program and their audience was 600 mall developers, retailers and construction people.

Deiderick and Burns' four-hour presentation was written up in the Brazilian equivalent of the Wall Street Journal and the relationship began.

The experience led to the dean of the business school at USP and the head of the Provar Institute visiting YSU and the relationship has flourished since then.

The information exchange is not a one-way street. USP students come here to enhance their knowledge of shopping centers and tap into the expertise of YSU faculty and students. They are scheduled to arrive on campus Oct. 13.

Call William Lehn at (330) 941-1913.

## News in brief

### Conference set for Feb. 21

The YSU Pi Mu Epsilon Regional Mathematics Conference will be held on Feb. 21 in the atrium at Cushman Hall. It begins at 10 a.m. and will end at 3:30 p.m.

The conference is run by students for students. Undergraduate students present a variety of information ranging from easy to complex math. Students from John Carroll, Westminster, Hiram and Akron will be in attendance.

For more information visit the Web site at: [www.as.yosu.edu/edu-math/pme](http://www.as.yosu.edu/edu-math/pme)

### YSU Business Students to work with IRS

Beginning Feb. 21, Youngstown State University Business Students will be working with the Internal Revenue Service's Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program.

The program will offer free income tax preparation, including electronic filing, to students, middle and low-income residents and the elderly.

Tax preparation will be available Feb. 21 and 28 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.; March 5 from 4 to 7 p.m.; March 27 and April 10 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. in Williamson Hall. There will also be additional sessions available on March 8 from 12:30 to 3:30 p.m. at the North Library on Fifth Avenue; March 8 from 4 to 7 p.m. at the Main Library and March 11 from 1 to 4 p.m. at the South Library on Market Street.

For more information call 330-941-3084.

### DENMAN, continued from page 1

visor.

Denman received her bachelor's degree in chemistry and her master's in pharmaceutical chemistry. She also worked for the Jones Day law firm in Cleveland where she said she practiced intellectual property and dealt "a little bit" in environmental law.

Sweet said Denman was appointed because of her background in chemistry, but the position description for the director's job says that minimum qualifications include a bachelor's degree in a field related to health or environmental sciences, Ohio certification as a sanitarian and several other specialized certifications.

After long pauses in the telephone interview, Denman

said she simply does not have an adequate background.

She said she was not prepared for the news Sweet delivered in December.

"I was surprised that my contract was not renewed," she said.

Denman refused to speak publicly about the non-renewal and how she was appointed to the new position.

Sweet and Habat offered no reason why Denman's contract would not be renewed.

Denman's work has not been evaluated since 2001—a violation of outlined procedures that call for annual evaluations — when she still reported to Sweet. The university general counsel now reports to Habat.

In 2001, Sweet said Denman overall exceeded requirements for her job but gave her no outstanding marks. In a comment section, Sweet wrote, "I greatly appreciate the quality and quantity of work that comes from your office."

Sweet sidestepped numerous questions about his current satisfaction with Denman's work and said, "Her contract was coming to an end and we had the responsibility to notify her within six months. The option of taking the position in occupational health and safety was presented to her because she had the required background capabilities and she accepted."

Habat said a national

search was not conducted for the position because it is not in the "officer level" category.

Assistant Professor of Biological Sciences Chet Cooper said he is concerned that Denman's credentials may not be strong enough.

Cooper said the department of Environmental and Occupational Health and Safety holds a number of responsibilities that "pull it in a lot of different directions." He added that the position requires "the best" in applied sciences.

Associate Professor of Geological and Environmental Sciences Jeffrey Dick also said that the position requires a "strong background in applied sciences" because of govern-

mental requirements to which the university must adhere.

Both Dick and Cooper said they had noticed no postings for an open position after Perry retired. Cooper said the administration has not communicated with the department — a decision that Cooper said has some faculty worried.

"The administration made the decision and they have every right to, but what they haven't done is explained why," Cooper said. "I am not denigrating Ms. Denman, if it were anybody else I would still question it."

Call Elizabeth Tabak at (330) 941-3758.

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## Today's Editorial

### Sweet must rein in Habat's empire

John Habat has been a member of the administration of Youngstown State University for four years. In those four years, Habat — a longtime friend of University President David Sweet — has amassed substantial power.

Ron Cole, spokesman for the university, said Habat is in charge of 15 departments on campus. Cole said Habat has to sign off on nearly every dollar the university spends. He also is in charge of checking to see that money is spent properly — a practice that even Vice President for Financial Affairs Terry Ondreyka said is questionable.

Earlier this month, Habat was named assistant general counsel — the latest title in his already burgeoning workload. At the same time this announcement was made, it was also revealed that Sandra Denman, the university's general counsel, would be moved to director of Environmental and Occupational Health and Safety, the department that is responsible for making sure that buildings are safe for students, staff and faculty.

In recent years, the Environmental and Occupational Health and Safety department has handled numerous environmental problems, including the removal of black mold in Beeghly Center.

Denman has said that she has no experience to qualify her for this position — an admission that should give the administration enormous pause.

The Denman situation is a clear illustration of the lack of thought and planning plaguing the university administration.

Habat said Denman was picked for the environmental job because she has an undergraduate degree in chemistry and worked in the environmental section of a large law firm. Denman confirmed her chemistry degree, but said she spent little time actually working in the field of environmental law.

In the best possible light, Habat did not have time to carefully evaluate Denman's credentials for the job. Examined another way, the Denman move could be seen as something far more suspicious.

Although a document in Denman's personnel file said that she is to be evaluated annually, the last time her work was assessed was 2001 when Sweet complimented the "quality and quantity" of the work coming out of her office.

At that time, the university counsel reported directly to the president. Like the numerous other changes to the organizational chart, the university lawyer now reports to Habat.

A good university, like all solid organizations, must have checks and balances. By concentrating so much power into the hands of one person, there is enormous potential for abuse as well as mistakes.

Habat may be able to handle all of his duties, but he already has a tainted track record.

One year ago, Habat was investigated after pornography was found on his university-owned laptop computer. Investigators later cleared Habat and said an individual who was "then a minor child in the Habat household" accessed the questionable Web sites. In the investigators' report, Habat admitted he had exercised poor judgment by allowing the computer to be used by others.

Habat came to YSU in July 2000 — the same year that Sweet was named president. He began his career at YSU as special assistant to the president. Sweet was criticized when he promoted Habat to vice president for administration without conducting a national search. Habat and Sweet met more than 20 years ago, when Sweet worked at Cleveland State University and Habat worked for then-Cleveland mayor George Voinovich.

Habat, a man with no prior academic experience, is now making the decisions that will shape the types of educations YSU students receive.

From approving the hiring of faculty and computers to deciding if the administration's ranks should swell, Habat has a strong hand in the quality of education students will be receiving and how much they will be paying for those educations.

At Kent State University, the vice president for administration supervises six departments: university budget and internal audit, financial affairs, facilities planning and operations, the Kent student center and research planning.

Habat's list is longer: budget, facilities, police, maintenance, human resources, janitorial, telephone services, motor, internal audit, grounds, environmental health, general counsel, parking, mailroom and legislative relations.

Sweet needs to put the brakes on Habat's growing empire. Sweet was hired to be the president of YSU, not Habat.

The Jambor editorialists reflect the opinions of The Jambor and its Editorial Board members: Editor in Chief Angela Olin, News Editor Beth Tabak, Design Editor B.J. Lisko and Copy Editor Mark Stevens. Those wishing to schedule meetings with the Editorial Board should call the editor in chief. Letters must be typed and should not exceed 400 words. Each letter must include a name and telephone number for verification purposes. All submissions are subject to editing for spelling and grammar. Submissions must be received by noon Friday for Tuesday's edition and by noon Tuesday for Thursday's edition. The Jambor 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 do not necessarily reflect those of The Jambor staff or YSU faculty, staff or administration.

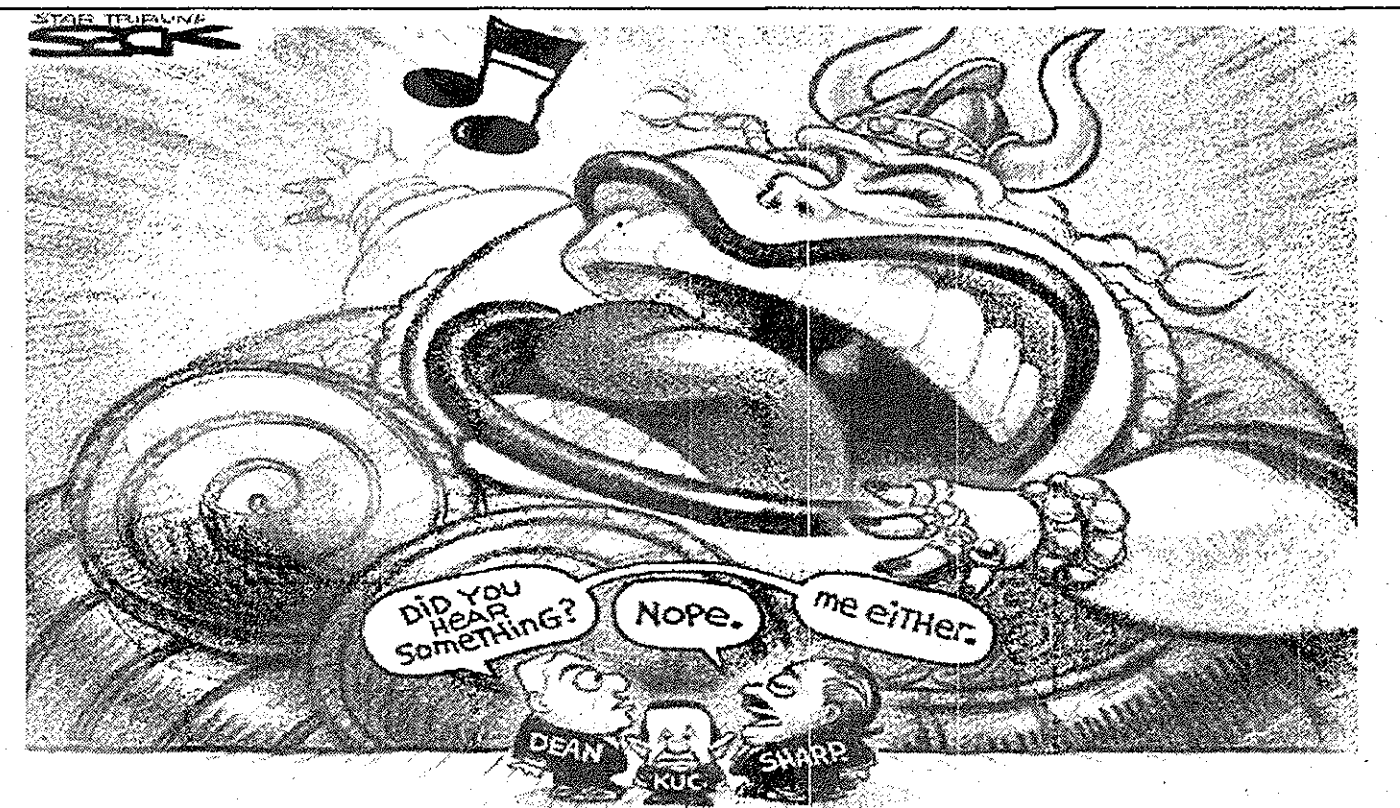
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## THE FAT LADY'S SINGIN'



## Letters to the Editor

### Professor discusses politics, diversity

Editor:

Don Rudolph has raised an interesting question about the nature of "diversity" politics in America. "Diversity" is a curious political concept that at its best is a label for a particular approach to justice and proximate social harmony, understood as the political and cultural "inclusion" of groups once despised or constrained to the social margins of American life by a presumed dominant and oppressive majority (usually read as white, male, heterosexual, middle-class, capitalist, Judeo-Christian, etc.). At its worst, however "diversity" is a nebulous concept, a kind of catch-all term covering a number of specific political agendas (often contradictory) that paradoxically stands for a kind of "anti-politics," "celebrating diversity," a notion that suggests imminent "harmony" provided that sufficient "tolerance" and "correct" views are adopted, is raised as the shibboleth of a movement that is intent on using calculated political conflict for "cultural transformation" and the achievement of "social justice."

That "diversity" is usually associated with "left-wing," or self-styled "progressive" political forces—but not clearly liberal ones—is unsurprising given the emphasis on "social" and "cultural" transformation. Such groups and their spokespersons have only recently emerged as leadership figures in the American state power structure. The "anti-establishment" character of the movement does have deep historical roots in the American experience, and the movement has made such gains as it has owing to the erosion of traditional notions and institution of authority in American life, a process with varying consequences well underway for the last forty years.

Among such traditional notions have been ideas on morality that see the moral order as fixed, permanent, commonsensical, or "absolute." Such views are most often found among those identified by the labels "conservative" and "Christian." Historically, conservatives have largely been skeptical and cautious about any kind of change, whether by natural disposition, ethnic loyalty, or religious belief. But secular conservatives (i.e., those not basing their positions on religious beliefs) can often be persuaded to acknowledge the need for certain, even radical changes. Religion, or at least certain forms of it, intensifies the debate on the charac-

ter of morality. Religious believers who come out of traditions of natural law and permanent moral codes related to assumed divine revelation (rather than changing human fashion or preference) can be understood as a particular type of conservative in conflict with the moral presumption of many advocates of "diversity." That is because the principle moral presumption of "diversity" advocated is moral and cultural relativism, or the perceived equivalence of different moral perspective given changing human circumstances in time and place. Moral absolutists, especially certain religious conservatives (usually found in the ranks of Orthodox Jews, Orthodox Christians, Roman Catholics, and Evangelical Christians, as well as Islamic believers) are largely skeptical and critical of the moral claims of relativists; they become overbearing as critics of "diversity" when they forget their own traditions' concerns for humility, mercy, and justice. On the other side, many "diversity" advocates regard moral absolutists and religionists as "the enemy" and deride them as political Neanderthals. What is odd, however, about the moral position of relativists, such as most diversity advocates are, is that they regard their moral assumptions dogmatically, or absolutely: if moral relativism is only relatively true perhaps it is not ultimately true at all, unless of course you have convinced yourself that moral relativism is "absolutely" true out of political expediency. This is the reason why "conservatives" and "Christians" tend to be excluded from the political bandwagon of "diversity" — they haven't gotten the "right" religion yet. It is important to note, however, that different types of conservatives and Christians exist, given the fragmenting of various traditions and the "invention" of new ones, and that some of these are for varying reasons aligned with the concerns of what is called "diversity" politics in America. But the underlying conflict between "diversity" advocates and traditional conservatives and Christians is one of a kind of spiritual and philosophical warfare over the nature of morality and the requirements of justice.

Keith John Lepak, Ph.D.  
Associate Professor for Politics & International Relations  
Department of Political Science

### Copeland right on with Jambor letter

Editor:

Thank you, Dr. Copeland, for reintroducing reason to this forum in regards to the ongoing "Christians vs. Others" battle. Your letter was balanced, intelligent, informed — and inadvertently stole my fire.

I had been working on a similar piece for the past few days, but I've since scrapped it as you've so conveniently and concisely nailed the point to the page. Kudos to you for taking the high road and especially, for reminding both sides of this debate that a review of their personal definitions of "tolerance" might be in order.

I might add, though, that the practice of tolerance is probably one of the most difficult things a person might attempt — particularly if there are weaknesses or doubts in the person's

convictions. In my opinion, the tolerance of opposing views fails only when the tolerating person's belief wavers, and he or she is unwilling or unable to accept any other possible alternative viewpoints.

I hope that both the "Christians" and the "Others" might take a moment to contemplate what true tolerance entails — and make an effort to practice it when addressing each other. To be perfectly honest, I find the personal attacks, Bible quotes, and mostly fact-free opinions bandied by both sides to be in poor taste — and to be extremely lame fodder for debate.

Sean Fulkerson  
Freshman  
English

### Student parents are most dedicated at YSU

Editor:

I would like to praise all the mothers and fathers who bundled their children up Monday for a day of school at YSU. As I walked across an unnervingly cold campus, I saw two children toddling towards DeBartolo Hall behind their mother, and I remembered that area school districts had no school due to the observance of President's Day. Rather than miss one class, one lecture, these dedicated, non-traditional students brought their children to class with them.

One finds that there are few students on this campus as dedicated to the learning process as these individuals. Most students would skip a day of classes because an old friend is in town, or

to go see a movie. But not these learners. They have children that they must care for, and they are still able to attend class, without fail. Look around as you fall asleep in that boring science lecture, or sit doodling in economics. Our fathers and mothers are sitting in rapt attention, soaking up all the knowledge their professors have to offer them. Then they go home from school, care for their families, and do it all again the next day. If that isn't commitment, I don't know what is.

So kudos to you mom and dad! YSU is proud of you!

Donald JD Hays, Jr.  
Freshman  
Mechanical Engineering



# SPORTS & RECREATION

## YSU baseball, softball squads ready to roll

By JOSHUA BOGGS  
The Jambar

Head softball coach Christy Cameron, who is in her fourth year with YSU, guided her team to a school-record 34 wins last season. That winning mark was four more victories than the 30 combined wins she had the three prior years combined.

She has also helped turn a team that finished 1-13 and in last place in the Horizon League in 2002 into respectable contenders for the championships the following year with a 13-5-1 second-place record in the league.

That 13-5-1 record did not come easy for the Penguins, who had 11 of their Horizon League games decided by two runs or less.

Coach Cameron admits that this upcoming season will be as competitive as the last, but that she is very optimistic about her team's playing capabilities.

"I think that every league game will be a tough game, but if we go out and do things we need to do, we will be fine," Cameron said. "I feel as if we will have a good year."

The Penguins definitely competed to their capabilities last season by setting school records in runs scored (208), hits (355), doubles (66), triples (18), home runs (33), RBIs (188) and consecutive games won (9).

Coach Cameron will be looking to her defense and pitching as the team's overall strengths this season and said that her team is solid in both of those areas.

Sophomore Kelly Murphy led the Penguins in pitching last season and set the YSU single-season school record for the most victories and strike

"I feel good about our team. We have a great attitude and work ethic. This is the most talented squad since I've been here."



— MIKE FLORAK  
Head coach, YSU Baseball

outs (166) by a Penguin pitcher. In doing so, she also became the first YSU pitcher in school history to win 20 games in one season.

Offensively, the Penguins will find leadership from senior infielder Amanda Berry, who ranked in the league's top 10 in 2003 in eight offensive categories: RBIs (50), hits (52), total bases (92), home runs (7), triples (4), doubles (11), slugging percentage (.575) and batting average (.325). Berry also hit .373 with runners in scoring position and .348 with runners on base.

While the softball team will be trying to keep up its winning ways, the YSU baseball team will be looking to improve from its just-under-500 mark in 2003.

The team was picked to finish third in the Horizon League in a poll of league coaches behind Illinois-Chicago and UW-Milwaukee.

Finishing with an overall record of 27-28 and a 12-11 Horizon League mark, the Penguins will be guided by head coach Mike Florak, who is in his sixth year with the squad.

Coach Florak, who has an overall record of 113-151-1 at YSU, said that he felt good

about his team for the upcoming season, but that everyone must play to his capabilities.

"I feel good about our team," Florak said. "We have a great attitude and work ethic. This is the most talented squad since I've been here."

Much of that talent comes from senior catcher Adam Cox, who made All-Horizon League first team last season and set a school record with 11 homeruns. Cox also led the team in slugging percentage (.546) and RBIs (37).

YSU senior outfielder Kendall Schlabach will also aid the Penguins offensively as he made the All-Horizon League second team in 2003 and currently holds the school record for career hits with 204.

Cox and Schlabach were both picked by "Baseball America" as preseason All-Horizon League honorees.

Coach Florak will also find strength in his bullpen and admitted that six or seven of his players could start as pitchers.

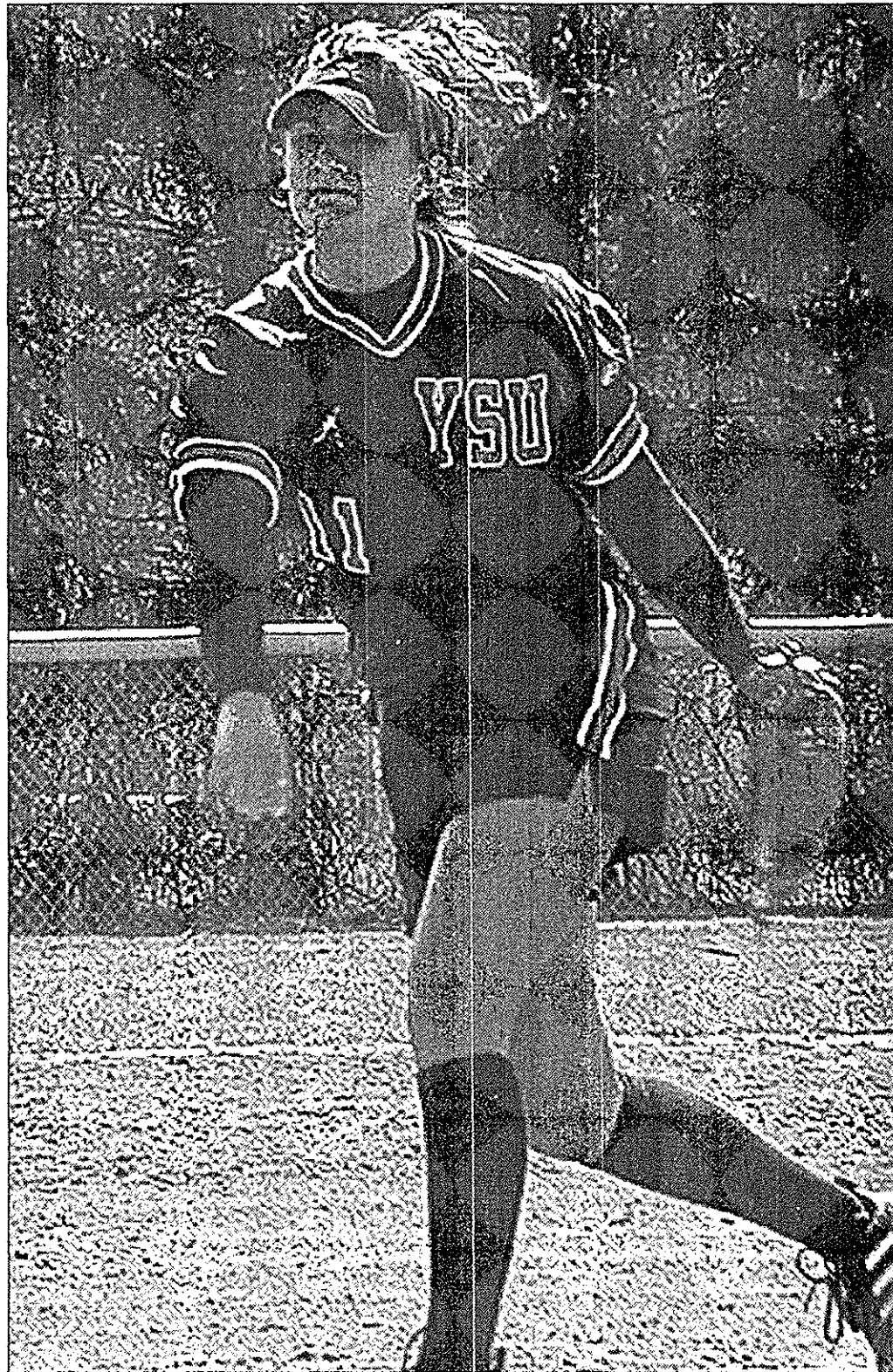
"We have three left handed pitchers in our sophomore class who are quality left handers," Florak said.

Of the twelve pitchers on Florak's roster, five had an ERA of 5.0 or under last season.

Although Florak's team contains only 10 upperclassmen out of 32 players, he will also be focusing on leadership, maturity, and competitiveness, as his team's strongest qualities.

The YSU baseball team will open up their season on Friday, Feb. 27 at Missouri while the women will travel to Kentucky on Feb. 28.

Call Joshua Boggs at (330) 941-1989.



By Liskol/The Jambar file photo

ACE OF THE STAFF: Sophomore pitcher Kelly Murphy returns to lead the YSU Penguin softball team after a very successful 2003 campaign.

### Jambar Health Health queries

Q. There are so many diets out there. One says no carbohydrates. One says no fat. How do you know which diet is the right one for you?

Ben Haake  
Freshman  
Business

A. I do not advocate "going on a diet" to anyone, regardless of what the diet says you should or should not eat and what the claimed result will be. Be aware that no matter how the ad is pitched, the common ground for all diet book authors, supplement makers and potion pushers is the desire to line their pockets with your money. The "right" diet is a healthful routine that you can stick with for the rest of your life. Enjoy your food, but do so in moderation. For instance, eat smaller portions or have half now, half later. Try new things such as ethnic or vegetarian dishes, and eat a variety of foods (not the variety pack of Doritos, but whole grains, fruits, vegetables, meats, and dairy products). Sure it's important to cut back on things like saturated and trans fat, added sugar and refined flour products, but carbohydrates and fat are nutrients that your body needs in certain amounts to function properly. Carbohydrates should make up 55 to 60 percent of total daily calories; fat, no more than 30 percent; and protein 15 to 20 percent.

Q. How much sugar should a person eat in one

day?  
Megan Lutera  
Senior  
Environmental Studies

A. The United States Department of Agriculture advises people who eat a 2,000-calorie healthful diet to try to limit themselves to about 10 teaspoons (40 grams) of added sugars per day. The concern is that excess sugar is a major contributing factor in America's fat outbreak. Consider this: a 20-ounce Pepsi or Coke provides 67.5 grams of sugar, which equals 270 calories. A 150-pound male would have to run about 3 miles to burn the calories from one 20-ounce pop. A lot of people drink more than 32-ounces of a non-alcoholic sweetened beverage in one sitting at Taco Bell, and they only expend enough energy to eat, sleep and breath (in that order). And people wonder why our country is super-sized.

Now is your chance to find answers to all the questions you have been too embarrassed to ask. Don't know how to cook pasta or rice? Want to know why your mom always told you to eat your veggies? Curious about calories? Send your nutrition and health-related questions to thejambar@hotmail.com. No question is too big, too small or too off the wall.

Call Nicole Campbell at (330) 941-1913.  
Nicole Campbell is a Family and Consumer Studies major and also a member of Students in Dietetics.

## Diving, track teams at top of Penguin class

By JOSHUA BOGGS  
The Jambar

### All-Ohio Championships

The Youngstown State University indoor track teams are continuing their winning ways by shattering numerous school records this season.

In their most recent performance at the All-Ohio Championships in Findlay, junior Jarrod Davis, senior Laura Schatz and junior Emily Schmitkey all broke school records to highlight their team's performances.

Their feats were enough to place the men's team sixth and the YSU women seventh.

"Basically, we've made a huge step in the right direction," head coach Brian Gorby said.

Gorby also said that getting 100 percent healthy and moving up on the conference lists with times and marks were his team's goals in preparing for the upcoming Horizon League Championships.

Davis, who had a sixth-place toss of 54 feet, 4 3/4 inches, crushed his own school record in the weight throw. He also threw his way to a sixth-place spot in the shot put (48 feet, 7 1/2 inches).

Davis was named Co-Horizon League Athlete of the Week for his performance.

Schatz leapt to new heights in the high jump, clearing 5 feet, 7 inches, breaking the school record and placing her third.

Schmitkey, who came back from a 10-month layoff from injuries earlier this season, broke her own school record in the mile with a third-place time of 5 minutes, 2.01 seconds.

Also placing in the mile were freshman Lisa Davies (5:07.36) and junior Lindsay Wojciak, who placed fifth and ninth. Fellow sophomore distance runner Gina Mavrikis also added a tenth-place spot in the 800-meter run (2:25.16).

Leading in the women's sprints was freshman school record-holder Danielle Bolt, who was second in the 60-meter dash (7.64), with senior teammate Leslie Johnson finishing seventh in the 400-meter dash (58.65). Rounding out the sprints was

"Basically we've made a huge step in the right direction."



— BRIAN GORBY  
Head coach, track

junior Aaliyah Gillespie, who finished in seventh place in the 60-meter hurdles (9.06).

In the jumping events, freshman Nikki Hooper glided to an eighth-place mark of 35 feet, 5 inches in the triple jump, while sophomore Alex Cusi finished 11th.

Sophomore Kim Lammers also finished ninth in the shot put and freshman Amy Hill was 11th in the weight throw, respectively.

In men's action, senior Sherod Holmes led the way for the sprinters with a fourth place time of 6.97 seconds in the 60 and an eighth place time of 23.30 in the 200-meter dash. Grabbing the eighth through tenth place spots in the 60 hurdles were junior Adam Lewis, sophomore Tyler Morton, and Chris Goffler.

Also performing well at the championships was junior Jeremy Riehm (15:32.67), who finished second in the 5,000-meter run with sophomore Dave Mealy placing fifth (15:44.86). In the mile, junior Nick Busek (4:24.44) paced his way to a fourth-place finish, while junior Chris Hine (4:32.50) was seventh.

Also having strong showings at the meet were senior T.J. Peterson, who was fourth in the long jump with a leap of 22 feet, 3.75 inches and junior Papis Joh (50.68), who was third in the 400.

"We have an opportunity to make a run at the championships (for the women)," Gorby said. "For the men it will be our sprinters, jumpers and throwers against Butler's distance runners."

YSU will travel to Kent State to compete at the Kent State Tune-Up on Feb. 21.

### Diving Duel

While the Youngstown State University swimming and diving program is coming into its own this season, they are being led by many talented divers, who are jumping their way into the water and past their competition.

Junior school record-holder Kalyn Leveto dove her way to a victory in 3-meter diving with an 11-dive score of 459.23 and also tallied a 12-dive score of 465.60 in 1-meter diving to give her a second place finish. The performance wasn't enough to lift the Penguins past Clarion though, as they lost, 61-40.

For the second time this month, Leveto was honored as the Horizon League Swimming and Diving Athlete of the Week.

Head diving coach Nick Gavolas admits that his team uses this meet every year as a conference prep meet to give his team another week to clean up some of their dives. He also said that Leveto has been a great leader for a team that has been working well together.

"Kalyn has been a good leader as an upperclassman," Gavolas said. "She has tried to take it up a couple of notches."

Head swimming coach Matt Anderson also said that the divers have been helping out a lot this season with the team's overall performance.

"I couldn't be more pleased with where the divers are," Anderson said.

Following in Leveto's ripples, was freshman teammate Lynea Harrill, who was fifth in 1-meter (388.30) and seventh in 3-meter (286.30).

Freshman divers Erin Mazzant and Cortney Harless also performed well with Mazzant finishing sixth in 3-meter (287.18) and seventh in 1-meter (341.86) and Harless jumping to an eighth-place spot in 1-meter.

The YSU swimming and diving team will compete in the Horizon League Championships on Feb. 25.

Call Joshua Boggs at (330) 941-1989.



## ILLNESS, continued from page 1

tors in Youngstown sent her to the Cleveland Clinic where she was diagnosed with osteoporosis. She said the doctors did not realize she had cancer right away because she was so young.

Although DelSignore went through 10 months of chemotherapy, her body did not respond — her type of Hodgkin's disease is considered rare. She said since her doctor could not do anything else to help her, she was sent to the Transplant Center of the Cleveland Clinic to receive a bone marrow transplant.

DelSignore said her doctor at the Transplant Center had gone to Los Angeles's City of Hope Hospital where he learned about a procedure called a double (tandem) bone marrow transplant. The double bone marrow transplant had never been performed by any of the doctors at the Cleveland Clinic and DelSignore said she was the first person to receive one.

She said normally a person will receive only one bone marrow transplant, but because her cancer was so pro-

gressed, her doctors decided to try the double transplant.

"I was lucky because the doctors could use my own bone marrow since it wasn't affected by the cancer," she said.

DelSignore had two bone marrow transplants within a three-month period. She said after the first, she was in isolation at the hospital for a month while she was recovering. She was able to go home for a month before she returned for the second transplant.

"When I was in isolation, only my family could visit me and they had to wear gloves and masks," she said.

DelSignore said support from her family and boyfriend kept her strong throughout her ordeal.

"I met my boyfriend, Mike Sturgiss, two weeks before my ordeal, and I am extremely fortunate and lucky that he has stuck by me," she said.

DelSignore hoped her ordeal would be over after the transplants, but in 2002 she had to undergo lung surgery because the transplants had broken down her lungs and

caused an infection.

"I remember that I couldn't breathe at night," she said.

While DelSignore is doing much better and is back at school, her cancer is not considered in remission for at least five years because her form of cancer is so aggressive.

"I have to get CAT scans and blood work done every month because if my cancer does come back, the doctors need to know right away," she said.

DelSignore said people, especially young people, need to be aware that cancer can happen to them.

"I almost died because I ignored what my body was telling me," she said. "A lot of people consider themselves above cancer, especially young people, but it is important to be aware of your body. If something is not functioning properly, people need to realize it could be cancer and get it checked out as soon as possible."

Call Colleen Havens at (330) 941-1913.

## STENNIS, continued from page 1

April 1, students of all ages in the three counties will take part in contests and other activities aimed at educating them about Brown vs. the Board of Education.

Other activities include a faculty panel March 19 and a series of films related to the ruling March 26, April 9 and April 30 in the McKay Auditorium.

On May 17, 1954, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled segregation of America's schools to be unconstitutional and called for their desegregation.

Stennis said the civil rights movement and leaders like Martin Luther King, Jr. and Rosa Parks sparked the ruling.

Stennis also said it was the inspiration the black community needed to believe in themselves. "We saw it and thought 'if the government was willing to stick its neck out for us, then we should do what we can to help and stick our neck out too,'" Stennis said.

Stennis was a fifth grader at Gibbs Elementary School in Little Rock, Ark. at the time. He said he recalled his teacher telling the class it was their "opportunity for equality."

Stennis said it was not

"I was hurt to know that some people felt because of the color of our skin, we were not fit for the same quality of life that they were entitled to."

— LEON STENNIS  
Coordinator of Diversity Initiatives

until three years later that he was able to comprehend what she had meant.

"The fall of 1957 in Little Rock was plagued with violence and the whole city was tense," Stennis said. "Everyone was on edge, with the whole nation watching."

That year, the Little Rock School system tried to integrate nine black students into the all-white Central High School — a move that was one of the first of its kind since the ruling. Stennis said he could vividly recall images of the National Guard and the 101st Airborne Division with weapons in hand trying to protect those students from the violence geared toward them.

In the 1958 to 1959 school year, the governor of Little Rock shut down the city's four

high schools, a move that Stennis said changed the course of his life.

Because his single mother could not afford to send him and his sister to the nearest high school, 50 miles away, Stennis said he stayed out that year and worked on odd jobs so his sister could graduate.

Stennis said although the experience was a trying one, it gave him a positive set of lessons and values he could pass on to his children.

Stennis said despite his perseverance in the face of this obstacle, he was not left without deep emotional scars.

"I was hurt to know that some people felt because of the color of our skin, we were not fit for the same quality of life that they were entitled to," Stennis said.

"The most important reason to commemorate this ruling to me is it means so much that our nation came to realize we couldn't go on living like two separate countries," he said. "We want to give a sense of how far we've come since then."

Call Christina Poe at (330) 941-3523.

**2004 Annual Awards Applications**

Sponsored by the Student Government Association, the Division of Student Affairs, Student Life and the Office of Student Activities, the annual awards banquet recognizes current students, staff members and groups/organizations for academic excellence and overall achievement during the 2003-2004 academic year.

Applications are currently available in the Student Activities Office for:

- ✓ Arby's Leadership Scholarship for Outstanding Campus Leaders
- ✓ Constellation Award/Outstanding University-Wide Program
- ✓ Edna K. McDonald Cultural Awareness Award
- ✓ Gillespie-Painter Award
- ✓ Libra Award
- ✓ Mentor of the Year
- ✓ Multicultural Student Services Leadership Award
- ✓ Orion Award
- ✓ YSU Pin Award
- ✓ Student Service Award
- ✓ The Vindictor Award for Most Well-Rounded Student

Deadline: Wednesday, March 3, 2004; Applications may be picked up and returned to the Office of Student Activities, Kilcawley Center/2100. Questions may be directed to (330) 941-3575

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**African American HISTORY MONTH CELEBRATION**

Proverb of the Month: "IF YOU UNDERSTAND THE BEGINNING WELL, THE END WILL NOT TROUBLE YOU." -Ashanti Proverb

**Tuesday, February 3**  
**Lecture - Dr. Iwanza Kunjufu "Black Men and Women: We Both Need Each Other"**  
7:00p.m.  
Ohio Room, Kilcawley Center  
Dr. Kunjufu is a renowned educator and educational consultant. Internationally recognized for his efforts to develop positive self-image in African American children, he is the co-author of *SEKLAE* (Self-Esteem Through Culture Leads to Academic Excellence), an Afrocentric/multicultural curriculum. He is the author of several books including, *Countering the Conspiracy to Destroy Black Boys and To Be Popular or Smart: The Black Peer Group*.

**Saturday, February 7**  
**The African Marketplace**  
Noon - 6:00p.m.  
Chestnut Room, Kilcawley Center  
The African Marketplace is one of the most popular events marking African American History Month. It draws a rich variety of vendors, artists, and book dealers specialized in African and African American creations from Ohio and neighboring states.

**Wednesday, February 11**  
**Lecture - Bari-Ellen Roberts "When You Know You're Right"**  
7:00p.m.  
Ohio Room, Kilcawley Center  
Hailed as a "modern-day Rosa Parks" and one of the most courageous African Americans of our time, she led 1,400 African American employees of *Tea* to the largest racial discrimination settlement in United States history. Her story is told in her book, *Roberts versus Tea: The True Story of Rosa in Corporate America*.

**February 6 through February 14**  
**Musical - "Raisin"**  
Youngstown Playhouse  
"Raisin," the musical adaptation of the classic "Raisin in the Sun," by Lorraine Hansberry, portrays life from the living room setting to the streets of Chicago in the early 1950s. Tickets can be purchased from the Playhouse box office. Co-sponsored by the Youngstown Playhouse and General Motors, Leodstown (Box Office: 330-788-8739)

**Saturday, February 14**  
**Dance - Bi-Okoto Dance Group from Cincinnati**  
Workshop at 12:00 Noon - 2:00p.m.  
Performance at 7:00p.m.  
Chestnut Room, Kilcawley Center  
The Bi-Okoto Dance and Dance Theater is a professional cultural arts company devoted to the cultivation and refinement of African art and education. Bi-Okoto boasts an eclectic repertoire of authentic traditional Nigerian and other West African dances, dramas, and operas.

**Tuesday, February 17**  
**Movie Night - "Liberia: America's Step Child," Documentary by Nancee Oku Bright**  
7:00p.m.  
Ohio Room, Kilcawley Center  
Founded by free blacks and freed American slaves in 1821, Liberia was once the hope and pride of black Africa. Although political and economic power was wielded by Americanized Africans, the two groups forged a tight and sensitive existence which tilted out of balance in a civil war of the 1980s. That conflict continued until recently, when a truce was reached and the former head of state, Charles Taylor, went into exile in Nigeria. Liberian filmmaker Nancee Oku Bright traces the relationship between America and Liberia and analyzes the causes of strife between Liberia's indigenous population and freed American slaves.

**Thursday, February 19**  
**Diversity Workshop - Diversity Issues in the 21st Century: Diversity Workshop for Employers and Employees**  
9:00-12:00p.m.  
Presidents Suite, Kilcawley Center  
The workshop will address pertinent issues in the workplace involving leadership and knowledge, and the extent to which they affect company culture, productivity, and competitiveness. The workshop will cover a wide range of topics including flexible, same-sex partners, innovative compensation and benefit programs. Continuing credit hours are available to professionals.

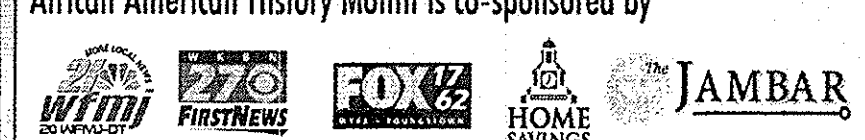
**Saturday, February 21**  
**Poetry Slam Competition**  
6:30p.m.  
Ohio Room, Kilcawley Center  
Original poetry submissions by budding local poets on different aspects of African American life and culture. Prizes will be awarded based on the style, content, and quality of presentation. Submitters must reach the African Studies Program by Wednesday, February 18.

**Monday, February 23**  
**Musical Presentation: Yewande**  
7:00p.m.  
Chestnut Room, Kilcawley Center  
Yewande is an alternative soul singer-songwriter whose music captures the essence of the human experience. Classically trained in voice and piano, Yewande has thrilled audiences across the country, including those at the JFK Center for the Performing Arts, Black Entertainment Tonight (BET), and London's Jazz Cafe and Black Lily. Co-sponsored by the Office of Student Activities

**Wednesday, February 25**  
**Lecture - Dorian T. Warren "Multiple Identities and Organizational Change in the U.S. Labor Movement"**  
7:00p.m.  
Presidents Suite, Kilcawley Center  
Dorian T. Warren is a Ph.D. candidate in political science at Yale University and an Eskine Peters Fellow in African-American Studies at the University of Notre Dame. His research combines theoretical, historical, and empirical approaches to the study of marginal groups within American politics, focusing on the political organization and mobilization of groups based on class, race, ethnicity, gender, and sexuality. Co-sponsored by the Center for Working Class Studies

**Friday, February 27**  
**Lecture - Dr. Ron Daniels "The Case for Reparations: Does America Owe Africans in America?"**  
7:00p.m. McKay Auditorium, Beeghy Hall  
A native of Youngstown, Dr. Daniels is the executive director of the Center for Constitutional Rights in New York. He is a prominent civil rights activist who has championed numerous causes and writes weekly columns for newspapers and journals. He was a strong advocate of the desegregation movement in apartheid South Africa, and recently led an historic trip to Haiti.

African American History Month is co-sponsored by



For further information, call the African Studies Program at (330) 941-3097.



## HABAT, continued from page 1

Financial Affairs Terry Ondreyka said there are problems with the same person being in charge of spending and auditing.

"It's not a good idea," Ondreyka said. "If you look at the industry, they would point out that the internal audit function should report directly to the president."

Kent State University, however, has a similar structure with its vice president for administration also handling budget and internal auditing.

University Trustee Dr. H.S. Wang said he questions whether Habat should be supervising internal auditing in addition to his many other areas of responsibility.

"I don't think he has the expertise of someone who is involved in accounting," Wang said. "It's not an amateur job, you have to rely on someone who does this day in and day out."

In addition to concerns

about a possible conflict with handling internal audit and spending, questions have also surfaced about Habat's growing job duties.

Several faculty members have said they cannot understand how one man can carry out so many duties and wield so much power.

Maagement Professor Stan Guzell, who is also an officer of the YSU-Ohio Education Association, said he believes Habat may be taking on too much.

"Mr. Habat is a very competent person," Guzell said. "But there is a point when anybody would get overloaded. As a union officer, the administration has been adding many layers to the numbers."

Habat will not be paid any additional money for his added responsibilities.

He was hired in July of 2000 as special assistant to the president after knowing University President David

Sweet for more than 20 years.

Sweet said that in past years, the vice president had more responsibility than Habat has currently.

"Certainly it is a lot of responsibilities but when I arrived, the executive vice president was taking care of John's (Habat's) responsibilities, and all of the finance," Sweet said.

YSU-OEA President Michael Finney said he believes Habat is overworked.

"I don't think he'll take on all of these duties in the long-run," Finney said.

Communications Professor Dennis Henneman said, "Anytime there is a change in the structure of a university, there is reason for concern."

Wang said he is not worried about Habat's many positions. "I think the real power rests on the board of trustees," Wang said. "We have a more active committee that can

make things happen."

One of Habat's newest employees is Jeffrey Taylor, director of budget planning and resource analysis. Taylor was hired to fill the director of budget's position and earns \$75,000 each year. Taylor took over after Beth Kushner, the former director of budget planning, was moved to another position.

Taylor, who served as the vice president for finance at Thiel College in Pennsylvania, will oversee the preparation of the university's annual budgets. In addition, he will conduct financial projections and analyses, according to a recent press release.

"In making the transition, I've gone from a small private college to a larger public university and now have to learn about state funding," Taylor said.

Call Michael J. Balala at (330) 941-1989.

## YSU THEATER



GOOD COMPANY: Kristen Marinelli and Ryan Ruth star in "Company the Musical" by Stephen Sondheim opens Thursday Feb. 19, in Ford Theater of Bliss Hall YSU students free! Call 330 941 3105 for reservations.

## NFL STREET, continued from page 8

does its best to oblige. There are the standard juke and spin moves to avoid a defender, as well as the stiff arm and the hurdle. Pressing the style button while performing these moves takes the game up a notch, causing players to do things like jumping hurdles and the double spin move.

A standard game is played to 36 points, no penalties, no game clock, with a touchdown counting as six.

Instead of kicking field goals for the point after the touchdown, "NFL Street" uses one and two point conversions, a rushing conversion counting as one and a pass counting as two. The first-down marks are specific spots on the field rather than ten yards from line of scrimmage, making it harder to reach the line, but that much more exciting when fourth down rolls around. With no option to punt, fourth-down drama is far more likely.

What could be considered the most unique about "NFL Street" are the playing fields. Instead of a pristine 100-yard stretches of beautifully manicured grass, one can choose venues like a warehouse, a dirt lot under a freeway, a gritty rooftop, a memorial park and even on a beach.

Each has their own unique playing surface and boundaries that can either help or hurt the athletes.

In every location there are solid walls that line either side

of the field allowing for spectacular bone-crunching tackles when the defender can throw the ball carrier into a stone pillar or a steel girder. Like all real playing fields, every location has its own quirks.

On the beach for instance, running is slowed down dramatically on the deep powdery sand, so it's a good idea to run near the water where the sand is more compact. However, don't try a spin move or the ball carrier will slip and cough up the ball.

As great as the concept of this game is, the flaws of "NFL Street" cause it to fall short of its potential.

The single player aspect of the game is somewhat lacking, and the entire game seems like it was rushed to be completed. The only incentive for completing the single player game, otherwise known as the NFL challenge, is to unlock more NFL players for use in multi-player mode.

The game content is creative and fairly well done, but after one game you will have seen every special move and taunt several times over, which makes playing the rest of the 49 games required to unlock all of the players repetitive.

This game is great for people who want an excellent multiplayer game. It's easy to pick up and is fun to play as a group. Just don't expect a game that will provide hours of single player entertainment.



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Lab Worker - Part time position monitoring and recording test results in the Engineering /R&D dept of a local company. 16 to 24 hours per week. Location: Youngstown, OH

Estimator - Strong math skills and the ability to read a blueprint are needed for this position with an industrial commercial painting contractor. Location: Warren, OH

Computer Help Desk Consultant - Should have knowledge of Windows 2000 and XP, Professional, Microsoft Office and basic troubleshooting skills. Location: Youngstown, OH

Warehouse Person - Will administer installation equipment, technical supplies and converter boxes to sales and technicians. Responsible for inventory control, some building maintenance and insure all stock that is assigned by technicians is given in a timely manner. Location: Warren, OH

Customer Care Representative - Assists customers by handling complaints, transactions and inquires in a timely, courteous manner. Must be flexible. Location: Canton, OH

Warehouse Person - Will administer installation equipment, technical supplies and converter boxes to sales and technicians. Responsible for inventory control, some building maintenance and insure all stock that is assigned by technicians is given in a timely manner. Location: Warren, OH

Customer Care Representative - Assists customers by handling complaints, transactions and inquires in a timely, courteous manner. Must be flexible. Location: Canton, OH

Professional Engineer - Design/engineering firm is searching for a Licensed Professional Engineer, preferably a Structural Engineer or Electrical Engineer. AutoCAD experience is a plus. Location: Youngstown, OH

Administration Representative - Entry-level position in a pension administration business. Duties include processing transactions of employee trade requests and planning balancing activities. Position requires a Bachelor degree in finance. Location: Cortland, OH

High School Teacher - Local school district has teaching positions available for the 2004-2005 school year in English, Health & Physical Education, Social Studies and Spanish. Candidates must have Pennsylvania teaching certificate. Location: Beaver Falls, PA

Outside Sales Representative - Advertising sales opportunity for aggressive, motivated salesperson. Candidate must have a Bachelors degree, strong management skills and ability to work independently. Location: Cleveland, OH

### CAREER SERVICES

Youngstown State University

### CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Accountant - Immediate opening for a part-time accountant to produce monthly financial reports, assist with budgeting and reconcilia-

For more information about the positions listed above, as well as hundreds of others! Contact Career Services, 1034 Jones Hall, 330-941-3515

<http://cc.ysu.edu/career-services>



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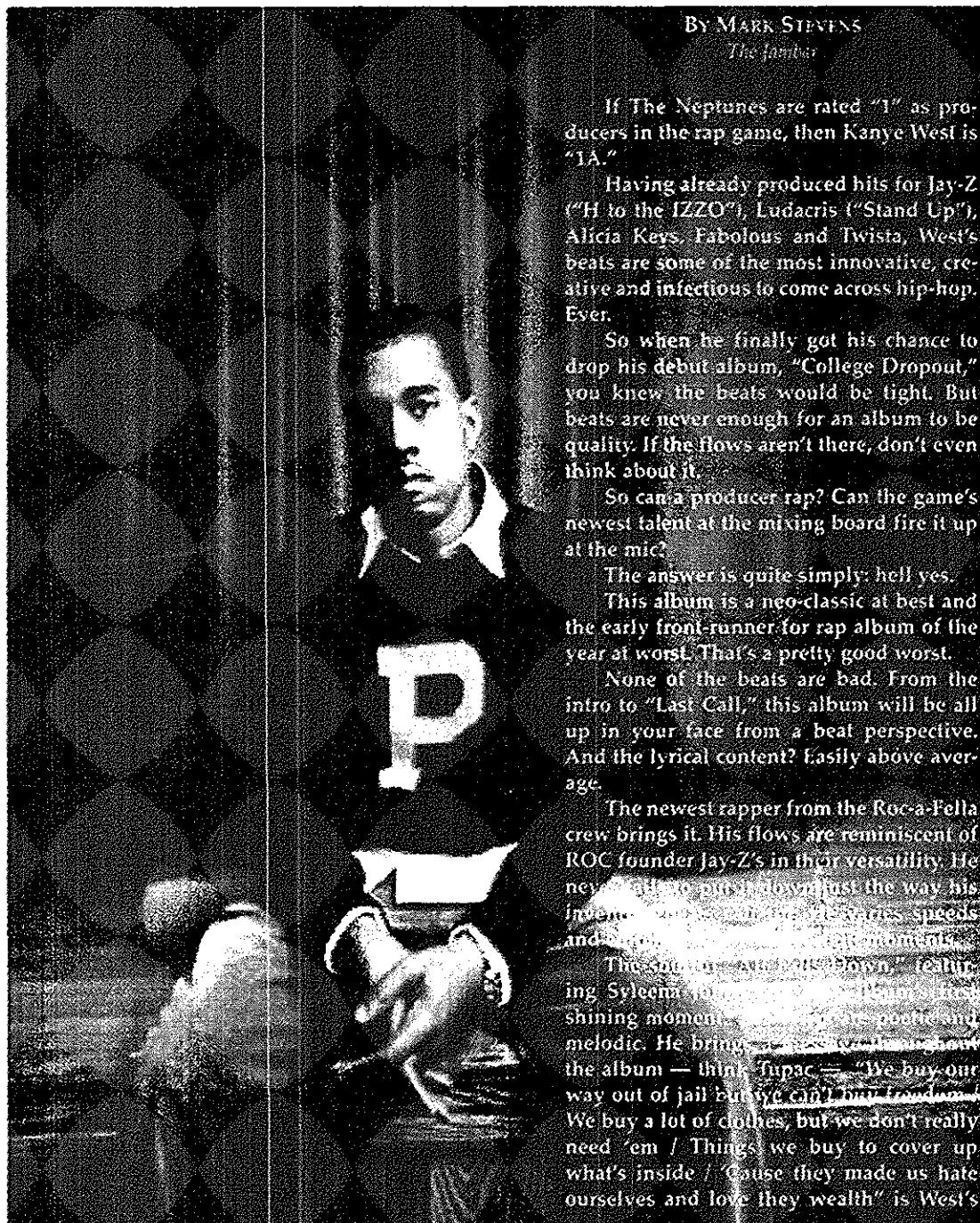
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# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

## CD Review

### Kanye, can you save the hip-hop game?



By MARK STEVENS  
The Jambor

If The Neptunes are rated "1" as producers in the rap game, then Kanye West is "1A."

Having already produced hits for Jay-Z ("H to the HIZO"), Ludacris ("Stand Up"), Alicia Keys, Fabolous and Twista, West's beats are some of the most innovative, creative and infectious to come across hip-hop. Ever.

So when he finally got his chance to drop his debut album, "College Dropout," you knew the beats would be tight. But beats are never enough for an album to be quality. If the flows aren't there, don't even think about it.

So can a producer rap? Can the game's newest talent at the mixing board fire it up at the mic?

The answer is quite simply: hell yes. This album is a neo-classic at best and the early front-runner for rap album of the year at worst. That's a pretty good worst.

None of the beats are bad. From the intro to "Last Call," this album will be all up in your face from a beat perspective. And the lyrical content? Easily above average.

The newest rapper from the Roc-a-Fella crew brings it. His flows are reminiscent of ROC founder Jay-Z's in their versatility. He never loses sight of just the way his instrument should be used: to speed and to surprise.

The album's most memorable featuring, Syleena Johnson's "Jesus Walks," is a shining moment. It's a poignant and melodic. He brings a sense of soul to the album — think Tupac — "We buy our way out of jail but we can't buy freedom. We buy a lot of clothes, but we don't really need 'em / Things we buy to cover up what's inside / Cause they made us hate ourselves and love they wealth" is West's

message about the self-consciousness that he battles.

I was afraid of "Jesus Walks" from the title of the cut. Rappers calling for Jesus' help isn't really something that ever really works. It ends up sounding hypocritical on an album where murder and gangbanging are the real themes.

(Oh wait, I forgot to mention something. West doesn't talk about killing people. He doesn't promote violence or glorify the horrors of the streets. There's a real message here. The aspects of contemporary gang-driven hip-hop that are missing are notable.)

Back to the track. It has one of the best beats I've ever heard. Scale of one to ten? How about an 8.5?

On "Never Let Me Down," the album gets a guest appearance from Jigga. It's notable that despite the famous guest list — Hova, Ludacris, Talib Kweli, Common, Mos Def, Freeway and Twista — the album never feels like a compilation. West just has his friends along for the ride; he's driving the car.

On this track, the arrogant — he says he is his own favorite MC — shows his humble side. "I can't complain what the accident did to my left eye / Look what an accident did to Left Eye." West raps referring to a car accident that nearly ended his life before he blessed us with this album.

"Slow Jamz," a track currently getting airplay on multiple formats, is beautiful. That's right; I called a rap cut beautiful. Deal with it.

Featuring an appearance by machine gun, rapid-fire rapper Twista, the changes in tempo work well. Twista compliments West's more deliberate delivery. "Damn baby, I can't do it that fast. But I know someone who can," is how West introduces Twista to the track.

"Through the Wire" is the first solo release from the album. After a horrifying, near death experience, West came up with this track despite a destroyed jaw. The track

is spit through a wired jaw. Let that sink in for a minute.

"What if somebody from the Chi that was ill got a deal / On the hottest rap label around? / But he wasn't talking about coke and birds / It's more like spoken word / Except he's really putting it down," is West's explanation of how he's trying to change the game.

West describes the feelings he had after the accident. "Good dude, bad night, right place, wrong time / In the blink of an eye his whole life changed / if you could feel how my face felt / You would know how Mase felt / Thank God I ain't too cool for the safe belt ... I must got an angel / 'Cause look how death missed his ass / Unbreakable, what you thought they called me Mr. Glass."

The last cut, "Last Call," provides one of the coolest rhymes I've ever heard. "Mayonnaise color Benz, I push miracle whips."

And that just shows the cleverness of the rhymes. Even when West is taking digs, they aren't abrasive. He avoids harshness because it doesn't mesh well with his style.

West lists Nas and Ghostface as his major influences and isn't afraid to say that he wants to be "pop." It's about time a rapper admitted that hip-hop isn't just part of popular culture, it needs to be.

He's the perfect mix of arrogant — you need to be confident to deliver any kind of message — and humble; he respects his craft. He doesn't shy away from recognizing the abilities of others; he understands that he can bring something to the rap game.

Is it coincidence that he's from Chicago, the place where Michael Jordan changed basketball forever? I'd like to think not.

A message. Talent. The right state of mind. Is this really rap music? You better believe it.

Call Mark Stevens at (330) 941-1811.

## Movie Review

### New Disney 'Lion King' remake was a half-baked idea

By MARK STEVENS  
The Jambor

Spin-offs never quite capture the success of their originals. It's just the way things go.

Even the spin-offs that are successful — say "Frasier" from "Cheers" — never live up to the billing of their foundations.

Perhaps it isn't the series' or movies' fault. Perhaps it's our fault as an audience. Perhaps we are too expectant; perhaps we invested too much in the original and no performance that seems cut from the original ever meets the grade.

Whatever the cause, we always end up disappointed.

Unfortunately, even Disney movies fall under this category. Take for instance, Disney's latest direct-to-DVD release, "The Lion King 1 1/2." Surely stepping into the shoes of the original "Lion King" would be a task not even Disney would ever try to take on.

We're talking about a classic here. For my generation, "The Lion King" is the Alpha and the Omega of animated movies.

Oh, but they sure did try to adapt it.

The movie focuses on Timon and Pumbaa, the lovable sidekicks from the original. In the end, the movie feels more like those cartoons Disney used to do focusing on the duo and not like a new feature movie.

The jacket for the movie boasts an "all-new movie!" but in the end, you walk away feeling like you just sifted through the scraps of the cutting room floor after final editing of the original was done.

The story starts with Timon's origins. In his colony, he is the outcast, never quite able to fit in because he always finds a way to screw up.

After successive mishaps, he stakes out to find a place where he feels comfortable and where he can fit in.

After a meeting with Rafiki — yes, most original cast members show up in new scenes — he meets up with Pumbaa who becomes his guide to "Hakuna Matata," Timon's dream home free of worry.

After a few run-ins with bad luck, conveniently placed in scenes from the original movie, they find their paradise.

After that the plot gets passé. It's pretty much just the original "Lion King" from a new perspective. It's just a third-person retelling of a story that was already done so well that retelling it almost seems to be a shame.

One of the major disappointments of the movie is the music. Usually you can count on Disney flicks for at least one song that really makes its way into your memory. The original had several.

This one has zero. Nada. Zilch. Nothing. The only good songs are the ones from the original. None of the new music seems to have been done at the same level as the score for the original.

Also disappointing in this movie is the length. Now, you can do movies one of three ways: too long, just right or too short. There's no real mark where you can set a time limit; it's just a matter of how

you feel after it's over.

This movie chose road three. It's just a shade over an hour and 15 minutes long, and there's the sense that you're just really settling in when the movie wants you to get the sense of being ready for the conclusion.

It's predictable and clichéd. There's really nothing original in the whole movie.

Sure, Disney packed the two-DVD set chock full of special features and bonus footage, but if there isn't a solid movie, who cares? They just released a new "The Lion King: Special Edition" DVD that they could have used for some of these extra features instead of trying to promote a "new" movie to pawn them off on you.

Will the

kids be entertained by "The Lion King 1 1/2"? Sure, kids love

Timon and Pumbaa. The voice work is excellent, as it always is with Disney films, and there are lots of colors and distractions that'll keep children busy.

But for the older crowd that loved the original "Lion King," you're going to be disappointed by this. Once again, maybe it's our fault. But that doesn't mean Disney's off the hook.

Call Mark Stevens at (330) 941-1811.

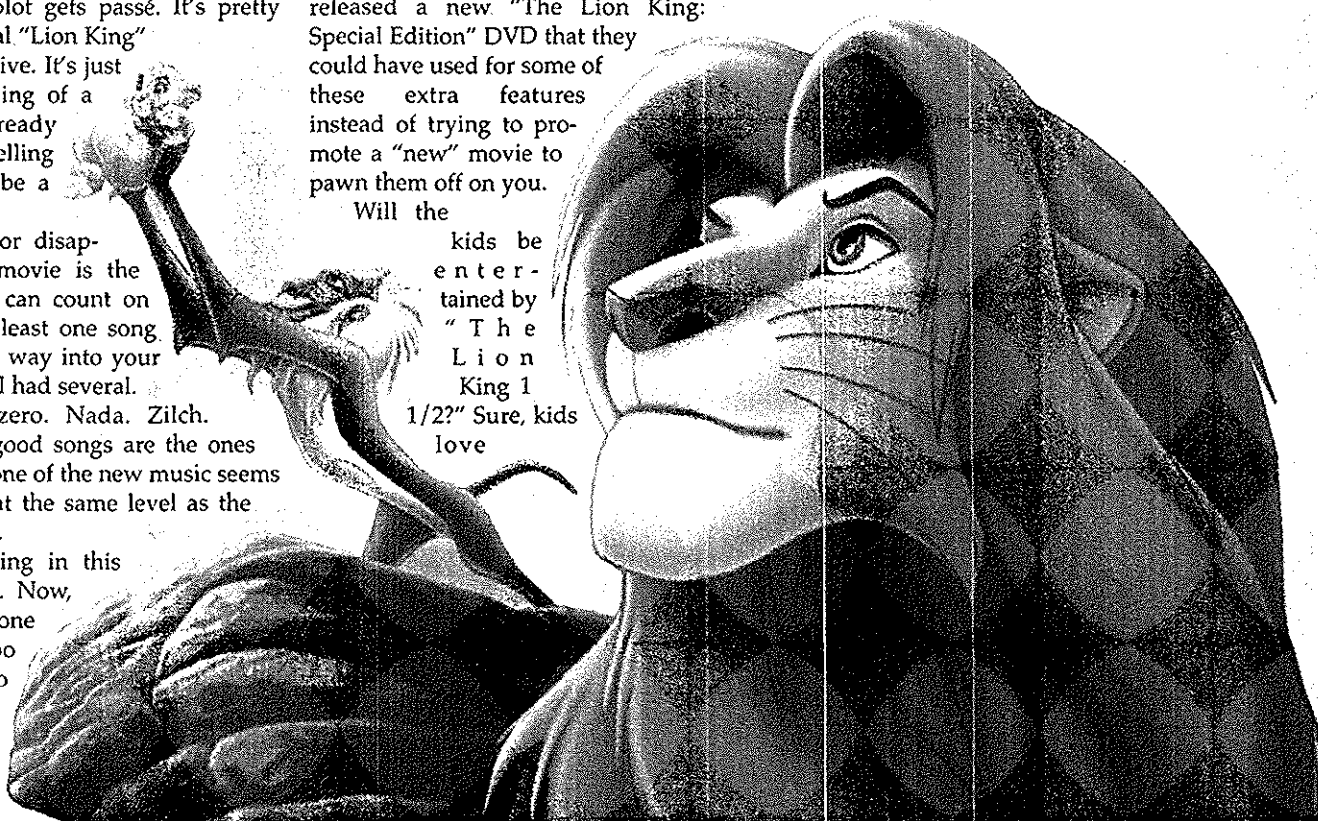


Photo courtesy of playstation.com

FLYING HIGH: 'NFL Street' and offshoot of 'NBA Street' offers a sort of arcade style gameplay.

### 'NFL Street' brings arcade to home

By KEVIN CHANDLER  
The Larini (Baylor U.)

(U-WIRE) WACO, Texas — "NFL Street" is an offshoot of the popular "NBA Street" series characterized by street-ball moves, no refs and spectacular above the rim dunks.

Taking that same type of arcade-style game-play, "NFL Street" pits two teams of seven players against each other in a football brawl in parks and back alleys of America. The plays are simple, the action

is lightning fast and a diving tackle on concrete looks a whole lot more impressive than on grass.

The game is for PlayStation 2, GameCube and Xbox.

What "NFL Street" brings to the table is a pick up and play game. In about two minutes just about anyone can master the basic moves, and the plays are drawn out so clearly a child could understand them. It does take some trial and error to figure out what plays work best in a given situation, but Street does everything possible to

speed up the strategy and get on with the pavement-pounding action.

"NFL Street" is very much an arcade game, and the look of the players and the game-play reflects that.

Every player's proportions are exaggerated, creating running backs with biceps the size of beach balls and linebackers so fat that they look like they shouldn't be able to move, let alone play ball. Arcade players require arcade moves, and "Street"

See NFL STREET, page 6