



Report sites financial 'deficiencies'

By MICHAEL J. BALALE
The Jambar

An outside auditing firm has told the Youngstown State University Board of Trustees that it has "significant deficiencies" in the design and operation of its internal financial controls.

In a Feb. 11 letter and report to the Board of Trustees, the accounting firm of Ernst & Young said that the university is suffering from weaknesses that could hamper its ability to properly report and maintain financial information about the university.

The Ernst & Young report is the latest question surround-

ing how money is spent and audited at YSU.

The report was discussed at Thursday's Board of Trustees meeting.

Ernst & Young was hired by the university to conduct external audits in 2002. The firm reviews the financial

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"We noted certain matters involving internal control that we consider to be reportable conditions under standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants."

— ERNST & YOUNG REPORT OF YSU

Politics students compete in Canada

By COLLEEN HAVENS
The Jambar

Weaponization of space. AIDS orphans. Financial implications of organized crime. Implementation of Millennium Goals. The 1956 Suez Crisis.

These are just some of the topics YSU delegates discussed at the recent Model United Nations competition in Toronto.

The 14 political science majors won second place overall for the fifth year out of seven years at the University of Toronto conference.

Teams are not judged by entire school, but rather by delegations, which means by country. YSU students represented three delegations, the Russian Federation, Syrian Arab Republic and Czech Republic. The Russian Federation placed second overall at the conference.

David Porter, coordinator of the Global Education Program, said the students are judged on their knowledge and how well they represent their countries.



PORTER

Student delegate Bonnie Bodnar said in addition to the team placing second overall, four students won individual awards.

"Brad Adair and Ric Diaz won a Best Delegate award in each of their topics. I won second place in my topic and Aaron Dargis won third place in his topic. All four of us were from the Russian Federation," Bodnar said.

Student delegate Jessica Spohn said the amount of research the YSU team does is phenomenal compared to some of the other schools.

"We fill whole binders full of information, while other schools might only have a couple of pages," Spohn said.

She said all the research that has been done is nice because the students who are new to the program are able to use the research.

Their research came in handy when some of the delegates were called into an early morning meeting.

Bodnar said the students representing members of the Security Council were called into a crisis meeting at 2:30 a.m. and didn't leave until 8:15 a.m. She said they discussed the situation in North and South Korea.

The YSU team did very well, Bodnar said, considering that four of their most experienced students were not able to go. "We were able to fill all

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Edwards' campaign stops in Youngstown

By WILLIAM LEHN
The Jambar

U.S. Sen. John Edwards entered the Teamsters Local 377 Hall Sunday with enthusiasm and an electric presence as John Mellencamp's "Small Town" blasted to a packed house of 600.

Edwards (D-N.C.) had just come from speaking to locked-out steelworkers at RMI Titanium in Niles.

He spoke the same message at both events — calling for an end to the two different Americas.

Edwards stated that two public school systems have to go.

"The quality of education is controlled by where you live and that's wrong," he said.

He continued with two different economies; one is where no one pays taxes and the other is filled with people "who understand what it's like to sit around a kitchen table to figure out how you're going to pay the bills or how you're going to send a kid to college."

Edwards said there have been too many jobs lost in America.

"President Bush needs to know what it means to lose a job," he said.

Asked about job creation in the Youngstown area, Edwards said, "You start with having a trade and a tax policy that will actually work for

areas like Youngstown, where we protect jobs and where we create jobs by having a fair trade policy and not having trade agreements like NAFTA."

Sherry Linkon likes Edwards' idea of doing something to stimulate job growth in the valley.

"I think the idea that we need to take concrete action directed to job creation and not just tax cuts. Trickle Down Economics doesn't work," the professor of English and Working

Class Studies at Youngstown State University said.

Edwards stated that he is not a Washington politician and knows tough economic times because of his working-class roots.

"I've lived through it; I remember when the mill closed and my dad lost his job," he said. "I've seen up close what it does to people. I will tell you, if I'm elected president, I will wake up every morning fighting for you and fighting for your jobs."

During his speech, Edwards was interrupted as the crowd booed when he brought up The Medicare Reform Bill and cheered when he called for the banning of special interests on Capitol Hill.

Citing that billions go to

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Photo courtesy of Jennifer Boor

IN THE RACE: Presidential hopeful Sen. John Edwards speaks to locked out steelworkers at RMI Titanium in Niles. Edwards hopes to earn the democratic presidential nomination.

Heinz Kerry: 'Bush is reigning, not governing'

By WILLIAM LEHN
The Jambar

Teresa Heinz Kerry sees hope in the future of Youngstown.

Last Friday afternoon, the wife of Democratic front runner U.S. Sen. John Kerry (D-Mass.) spoke at the Oak Hill Renaissance Center on the city's South Side.

Teresa Heinz Kerry called for an end to the cynicism that has dominated the country's highest office for the last four years.

"The enemy of a democracy is cynicism," Heinz Kerry said during her thirty-minute speech to a crowd of 200 including U.S. Rep. Timothy Ryan (D-Ohio).

Heinz Kerry said America needs an infusion of hope and a tearing down of the cynical war of terror. "We need to live again in a country where you can speak freely and not go to jail," she said. Her husband's platform calls for a rebuilding of America where education and jobs are at the forefront.



Photo courtesy of johnkerry.com

She spoke of her husband's plan to provide four years of undergraduate education free at state institutions for two years of public service in

the community.

"We have to give people a chance to help themselves," she said.

Ryan said he likes how Kerry ties it to community service. "Lack of wealth should not prevent anyone from going to college," he said. Ryan said there are documented studies

that show for every dollar invested in higher education, the State of Ohio receives two dollars back in tax revenue. "This is necessary in order for

Youngstown to compete in the global arena," he said.

Ryan, who had backed Howard Dean, said he would endorse whoever won the Ohio Primary on March 2.

Dressed in black and gold, Heinz Kerry said her adopted hometown of Pittsburgh shares many of the same problems as Youngstown.

"We have experienced job loss and have a hope for renewal," she said.

Heinz Kerry was married

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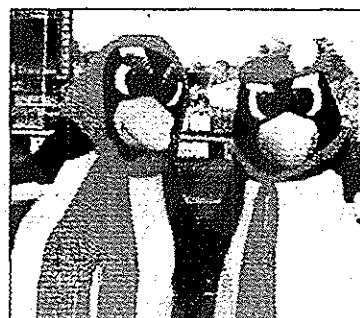
Sneak Peek

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Inside today's issue:

Penguin mascots subject of new children's book. Page 4



thejambar.com poll question:

THE JAMBAR
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Penguin basketball teams up and down. Page 6



EDWARDS, continued from page 1

companies, Edwards said, "I want to cut off Washington lobbyists at the knees ... this government doesn't belong to insiders; it belongs to you."

Linkon agrees with the senator's populist vision. "There has been too much government with the interest of the rich and not with the interests of the people," Linkon said.

Edwards said the main difference between he and U.S. Sen. John Kerry (D-Mass.) is trade.

"I'm somebody who's from outside Washington," he said. "I have new ideas about how we change this country, not the same old tired Washington way."

Edwards said, aside from the trade agreement with China, he opposed every agreement Kerry voted for.

Although Kerry voted for it four years before Edwards was elected to Senate, Edwards opposes NAFTA and those like it.

"The first question in any trade agreement should be does it help or cost American jobs," Edwards said.

Many political analysts have been calling for Edwards to attack Kerry.

"I believe the election is bigger than attacking each other," Edwards said, "It's about making Americans believe again."

Edwards repeated his request for Kerry to hold a third debate in Ohio before the March 2 primary.

"I bring a politics of hope and what is possible, said Edwards, "You give me a shot at George Bush and I'm giving you back the White House."

Call William Lehn at (330) 941-1913.

Officials say north side needs restoration

By MATTHEW GALVIN
The Jambar

Local leaders agreed in a meeting last week that the Wick Park neighborhood north of Youngstown State University campus was in need of restoration after years of neglect.

Executive Director of the North Side Citizens' Coalition Talut Rasul spoke about the organization's efforts to revitalize that area.

In response to Rasul's speech, University President David Sweet and other area officials expressed interest in

aiding the coalition.

Sweet suggested relocation of current fraternity and sorority houses to an area east of Fifth Avenue as a possible solution. He added that YSU was already involved in various projects in the surrounding communities.

"We're helping the medical clinic to move to help Ursuline develop a more attractive campus," Sweet said.

Executive Director of the Park Vista retirement community Mary L. Cochran said her company is purchasing the area between Lexington Avenue and Broadway Street.

On a personal note, Cochran added that she would like that area to participate in the neighborhood renewal.

President and CEO of Humility of Mary Health Partners Robert W. Shroder, said the company is currently involved in revitalizing the Wick Park area.

"We own a number of homes and lots around campus and they're in play," Shroder said.

Cleveland was mentioned four times as a model of urban renewal, no other cities were discussed. Sweet was the dean of the Levin College of Urban

Affairs at Cleveland State University from 1978 to 2000 and he brought in Hunter Morrison, husband of Cleveland Mayor Jane Cambell, to be YSU's director of Urban and Regional Studies. Time constraints prohibited further discussion and an agreement was reached to arrange a meeting with Mayor George McKelvey, Youngstown Director of Community Development Jay Williams and other city council members at a later date.

Call Matthew Galvin at (330) 941-1913.

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statements of the university to verify the validity of the reported financial status of the university.

The report said, "We noted certain matters involving internal control and its operation that we consider to be reportable conditions under standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants."

The outside auditors pointed out problems with how YSU reports were prepared and when information was compiled. In addition, the Ernst & Young auditors said there was a problem with the "adequacy of internal controls."

In its written response to the report, university administrators said many of the problems exist because of a lack of staff.

"The reportable condition relates to timeliness, frequency and review of reconciliations.

The recommendation to analyze staffing (organizational structure, skill sets, and numbers) addresses the root problem - that Youngstown State University, in an increas-

ingly complex accounting and control environment, does not have an adequately structured and staffed financial division," the university responded.

Ernst & Young said they discovered inconsistencies in the information that was collected and provided by the University Development office.

The auditors also recommended that the university develop better procedures and processes for accounting, including better methods for tracking bad debts.

In addition, Ernst & Young said the university does not have an official policy for approval of employee time cards. "Lack of management supervision and approval could lead to employees getting paid for hours not actually worked," the report said.

The Ernst & Young report also raised questions about how the university handles interest it earns on federal money. "One of the university's Department of Defense grants earned interest of approximately \$6,000 over the last three years. The University

did not refund interest earned on an annual basis as required by the regulations," the report said.

The Ernst & Young report arrived only a few days after some faculty and others began questioning whether it is wise for University Vice President for Administration John Habat to be serving as the supervisor for the budget office as well as internal audit.

Habat has been in charge of Internal Auditing since he was hired in July of 2000. Habat, a lawyer by training, now is the supervisor for 15 different university departments.

Habat is expected to keep control of internal auditing and oversee the budget.

A vice president at the Institute of Internal Auditors in Florida has said that it is dangerous for one person to have supervisory responsibility for spending as well as auditing.

"It is very unusual," said Heriot Prentice, assistant vice president of professional practices at the Institute of Internal Auditors. "I would find that very strange. If, for any reason,

he committed any type of fraud, he could easily get away with it."

The Institute works with larger corporations and Prentice said he has more than 37 years of experience in the field.

"I don't see how you could be independent and it would be a huge conflict of interest," Prentice said. "I have 37 years of experience and I would never expect something like that; it's very unusual. Even in a small organization, it would not be a good idea."

University Spokesman Ron Cole said other universities have similar management structures.

"Kent State University and many other schools are very similar to the way we do things here," Cole said.

At Kent State, the same vice president has supervisory responsibilities for auditing and budget.

Vice President for Administration at Kent State University David Creamer said that he provides access to the president and the board of trustees to better assist the han-

dling of both departments. He said that the merging of both departments is partly because of the budget reduction by the state.

"We were looking for ways to utilize the staff of both units and give them broader exposure," Creamer said. "It was designed to help the university be more efficient."

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

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but two of the spots," she said. Matt Robson, head delegate, said the Model U.N. is an experience everyone should have.

"People all over the world get together and discuss these topics and learn new things from the other's point of view," he said.

Call Colleen Havens at (330) 941-1913.

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Today's Editorial

John Kerry for U.S. president

Last week two Democratic Party presidential nomination campaigns came to Youngstown when Sen. John Edwards and Teresa Heinz Kerry, wife of Sen. John Kerry, made stops in the Mahoning Valley.

The campaigning will continue this month as "Rock the Vote" hits Youngstown State University's campus on March 1 with Democratic presidential candidate Dennis Kucinich as the speaker.

"Rock the Vote" is a national bipartisan movement in which musicians and actors use their influence to involve America's youth in the voting process.

In a time when many state universities find themselves cutting corners for higher education, this year stands out in its need for strong voices in both the presidential candidates and the younger voting crowd.

Kerry is the candidate who stands out and speaks to the interest of the younger generations as he vows to make a difference in higher learning and education costs.

While in Youngstown, Heinz Kerry addressed her husband's plan for higher education. The plan will provide four free years of undergraduate education to any student who gives two years of public service in the community.

Though it may be a lofty campaign promise, it shows evidence that Kerry is interested in the needs of the younger generations.

Heinz Kerry also addressed issues that speak to the need of blue-collar working communities such as Youngstown. Kerry plans to implement a proposal that will create a number of jobs, lowering the escalated unemployment rate.

In the last four years, our country has seen the deficit rise to \$521 billion. Kerry plans to reduce that number by revoking tax cuts implemented under the Bush administration for those with incomes higher than \$200,000.

Under the Bush administration, American citizens witnessed U.S. soldiers invade Iraq on a fallacy of arguments about "weapons of mass destruction" that may or may not ever have existed. The upper class got wealthier while unemployment skyrocketed.

Kerry represents a competent and confident candidate whose interest lies in the betterment of the American people while being the first candidate to speak with the people, instead of to the people.

Never before has a candidate focused many debates on rebuilding our country and more importantly, hearing the voice of America's youth, something many candidates have ignored in years past.

Getting a saddened and depressed economy on the right track after the tragedy of Sept. 11, 2001 is by no means a meager task, however Kerry represents our country's best defense for rebuilding the trust of America.

HANGIN' IN THERE



Letters to the Editor

Browns fans need patience with Couch

Editor:

Reading last Thursday's [commentary] about how the Cleveland Browns will mess up in the draft again, as well as the Tim Couch situation, let me just address a few points about the article. And as a diehard Steelers fan, I don't give kudos to the Browns for anything, but since this is a leap year, anything goes.

I know that you guys are complaining about why the Browns still have Tim Couch, and are complaining about that he will never develop. Tim Couch is about to enter his sixth year in the pros, and this could be the year that one of the NFL's youngest franchises will be very good.

It also reminds me of a story my parents told me about another quarterback that went number one in a draft. Terry Bradshaw was a very bad quarterback his first four or five years in Pittsburgh. Steelers fans wanted to get rid of him, and Chuck Noll even benched him at one point. (Does this sound familiar, Browns fans?) But eventually, he won two Super Bowl MVP awards, and became the first quarterback in NFL history to be selected number one in a draft and be elected into the Pro Football Hall of Fame just down the road in Canton. (John Elway

just recently became the second, so that is saying a lot.)

Just because Couch hasn't been an instant success for the Browns like Otto Graham and Boardman native Bernie Kosar were, that doesn't mean he won't become their franchise quarterback. That's right: I said he'll be good in Cleveland, not elsewhere. And from a Steelers fan saying that!

As for the comment Mike Balale said in that same article that "wouldn't it be something if they drafted the best player in the most important position of leadership on the field, the quarterback?" Um, sorry Mike, and to every other sportswriter out there (except NFL.com's Greg Easterbrook), but the quarterback is the most overrated player in all of sports. The offensive line does all the hard work for the QB, blocking so that the opposing defense can't get to him, and who gets all the credit? Not the offensive line, who is highly underrated. And defense wins football games, not quarterbacks like the media likes to show.

So just be optimistic, Browns fans. Be patient on Couch.

Joe Gerard
Freshman
Undecided

Valentine's Day provides ironic injustice

Editor:

Have Love for Africans.

It is interesting that this Valentine's Day falls on African American History Month when chocolate companies is profiting from the exploitation of African people and their environment through people showing affection for one another. Thousands of West African children are being forced to work on cocoa farms in West Africa. West Africa produces roughly two-thirds of the world's cocoa beans.

"Beatings were a part of my life. Anytime they loaded you with bags and you fell while carrying them, they beat you and beat you until you picked it up again. I was always thinking about my parents and how I could get back to my country. I had seen others who tried to escape. When they tried they were severely beaten," said 14-year-old Aly, a former slave.

The U.S. chocolate industry's plan to end child slavery involves "voluntary standards" and does NOT guarantee fair and stable cocoa prices, which is the only way to end child slavery and exploitation for good. Deforestation of rainforests and

pesticide pollution are also problems. The \$13 billion chocolate industry is heavily consolidated, with just two firms — Hershey's and M&M/Mars — controls two-thirds of the US chocolate candy market. They have the power and the ability to do change this.

I suggest people boycott this company until this happens and that the student government pass my submitted resolution that among other things would ban selling products from these companies on the YSU campus.

Environmental justice is still a problem. In 2002, 71% of African Americans lived in counties that violate federal air pollution standards, compared to 58% of the white population. Asthma attacks send African Americans to the emergency room at three times the rate of whites. That is why YSU should start buying some wind power.

Karl Zehr
Graduate Studies
Environmental Studies

Got an opinion?
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The Jambar editorials reflect the opinions of The Jambar and its Editorial Board members: Editor in Chief Angela Olin, News Editor Elizabeth 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 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 do not necessarily reflect those of The Jambar staff or YSU faculty, staff or administration.

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Students need to participate in election

Editor:

A strange thing happened to me last week. As I sat in my sociology class, and the professor polled for the percentage of students in the classroom that planned to vote in March, a grand realization filled me with hope.

The previous week our instructor asked all of the registered voters in the class to raise their hands and, of the nearly forty present, around six hands went up. She was surprised, saying that the number was high. I disagreed, and was fearful of this seemingly low number. I had hoped that more of my peers would participate in the electoral system. How else are we, as students in American higher education, to affect our deteriorating situation? The only place to effect change is at the voting booth.

Then the following week the professor polled for the aforementioned percentage, and the result showed nearly half of that same forty students planning participation in March's primary. I wanted to thrust my fist in the air and scream like Howard Dean (only in a happy and hopeful way). In the span of two weeks, electoral participation in this single class went from less than 15 percent to more than 50. I want nothing more than for this statis-

tic to be representative of the entire student body of, not only the campus of YSU but, the nation of students who have been disregarded as less important than fuzzy pictures of Mars or preemptive war.

In 2002 federal spending on higher education went from 18 percent to seven, while defense spending almost tripled. I paid more than twice the price for this semester of school then for my first freshman semester and nobody sees the cost of higher education going anywhere but up. If you are as fed up as I then it is imperative you get involved and vote. We will never get a president who will work for the students of the United States if students keep ignoring the ballot boxes and eating their day old pizza, engrossed in textbooks they can't afford.

Get involved! The last presidential election was decided by close to 500,000 votes. With races this close every vote certainly does count. Please continue to inform yourselves to the issues, register and vote your conscience.

Robert D. Rhoads III
Junior
Professional Writing & Editing

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Festival celebrates ninth year

BY CHRISTINA POE
The Jambar

Tables brimming with hors d'oeuvres and champagne combined with an array of soulful music and intellectual art promise to keep crowds in good spirits as they experience this year's Mad About the Arts event.

The ninth annual affair, sponsored by WYSU-FM, will be held in the McDonough Museum of Art Friday from 8 to 10:30 p.m.

David Luscher, associate director at WYSU-FM, said this year's celebration should please spectators of all ages.

Luscher said the YSU Guitar Ensemble will be on hand to provide smooth melodies and charismatic harmonies for the audience.

Salsamba, a Latin jazz group from Pittsburgh, should also infuse passionate rhythms and dramatic improvisation, according to WYSU's Web site.

Luscher said he was excited about the radio station's continuing alliance with the McDonough.

"We're happy to again be able to partner with the McDonough museum for this exciting event," Luscher said.

Leslie Brothers, director of the McDonough, said the crowd will also be able to view two art exhibitions in conjunction with the concerts.

Brothers said Cuban artist Elsa Mora's "Diario" is a display of digital pictures depicting memory, time and place.

The second exhibit, "Sleight of Hand", showcases various artists who have used the mediums of ceramic, metal, wood and fibers to craft perceptual pieces.

A raffle drawing for gourmet gift baskets by Cicero's in Howland will be held between the concerts.

Brothers urged YSU faculty and staff attendance to the event. She said Mad About the Arts is not only "a blast" but also benefits two important outreach programs in the community.

"We have good food, terrific music, provoking art," Brothers said. "I think it's one of the best shows we do all year."

Tickets cost \$30 for WYSU, YSU faculty, staff and students. Fine and Performing Arts alumni and McDonough members.

General admission tickets will cost \$40 and Friends of the Arts will be \$50.

Tickets can be purchased online at www.wysu.org or by calling the radio station at (330) 941-3363.

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YSU mascots featured in new book

BY COLLEEN HAVENS
The Jambar

Penny the Penguin has sometimes been an afterthought to her counterpart Pete, but in a new book for children, the sidekick gets the starring role.

Sharon Mika, a coordinator in the Office of Admissions at YSU, has written and published "Penny's Big Day," a story about Penny's introduction to the YSU community.

Mika said "Penny's Big Day" is about Penny and her best friend Pete, the YSU mascots. She said Pete and Penny were not always married and this story precedes their marriage.

The book opens with Penny being approached by Pete to help him with the mascot duties he performs.

"In the book, Penny is shy and very unsure of herself and believes very firmly that the YSU fans and cheerleaders will not accept her with as much warmth and enthusiasm as Pete has tried to convey they will," she said.

Mika said Penny's introduction to the community turns out to be a really big day when she learns that her fears have been for nothing and the YSU fans appreciate her as much as Pete said they would.

The book started when Mika's editor for the "Town Crier," where she has been a reporter for about 10 years, asked her to do a feature on YSU's mascots.

"When I interviewed Rick Love in athletics, I asked him if anyone had considered writing a children's book featuring Pete and Penny," Mika said. "He said that no one had ever approached him, but that if I heard of anyone wanting to do so, I should let him know."

Mika said she started writing the book the next day. She said the book took about three weeks to write and when she was done she put the manuscript in a drawer because she never thought it would get published.

It wasn't until October of this past year that Mika said she went to the Office of Communication and Marketing for their approval and received it.

"After I received their blessing, I went to illustrator Kay Wilson, a personal friend and wonderful oils artist. She did a wonderful job using a minimalist effect that really highlighted the penguins."

Once the illustrations were finished, Mika created Button Flower Press and published the 19-page book herself. "Penny's Big Day" is available for \$8.95 at the YSU Bookstore, Borders Books in Niles, Creative Corners in Cornersburg and the Butler Institute of America Art.

Mika said she wrote the book for many reasons. "First, I wrote the book to see if I could do it. But I also wrote the book so it could be used as a positive tool in helping the Mahoning Valley and surrounding

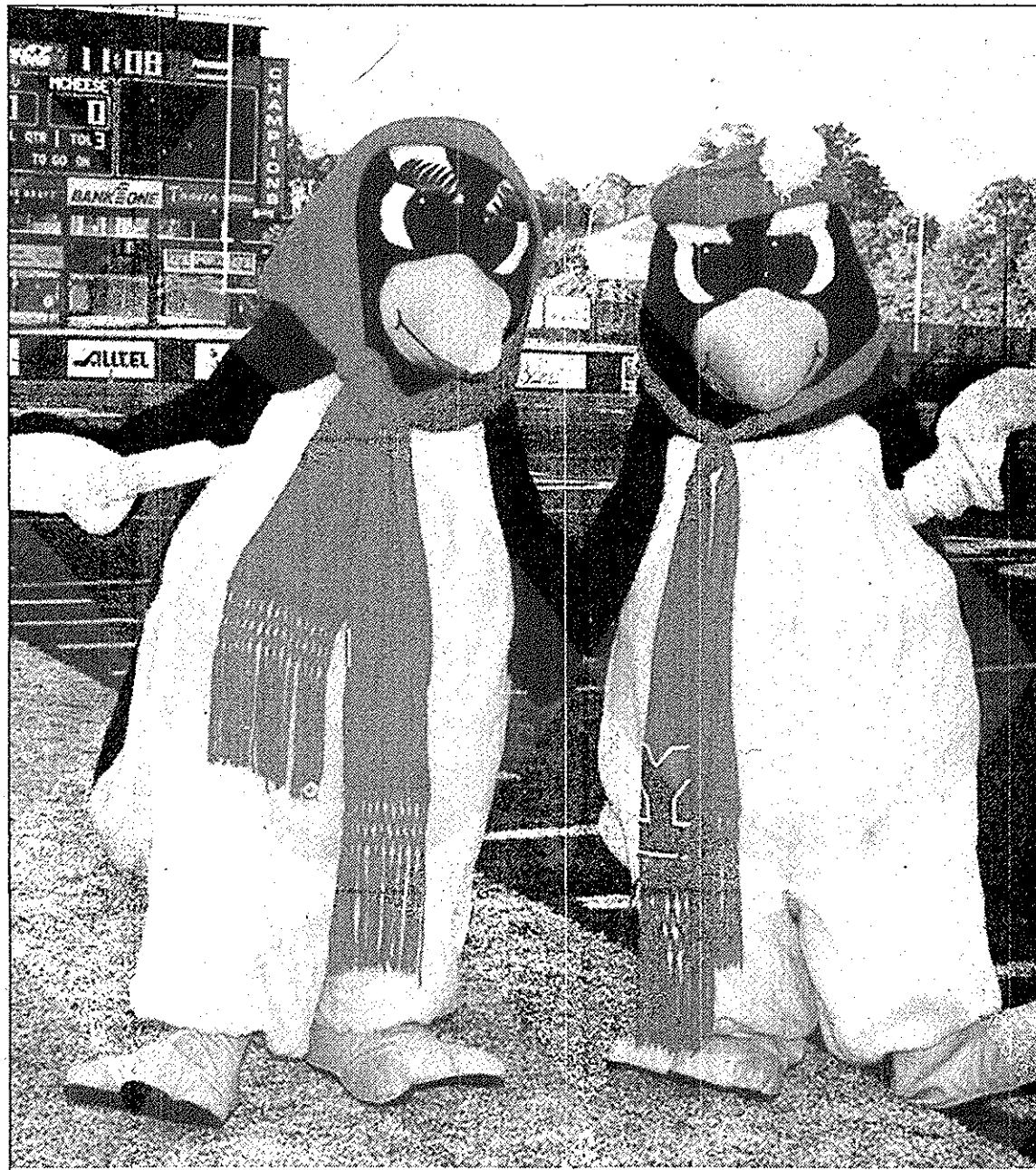


Photo courtesy ysu.edu/sports

MASCOT: Pete and Penny Penguin are featured in a new childrens book by Sharon Mika, a coordinator in the Office of Admissions.

areas connect with the university community in a way that was more personal than a football game or the construction of a building."

She said she wrote the book for children who are shy or for those who may be afraid of new situations and want to see how someone else handles their fears.

"I believe most children's stories should end happily. There is so much unhappiness and fear in the

world today that children are forced to face it, head on, at an earlier and earlier age. If just for a few minutes, a child can be given something bright and happy to think about, giving a story a happy ending might be a good thing."

Call Colleen Havens at (330) 941-1913.

Movie Review

New flick 'Eurotrip' worth a laugh or two

BY CHRISTOPHER EWING
Badger Herald (U. Wisconsin)

(U-WIRE) MADISON, Wis. - A surprisingly funny teen sex comedy, "Eurotrip" (the latest from the team that brought us "Road Trip" and "Old School") narrowly surpasses the majority of quirky, dumbed-down schlock-shock comedies spawned by "American Pie" and "There's Something About Mary."

The premise is simple and extremely similar to "Road Trip's" quest for love and adventure.

We start out with recent high school grad Scotty as he loses his unfaithful girlfriend to a punked-out Matt Damon. Adding to Scotty's angst is his mistaking a long-time German e-mail pen pal Mieke for a dude. When she blocks his e-mails, Scotty is forced (with severe harassment from his best bud/bad influence Cooper) to trek across Europe and win Mieke's love.

Three former "Seinfeld" writers supply "Eurotrip" with raunchy fun and avoid any mean-spirited cuts. The script is loaded with as much smarts as stupidity and doesn't get stuck in scatology or excessive bodily fluid.

A slew of basically unknown teens help to keep the film fresh. Michelle Trachtenberg as Jenny, one-half of "the worst twins ever," is famous for her three-year tenure on TV's "Buffy the Vampire Slayer." In "Eurotrip," she only looks slightly older than she did as Buffy's kid sister Dawn. Look for her in Gregg Araki's (one of the freakiest, cooler than cool directors around) upcoming "Mysterious Skin."

Cooper is played by Jacob Pitts, who appeared in the painfully lame "K-11: Widowmaker," and the rest of the cast have handled assorted TV roles. But they are obviously enjoying themselves, and it rubs off on the audience.

Alongside Matt Damon, "Eurotrip" plays host to multiple cameos. Lucy Lawless as a Dutch dominatrix and "Lock Stock .../Snatch" star Vinnie Jones as an insane Manchester United fan, pump out some enjoyable scenes, one of which involves the most dangerous-looking, automated sex toy ever. And "Saturday Night Live's" Fred Armisen pops up (for a little too long) as a touchy-feely Italian.

After meeting up with the twins, Jamie and Jenny (Travis Wester and Trachtenberg), the group bounces around Europe in a haphazard tangle of hitchhiking, clubbing, and excessive alcohol consumption. As the twins demonstrate why Absinthe is illegal in the States and excitement over a nude beach yields only a sea of ugly and naked male tourists, something resembling cinematic soul actually shines through.

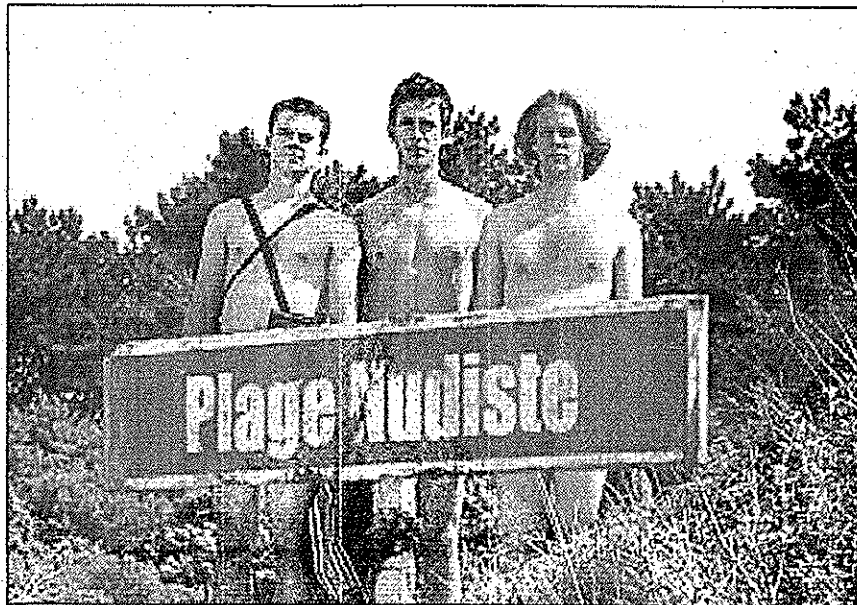


Photo courtesy roadtripthemovie.com

NUDIST COLONY: The makers of "Road Trip," and "Old School" are back with their latest comedy, "Eurotrip."

It is only during the extremely lame, recurring "Robot Battle" scenes and a few other select moments that "Eurotrip" fails to deliver, but these are quickly overshadowed.

Rastafarian cafes in Amsterdam, the ghetto-fied landscapes of Eastern Europe and a little kid playing Hitler all add to the insanity.

And if you allow yourself to ignore reality for a while, the film's finale, a hilarious rampage through the Vatican, plays like the best National Lampoon had to offer in the '70s. The smooth sounds of David Hasselhoff even lend a hand in the gut-busting.

For a movie filled with implausible absurdity and dozens of skin shots, "Eurotrip" has enough heart to make it entirely worthwhile.

CASE, continued from page 1

for 25 years to former U.S. Sen. John Heinz, who was killed in a 1991 plane crash. She met Kerry a year later and they were married in 1995.

Citing her efforts as head of The Howard Heinz Endowment and the Heinz Family Philanthropies since 1991, Heinz Kerry spoke of the Green Fund to create a bio-tech center to keep and draw talent to Pittsburgh.

Heinz Kerry blasted the current

administration for not creating jobs. Her husband's proposal will create over 500,000 jobs in the energy sector alone, she said.

Ryan sees Youngstown's niche in Kerry's proposed Apollo Program, which will invest in environmental technology to spur economic growth.

"Ohio is a big corn state and I can see an Ethanol based car being built in Lordstown," he said.

Heinz Kerry accused the current administration of alienating our allies, and if her husband is elected president, he would make foreign policy main street policy, she said.

"We need someone who is cool-headed under fire, purposeful and will assume responsibility," she said.

Heinz Kerry called President George Bush's Medicare plan a farce that was loaded with special interest

pay backs. "We need someone [in the oval office] who is not afraid of complexities," she said. She told the crowd that her husband is such a man. "He is the only senator ever elected to office who did not take money from special interests," she said.

Heinz Kerry finished her campaign stop by telling the audience they have some other government in

place, one that is not of and for the people. "I've been in Washington for 32 years, and I have never, ever, ever seen such ugliness as what goes on now," she said about the current Bush administration.

"Bush is reigning, not governing."

Call William Lehn at (330) 941-1913.

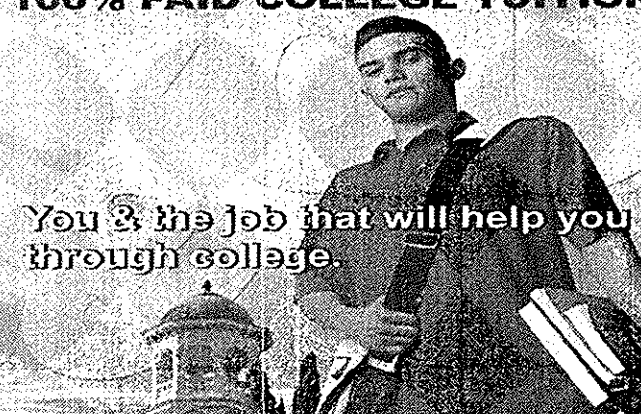
News in brief

Rock the Vote at YSU

Regional sensation *One Breath* is coming to Youngstown March 1 for 2004 "Rock the Vote" campaign. The event is free and will be held in the Chestnut room at 7 p.m. Special guest U.S. Rep. Dennis Kucinich, who is currently seeking the Democratic Party's nomination for president, will be in attendance.

The event is sponsored by Kiss FM 95.9, Big 106.1, Clear Channel, Mix 98.9, CD 93.3, News Radio 570WKBN, News Radio 1200 WKST, 1230 WBZY and 1390 WNIO.

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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 Vindicator 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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Computer Instructor for after-school programs. Varied schedule. \$16 to \$15 per program hour. Resume to YWCA, 25 Rayen Ave., Youngstown OH 44503. Attention: Program Director.

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Campus Calendar

History Club will meet on Wednesday, February 25 at non in Kilcawley 2059. The speaker will be Dr. Rick Shale, Department of English. Dr. Shale will be making his annual Academy Awards predictions. The meeting is free and open to the public. Feel free to bring a brown bag lunch

The biggest threat to depression is your awareness of it.

Serious depression strikes millions. Serious depression strikes indiscriminately. Serious depression is MOST dangerous when it goes unrecognized. That's why it's so important to always be aware of the threat of depression. And if your life is ever interrupted by a period of depression, remember that it is readily, medically treatable.

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at Center of Studies

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SPORTS & RECREATION

Penguin rollercoaster continues on court



Chuck Rogers / The Jambor

CONFERENCE: Penguins head coach John Robic consults a player during a recent YSU contest. The Penguins will next face Butler on the road Wednesday.

BY JOSHUA BOGGS
The Jambor

It's been a teeter totter season for the Youngstown State University men's and women's basketball teams with both squads on the up side one week and rebounding from the down side the next.

One week after the men's team knocked off first place UW-Milwaukee, the women's team (4-21, 2-12) had their own chance to prove why they too belong in the Horizon League when they hosted first place UW-Green Bay (19-6, 12-2) Saturday.

With momentum on their side after Detroit had to forfeit a game Wednesday because of the participation of an ineligible walk-on student athlete, the women looked to follow in the footsteps of the men's team.

UW-Green Bay had other plans.

Despite junior Jen Perugini's game-high 23 points and 11 rebounds and perhaps the team's most impressive showing of the season, the Penguins fell to their 21st loss of the season, losing 69-64 in overtime.

Although hesitant to say it was her team's best game of the season, head coach Tisha Hill still admitted that she was pleased with the performance and leadership of her team.

"I feel like we did a great job offensively," Hill said. "For us to have the heart to continue to go after it — that was a good feeling for all of us."

Perugini was also impressed with her teammates

overall performance.

"I think going out there strong is a great feeling for us," Perugini said. "Next time we are going to get them."

YSU fought off an eight-point halftime deficit to knot the game at 57 and force overtime.

In overtime, YSU took the lead on a three by junior Barb Fabianova with just under four minutes remaining.

UW-Green Bay fought back with two foul shots by junior Abby Scharlow and regained the lead 61-60 on a jumper by junior Mary Kulenkamp.

YSU again answered back with four consecutive points by Perugini to take a three-point lead, 64-61.

UW-Green Bay then showed YSU why they are the Horizon League-leaders by holding the Penguins scoreless over the final 1:36 of overtime during an 8-0 run that sealed the victory for the Phoenix.

The Penguins had two other players score in double figures in the contest. Fabianova had 11 points and six rebounds, while freshmen Ashlee Russo racked up 10 points for YSU.

Hill said that her team would use this strong overall performance to finish out the remaining season stretch.

"We will take momentum on the road and into Detroit and finish off these two games and have some momentum going into the tournament," Hill said.

While the women's team is remaining optimistic concerning their performances this

year, the men's team (8-17, 4-10) continues to look for answers for a struggling season.

As part of Bracket Buster Saturday, the men's team traveled to Anderson Arena to face the Bowling Green Falcons (12-13).

From the onset, the Falcons made it evident that they were ready to play.

Bowling Green started the game with four consecutive threes, and YSU never found an answer to the Falcons' hot shooting en route to a 76-64 Penguin loss.

The Falcons' John Reimold had three of those four threes on his way to a game-high 26 points.

The flurry of threes continued for Bowling Green, as the Falcons ended the first half with three consecutive shots from behind the arc.

The Penguins cut the deficit to 10 points, 61-51 in the second half, but would not get any closer during the game.

Junior Khari McQueen's team-high 11 points were not enough to slow down the Falcons, who shot an amazing 76.9 percent (10-13) from behind the 3-point arc.

The YSU men's team also traveled to Nutter Center in Fairborn, Ohio Thursday to face Horizon League-opponent Wright State.

Cold from the floor — the Penguins made just 37.5 percent (24-of-64) from the field — the Penguins could not contain the Raiders' Vernard Hollins, who scored a game-high 24 points to lead his team over YSU, 81-61.

The Raiders held on to a 14-point advantage at the break and in the second half shot 56.5 percent from the field and an efficient 81.3 percent (13-of-16) from the charity stripe.

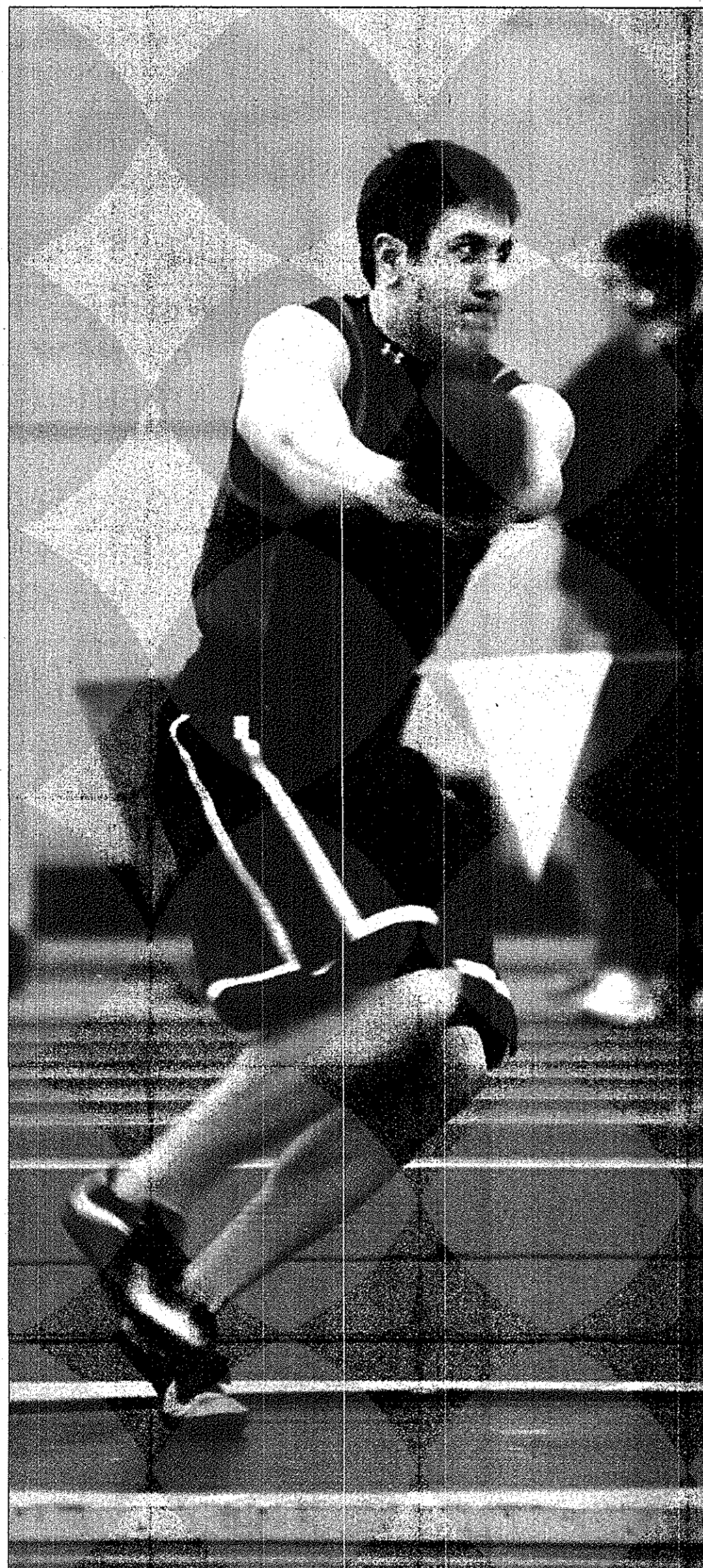
McQueen, again led the team with 13 points and junior Brian Radokovich added nine points. Senior Adam Baumann had a team-high eight rebounds.

With the loss, YSU became the seventh seed in the Horizon League Tournament, which begins March 2.

Both teams will return to Horizon League action this week with the men travelling to Butler Wednesday and the women travelling to Detroit on Thursday.

Call Joshua Boggs at (330) 941-1989.

CHUCK-IT



Chuck Rogers / The Jambor

THROWING HIS WEIGHT AROUND: Jarrod Davis set a school record for the second straight week in the weight throw event Saturday at the Kent State Tune-up. Davis hurled the 35-pound weight 54 feet 10 inches to take fifth place in the final meet before the Horizon League championship.

Lebron loyal to gum, Daly PGA Player of the Year

Fat Head Says

BY MARK STEVENS
The Jambor



loyal to Bubblicious for a long time."

Loyalty to bubble gum? I mean, I like sunflower seeds, but I wouldn't say that I've been "loyal" to David's sunflower seeds.

Maybe it's just me, but I don't get the way agents talk sometimes.

In case you're keeping track, and I know that you are, Mr. James now has \$135 million in endorsement contracts, according to ESPN.com.

Don't show but tell: Maurice Clarett must not want a job in the NFL.

Refusing to workout at the scouting combine is a bad idea. Bad. Not good.

What's the logic? Why not just run? Why not sit down on the bench and push out a few reps? Why not just show that you're confident in your abilities as an act of good faith to scouts who are already questioning your work ethic and drive?

Word to the wise, Maurice: you've had one year of college football but not even one healthy year.

Sweet as sugar: Lebron James has signed an endorsement contract with Cadbury Schweppes' Adams' division to endorse their candy, including Bubblicious gum.

James' agent said that James has "been

You've got a lot of proving of yourself to do to some people, and you'd be wise to take advantage of every opportunity.

What happens if you twist an ankle and can't perform at your private workouts? I'm predicting a tumble down the draft board my friend. A second round selection might just be wishful thinking.

It's tough for a born-again atheist to say this, but: God Bless John Daly. John Daly might be the thing that convinces this stubborn, oft-too logical, commonsensical, faithless fool of a fat man that there is a god with a capital G.

Wins his last tournament, finished fourth this past week — what the hell is going on?

It's Armageddon if there ever will be one. The nations are rising; the Lord's day of wrath is upon us. But ain't it beautiful?

Ain't John Daly just a big ol' fat slice of — mullet-sporting, club-throwing, I-don't-need-no-chaser-for-this-shot-of-Wild-Turkey, moving ball-smacking, nicotine-puffing, I'll-take-that-steak-thick-and-bloody-and-I-don't-want-the-house-salad, where's-my-extra-sour-cream, thank you very little — American Pie?

John Daly, 2004 PGA Player of the Year. We should only be so lucky.

Deep Breaths: Spring Training is picking up; the fever is back.

Hey, I'm losing interest in Major League Baseball just like everyone else, but I still love fantasy baseball. So this is the solution? Word is, that the Miami

Dolphins are working on a trade for Philly's third-string QB A.J. Feeley to bring him in as their starter for next season.

I mean, I'm sure everyone deserves a chance, but I don't know about this one. Miami wants to get rid of Jay Fiedler because of recent struggles to make the playoffs. So bringing in an untested, unproven backup is how you solve the problem? I thought bringing in Brian Griese last year was supposed to be the solution.

Just For the Record: No one cares about baseball players and steroids. Baseball players are juicing? No way!

You don't test for it; you can't stop it. Hypothetical: If someone offered you a chance to be rich, famous, wildly successful and essentially immortal as a sports god, but you couldn't control the health of your body in the future, would you take it?

And let's get something else straight. This idea that if professional athletes use steroids it's going to make younger athletes want to follow in their footsteps is absurd.

Whatever happened to responsibility and accountability in this country? We all ought to be responsible for the decisions we make. You want to stop steroid use in high school athletes? Here's an idea, talk to parents. Oh wait, I keep forgetting only the mass media and the sporting and entertainment industries are responsible for raising children.

Call Mark Stevens at (330) 941-1811.

Sports in brief

Golf team inks pivotal player

Youngstown, Ohio — Youngstown State women's golf Head Coach Roseann Schwartz announced that Mallory Wyderka, a senior at Olmsted Falls High School, has signed a National Letter of Intent to continue her academic and golf career at Youngstown State University.

A three-time state qualifier, Wyderka finished her senior campaign with a nine-hole average of 40.4 and an 18-hole average of 79.0. Wyderka finished tied for 11th at the 2003 state tournament with two rounds of 81 and won co-medalist honors at the 2003 Southwestern Conference Tournament.

Source: ysu.edu/sports