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NOT UP TO THE HYPE
 Jambar staffer says "The Ring 2" didn't live up to expectations.
See page 4.



SILAS GONE
 The Cleveland Cavs fired head coach Paul Silas Monday.
See page 6.

VOLUME 74, ISSUE 54

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YOUNGSTOWN STATE UNIVERSITY

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the jambar
 Youngstown State University

Also Inside



▲ Campus remained busy despite spring break week.
See page 4.

News Briefs

Poetry reading

The Mocha House will host an open poetry reading at 7:00 p.m. Friday, April 1. The event is open to the public and sponsored by the MFA Creative Writing Literary Publishing Class. The Mocha House is located at 467 High N.E., in Warren. For more information, contact Karen Schubert at (330) 941-3169, kmschubert@ysu.edu, or Evaline Abram-Diroll at (330) 941-3748, eeabramdiroll@ysu.edu.

Musician auditions

The U.S. Army is currently holding open auditions for musicians. The auditions will take place from 2:00-5:00 p.m. March 30 in Bliss Hall, room 3137. They are filling positions for brass, woodwinds and rhythm. Those performers selected may receive a competitive salary, 30 days paid vacation and full medical and dental benefits. Under the College Loan Repayment Program, qualified students can receive up to \$65,000 in student loan reimbursement. The audition sign-in sheet will be located at the music department's front desk. For more information, contact Sergeant First Class Warren at (330) 965-1125.

Send your news briefs to thejambar@hotmail.com

Weather >> Mostly cloudy
 45 | 35

the jambar poll question
 Last question
 Do you believe in ghosts?
 73% Yes 27% No
 Today's question
 Should Terri Schiavo's feeding tube be re-inserted?
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INTODAY'S JAMBAR
 ▶ Classified | 2
 ▶ Entertainment | 4
 ▶ Opinion | 3
 ▶ Sports | 6

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TAMPA, Fla.

No decision

U.S. District Judge James Whittemore did not immediately make a ruling on the fate of Terri Schiavo

By Vickie Chachere
 Associated Press

aged woman's feeding tube re-inserted. But the judge appeared cool to the argument.

The hearing came three days after the feeding tube was removed. Doctors have said Schiavo, 41, could survive one to two weeks without the tube.

The courtroom showdown, the latest in what has become a

please see **DECISION**, Page 2



Right to life?

Elizabeth Kosorski, left, and Taryn Allin, both from Washington, D.C., pray outside the Woodside Hospice in Pinellas Park, Florida, on Saturday. Protestors gathered outside the hospice to pray for Terri Schiavo, whose feeding tube was disconnected Friday by court order. (KRT Campus)

TAMPA, Fla. — Armed with a new law rushed through Congress over the weekend, the attorney for Terri Schiavo's parents pleaded with a judge Monday to order the brain-dam-

aged woman's feeding tube re-inserted. But the judge appeared cool to the argument. U.S. District Judge James Whittemore did not immediately make a ruling after the two-hour hearing, and he gave no indication on when he might act on the request.

COLUMBUS

Reps push to stop state cuts

Four SGA members traveled to Columbus over spring break

By Christina Poe
 The Jambar

While most of their peers were relaxing over spring break, some Youngstown State University student leaders went to Ohio's capital in the name of higher education.

Last week, four Student Government Association representatives traveled to Columbus to rally against continuing cuts in funding for Ohio colleges and universities.

After Gov. Bob Taft announced another decrease in education funding during his State of the State address, SGA created an ad hoc committee designed to research such factors as university spending.

Bob McGovern, SGA vice president for Financial Affairs and ad hoc committee chair, testified on behalf of his group in front of the Ohio House of Representatives Finance and Appropriations committee.

According to McGovern's testimony, data collected by the Ohio Board of Regents showed tuition within the state increased by 50 percent since 2001.

McGovern told the committee that although budget items such as Medicare were important to the state, the concerns of Ohio's collegiate population needed to be represented just as vigorously.

"The interests of college students are very much under-represented not only at the state-level, but at the federal level as well."

The testimony suggested that an Auditor of State's investigation be carried out in order to look into the spending habits of Ohio universities.

By doing so, McGovern

please see **REPS**, Page 2

YOUNGSTOWN



United in protest

Veteran soldiers, students and others joined together Saturday in downtown Youngstown to call for an end to the war in Iraq and the return home of U.S. soldiers. The demonstration was timed to coincide with the conflict's second anniversary. (KRT Campus)

Sergeant changes view on war

By Chuck Rogers
 The Jambar

His family is part of a military tradition that began during the American Revolution, but U.S. Army Sgt. Kevin Benderman wants fighting to end with him.

Benderman, a veteran of the Persian Gulf War and a

2003-04 tour of duty in Iraq, said witnessing the effects of the conflict on the Iraqi people has changed his point of view. He said he now believes that all war is wrong.

"Seeing war first-hand," he said, "made me believe we need to find a better way to

please see **SERGEANT**, Page 3



SGT. BENDERMAN

YSU

Trustees approve memorandum

It would create a coalition of universities in Columbiana County

By Leonard Crist
 The Jambar

The Youngstown State University Board of Trustees formally approved a memorandum of understanding that would create a coalition of universities in Columbiana County and formally endorsed the framework for Centennial Campus Master Plan at its quarterly meeting Friday.

In December, the Board of Trustees endorsed the concept of a partnership between YSU, Jefferson Community College and Columbiana County Career and Technical Center.

Statistics show that while 21.1 percent of adults in Ohio and 24.4 adults nationwide graduate from college, fewer than 11 percent of adults in Columbiana County have earned bachelor's degrees.

According to the memorandum, which was approved unanimously by the trustees, the collaboration will be called the Higher Education Center of Columbiana County and will offer courses designed to lead to degree programs at YSU and JCC. The courses will be held at the Columbiana County Career and Technical Center.

please see **TRUSTEES**, Page 2

YSU

Report says employees above local median

Classified union disputes methodology of wage study

By Leonard Crist
 The Jambar

Tensions ran high Tuesday afternoon during the presentation of a Youngstown State University commissioned study on the wage competitiveness of the YSU-Associated Classified Employees union.

The study reported classified civil servants employed by YSU earn 12.6 percent more on average than the market median. Union officials quickly questioned the methodology of the study.

The study, conducted by CBIZ Solutions of St. Louis at a cost of about \$43,000 to the university, compared employees at YSU to workers with similar job descriptions based on data found in 14 local, regional and national pay surveys, Edward Rataj, CBIZ's manager of compensation consulting, said.

Overall, pay is well above market for lower paying jobs and falls more in line with market at higher levels of pay, the report stated.

University policy mandates periodic salary studies, however a study of the ACE union, which represents about 400 staff employees, had not been conducted in years, said John Habat, the university's vice president for administration.

Habat said the salary study was meant to be informational, but "clearly you can use the information in a number of ways." YSU-ACE's contract expires in August and contract negotiations with the university are expected to begin soon.

"With pay levels consistently above market rates, it appears that most classified civil service employees would find it difficult to find employment for equal or greater pay

please see **EMPLOYEES**, Page 3

REPS, continued from page 1

told the committee this would show that higher education institutions are willing to find more responsible ways to spend their money and that the state is committed to these institutions and their students.

McGovern said response from legislators was positive and they seemed welcoming to the students' ideas and suggestions.

In a Toledo Blade article, State Representative Shawn Webster (R-53), chairman of the House Finance Committee's higher education subcommittee, said if it were up to him, Taft's 9 percent tuition increase would be "in trouble."

Webster said his major concern centers on how students will be able to afford tuition and added decreasing the raise to 6 percent would be a victory for them.

McGovern added some legislators also seemed to already be on the same page with SGA in regards to funding. House Bill 132, which McGovern said is "pretty close" to SGA's recommendation, was introduced to the 126th General Assembly the day before his testimony.

The bill proposes to amend the Ohio Revised Code by requiring performance budgeting by most state agencies as well as performance audits of those same agencies.

McGovern said the presence of this bill and its bid for legislation will not deter the research of the committee, who plan to appear in front of the Ohio Senate in the future.

YSU President David Sweet said SGA's auditing recommendation would be a way for all Ohio universities to discover how to increase their efficiency and effectiveness.

Sweet commended their efforts and said it will raise awareness among students about the effects their state legislators can have on their education. "The more elected officials hear from students, the more responsive they will be," Sweet said.

Call Christina Poe at (330) 941-1913

DECISION, continued from page 1

legal cliffhanger captivating the nation, followed an extraordinary political fight over the weekend that consumed both chambers of Congress and prompted the president to rush back to the White House.

Congress passed a law that allowed Schiavo's parents to argue their case before a federal court, bringing the legal battle to Whittemore's Tampa courtroom.

"We are rushed and we are somewhat desperate," the Schindler's attorney, David Gibbs III, told the judge. "Terri may die as I speak." The attorney said that forcing Schiavo to die by starvation and dehydration would be "a mortal sin" under her Roman Catholic beliefs.

"It is a complete violation to her rights and to her religious liberty, to force her in a position of refusing nutrition," Gibbs told Whittemore.

But the judge told Gibbs that he was not completely sold on the argument. "I think you'd be hard-pressed to convince me that you have a substantial likelihood" of the parents' lawsuit succeeding, said Whittemore, nominated by former President Clinton in 1999.

George Felos, one of the attorneys for husband Michael Schiavo, told Whittemore that the case has been aired thoroughly in state courts and that forcing the 41-year-old severe-

ly brain damaged woman to endure another reinsertion of the tube would violate her civil rights.

"Every possible issue has been raised and re-raised, litigated and re-litigated," Felos said. "It's the elongation of these proceedings that have violated Mrs. Schiavo's due process rights."

Terri Schiavo's father, Bob Schindler, who had been upbeat about the prospects of his daughter remaining alive, grimly left the courthouse as family friends crowded near him for support.

Terri Schiavo's feeding tube was removed at 1:45 p.m. Friday, the third such time it has been disconnected. On both previous occasions, the tube was re-inserted by court order.

Michael Schiavo contends he is carrying out his wife's wishes not to be kept alive artificially. He said he was outraged that lawmakers and the president were intervening in the bitter right-to-die battle. He has fought for years with his wife's parents over whether she should be permitted to die or kept alive through the feeding tube.

"This is a sad day for Terri. But I'll tell you what: It's also a sad day for everyone in this country because the United States government is going to come in and trample all over

your personal, family matters," he told ABC's "Good Morning America" on Monday.

The family's lawsuit alleges a series of rights violations, including that Terri Schiavo's religious beliefs were being infringed upon, that the removal of the feeding tube violated her rights and that she was not provided an independent attorney to represent her interests.

President Bush applauded the dramatic legislative maneuver by Congress to get the case before a federal court.

"Democrats and Republicans in Congress came together last night to give Terri Schiavo's parents another opportunity to save their daughter's life," Bush said at an event on Social Security in Arizona. "This is a complex case with serious issues, but in extraordinary circumstances like this, it is wise to always err on the side of life."

Outside the hospice where his daughter entered her fourth day without food or water, Bob Schindler told reporters, "I'm numb, I'm just totally numb. This whole thing, it's hard to believe it."

A shout of joy was heard from the crowd outside the hospice when news of the House bill's passage came. About two dozen activists outside the hospice were subdued but hopeful after learning that

Whittemore did not issue an immediate ruling. Some loudly heckled Felos as he spoke with the media.

"This is a life or death matter right now as I speak to you," said Nancy Kramer, 50.

Terri Schiavo suffered brain damage in 1990 when her heart stopped briefly because of a possible potassium imbalance brought on by an eating disorder. She can breathe on her own, but has relied on the feeding tube to keep her alive.

Court-appointed doctors say she is in a persistent vegetative state with no hope of recovery.

Her husband says she would not want to be kept alive in that condition, but her parents insist she could recover with treatment.

Bob Schindler visited his daughter late Sunday and said he noticed the effects of dehydration on her. He said she appeared to be getting tired, but eventually responded to his teasing by making a face at him.

"It tells us she's still with us," he said.

Brian Schiavo, Michael's brother, said he spent Sunday afternoon with his brother and Terri at the hospice, but Terri did not move or make any noises. "Anybody that thinks that she talks and responds, they need to have a mental health examination," he said.

TRUSTEES, continued from page 1

The board also formally endorsed the framework of the Centennial Campus Master Plan, which, among other things, calls for the construction of a new Williamson College of Business Administration, creation of new parking options and an annex to Moser Hall for new laboratories.

Also at Friday's meeting:

Trustee Chander Kholi reported the Trusteeship Committee nominated H.S. Wang for the position of board chairman next year and John Pogue for Vice Chairman. A vote is to be taken at the board's June meeting.

The board passed resolutions of appreciation for Trustee Chander Kholi and Student Trustee Charity Pappas, whose terms on the board expire in May. Kholi has been on the board since 1996 and Pappas joined the trustees in 2003.

The board passed a resolution recognizing the accreditation of YSU's Master of Physical Therapy program. In October 2004, the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education granted YSU's program a full 10-year accreditation.

The board passed a resolution to name the new recreation center The John S. and Doris M. Andrews Recreation and Wellness Center. The board also passed resolutions to name The D.D. and Velma Davis Meditation Room, The Geletka Family Racquetball Court, The O'Leary Family Fitness Bridge and the Payiavlas Family Food Court, which are all areas inside the new recreation center.

The board passed a resolution of appreciation congratulating the YSU women's indoor track and field team on winning the 2005 Horizon League Championship for the second consecutive year last month.

Call Leonard Crist at (330) 941-1989

Classified

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The Office of Career and Counseling Services and the Williamson College of Business Administration are proud to sponsor:

12 Steps To the Career You Want - Not Just a Job

Presented by
Ted Janusz, MBA

March 29, 2005
5:00-7:00 p.m.
Kilcawley Center - Gallery

Light refreshments will be served.

About the Presenter, Ted Janusz:

Ted Janusz understands real world business challenges, like having to do more with less. His credentials include:

- Operating his own speaking and training company, Janusz Presentations.
- Current employment as a full-time Sales Training Program Manager with Sterling Commerce in Dublin, Ohio. Ted has experienced the constant change at Sterling Commerce, an international electronic commerce software and service provider, since he began working there in 1994.
- Memberships in the National Speakers Association and the National Speakers Association of Ohio.
- MBA in Marketing from the University of Pittsburgh.
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Each individual attending this program will receive a free copy of the book *Real World Career Development Strategies that Work*. In this book, Ted Janusz, and 10 other dynamic experts provide a power-packed collection of insights & strategies from professionals who make a difference in America every day.

Please RSVP to the Office of Career and Counseling Services by Friday, March 25th.
Please call (330) 941-3515 or email to careerservices@cc.yosu.edu.

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WEDNESDAY, MARCH 23, 2005

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

ELIZABETH TABAK | Editor In Chief (330) 941-1991
LEONARD CRIST | News Editor (330) 941-1989
B.J. LISKO | Design Editor (330) 941-1807
LAURA CAGLEY | Copy Editor (330) 941-3758

CHUCK ROGERS | Asst. Design/Photo Editor (330) 941-1807
DANIEL STURM | Adviser (330) 941-3095
OLGA ZIOBERT | Business Manager (330) 941-3094
CHRISTINA POE | Asst. News Editor (330) 941-1913
BILL RODGERS | Features Reporter (330) 941-3758
JUSTIN SMOLKOVICH | Sports Reporter (330) 941-3758
MAYSOON ABDELRAHMAN | News Reporter (330) 941-1913
CAROLINE PERJESSY | Ad Manager (330) 941-1990
RONNIE GURA | Sales (330) 941-1990
SUSAN SEKERAK | Sales (330) 941-1990

The Jambar is published twice weekly during the fall and spring semesters and weekly during the summer sessions. The first copy of The Jambar is free; each additional copy is five cents. Mail subscriptions are \$25 per academic year. Since being founded by Burke Lyden in 1931, The Jambar has won nine Associated Collegiate Press Honors.

OUR SIDE

Schiavo's life not truly living

Newspapers and television screens were inundated with images of Terri Schiavo Monday as viewers watched the woman at the center of a national right-to-die struggle.

Americans listened and watched as the debate over whether or not the woman should remain on the feeding tube that has kept her alive for more than 15 years continued.

Last week, a Florida judge ruled to remove Schiavo's feeding tube. While the tube is currently removed from Schiavo, the U.S. Congress held an emergency session to acquire jurisdiction of the case, taking it out of state and into federal hands. President Bush rushed back to the White House from a Texas vacation to sign the bill into law.

Though she sits constantly with a smile, the 41-year-old woman cannot feel anything. Though she can breathe on her own, she is brain dead. Court appointed doctors have repeatedly told both sides in this heated debate that Schiavo will never recover. Instead, she will continue on in a non-responsive, vegetative state for as long as she is connected to the feeding tube, the only thing keeping her alive.

Though life, undeniably, is a precious thing, this case has caused us to ask if Schiavo's quality of life actually warrants keeping her attached to a feeding tube. Though her heart is still beating, is she honestly living?

It is understandable Schiavo's parents and family wish to keep her in such a state. At times, they said she still appears to be responsive, and they say they do not wish to see any chances for recovery dashed.

The truth is, though, there is no chance for recovery. Those supporting keeping the feeding tube in have constantly invoked the name of God and religion in keeping Terri alive. Schiavo's right to practice religion has been violated, they say. Her fundamental right to sustenance is being blocked, they argue.

This argument is logically flawed. For 15 years the woman has been incapacitated. For that same amount of time she has been unable to exercise those rights. She has no concept of those rights.

Furthermore, if God and religion are used as reasons to keep Schiavo alive, if God's had have died "naturally," devoid of the numerous machines that have fed her and kept her hanging on not to life, but to a clinical definition thereof.

Breathing does not constitute living. While understandable from their perspective as family to want their beloved daughter to live, after taking a step back, it is almost selfish to imprison this woman in a hospital bed for the rest of her unnatural life.

It is also horribly selfish that any political figure would use her condition for any political gain. We ask that the feeding tube stay removed and allow Schiavo peace at last.

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 name 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 Tuesday for Thursday's edition.

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

Tailgating rants unfounded

Dear Editor,
I find this constant bickering about tailgating and alcohol to be absurd.

Since when is it a requirement that in order to have fun tailgating, one needs to bring their own alcohol? At some point in the start of all this debate, game goers said they would not come to games if they couldn't consume alcohol, now they won't come if they can't bring their own alcohol. It appears to me some are just never happy and must have things their way or no way.

My view on this situation is that the alcohol is more important than the activity to those that make this simple matter a priority. Do these individuals not know how to have a good time without alcohol? Will they want to be able to smoke marijuana at tailgating events next? I'm sorry but I can't see the impact that being allowed to bring your own alcohol will make. One thing for sure is they will consume more alcohol and get in their cars and drive.

This concerns me knowing that drunken drivers kill more people than handguns each year. Having worked in substance abuse, I never had a client tell me they planned on drinking too much and then driving. I never had a client say they wanted to hurt someone.

The fact is that if your going to a football game you are suppose to be going for the game, not the alcohol. If it is illegal to drink somewhere, it is the law. I don't want to see people protesting the inability to drink in their vehicles.

I enjoy a number of outdoor activities, but would

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

never consider giving them up because of a lack of something that is so insignificant.

I enjoy camping at our local state parks. Alcohol is not allowed in state parks. I enjoy dirt track racing, alcohol isn't allowed there. If my life revolved around where I was allowed to drink alcohol, I surely would have limited a number of activities during my life. Where is the priority in regards to tailgating and football with YSU fans?

Bill Borden
Coordinator

Youngstown not necessarily Democratic

Editor,
I have to step back and question the validity of the claim that Youngstown is a Democratic city.

Given the events of the past three decades, reasonable logic says Youngstown should be leaning Republican. However, the population continues to vote Democratic. This needs examined.

Going back to the Carter Administration, most of the steel jobs were outsourced under this president, ultimately causing the ruin of Youngstown's economy. For the past few years, I have heard the Democrats of Youngstown scream and yell about outsourcing, yet they fail to account for the jobs lost under Carter.

Where is the outcry against the Democratic Party?

What of the laundry list of indictments that came down on all of the Democratic public officials in

Youngstown? These are the same public officials who have for years worked in conjunction with the Mob and who have stood by idle as innocents were killed over the years. The recent indictments do not even account for those who got away with corruption from the 30s to the 70s. Why the loyalty to a Democratic Machine that has manipulated its constituents for decades on end? Where is the outcry? I mention this point to any supporter of the party in this city, and all I get is "the stare" with complete silence.

Former President Clinton signed NAFTA, which harmed all American industry to some extent (angering the unions even more so), yet the vote persists in Mahoning County to be Democratic. Where was the outcry? A union town such as this surely could have mustered a response to this.

Our own Congressman acted in the interests of his constituents only to have the

Democratic Party abandon him in his time of need. There was outcry, but it was directed more at the Federal government than the party itself. Trafficant crossed party lines to get millions for Youngstown only to be disenfranchised in Congress.

This is not so much an attack on the Democratic Party rather than an examination of this city's logic in the voting process. Clearly the past is embedded in industry and unionized labor, but given all that has happened, one has to question why this city remains Democratic after being screwed time and again. Politics in this town is a phenomenon like no other, and the people's loyalty to the Democratic Party raises more than a few eyebrows.

Alex Mangie

SERGEANT, continued from page 1

solve problems than killing people."

Benderman received nods and applause as he spoke to a group of more than 100 anti-war protesters in downtown Youngstown. The sign-carrying demonstrators, organized by the Valley Coalition for Peace and Justice, met at noon Saturday in front of the Thomas D. Lambros Federal Courthouse building.

Susan Sexton, one of the organizers, said the protest was held to mark the anniversary of the beginning of the war in Iraq.

"We are out here," Sexton said, "to recognize this occasion, the result of an illegal and unprovoked war that has been going on for two years."

Sexton said Youngstown is

one of more than 700 communities nationwide that would observe the day with protests. She said such demonstrations "shed light on the fact that this war is not without opposition."

Benderman's official opposition to war began in December 2004 when he filed a request with the U.S. Department of the Army, asking to be classified as a conscientious objector.

He said the experience of witnessing first-hand the violence and destruction caused by war led him to make that decision.

One of those experiences occurred while he was traveling on a road in Iraq with his unit. Benderman said he saw a little girl and her mother on the side of the road. The girl, he said, had severe

burns.

"Her arm was black," he said, "from her shoulder all the way down to her hand."

He said the child was crying with pain, and he asked his commanding officer if they could stop and do something for her.

Benderman said he was told they could not stop, and there were only enough medical supplies for the soldiers.

The memory of that incident remained with him after he returned to the United States in August 2004.

Initially, Benderman said, his commanding officers greeted his decision with hostility. He said he was called a coward and his superiors refused to accept the papers he had completed for his request.

Eventually, he said, his papers were processed and he is now awaiting the Army's decision on his status.

However, since he did not return to Iraq in January with his unit, he is considered a deserter under Army regulations. Benderman said he is scheduled to face a court martial in May. He could face up to seven years in prison if found guilty.

Other speakers at the event included Youngstown State University planetarium technician Rick Pirko, WYSU-FM radio personality Gary Sexton, rap artist Lucky Penny, poet Arya Jenkins and the Rev. Lonnie Simon.

Call Chuck Rogers at (330) 941-1807

EMPLOYEES, continued from page 1

outside of YSU," the complete report stated.

A modified report was released to the public containing the findings, but with none of the recommendations or personnel names included. The Jambar obtained the complete report, which is part of the public record, from Habat.

The study also found YSU classified employees have an extremely low turnover rate. The average employee has spent seven years at their current job with 17 years total tenure. The market does not differentiate based on experience and tenure, Rataj said, noting the average tenure in the market is about six years.

The market data used in the study focused on the Youngstown, Warren and Sharon, Pa. markets, Rataj said.

"We aren't trying to include just McDonalds or just non-union or just union or just employers that pay benefits or just those that don't pay benefits," Rataj said. "We're looking at all the organizations from which YSU would recruit and retain employees. It's that simple. We aren't eliminating anybody by definition."

Christine Domhoff, president of YSU-ACE, said the comparisons used by the study to determine median pay included jobs that "aren't even close" to what the union members do, like fast food workers and temporary secretaries. Though classified civil servants are not required to have degrees, almost everybody in her bargaining unit has a degree, she said.

The union did their own study

"I could make a heck of a lot more money somewhere else than what I'm making. I've chosen to stay here. I like what I do."



Christine Domhoff,
President YSU-ACE

comparing their members to other classified civil servants in the area and found YSU-ACE members actually earn 7 percent less than the median, Domhoff said.

Domhoff also questioned the statement that YSU-ACE members would not easily find work of equal or greater pay.

"I could make a heck of a lot more money somewhere else than what I'm making. I've chosen to stay here. I like what I do," Domhoff said.

The CBIZ study also found benefit packages for "classified civil service employees are more robust than are typically found in the market." The report said YSU's education benefit, where the immediate family of employees can attend YSU free of charge, as well as sick leave and vacation benefits are generous, even compared to other universities.

CBIZ recommended the university adopt a compensation policy aimed at the median of the competitive labor market, which the report said is consistent with most universities and public sector employers and would balance funding and employee needs.

The report also recommended that over time the university should increase employee pay based on performance as opposed to cost of living increases because

than two years experience at YSU, earns 33.8 percent below median, the lowest percentage found in the study, or \$30,285 annually.

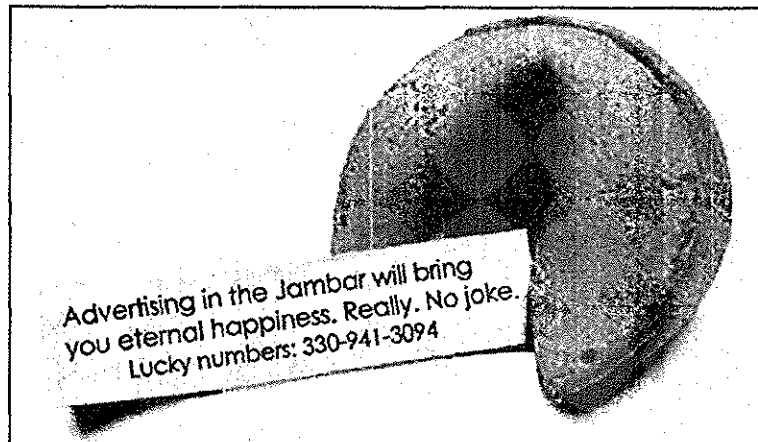
During a question and answer session after the main presentation ended, Habat and Gary Carlisle, a consultant with the Ohio Education Association union and an assistant to YSU-ACE, began loudly arguing over points.

"I'll tell you one thing John, I've lived in this community for over 50 years. I've been a student at this university for over 30 years. I've spent a lot of money here and I resent the fact that you spent \$50,000 to get him [Rataj] to juggle figures," Carlisle said.

Habat fired right back, asking Carlisle what numbers were being juggled.

Later, University Counsel Holly Jacobs stepped in saying the university could not legally carry on a conversation about bargaining conditions without being in a formal setting.

Call Leonard Crist at (330) 941-1989



HEADLINES



► *Jacko late*
 For the second time in less than two weeks, Michael Jackson arrived late to his child molestation trial Monday, walking slowly and stiffly into court. But the judge ordered testimony to resume.

'The Ring 2' a letdown

Holes in the plot and an uninspired concept doom the film

By Bill Rodgers
 The Jambar

Hey, I have something to show you. It's this weird movie I found, a horror flick I guess. But I should probably tell you something before you see it. If you watch this evil, possessed movie you'll be cursed! Doomed, even!

Doomed to spend eight bucks on a ticket for a stale horror movie! Bwahaha!

"The Ring 2" is the sequel to 2002's successful "The Ring," an American remake of the 1998 Japanese thriller "Ringu." Hideo Nakata, who worked on the original Japanese series, directs the sequel. "The Ring 2" snagged the number one box office slot as well as \$36 million in its opening weekend.

"The Ring 2" picks up six months after the first movie. The snoopy reporter Rachel (Naomi Watts) and her creepy son Aidan (David Dorfman) find themselves once again plagued by the vengeful ghost of Samara.

Where the first movie's

plot centered on a mysterious videotape that killed the person who watched it, the second movie abandoned that concept in favor of a less-stable one. Rachel and Samara are locked in a child custody case from beyond the grave for possession of Aidan.

The first movie had a dark urban legend feel to it. The audience had no idea what was going on and the suspense built as Rachel raced to find out the story behind the killer videotape. The sequel drags its feet along a shaky plot with lots of holes. The first movie relied on suspense; this movie relies on extravagant use of CGI and Samara popping out occasionally to say, "Boo!"

The biggest problem with the plot is that it doesn't bring anything new to audiences. Horror films about possession have been done before and many of them were executed better than "The Ring 2." In fact, Samara is surprisingly pleasant and mellow once she possesses Aidan's body. Apparently murderous ghosts like to happily watch cartoons with their possessed bodies

rather than go out and cause trouble.

The possession is stacked with elements of the first movie in a bland mix.

"This isn't scary anymore," someone from the audience said as one of the characters in the movie was watching the cursed videotape.

The movie uses CGI with mixed results. Some effects look amazing while others are just hilariously awful. The scene where water shot around a bathroom inspired some wows from the audience. But 10 minutes before that the audience was snickering when a herd of computer-generated deer mutilated Rachel's car in one of the most ridiculous attack scenes I've ever seen.

The deer attack scene goes largely unexplained, one of the movie's many plot holes.

This movie does have some good features. Samara looks nightmarish. The way she moves is perfect for inspiring dread. Some of the edgier parts of the movie seem to have been drawn from "Carrie." There's even an appearance by Sissy Spacek



Not up to the hype

Naomi Watts and David Dorfman star in "The Ring 2." (KRT Campus)

playing the role of Samara's lunatic mother. Spacek played the role of Carrie White in the 1976 film "Carrie."

"The Ring 2" is a letdown because it tries to be as creepy

as the first without ever pulling it off. After watching this movie, you may not be afraid to go to bed in the same room as your TV set, but you may lose a lot of sleep pondering

the terrifying thought that "The Ring 2" is currently the No. 1 movie in America.

Call Bill Rodgers at (330) 941-5758

YSU

Despite spring break, YSU campus remained eventful

By Chuck Rogers
 The Jambar

The doors were still open, the lights were still on, and the buildings were still full of activity last week, despite the fact that Youngstown State University's student body deserted campus for spring break.

A number of local event-organizers took advantage of the lull in campus activities to use the university's facilities for intellectual, mechanical and artistic programs, designed for area grade-school and high-school students.

On Wednesday, Beeghly Center was filled with the whirl of gears and motors and the smell of solder and ozone as teams of budding roboticists competed in the North East Ohio Robotics Competition. More than 35 teams from 17 area high schools and technical centers coaxed their machines around obstacles to vie for top honors in the event.

But, Arlene Floyd, director of YSU's Associate Degree and Tech Prep program, said the trophies are not the most important thing the students will get out of their participation.

"The competition is the culminating activity," she said, "we're more concerned about the journey, the process." Each team is given 12 weeks to prepare for the competition.

Floyd said the students gain valuable problem-solving skills by designing and programming their machines to perform functions such as simulated planetary exploration and rescue of a downed spacecraft.

Those skills came into play for Howland High School seniors Mike Myers and Chris Ross, both 18, who worked feverishly to recover their

robot from an on-board blaze.

"We're the only team good enough to catch fire," team mate Chris Pilch said. A short in its battery pack quickly repaired, the students ran the robot through its paces on the test track.

Saturday's events tested area elementary, middle school and high school students' problem-solving skills in a different way. Kilcawley Center overflowed with costumed schoolchildren carrying elaborate props to participate in Destination Imagination 2005.

Formerly known as Odyssey of the Mind, the pro-

gram has been held at YSU during spring break for more than 10 years. Almost 500 students turned out to demonstrate their creativity and quick-wittedness by solving the same challenges in different ways.

The 66 teams competed in eight problem categories. The students were allowed to prepare in advance for some of the challenges, but for others, they were allowed only a few minutes to come up with their solution.

The participants created props and performed skits to present their solution to the challenge. According to the event's rules all of the artwork and music had to be original.

Claudia Corbo, a teacher

and site director for Destination Imagination's region 1, said the challenges will help the students involved prepare for later life.

"In life, as you evolve," she said, "you learn that you have to problem-solve." She said the program teaches the students to adapt and to "think outside the box."

Other activities held on campus during spring break included the Vindicator's 72nd Regional Spelling Bee, held Saturday in Kilcawley Center's Chestnut Room and the Ohio Federation of Music Clubs' annual festival, also held Saturday in Bliss Hall.

Call Chuck Rogers at (330) 941-1807

Win \$1000!

Last Penguin Standing Contest

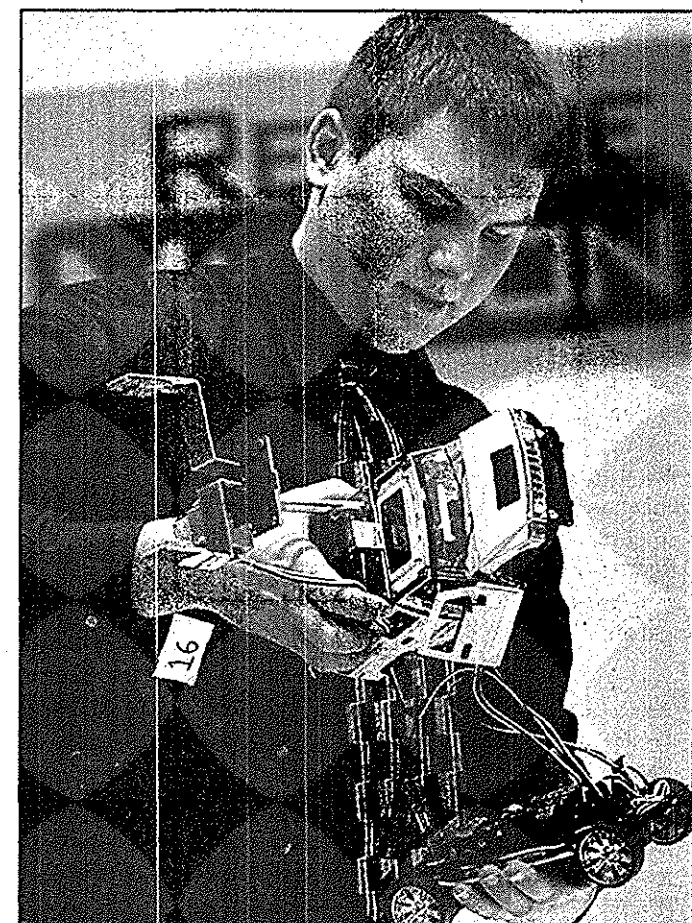
One unpainted penguin statue remains!

The contest is to design and artistically transform a plain white fiberglass penguin into a public work of art to be permanently displayed in Kilcawley Center. This contest is open to all YSU students currently enrolled in spring semester!

Deadline to enter: April 15th.

Application and details available at www.kc.yzu.edu or visit Lynn Haug in the Kilcawley Staff office.





Everything looks okay inside, but Steve Markovich's robot couldn't complete its space-probe rescue mission. The Lakeshore Compact High School student said the machine will end up in his school's show case after its efforts in the North East Ohio Robotics Competition. (Jambar photo by Chuck Rogers)

SILAS, continued from page 6

was necessary. It's going to put us in a better position to win," Gilbert said.

The Cavaliers entered the All-Star break at 30-21, then went into a slide, the decline marked by personnel issues. The trouble may have culminated Sunday when Silas benched starting guard Jeff McInnis for Eric Snow, who didn't score. McInnis did not play.

Earlier this season, Silas threw Snow off the bench after the two exchanged words in Detroit, a move that stunned the team because Snow is a leader.

Last week, Silas was fined \$10,000 by the team for a derogatory comment about Utah forward Carlos Boozer, who left the team as a free agent last summer. Gilbert said that had no bearing on the firing.

The Cavaliers are the ninth

team — nearly one-third of the league — to make a coaching change since the start of the season. Three coaches — Orlando's Johnny Davis, Dallas' Don Nelson and Silas — have been replaced in a span of five days.

"Maybe the business is even more volatile than I thought," Spurs coach Gregg Popovich said. "Usually coaches, in my opinion, are fired for circumstances that have nothing to do with whether they're good or bad coaches. So who knows why people are fired anymore. It's pretty much lost in the layers of whatever goes on in individual organizations."

Malone, in his first season with the Cavaliers, was the first coach of the expansion Toronto Raptors, spending one season with the team. He's been an assistant with New York, Indiana, Seattle and Detroit in 19 years of NBA coaching.

Malone said he would use the same starting lineup Silas did against Toronto. He did not say if McInnis would play.

James helped lead the Cavaliers to a 35-47 record last season — an 18-game turnaround. Silas seemed to have the respect of his players. The club, however, lost Boozer as a free agent, the first sign of real trouble.

The Cavaliers started this season by staying in first place for most of the first two months. Then injuries and inconsistency led to losses.

"There was a change in our swagger, the way we performed," reserve Scott Williams said. "People would tell me they didn't know what to do — thinking too much, playing too tight."

The 61-year-old Silas spent 16 years in the NBA as a player, winning two titles with Boston and one with Seattle.

His coaching record was 355-400 with the Los Angeles Clippers, Hornets and Cavaliers. He joined Cleveland in 2003 after being fired by the New Orleans Hornets, having led them to the playoffs four straight times.

Silas was hired to be James' first professional coach. The youngster entered the league at 18 and has soared from rookie of the year last season to All-Star this year, but the rest of the team has struggled.

That became apparent Sunday with the team's third straight loss.

While James had a career day, the Cavaliers were weak on defense and the reserves were outscored 34-1.

"There was a lot of standing around watching LeBron," Paxson said. "LeBron is a passer first, and he became more of a shooter and that hurt our team."

STEROIDS, continued from page 6

Associations.

"Because of the already serious constraints on our school systems, testing is probably out of the question for most school districts," Yesalis said of tests that cost at least \$100 each.

A lack of testing means that teenagers are rarely caught using steroids.

"It's almost a 'don't ask, don't tell' mentality," said Chad Zimmerman, a former Carnegie Mellon offensive lineman. Zimmerman, who says he never used steroids, remembers the pressure to improve his performance — pressure that came from coaches and teammates, as well as from within himself.

He and a former suburban Cleveland high school teammate, Nick Palazzo, said they got little guidance on safe ways of reaching their peak potential. So the two started STACK magazine to provide young athletes with alternatives to steroids.

The magazine features advice from top athletic trainers and is distributed to 3,100 high schools across the country. The premiere issue last month featured LeBron James' high school training regimen as its lead story.

"Everybody's pretty much aware that there's going to be athletes on your own team or the other team that are going to be using (steroids)," Zimmerman

said.

Several high school students in Buckeye, Ariz., in the fall of 2003 and in Grapevine, Texas, last month admitted using steroids, in each case only after the mother of a player found steroids in her son's room.

"You could do that story in any town of 20,000 or more," Yesalis said. "Any high school is going to have a handful of steroid users."

Yesalis acknowledged there are greater health problems facing high schools, such as alcohol abuse, but he said that doesn't mean steroids should be ignored.

"This is more of a moral and ethical problem than a public

health problem," he said. One of the difficulties in discouraging the use of steroids is that they are effective in building muscle and strength, Yesalis said. It's also tough to frighten kids by warning about side effects such as cancer, severe acne and shrinking of the testicles.

Although there have been deaths associated with steroids — such as the highly publicized suicide of Texas high school baseball player Taylor Hooton — those cases are rare.

"Mom and dad have to give the message that it's cheating and false glory," Yesalis said. "If you don't do that, the kid can see through this pretty quick."

BRIEFS

► James M. Ritter of Boardman has been selected as Youngstown State University's new director of undergraduate student services in the Williamson College of Business Administration. Ritter was previously employed at Kent State University for nine years.

Ritter received both bachelor and master's degrees in business administration from YSU.

POLICE BLOTTER

A Youngstown State University police officer was dispatched to Moser Hall in reference to a missing IBM panel on March 14. The complainant said the computer had not been logged on since March 8. A man from Key Control was going to run the key pad entries from March 8 to March 14 to see which students had entered the room over the course of that time.

A YSU police officer was called to DeBartolo Hall on March 16 regarding a male begging for money. The man showed police a non-valid YSU ID. The subject admitted to asking people for money and then the officer explained to the subject the law regarding begging. He was issued a trespassing warning and YSU police took the non-valid student ID.

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Admission is \$5. Tickets can be reserved by calling (330) 941-3105. Also available are \$35 Gold Circle seats, which includes a pre-concert reception and a post-performance party at Anthony's on the River.

Marsalis has recorded more than 14 albums. He has also collaborated with the Grateful Dead, Sting and Bruce Hornsby. He also led the Tonight Show Band for several years.

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Hy-Tek Material Handling Inc., will speak as part of the Williamson Symposium Speaker Series on Wednesday, March 23. Presentations will be held at 7:30 a.m. in the Butler Institute of American Art and at 10 a.m., 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. in McKay Auditorium in the Beeghly College of Education.

► Fredrick M. Denny, a professor of Islamic studies and history of religion at the University of Colorado, will give two lectures at Youngstown State University today. The first, "The Spiritual-Intellectual

Hospitality of Islam and Muslims: Reflections of a Christian Scholar," will be held today at 2 p.m. in the Schwebel Auditorium of Moser Hall. The second, "Muslim-Christian Relations: Boundaries and Gateways," will be held today at 6:30 p.m. in the Presidential Suite of Kilcawley Center.

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Summer Employment Opportunities
Upward Bound is looking for YSU students who enjoy working with high school students and have or would like to gain experience in housing/residential setting and student activities.

Position Descriptions and Salary
Lead Resident Assistant (1 position) Salary \$1900
Purpose: Live-in and provide 24-hour supervision of students on and off-campus. Provide leadership to residential component. Coordinate implementation of a six-week summer schedule of social, recreational, and cultural activities. Supervise residential staff.

Resident Assistant (5 positions) Salary \$1400
Purpose: Live-in and provide 24-hour supervision of students on and off-campus. Facilitate social and recreational activities that promote interpersonal growth.

Dates
June 20-July 28, 2005 plus training

Requirements
Must be a current student with a minimum GPA of 3.0. Preference given to Juniors and Seniors with majors in education, psychology, social work, and those with prior work experience with high school students.

Applications
Applications are available in Jones Hall 2002. The deadline date is March 25th, 2005. For additional information contact Angie Umson Jeffries at (330) 941-4666.

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Williamson Symposium Series
Wednesday, March 23
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Since joining Hy-Tek in 1981 after graduating from Youngstown State University, Mr. Grooms and his team have grown Hy-Tek revenues from \$3.5 million to more than \$50 million in annual sales, and expanded operations to Cleveland, Pittsburgh, and Northern Kentucky.
For more information, please contact Christine Shelton, Coordinator of External Relations, Williamson College of Business Administration at 330-941-3068.
www.wcba.ysu.edu

Presentations at:
7:30 a.m. at the Butler Institute of American Art
10:00 a.m.
11:00 a.m.
& 2:00 p.m.
in McKay Auditorium
College of Education

MARK YOUR CALENDARS
for the next Williamson Symposium Series
Tuesday, April 26
David Ferguson
'67 Alumnus
Retired President & CEO
Wal-Mart Europe
Youngstown STATE UNIVERSITY



4 Sweet 16
Texas Tech, Duke and Horizon League champs UW-Milwaukee are headed to the Sweet 16 in the NCAA tourney.
► Steroid scandal
Baseball players and owners agreed Sunday to drop the possibility of fines for steroid use, leaving suspensions as the only discipline.



CLEVELAND

Silas fired

After dropping 9 of their last 12, the Cavs front office felt a change would shake up the team on its way to the playoffs

By Joe Milicia
Associated Press

CLEVELAND (AP) — Paul Silas was hired to mentor the NBA's next superstar. While he succeeded with LeBron James, his failure with the rest of the team cost him his job.

Silas was fired as coach of the Cleveland Cavaliers on Monday, his team fighting for a playoff spot after leading its division earlier this year. Longtime NBA assistant Brendan Malone was appointed interim coach.

The dismissal came with 18 games left and the team clinging to the fifth playoff spot in the Eastern Conference. James seems to have been the only player who saw the move coming.

"You could kind of tell the way the air was, how things were going around here, there was going to have to be a

change," said James, who scored a franchise-record 56 points Sunday. "I didn't know it was going to be this soon."

Silas told The Associated Press he was informed at a morning meeting with general manager Jim Paxson and new owner Dan Gilbert.

Silas' son, assistant Stephen Silas, also was fired.

"They didn't think the team was performing as well as it should be and they wanted to make a change," Paul Silas said.

Malone will coach Tuesday's night game at home against Detroit. He acknowledged he's in a tough situation, taking over a team late in the season that is expected to reach the playoffs.

"I'm still in a state of shock about what happened," Malone said after a morning practice.

Despite James and fellow All-Star Zydrunas Ilgauskas, the Cavaliers have slumped since the All-Star break. They

have lost nine of 12 and nine straight road games, including Sunday's 105-98 loss to Toronto when the 20-year-old James became the youngest NBA player to score 50 or more points.

"We felt that if we didn't make this decision that we were jeopardizing our ability to be a playoff team this year," Paxson said.

Paxson criticized Silas' ability as a coach and motivator.

"We're 64 games into the season and we still don't have a consistent rotation, substitution pattern, those type of things," Paxson said. "We didn't see that changing."

Gilbert took over the team just three weeks ago and said the organization would be evaluated from top to bottom. He indicated Silas was not creating the best environment for the players.

"We felt the change today

please see **SILAS**, Page 5

Given the ax

Cleveland Cavaliers head coach Paul Silas was fired Monday, with the team in the midst of a nine game road losing streak, and losers of nine of their last 12. (KRT Campus)



MOREHEAD, Ky.

Pens sweep Gamecocks

Pitcher Justin Thomas led the way in game one

By Justin Smolkovich
The Jambar

The Youngstown State University baseball team swept the Morehead State Gamecocks Thursday in a double header, ending the team's losing streak and solidifying the Penguin's lineup.

Coming up big for the Penguins was the pitching staff as the first game of the day saw Justin Thomas throw six shutout innings spurring the Penguins on to a 4-0 win. Thomas recorded six strikeouts in the first game of the day.

"He threw strikes," Florak said. "When our guys throw strikes we have a chance to win."

Also to the delight of Florak, the Penguins pounded the Gamecocks in game two by a tally of 10-5.

The offensive explosion of game two was startling as they recorded eight unanswered runs scoring one in the third inning, two in the fifth and five in the sixth.

"We had some guys start to swing the bat," Florak said.

The double-header sweep came off a 5-day layover for the Penguins after their 2-12 loss to Missouri.

The rest, the coach said, was crucial in picking up the two wins against Morehead State.

"We gave them a few days off," Florak said. "After that long road trip, I wanted to give them a few days off to rest a little."

Florak also said the combination of reconfiguring his infield lineup and getting time on the diamond is helping his team become a more effective



Clean sweep

Penguin pitcher Justin Thomas threw six shutout innings in game one of YSUs double-header with the Morehead State Gamecocks last week. The Penguins will face West Liberty State today. (Photo courtesy of Sports Information)

unit. The Penguins have had trouble getting time on the baseball field due to Northeast Ohio's unforgiving weather.

"Just getting field time has helped," Florak said.

The Penguins, who now stand at 4-10 overall, will take on West Liberty State today at

4 p.m.

The Penguins are not slated to play a home game until March 23 when they host Bethany College at Cene Park in Struthers.

Call Justin Smolkovich at (330) 941-3758

CLEVELAND

Experts: Steroid hearings will make youngsters more curious

By Joe Milicia
Associated Press

CLEVELAND — Steroid use among high school students is on the rise, and experts warn that the recent focus on major league baseball's drug problems will only make such use increase.

While congressmen who questioned former home run king Mark McGwire and others say their goal was to curb use among teenagers, last week's hearings increased awareness of steroids — and that will lead more youngsters to try them, said Tracy Olrich, a sports psychologist at Central Michigan University.

"I saw very little accomplished," Olrich said. "It was unclear exactly what the point of it all was."

Messages left Monday for several members of the House committee that held the baseball steroids hearings were not returned Monday. Many lawmakers are out of town for the two-week Easter recess.

Steroid use among high school students more than doubled from 1991 to 2003, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. More than 6 percent of the 15,000 students in grades 9-12 who responded to the CDC's 2003 National Youth Risk Behavior Survey acknowledged taking steroid pills or shots at least once.

"I think we've had a million kids who've cycled on these drugs," said Charles Yesalis, a professor of health and human development at Penn State University and an expert on steroid use. Cycling means that they've used them over a 6-12 week period or



Bash brother testimony

Former baseball star Mark McGwire testifies at a hearing by the House Government Affairs Committee looking into the use of steroids among major league baseball players. (KRT Campus)

longer.

Yesalis, who gave that estimate to Congress during testimony March 10, said he thought when former Canadian sprinter Ben Johnson tested positive for steroids and was stripped of his Olympic 100-meter gold medal in 1988 that there would be a backlash against performance-enhancing drugs.

"It had the opposite effect," Yesalis said.

He expects baseball's steroids scandal to lead more young athletes to try steroids as well.

"Now that it's in the news every day, (teenagers) equate steroids with doing well in sports, making lots of money and being successful," said JoAnn Dahlkoetter, a sports psychologist who works with athletes at Stanford, though she added that Congress needed to address the issue.

She counsels youngsters and sees the side effects of steroids, such as anger and depression.

"The effects are devastating," she said. "They come to me because they've gotten caught or are worried about getting caught or are having problems. Sometimes they can't handle their aggression. Their anger gets out of control."

Yesalis said, similar to pro sports, most people acknowledge there's a steroid problem in high schools but think only other schools are involved. He calls it the "not-in-my-school phenomenon."

Less than 4 percent of the nation's high schools test students for steroids, according to a 2003 survey of athletic directors by the National Federation of State High School

please see **STERIODS**, Page 5