

the jambar

VOLUME 88, ISSUE 45 The student voice of Youngstown State University

Weather >> rain
 57 | 38
 Friday: snow, 44/19
 Saturday: rain, 27/18

Inside



Apparently the Goonies are good enough for Sloth. Entertainment | see page 8



With the season coming to an end, the basketball team gets ready for tournament action. Sports | see page 7

In Brief

• Faculty discuss African American poet

There will be a YSU faculty discussion of the works of Dayton native Paul Lawrence Dunbar today from 1 to 3 p.m. in Kilcawley Center's Chestnut Room. Dunbar, the first professional African American poet, died 100 years ago.

• Photojournalist presentation today

Award winning poet Diane Fisher and photojournalist Earl Dotter will present "Of Appalachia and Miners" at 6 p.m. today in the Presidential Suite of Kilcawley Center.

• Pastor presents "Christianity and the Afrikan Consciousness"

Ray Haggins, senior pastor and chief elder of the Afrikan Village Church in St. Louis, will present a lecture titled "Christianity and the Afrikan Consciousness" at 7:30 p.m. Saturday in Kilcawley Center's Chestnut Room as part of the African American History Month.

MORE NEWS, PAGE 4

the jambar poll question
 Last Question
 Do you have a valentine this year?
 38% 62%
 Yes No
 Today's Question
 Do you expect to graduate in four years?
 vote online
 www.thejambar.com

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BUDGET

YSU Budget short almost \$1.2 million

By: Bill Rodgers
 NEWS EDITOR

Low student enrollment, declining state funding for higher education and increasing utility costs are being cited for an almost \$1.2 million shortfall in YSU's current budget, university administrators said. Jeff Taylor, director of YSU's budget office, said that the university would likely make up for the shortfall by freezing hires for vacant positions on campus.

YSU President David Sweet said on Tuesday that any cuts would not

have an adverse impact on the services provided by the university. YSU's Provost Robert Herbert said any vacancy freeze would affect the faculty only as a last resort.

"We're primarily dealing with vacant positions," Sweet said.

Taylor said the budget needs to be, and would be, balanced by the start of the new fiscal year on June 30. Taylor said additional cost reductions are in summary form and have not been approved.

The budget deficit is largely due to lower student enrollment. Taylor said the fall and spring semesters

had a lower number of full-time equivalent students than was expected. Fall semester fell short by 83 students, with the current spring semester falling behind 159 students. Taylor said this accounted for a \$900,000 loss of income for the university.

Rising utility costs accounted for another \$300,000 shortage in the budget, Taylor said.

Taylor said the deficit did not come as a surprise. Taylor said planning for "cost containment" plans for the current fiscal year began last spring in the event YSU

was faced with an enrollment shortage or a state funding cut.

Exactly what the "cost containment" measures would be has not been officially determined yet. YSU Provost Robert Herbert said yesterday that each college and department on campus was asked to make certain amounts of cuts to their budgets, relative to how much money the university budgeted for them.

Herbert said vacancy freezes were not being planned for the faculty.

please see BUDGET, Page 4

HOUSING

Smoky Hollow planners reviewing proposals

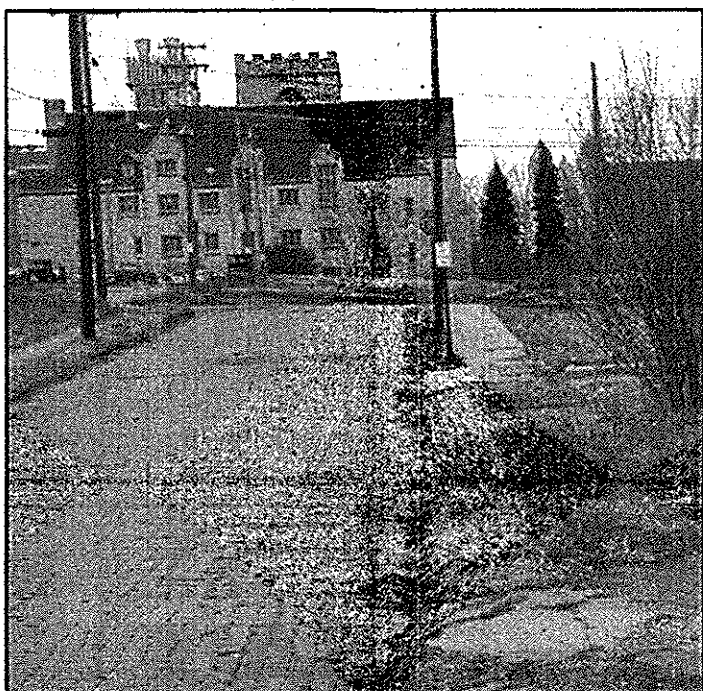
By: Bill Rodgers
 NEWS EDITOR

The Smoky Hollow redevelopment project, which would bring residence and commercial use buildings within close range of Youngstown State University students and faculty, has entered the next phase of production. Margaret Murphy, the executive director of Wick Neighbors Inc, the company undertaking the development, said that three developer proposals for the Smoky Hollow site were under review.

Murphy said the group plans to choose a developer and begin work on the site sometime this year.

Murphy declined to identify which companies submitted development proposals, but she did say that they were from Northeastern Ohio and Western Pennsylvania. She said the review process would take about six weeks before a decision was reached. Proposals for developers were due to the company on Feb. 3.

When asked what criteria the three developers would be evaluated on, Murphy said previous experience with this type of project would be a major factor in



ABOVE: Jones Hall is seen in the distance from Smoky Hollow's brick Webb Road. RIGHT: Smoky Hollow is seen from the roof of the M-1 parking deck here, showing the close proximity of the neighborhood to YSU.

determining which company is assigned the project. She said the project would be complex in that it calls for both residential and commercial development.

"We're primarily looking for previous experience. Mixed-use development is a highly-specialized type of development," Murphy said.

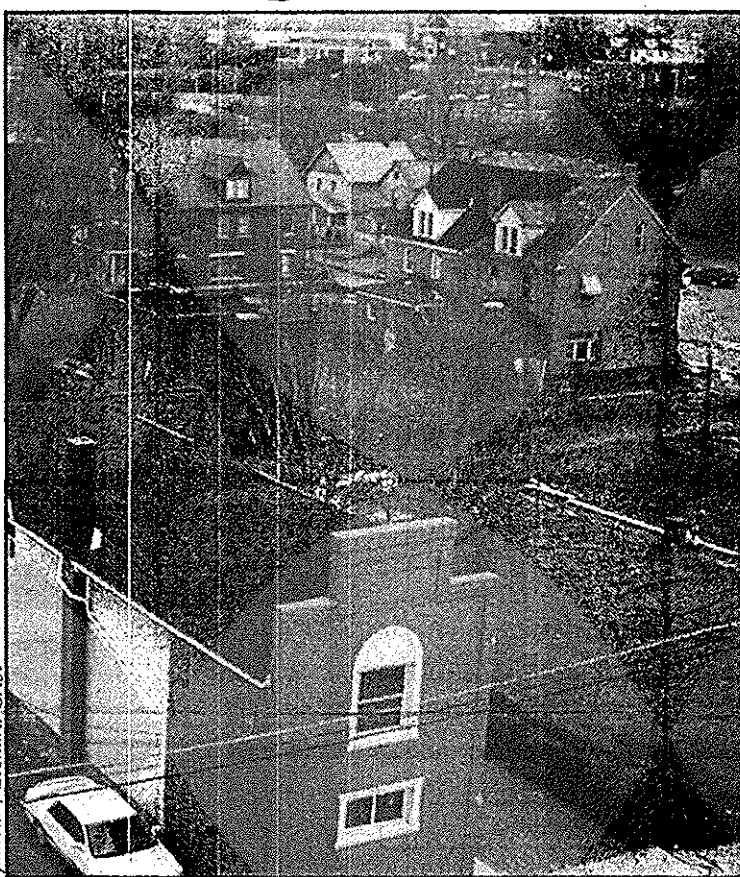
Murphy said the companies would be evaluated not only on their ability to provide a finished development, but also on the way they plan to reach the final

development. "We're looking at how they approach the plan. How do they look at their goals?" Murphy said.

She said the companies would be assessed on the way they involved community and minority contractors and workers.

Murphy said her aim is to make "an aggressive change" in the Smoky Hollow neighborhood by 2006, after the details of development were worked out.

"This is a very complex



project," Murphy said. Murphy said she believed the project was "right on track."

"We're doing this in a very logical, sequential process. What we're doing is similar to what the private sector does," Murphy said.

The Smoky Hollow redevelopment project began in 2001, when area religious and cultural institutions and YSU decided to "reinvest" in the old neighborhood, according to the com-

pany's Web site.

YSU owns two-thirds of the vacant lots located in the area, which is within five minutes of campus. Proximity to downtown and community involvement were also given as reasons for the redevelopment project.

Wick Neighbors was then created in June of 2002 to oversee the redevelopment of the neighborhood.

Call Bill Rodgers at (330) 941-1989.

STATE

Lawmakers call for 4-year graduations

By: Cheryl Thompson
 ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

Some Ohio lawmakers are devising a plan to financially reward colleges that increase the number of graduates who earn their degrees in a timely manner.

The initiative aims for statewide education improvements and is sponsored by Republican Sens. Joy Padgett of Coshocton and Randall Gardner of Bowling Green.

The plan is still in the early phases of development. It was announced shortly after Governor Robert Taft's State of the State address, which focused on improving K-12 education.

Jonelle Beatrice, the director of the Center for Student Progress at Youngstown State University, said the proposed legislation might

hurt some colleges.

"It depends whether the college is a highly selective or an open enrollment institution," Beatrice said.

Beatrice said financial rewards would be more of a benefit to selective universities.

"With selective universities, they take the students with high grade point averages and ACT scores. They want those students because they will be more likely to graduate in four years," Beatrice said.

"There are good reasons why students don't graduate in four years, some of them are economic. Many students have to work one or two jobs to pay for college," Beatrice said.

Backers of the proposed legislation said they realize some might have negative reactions and are prepared to defend the incentive. please see GRADUATION, Page 2

HISTORY

Statue honors Howard Jones, first YSU president

By: Steve Lettau
 REPORTER

The daughter of the first president of Youngstown State University, then known as Youngstown College, said her father was not the kind of man who sat in an office.

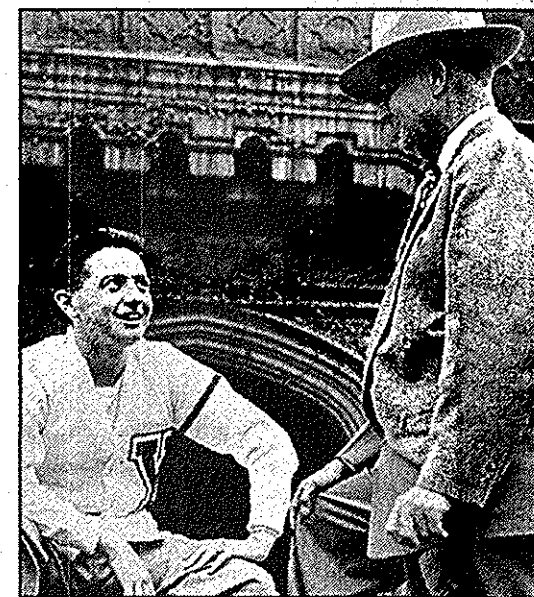
Marilyn Chuey, daughter of the late Howard Jones, spoke with a Jambar reporter about her father's lasting legacy, the lives of the students he touched and the recent donation to immortalize him in bronze.

"The university was virtually his life," Chuey said. "He took the time to get to know every student."

A YSU benefactor has decided that the campus community needs to be reminded of Jones' legacy and has donated \$100,000 to build a bronze statue of Jones.

Tony Lariccia said he and his family decided to fund the statue because of how Jones had touched his life. Lariccia, a well-known local philanthropist and stockbroker, also funded the bronze statue of Coach Dominic Rosselli, YSU's former baseball, basketball and assistant football coach. The statue of Rosselli is located in front of Beeghly Center.

Lariccia, who graduated from YSU in 1966, said these two men were "phenome-



Picture courtesy of Youngstown State University

In this 1949 photograph, Howard Jones chats with a student on the YSU campus. A bronze sculpture honoring Jones will be donated in 2008, in his honor.

Chuey is grateful for the attention her father is getting, but she said he would not have wanted it that way. Chuey said her father would have used the money for something else other than a statue of himself.

please see STATUE, Page 4

Two campus editors suspended for running Muhammad cartoons

By: David Mendell
CHICAGO TRIBUNE
(KRT)

The editor in chief of a student newspaper serving the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign has been suspended after printing cartoons depicting the prophet Muhammad that, when published in Europe, enraged Muslims and led to violent protests in the Middle East and Asia.

Editor Acton Gorton and his opinions editor, Chuck Prochaska, were relieved of their duties at The Daily Illini on Tuesday while a task force investigates "the internal decision-making and communication" that led to the publishing of the cartoons, according to a statement by the newspaper's

publisher and general manager, Mary Cory.

Gorton said he expects to be fired at the conclusion of the investigation, which is expected to take two weeks.

"I pretty much have an idea how this is going to run, and this is a thinly veiled attempt to remove me from my position," said Gorton, a University of Illinois senior who took the newspaper's helm Jan. 1. "I am feeling very betrayed, and I feel like the people who I thought were my friends and supporters didn't back me up."

Nearly every major U.S. newspaper has not published the cartoons. They were first published in late September by the Danish newspaper Jyllands-Posten and reprinted in other European publi-

cations in recent weeks. The cartoons portray the prophet as a terrorist, including one that depicts Muhammad wearing a turban shaped as a bomb.

Gorton, 25, said he believes he made a sound journalistic decision in running six of the cartoons because the public has a right to judge their content. He said he consulted with top staff members and journalism instructors before making the decision to publish them in Thursday's newspaper.

"This is not a publicity stunt, and this wasn't an easy decision," said Gorton.

Gorton's decision, however, caused an uproar in the local Muslim community and rankled other Illini staff members after the paper was deluged with negative letters and e-mails.

Gorton himself said he received 300 e-mails. Two-thirds of the e-mails were supportive and a third were hateful, he said.

University of Illinois Chancellor Richard Herman also wrote a letter to the newspaper saying he was saddened by Gorton's decision.

Then, on Monday, the paper ran an editorial apologizing for Gorton's decision and called the move "a blatant abuse of power" by a "renegade editor who firmly believes that his will is also the will of the paper."

The task force will study whether Gorton made his decision in a vacuum that was improper according to the Illini's journalistic standards, written in 1947. The Daily Illini is an independent publication that serves the university community and is overseen by a board of directors that includes students and

faculty.

"The board and publisher reaffirm that final decisions about content in The Daily Illini rest with the editor in chief," Cory said in a written statement. "But the board and publisher also recognize that journalistic norms regarding professional behavior dictate that it is the editor's obligation to engage other student editors and student staff members in rigorous discussion and debate of sensitive content."

GRADUATION, continued from page 1

Classified

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gram.

Athens' Republican Senator Jimmy Stewart said the proposal should take into account the number of non-traditional and underprivileged students that attend the school and tailor the incentives to meet individual needs.

Thomas Maraffa, special assistant to the president, participated in a national study of graduation rates, said he would support the legislation if the rewards take factors such as minority enrollment, number of students getting need based help and non-traditional students into consideration.

"You can't compare the graduation

rate of Youngstown State University to the graduation rates of Miami University," Maraffa said.

Maraffa said the study he was involved in looked at factors affecting graduation rates at colleges and universities whose profiles matched YSU's. He said the state standard for college graduation, according to the Ohio Board of Regents, is six years.

YSU showed an 8.8 percent increase in the number of students to graduate in six years or less between 1997 and 2003, from 28.1 percent to 36.9 percent. The statewide average increase for institutions similar to YSU is 4.2 percent.

Beatrice said another reason students take longer to graduate is the need for developmental or remedial classes.

Taft said in his address he plans to up the state high school graduation requirements, in order to eliminate the need for such classes at four-year institutions, like YSU, forcing students to take the classes at community colleges.

Maraffa said if Taft's legislation is implemented, it could pose a problem for YSU, the only metropolitan area without a community college nearby.

"If the legislation is implemented to its fullest, we will do everything to keep the classes available. People have to realize YSU's role as the community college," Maraffa said. "Even if there was a

community college near Youngstown for students to attend, Beatrice said students enrolled in community colleges are less likely to move on to four-year colleges.

According to a 2004 report by Kevin Carey for The Education Trust, it is more likely that a student will either fail or succeed at their original institutions.

"Students who are more likely to get a degree from a four-year institution are those who start on a full-time basis at a four-year institution," Carey wrote.

The incentive program would require \$30 million from the state's two-year budget bill.

The proposal is expected to be in writing sometime this May.

Call Cheryl Thompson at (330) 941-1913.

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[Formerly Bytes 'n Pieces]

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Note: Quantities of some software may be limited at times due to shipments. For further details and/or to purchase your software visit YSU Info Center (formerly Bytes 'n Pieces), located on the upper level of Kilcawley Center.

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Editorial & Opinion

Thursday, February 16, 2006

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thejambar

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PHONE | (330) 941-3095 FAX | (330) 941-2322

LEONARD GLENN CRIST | Editor In Chief (330) 941-1991
BILL RODGERS | News Editor (330) 941-1989
BRIAN CETINA | Design Editor (330) 941-1807
KATIE LIBECCO | Copy Editor (330) 941-3758

CHERYL THOMPSON | Asst. News Editor (330) 941-1913
ADAM ROGERS | Asst. Design Editor (330) 941-1807
JUSTIN SMOLKOVICH | Sports (330) 941-3758
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OUR SIDE

Budget shortfall: Cost cutting steps sorely needed

While considering the news that Youngstown State University is facing a \$1.2 million budget shortfall this year, here are several facts to keep in mind:

- In November 2004, YSU President David Sweet was granted annual pay raises of between 2 and 4 percent throughout the life of his contract, which expires in 2010.
- In July 2005, about 145 non-union administrators received 3 percent pay raises.
- After August's strikes, faculty and staff unions negotiated a contract that will pay out nearly \$5.5 million in raises over three years.
- Healthcare costs at YSU are expected to increase \$2.3 million over the next three years.
- State funding has dropped considerably over the years. In 2000, YSU received \$47 million from the state, in 2005, just \$40.5 million.
- Tuition at YSU has gone up for eight straight years, and will probably go up again next year.
- Since Sweet became president in 2000, tuition at YSU has increased an over-inflated 68 percent.
- As of December, YSU had more than \$11 million in budgetary reserves.

To summarize, everybody got pay raises, healthcare costs went up, and state funding went down. To pay for all of this, YSU officials have raised tuition substantially, despite the fact that they have considerable budgetary reserves.

The Labor-Management Review Panel report released last month recommended firing John Habat, YSU's vice president for administration, and Hugh Chatman, YSU's executive director of human resources, due to their role in inflaming labor tensions on campus.

This editorial board has suggested that if Habat and Chatman must go, Sweet and YSU's trustees should go with them, because all orders come from the top down.

But if David Sweet, John Habat and Hugh Chatman should be fired for anything, it should be for not bargaining with the unions harder and for being hypocrites in accepting their own self-ish pay raises.

Budget shortfalls and impending tuition increases only prove that these officials were bargaining with money they didn't have. Unfortunately, the past can't be changed; pay raises have already been agreed to, contracts have already been negotiated.

Now officials must look for ways to cut costs. Jeff Taylor, director of YSU's budget office, has said the university will likely make up the shortfall by freezing hires for vacant positions on campus. This isn't the most desirable response, however in a time like this, it seems appropriate.

Another option: Seriously assessing the viability of certain majors offered by YSU and eliminating unpopular programs.

There are four degrees offered by YSU — advertising art, chemical engineering, earth science and financial economics — that currently only have one student enrolled. Should regular students subsidize these unpopular programs that likely aren't holding up their financial end of the stick?

Not to devalue the importance of the major or the professors teaching the courses, but there are a number of degrees YSU could offer that it doesn't. Some programs just aren't financially viable.

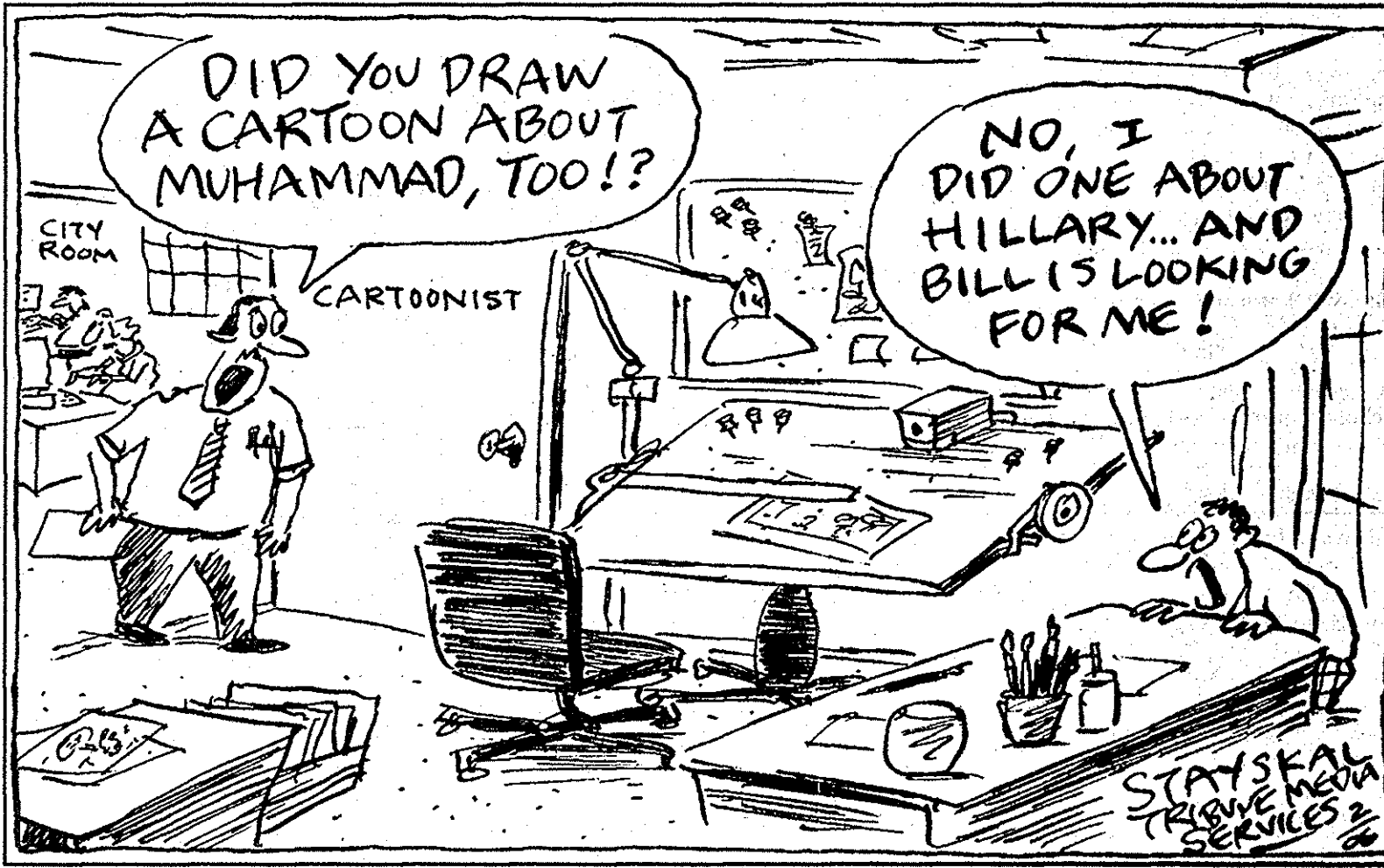
Finally, there is one very simple and palpable solution for solving the budget shortfall: Dip into the budgetary reserves.

Habat once described the reserves as "rainy day funds" in case the "bottom falls out."

We advise the administrators to take a good long look out the window. It's pouring and there are no signs that it's going to let up.

EDITORIAL POLICY

The Jambar editorials reflect the opinions of The Jambar and its Editorial Board members. Commentaries and columns reflect only the views of the individual who wrote the piece. Those wishing to schedule meetings with the Editorial Board should call the editor in chief.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Recommendations of labor panel misunderstood

Editor:

There appears to be a lack of understanding by students, including the editor-in-chief of The Jambar, concerning the recommendations of the labor-management panel appointed by the president of YSU. On a much broader scale, this ignorance extends to knowing the difference between the faculty on one hand and the administration on the other. To many students, the faculty continually demands higher wages, which the administration then conveniently forces the students to pay for through increased tuition. Now, consider the following statement in the 2/7/06 Jambar: "By suggesting that YSU fire these two administrators, but none of the faculty and staff personalities involved in the strikes, the panel has placed the entire blame for the labor breakdown on the shoulders of these two men."

The primary functions of faculty members at YSU are research, scholarship, teaching, and university service. Some of us volunteer for such things as being a member of the negotiating team, stand for election, and serve on the team on our own time and without any additional pay. This is NOT our primary duty, and if we were to neglect teaching our classes, we would be held accountable. To repeat, we get ZERO additional dollars for spending countless hours negotiating with the other side. On the other hand, administrators like Hubert Chatman and J. Habat are paid well over \$100,000 to do exactly this thing. If they fail their primary duties, then they deserve to be fired. To suggest that faculty members should be fired for something which is NOT in their contracts and was NOT what they were hired for in order to make things look balanced, demonstrates a severe lack of knowledge of the functioning of a university.

When you graduate from YSU and find a job, don't you want to be paid what you're worth? Do you want to have health insurance? Do you want your salary to keep up with inflation? Of course you do! These were what both the faculty and the staff wanted at the last contract negotiations, and we didn't get it! We lost benefits and our salary increases are below the current rate of inflation. Many of you would deny to us what you would certainly demand for yourselves.

There are labor-management problems at YSU, but they will never disappear without the hiring of a new, competent president and an enlightened Board of Trustees appointed by a governor who understands what a university is for, not one who is a common criminal. Many faculty and staff members are here for the long term; I myself have 30 years invested in YSU. We are the heart, the soul, and the brain of this university. We view the upper administration as newcomers (a.k.a. locusts), who only come to YSU to pad their resumes, and soon move on with all they can carry, leaving a devastated area in their wake. We believe that "they" care nothing for YSU, and their actions demonstrate this fundamental truth over and over again. The faculty and staff were not responsible for last August's strikes - this administration and Board of Trustees were. The two mentioned for removal are, indeed, just the tip of the mediocrity iceberg. I call

upon the president and the entire Board to submit their resignations immediately.

Ronald G. Tabak
Professor of Physics & Astronomy

Voice vote in passing resolution left some mute

Editor:

Valentine's Day is a fitting occasion for love letters, or at least dispatches about "passion." For several weeks now, we have been treated to a campus "passion play" concerned with "labor-management relations," a volatile affair most clearly manifested by narrowly calculated histrionics by some of my academic colleagues. As a member of the Academic Senate, I watched with limpid curiosity the interesting process resulting in the "unanimous approval" of a resolution calling for the speedy implementation of the "campus labor report," a document concocted with all the veracity of a "consensus" state of mind. A few words are in order about such processes. More words will be devoted to the unfortunate state of mind that seems to have afflicted many of my colleagues. First of all, I do not blame the good Dr. Shipka for reporting the vote on the Senate resolution as "unanimous." Given the fact that a voice vote was conducted and that no "nay" votes or "abstentions" were voiced, it would indeed appear so. But appearances may be deceiving, and all the better for those who trust in appearances. I did not voice any position on the resolution, as I did not care to embrace the process or what it represented; at least several other members near me did likewise, and one may reasonably suppose that several others elsewhere in the room, for whatever reason, also remained mute. The tactical brilliance of conducting a voice vote is that the loudest voices "win." The mute "dead souls," however, stand as silent witness to the less than unanimous character of the process. Such are the unfortunate limitations of "democratic" procedure, and what a great philosopher once deftly derided as the "falsification of the world through numbers." But then, nothing's perfect.

More troubling to me is the apparent nonchalance—however masked with the swirling vapors of various and mysterious resentments—with which many of my colleagues have regarded the entire process of the "labor relations" report. The two individuals named in the report somehow have come to be regarded as appropriate candidates for summary execution (perhaps the Senate will vote on which form?). My, this is quite interesting. I wonder how many of my esteemed faculty colleagues would stand for one minute to have their employment prospects (and reputations) perilously eroded by a process involving the following: 1) the calculated "testimony" of self-selected "witnesses" who comprise less than seven percent of the "university community"; 2) the approval of such report by "consensus," a nebulous maneuver (rendered illegitimate and laughable during the sad era of "Cochranitis") which palpably renders thoughtful dissent meaningless, in favor of a phony collectivism; and 3) a very limited possibility of checking perception against reasonable accounts and cross-examinations of fact. Given the privileged and tenured

positions occupied the faculty and our resultant "insulation" from the prospects of such treatment, it is hardly surprising that there is a type of "cluck-cluck" attitude about the fates of the two individuals among many of my colleagues. But here is the kicker: were any of my colleagues ever to be faced with the prospect of political "persecution" by such a process described above, you can be sure that they would very rapidly resort to (special effects moment: drum-roll, rimshot—GASP!) a LAWYER. Yes, we all tell jokes about them, look down on them (from our "lofty" academic perches), until—as I tell my intro politics students—we NEED one. And isn't it interesting that one of the named individuals in the report is a lawyer by profession and that a significant part of the passionate demagoguery voiced of late has to do with the alleged pernicious and less than virtuous role of lawyers and their fees. My, my: how very, very interesting.

Negotiating campus contracts, on both sides, has always been a thankless task. Mistakes, on both sides, are unavoidably made. We need to find ways of diminishing resentments as well as real grievances without resorting to cutting off heads and throwing bodies overboard. That always sets a bad precedent. Those who claim that they have the "best interests of the university" at heart are simply mouthing a political truism and playing with foreground rhetoric. What's going on in the background is always more curious. I call on my colleagues to do an individual and collective gut check regarding the nature and potential consequences of this entire process, and to think carefully about due process for ALL individuals on campus, regardless of group affiliation. We all care about the institution, even as we may differ over the particular measures deemed necessary to restore it to reasonable health. But to regard any particular document, especially one generated by "consensus," as dogma, is a low blow against justice and truth. I call on all of my colleagues who may entertain doubts about the nature of this process to speak up. We need more people involved in the discussion.

As for those who prefer to wage war, or plot revolutions or coups, a historical reminder: revolutions, and even coups, often turn on their architects and tend to eat their children. Group actions without appropriate attention to individual justice are always suspect. As a great philosopher once noted: "Madness is something rare in individuals—but in groups, parties, peoples, ages it is the rule."

With a passionate Valentinian hope for subdued passions,

Keith John Lepak, Ph.D.

Associate Professor for Politics & International Relations
Department of Political Science
Academic Senator

Things aren't as bad as they seem

Editor:

This article is in response to Richard Pirko's article bashing the Republican Party. I want to first state that I have the utmost respect for anyone working at the University, but in this case, I must respectfully disagree.

I will be polite in regards to the blatant hatred spewed out this past week.

I will first cover the issue of currency. The dollar is weak against the Chinese yuan because the yuan is artificially set below the dollar.

It is also true the dollar is weak against the euro and Asian currencies. Yet, Pirko seems to believe this is bad. Well, common sense says if the dollar is weak against every other currency, Americans are going to start buying domestic products over foreign ones. Foreign countries are going to start buying up American products if this is the case. Of course, that means Americans will not be flying over to Europe soon, but it is certainly good for domestic industry.

Speaking of the economy, according to the US Bureau of Labor Statistics, unemployment is hovering around 4.6 percent. Mr. Pirko, while quoting the BBC and 60 million Americans being wrong, seems to forget that Europe is hovering around 9 percent unemployment. I forgot to mention under Bush, 69 percent of Americans OWN their homes, and also under him, majority of minorities also own their own homes. Consumer spending was up in December, and in fact, the savings rate for 2005 was negative.

If the economy is so bad, why are people not saving more? They seem pretty confident coming out of 2005. The Dow Jones is hanging around 11,000, where it was before 9/11. That is certainly a good sign.

Regarding the war, let me ask this. If Bush chose NOT to invade Iraq, and Saddam used WMDs, would Bush be blamed for not following the intelligence? I cannot help thinking the same people outraged about the war would be the same ones complaining if Bush didn't follow the intelligence and let Saddam carry out a nuclear attack. Am I wrong?

Would you not concur Mr. Pirko? Saddam's generals said they had them, and gave detailed accounts as to how they were moved to Syria by the way.

About universal healthcare, who would pay for it? Do you plan on paying for it Mr. Pirko? I can imagine everyone would be happy paying an even greater portion of their income for healthcare of mediocre quality. You might get lucky to have something done within a year. I hope it's nothing important that could be life threatening.

Quite clearly you and I are on two different sides of the isle and hence have different perceptions. You want healthcare and schools, I want us to be able to have them twenty years down the road. There is more to this war in Iraq than simply WMDs or alleged oil deals. Would you feel safer with America on two sides of Iran, or safer thousands of miles away in an ivory tower? You and I are both men of logic, but in regards to strategy, logic says there is no other place to be than in the heart of the enemy that wants us dead. And rest assured, with a politically unstable Iran holding nuclear weapons, I'd rather have them surrounded than respond after the fact. I know what the BBC says, but they sure haven't had a lot to say recently. Maybe America was not so stupid after all.

Alex Mangie

COUPLES, continued from page 6

and while some would say this is a testament to how marriage just doesn't work, these people are so wrong it cannot be expressed with the current characters of the English language. Larry King's various marriages not only prove that the most caustic and lizard-like of men can find love, but also that the best solution to marital disputes is the complete termination of the relationship. Larry King's practicality, not to mention stylish shoulder pads and suspenders that no doubt hold up some fabulous pants, proves that you don't need to stick around and try to "fix" the problems with your marriages. I think his current wife would agree with this, at least at the moment. What a pair! For now.

1. Lisa Marie Presley and Michael Jackson - I know their wedding was a sham, but I am putting this couple at the top of my list based on how bizarre their pairing is. I mean, the King of Pop and the daughter of Elvis, getting married? I nearly choked on my fried peanut butter and banana sandwich when I heard the news.

Their marriage obviously didn't last long, but not even fiction could dream up a stranger match. Allow me to demonstrate: Jackie Chan and Bea Arthur. As you can see, not even the most bizarre fictional relationship I can think of can compare to that of Presley and Jackson. And, in what may be a first in a comedy bit about Michael Jackson, I will leave the subject without making any pedophile jokes. I have so many good ones, too.

These great couples may make you question your current relationship, or in many cases your lack of one, but don't let yourself get down. The best kind of love is the love you have for yourself. And if you actually believe that, please forward me your social security number and the numbers of any of your major credit cards so that I can send you more advice.

Bob Mackey was once in a loving relationship until he realized that the girl was not only imaginary, but also invisible. He can be reached at (330) 941-1913.

BUDGET, continued from page 1

"I wish to be clear on that. No faculty hires have been frozen. That is a last-resort issue," Herbert said.

A similar shortfall occurred before in 1992 when the university lost nearly \$1.7 million in state funding. The university responded to the cut with a hiring freeze covering administrative and classified staff positions and a request that all departments reduce operating expenses by five percent.

Questions were raised over a faculty listserv message whether the budget crisis was due to the university's Early Retirement Incentive Plan (ERIP) for classified staff. The plan "buys" remaining years of service from employees

who are about to retire, enabling the university to hire new people on a lower pay scale. University employees and members of the Labor-Management Relations Panel criticized the plan, saying it was poorly thought out and costly to the university.

Sweet denied this, saying that the initial numbers were "very encouraging." Sweet said he would discuss the ERIP's benefits when he met with the board of trustees next week. Sweet said that of the 185 employees who were eligible, 77 signed up.

Christine Domhoff, president of the classified employees union at YSU, disagreed. "They completely under-

estimated the amount of people who would sign up for it," Domhoff said. "Then they have to pay for the remaining service as well as vacation time and sick leave accrual. It all adds up to a significant sum."

Domhoff said she "absolutely" thought university operations would be affected if classified employee vacancies weren't filled.

"I think we learned that lesson during the strike. I hate to sound doom and gloom, but this certainly doesn't seem good for the university and the students," Domhoff said.

Call Bill Rodgers at (330) 941-1989.

STATUE, continued from page 1

"He didn't have to have publicity," Chuey said.

Lariccia, on the other hand, said he wanted to make sure that future generations of YSU students could look up to the statue and remember Jones' humility.

"I wanted to create a lasting memory for people to see and try to emulate," Lariccia said.

But Jones did more than leave one student with a lasting impression.

Jones began his career at the then-Youngstown College in 1931 as president. When Jones started at YoCo, as it was called in the press, there were 472 students and was operating in conjunction with the YMCA. He had the vision to expand the school. By 1955, there were more than 11,000 students and several buildings added.

"If it wasn't for Howard Jones the university wouldn't be the way it is today," Lariccia said.

Jones also established the YSU foundation, since renamed in his memory to The Howard Jones Tower Society. Reid Schmutz, president of the foundation, remembers Jones as an "outgoing" person but also that Jones was a great leader and businessman.

"He guided this institu-

tion through thick and thin, guided it through the depression, through bust and boom and over some very tough years. He was very happy to educate and get a college degree for people who couldn't get one normally," Schmutz said.

Schmutz continued by saying that Jones would be proud of the condition of the university today.

"He'd be happy that we are educating students at a reasonable cost," Schmutz said. "Part of the legacy today is the rich history of professors that like to teach. You had to enjoy teaching to work here."

Only few professors are left at YSU from Jones' time, when he retired in 1966. But Warren Young, an astronomy professor, vividly remembers the day he was hired to teach here - Feb. 20, 1960. It was the day John Glenn was launched into space to orbit the Earth.

Young was invited to watch this historic event on Jones' television- and interview for the job - at his home.

The problem was that Jones' wife was sick and the only television in the Jones' home was at her bedside. So, Jones had to interview Young on his wife's bed.

Young still jokes about it to this day.

"I'm the only member of the faculty that was hired while in bed with the president's wife," Young said.

Chuey said her parents always welcomed students and faculty into their house, which is located where the Maag Library stands today.

Chuey said her father always found time for students.

"He made it a special event to go out to the games, especially after defeats. He would go to the locker rooms and cheer them [the players] up," Chuey said.

Chuey remembered one winter when there were parking problems on campus and students had to park along the street. When her dad saw that the police were coming to issue tickets, he sprung into action.

"My dad rushed into a class to tell the students that they better hurry to move their cars as the police were giving them tickets," Chuey said.

Plans for the statue have not been finalized and the dedication ceremony will take place during YSU's bicentennial, in 2008.

Call Steve Lettau at (330) 941-1913.

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More news in brief

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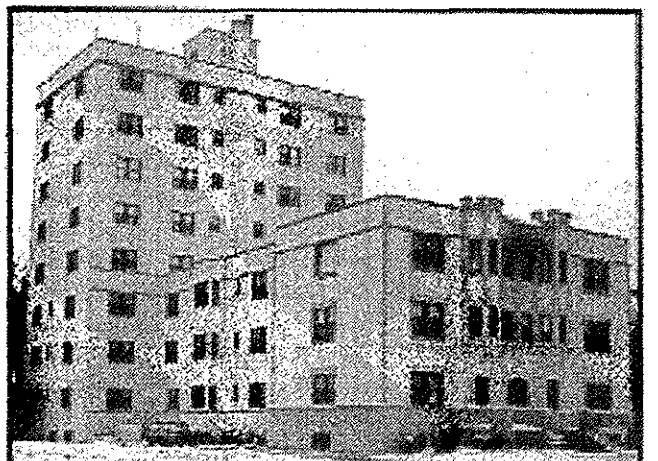
Free tax help
Tax preparation and filing sessions will be conducted throughout February, March and April on the fourth floor of Williamson Hall by volunteers from the Williamson College of Business Administration as part of the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA).
The session schedule is:
Saturday from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.;
March 4, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.;
March 10, from 4 to 7:30 p.m.;
March 16, from 4 to 7:30 p.m.;
March 25, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.;
April 1, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.;
and April 8, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Dana Flute Festival
The Dana Flute Festival will be Saturday Feb. 25, from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. in Bliss Hall. This year's event will feature Mathieu Dufor, principal flute with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra. Dufor will present a master flute class from 9 to 11 a.m. and play a recital of French compositions with pianist Eric Charnofsky at 1 p.m. Registration forms and information are available at www.fpa.yosu.edu or contact Kathryn Thomas Umble at kaumble@ysu.edu or (330) 941-1831. Pre-registration is \$12 or \$15 at the door. Tickets for Dufor's 1 p.m. performance alone are \$10.

SMARTS and Etruscan Press fundraiser
A fundraiser for Students Motivated by the Arts will be from 7:30 to 11 p.m. Friday at the SMARTS Center on Federal Plaza West in downtown Youngstown. The event will also benefit the Etruscan Press' publication of Steve Reese's book of translations by Cuban poet Roberto Manzano. Brady's Leap will perform to celebrate the release of its second CD Heart of a Stranger. Tickets are \$25 for general admission and \$15 for YSU students. Reservations are required. To make reservations, call Becky Keck, SMARTS director, at (330) 941-2787 or email at rkeck@ysu.edu.

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- ▶ 2/18 — Men's basketball @ Canisius
- ▶ 2/18 — Women's basketball @ UW- Milwaukee
- ▶ 2/18 — Tennis @ Dayton

YSU BASKETBALL

Penguins fall to Detroit 65-54

By: Justin Smolkovich
SPORTS REPORTER

Following Wednesday's basketball game against the Detroit Titans, first-year Head Coach Jerry Slocum summed up his team's 65-54 loss in one simple statement.

"Let's face it," Slocum said. "You are not going to shoot 23 percent and win a basketball game."

The abysmal 23 percent Slocum referenced was the Penguin's second half field goal percentage, hitting just 6 of 26 shots including several layup and open jump shots.

Junior guard Quin Humphrey, who led the Penguins with 17 points, said one of the Penguins' problems was bad luck.

"I just think we need to keep taking shots," Humphrey said. "They were all good shots, they just weren't falling."

Second half shooting woes were not the only concern of the Penguins.

During the post-game press conference, Humphrey said Slocum has stressed the importance of rebounding, something that was nearly non-existent Wednesday night. Detroit out rebounded the Penguins by a tally of 41-27 and dwarfed the Penguins in second chance points 16-3.

The second half disappointments came as a surprise to most at Beechly Center following a first half that saw Detroit leading by only a mere three points, 35-32.

The Penguins appeared to be in striking distance several times in the first stanza behind the hot shooting of senior guard Derrick Harris who

led all scorers with 14 at intermission. Unfortunately for the Penguins and Harris, his hot hand didn't carry over to the second half and he was held scoreless for the rest of the game.

Harris however played the entire game along with Humphrey, neither committing a single turnover. The Penguins committed fewer turnovers than their counterparts from Detroit, giving the ball away just seven times compared to 13.

Following the game, Slocum said that the turnover battle was a bittersweet victory for the Penguins.

"I guess if you are looking for a silver lining, that would be it," Slocum said.

Humphrey, who also led the team in rebounds along with forward Jack Liles with five, said that Detroit's second half run, that put them up by as many as 12 in the second half, may have made the cold shooting Penguins even more tentative to shoot the ball.

"If we get faced with a big deficit, we may get a little timid to shoot the ball," Humphrey said.

The Penguins will need to shed the timid demeanor during their next few games however as they hit the road, traveling to play at both Canisius and Butler before returning home for the final regular season game of the year against Loyola.

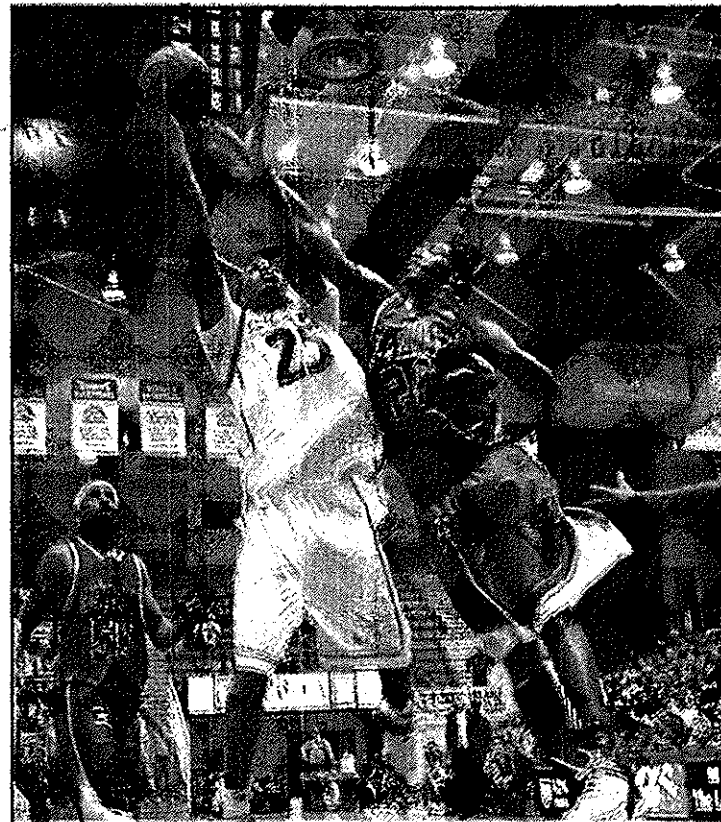
The men will go up against Loyola Feb. 25 at 7:05 p.m.

Call Justin Smolkovich at (330) 941-3758.



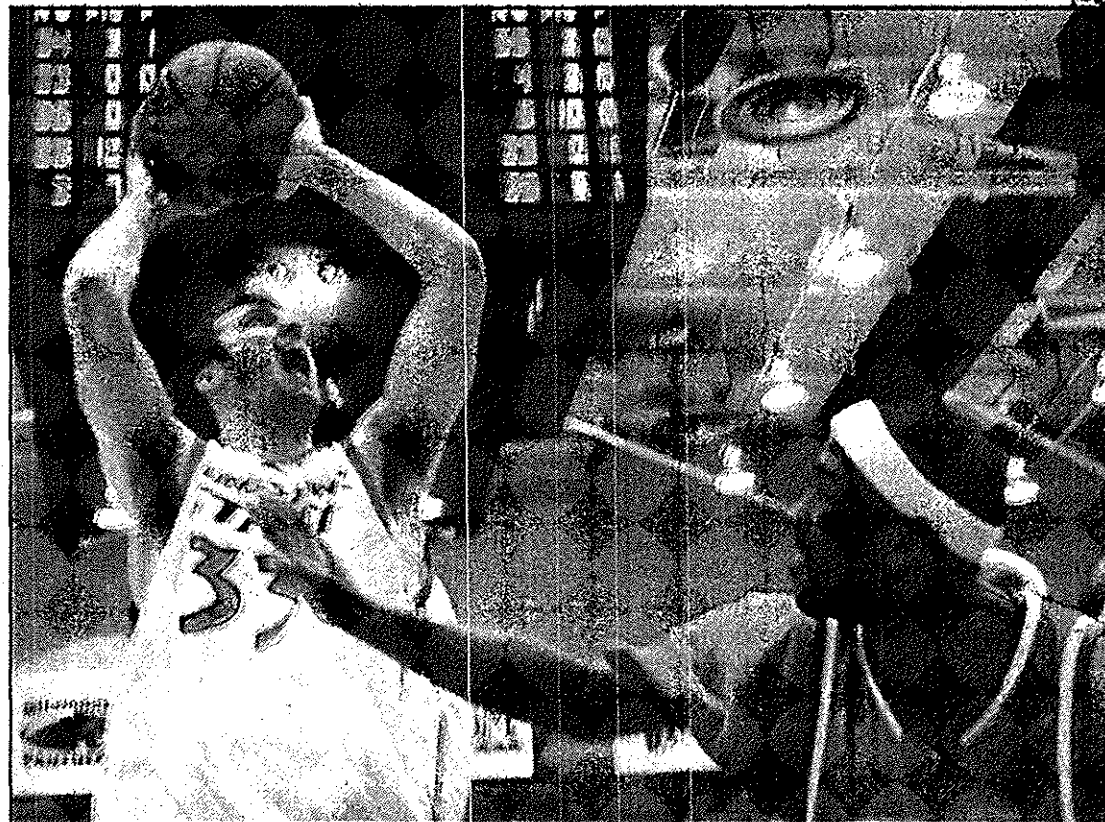
Jambar/Katia Libano

TOP RIGHT: YSU's Quin Humphrey dunks, yes, dunks on a Detroit opponent. He led the Penguins scoring 17 points and tallying five rebounds. Humphrey cited 'bad luck' as the reason for their 65-54 loss.



BOTTOM LEFT: Senior Dominique Crawford fights for control of the ball during Wednesday's game. Crawford shot at 20 percent for the game overall.

BOTTOM RIGHT: Sophomore Colin La Forme snags a rebound and puts up a shot past a Detroit opponent.



TORINO OLYMPICS

Curling?! Still an Olympic sport?

By: Justin Smolkovich
SPORTS REPORTER

Like most red-blooded Americans, I love me some curling. And like most red-blooded Americans, I love me some sarcasm.

For those not in the Olympic know, curling is a sport. This is shocking, I know. The point of curling — in simple terms I will use to make it seem even less like a sport — is to slide a rock down a patch of ice towards a goal much like the more popular shuffle board played by retirees and Floridians. But wait, this is where curling takes a trip off the road of convention and takes a dive off the cliff of the absurd, later splashing into the sea of stupidity. As the rock slides down the ice at speeds rivaling those of three-legged sloths, there are team members sweeping the ice in front of the rock. You heard right, sweeping.

If the involvement of brooms into Olympic competition is not enough to get your blood pumping, here are some other facts you should know about curling, or as I like to refer to it - Rock Sweeping.

Baseball is out, but curling is in?

If you were not aware, baseball and softball will be removed from the Olympics starting in 2012. While I am aware that the summer games are a completely different entity from their winter counterpart, it



courtesy of KRT Campus

Julie Skinner, the Canadian Women's third, yells out instructions during the Olympic bronze medal contest against the US at the Ice Sheet in Ogden, Utah, Thursday February 21, 2002. Canada won 9-5.

seems a little odd to exclude one but keep the other. In what I am assuming was a Faustian deal with the devil himself, curling remains a winter games regular in which players lurk in the shadows of Olympic Village, polishing their rocks. While I don't deny Rock Sweeping may take some form of skill much like long divi-

sion or deciphering a cell phone plan, is it worthy of earning valuable jewelry for placing first? If skill is the litmus test the Olympic Committee uses in determining what is an Olympic sport, I suggest they remove rhythmic gymnastics and add beer pong, just to level things out a bit

Terminology

While most cool sports have cool lingo such as "blitz", "dunk", and "groin kick", curling has terminology such as "You dumped it", "Hit the broom" and "Nice rock." I would try to explain what the aforementioned terms mean, but it doesn't really matter, it's still a rock and a broom.

The "Spirit of Curling"

According to the World Curling Federation handbook, "Curlers play to win but never to humble their opponents. A true curler would prefer to lose rather than win unfairly."

This passage reads so prim-and-proper that if you were to read it out loud, you should do so with a British accent while wearing a top hat. I would have much more respect for curling if the rules included the phrase "We shall penalize those committing murder with the rock, or malicious attacks with the broom. However, the penalty will be reduced by half if the offending party apologizes with a firm handshake."

Those are only three reasons, this list could have reached seven, possibly eight, but the point has been made. That point is that the Curling society at large, all 17 members, has some explaining to do to us, the general non-curling public, as to why they deserve our TV time and our rocks and leftover brooms. Swiffer Wetjets need not apply.

Kalimba King celebrates African heritage

By: Katie Libecco
 COPY EDITOR

The Kalimba King, Carl Winters, a jazz musician, performed in the Chestnut Room Tuesday night as part of Youngstown State University's celebration of African American History month.

Winters is admittedly self-proclaimed. "You gotta market yourself, okay?" Winters said, laughing.

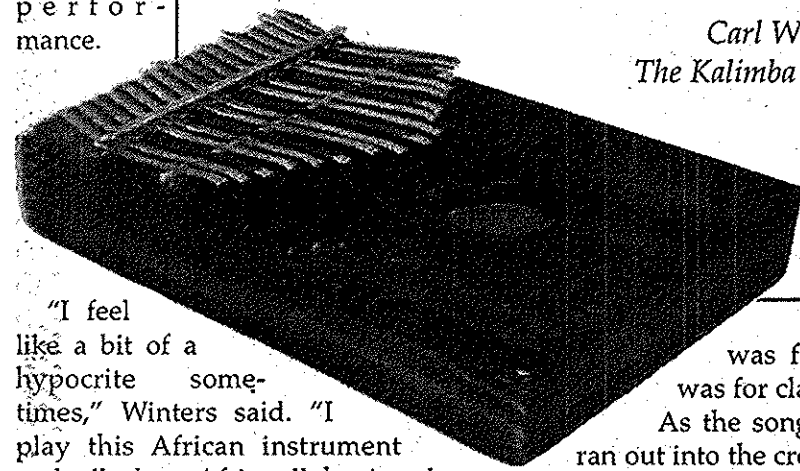
The kalimba, Winters explained, is a popular African instrument. Essentially, it is a thumb piano made from a wooden board with small metal keys. Winters would nod and grit his teeth as he played the kalimba.

Winters performed gospel, blues, jazz and rhythm and blues on the kalimba. The table next to him onstage included nine kalimbas, each in a different key. Winters told stories about himself, joked and

explained the history of the kalimba during the evening's performance.

"The whole community is a part of the song. The whole village performs."

Carl Winters
 The Kalimba King



"I feel like a bit of a hypocrite sometimes," Winters said. "I play this African instrument and talk about Africa all the time, but I've never been there. I've been trying to get back."

Winters was born and raised in Texas and began playing the kalimba in college,

with a little motivation from its use in Earth, Wind and Fire. He's a currently a San Francisco resident, who resigned after teaching elementary education for 12 years.

He began Tuesday's performance with 60s protest song, "We Shall Not be Moved," to honor the Civil Rights Movement. Winters performed vocals over a recorded track, as he danced and played the Kalimba.

"The whole community is a part of the song. The whole village performs," he said introducing the second song, "Original Art (Jazz.)"

"Original Art" was a great showcase of Winters' personality. Before the song began, he split the room into two parts, and instructed them to sing different parts of the song while he sang a third part and played the kalimba. There was an additional background track of rhythm.

The song was a tribute to famous jazz artists, going from A to Z by name. Whereas "We Shall Not be Moved" was sung, "Original Art" was spoken word, almost rapped. X was for "Xylophone," played by Lionel Hampton. Y

was for the Yardbirds and Z was for clarinetist "Zoot Sims."

As the song wound down, Winters ran out into the crowd to shake hands with audience members.

Winters' performance was an exciting opportunity to experience a great musician performing a unique instrument, and learn about the role of arts in African culture.



Jambor/ Katie Libecco

Carl Winters, the self-proclaimed Kalimba King, performed in the Chestnut Room on Tuesday as part of YSU's celebration of African American History Month. Winters performed jazz and blues music on the African instrument Kalimba, or a thumb piano.

The final songs performed included "Amazing Grace," where Winters played the Kalimba exclusively, classic oldies song "Stand By Me" and classic jazz tune "Sugar."

More information on the Kalimba King is available by visiting www.kalimbaking.com.

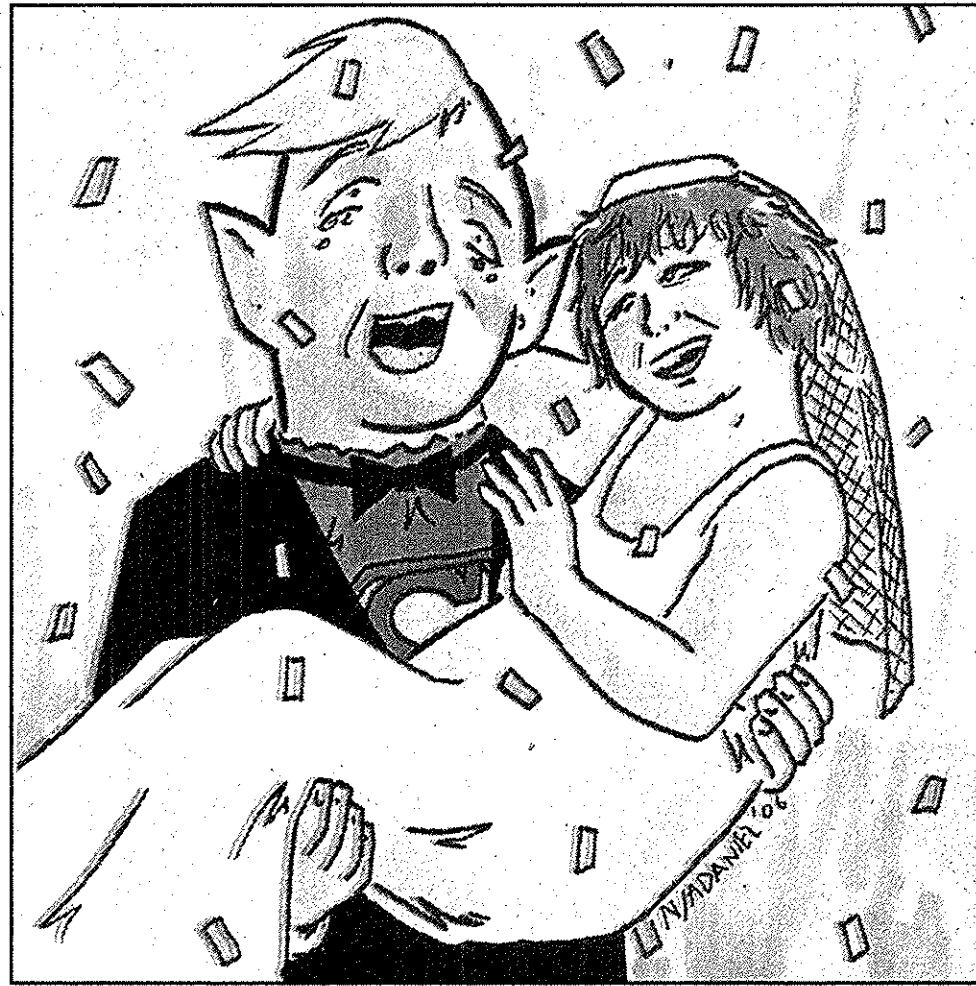
call Katie Libecco at (330) 941-3758

History's greatest couples revealed

By: Bob Mackey
 COLUMNIST

Valentine's Day is in the not-too-distant past and those of us with significant others can judge the value of our lives by measuring the amount of Valentine's Day loot gained. If you've gotten enough adorable talking stuffed animals, boxes of chocolates and fuzzy items with the word "wuv" on them to choke a landfill, then congratulations: you should consider yourself loved in the traditional, "modern" sense. Although the Hallmark Company has set the benchmark of judging love to the non-biodegradable, love wasn't always a product marketed to a society of people that cannot express their emotions unless they are inscribed on a \$3.99 piece of card stock. Love used to be based on more than petroleum-based products, and as evidence of this I now clumsily introduce my feature on the five greatest couples of all time.

5. Marc Antony and Cleopatra - There's no question about it, the most solid relationships always end in double suicide. Just think about it: if it's hard to talk someone into sleeping with you, it's obviously much more difficult to iron out the details of how you will both end your lives should things go awry. From the method of death to at just what angle you will hold your handguns, no one really wants to go into these particulars, much less carry through with them. You may say you're both going to fire at the same time, but usually someone always chickens out and that can only lead to funeral awkwardness. Antony and Cleopatra stuck to their guns, and although real guns were not available in their time period, they were able to come up with their own effective versions of suicide. While Antony loses points for having the standard honorable "running yourself through with a sword," he gains comedy points for being completely inept at it. Cleopatra, always prepared to die, constantly carried around a special "suicide asp" for special occasions.



Art by Nick Daniel

That's classy.

4. Kevin Federline and Britney Spears - I know what you're thinking: "But Kevin Federline is a pantload and Britney Spears' only redeeming features are slowly being robbed by Father Time and her constant desire for the state of pregnancy!" All of this may be true, but Kevin and Britney are unique in that they are single-handedly eliminating the "married woman as useless housewife" stereotype that is still plaguing modern-day sitcoms for some reason. Peg Bundy from "Married With Children" seems pale in comparison to the new specimen of "househusband" that Federline has become. Strapping his baby to the hood of his car while shopping for things to dip in diamond-coated platinum has become Kevin's daily life, and also something our president would probably call "uniquely American." Kevin and Britney set the standard for impulsive, misguided 20-

something weddings, with their terrible lives as a cautionary tale for those who would make the same mistakes. For this, they are great.

3. Sloth and Chunk ("The Goonies") - While this entry may seem like I am pandering to the nostalgia-starved members of Generation Y, an investigation of marriage records in the state of Massachusetts proves that Sloth and Chunk are indeed married and living in a small ranch home in Andover. And if you think this is dubious, not only does Massachusetts allow gay marriage, but it also allows gay fictional marriages. If you think this is liberalism gone mad, you obviously haven't heard the haunting cries of their lovemaking that echo over the Atlantic Ocean, guiding ships safely into jagged rocks.

2. Larry King and Bride X - Larry King has been married seven times,

please see **COUPLES**, Page 4

WEEKEND EVENTS

Friday:

Rock n Roll Purgatory presents: **Bob's Country Bunker, Lords of the Highway, Pussyfoot Girls Burlesque Show, Uncle Scratch's Gospel Revival, The Marauders** at Cedar's Lounge 23 N. Hazel St. (21+) This could be one of the best shows of 2006, with Youngstown favorites Bob's Country Bunker, a self-proclaimed "hillbilly trash rock n roll" band, with Cleveland rockabilly acts Lords of the Highway and Eastern Pennsylvania's Uncle Scratch's Gospel Revival - all acts known for rocking out. Tickets for the show are only \$7.

Rock groups **Otel** and Western New York quartet **Phantasm** at The Nyabinghi, 1229 Salt Springs Road. (18+)

Cover band **The Rage** at Salty Grog's in Boardman, 1203 Boardman-Poland Road. (21+)

Saturday:

The Zou's Semi-Annual **Rock Nouveau Show** at Cedar's Lounge, 23 N. Hazel St. (18+) You can catch some of the most original bands in the area: **Love Circuit, You Are The War That I Want, Lady Fantastic, Sam Goodwill, Posture Coach, Third Class and The Zou.** DJ Norm Rockwell will be performing all night.

Tom Tiratto's "**Tribute to Frank Sinatra**" at Stambaugh Auditorium, 1000 Fifth Ave. Tiratto's Las Vegas style show will include many of Sinatra's signature hits, "New York-New York," "My Way," "My Kind Of Town." The show starts at 7 p.m. and tickets are \$25.

The Youngstown Playhouse Youth Theatre will present "**Holes**," 2:30 p.m. Reservations may be made by calling the Playhouse Box Office at 330-788-8739.

Dance cover band the **Smack Daddy's** will be at Boardman's Salty Grog's, 1203 Boardman-Poland Road. (21+)

Sunday:

Winterfresh Sno Core 2006 Tour featuring **Shinedown** and **Seether** with special guests Flyleaf and Halestorm at The Struthers FieldHouse. General admission tickets are still available for \$20 at all area Papa John's locations, South Bridge Billiards in Struthers and by visiting www.cellar-rocks.com. Doors open at 6 p.m. for the all-ages show.

Want to be included in the Weekend Events Calendar? Let us know what's going on by e-mailing thejambor@gmail.com