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HOLLYWOOD JOSE

◀ Jambar staffer gives his opinion on Jose Canseco and the recent steroid scandal. See page 8.



UPSET SPECIAL

The YSU men's basketball team knocked off Eastern Michigan Saturday. See page 8. ▶

VOLUME 74, ISSUE 48

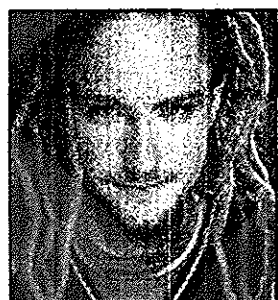
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YOUNGSTOWN STATE UNIVERSITY

>>FREE<<

the jambar
youngstown state university

Also Inside



▲ The John Butler Trio releases new album. See page 4.

News Briefs

Relationship advice in Kilcawley

Ellen Gootblatt author of "Meeting, Dating, Relating and Mating: 250 Important Questions to Ask Before You Go Further in a Relationship," will give free relationship advice at 7 p.m. Feb. 22 in the Presidential Suites at Kilcawley Center. She lectures across the nation on topics including dating, intimacy and the difference between sexes.

Award applications available

The 2005 student award applications are available in the Student Activities Office, room 2100 of Kilcawley Center.

The deadline for all applications is at 5 p.m. Friday, March 18. The awards banquet is scheduled for 6 p.m. Thursday, April 28 in the Chestnut Room of Kilcawley Center.

For more information, call the Student Activities Office at (330) 941-3580

Career Services presentation

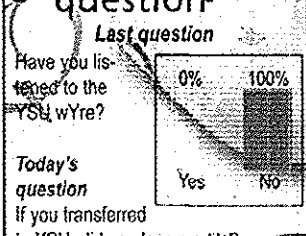
Youngstown State University Career Services will present "Careers in the Computer and Information Sciences" today in The Gallery of Kilcawley Center.

Submit your news briefs to The Jambar @ thejambar@hotmail.com

Weather >> Mostly cloudy

36 | 25

the jambar poll question



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YSU

Officials hope for change in Ohio Transfer Module

The Module is the list of general courses that can transfer as one credit from one university to another

By Christina Poe
The Jambar

Youngstown State University officials are researching how to accommodate a change in statewide higher education policy.

At the request of the Ohio General Assembly, changes are currently being made to the Ohio Transfer Module, the list of general courses that can transfer as credit from one university to the other.

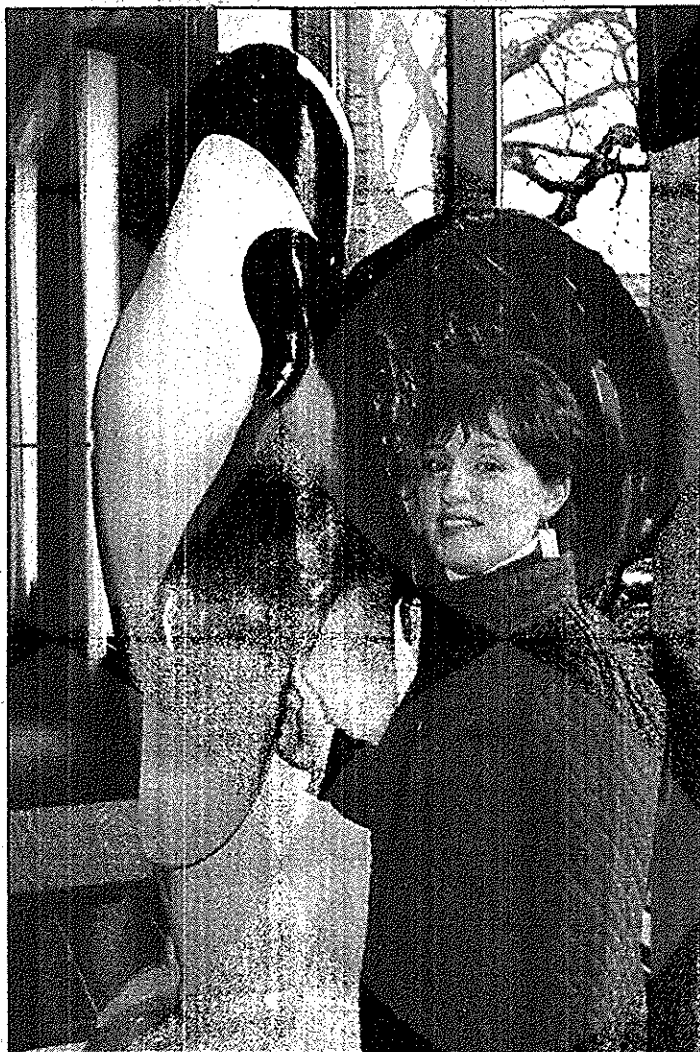
After the revisions are made, students should be able to make a smoother transition and not repeat many courses in the process.

Pauline Sateriow, YSU associate director of undergraduate admissions, said the university is "participating fully" in the policy's guidelines and is looking into how changes to it could affect YSU's yearly average of 1,000 transfer students.

The original Articulation

please see **MODULE**, Page 2

Penguins make their way into local classrooms



Penguin Parade

YSU's Penguin Parade provided inspiration for Cathy Nicora's art curriculum. She developed a series of lesson plans based on the birds for the SMARTS program. (Jambar photo by Chuck Rogers)

By Maysoon Abdelrasul
The Jambar

The 30 penguins from Youngstown State University's Penguin Parade are making their way into local classrooms thanks to one YSU senior.

Cathy Nicora, an art education major, was hired by the Students Motivated by the Arts Center (SMARTS) to develop a curriculum using each penguin from the parade.

"Depending on the design of the penguin, I figure out which way to go with it," she said.

Nicora said as she developed the lesson plan, she had to

distinguish between elementary, middle and high school levels. She also tailored the plans specifically for each penguin. For example, she said, the cobalt penguin, named after the new car manufactured at the Lordstown General Motors plant, can be used at a high school level to teach about car designing and car paints.

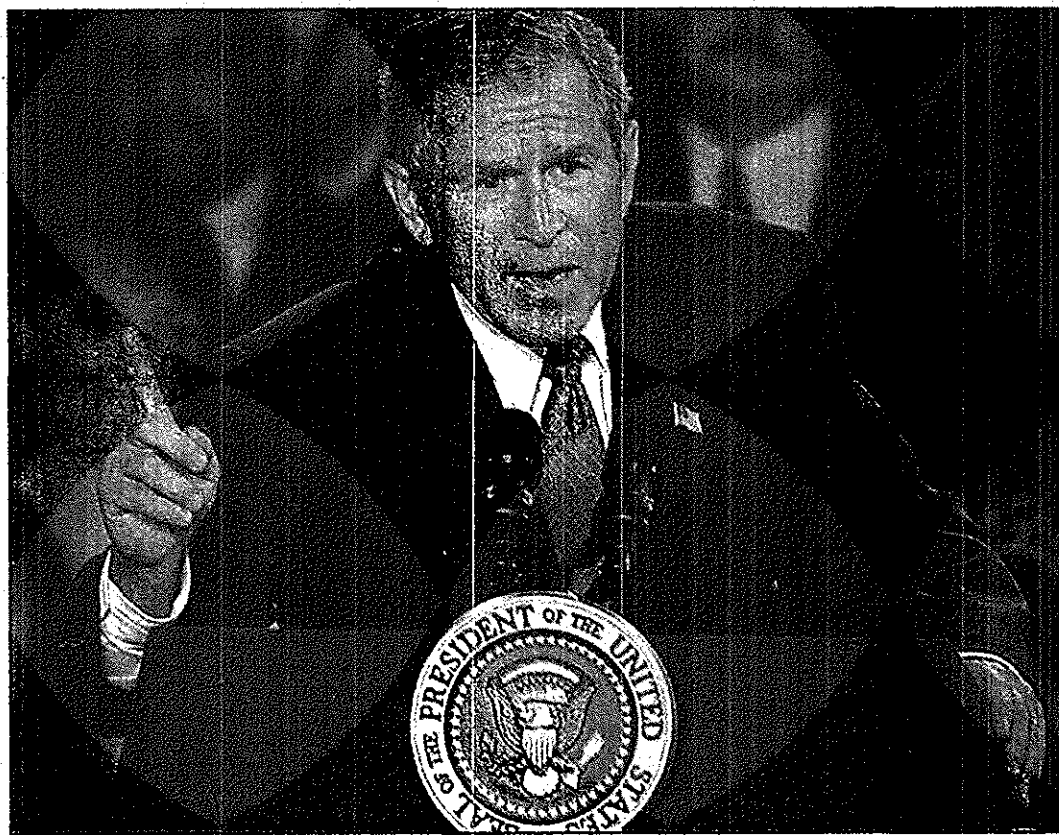
Nicora said it was very stressful task for her to accomplish, especially since she wanted to cover a wide variety from history to economics. However, she said she is happy with her accomplishments and hopes

please see **PARADE**, Page 2

BRUSSELS, Belgium

Bush scolds Russia

Criticizes nation for its stance on democracy



Eurotrip

President Bush scolded Russia for backsliding on democracy and urged Mideast allies to continue their push for peace during his discussion in Brussels, Belgium Monday. (KRT Campus file photo)

By Terence Hunt
Associated Press

BRUSSELS, Belgium — President Bush scolded Russia for backsliding on democracy Monday and urged Mideast allies to take difficult steps for peace, appealing for Europe's help in both troubled areas to "set history on a hopeful course."

Bush opened his discussions with a gesture of reconcil-

iation toward disgruntled allies, hosting an elegant dinner for French President Jacques Chirac, the harshest critic of the U.S. invasion of Iraq.

"I'm looking for a good cowboy," Bush joshed when a reporter asked if relations had improved to the point where Chirac might receive an invitation to the president's Texas ranch. Chirac said U.S.-French relations have been excellent for

200 years and the war had not

changed that. They dined on lobster risotto and filet of beef.

Despite the cordial meeting, Bush told Chirac the United States adamantly opposes Europe's plans to lift its 15-year arms embargo against China.

Europe seemed eager for Bush's charm offensive after bitter divisions over global climate control, Iraq and other problems. Dozens of world

please see **BUSH**, Page 6

YOUNGSTOWN

Water, air, urban sprawl among biggest concerns

The Healthy Valley Alliance hopes to clean up the local environment

By Chuck Rogers
The Jambar

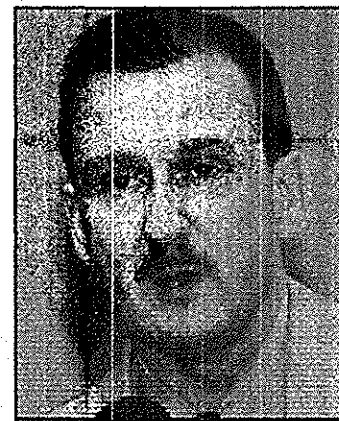
Drinking water safety, indoor air quality and urban sprawl are the top three health concerns of Mahoning Valley residents, according to a report released Wednesday by the Healthy Valley Alliance.

The Healthy Valley Alliance is a group of public, private and non-profit organizations formed to study public health issues in Mahoning and Trumbull counties.

Members include the Mahoning County District Board of Health, Humility of Mary Health Partners and Youngstown State University.

The report highlights valley residents' major health concerns based on a survey distributed at the 2003 Canfield Fair and internally to some of the Alliance's members. More than 300 people completed the survey.

Matthew Stefanak,



MATTHEW STEFANAK

Mahoning County health commissioner, acknowledged the study participants were not chosen by strictly scientific methods. "It was what's known in science as a 'convenience sample,'" he said. "It was completely non-random."

The anonymous survey asked respondents to select three out of 26 health-related concerns they would like to see addressed in Mahoning Valley. It also asked for their gender,

please see **ALLIANCE**, Page 2

SGA sets sights on funding, tsunami

By Christina Poe
The Jambar

Youngstown State University's Student Government Association discussed student issues including higher education funding, YSU's Tsunami Relief campaign and campus dining during Mondays' meeting.

State Funding

The ad hoc committee created to address the state's university funding and YSU's budget spending reported developments to the group.

Committee chair Bob McGovern said the committee is planning to attend the legislative hearings on funding in Columbus on March 15, 16 and 17, and will present a recommendation for the state government to establish a more effective way of checking the universities' spending.

The state and the universities are always "passing the buck" and blaming each other for the lack of money, McGovern said.

In 2001 YSU invited the state to audit the university and

please see **SGA**, Page 6

MODULE, continued from page 1

and Transfer Policy was created in 1990 by the Ohio Board of Regents at the request of the Ohio General Assembly to ease the transition of interstate transfer students.

In order to assess the credibility of the students' previous classes with those of the new university, the Board created a transfer module.

In 2003, the Ohio General Assembly called for the Board to make revisions to the policy through Revised Substitute House Bill 95.

"The purpose of this requirement is to allow students to attain their highest educational aspirations in the most effective manner for the students and the state," Revised Substitute House Bill 95 stated.

Saternow said classes at all public Ohio institutions, as well as neighboring Pennsylvania universities, are being reviewed to insure they fit within YSU's curriculum.

"With more complete equate files, students who transfer from other institutions can easily see the manner in

which those classes transfer," Saternow said.

Although the policy may require universities to adjust their curriculum, Saternow said YSU will not change and will continue to research how other institutions fit with its courses.

Other Ohio universities are also taking steps to evaluate how the policies pending amendments would affect their students.

Kelly Roser, assistant director of admissions at Kent State University, said the university's transferability is "fairly easy" for their yearly average of 1,300 transfer students and that KSU, like YSU, will not be changing their curriculum.

Roser added the majority of complaints concerning classes not fitting to a major arise from students who changed their course of study when coming to KSU or were not familiar with the guidelines of the transfer module.

Call Christina Poe at (330) 941-1913

PARADE, continued from page 1

teachers and educators will find it helpful in any aspect of the classroom. She noted the penguin "Executive State," which features the eight United States presidents from Ohio that can be used to study history.

She added not only can the penguins serve as an academic lesson plan, but can also aid in life experiences and teaching students about diversity.

Nicora referred to the penguin "I Dream in Color," a mosaic piece, as one that could teach students about multiculturalism.

"It teaches unity through similarity to harmonize movement and proportion," Nicora said as she pointed out all the shapes and colors in the penguin.

Some of the plans even call for elementary level students to make field trips to have a hands-on experience with the penguins.

The penguin parade is co-sponsored by YSU and the Community Foundation of the Mahoning Valley. Becky Keck, SMARTS director, said the most important aspect of

the center is to provide quality education experiences for children in the community and YSU students. She said this project would fulfill that mission.

Nicora said she was not aware of the SMARTS center until she was chosen by YSU's art department chairperson Susan Russo to be interviewed for the position.

"It's a really awesome opportunity to have on a resume," Nicora said. "It's great practice and it would help me in the long run."

Smarts Coordinator Kelly Bancroft said she hopes teachers will use the curriculum in their classrooms.

"It gives teachers lesson plans from the penguins throughout the community," she said. The lesson plans will soon be provided online for teachers through a link from the YSU Web site. Assessments on lessons for all grade levels are included along with a rubric to show student's progression.

Call Maysoon Abdelrasul at (330) 941-3758

PENGUINS, continued from page 1

age, educational and ethnic background.

At a Wednesday press conference in Kilcawley Center's Humphrey Room, Stefanak led members of the Alliance's steering committee in presenting the report.

Stefanak said the Mahoning Valley was one of only eight communities in the nation chosen by the Centers for Disease Control for participation in this kind of study. The Alliance received \$20,000 in funding from the CDC.

One of the reasons this region was chosen, he said, is that there are significant environmental issues in the community.

"Asthma hospitalization rates for Mahoning County children are above the national average," he said, adding, "We have a serious problem with lead poisoning in Youngstown in particular."

The report notes that since 1994, more than 1,000 Youngstown children have been diagnosed with lead poisoning, a problem, Stefanak said, is caused by the large number of families living in older homes.

The report shows more than 70 percent of Youngstown's houses were built before 1950, when the use of lead-based paints was commonplace.

Stefanak said there is evidence of bacterial contamination in one-third of drinking-water wells tested by the Board of Health. More than 10,000 families in Mahoning County use private wells for their water supply, he said.

He also noted residual contaminants from former steel-making sites filter into the water supply. One such location, the Reutgers-Neese Superfund site in southern Mahoning County, has released cancer-causing chemicals into the environment, Stefanak said.

One of the less obvious problems affecting public health is urban sprawl. According to the report, the population of the Youngstown-Warren area declined 9 percent between 1970 and 1990. However, in the same time there was a 30 percent increase in urbanized land area.

The result of that increase shows up in a variety of ways. The report said, because communities are spread out, residents drive more and walk less. Less physical activity results in an increase in health risks like obesity.

Another barrier to physical activity caused by rapid urban expansion is the lack of sidewalks in outlying new developments. Michael Robinson, of Humility of Mary Health

Partners, said people are reluctant to get out and walk when they have to walk in the streets.

"Without sidewalks," Robinson said, "a number of individuals don't feel safe to walk outside their homes."

More roofs and streets also mean less open ground to absorb rainwater. Stefanak said out of control development creates more impermeable surfaces that channel water into flood-prone areas and the runoff affects drinking-water quality as well.

Along with recognizing the existing environmental problems, the Alliance's report sets forth their goals to improve the valley's environmental conditions.

The report recommends steps such as educating businesses and the public about how to avoid introducing contaminants into the air and the groundwater supply. It also recommends screening and testing for lead and other environmental hazards.

The document also suggests opening utility and railroad right-of-ways to hikers and bikers, retrofitting unwalkable neighborhoods with sidewalks and promoting development plans that allow homes, schools and stores to be located close together.

The Alliance is beginning its implementation phase, tak-

ing its own recommendations to the public and local and state governments.

Since drinking water is at the top of their list, the first steps were taken by holding a water quality presentation in August for the Mahoning County Township Association and a source water workshop in October for the American Water Works Association.

However, further actions will require resources and the cooperation of governments, developers, employers and the communities involved, according to the report.

The Healthy Valley Alliance's report can be seen on the Mahoning County District Board of Health Web site at www.mahoning-health.org/healthreports-specialreports.asp

Call Chuck Rogers at (330) 941-1807

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Each week in February winners will be randomly drawn. Weekly prizes include Tropitan \$75 value packages, Coke coolers, beach towels, pop-up beach shelter, \$75 Dick's Sporting Goods gift cards, beach chairs, and \$75 Panache Day Spa gift certificates.

How to Enter:

Pick up a Coke Frequent Card at any food location in Kilcawley Center, including the YSU Bookstore, Kilcawley Candy Counter, and Christman Dining's Time Out. Receive a punch for every 20oz bottle of Coke product you purchase. Your card will be entered in the random drawing when you have received six (6) punches and have completed the entry form on the back of the card. Enter as often as you wish!

Weekly Winners

- Shannon Hians, Fresh., Pre-Nursing (2x Winner!!!)
- April Decker, Fresh., Physics & Astronomy
- Eric Wistum, Jr., Communications
- Kamilah McCall, Fresh., Pre-Resp. Care
- Adam Stall, Soph., Computer Tech.
- Eric Jordan, Fresh., Information Tech
- Forrest Brooks, Fresh, Engineering
- Anu Singh, Sr., BSMD
- Sarah Wakefield, Jr. Sociology & Econ.
- Becky Hibner, Fresh, Exercise Sci.
- Jeanne Antol, YSU Home Savings
- Stephanie Redman, Fresh, Pre-Nursing

Who can Enter?

Complete rules and details available on Kilcawley Center's web site at www.kc.ysu.edu. Official rules also posted at each location. Weekly prizes can be won by anyone; however the grand prize winner must be a current YSU student with a valid student Patron ID number completed on the entry form. Some blackout dates apply to the grand prize. Hawaii and Alaska not included in the continental USA. See web site for more information and all locations in Kilcawley Center where Coke Frequent Cards are available. The grand prize winner will be drawn on March 1st, 2005. All winners will be notified by email and phone.

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Editorial & Opinion

Tuesday, February 22, 2005

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OUR SIDE

Transfer Module great for transfers

Being a transfer student isn't easy.

Aside from the difficulties entailed in making new friends at a new school and distinguishing the difference between the Beeghly Center and the Beeghly College of Education, transfer students' woes are often compounded by worries that courses taken at one school won't be accepted at Youngstown State University.

Nothing is worse than being forced to retake a freshman level math course previously completed at another institution of higher learning. Not only is it time consuming, it's also costly.

Fortunately for students, the Ohio Transfer Module aims to remedy this all too frequent occurrence by standardizing general education courses across Ohio's public colleges and universities.

The plan, which will be finished by April and goes into effect in 2006, will allow courses that teach at least 70 percent of what educators agree should be taught to be transferable to any of Ohio's 37 public colleges and universities. Some schools will have to change their curricula to comply, The Plain Dealer of Cleveland has reported.

Though some critics have said course quality might suffer under the transfer module, the director of the project for the Ohio Board of Regents insists the general education curriculum will not be dumbed down.

We have faith that academic standards will not decrease. A YSU official said courses won't necessarily have to change in order to comply with the transfer module, but even if courses do change, the overall effect for students will remain positive.

The Plain Dealer has reported that in Ohio during the 2002-03 academic year, 27 percent of students who graduated from a four-year public university transferred at least 30 hours from another school.

Each year at YSU, approximately 1,000 students transfer in from another college or university, YSU's admissions officials said.

The Plain Dealer also reported transfer students from two-year colleges took approximately 146 credit-hours to earn bachelor's degrees, while those who attended only one four-year college took about 140 credit-hours to graduate.

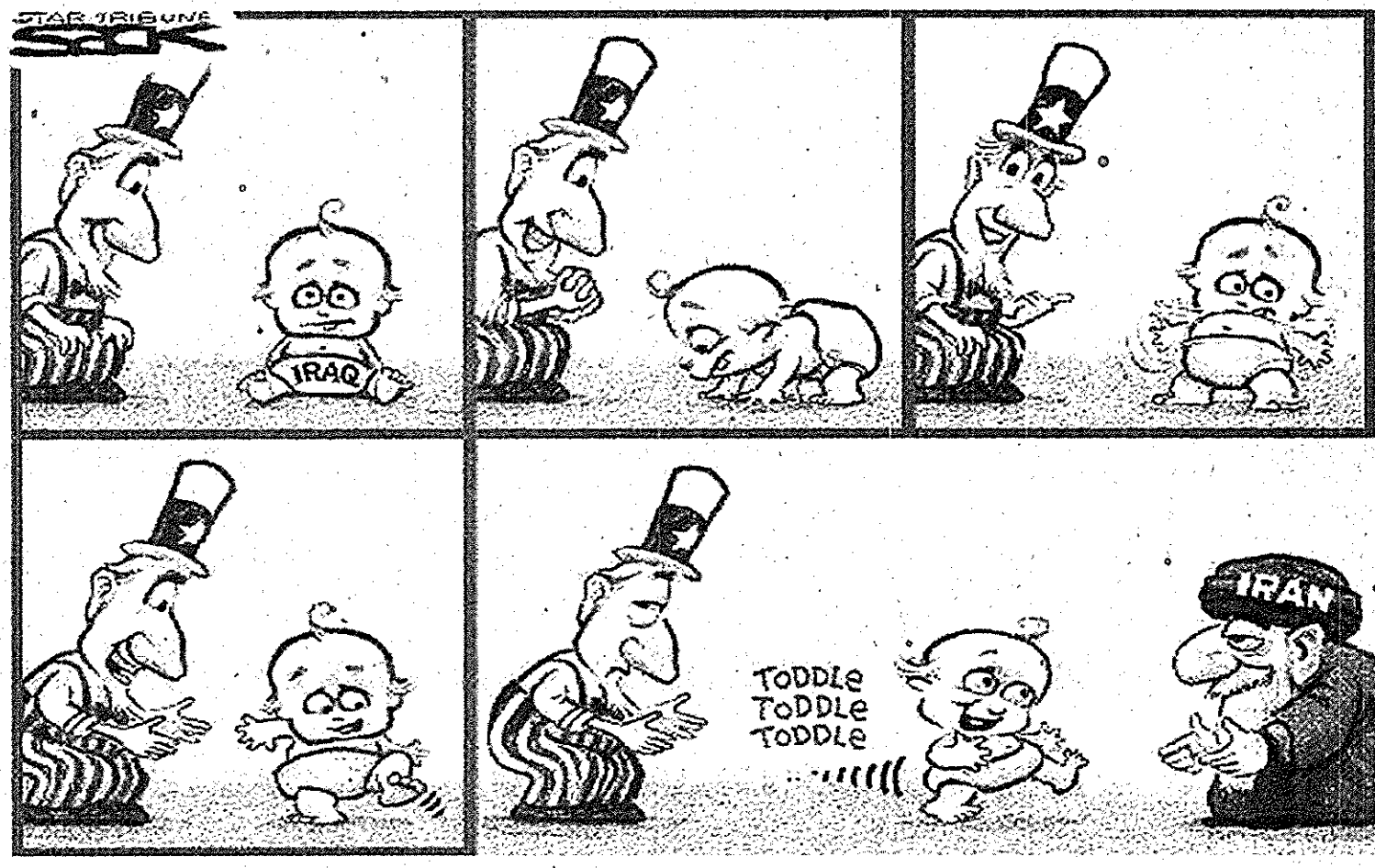
Those additional six credit hours would cost a YSU student \$1,620 — and even more at other Ohio schools — in extra tuition he or she normally wouldn't have had to spend if the credits had transferred over from their previous school.

Forcing transfer students to retake courses provides much needed revenue for universities during a time of state budget cuts, however, it is an unnecessary burden placed on the backs of the students who have already completed the coursework elsewhere. Plus, YSU officials said they don't expect any revenue loss when the transfer module goes into effect.

We feel Ohio should have taken this step years ago. The Plain Dealer has reported that at least 35 states already have programs such as this in place.

We wholeheartedly agree with the Ohio Transfer Module's reforms. We feel this plan will benefit students by helping them finish school sooner, which by extension offsets the ever-rising cost of tuition. It will also allow transfer students to concentrate on their major area of study without having to be bothered courses they have already passed.

Bravo.



This week: On Wal-Mart

Leonard Crist...



declares total thermo-nuclear war...

The target of today's column, boys and girls, is Wal-Mart.

The casual observer might ask, "Mr. Crist, why are you declaring total thermo-nuclear war on Wal-Mart? Their everyday low prices help millions of Americans afford the finer things in life, like Fruit of the Loom undershirts, "Left Behind" novels and Sam's Choice cookies and cola. I love Wal-Mart."

The answer is simple: because Wal-Mart is the F—king devil.

I apologize if such coarse language and bluntness has offended your poor eyes and sensibilities; however, Wal-Mart's everyday low practices are about a million times more offensive than the F-word ever could be.

In an essay titled "Devil with a Blue Smock On," friend, renegade

folk hero and columnist Chris Hvizdak writes: Wal-Mart's low costs are "deducted not from your debit card, but rather from the whole of human civilization. The U.S. of A. is rocketing toward being primarily composed of a new retail slave class and Wal-Mart is leading the transformation."

One recent example proving Wal-Mart's inherent evilness: their plan to close a store in Canada because it was on the verge of becoming the first ever unionized Wal-Mart. The store in Jonquiere, Quebec, will be shut down in May.

The union asserts Wal-Mart fired the workers because they chose to exercise their right to join a union. Wal-Mart claims that with a union in place, the store would become inefficient and unprofitable.

That a Wal-Mart could become unprofitable because 200 employees in Quebec want to join forces in order to get a pay raise and better benefits is beyond absurd.

In 2003, Wal-Mart's sales reached \$256 billion, more than the entire Swedish economy. The average Wal-Mart employee earns \$8.23 an hour and works only 32 hours a week, according to a report by Rep. George Miller, a Democrat from California. But a pair of jeans for \$10? What a steal!

The "always low prices" that

Wal-Mart offers serve to drive locally owned businesses out, which drives local employees to the unemployment line. One study reported that for every 100 jobs Wal-Mart creates, 150 are lost when nearby stores close.

But how is Wal-Mart able to offer such low prices?

The answer is simple: China. Wal-Mart imported \$15 billion in goods from China in 2003. Hooray for China! Unfortunately, such a huge reliance on foreign manufacturing drives down wages all across the America as domestic manufacturers find it impossible to compete with a nation where minimum wages barely exist.

In one notorious case in 1999, the National Labor Committee discovered a Chinese factory making the Kathie Lee brand of handbags carried at Wal-Mart, showing dismal conditions for the workers, even by already low Chinese standards. The average employee worked 14-hour shifts, 7 days a week, 30 days a month and earned 3 cents an hour. The highest wage reported in the factory was 10 cents an hour, well below the local minimum wage of 36 cents an hour.

Such exploitation is disgusting and inhuman. Welcome to capitalism.

After 9/11, President Bush

declared Iraq, Iran and North Korea the axis of evil. Then, on the 2004 campaign trail, "clever" Democrats retorted, in the couture medium known as the political button, that the "real" axis of evil was Bush, Dick Cheney and Donald Rumsfeld.

These people were all wrong. The REAL axis of evil is Wal-Mart, Sam's Club and Wal-Mart Supercenters.

Some may argue Wal-Mart harbors much less "evil intent" than a nuclear North Korea or a militantly fundamentalist Iran, but I think the evidence is clear that Wal-Mart has done much more harm to the American people than any of the so-called axis of evil nations.

Still, I understand realistically, all the baying at Sam Walton's moon won't really stop people from shopping at Wal-Mart. As long as they experience the disconnect between their actions as consumers and the total negative effect it has on society, both at home and abroad, Wal-Mart will continue to flourish. Hell, I even shop there on occasion. I mean, where else are you going to go at 3 a.m. on a Tuesday when you absolutely need a copy of "Suburban Commando" while craving obscene quantities of Sam's Choice Dr Thunder? Sadly, nowhere but Wal-Mart.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Impossible situation for universities

Editor,
Ohio's public colleges and universities face an impossible situation. Tuition in Ohio has increased an astounding 34.3 percent since 2001 at four-year institutions. Thanks to Gov. Bob Taft's blatant disregard for higher learning, gone are the days when colleges could rely on state funding to sustain the programs and services so vital to educating students.

To combat diminishing state support, public institutions have been forced to raise tuition precipitously in recent years, which has priced many of our lower and middle class families out of attending college.

If we wonder why Ohioans are below the national average in attaining a college degree, if we question why high-paying jobs are available in neighboring states but not here, if we ask why personal income continues to decline in Ohio, then we need look no further than our funding of higher education. Employers by simply won't be compelled to locate in our state if they do not feel like our graduates have the training necessary to do the jobs.

For the past five years, state cuts have led to skyrocketing costs directed onto students. Tuition here is a whopping 67 percent higher than the national average. The funding of higher education is a prime example of the short-sighted problems with the Republican budget, and expresses how badly misguided they are in finding solutions that address the real problems facing Ohio's families.

It has to end.

Last week, in his State of the State address, Gov. Taft recommended capping tuition increases at 6 percent for Ohio's public universities. I agree with him. Where the Governor and I vehemently disagree, however, is in his perplexing decision to keep cutting higher education funding, while mandating that schools do not raise tuition. In 2002, Taft cut funding for higher education by \$39.2 million. Meanwhile, Ohio is educating nearly 50,000 more students today than we were five years ago. How on earth can we educate more students by giving our universities less? Gov. Taft and the Republican Majority at the state-house have failed higher education. They have caused a crisis — and yes, this is nothing short of a crisis

— that has tied our educators' hands behind their backs. We cannot possibly expect them to turn out the leaders of tomorrow without giving them resources to use today.

While my concerns over access to learning and ensuring that all Ohioans have educational opportunities convince me that capping tuition is necessary, it does not let the Republican-controlled legislature off the hook in providing more support for higher education.

But those of us at the state-house cannot do it alone; we need support from everyone in our campus communities. As long as there is no political price to be paid for their disregard, Gov. Taft and his Republican colleagues will continue to impede higher education funding.

If we are truly going to impact funding and make higher education a priority, the nearly 250,000 college students at Ohio's 13 public four-year universities and the additional 100,000 enrolled in the 27 two-year community and technical colleges need to get involved, to contact their representatives, and to make their voices heard. We need to demonstrate in one proud, unified voice that we are committed to higher education and to bringing the

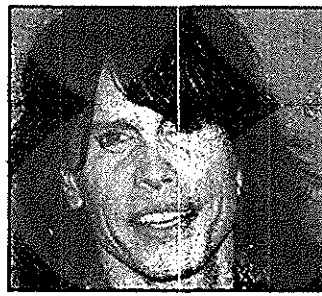
jobs of the future home to Ohio.

The only mechanism we have to avoid the continuation of budget cuts and a declining economy is in educating students, keeping them here after they graduate, and convincing employers in the new economy that Ohioans can compete with anyone in the country.

As an undergraduate then a master's student at Bowling Green State University, I saw first-hand how extraordinary and vibrant our campuses are and how they can profoundly impact all those who attend. The variance in schools, the outstanding faculty throughout the state, and the commitment that students possess for learning and knowledge are all positive signs that despite the state's neglect, higher education can persevere and be the driving force in Ohio's economic future. But we must all do our part in ensuring that this is a priority, not just for some of us, but for all of us.

Working together, we can solve our funding problems and provide our public universities with the support they need to flourish.

Ohio Rep. Chris Redfern
Democratic Leader in the Ohio House of Representatives



HEADLINES

► **Aerosmith's Tyler separating from wife**
 Aerosmith lead singer Steven Tyler and his wife of 17 years, Teresa, are separating, the singer announced Sunday.

Tuesday, February 22, 2005

www.thejambar.com/thejambar@hotmail.com/330-941-3758

Page 4

CD REVIEW

The John Butler trio delivers spring break soundtrack

By Bill Rodgers
 The Jambar

I'm pretty excited I've found the soundtrack for my spring break. Lava records just sent over "Sunrise Over Sea" by The John Butler Trio, Australia's mega-popular folk-rock band.

Fans of bands like O.A.R. and the Dave Matthews Band will probably like Butler's earthy, soulful and chill mix of acoustic jam songs. "Sunrise Over Sea," the trio's first full-length release in America, features 14 songs that blend blues, reggae, classic country, funk and rock. Tying the entire album together is Butler's fantastic guitar playing and gritty, but very melodic vocals.

The final product is a collection of smooth, rocking and mellow sounds that create an atmosphere that's just cool.

The goateed and dreadlocked John Butler originally got his start playing guitar on the streets of Freemantle, Australia.

He scraped cash together by selling cassettes of himself playing guitar. Before long, he began selling out gigs at local bars and clubs.

From there, his career evolved into a hugely successful monster. Butler kept his band independently produced, released and funded and his albums were met with plenty of fanfare in Australia. His new album went double-platinum in his home country, debuting at No. 1 on Aussie

Charts, a first for an independent artist.

He cleaned up at the Australian version of the Grammy's, taking home the awards for "Best Male Artist," "Best Indie Release" and "Best Blues & Roots Album." His band recently turned their attention to the United States. The trio first made news over here through their EP release of "What You Want," that featured six songs, some of which are on the new CD.

"Sunrise Over Sea" is full of good tracks. The opening "Treat Yo' Mamma" starts the disc off with a funk rock country vibe before advancing to the quiet, soft "Peaches and Cream," a love song Butler wrote for his wife and baby daughter. The CD then moves to "Betterman" a sweet jam song and fan favorite.

Also featured are unique tracks such as "What You Want" that opens with a warm, lush string section. There's also "Mist," a really fast Celtic guitar jam, backed by some low-end rippling drums.

One of the CD's strengths is a sense of sincerity present in each of the songs. Butler doesn't sound like John Mayer, mincing his way around a really sappy set of love songs; each song has a unique groove that can't be faked.

For example, Butler plays his acoustic so hard he had to put acrylic nails on his hand to save his fingers from being shredded by the strings. You can actually hear this frantic

playing in the piece "There'll Come a Time."

That being said, there are some places where the CD could have been improved. I would like to have seen some different Butler songs on the American release of "Sunrise..." The last two, "Oldman" and "Sometimes" are fine by themselves, but pale in comparison to some other Butler songs.

"Pickapart," a song that sounds like a throwback to "Subterranean Homesick Blues" by Bob Dylan or the trio's trippy cover of "Across the Universe" by the Beatles would have been a better fit for the album.

Butler, with his dreams, songs about the environment and demands that his CD jackets be printed on recycled paper also gives off a serious "dirty hippie" vibe that he should avoid in the future. It doesn't detract from the CD, but it could be an area that the band pigeonholes themselves in later.

But still, I can't wait until I escape somewhere warmer where I'll be able to sit, chill out and listen to these great guitar songs over and over again.

Release Date: March 15.
 Sounds Like: O.A.R., Dave Matthews Band.
 Coolest Track: "Betterman."

Call Bill Rodgers at (330) 941-3758



John Butler Trio

The John Butler Trio is set to release "Sunrise Over Sea," their first full-length release. The album is laden with an O.A.R., Dave Matthews Band vibe. (Photo courtesy of thejohnbutlertrio.com)

FILM REVIEW

Keanu in 'Constantine' fits into comic book cliché

By Robert Saucedo
 The Battalion (Texas A&M)

(U-WIRE) COLLEGE STATION, Texas — If anything, "Constantine" shows the power of crafting an enjoyable popcorn flick using paint-by-number filmmaking. Take one world-weary hero, add a fish-out-of-water love interest, mix in a bit of over-the-top villainy and you've got a larger-than-life extravaganza of special effects and supernatural shenanigans. I apologize for the use of such tired clichés in describing the gist of "Constantine," but that is exactly what this Keanu Reeves' vehicle is, a full-throttle, high-octane cliché.

Loosely based on the long-running DC/Ventigo comic book "Hellblazer," "Constantine" stars Reeves as John Constantine, a magic-wielding exorcist in search of redemption. With a cigarette consistently perched in his mouth, Constantine battles the forces of darkness in an attempt to gain favor with the Big Man in the Sky. Despite his near-constant duty as a supernatural border patrol agent, his actions are not enough to earn him a spot in the heavenly kingdom. Unfortunately, his time is running out. Diagnosed with cancer, Constantine is set for a one-way ticket to hell when he dies, due to a botched suicide attempt earlier in his life. Coincidentally, events are transpiring elsewhere that shed light on a massive conspiracy involving a powerful demon's ascension onto Earth. Angela Dodson (Rachel Weisz in a charming performance) finds herself connected to the satanic undertakings occurring underfoot when her twin sister commits suicide. Fate — or a poorly written plot device, depending on how gullible you are feeling — brings Angela and Constantine together to fight side by side against the forces that threaten to break the balance of good and evil and bring hell to Earth.

If you are confused after reading that plot description, don't worry. So was I, and I've seen the film. "Constantine" is a muddled mess of a movie that manages to at least look wonderful. Director Francis Lawrence cut his teeth in the world of



Keanu Reeves stars in "Constantine," a larger than life extravaganza of special effects and supernatural shenanigans. (Photo courtesy of constantine.com)

music videos, and it shows. The film is brought to life with a vivid enthusiasm aided by the latest in computer effects. The colors of Los Angeles pop out, bringing a sharp contrast to the muted darkness of Constantine's world. The decadence and decay of Hell is showcased in a scene in which Constantine must transverse Damnation in search of Angela's sister. Apparently, Hell looks a lot like L.A.'s 101 freeway. Meanwhile, Heaven resembles the sprawling towers of Los Angeles' skyscraper district. The director obviously put a lot of thought into planning out the visual aspects of the film and it shows in each frame. Unfortunately for Lawrence, looks aren't everything, and in story, "Constantine" finds itself lacking. Full of gi-normous plot holes and unexplained foolishness, the film is a mess of borrowed ideas and grandiose, gratuitous action.

Even though Reeves never dons long underwear and a cape, "Constantine" is a superhero movie through and through. Although his deadpan performance stretches his acting prowess beyond that of a perpetual confused grimace, Reeves' bad-boy persona is not enough to elevate "Constantine" above the cornucopia of

clichéd plot happenings. When battling a hoard of demons, Constantine pulls out a "holy shotgun" and transforms the film from a somewhat intriguing puzzle into a gratuitous gunfight. If the idea of a shotgun attached to a crucifix seems hokey to you, get ready for a scene in which Constantine slips on a pair of brass knuckles adorned with the sign of the cross.

Besides weapons that would make Bibleman blush, the film's shining moment lies with the introduction of character actor Peter Stromare as Satan. Stromare is perhaps the only actor in Hollywood that can compete with Christopher Walken as the most likely to eat babies. Donned in a pristine white suit, feet dripping with tar, Stromare's Satan oozes with unapologetic creepiness. Utilizing the whole of his face as a performance tool, Stromare has forevermore personified evil in my opinion.

"Constantine" is an enjoyable gem of an action blockbuster. Unfortunately, instead of rising to the top and meeting its potential, "Constantine" feels the need to wade in mediocrity. Watch the film for the pretty pictures, but check any expectations at the door.

BOOK REVIEW

Arvin's novel captures grisly realities of war

By Lucille Vaughan
 Michigan Daily

(U-WIRE) ANN ARBOR, Mich. — More than 60 years ago, waves of freshly drafted soldiers entered a foreign land to battle the Axis Powers of Europe. Nick Arvin's "The Articles of War" details the harrowing experiences of George "Heck" Tilson, an 18-year old who fights in France during World War II. As Arvin describes the utter devastation of the French countryside and the havoc wrought upon the minds and bodies of American soldiers, he invites readers to ponder the nature of courage and war's lasting effects on the human soul.

Heck's somewhat reclusive personality detaches him from the drinking, swearing and coarse humor of the other soldiers. When he's sent to the front lines, the novel plunges readers into the ugliness of war, addressing its crude realities and the soldiers' emotional cataclysms.

In his first experience under fire, Heck digs a hole in the ground, curls up into the fetal position and sobs like a child. His reaction is not cowardice, but a natural response to the bloody confusion surrounding him. However, Heck's actions result in shame and confusion as he tries to be the ideal American soldier.

Later, Heck deliberately exposes himself to enemy fire so he'll be removed from the front. While his fear and soul searching invite sympathy, he

exhibits ambivalence, struggling to prove his courage while trying to remain in one piece. In his interactions with the other characters, who are only briefly developed, Heck vacillates between a desire for comfort and feelings of alienation. He is forced to analyze his own behavior and the institutional hypocrisy that the war has generated. Heck's character becomes a representative of every young American soldier who struggles to reconcile duty with personal morality.

Arvin's carefully researched portrayal of France in wartime is both impressive and disturbing. His prose is grim and sometimes depressing, reflecting the war's joyless setting. The sparse dialogue and rigidly structured interactions between characters underline Heck's youthful awkwardness, but sometimes lack freshness and spontaneity. However, Arvin captures Heck's aching loneliness and his twin desires for self-preservation and responsibility well. Throughout the novel, Arvin addresses the overwhelming misery of the French civilians, both young and old, whose lives are destroyed by the upheaval of war. Yet he focuses on the American soldiers and the seemingly endless nightmare of death and destruction they face. Heck's character is a grim reminder of the emotional and physical devastation wrought by the Second World War.

DENVER

Hunter S. Thompson commits suicide

The author penned "Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas," as well as many others

By Catherine Tsai
Associated Press

DENVER — Hunter S. Thompson, the acerbic counterculture writer who popularized a new form of fictional journalism in books like "Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas," fatally shot himself Sunday night at his Aspen-area home, his son said. He was 67.

"Hunter prized his privacy and we ask that his friends and admirers respect that privacy as well as that of his family," Juan Thompson said in a statement released to the Aspen Daily News.

Pitkin County Sheriff officials confirmed to The Associated Press that Thompson had died of an apparent self-inflicted gunshot wound. Thompson's wife, Anita, was not home at the time.

Besides the 1972 drug-hazed classic about Thompson's visit to Las Vegas, he also wrote "Fear and Loathing: On the Campaign Trail '72." The central character in those wild, sprawling satires was "Dr. Thompson," a snarling, drug- and alcohol-crazed observer and participant.

Thompson is credited with pioneering New Journalism — or, as he dubbed it, "gonzo journalism" — in which the writer made himself an essential component of the story. Much of his earliest work appeared in Rolling Stone magazine.

"Fiction is based on reality unless you're a fairy-tale artist," Thompson told the AP in 2003. "You have to get your knowledge of life from somewhere. You have to know the material you're writing about before you alter it."

An acute observer of the decadence and depravity in

"He may have died relatively young but he made up for it in quality if not quantity of years."



Paul Krassner, journalist

American life, Thompson also wrote such collections "Generation of Swine" and "Songs of the Doomed." His first ever novel, "The Rum Diary," written in 1959, was first published in 1998.

Thompson was a counterculture icon at the height of the Watergate era, and once said Richard Nixon represented "that dark, venal, and incurably violent side of the American character."

Thompson also was the model for Garry Trudeau's balding "Uncle Duke" in the comic strip "Doonesbury" and was portrayed on screen by Johnny Depp in a film adaptation of "Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas."

Other books include "The Great Shark Hunt," "Hell's Angels" and "The Proud Highway." His most recent effort was "Hey Rube: Blood Sport, the Bush Doctrine, and the Downward Spiral of Dumbness."

"It was hard to say sometimes whether he was being provocative for his own sake or if he was just being drunk and stoned and irresponsible," quipped Krassner, founder of the leftist publication The Realist and co-founder of the Youth International (YIPPIE) party.

"But every editor that I know, myself included, was willing to accept a certain prima donna journalism in the demands he would make to cover a particular story," he said. "They were willing to risk all of his irresponsible behavior in order to share his talent with their readers."

The writer's compound in Woody Creek, not far from Aspen, was almost as legendary as Thompson. He prized peacocks and weapons; in 2000, he accidentally shot and slightly wounded his assistant, Deborah Fuller, trying to chase a bear off his property.

Born July 18, 1937, in Kentucky, Hunter Stocton Thompson served two years in the Air Force, where he was a newspaper sports editor. He later became a proud member of the National Rifle Association and almost was elected sheriff in Aspen in 1970 under the Freak Power Party banner.

Thompson's heyday came in the 1970s, when his larger-than-life persona was gobbled up by magazines. His pieces were of legendary length and so was his appetite for adventure and trouble; his purported fights with Rolling Stone editor Jann Wenner were rumored in many cases to hinge on expense accounts for stories that didn't materialize.

It was the content that raised eyebrows and tempers. His book on the 1972 presidential campaign involving, among others, Edmund Muskie, Hubert Humphrey and Nixon was famous for its

scathing opinion.

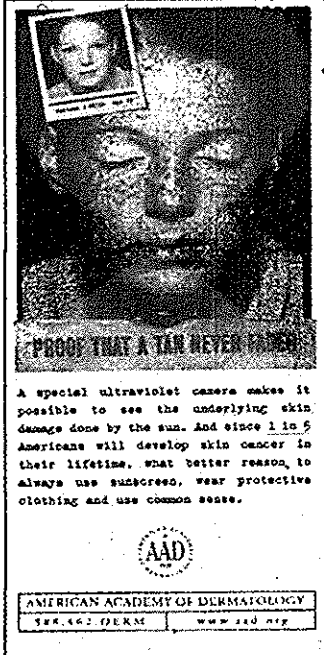
Working for Muskie, Thompson wrote, "was something like being locked in a rolling box car with a vicious 200-pound water rat." Nixon and his "Barbie doll" family were "America's answer to the monstrous Mr. Hyde. He speaks for the werewolf in us."

Humphrey? Of him, Thompson wrote: "There is no way to grasp what a shallow, contemptible and hopelessly dishonest old hack Hubert Humphrey is until you've followed him around for a while."

The approach won him praise among the masses as well as critical acclaim. Writing in The New York Times in 1973, Christopher Lehmann-Haupt worried Thompson might someday "lapse into good taste."

"That would be a shame, for while he doesn't see America as Grandma Moses depicted it, or the way they painted it for us in civics class, he does in his own mad way betray a profound democratic concern for the polity," he wrote.

"And in its own mad way, it's damned refreshing."



YSU

Minister stumps for right to choose

By Laura Cagley
The Jambor

On the 32nd anniversary of the Roe v. Wade decision, an ordained Presbyterian minister came to Youngstown State University to speak about the decision and a woman's right to choose.

Rev. Mark Pawloski, a pro-choice minister, is the CEO of Planned Parenthood of South Central Michigan in Kalamazoo, Mich. He spoke Friday at luncheon sponsored by YSU's Student National Organization of Women and Planned Parenthood of Mahoning Valley about the role organizations like Planned Parenthood can have within religion.

"For many people carrying the guilt of their religion during an unwanted pregnancy, I think Planned Parenthood can be a channel of grace," he said.

The facility Pawloski maintains in Kalamazoo performs abortions, and he said he has come under scrutiny for being a religious man working in such a field. He even read a letter of criticism sent to him by his niece.

He said he was once asked

during an NPR interview how a minister can work for Planned Parenthood, and said he wished he had quipped "Why not? It must be God's will, because I'm here."

Pawloski has a background in youth leadership development and said he is convinced that working with young people and equipping them with the right skills and knowledge will empower them to make a difference with their peers in the community.

He is also concerned about the future of parish ministry.

"The church has done damage to Jesus the Christ's identity," the minister said, adding he believes one way for faith-based organizations to renew themselves is to form partnerships with such community-based organizations that serve the poor like Planned Parenthood.

"Planned Parenthood serves the unemployed, under and uninsured women," Pawloski said. "Justice is not served by the rich getting richer, especially not in a biblical sense."

Call Laura Cagley at (330) 941-3758

POLICE BLOTTER

A Youngstown State University police officer was called to WYSU radio station in Cushman Hall in reference to a theft. On Feb. 17, broadcast engineer Ron Krauss told police his FM tuner, audio amplifier and two research speakers were missing from room B039. A Gateway Pentium 2 computer was also missing, according to the police report.

On Feb. 17 YSUDP was dispatched to the Courtyard Apartments in reference to someone breaking the glass pane out of a fire extinguisher holder. Matthew Mikanik was standing outside room 1416 and had a bloody right hand. The officer asked him what happened and he voluntarily admitted to punching the glass. Mikanik was placed under arrest for criminal damaging and was transported to YSUDP according to the police report. He was taken to the Mahoning County Justice Center for booking.

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Osgood addresses Tod Hall audience

By **Maysoon Abdelrasul**
The Jambar

The man known as CBS's "poet in residence" attracted a small crowd in the Tod Hall Board of Trustees' meeting room Wednesday afternoon.

Charles Osgood, the bow-tie wearing host of the CBS Sunday Morning program, shared stories about his 35 years of experience in broadcast journalism with Youngstown State University students. Speaking to the crowd of mostly journalism and communication studies majors, Osgood gave advice on getting into the field and the perks of his career, calling it "one of the most delightful jobs I can think of."

Osgood graduated in 1954 from Fordham University with a degree in economics, and had never taken a class in broadcasting or journalism. Yet, he has received journalism awards such as the 1997 George Foster Peabody Award

for Sunday Morning and a third Emmy Award in 1997 for his interview with American realist painter Andrew Wyeth.

Since beginning his career at ABC radio, he said he has enjoyed the job because he gets to learn something new everyday. He said one of the best benefits of being a journalist is getting to meet "the most wonderful and interesting people in the world."

Osgood added he enjoys people telling him how much they love watching CBS Sunday Morning News because he said he knows then that he has fulfilled his career.

During the question and answer period, one student asked him if anything surprised him in the field.

"Things surprise me constantly," Osgood said. "I am always surprised in the business."

Osgood also gave advice on being a good journalist.

The award winner said, though the journalism field is

more competitive now than ever before, he would never discourage anyone from entering the field.

He added one thing he learned during his career was to not talk down to his listeners.

He said he felt the people who are watching him are smarter than he is, so he works hard to live up to their expectations.

"The closer you can make it to real talk, the better it is," Osgood said.

Sophomore Jim Glancy said Osgood spoke to the crowd as if they were on the same level, and was "just charismatic in person as he is on the radio."

Glancy added that learning from people's experiences is the most efficient way to learn.

"When you learn, you've got to learn from the best," he said.

Call **Maysoon Abdelrasul** at (330) 941-1913

SGA, continued from page 1

make changes according to their findings. McGovern said YSU was the only university that made this offer, and added benefits would be felt on both sides if the government puts a university auditing system in place.

McGovern added the presence of student leaders in Columbus would make legislators aware of the need across Ohio.

"They'll definitely hear our voice," McGovern said. "We hope they will do something about it."

Charity Challenge
Jaymin Patel, secretary of student services, updated the body on the status of YSU's Tsunami Relief campaign.

A Web site, which can be accessed through the university's home page, will list upcoming charity events and ways the YSU community can donate to the effort, Patel said.

He said student organizations were showing great inter-

est in SGA's Charity Challenge '05 and are planning mini-fundraisers for the cause.

Patel added because SGA initiated the student aid movement, they should also set an example and hold their own event.

"If we all did something together, we could raise a lot of funds and attention for this cause," Patel said.

Dining Services
Shivani Jindal, SGA vice president for student affairs, said her committee's meeting with Dining Services' officials last week yielded positive results.

Jindal said criticisms and suggestions, including those concerning dining hall hours and meal plans, were met with interest and consideration.

Changes dining officials are looking into include adding hours to Christman Dining Commons, lowering food prices and creating a food committee, she said.

Jindal added the food committee will include eight to 10 students for input and is already planning a trip to Kent State University to review its menus and meal plans.

Call **Christina Poe** at (330) 941-1913

BUSH, continued from page 1

leaders were hurrying to Brussels for twin summits Tuesday at NATO and the European Union. European officials have complained Bush did not listen to them during his first term, and they wanted to see if he has changed.

About 4,000 people registered their unhappiness in a noisy protest outside the U.S. Embassy as Bush met with Chirac. The demonstrators came from a coalition of 88 environmental, human rights, peace and other groups opposed to Bush's poli-

cies.

Previewing two issues on Tuesday's agenda, Bush told Syria to get out of Lebanon and demanded that Iran stop its suspected nuclear weapons program. Bush did not rule out using military force in Iran, saying all options remain on the table. But, addressing widespread concerns in Europe that Iran is the next U.S. target after Iraq, Bush said: "Iran is ... different from Iraq. We're in the early stages of diplomacy."

Three days before seeing

Vladimir Putin in Slovakia, Bush admonished the Russian leader to "renew a commitment to democracy and the rule of law." Putin has raised alarms in the West by consolidating power, rolling back democratic reforms and curbing press and political freedoms. Bush said the United States and all European countries "should place democratic reform at the heart of their dialogue with Russia." The president suggested that Moscow's entry in the World Trade Organization could hinge on whether it changes course.

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African American History Month Celebration

Thursday, February 3
Lecture—"Slavery: The True Cause of the Civil War"
Dr. Paul Finkleman
7:30 p.m., Presidential Suite, Kilcawley Center

Saturday, February 5
The African Marketplace
Noon-6:00 p.m., African Marketplace, Chestnut Room, Kilcawley Center

Tuesday, February 8
Lecture—"The African American Struggle: Shifting Visions and Strategies"
Dr. Joe W. Trotter
7:30 p.m., Ohio Room, Kilcawley Center

Friday, February 11
Poetry Reading—"Rosa Parks: Then and Now"
7:30 p.m., SMARTS Center

Monday, February 14
Concert—Jazz Performance "Horns and Things"
7:00 p.m., Peabery's Café, Kilcawley Center

Thursday, February 17
Lecture—"The Black Family: Tracing Your Ancestry"
Roland Barksdale-Hall
7:30 p.m., Ohio Room, Kilcawley Center

Friday, February 18
Play—"The Color of Love"
7:00 p.m., Chestnut Room, Kilcawley Center

Saturday, February 19
Panel—"Myths and Realities on Health Issues in the African American Community"
7:00 p.m., Ohio Room, Kilcawley Center

Tuesday, February 22
Panel Discussion—"Black Artistic Creations at Youngstown State University"
7:00 p.m., SMARTS Center

Friday, February 25
Film—"The Ghosts of Rwanda"
7:00 p.m., Ohio Room, Kilcawley Center

Saturday, February 26
Lecture—"The African American Male and the HIV/AIDS Crisis in the Black Community"
J.L. King
7:30 p.m., Ohio Room, Kilcawley Center

Art Exhibit—"Black Artistic Creations at Youngstown State University"
Monday, February 1-February 28
The Dean's Suite in DeBartolo Hall and the SMARTS Center
Panel discussion
Tuesday, February 22, 7:00 p.m., SMARTS Center



For further information, call the African Studies Program at (330) 941-3077.

Event Parking:
Parking is available at the Lincoln Deck and lot M24 below McDonald Restaurant.

Proverb of the Month:
"When a cock is drunk, it forgets about the hawk."
—An African Proverb

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YSU Youngstown State University

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CANSECO, continued from page 1

Sadly, one of the things Canseco didn't have was a reality check, since the 1980s were filled with other Hollywood "stars" such as Steve Guttenberg (Police Academy) and Corey Feldman (Every crappy 80s movie).

Sorry Jose, being "Hollywood" in the 80s should have told you that your life was heading nowhere fast.

While I cannot discount the fact there is a legitimate possibility that professional athletes use steroids, I think the anti-steroid lobby could have found a better spokesman.

Canseco himself doesn't really see a problem with steroid abuse, even after such

tragic events as when Lyle Alzado, a former NFL defensive end, died in 1992 at the age of 43. In fact, it seems Canseco envisions a future where everyone can take and enjoy steroids.

"By the time my 8-year-old daughter Josie has graduated from high school, a majority of all professional athletes — in all sports — will be taking steroids. And believe it or not, that's good news," writes Canseco.

If you are smart consumer, you will start buying WWF arm-bands and Hulk Hogan tear away tank tops in bulk, because if Canseco's apocalyptic vision is to come to fruition,

we as a nation are going to need them.

So how exactly does Canseco fit into the steroid scandal and baseball? If you listen to him, he is the "Godfather" of steroids in the game, and apparently, he has changed the game all by himself, although he does not mention whether the change was for the worst.

"I single-handedly changed the game of baseball by introducing them (steroids)."

There are two huge, painfully glaring problems with this statement. First, I sincerely doubt he was the first to use steroids in baseball.

Secondly, why is he so proud to be the man to usher in an era where baseball seems to be losing interest, due in part to alleged steroid abuse?

Unfortunately delusional statements are hard to explain. However the Canseco ordeal has left many average sports fans in a bind.

Do we believe the charges he presents? Do we take his word?

To an extent, we have to since we're not first hand observers to the major league decorum while he apparently was running the steroid monopoly on the league.

Canseco lists several instances that can be checked

for authenticity. Apparently the only fact he got right was that at one point in time, he did in fact play baseball. However, many "personal anecdotes" appear to be fuzzy and never happened.

Jay Merson of ESPN.com examined the book in detail and found glaring error after glaring error including one instance in particular that seems fairly troublesome.

Page 232 of Canseco's book gives an account of the 2000 World Series and says "In Game six, though, I was sitting there on the Yankee bench on a cold night at Shea Stadium ... But all of a sudden, Torre called down to me,

"Canseco, you're hitting..."

This passage seems innocent enough, unfortunately for Canseco, there was no game six in 2000.

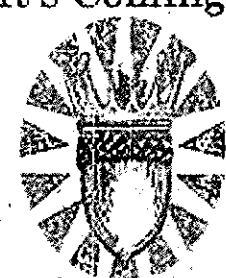
The Yankees won in five games.

Steroid abuse in professional sports will always be a problem, but I think it's best to evaluate the man pointing the finger. For what its worth, I think I will wait until "Macho Man" Randy Savage's book "Slim Jims, Leg Drops and Assorted Hassles — My Rise to the Top" comes out in the future.

Call Justin Smolkovich at (330) 941-1913.

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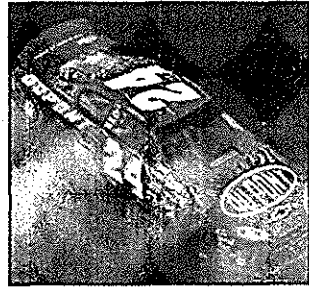
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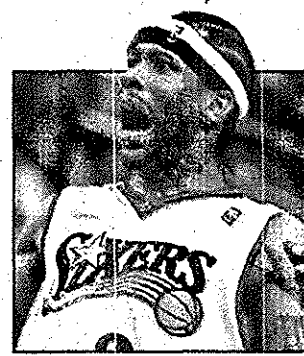
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HEADLINES

► **Gordon rolls**
 Jeff Gordon captured his third Daytona 500 Sunday.
 ► **Iverson MVP**
 Allen Iverson picked up MVP honors in the NBA All-Star Game Sunday. Iverson had 15 points, 10 assists and 5 steals.



SCOREBOARD

► **Women's Basketball**
 Penguins 60, UW-Green Bay, 56
 ► **Men's Basketball**
 Penguins 74, E. Michigan, 60

Tuesday, February 22, 2005

www.thejambar.com/jambarsports@hotmail.com/330-941-3758

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Sportswire

Information taken from the YSU Sports Information Web site (ysu.edu/sports) and wire reports

Penguins open 2005 campaign at EKU Invitational

Youngstown — The Youngstown State softball team opens the 2005 campaign with three games at the Eastern Kentucky Invitational, Feb. 26-27, in Richmond, Ky. The Penguins open the four-day on Saturday against Dayton at 10:30 a.m. and face IUPUI at 1 p.m. Youngstown State will visit host Eastern Kentucky on Sunday at 11 a.m.

Anderson, Gillespie break records at Kent State tune-up

Kent — Freshman Bethany Anderson broke the school record in the shot put while senior Aaliyah Gillespie surpassed her own school mark in the 55-meter hurdles at the Kent State Tune-Up on Saturday.

Anderson posted a mark of 44 feet, 7 inches to place fifth in the shot and pass Meressa Comwell's record that was set in 1998. Gillespie won the hurdles with a mark of 8.06 seconds and added a sixth-place time of 7.29 in the 55-meter dash.

Danielle Bolt won the 55 dash in 7.02 and Emily Wollet picked up her first collegiate victory with a first-place time of 58.69 in the 400-meters.

Also in the sprints, Jeanna Cunningham placed second in the 200 with a personal-best mark of 24.98 and eighth in the 55 dash in 7.34. Cassandra Smith added a sixth-place finish in the 55 hurdles in 8.71.

Emily Schnitkey headed a YSU charge in the 1,000-meters with a third-place time of 2:58.99 while Lindsay Wojciak placed sixth (3:06.93) and Kim Jendre finished seventh (3:14.10).

Marielle Glanz added a sixth-place finish in the 800 in 2:17.16.

Penguins upset no. 23 UW-Green Bay, 60-56

Green Bay, Wis. — Youngstown State shot 52.6 percent in the second half and utilized 10 3-pointers to upset No. 23 UW-Green Bay Phoenix, 60-56, and snap the Phoenix 55-game home-court Horizon League winning streak on Saturday afternoon at the Phoenix Sports Center.

The Penguins, who also snapped UWGB's 16-game winning streak, improve to 10-15 overall and 4-10 in the Horizon League while UWGB falls to 22-3 overall and 13-1 in the Horizon League.

Senior Jen Perugini, who led the Penguins with 12 points, sealed the victory and capped the scoring with a free throw with 4.9 second remaining to put YSU ahead, 60-56.

The Penguins led 59-51 after a Cathy Hanek 3-pointer at the 3:34 mark but UWGB quickly closed the deficit to three points, 59-56, after a layup by Abby Scharlow and a 3-pointer by Natalie Berglin with 39 seconds left.

YOUNGSTOWN

Penguins upset Eastern Michigan

Quick start is enough for YSU to hold off Eagles 74-60

By Justin Smolkovich
 The Jambar

Baskets weren't the only things being bust-ed Saturday at Beeghly Center as the Penguins hosted Eastern Michigan in a contest that was part of ESPN's Bracket-Buster Saturday.

The Penguins also broke a four game losing skid by shooting down the Eagles 74-60.

Behind the sharp shooting of Penguin guard Derrick Harris, who scored a career high 23 points, YSU built an insurmountable lead in the first half.

Harris led three Penguins in double figures as Khari McQueen scored 11 and Brian Radakovich put up 10 for the 5-20 Penguins.

The Eagles only challenge in the first half came when they tied the game at seven apiece, but the Penguins answered the challenge by going on a 30-9 run. A Jon Mends basket and foul put the Penguins up in the first half, 45-26.

Penguins head coach John Robic said maintaining defense and keeping the ball in the hot shooters hands is what pulled the Penguins away from the Eagles in the first half.

"We were consistent, and we guarded people well," Robic said.

The Penguins shot 51.9 percent in the first half including three 3-pointers from Harris. The Penguins defense also caused havoc for the visiting Eagles, forcing 11 turnovers and five steals in the first half alone.

The Eagles scored the first seven points of the second

half, pulling as close as nine points at 50-41. That was as close as they came to pulling even with the Penguins as Harris lit the scoreboard with 10 more points.

Harris said he was doubtful of how well he would perform before the game.

"The funny thing is in warm-ups, I couldn't hit a shot," Harris said. "Like I said, my team mates were finding me." He finished the game 7 of 9 from the field including 5 of 6 from behind the arc.

Robic said Harris played well as sickness had hampered him days before the game.

"Derrick played great," Robic said. "He had the flu, he hasn't played the last three days."

As the league tournament creeps closer for the Penguins, Harris said the win can do a lot for motivating the Penguins.

"You always want to have some positive momentum," Harris said.

Robic agreed and added for some of the senior Penguins, it's do or die.

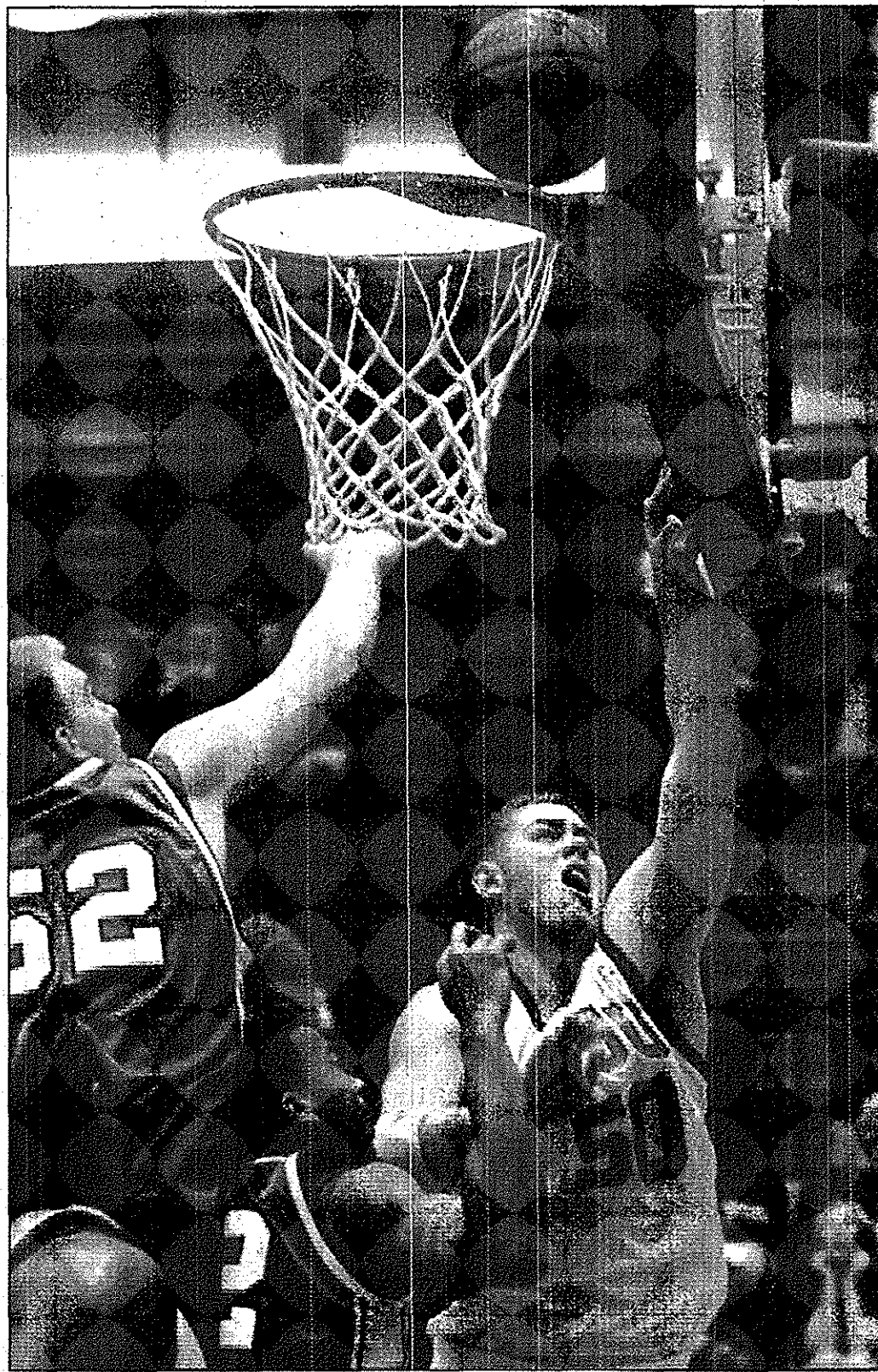
"You've got three seniors who don't want their season to end," Robic said.

He added he has also noticed the Penguins are playing their best basketball late in the season.

"I'll tell you what, for a team with a 4-20 record, they have gotten better," Robic said.

The Penguins will play their last home game of the season before heading into the league tournament as they host Butler Wednesday and travel to Detroit next Saturday.

Call Justin Smolkovich at (330) 941-3758



Up and in

Penguins' senior forward Brian Radakovich (50) dodges Eastern Michigan's Dan Redder (52) to score two of the 10 points he earned in Saturday's match. YSU won the game 74-60. (Jambar photo by Chuck Rogers)

COMMENTARY

Jose was hollywood, but not anymore

By Justin Smolkovich
 The Jambar

Finding it hard to keep track of who is using steroids in professional sports? Yeah, me too.

Fortunately for those of us who are having a tough time watching our ESPN Steroid-Ticker at the bottom of our TV screens, Jose Canseco, former Major League Baseball player and current snitch, has released a tell-all memoir filled with drama, intrigue and ass-injected steroid fun.

Canseco, who won the American League MVP in 1988 partly due to his mullet, released his book entitled "Juiced: Wild Times, Rampant 'Roids, Smash Hits and How Baseball Got Big" last Monday, which throws blame at nearly every big name baseball player enjoying success, unlike Canseco.

The book is currently ranked third on the Amazon.com best-seller list.

However, it is hard for me to believe Canseco. Why is it difficult for me to believe the man who had a regulation baseball bounce off his face into the stands for a homerun? The answer is simple, he apparently is not playing with a full deck.

Take a gander at this hum-



Mr. Hollywood?

Jose Canseco claims to have been a rock star back in the 1980s. That should have been an omen considering the longevity of such stars as Corey Feldman, Steve Guttenberg and Corey Haim. (KRT Campus)

guards. I had it all: The body, the personality, everything. I was Hollywood."

"Back in the 1980s, I was like a rock star. Everywhere I went, I had to have body-

please see JOSE, Page 7

YOUNGSTOWN

AA Steelhounds set to skate

By Shawn Buskirk
 The Jambar

Youngstown's new AA expansion hockey team announced its new identity this past Wednesday at the Holiday Inn Metroplex in Girard.

The newest member of the Central Hockey League will be called the "SteelHounds."

Operated by Global Entertainment Corporation, the CHL will begin its 13th year of play this fall and Youngstown will be the 18th team in the league.

"We are bringing not just a name, not just an identity, but a brand to Youngstown," CHL President Brad Treiliving said.

The Joe Bosack Graphic Design Company produced the logo for the new team, which showcases a snarling bloodhound with the team name across the dog's mouth. The major colors for the new team are navy, steel gray and rust.

On hand at the press conference was Boardman resident, Michael Fetsko, the winner of the "Name the Team" contest. For his winning entry, which was among 2,600 plus, Fetsko will receive season

tickets for the SteelHounds inaugural 2005-06 season and an authentic SteelHounds jersey. Alongside Treiliving were SteelHounds owner Herb Washington and General Manager Grant Buckborough.

Also in attendance for the unveiling was Youngstown Mayor George M. McKelvey.

"This logo speaks to our community's past strength and to our future," McKelvey said.

Buckborough added, "When you hear the name you'll think of four things: family, fun, entertainment, and community. This is a team for the community." After the clapping subsided, Washington said he was excited about the name of his new team. Showing off the home jersey for the SteelHounds, he smiled and said, "the real test is if we see this jersey on MTV on one of those rappers."

The Youngstown SteelHounds will begin its inaugural season play in the Youngstown Convocation Center set to open in November 2005.

Call Shawn Buskirk at (330) 941-1913

