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"Team America" takes jabs at both liberals and conservatives. Page 8

LET'S DO THE TIME WARP
Transvestite aliens have descended upon the Valley. Page 8

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Sinclair partisanship angers faculty

CHRISTINA POE | The Jambar

After a rocky month for Sinclair Broadcasting, some Youngstown State University professors say they have concerns over their investments in that company.

YSU employees belonging to the State Teachers' Retirement System have the opportunity to invest in Sinclair Broadcasting Group, Inc., which reaches 24 percent of American households.

English Professor Scott Leonard said when he was hired at YSU 13 years ago he joined STRS because he felt it was the best overall financial option. He

explained that STRS is to make sure the stock is stable when placing investments. However, Leonard said he does not think Sinclair stock is stable right now.

The company has recently come under scrutiny for its actions related to suggested political bias. News reports last week stated that Sinclair fired their Washington Bureau Chief Jon Lieberman for speaking out against what he referred to as "questionable ethics."

Leonard said there is a good possibility of advertisements being pulled from Sinclair stations. He added that polls are showing that 50 percent of view-

ers are displeased with Sinclair's actions and are already bringing the company's stock value down. "[Sinclair Broadcasting] is not being very bright," Leonard said. "They're playing a dangerous game with their financial well-being."

Leonard said he has heard about and discussed with other professors about writing a letter to STRS asking the company to remove investments in the company.

Even if teachers statewide do not take their concerns to STRS, Leonard said he thinks money would be removed because Sinclair Broadcasting is "no

longer a wise investment."

Besides Sinclair Broadcasting, STRS has money invested in Microsoft, Intel and various real estate.

Maureen Yambar, administrative assistant in the payroll office, said 950 part and full time faculty members and 10 to 15 university administrators currently pay into STRS.

Faculty dues equal 10 percent of their gross pay and vary month to month. YSU matches 14 percent of each employee's gross into STRS, Yambar said.

Though Leonard said he and other have discussed removing their investments, other profes-

sors disagree.

English Professor Jay Gordon said he was aware of faculty upset with the company when Sinclair sought to run a seemingly anti-John Kerry documentary 10 days before the presidential election.

However, Gordon said due to the company's decision not to run the Kerry documentary, the objections were a "moot issue."

Robert Kramer, assistant professor of computer science and information systems, said he agrees Sinclair has not been ethical in their actions. He added, however, that the company is not the first to be biased during the

see SINCLAIR, page 2



▲ Jaymin Patel (left) and Alexi Stavrou (right) assist YSU President David Sweet (center) in ground breaking for the planting of the diversity tree Thursday near Tod Hall. Patel and Stavrou are president and vice-president of the YSU Student Diversity Council.

SDiCo putting a face on diversity

"Faces of YSU" campaign features images of YSU students from different backgrounds

MAYSOON ABDELRAUL | The Jambar

Signs of Youngstown State University's student diversity are popping up all over campus.

Diversity Council President Jaymin Patel explained the new "Faces of YSU" campaign to a number of students, faculty, staff and administration at the Diversity Kickoff Celebration held Thursday outside of Tod Hall.

The centerpiece of the campaign are colorful banners placed around campus that feature 20 YSU students.

"The student diversity council found some of the most diverse students to come together to help the campus and the community embrace our differences," Patel said.

One of those students is senior Estrella Flores who comes from both Mexican and Russian backgrounds. Born in

California, she said she came from a state that was almost like another Mexico. When she came to Ohio, she asked herself, "Where are all the Mexicans?"

Some other faces on the banners include a Muslim, an African-American, an international student from Nigeria, a non-traditional student who attends YSU with her son and two homosexual students, one a Hispanic lesbian single mother. In the future, more faces will be added to the campaign.

University President David Sweet attended the celebration and made remarks congratulating the diversity council on their initiative.

Sweet said there has been significant progress in the area. The minority student enrollment has been increasing since the fall of 2000.

Alexi Stavrou, vice-president of the diversity council, said

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YSU prepares to launch new computer integration system

ELIZABETH TABAK | The Jambar

University officials say the implementation of new software for the next phase of the university's technology master plan will begin next month.

The software, part of the SCT Banner computer program, is an administrative computer system that allows different "modules" of the university to work with one common system. Youngstown State University is one of the most recent schools in Ohio to switch to the program, which seems to have good response in other universities.

University Spokesman Walt Ulbricht said installation of the software will begin in November and different modules of the program will be "rolled out" over the next three years. The cost for the entire system is \$12.5 million.

Ulbricht said the price for the system is comparable to other universities in Ohio, and will benefit the students of YSU.

"It will give the campus computing it does not have," Ulbricht said. "It will serve the needs of the campus for years to come."

Ulbricht said one of those

needs is better student - teacher communication and ease with navigating the system for each student. One aspect of the software that will aid this is the luminous portal system, which should be in use by May.

"The luminous portal system is one way of customizing your needs with the needed drop-downs and icons that are most used for you," Ulbricht.

Dona Madasci, one of the project managers for the software system, said there are currently 24 institutions in Ohio using SCT Banner.

see SYSTEM page 6



▲ Junior Heidi Walski (right) receives a \$500 check from Janet Yaniglos (left), senior vice president of planning for Forum Health. Walski took first-place in Forum Health's stained-glass-window design contest, "The Power of the Arts in Healing." Her design, shown in the background, is based on impressionist painter Claude Monet's "Water Lilies." The finished work will be executed as floor-to-ceiling stained glass windows in the lobby and chapel of the new women's services building at Forum Health's Beeghly Medical Park in Boardman. Franklin Art Glass Studios, Inc. of Columbus will create the windows under Walski's supervision. Walski will also receive a check for \$1000 from Forum Health when the work is installed in March 2005.

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the redlines
NEWS IN BRIEF

- ▶ YSU leading state in enrollment growth

Information released by the Ohio Board of Regents last week revealed that Youngstown State University has led the state in growing enrollment for the past four years.

From fall 2000 to fall 2004, the number of students on campus has grown 11.1 percent, the largest increase among the 11 major Ohio public university's main campuses, the OBOR analysis showed.

Kent State University has the second highest growth rate with 10.7 percent followed by Wright State University (10.3 percent), Ohio State University (6.3 percent), Bowling Green (4.9 percent), Ohio University (3.3 percent), University of Akron (1 percent), University of Cincinnati (0.6 percent) and Miami University (0.5 percent).

Cleveland State University and the University of Toledo were the only universities with fewer students.

YSU's fall 2004 enrollment of 13,101 is YSU's highest in nine years and represents an increase of 1,314 students from fall 2000.

- ▶ Volunteers sought for Streetscape project

Volunteers are needed to help plant bulbs from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 30 for student community service hours. Students will meet in front of Powers Auditorium on West Federal Street to begin planting bulbs as a part of the Streetscape beautification project. The project can be used toward student volunteer hours. For more information contact Jim Petuch at (330) 941-2294. Rides may also be available if needed.

Weather >> Partly cloudy

66/46

the jambar poll question

Are you worried about a military draft?

vote online at www.thejambar.com

SINCLAIR

FROM PAGE 1

presidential campaign. Kramer cited the recent issue of Columbia Broadcasting System broadcaster Dan Rather's report on a falsified memorandum concerning Bush's military history. "If I were to look at Sinclair's actions as bad because of what it's doing, I couldn't, with a good conscious, ignore the bias of all other companies," Kramer said. Kramer said he does not see Sinclair's actions as shocking as they are being portrayed, saying both candidates have also contributed their share of slander in what he called "one ugly campaign."

Despite the recent up and down of Sinclair Stock, Kramer said he is not worried about his investment. He said even though the company's stock value is going down, it is not an amount that should be alarming investors.

CHRISTINA POE | 330-941-1913

DIVERSITY

FROM PAGE 1

before he came to YSU he did not feel like an American.

"I realized something when I came to college, I am an American and I belong," he said.

A tree to signify the progression in knowledge of diversity, Stavrou said, will be planted in the grassy knoll area between Ward Beecher and Maag Library.

Patel, Stavrou and Sweet took part in the groundbreaking for the tree and dug the first hole.

Jean Engle, assistant director of Marketing and Communications, said the tree will enhance YSU's

already "beautiful" campus.

As part of the diversity initiative, each month of the academic year will stand for a different letter in the word diversity. Starting with D for differences in September, the following months' themes are: I for inclusion, V for value, E for everyone, R for respect, S for sensitivity, I for involvement, T for teamwork, and Y is for you.

One speaker at the celebration, Jimmy Meyers, said he said he is proud of the student initiative's accomplishment.

"We don't have to blend in to fit in," he said.

MAYSOON ABDELRAHMAN | 330-941-1913

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DYCE provides engagement venue for YCSD students

RUDI WHITMORE
The Jambar

The SMARTS Center was filled Saturday with the sights and sounds of sixth graders decorating dozens of cookies for donation to the Mahoning Valley Rescue Mission.

Picked by their principals, 32 students from Youngstown inner-city schools participated in the event, dubbed Discover Youngstown by Community Experiences (DYCE).

DYCE focuses on early participation in community service, and being able to understand and access Youngstown's rich and diverse educational resources.

The program is the brainchild of Youngstown State University senior Angela Speece. It is funded by the Youngstown Student Education Association (YSEA) and the National Education Association (NEA) student programs CLASS Grant. The grant gives DYCE \$1,000 to fund the five-week program. The SMARTS center matched the donation.

The volunteers, all from the YCEA program, were enthusiastic when speaking about the opportunity. Junior Dave Pancurak, called the situation a "win-win, because it's local schools with local kids, learning and opening their eyes to what they

can do."

Speece also expressed her enthusiasm for the project.

"I'm so excited about all the opportunities that this program has to offer," Speece said.

Aside from the service projects, the students will write letters to troops in Iraq, plant flowers in the Park Vista Residence Home, decorate cookies for the homeless shelter, make cards for Todd Children's Hospital and arrange Thanksgiving food baskets for the needy.

The students also learned rhythm using a drum circle, taught by Nathan Douds, who holds a drum circle open to the community every Wednesday in the SMARTS center.

After a quick art lesson with Speece, the students drew Halloween-themed pictures, complete with costumes, haunted houses and spooky bats.

Marqus Koranteng, a sixth grader at West Elementary, said it was fun to decorate the cookies and help out at DYCE. He added that it was cool to be there with other kids in his class.

Before being let out to enjoy their pizza party lunch, the children were visited by Pete the Penguin who stopped by for a group picture with the volunteers.

RUDI WHITMORE | 330-941-1913

POLICE REPORTS

A laptop computer was reported missing from Williamson Hall Oct. 20. A Youngstown State University Police report stated the computer was last seen sitting on a cart inside room 257 at noon on Oct. 20.

Someone approached YSU police on Oct. 21 stating that a male wearing a blue football jersey was selling marijuana. The report stated that the suspect was to go with the officers. The officers found the suspect was not selling marijuana but had purchased it. According to the police report, the suspect showed the officers one plastic bag of marijuana. He was issued a minor misdemeanor and released to his mother.

YSU Police were called to the Raven/Wilson football game on Oct 21 because of a fight. Two females were punching each other and pulling out each other's hair, the police report said. Both females were arrested on a charge of disorderly conduct and taken to the Mahoning County Jail.

Classified

Help Wanted

Join the Jambar Spring Semester! Distributor position available beginning Jan. 20, 2005. Must be available between 7 and 8 a.m. Tuesday and Thursday mornings to distribute The Jambar on campus. Must be dependable. For more information, contact Olga at 330-941-3094, Monday through Thursday, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. or stop by The Jambar office located in the basement of Fedor Hall.

Excellent employment opportunities for respite and residential care to work with special needs children and adults. Applications available at 12 S. Phelps St., Youngstown, Ohio.

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New Boardman Restaurant accepting applications for cooks and servers. Apply at Rotelli Pizza, Pasta, Perfect. 6526 South Avenue, Boardman. Monday thru Friday 11 am-4 pm.

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Miscellaneous

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2005 NOCIRC Essay Contest. 1st prize-\$1,000; 2nd prize-\$500; 3rd prize-\$250. www.nocirc.org. End November 15.

Trash & Treasure. Serbian Orthodox Center, 420 N. Raccoon Rd., Austintown, Ohio, November 6, 2004-10:00 to 4:00. Table rental \$15.00. We are looking for crafters and vendors for our event. Please call 330-782-8482 for info.

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opinion

EDITORIAL CARTOON



— an editorial — Bring back Mosaic

There have been jokes made, plenty of speculation and more than enough snickers in the past three months over the whereabouts of the missing "Mosaic in Metal" penguin.

It is time for them to stop. Friday, members of the Youngtown State University community and various community art programs will celebrate the long-awaited Penguin Parade Auction.

The sponsors of this event will auction the remaining 30 decorated penguins. Our hope is that by Friday evening there will once again be 31 penguins for auction.

The sponsors are putting out a final plea for the surrender of this object. So are we.

After months of investigation and speculation regarding the missing bird, there has been no sign of it. There also has been no logical reason, other than shortsighted immaturity, given for why a person would consider stealing and hiding Mosaic.

Needless to say, it is mind-boggling. It is sickening that a person would be so inconsiderate of a project that will highlight the hard work of the YSU community and bring needed funding to our ever-growing arts programs.

It is unfortunate to know that a person thought it would be funny to steal a work of art; one that someone put much time, effort and money into. A childish prank stole it away.

Even more unfortunate, though, would be if the thief were someone that is a part of this university, having a laugh at the expense of others.

There have been a number of great programs fostered by the leadership of this campus. There have been numerous community contributions — educational and philanthropic — made on this school's behalf. These things have made YSU students, faculty, staff and administration proud to be a part of this university and this area.

Do not be the one to diminish what so many have worked so hard to accomplish.

Our plea is simple, and reasonable: If you know of the location of this bird, give up the information. If you are the person or persons who stole it, be a responsible adult and return your precious conquest.

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

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

Closed mind? Close your mouth

ELIZABETH TABAK
The Jambar

I remember when I was on the verge of graduating from high school.

I was 18, an adult and ready to move on to a world much bigger than my barely 400-plus populated school.

I wanted the big, wide world of college. I knew that when I got to that great world beyond my small Catholic high school, I would be able to mingle with a range of people much broader in scope than that of my graduating class. I would be able to meet people of all ideologies, religions, races and backgrounds. I could speak up without a look from a know-it-all jock or the class clown.

So, I settled into

Youngtown State University, searching for tolerance and diversity in a mature setting.

Nearly four years later, I am still searching.

Not that I haven't met plenty of wonderful people. I have watched the efforts of many promote and celebrate diversity — of ethnicity, lifestyle, religion and political ideology. Further, I have been able to express my opinion, and I am grateful for that opportunity.

Yet, I have still — just the other day, in fact — met the faces of those who do not agree with mindsets other than their own. Don't get me wrong, this is America, giving us all the great opportunity to express different opinions. The problem is that some of these people do not

make any attempt to understand or appreciate where an opinion contrary to that of their own is coming from.

The fact of the matter is there is, despite a number of people laying claim to maturity and adulthood, plenty of shortsightedness, closed-mindedness and immaturity on the behalf of my fellow students.

Frankly, that bothers me. It aggravates me. It down right pisses me off.

In the past few weeks, I have come face to face with individuals who do not agree with what I have to say or what I have to write in these pages.

I will be the first to admit that I may rush to judgment on some issues, but I always take the other side into consideration. Doing this is important.

There should be differences of opinion, but there should be respect for those differences. It should lay the course for discussion and debate, the lifeblood of politics and change.

You may be surprised at what you find out by actually sitting down and discussing the differences you and another person may have without judging them at face value. I have and I have learned a great many things and made some rather peculiar, yet rewarding, alliances, friendships and relationships.

Don't make the judgment without the discourse. Chances are you'll find it is just your own closed mind that is the problem.

ELIZABETH TABAK | 330-941-1991

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Arguments on Bush accident illogical

Editor —

This letter is in response to Ted Williams who wrote in the Oct. 12 issue about Laura Bush, comparing her car accident to the negative attention Hillary Clinton receives. Williams writes that Bush's accident when she was 17 has been swept under the rug because she has connections, as if Hillary, a New York senator and a former first lady, doesn't have any political connections? First of all this is America, and if the American news media had any more information to go on, especially if it makes Bush look bad, they'd let you see it. The accident has been mentioned in USA Today because that's where I heard about it. She's been asked about it on the campaign trail and more. The man she killed, Michael Douglas, may have been thrown from his car on a road where the speed limit was 55 mph. In other words, high speeds plus possibly not wearing your seat belt plus a collision equals possible death.

Secondly, the reason there isn't more out there

about the accident is because it happened when Laura was a minor (in 1963) and the records are sealed. Sealed not by George W. Bush (he wasn't governor then, nor were the two married), sealed not by any political connections, but sealed there, as they would be anywhere in the U.S. because she wasn't an adult.

Also, nobody pressed charges. There was nothing scandalous about it. It was a horrible ACCIDENT.

Perhaps Clinton finds herself the victim of negative coverage because she has been involved in controversies such as Whitewater, where illegally acquired money may have bailed the Clinton's out of financial crisis; Hillary's investment in cattle, where she made a several thousand percent profit; the firing of seven white house employees so that Clinton's friends and family could have their jobs. That's just to name a few. She also has a career in politics and negative press comes with the job. I'd say when finding admirers however, Clinton has been doing a fine job. Many respect her.

I can only assume you're an angry Democrat who wears rose-colored glasses when dealing with Clinton. The fact is, if Clinton collid-

ed with someone when she was a minor she'd get the same treatment. You're perfectly within your rights to criticize the media, but not to attack Bush. The two women are not comparable.

— Erin McGee

Hunting trip criticisms hypocritical

Editor —

The partisan criticism of John Kerry's recent hunting visit to our valley reveals the hypocrisy of many George Bush supporters, as Bush has done the same thing. During his 1994 campaign for governor of Texas, Bush went bird hunting. Unfortunately, during this photo-op the future president shot and killed an endangered species. The event is symbolic of the numerous harmful mistakes the Bush administration has made with regards to our environment, our safety, our economy and our civil liberties.

— Ray Beiersdorfer

Right wing imposing on majority

BILL BORDER
Guest Commentator

In response to Mr. Williams letter to the editor on Oct. 19, I have shared his feelings for a long time. Our Republican right has for so long screamed about morality and values that time and again even they cannot live up to. The former speaker of the house is a great example of that. He screamed about Clinton's infidelity, then resigned his position when it became public he had an illegitimate child.

I personally struggle with the issue of abortion. I am neither for nor against it. Yet, I wonder how many children Dubya and Laura have adopted. They have the means to better provide for these unwanted and underprivileged children than most Americans do. Abortion is an issue that men should stay out of. A woman will do as she pleases regardless of what men want. It is HER body, not the U.S. government's. Although, some religious extremist feel it is their duty to impose their views on society as a whole, individuals do have a right to make decisions for themselves in this country.

As far as morality is concerned, Dubya should spend many a sleepless night for the rest of his exist-

ence. He has sent hundreds of young people to their death for his own personal agenda. WMDs my a- - Dubya had plans of going into Iraq before 9/11. The economy was crashing before 9/11. He has helped to move jobs out of the country to provide corporate friends with profits that have never before been imagined, while Americans' standard of living declines. Dubya suggested labeling fast food jobs as industrial to realign the job rankings. How is flipping a hamburger industrial?

As far as jobs, the unemployment rate is a statistic of those that are currently collecting unemployment benefits. If your benefits run out you are no longer counted into the statistic. For example: RMI locked out employees' benefits have expired. They are no longer considered unemployed. CSC Steel employees that lost their jobs when CSC closed, their unemployment benefits have expired. They are no longer considered unemployed.

The men and women's jobs of GM Lordstown are about to be cut in half. Currently there are about 3800 employees at GM. When the Cobalt goes into production the line will be reduced to 1800 jobs. Lear Seating, the company that made interior components

for models at GM Lordstown, lost the contract for the Cobalt. The new contractor will employ fewer (one half) the employees and pay less money. These examples account for a great number of jobs lost in the Youngstown/Warren area.

Consider health care for our sick and aged. We, as one of the richest countries in the world, don't take care of our own citizens, especially the elderly. As I rapidly approach middle age, I wonder if my siblings and I will be able help my parents like they help theirs.

Then there is the issue of combat pay for the men and women that are fighting Bush's wars. He has reduced their combat pay, sent them home as amputees and refuses them disability payment. Our young men and woman are losing their homes and credit ratings because they are defending Dubya's personal interest in the Middle East.

As a free country we cannot afford to allow the minority that think it is their duty to impose their belief systems on the masses to do so. We are a country of the people, by the people and, hopefully after Nov. 2nd, for the people.

Have an opinion? We want to hear from you! E-mail us at thejambar@hotmail.com

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Sudanese expert predicts continued genocide

LEONARD CRIST/The Jambor

Eric Reeves, a professor of English language and literature at Smith College, has written extensively on the African nation of Sudan. Reeves gave a lecture Thursday at Youngstown State University on "Darfur and the Politics of Genocide."

The United Nations has estimated that more than 1.5 million tribal Africans have been driven from their home in the Darfur region of western Sudan and up to 50,000 people killed due to violence, disease and malnutrition due to a campaign of violence being perpetrated by a state sponsored group of Arab nationalists called the Janjaweed.

Reeves said he believes the number of dead in Darfur to be higher than U.N. esti-

mates — closer to 300,000 with more than 200,000 of the dead due to violence, another 80,000 from disease and malnutrition.

The United States Congress in late June affirmed that the killings in Sudan do indeed meet the criteria to be called genocide, which is defined by the U.N. as any act "committed with intent to destroy, in whole or in part, a national, ethnic, racial or religious group."

A Jambor reporter spoke with Reeves after his lecture Thursday evening.

The Jambor: What is happening in the Darfur region of Sudan?

Eric Reeves: A full scale conflict broke out in February 2003 and the three African tribal groups that were at the center were the Zaghawa,

the Fur and the Masalit. And they enjoyed very significant early military success, which prompted Khartoum to turn loose upon the African tribal civilian populations the Janjaweed.

The Janjaweed are these brutal, brutal militia forces that systematically destroy African villages, leaving Arab villages, sometimes only a few hundred yards away, intact. Well, you can't have much better evidence that this is ethnically based than the survival of the Arab villages and the destruction of all the African villages.

J: Do you believe that international intervention should take place in Sudan?

R: The African Union should provide the spearhead but there should be international — Great Britain was in the sum-

mer talking about sending a brigade of 5,000 men. Australia, New Zealand offered to send soldiers. All that talk has gone away.

If you want to stop genocide, then you need a force that can not only protect the vulnerable populations, but also augment humanitarian capacity. We don't have nearly enough capacity in the region for all these people.

A million people last month didn't get any food. I don't know how many thousands starved, but the World Health Organization estimates that 10,000 a month are dying in the camps to which there is access. What about all those people who are inaccessible?

J: How would you characterize the quality of the media coverage?

R: It's actually greater

than it has been. It was so far under the radar screen when I was writing about it over a year ago. It was clear over a year ago that something really awful was happening.

J: How many times have you been to Sudan?

R: One time. It's a very, very difficult place to travel to. There is no commercial transportation inside Southern Sudan, and I can't go into Northern Sudan. My life would clearly be at risk. The regime knows who I am and have spent hundreds of thousands of dollars to attack me.

I may go back this January, but it is extremely difficult for an individual to travel in southern Sudan.

J: Do you foresee an end to the genocide anytime soon?

R: No.

LEONARD CRIST 1330-941-1989

NEWS IN BRIEF

Communication workshop Nov. 5

The office of Human Resources Training and Development program is sponsoring "Coffee Conference," a workshop designed to teach better communication with co-workers, colleagues, friends and families. The conference will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. Friday, Nov. 5 in the Bresnahan I and II rooms in Kilcawley Center. For more information contact Rita Roberts at (330) 941-3470 or by e-mail at rroberts@ysu.edu.

Marimba concert

Jean Geoffrey will be in concert at 8 p.m. Thursday Oct. 28 at the Bliss Recital Hall. He will be performing selections from J.S. Bach, Isabel Urrutia and Jose Luis Campana on the marimba. The concert is free and open to the public. For more information contact the Dana School of Music at 330-941-1588.

Space lecture Oct. 29

Space veteran Al Sacco, now a professor at Northeastern University in Boston, will visit Youngstown State University to deliver a speech titled "Be An Astronaut: See the World — What It's Really Like" at 7 p.m. Friday, Oct. 29 in Room B031 in Cushman Hall.

This speech will recount his 16-day trip on the space shuttle Columbia and include a visual tour of his training, launch and flight. He will also discuss NASA research projects, zero gravity crystal growth experiments and future NASA projects.

A dinner with Sacco prior to his presentation will be held in Kilcawley Center. The public is invited. Contact Doris Zimmerman for details at 330-847-2284 or zim-doris@aol.com.

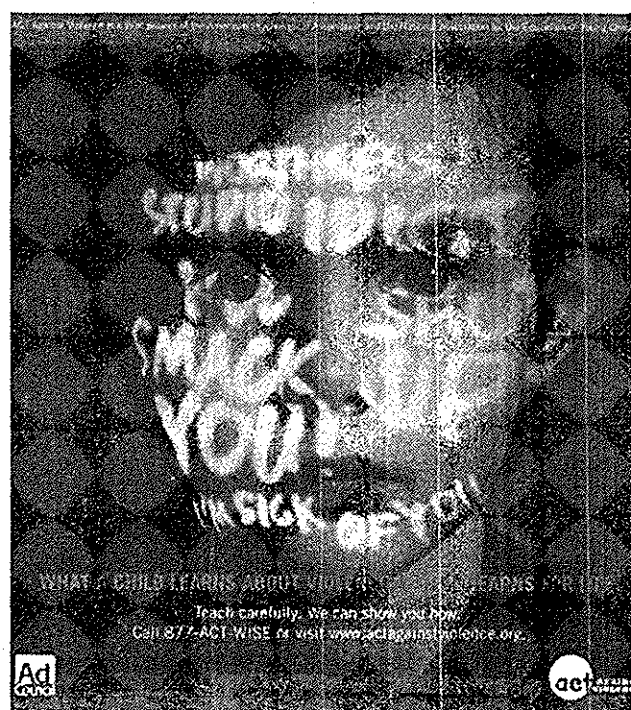
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 11:00 am - 2:00 pm
Where: Youngstown State University
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 Youngstown, OH

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Youth vote target of dueling draft scares

RON FOURNIER
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Sen. John Kerry says re-electing President Bush would create "the great potential of a draft." Not so, responds the incumbent: "The best way to avoid the draft is to vote for me."

The fact that both Bush and Kerry are on record opposing mandatory military service speaks volumes about the audience they're targeting with their dueling draft scares — young voters.

In an election where voter turnout is the great unknown, the voting rate and preferences of 18- to 30-year-olds may be the biggest wild card on Nov. 2.

"One of the things that have been puzzling us is how young voters will behave on Election Day," said Andrew Kohut, an independent pollster at the Pew Research Center. "They've been pretty volatile, sometimes strongly in Kerry's camp and other times driven back to Bush."

Young voters were evenly divided between Bush and Kerry in polling conducted this month by Ipsos-Public Affairs for Newsweek.com and The Associated Press. Among likely voters under age 30, Kerry led 52 percent to 42 percent.

In the two most-watched states of the presidential campaign, Florida and Ohio, polls

released Tuesday show Kerry leading Bush by similar margins among young voters.

Exit polls from the 2000 election showed that Bush roughly split the under-30 vote with Democrat Al Gore.

Traditionally, young people have been among the least likely to vote. Of the 24 million eligible voters aged 18 to 24 in 2000, only one-third of them cast ballots, according to the U.S. Census Bureau.

This year, Kohut said his polling shows an increase of 15 percentage points over 2000 in the number of young people saying they're registered to vote. The research also shows a spike in the number of youths who say they're likely to vote.

Count Nick Ford among them. The 21-year-old George Washington University student began the year favoring Bush but is now in Kerry's camp. "I don't like the war in Iraq and I'm opposed to the draft," said Ford, who plans to vote absentee in his hometown of New York City.

Farther down the street, fellow GWU student Ted Kennedy, 19, said he is firmly behind Bush after briefly wavering. The volunteer firefighter says Bush deserves a second term for his leadership after the Sept. 11 attacks, including the war in Iraq. "I'm the wrong person to ask about the draft, because if my num-

ber came up, I'm there. I'd fight. In a minute," he said.

The University of Pennsylvania's National Annenberg Election survey found that half of young people believe Bush wants to reinstate the military draft. Only 8 percent said Kerry wants it.

The day the poll was released, Bush said in his second debate with Kerry, "We're not going to have a draft, period."

Kerry wouldn't let it go. A week later, the Democrat told The Des Moines Register "With George Bush, the plan for Iraq is more of the same and the great potential of a draft."

Campaigning in a Florida community dependent on the military, Bush fired back Saturday. "We will not have a draft. ... The best way to avoid a draft is to vote for me."

In an interview Monday with the AP, Bush accused Kerry of scare tactics and insisted he would not bring back the military draft, even if there were a crisis with North Korea or Iran.

"I believe we've got the assets and manpower necessary to be able to deal with another theater should one arise," Bush said.

Special-interest groups backing Kerry are fueling rumors of a draft in a second Bush term. MoveOnStudentAction.org is launching a nationwide campus "Feel a Draft?" campaign to demand an exit strategy

in Iraq and urge Bush to detail a specific plan to avoid the draft.

"There is no doubt that there is a lot of distress about both the backdoor draft that already exists and the likelihood of instituting a regular draft if Bush continues these go-it-alone policies," said Kerry pollster Mark Mellman.

Kerry has argued that a "backdoor draft" exists because some U.S. forces have been required to extend their military careers to serve in Iraq.

Other Kerry advisers say privately they suspect the impact of the draft issue will be minimal. The campaign plans to dispatch Kerry surrogates to college campuses across the country. The Bush campaign is targeting college students, too.

Voter registration drives already have produced striking results, with nearly 100,000 young people registering in Michigan and even more in Wisconsin. While newly registered voters are usually the least likely to cast ballots, each election offers new possibilities.

"We're paying attention to everything," said Nicole Bautista, a 21-year-old Kerry backer from Pittsburgh, "including the notion that we could be drafted."

Associated Press manager of news surveys Trevor Tompson contributed to this report.

Final week visits indicative of Ohio election importance

ANDREW WELSH-HUGGINS
Associated Press

COLUMBUS, Ohio — Four years ago, George W. Bush and Al Gore gave Ohio the brush-off in the campaign's final days, with Bush making only one quick visit after Oct. 4 and Gore leaving for good to concentrate on other battleground states.

What a contrast to the final full week before what some call the busiest election in history, with President Bush expected in Ohio Wednesday and Thursday, Democratic challenger John Kerry on Thursday and both vice presidential candidates preparing for repeat visits.

"This has been the most intense campaign I've ever seen — it started earlier, it went up with advertising earlier, we had field staff earlier, we had people yelling at me they didn't have signs earlier," said Jim Ruvolo, chairman of the Kerry campaign in Ohio.

"There's nothing about this campaign that reminds me of anything before, and that intensity has not lessened," he said Monday.

In 2000, Gore's last stop in Ohio was an Oct. 4 rally before thousands in downtown Warren, a union stronghold in northeastern Ohio.

Bush made a quick stop about two weeks later, rallying supporters in an airplane hanger at Toledo Express Airport on Oct. 26. That was part of a last-minute push by Bush that included a visit by Dick Cheney to a suburban Columbus factory and visits by Bush's sister, Doro Bush, and mother, former first lady Barbara Bush.

In total, Bush and Gore combined for 24 visits in 2000. Bush and Kerry have combined for 60 visits this year, including seven so far this month.

Gov. Bob Taft said the focus on Ohio by both campaigns is unprecedented.

"I've never seen anything like this week, or the

last couple of weeks for that matter," said Taft, a Republican and chairman of the Bush-Cheney 2004 Ohio Leadership Team.

"The whole country is ready for Nov. 2 to come — this has been a long, intense election season," Taft said. "But we still have a lot of work to do over these remaining eight days."

For insurance agent Dick Wood, the difference from four years ago is the number of TV ads he's seeing.

"You're hearing the same message over and over again — I can't imagine anybody by this time not deciding who they're going to vote for," said Wood, 53, of suburban Columbus, taking a lunch break at a popular market north of downtown. He plans to vote for Bush.

"It seems to me that it's overkill but they're both doing it so they're must be a reason for it," Wood said.

Candidates coming back to Ohio this week have likely stopped trying to persuade swing voters and are now concentrating on mobilizing their base — making sure their supporters go out and vote for them, said Stephen Brooks, a University of Akron political analyst.

"It is still a tightrope wire the two candidates have to walk," Brooks added. "The way to really rally your base is to move a bit more extreme left or right, but if it becomes too shrill, then the undecided voters can be pushed away from you."

Joan Costello, a human resources manager, doesn't remember a lot about the same week a year ago, but she's clear on one thing.

"It just wasn't as in your face as it is this year," said Costello, 44, of suburban Columbus. She plans to vote for Kerry.

"It's time," Costello said. "Let's get to voting and get this over with. So often the campaigning's about a lot of talk and not a lot of doing. So we need some doing."

Madasci said a kickoff of the program will be held Nov. 19 in Kilcawley Center. Madasci said this program will allow students, faculty, staff and administration to learn more about the program and how it might benefit them.

"We have been busy doing some initial training without hardware or software officially installed," Madasci said. "We are very excited to move forward with this project."

ELIZABETH TABAK | 330-941-1991

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SYSTEM

FROM PAGE 1

One of those universities is Wright State University in Dayton. Scott Rife, project manager for software implementation, said the university decided to go with the new system in later 2003. Luminous portal was the first portion of the program to be installed in March 2004. The system should be finished by July 2006.

Rife said the program is costing the university \$15 million over the next five years, adding that so far they are keeping with the budget. He explained that using an integrated system was the most cost effective way of replacing the university's already aging software. The cost, he said, is worth it, but there are some concerns that parts of the program will not "tailor correctly" to WSU's system.

However, Pat Crowley, spokesperson for Northeast Ohio University College of Medicine, said the university has been using the program for almost five years now and has not experienced any problems.

"It's a pretty useful and powerful tool," Crowley said. "It takes a little bit of getting used to, but once people get used to it, it opens a whole new door for students."

YSU officials are looking forward to the program doing the same for its students.

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sports

Penguins fall prey to Redbirds

Fourth-quarter interception seals YSU's fate, final score 30-24

JUSTIN SMOLKOVICH
The Jambor

The Youngstown State University football squad couldn't extend their winning streak against Illinois State Saturday afternoon as the Penguins (2-6, 0-4) fell by a score of 30-24.

It didn't take long for the Redbirds to start the scoring. On the opening kickoff of the game, Illinois State raced 97 yards to pay dirt to build an early 7-0 lead in the first quarter.

The resilient Penguins would answer, however, as they took their first



ZETTS

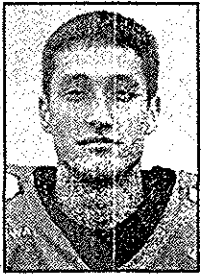
possession of the game 82 yards. The drive was capped off by a Tom Zetts 27-yard strike to tightend Mike Roberts to even the game at 7-7 in the first quarter. Zetts finished the night with 162 yards and two touchdown passes on 14 of 28.

On the next drive for the Redbirds, quarterback Yance Vaughn threw an errant pass that ended up in the hands of senior Mike Bracken, his second interception of the year, which placed the Penguins deep in Redbird territory following a 15-yard face mask penalty against the Redbirds. The Penguins would have to settle for a Nick Terracina field goal, as they were unable

to reach the end zone from the 2-yard line. The field goal put the Penguins up 10-7 at the end of the first quarter.

The lead once again changed quickly as the Redbirds nearly drove the length of the field before finding the end zone on a 6-yard touchdown toss by Vaughn, giving the Redbirds a 14-10 lead late in the second quarter.

Special teams once again came in to play in the second quarter as the Redbirds were preparing to punt the ball away. A high snap



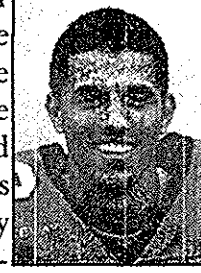
went over the head of Redbirds' punter Ryan Hoffman. The Penguins jumped on the loose pigskin on the Redbirds' 13-yard line.

Behind a 10-yard scamper from steadily improving tailback Josh Cayson, the Penguins set up shop on the 3-yard line. On the next play, Zetts once again found an open man in the end zone when he connected with fullback Demetrius Ison in the end zone to give the Penguins a 17-14 lead with only 54 seconds left in the half.

To start the third stanza, the Redbirds' special teams units continued to be the difference. The first two possessions for ISU ended up with two field goals,

giving the Redbirds the lead at 20-17.

Cayson once again had the answer and the spark for the offensive unit as he recorded 80 yards on only eight carries



CAYSON

capped off by a 13-yard touchdown run that put YSU up 24-20 with under a minute remaining in the third quarter. Cayson finished the night with 146 yards on a career high 25 carries.

The Redbirds once again reached the end zone by way of a big play from the special teams. Penguin punter Joe Bishop's kick was

returned 52 yards early in the fourth quarter to give the Redbirds the lead at 27-24.

The final nail in the coffin for the Penguins came when the Redbirds intercepted a Tom Zetts' pass. Following the interception, ISU kicker Stephen Carroll added his third and final field goal of the night to finish off the scoring at 30-24 in favor of the Redbirds.

The Penguins' offense had a productive night as they recorded 331 yards.

The Penguins return to Stambaugh stadium Saturday for the final home game of the season as they host Indiana State. Kickoff is set for 4 p.m.

JUSTIN SMOLKOVICH | 330-941-3758

YSU hockey scores for fallen friend

JUSTIN SMOLKOVICH
The Jambor

When the Youngstown State University hockey team took the ice Saturday night, there was more on their minds than just winning. They were playing for a friend.

Jim Weller III, a friend and supporter of the YSU Hockey Club, was severely injured while racing sprint cars in North Carolina a few weeks ago, which left him in a coma for several days and listed him in critical condition. He has since been upgraded to stable condition and has regained movement over his limbs.

The Penguins took the ice against Case Western Reserve at the Ice Zone in Boardman.

It was a high scoring affair with Case getting on the scoreboard first early in the first period by way of a Dan Powlowski goal. Not to be outdone, the Penguins put a goal past the Case goalie just seven seconds later when Ryan Macri scored to even the score at 1.

Following another Case goal, the Penguins had an answer when at the 6:23 mark of the first period Ken Mizicko slapped in another for the Penguins to knot the score once again at 2.

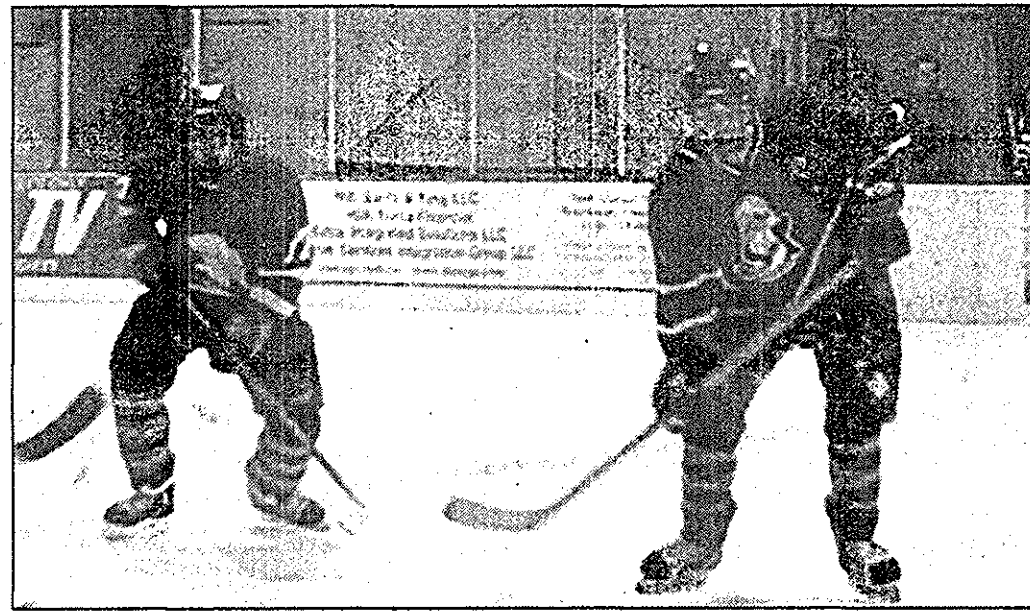


Photo courtesy of Megan Greenfield

The Penguins only lead of the night came early in the second period. With the score deadlocked at two, Todd Smith of the Penguins slapped another in to bring the score to 3-2, and give the Penguins their only short lived lead of the contest.

Case Western would once again have an answer to the Penguins, as they railed off four straight goals before YSU scored their final goal of the night to finish the high scoring affair at 6-4. The Penguins last goal came in the final period when Tim Novicky slipped one past the defender.

Following the game, the Penguins' captain and hockey club president Phil Colucci said the

score was deceiving. "The score didn't reflect the game tonight. We got some bad bounces. The bottom line is we outplayed them, we just got some bad bounces," Colucci said. The Penguins outshot Case by a tally of 50-26.

Despite the loss, there were good things about the game. All proceeds of the game went toward helping Weller recover from his injuries.

"The money we raise tonight will be given to his family. We wanted them to know they aren't alone. Even though it's not much, we wanted to do something," said Colucci about Weller's injury.

Playing Saturday's

game was tough for the Penguins as the team donned yellow stickers with a red number "23" on their helmets in honor of Weller, whose number was 23 when he raced.

"He is a friend of mine and a friend of the teams. It was a privilege to come out and play for someone else and not for yourself," said Colucci.

The Penguins who are 1-1 on the season with an opening win over Ohio Wesleyan 7-1, resumes action on Friday, Oct. 29 when they travel to Bethel Park, Pa. to take on California University of Pennsylvania. The next home game for the Penguins is set for Saturday, Nov. 6 at the Ice Zone in Boardman.

JUSTIN SMOLKOVICH | 330-941-3758

Injured racer has local ties

COMBINED AP/JAMBAR STAFF REPORT

CONCORD, N.C. — An 18-year-old sprint-car driver from Ohio was critically injured Oct. 14 in a dirt-track race at the Lowe's Motor Speedway complex.

Emergency workers needed nearly 30 minutes to remove Jimmy Weller III of Liberty, Ohio, from his sprint car after it slammed into the wall and flipped violently at about 8:45 p.m. in the second of four heats during the Mopar Sprint Nationals.

Workers covered the driver's cockpit with a white cloth as they worked to free Weller from his car. He was flown by helicopter to Carolinas Medical Center in Charlotte.

Racing resumed shortly after the accident was cleared.

Weller raced modified cars at Lernerville Speedway in Sarver, Pa., and at Sharon Speedway

in Hartford, before his 18th birthday. He then moved up to sprint cars, which weigh about 1,200 pounds and have 800-horsepower engines.

Weller won a sprint car feature race July 30 at Lernerville on the same night that his father, Jim Weller Jr., won in the modified division.

"It had always been a goal of mine to win when Dad does, and here we are," the younger Weller said after that victory.

He was the third driver to flip his car and the second to be injured in the same turn during activities leading up to a 30-lap feature race on a dirt track in the same complex as the track that NASCAR drivers will race on this weekend.

Weller remains hospitalized at the Carolinas Medical Center and is listed in fair condition, according to a hospital spokeswoman.

Sports Briefs

Volleyball

It was an up and down weekend for the volleyball team as they split two matches over the weekend to drop their record to 9-13 overall.

Friday saw the Penguins defeat Loyola in four games by scores of 30-22, 21-30, 30-28 and 30-22. Leading the way for the Penguins was freshman Jessica Fraley who recorded a double-double by scoring 19 kills and 16 digs. Also recording a double-double for the Penguins was sophomore Katie Shea who notched 16 kills and 10

digs.

Saturday was not as fruitful for the Penguins as they dropped a match against University of Illinois Chicago in five games after sparking a rally. The Penguins lost in five games by scores of 19-30, 31-29, 29-31, 30-28 and 12-15. The Penguins led in the fifth game 10-7 but could not finish with the win.

One again sparking the Penguins was Jessica Fraley who led four penguins in double-double marks with 16 kills and 11 digs. Following close behind

Fraley was sophomore Cari Leslie with 14 kills and 13 digs. Junior Abby Ettenhoffer also added 13 kills, while Melanie Pounders recorded 13 kills and 18 digs.

The Penguins resume action 7 p.m. Tuesday at Robert Morris.

Swimming and Diving

The Penguins swept a dual meet Sunday as they defeated both Niagara and Vermont at the Oxy Aquatic Center in Niagara University. The Penguins were paced by winning eight of 13 events, while 10 Penguins set collec-

giate best marks.

Jordan Dunn and Kalyn Leveto each picked up individual wins for the Penguins as Dunn brought home a victory in the 1650 meter freestyle and Leveto won both diving events with scores of 268.15 in the 1 meter dive and 268.15 in the 3-meter dive.

Becky Bertuzzi also brought in a win by taking the 200 meter freestyle. Also winning for the team was Erin Carter in the 200 Individual Medley and Brittany Senn in the 100-meter freestyle. The 200-meter freestyle relay of

Katy Malys, Missy Wiese, Bertuzzi and Senn also took home a first place.

The Penguins were also pushed along by numerous second-place finishes. Erin Mazzant placed second in both diving events. Carter added a second-place finish in the 100-meter butterfly and Sarah Porchak placed second in the 100-meter back stroke.

The Penguins resume action at 4 p.m. Friday when they travel to Athens to take on Ohio University.

entertainment

“Capitol Steps” pokes fun at politics

BILL RODGERS | *The Jambar*

Partisan politics aside, if you're like anyone else in the great swing state of Ohio, if you see one more campaign ad from either party, you're going to lose it.

Enter The Capitol Steps, a traveling troupe of former Congressional staffers turned satire superstars. The Capitol Steps are a musical comedy group that rewrite hit songs into parodies lampooning politics, the news, celebrities and America's elected officials.

The group will be making an appearance Oct. 27 at Stambaugh Auditorium. Proceeds from ticket sales will benefit the Youngstown / Mahoning United Way and the Junior League of Youngstown.

Bill Strauss, Elaine Newport and Mark Eaton began the troupe in 1981 when they were asked to liven up a Senate Foreign Relations Christmas Party. The show was so popular they decided to go public. Based in Alexandria, Va., The Capitol Steps have made a lucrative business out of their act. They have released 24 albums and currently employ 25 people who travel the country in groups of 6 to perform, poking fun at the people who once employed them.

The act is mainly musical but also includes some sketches. Audience goers can expect to see a bumbling President Bush who describes himself as “self-defecating,” a wom-



Photo courtesy of the Capitol Steps

anizing Bill Clinton and “Tom Ridge’s Bedtime Stories,” where the director of homeland security tells stories about Snow White being taken into the cave lair of a “bearded clan.”

The show’s producer, Mark Eaton, says politics in general has provided the Steps with their best stuff.

“Bush has been pretty darn good to us,” Eaton said. “He can’t compare with Clinton’s escapades, but Bush has been great for material.”

Eaton said Steps used to require that new members had to have been a former congressional staff member.

“But then we started getting everyone in D.C. who could sing or dance, so we decided to search out some professional music and theater people,” Eaton said.

As far as their song repertoire goes, The Steps have a wealth of material that has spanned years, recreating itself with every headline. A caricature of John Kerry sings “I’ve Taken Stands on Both Sides Now.” Other songs include “Your Vote Don’t Mean A Thing If Your State Don’t Got That Swing,” and a trio of Bob Dylan’s — the original, a perfect copy, and a horribly misshapen nightmare version — groaning the

lines to “Everybody Get Cloned.”

Has their good-natured ribbing ever offended anyone?

“We occasionally get someone who comes up to us and says something like ‘You shouldn’t be making fun of the president!’ You have to wonder what these sorts of people are doing at a satire show. That doesn’t happen too often, though. We’re equal opportunity offenders,” Eaton said.

The show begins at 7:30 p.m. Tickets for the performance are \$25 and \$40 and can be purchased by calling (330) 746-8494 or by visiting www.yvmv-nitedway.org.

BILL RODGERS | 330-941-3758

CRITICS CORNER

“Team America” is quality satire

DNA SMITH
King Features

“Team America: World Police” director Trey Parker (“South Park”) has given movie lovers something we’ve always longed for. No, not biting social and political satire (of which this film is packed). Not an action movie/musical that’ll keep you singing the theme song for days after seeing the film (which you will do). No, what Parker has finally given us is a movie that contains hot, sexually graphic marionette-on-marionette action.

If that doesn’t convince you to see “Team America,” I don’t know what will.

Parker and co-writer Matt Stone have made an aching funny movie that is guaranteed to offend everyone — regardless of political persuasion. The left wingers — represented in the film by Hollywood activists like Alec Baldwin and Tim Robbins — come off as they do in real life — pompous, ignorant, self-absorbed demagogues. The right wing takes

lumps as well. In Parker and Stone’s world, the left and right are equally misguided and sometimes as dangerous as the terrorists.

“Team America” is a spoof of the “Top Gun” genre of films that polluted the theaters in the 1980s, complete with pounding, over-the-top pop anthems, montages and corny dialogue, all of which are made even more absurd when done with puppets.

The plot involves Korean dictator Kim Jong Il’s plan to arm terrorists all over the world with WMDs set to detonate at the same time. Team America must infiltrate Kim’s palace and save the world — not only from destruction, but also from Liberal Hollywood.

The movie is filled with gross humor, vulgar language and (in case you missed it) hot marionette-on-marionette sex. It also is one of the funniest movies of the year and perhaps the finest piece of satire I’ve seen onscreen in decades.

GRADE: A-



a different set of jaws

The stage version of the cult-classic film adds audience participation — (and we don’t just mean dancing the “Time Warp”)

BILL RODGERS | *The Jambar*

Walking into the Oakland Theater in downtown Youngstown Saturday evening, theatergoers were surrounded by rather oddly-dressed individuals.

A scantily-clad girl with protruding devil horns approached incoming guests, asking if they have seen the play before. If not, she yelled, “Virgin!” and marked their faces with a giant red “V.”

Fishnet stockings and corsets abounded, but were more popular with the men of the production.

While this is enough to send most running away screaming into the night, it’s normal for the Oakland’s production of “The Rocky Horror Show.” Directed by John Murphy, associate professor of theater at Youngstown State University, the play blends rock music, comedy, science fiction and horror. Oh yeah, and there is a lot of rampant sex.

The play, which inspired the 1975 movie that began a devoted cult following, follows Brad Majors, played by Brandon Arnold, and Janet Weiss, played by Danielle Frabutt. The newly-engaged couple takes a trip to visit Brad’s mentor Dr. Everett von Scott on a dark, rainy evening. When they get a flat tire, they go looking for a telephone in a convenient, yet foreboding castle in the middle of the woods.

What they find instead is the lair of the maniacal Dr. Frank N. Furter, played by Matthew J. Battiste. Furter, a crazed, insatiable, transsexual, unveils his newest creation to the couple. The good doctor reveals that he has created a do-it-yourself “playmate” named Rocky, played by Randall Huffman.

It’s hard to believe, but things progressively get weirder from there.

The plot draws heavily from campy science fiction and horror films. “Rocky Horror” both uses and pokes fun at themes of aliens, mad scientists, monsters and the macabre cavort equally with sex, drugs and rock ‘n’ roll.

The Oakland’s production struck gold with their rendition of the rock songs. Cast member Nikita Jones opened the show with an amazing “Science Fiction, Double Feature,” which describes seeing “B” science-fiction movies at the drive-in.

The entire cast sings, and sings well. Even Tim McGinley, the play’s straight-laced narrator, jumped in on backup for a few of the play’s numbers. Veterans of the movie and play won’t be disappointed with the sound of this production’s company.

The Oakland’s version of the catchy “Time Warp” does lose some of the character Riff-Raff’s wailing rock ‘n’ roll screaming — a minor loss in an otherwise great performance.

The really fun part though is that the audience participates.

The Oakland’s play borrows many of the traditions hardcore Rocky buffs follow in: midnight showings of the movie. Three dollars buys a bag of goodies that can be used — ahem — thrown during the performance.

The Oakland’s version of Rocky Horror was geared to appeal to the hyperactive kid in all of us. Just a guess, but the inner monologue of most audience members was probably something like “I’m watching a play, I’m watching a play. Whee! I get to throw rice now!”

For instance, when Dr. Frank N. Furter, raises a wineglass and says: “A toast!” The audience can fling pieces of toast onstage.

Another Rocky cult tradition the Oakland uses is a set of scripted audience comments that consist of lewd puns, jokes and insults to the characters. For example: when the play’s narrator makes his first appearance, those in the back of the audience yell out “Why do we have a narrator with no neck?”

There are many reasons to go see “Rocky Horror” at the Oakland: the music, the cheese-ball plot, the sex; but it all boils down to fun. It’s fun to either sing along with the play’s songs you’ve heard either 1000 times or just once, it’s fun to laugh at the play’s off-the-wall humor, it’s fun to be sitting calmly in your seat one moment and be pelted with confetti the next.

The play will continue on Oct 29 and 30. There will be one midnight showing on Oct. 30. It will also show at 8 p.m. Nov. 5 and 6. To reserve tickets for the performance, call (330) 746-0404.

The cost is \$15 for adults, \$12 for seniors and \$10 for students and group of ten or more. This may scare some of the more frugal college kids away, but it’s worth the extra change.

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