

the jambar

VOLUME 88, ISSUE 38 The student voice of Youngstown State University

Weather >> rain
41 | 29
wednesday: rain, 33/26
thursday: rain, 36/24

Inside



An interview with A voice like rhetoric, one of the many bands playing this Friday at Cedar's.

Entertainment I see page 6



Check up on the YSU men's basketball team and their big win.

Sports I see page 5

In Brief

Chamber Winds concert set for Wednesday

The YSU Dana School of Music Chamber Winds will be performing a "Music at Noon" concert at the Butler Institute of American Art on Wednesday, Jan. 25 at

'Polish Joke' opens Thursday at Spotlight Arena

The College of Fine and Performing Arts is presenting a comedy play titled "Polish Joke" by David Ives. The play will be held at the Spotlight Arena Theater on Jan. 26 through Jan. 28 at 8 p.m. and on Jan. 29 at 3 p.m. The play is about ethnic identity and the eternal American search for "roots."

the jambarpoll question

Last Question

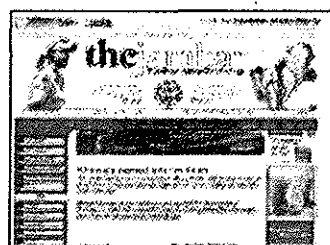
Should YSU fire John Habat? 85% Yes 15% No

Today's Question

Are you concerned with identity theft? vote online www.thejambar.com

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Online: thejambar.com thejambar@gmail.com

YSU

I.D. Theft: Risk to students?

By: Bill Rodgers
NEWS EDITOR

Potential students who applied to Kent State University received an unpleasant surprise in their e-mail on Friday the 13th this month. Kent's director of computer security informed the 19,000 applicants that hackers from outside the U.S. illegally accessed the database, which included Social Security numbers. The e-mail warned the applicants to be on watch for possible identity theft.

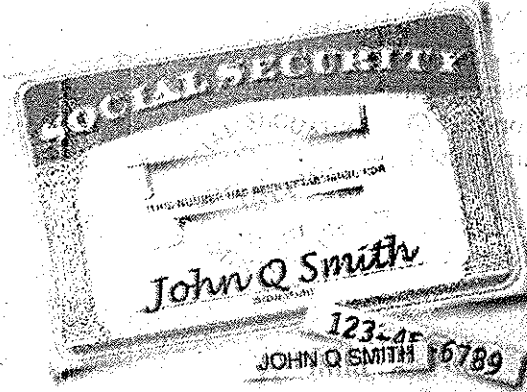
The break-in at Kent came after Bob Hogue, associate professor of computer and information systems at YSU, voiced concerns to The

Jambar about the way student information was handled on campus. Hogue pointed out that student records on YSU's network contained Social Security numbers. He said this could pose a security risk to students.

Hogue said the records are accessible to campus staff such as financial aid and human resources workers who would need the information for identification and tax purposes. However, Hogue said advisors and professors like himself could also see student's Social Security numbers. He said the display of this private information was risky to students and unnecessary for his job as an advisor.

"Why would I need that information to do my job? The only people who should be able to access it are those who absolutely need it," Hogue said.

As identity theft has become an increasing concern, YSU has been in a period of transition away from using Social Security numbers for identification, Donna Esterly, YSU's interim technology officer, said. The campus instead is pushing for more use of the university-given patron I.D. number, which has replaced the Social Security number in many instances across campus. In recent



years, the Social Security number has been removed from some class rosters, Scantron test sheets and student I.D. cards.

please see SSN, Page 4

YSU

Conflict of interest claim investigated

By: Cheryl Thompson
Assistant News Editor

The Professional Conduct Committee of the Academic Senate and the Ohio Ethics Commission are exploring a claim against Hunter Morrison, the director of the Center for Urban and Regional Studies.

Thomas Shipka, chair of the Academic Senate, sent a letter to the OEC on Dec. 14. The letter explained his belief that Morrison's use of the Urban Design Center of Northeast Ohio at Kent State University, as a consultant in the development of the YSU Centennial Master Plan is a conflict of interest. In May 2003, YSU entered into a \$120,000 contract with the UDC to develop the plan.

Shipka stated in the letter that the contract might violate section 2921.42 of the Ohio Revised Code, which prohibits a public official from knowingly using the influence of his position to gain public contracts which he, a family member or any of his business associates are interested in.

Morrison's relationship with YSU is as follows; he was hired in February 2002 as a Senior Fellow in Urban and

Regional Planning with a contract calling for him to work two days a week with a \$17,026 annual salary. He then became the Director of Urban Studies and Senior Fellow in Urban and Regional Planning in Public Service Institute, upping his workload to four days a week with an annual salary of \$90,640. In July 2005, Morrison began a fulltime position, five days a week, with the institute for an annual salary of \$123,806.

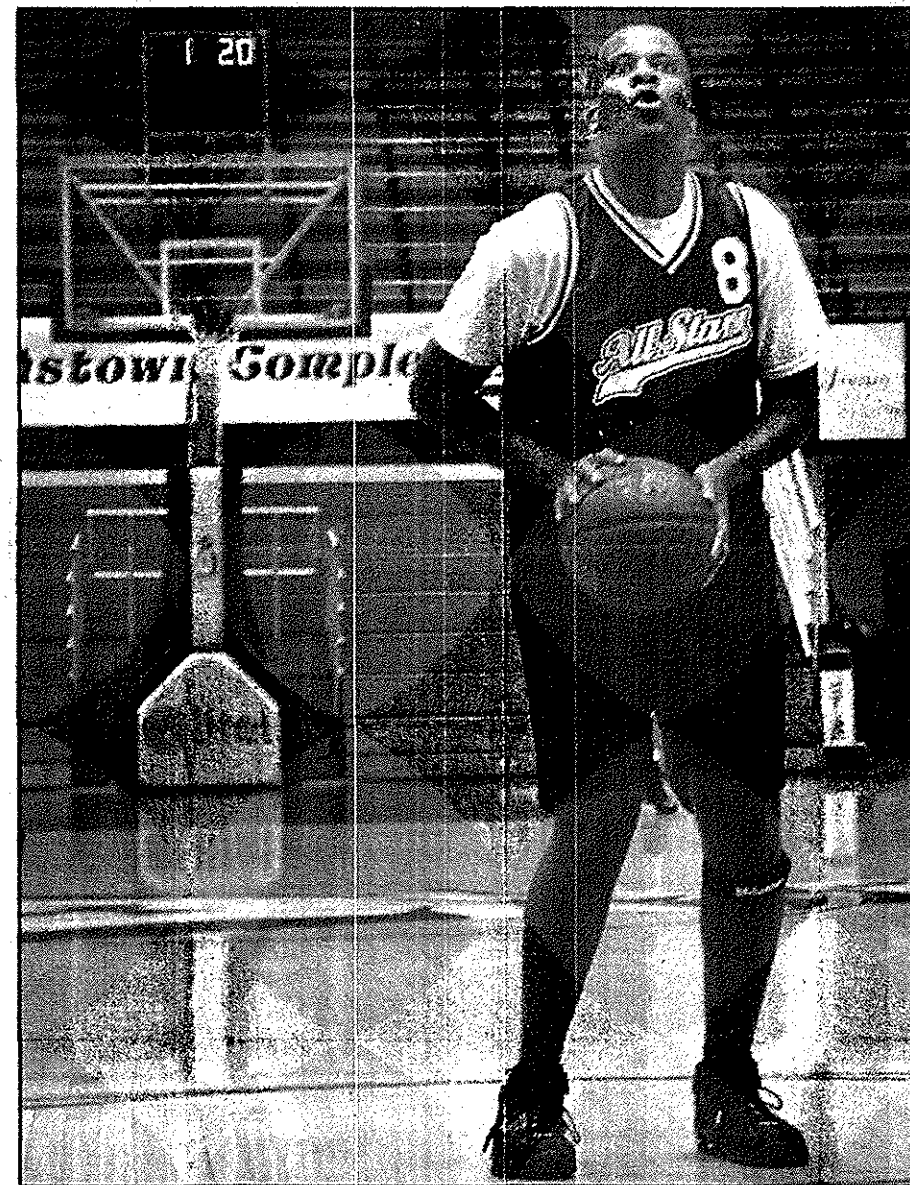
Morrison maintains there is no conflict of interest because there is no benefit or compensation from his contract with the UDC.

Morrison began his work with the UDC in the summer of 2002 after the Cleveland and Gund Foundations provided funding for his position as the Senior Fellow in Urban Design, which was a three-year period. Morrison, Cleveland's long-standing city planning director, was to document the city's accomplishments during his tenure.

In 2002, YSU tried to gain funding from the foundations, but was denied because the university is outside the foundation's service area.

please see CONFLICT, Page 2

Free throws for the mayor



Jambar / Katie Libocco

Youngstown mayor Jay Williams steps up to the foul line during Saturday's Game of Hope celebrity basketball game. The all-stars beat Phi Kappa Tau 45-34. The game raised nearly \$5,000 for charity. For details, see Page 5.

YSU TRUSTEES

Panel clarifies labor report to trustees

By: Bill Rodgers
NEWS EDITOR

The internal affairs committee of the Youngstown State University Board of Trustees met Monday afternoon to discuss the findings and recommendations of the Labor-Management Review Panel, which publicized its study of the Summer 2005 labor disputes last week.

Board Chairman H.S. Wang said the meeting was held to educate the board on the panel's findings. He said after the meeting concluded that no action was taken. He said, however, that President David Sweet should be formulating an action plan for the recommendations within a month.

The panel was asked to clarify their position on some of the statements in the report, including those made against

some individuals.

Trustee Scott Schulick asked the seven-member panel why they identified "specific individuals" in their recommendations. In the report, the panel wrote "neither Mr. John Habat [YSU's Vice President of Administration] nor Mr. Hugh Chatman [YSU's Director of Human Resources] can serve effectively at the University in any capacity."

Panel member Tom Shipka, chair of the Philosophy and Religious Studies department, said in response to Schulick that it was impossible to separate the process of the negotiations with the persons involved with the last failed set.

"We've been criticized by several people for not sticking to what went wrong in the process," Shipka said.

please see TRUSTEES, Page 2

DIVERSITY

Diversity celebrated at MLK breakfast

By: Maysoun Abdelrasul
Reporter

Most mornings at 8 a.m. many Youngstown State University students are wishing they were back in bed snoozing — but Thursday morning was full of pizzazz and spunk.

Walking into Kilcawley Center's Chestnut Room was like walking into a busy movie theater. As a line of people waited for tickets, a staffer handed out brochures and blue bracelets that read: "increase the peace."

Everyone was chatting and mingling, waiting for the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Diversity Breakfast event to begin while the aroma of breakfast and coffee filled the crowded room. The Director of Student Diversity Programs, William Blake, was greeting everyone as they found their seat.

The two-hour event, sponsored by the YSU Diversity Council, the Office of Student Diversity Programs, the Office of Equal Opportunity and Diversity, Partners for Workplace Diversity and the YSU Foundation, attracted more than 200 people. YSU students, staff and community members came to com-

memorate King's life.

As the chattering stopped, the Youngstown Connection, a group of inner-city high school students directed by Carol Baird, performed for the breakfast. Blake said getting the community involved with diversity events at YSU is one way to increase minority enrollment.

"Every year we are growing by leaps and bounds," Blake said.

The keynote speaker, Cherry Ross Gooden, founder of the National Association for Multicultural Education, had more attention than most professors would have at 8 a.m. Blake said he was pleased with the speaker and her message.

"I think it was fabulous to have an expert in diversity speak at the event," he said.

YSU President David Sweet agreed. Sweet said Gooden sent a courage and action-oriented message.

As Gooden was giving her speech, many nodded to show support. She said it is important to be who you are, no matter what race or ethnicity, and spread diversity.

please see DIVERSITY, Page 2

CONFLICT, continued from page 1

However, the UDC of KSU did receive funding. Morrison worked for the center one day a week. His duties included managing the Cleveland Planning History Project (now the Northeast Ohio Planning History Project) and teaching a graduate seminar course on Case Studies in Urban Design.

Funding from the foundations ended in July 2005 when Morrison's duties annual contract with KSU was not renewed.

"I served in a very limited capacity, at the Urban Design Center. There is no conflict of interest because I was not an employee and my relation with the center was disclosed and discussed with the university," Morrison said.

While Morrison was getting paid for his administrative duties at the UDC, the money did not come from UDC resources, but from the Cleveland and Gund foundations, UDC director Ruth Durack said in an April 2003 letter to YSU, a month before he was hired.

YSU officials said Morrison's relationship with the UDC was fully explored and deemed appropriate before YSU entered into a contract with the center. The Professional Conduct Committee of the Academic Senate and the OEC are currently investigating the claim.

Call Cheryl Thompson at (330) 941-1913.

DIVERSITY, continued from page 1

Junior Laura Neely, and president of Sistas with a Vision, said the event was enjoyable and necessary.

"The speaker was very powerful and opened their eyes for the need of diversity at YSU," she said.

Sweet said minority enrollment last year was 10 percent and now it is 15 percent.

"We made progress and much more needs to be done," Sweet said.

President of the Student Diversity Council Joe Ilesue was presented with the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Diversity Award 2006 at the breakfast. He said the breakfast is just one way to celebrate culture at YSU.

"Events like this will help us propel in the future in regards to diversity," he said.

Other people who received diversity awards included: Heather Novak, vice-president of the YSU Diversity Council, Anne York, advisor of the YSU Chapter for the National Organization of Women, Cynthia Anderson, vice-president for Student Affairs and Deborah Liptek, development director for the Public Library of Youngstown and Mahoning County.

TRUSTEES, continued from page 1

"We cannot deal with the process unless we deal with the people who control it. As the evidence came in, it became clear that the process broke down due to the players."

Panel member Dennis Haines, partner in the law firm of Green, Haines, Sgambati Co., echoed the sentiment of personalities involved with the last round of negotiations, listing item after item that could have been perceived as "undermining" ACE's position.

"A recurring theme is that there was a chip on the shoulder of some of the administration. If we deal with that type of attitude we need to examine the person and that mindset," Haines said.

A breakdown of communication, trust and respect between the two groups was cited as the major problems concerning the failed negotiations. Eugenia Atkinson, a former YSU trustee who served on the panel said that she had seen a number of labor negotiations and that the administration came back each time not entirely happy with the agreements.

"But there was still that level of respect amongst both parties," Atkinson said of the older negotiations.

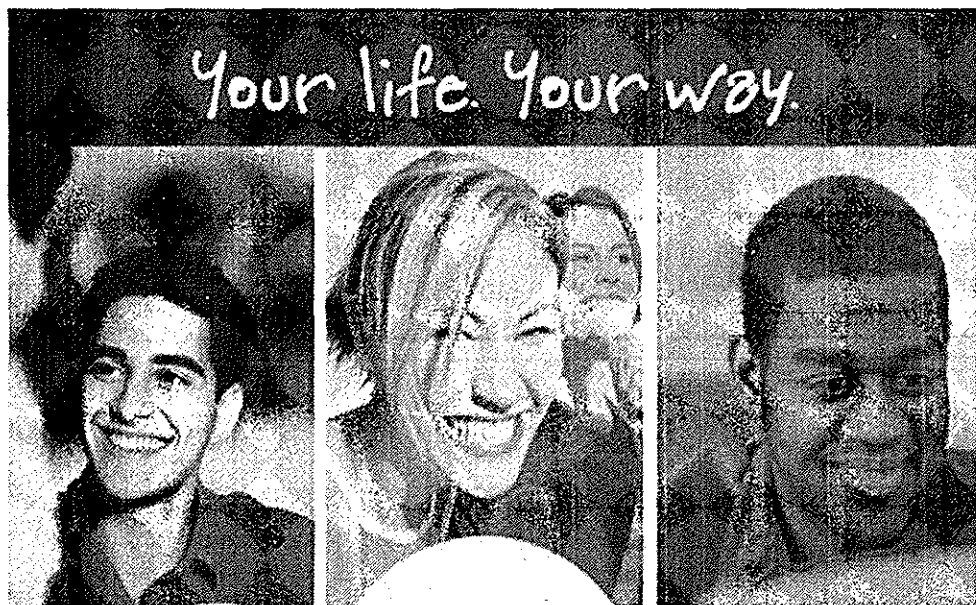
President Sweet presented a document at the beginning of the meeting outlining the panel's recommendations and which party - administration, union or board of trustees - would be responsible in carrying them out. Sweet said that some of the recommendations would require a party's individual or a joint effort while some of the panel's recommendations may not be accepted.

Shipka warned against going at the recommendations in a "piecemeal" fashion.

"That's the first step to repeating the crisis...In two or three years, if the university is in the same malaise, then the recommendations were not followed. I would feel exonerated and not to blame," Shipka said.

"We've got severe problems here, folks. Whoever attempts to minimize them is doing the university a disservice," Shipka said.

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thejambar

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OUR SIDE

Google should continue to fight search subpoena

The New York Times reported on Friday that Google, one of the largest online search engines, reaffirmed its resolution to fight turning over a week's worth of its search queries and one million random indexed sites over to the Justice Department.

The reason for this? Well, the Justice Department isn't saying how they'll use this dearth of information just yet, except that they need it to attempt to revitalize a child protection law that the Supreme Court struck down two years ago.

The Child Online Protection Act sought to force owners of commercial Internet pornography sites to take steps to prevent minors from seeing their material. If not, the owners' faced as much as a \$50,000 fine and six months in prison. Pornographers can avoid this jail time by requiring that everyone access their material through use of a credit or debit card or by requiring an electronic certificate verifying that the person who accesses their "goods" is of age.

The law is backed by such people as Jack Samad of the National Coalition for Protection of Children and Families, an Ohio-based religious advocacy group which avows to "encourage and challenge Christians to live sexually pure lives." His stance on the issue comes with all of the ridiculous fear-mongering and calls for restrictive laws in the name of children one would expect from a person in his position.

"Young people are experiencing broken lives after being exposed to adult images and behaviors on the Internet," Samad said to www.CNETNews.com, which specializes in covering technology news.

The act was held back due to concerns about constitutionality, and that the endangered children could be better protected by filtering software rather than by requiring every pornographer in the United States to self-censor.

The government requested the information from Google, Yahoo, America Online and MSN to prove that pornography was so pervasive on the Internet that mere filtering technology wouldn't be enough to keep dirty pictures at bay from impressionable young minds.

Google asserts they are fighting the request because compliance would jeopardize its trade secrets and give identifying information about its viewers.

It's hopeful that perhaps Google will stay the course and fight the request. After the first time, what's to stop the government from following with more? Should the government be snooping over your shoulder as you browse the Internet just because people like Samad think Jenna Jameson is the devil?

Good luck to Google in fighting this subpoena. Hopefully they can kill two birds with one stone and deal a blow to both those who would shrink our zone of privacy and to parents who think the government should raise their children.

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.

LEGISLATORS SAY THEY WANT TO GROUND 'FACT-FINDING' TRIPS



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

'Kudos' for Jambar history

Editor:

I'm a non-traditional student who is on the "YSU 22-year plan" LOL. I will finally graduate this spring semester. I have been an avid reader of The Jambar since my first quarter here in 1984 (yes, back when YSU was on quarters and not semesters). I only remember ever reading one article over the years pertaining to the definition of what a "jambar" actually was. While it gave some insight into our paper's name, the article I'm referring to listed none of the excellent history behind this fantastic name. Kudos to you for the great job fully explaining what a Jambar is, or was (can you say "rust belt" LOL) and the history of the social implications this had in Y-Town. Being a history buff, I

loved the info you wrote.

Again, thanks for the kick ass article and keep up the good work!

Kevin Kriss
Senior
Marketing Management

Relay for Life is for everyone

Editor:

On April 7 & 8, the fifth annual American Cancer Society Relay For Life will be held inside Beeghly Center.

It is our hope that students, faculty, administrators and others will support this event. Thus far, we have 30 teams and would love to see your team of 10 to 15 people participate.

For us, Relay For Life is special. This event lets us honor cancer survivors, remember those who have passed away from cancer, meet new people

and walk for one purpose to raise money so we can continue to make an impact on ending cancer.

Activities begin Friday at 6 p.m. and continue for 18 hours until noon on Saturday.

One of the most heartwarming aspects of the event is watching the cancer survivors walk during the opening ceremony. This lap signifies the real meaning of Relay For Life. It's about survival. Our cancer survivors are proof that cancer can be beaten, providing it's detected and treated early.

All cancer survivors receive a special t-shirt. A complimentary dinner for our survivors follows the opening lap. If you are a cancer survivor, or know someone who is, mark your calendar to walk with others who overcame the hurdle of cancer.

Relay For Life is fun for everyone. This year we will have games, a talent show, card tournaments, demonstra-

tions and live music. People of all ages and races participate. Everyone enjoys the activities and those who participate the first time usually make Relay For Life an annual event.

Funds raised are earmarked for cancer research, education, advocacy and patient services. The American Cancer Society is focused on stopping cancer and uses funds in these four areas to make the greatest impact for a cancer-free world.

On behalf of this year's committee, we encourage you to think about that special person in your life who has dealt with cancer. Then, form a team and get involved in this year's American Cancer Society Relay For Life.

Joe Fanto, chair
American Cancer Society
YSU Relay For Life

Jim Long, co-chair
American Cancer Society
YSU Relay for Life

YSU

The Vatican weighs in on intelligent design

(KRT) — What if God spoke, and said: "What's this intelligent design stuff? That ain't science!"

Would ID proponents keep on talking? "Well, not if you redefine science" ... "There's too many holes in the theory of evolution" ... "Life is too complex for it to be the product of random mutation" ... "This is academic censorship!!!"

Rather than hurling down serpents, frogs and thunderbolts, The Divinity might clear the throat and politely restate: "Sorry, one more time: Intelligent design is not science."

This week, it wasn't God talking, exactly — but, by some lights, it came pretty close. On Tuesday, the Vatican newspaper L'Osservatore Romano published an article, by University of Bologna evolutionary biologist Fiorenzo Facchini, which said a Pennsylvania judge was right to nix the Dover school board's attempt to order teachers to read an ID-related statement to students.

In agreement with Judge John E. Jones III, Facchini wrote that "intelligent design does not belong to science and there is no justification for the pretext that it be taught as a scientific theory alongside the Darwinian explanation."

While the paper is not an official Catholic Church voice-box, anything that gets printed must pass close scrutiny to jibe with Vatican thought.

Hilariously, the Discovery Institute, a flimsy cover for neo-creationist advocates, and one of the failed powerhouses behind the ID push, said that to see Facchini's piece as Vatican thought was "to put words in the Vatican's mouth."

Which gets it exactly backward.

For more than half a century,

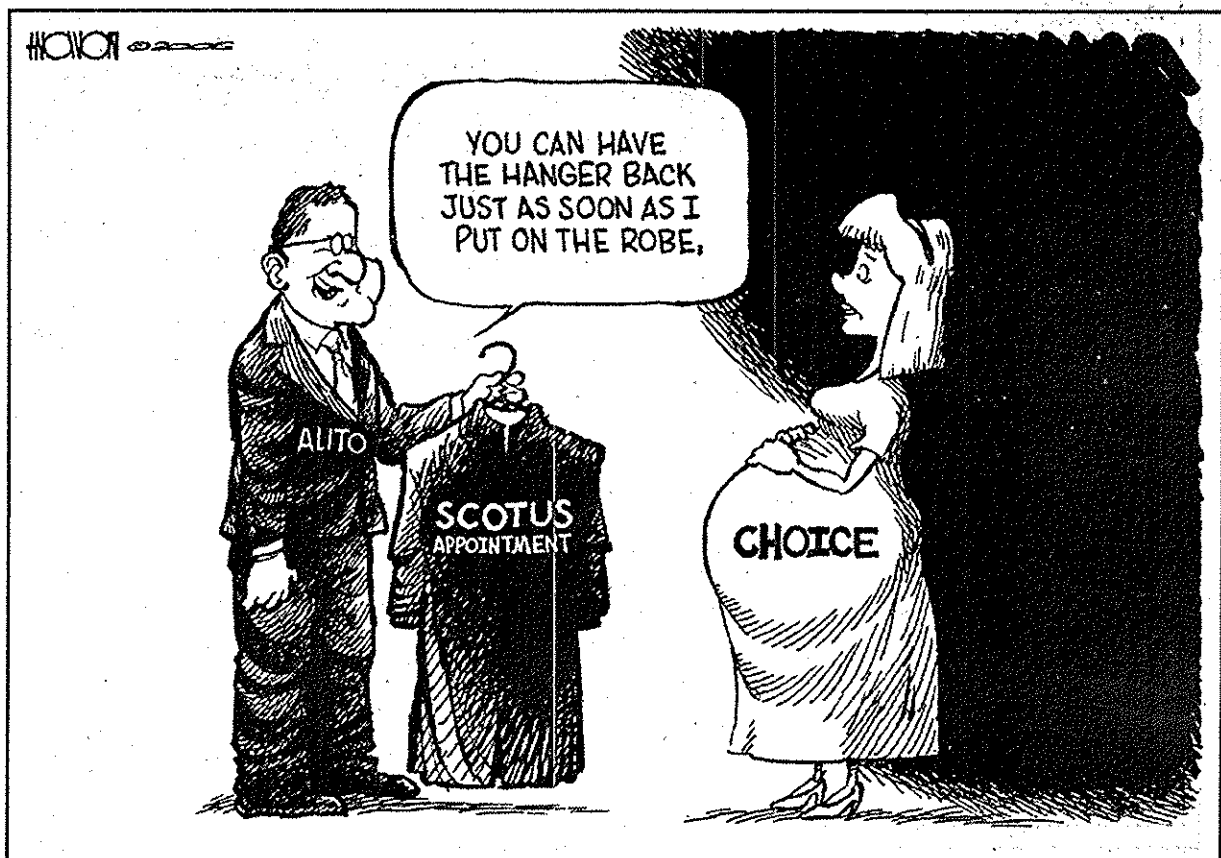
the Roman Catholic Church has embraced the science of evolution and has rejected the kind of politically "polluted" (Facchini's word) fundamentalism that stinks up the evolution/ID wars.

True, some are confused about where Pope Benedict XVI stands. Hasn't he spoken of "this intelligent project that is the cosmos"? Yes — but that's a religious statement, not a claim that ID is science.

That's why Facchini's piece probably is what the Vatican

wants the world to hear. Facchini suggests that God might well have employed random mutation in designing the cosmos. "God's project of creation can be carried out through secondary causes in the natural course of events," he writes. No need to fight evolution. It might be the Big Plan.

But the fighters probably will fight on. And on. Give them credit. It takes courage to put words in God's mouth.



Classified

SSN, continued from page 1

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Miscellaneous

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Esterly said the final shift away from Social Security numbers will occur in 2007 when YSU's new Banner administrative software will replace its current database language, called Model 204. When that happens, Esterly said, Social Security numbers will be hidden from all university staff except for offices that need it for tax, banking or financial aid purposes.

"We have an opportunity to change everything that we do," Esterly said. "We can force people in the direction of using only the patron I.D. number."

Until then, Esterly said there was no plan to remove or mask the Social Security numbers on YSU's current database. Instead, YSU uses a number of security practices to guard the information such as firewalls, systems that record who logs

into the database and the requirement that university employees get special clearance to see student information.

When asked if it wouldn't be more secure to hide or remove the information entirely, Esterly said it would be safer, but not possible under YSU's current database set up.

"We use the same databases to transmit information to banks, the federal government and financial aid. It's all under the same umbrella," Esterly said.

Until Banner is in swing, student security relies on the safeguards already practiced across campus. William Countryman, director of enrollment services at YSU, is in charge of clearing university employees to have access to the student databases. Countryman said he looks at the employee's

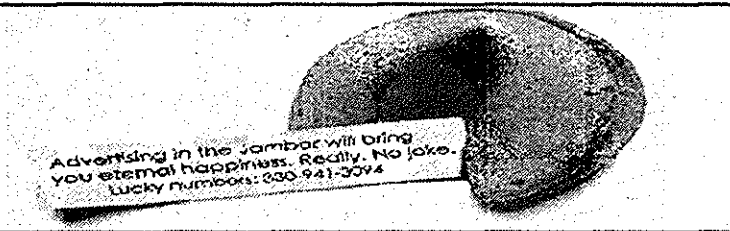
duties with students as well as recommendations from deans or department chairs before giving an employee an account on the Model 204 database.

"We have not had any difficulties with the individuals we have approved," Countryman said. "We have to trust to a point. In some cases, unfortunately, we have to run with it until we find out differently."

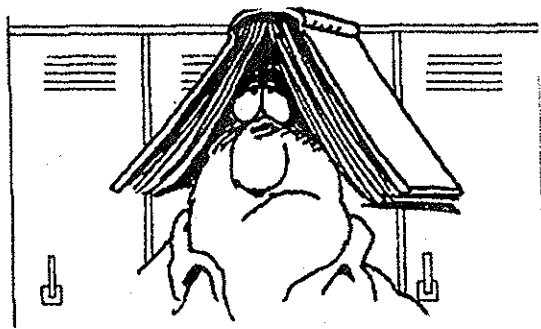
SGA President Bob McGovern said with identity theft concerns, YSU should limit the use of student Social Security numbers as much as possible. Last year, SGA pushed for a motion removing Social Security numbers off of testing sheets.

"Limiting input of the numbers is one way, but you also have to limit where the numbers are found and who has access to them," McGovern said.

Call Bill Rodgers at (330) 941-1989.



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Wednesday, February 22, 2006

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS:

At least Sophomore standing - Minimum 2.5 GPA - YSU CUE Mail Address - Completed Application - Completed *CareerConnections* Profile - Resume Writing Workshop Attendance - Updated Approved Resume - Pre-requisites based on your major - Course Enrollment Commitment

Sponsored by Carl D. Perkins Grant

- ▶ 1/26 Men's basketball vs. UW-Milwaukee
- ▶ 1/26 Women's basketball @ Loyola
- ▶ 1/27 Track & field @ Kangaroo invitational
- ▶ 1/28 Women's basketball @ UIC
- ▶ 1/28 Men's basketball @ Cleveland state

YSU BASKETBALL

'Q' Humphrey inspires on and off court

By: Justin Smolkovich
SPORTS REPORTER

Following a tough loss to Cleveland State a few weeks ago, Quin Humphrey walked into the Penguin Club room to an avalanche of questions from the media about his team's disappointing performance.

Humphrey or "Q," as he's called by many fans, handled the questions almost as well as he handles opposing defenses, with surprising agility. As he left the media room, Humphrey stopped to sign several autographs for admiring youngsters and then headed out to regroup with his teammates.

Humphrey, a 6-foot-4-inch junior guard from Georgia, has become the face of Youngstown State basketball. In a time when Penguins basketball needed a veritable celebrity and a leader, Humphrey has become both and takes the role of leader with a sense of duty.

"I look at it as something I need to do," Humphrey said after a recent practice. "Something that needs to be done."

As far as being a recognizable face to the young hoop fans, Humphrey said he hopes that his example on and off the court can inspire.

"It's exciting," Humphrey said of signing autographs and being recognized. "Hopefully I can be some sort of role model for them."

Humphrey's emergence this season is part of an up-tempo offensive style that first-year head coach Jerry Slocum instilled in his team. He's also the first to point out the difference a year can make.

"Coach is putting it in our hands and letting us play," Humphrey said of the exciting brand of basketball that the Penguins are playing as of late.

This new style has the resurgent Penguins scoring a little more than 64 points a contest.

Humphrey has factored into that high-powered offense more than he humbly admits. His 20 points per game and eight rebounds per game were tops in the conference earning him Horizon League player of the week twice this season. Humphrey said

his prolific season so far has been a pleasant surprise.

"It is sort of a shock and expected," Humphrey said. "I knew I was shocked at the number of shots I was hitting." Following Saturday's victory over Butler, Humphrey is shooting 51 percent of his shots from the field including a 76 percent free throw percentage.

While the number of shots falling in favor of Quin has been a surprise, it shouldn't come as an absolute shock because basketball is in his DNA. Humphrey has a younger brother, Markel Humphrey, on the Marshall basketball team.

Earlier this season, both brothers were afforded the opportunity to play on the same court. YSU lost the contest 73-70 but Humphrey recorded a double double with 18 points and 11 rebounds.

After 16 games this season, the Penguins surpassed last year's wins, which stood at five. Humphrey, along with the rest of his teammates, are optimistic about what lies ahead.



Jambar/ Katie Libecco

Junior guard Quin Humphrey makes a jump for two points during Saturday's win against Butler. Humphrey has been named a Horizon League player of the week twice this season.

Humphrey also admitted that becoming a cohesive unit was just as important for this season as the X's and O's and chalk talk.

"It was a lot of hard work," Humphrey said of the team's preparation for this season. "Trying to come together as one team."

hard work is starting to show results.

So far, it seems that the

Call Justin Smolkovich at (330) 941-3758.

YSU men top Butler 63-62

By: Justin Smolkovich
SPORTS REPORTER

In a game decided by a mere two points, it's only fitting that the biggest play of Saturday's men's basketball game came via a pedestrian traveling violation, pun intended.

Trailing by only a single point with just eight seconds remaining, Butler forward Brandon Polk, caught a pass and appeared poised to tilt the scale in favor of the visiting Bulldogs in the final moments. Polk carried the Bulldogs the entire game through tough post play and a game high 26 points.

Fortunately, Penguins forward John Barber became Johnny-on-the-spot and flustered Polk into a traveling call, setting up a Derrick Harris free throw to give the Penguins a two point lead 64-62 and their first victory over the Bulldogs since the Penguins joined the Horizon League

in 2001-2002, much to the delight of the 4,211 Penguins fans on hand.

Head coach Jerry Slocum, who with the win eclipses last years win total of five, praised the play of Barber defensively after the game.

"John has been a work in progress the last two weeks," Slocum said of Barber's heroics against Polk who scored 18 points in the first half, but was limited to just eight in the second. "We need him."

Despite Polk's dominant play in the first half, both teams entered the locker rooms tied at 34. Keston Roberts led the Penguins at half with 12 points and finished the game with 23. Quin Humphrey paced Roberts with a double-double, scoring 17 and snagging 14 rebounds.

Humphrey said the resiliency of this Penguin team is what is keeping them in tight games.

"Everybody kept the intensity up," Humphrey

said during a packed press conference. "From day one, [we believe] we are never out of a game."

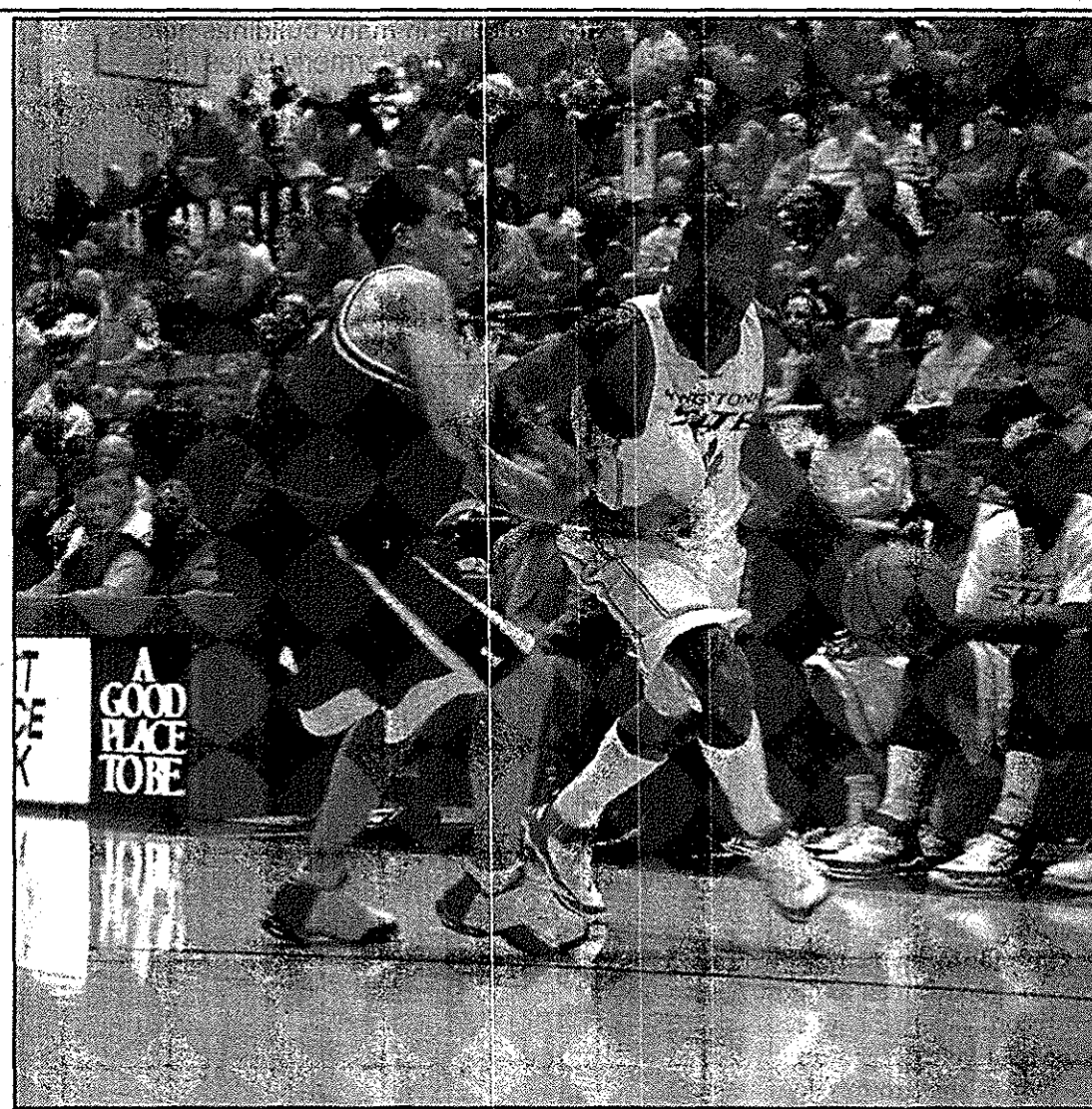
Slocum also said he felt the home crowd played into the emotion of his team and that he was pleased that he could give the fans a just reward.

"It was a college basketball atmosphere tonight," Slocum said of the near sell-out crowd.

The win lifts the Penguins to 6-11 overall and raises their league record to 3-4, but Slocum said his job is to start preparing for the next opponent and that he could not let his team rest on the Butler win for too long.

The Penguins return to action Thursday when they play host to UW-Milwaukee, tip off is set for 7:35 p.m.

Call Justin Smolkovich at (330) 941-3758.



Jambar/ Katie Libecco

Junior guard Keston Roberts shook off a Butler defender during Saturday's game. Roberts scored a team high of 23 points for the Penguins, going 10-of-18 from the field.

All Stars defeat Phi Tau 45-34 in charity game

By: Steve Lettau
Katie Libecco
THE JAMBAR

Youngstown State University's Phi Kappa Tau fraternity lost a charity game of basketball 45-34 to a team of local celebrities on Saturday. The second annual Game of Hope raised nearly \$5,000, according to coordinator and advisor Tony Spano.

A final count of tickets by the Athletics Department indicated about 375 people attended the basketball game that pitted local celebrities and legislators against members of the fraternity.

"We're happy that so many people came out and participated, but even happier that the community came out to show their support," Spano said. "With the more general donations from the crowd, we raised a lot more than we thought we would. It's great to be able to give these charities the money raised."

The All Stars, coached by Herb Washington, owner of the Youngstown SteelHounds, had the height advantage in the game. Their roster included more than nine members 6 feet and taller. They also had the advantage of crowd support, who cheered every

time mayor Jay Williams touched the ball. He scored four points on the night. Fouled later in the game, Williams went to the foul line. Washington tried to use their mayor's status to his team's advantage.

"How many shots does the mayor get, five?" Washington asked the officials.

Boxer Kelly Pavlik, a ranked middleweight contender, was a last minute addition to the All Stars. Pavlik was scheduled to play in the Game of Hope on the original press release, but later added a fight on Saturday and was unable to participate. After a sparring

session forced him to cancel the bout, he was able to briefly play in the Game of Hope.

They were joined by State Rep. John Bocchieri (D-61), former Northeast Ohio Education Association president Jeff Pegg, CEO of Iron and String Life Enhancement James Sutman, UAW 1714 President Jim Kaster, UAW 1112 President Jim Graham, 95.9 KISS-FM radio personality Jerry Mac, 570 WKBN Radio's Dan Rivers, State Sen. Marc Dann (D-32) and Ron Strollo, YSU's executive director of athletics.

Robb Schmidt, WKBN TV-27 sports anchor and

voice of YSU basketball, coached the Phi Tau team.

Both teams played sloppily from the start, each turning the ball over with their first possessions and getting into foul trouble early. This prompted Schmidt to shout at the referees for favoring the other team.

"I can't even officiate and I know that's a charge," Schmidt said, laughing.

Schmidt should have been more worried about his team's shooting percentage. Even with lowered hoops, they had a hard time finding the basket, finishing 0-6 on free throw shooting.

Matt Hufnagel, Director of Marketing and Sales at

the Chevrolet Centre led the All-Stars with 11 points, three rebounds.

Youngstown State University's Athletic Director Ron Strollo added four points and a blocked shot and Nicholas Graham, an assistant prosecutor in Warren, scored seven baskets.

Phi Tau's Dennis Paige was the leading scorer for the game compiling four points in the first half and eight in the second for a total of 12. His shooting included three slam dunks that came on fast breaks. Justin Boone and Marc Vigilo added five and six points, respectively.

COMMENTARY

Jim Traficant: Criminal in a new field

By: Bob Mackey
 COLUMNIST

To most Youngstownianites, the name "Jim Traficant" conjures up images of flamboyance, eccentricity and a head of hair that was not just mocked by the nation, but the world. For a period of time, Jim was the Mahoning Valley's own Paris Hilton, a bizarre public obsession complete with his very own brain-dead catchphrase, "Beam me up." In a trademark show of the Traficant character, throughout the congressman's life, not one scrap of credit has been given to Gene Roddenberry or Scotty, who many say is the best in the beaming industry. This arrogance would eventually lead to his downfall.

As giant balls of gas are known to do when they become mind-bendingly corrupt, the star that is Jim Traficant faded as the former congressman grew closer and closer to the Republicans he was contractually obligated to hate, and eventually was convicted of ten felony charges in 2002. I'm no expert on the workings of government, and most of what I know I learned from fighting the Mega Man-villain Congress Man, but if I was going to embezzle campaign funds for my own use, I would buy an exotic panther and then make every Tuesday in

Congress Exotic Panther Day. That way, everything would be nice and legal. Sadly, some people don't ever think ahead, or even read the "panther clause" in the secret Constitution that's printed in between the pages of every two-ply Christian Bible.

Due to his failure to research fictional documents, these days Jim Traficant spends his days in a prison cell, far away from the delicious illegal money, gallons of Aqua Net, and industrial-strength scalp adhesive that he needs to live a comfortable life. His diet now consists of what I'm guessing are carved chunks of Styrofoam, painted to resemble the delicious meats and cheeses he no doubt enjoyed in his life as a congressman. To combat the insanity and the eventual animal state that prison transforms you into, Jim Traficant has taken up arts and crafts. However, instead of doing something useful like fashioning a super-shiv for the weekly prison jousting tournaments, or constructing a woman out of mattress stuffing and cafeteria mashed potatoes (which are mainly ground-up issues of Parade magazine), Jim has entered the art community.

Much as Thomas Kinkadee has popularized himself with thousands upon thousands of paintings of near-identical coun-

try cottages, each one with a back story more horrible than the last, Traficant has made quaint, rural themes his squatting ground. One visit to www.beammeupart.com, Traficant's very own online Louvre, reveals a collection of identical barns and horses, the quality of which should remind even the most art education-deprived onlooker of cave paintings or soiled placemats at Denny's. Despite the poor quality of the paintings, and their inherent 8th-grade art show honorable mention appearances, these works have managed to sell at an astounding rate online. These unexpected sales, the profits of which fuel the congressman's artistic overdrive, have caused Traficant's inalienable horsey-painting rights to be stripped from him, much as dignity is stripped from men in prison showers on a daily basis.

Aside from the ability to create in such a life-draining atmosphere, Traficant's paintings don't impress me, and I believe that most of paintings are probably bought by offensively rich people in need of expensive kindling, or those misguided enough to still be a fan of the man. It's kind of like how your parents showed up at your boring sports games when you were a kid; they certainly weren't having fun, and they were

probably getting stung by bees and the rare scorpion or mega-wasp, but they felt the need to be there just because they had something to do with your terrible existence. The same is true with Traficant fans. Yet, the mystery of Traficant's art popularity is still an issue for me, because he pales in comparison to criminal artists of years past.

Look at John Wayne Gacy; the infamous serial killer finally made fear of clowns rational, and if you were alive and a homosexual during the late 1970s, chances are he probably would have tried to stop that. That whole "living" thing did not sit well with him. Despite his sadistic murders, his articulate paintings of clowns were thought-provoking, if only to provoke such specific thoughts as, "I hope clowns don't kill me and then stuff me in their crawlspaces." Adolf Hitler, arguably the world's most insidious monster, also dabbled in the art world. Although he wrote the best selling Mein Kampf in prison and kept painting exclusively to his life of freedom, my argument still stands. The fact that such a twisted mind could produce such lovely reproductions of European landscapes impresses me more than a frazzled congressman painting a bunch of crummy horses.

When it comes to the



Above: Jambor file photo Right: courtesy of www.beammeupart.com

ABOVE: Jim Traficant, left, with former YSU football coach Jim Tressel, poses for a photo-op in this Jambor file photo.



RIGHT: Traficant has apparently grown fond of painting horses and other pastoral scenes while in federal prison. A website began selling some of his works earlier this month.

work of Jim Traficant, my study of the works of other famous criminals has led me to believe that his paintings carry no artistic value, and the suckers buying them deserve what they get. If Mr. Traficant has access to low-circulation college newspapers such as our

own, I have one thing to say to him: I have seen the works of Adolf Hitler, and you sir, are no Adolf Hitler.

Bob Mackey is no longer allowed in the Butler Institute of Art for reasons he'd rather not discuss. Call him at (330) 941-1913.

LOCAL MUSIC

A Voice Like Rhetoric: Not unlike Rush, not really like Rush

By: Leonard Glenn Crist
 EDITOR IN CHIEF

A Voice Like Rhetoric is a difficult band to dance to. Their music is full of odd time signatures and unexpected pauses. A glance at one of their audiences might reveal more than a few people attempting to nod their head or shuffle their feet, but are stymied by an atypical 7/8 beat or an abrupt break in the music.

A Voice Like Rhetoric recently spent some time recording their next full length album, which they hope to shop to small or mid-size record labels for release in the relatively near future.

Two of the group's four members, Ross Horvath and T.J. Costanza, attend Youngstown State University.

The band will perform Friday night at 9 p.m. at Cedar's Lounge (Hazel Street in downtown Youngstown) as part of The Jambor's 75th Birthday Party. Other acts on the bill include Love Circuit, We Famous Entertainment, You Are The War That I Want and The Leonard Cohen Ensemble One.

Horvath, lead singer and guitarist for A Voice Like Rhetoric, stopped by The Jambor offices last week to talk about Myspace spam, being compared to Rush and the dreaded three letter word no musician wants to hear: emo.

The Jambor: How do you describe A Voice Like Rhetoric to people who aren't familiar with the indie, emo or math rock musical genres?

Ross Horvath: It's really funny, to people I don't care



Photo courtesy of A Voice Like Rhetoric

Local indie rock band A Voice Like Rhetoric, from left, Erik Titluga, Alex Hall, T.J. Costanza and Ross Horvath, will perform Friday at the Jambor's 75th Birthday party at Cedar's Lounge.

about [I say], "We sound like Coldplay." But people I know will maybe appreciate or at least be interested in what were doing. I'll try to explain a little more. We do a lot with time signatures and math in phrase and measure.

I guess what people call emo, isn't emo. Emo is so cliché these days. You don't even want any part of those three letters to touch what type of music you tell someone. A long time ago I used to say that, but I don't even want to say that word.

We've actually been compared, in the way we construct our songs, to Rush by a couple different people, 'cause we have a lot of pauses and stops. I think if you'd listen to us we'd never say we

sound like Rush. Maybe the way we write. I don't know how many people I'd piss off by saying Rush and then they'd listen to us and say, "What the hell?"

AVLR mostly plays all ages do it yourself (DIY) style shows and rarely performs at bars. What don't you like about the bar scene and what attracts you to the DIY scene?

When we first started playing a long time ago, we thought bars were the places to play, that's where people went to listen to music. But more and more we learned bars don't usually pay you, bars usually give you a really bad time slot if they don't know who you are and don't respect you, people don't lis-

ten to your music at bars unless it's a good club.

We used to play The Cellar [in Struthers] all the time. There'd be 100 people at The Cellar, but there'd be two people standing 50 feet away from us, watching us. If you wanna feel like crap, go play bars, go play 18 and over, 21 and over shows. All we play now is all ages. Even when there's a bad night of all ages shows, you still know you're going to get gas money or something because at least 30

kids came out and they were freakin' standing two inches away from your face because they came out to listen to music and not show off their new shoes and new haircuts.

It makes you feel good when you have people watching you, not people sitting at bar stools 20 feet away that are busy drinking and carrying a conversation rather than watching the show they paid to come in and see. Maybe it's just an inconvenience for those people. Maybe that's just their regular hotspot and they came out that night and they're kinda pissed they had pay an extra 10 dollars to get into the club that night.

Tell me about your recent recording sessions.

It was a blast, we spent a little over a week up in Erie, Pa at Midtown Studios recording with Sean Hammer. He's a really good guy. He went to YSU for the first two semesters of his school, they he dropped out after he went to Edinboro. Really good guy. We had such a good experience up there, not to say we haven't had good experiences recording before. It was a different atmosphere. It was a very professionally set up place. Like, I used a \$3,000 microphone to do vocals on.

Do you have another job to supplement your income?

As of right now, no. I feel loser-esque saying that. Right

now I do everything [for the band]. I'd say I do 95 percent of the stuff. Everybody else helps out when they can. Not that everybody else is lazy, but I think it's a combination of motivation for wanting to do everything and being dedicated to it also. I really want to see something come out of this, so I'm on Myspace.com five hours a night, sending people messages, checking my email, adding friends.

One thing I try to do is post a comment on everybody who adds us. Myspace is literally the newest and most innovative and efficient and economical way to contact people for anything in dealing with music. I would advise it for any band to contact people through that. There are production companies on Myspace now, there are clothing companies on Myspace.

I do think it will turn into a bad thing sooner or later. I think it has already been bought by Rupert Murdoch's NewsCorp, and I think it will slowly become a bad thing. I'm starting to get spam. "How's your credit rating?" "Meet new single locals in your area." "Enlarge that special place." No thanks. I'm 3 inches of man, thank you.

Call Leonard Glenn Crist at (330) 941-1991.

It makes you feel good when you have people watching you, not people sitting at bar stools 20 feet away that are busy drinking and carrying a conversation rather than watching the show they paid to come in and see.

— Ross Horvath, A Voice Like Rhetoric.