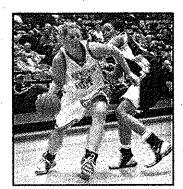


saluday: snow 31/17 Inside



• Despite the rough season, the Penguins have shown improvement. Sports I

see page 5



 Campus crusade for Christ this past tuesday helped many students meet new people. Entertainment |

see page 6

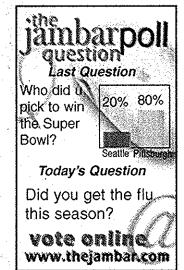
## In Brief

#### Penguin Review sponsors Anti-Valentine Affair

Kill Cupid, an Anti-Valentine Affair, will be held 7:30 p.m. Monday at Cedar's Lounge. The independent art show will feature live painting at 7:30 p.m., poetry at 8 p.m. and live music starting at 10 p.m. with Third Class and November Loop.

#### Black Film Festiva!

The first film of YSU's 2006 Black Film Festival will be "Crash," shown Tuesday in the Bresnahan Suite of Kilcawley Center. "Hotel Rwanda" will be shown Thursday, Feb. 16 in the Bresnahan Suites, "Rosewood" will be shown Wednesday, Feb. 22 in the Jones room and "Guess Who's coming to Dinner" will be shown Tuesday Feb. 28 in the Bresnahan Suites.



- → Classified I 2
- ▶ Entertainment I €
- ▶ Opinion I 3 ▶ Sports | 5

Online: thejambar.com thejambar@gmail.com

## the lambar The student voice of Youngstown State University VOLUME 88, ISSUE 43

## Professor claims Chatman out

By: Bill Rodgers NEWS EDITOR

An outspoken professor has reported on a faculty H u g h union listsery that an assistant provost could replace

Youngstown State University's embattled human resources director.

The professor, Gabriel Palmer-Fernandez, posted a listserv message saying he learned that Ron Chordas, YSU's assistant provost, will

director

current director. A listserv is an electronic mailing list program that allows mem-

bers to post

messages that

replacing

Chatman, the

take over as the interim are then sent out to the sage. However, one admin-relations on campus. of human other subscribers of the istrative official who wished

> Fernandez's listserv message froma faculty member who wished to anonyremain

YSU officials ration ment on the mes-

same list. The to remain anonymous did Sambar obtained confirm that there had been Palmer - discussion at high administrative levels about such actions.

In January, a Labor-Management Review Panel appointed by YSU President David Sweet recommend firing Chatman and John Habat, YSU's vice president declined to com- for administration, as a means to improve labor

Palmer-Fernandez's message was sent on Monday. It also predicted the resignation of budget director Jeff Taylor, who has announced he will be leaving YSU in March for Gannon University in Erie,

Pennsylvania. Chatman responded to the e-mail's contents when he was informed of them Wednesday night.

please see CHATMAN, Page 2

## NORTH SIDE YFD asks for help to solve arson *mystery*

By: Steve Lettau REPORTER

In a house only two doors away from where someone intentionally set a house on fire, two members of the Youngstown State University baseball team wait and worry.

Eric Shaffer and Andy Svitak, who live at the corner of Illinois Avenue and Bryson Street, were in their apartment Sunday night when the roar of fire engines pierced what had begun as a peaceful night.

The sirens that they heard were for three different arson fires set at homes in a threeblock area surrounding their apartment.

"I definitely don't feel safe,"

Shaffer said. Firefighters arrived on the scene at 44 Illinois Avenue just before midnight and only 16 minutes after putting out another intentionally set fire one block away at 42 Indiana Ave, reports show. Then, a house at 19 Tacoma Ave. was set on fire just minutes later at 12:06 a.m., fewer than 10 blocks away.

please see ARSON, Page 4



This house on Indiana Avenue was just one of many victims of a string of fires on the North Side recently. Three homes are the subjects of arson investigations after a string Sunday night. There have been 42 vacant house fires in Youngstown since July.

## 'Bursar' name change reflects student focus

By: Maysoon Abdelrasul FEATURES REPORTER

Despite a name change and new positions on staff, changed the name from the Office of Student bursar so students would Accounts and University

Meshel Hall is pretty quiet. Bob DeFrances, the office's new customer service manager since

Receivables in

Dec. 12, said he's only seen a handful of students in **DEFRANCES** as the point perful of students, his office. He earns an Hershel said. A Jambar a resource person to help students with billing prob-

lems and concerns, he said. "I am here to service Youngstown State University students so they have the best experience at the office frustrated. YSU," he said.

The Director of Student Accounts and University Receivables, James Herschel, said better understand

what office does. "The name 'bursar' seemed oo confusing," he said.

'Several positions in the office changed DeFrances serves as the "point per-

annual salary of \$54,000 as reporter spoke with several students earlier this week Senior Pete Vargin said he never went to Meshel Hall to pay his bill, but

goes to class there. He said he has seen people who left please see **BURSAR**, Page 2 By: Cheryl Thompson Assistant News Editor

Youngstown University President David Sweet fired off a letter Wednesday expressing surprise and disappointment over a decision professor Tom Shipka has made in protest of Sweet's labor management "track record"

Sweet wrote in a letter to Shipka, who is the chair of YSU's philosophy and religious studies department, the president of YSU's Academic Senate and a member of the Sweetappointed Labor-Management Review Panel, that Shipka's actions are not conducive to re-establishing labor relations on campus.

"Your present mode of behavior is not what we toward more constructive, human resources.

civil and collaborative relationships," Sweet wrote.

YSU

Sweet responds to Shipka's protest

Ron Strollo, YSU's execu- panel's recommendations. tive director of athletics, Sweet wrote that because Shipka wrote he is with- the recommendations are drawing as master of cere- far-reaching and complex, monies of all campus he is asking people to events, including the upcoming Scholarship Ring Dinner.

"I will be a hypocrite if I stand before an audience and applaud the President's track record at YSU when I introduce him as part of the Panel's recommendations." program," Shipka wrote.

Shipka wrote that his refusal to emcee is to protest Sweet's refusal to that." act on the recommenda-Management Review Panel, tion, and Hugh Chatman, mendations. were hoping would lead us YSU's executive director of

Sweet responded by writing he never promised In a letter dated Feb. 2 to immediate action on the understand the need to confer with the parties

involved. "It was never a given that I would automatically, and without consultation, accept every syllable of the Sweet wrote. "No president I know of, at any university, would ever do

In Shipka's letter, he tions of the Labor wrote that Sweet's insistence of more time to particularly the firing of review the report is nothing John Habat, YSU's vice more than a ploy to underpresident for administra- mine the report's recom-

please see PROTEST, Page 4

#### Classified

#### Help Wanted

Looking for youth leader, preferably with experience, to lead Sunday school, kids club, choir. Approximately 10 hours per month. Send resume to First United Methodist Church, 210 Main St. Columbiana, OH

Bartenders wanted! Up to \$300 a day, no experience necessary, training provided. (800) 965-6520 ext. 287.

Attention Education and Early Childhood Development students. Would you like to earn up to \$10.00 hr? Have flexibili ty around your school schedule? If so, and you enjoy working with children, please contact Lorrie at (330) 716-4747.

Help Wanted: Dancer's & Bar help, no experience necessary, have fun & make money. Afternoon and evening shifts. Apply Club Pink, Masury, OH. (330) 448-6922.

Needed caregiver/friend to work with a young adult with special needs, for more information please call (330) 533-

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4332-34 CHESTER BOARD-MAN DUPLEX \$109,000. Perfect condition, two bedgooms each, upstairs rentalized 500 mo., 2 car attached garage, full basement, 2 new furnaces, BURGAN REAL ESTATE LTD. Kathy Battisti

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#### Miscellaneous

Aikido Seminar Sensei Andy Demko, 6th Dan, will conduct Aikido Seminars Feb. 2nd, 18th and March 2nd. Contact Brandy at YSU rec center for details. All are welcome.

Dare to make a difference! Hurricane Relief Trip over spring break from YSU to Long Beach, Mississippi. March 10-18, 2006. For more information contact: Rev. Kathryn Adams (330) 743-0439 or Kathrynnem@aol.com.

CD case found in M2. Identify content, pay for ad, and claim your CDS. (330) 549-5606.

DISCOUNT TO YSU STU-DENTS: Call Susan at Monet's Hair Salon in Boardman (330) 259-0707 (or 0708). She has day & evening hours Monday/Tuesday/Friday by appointment.

#### POLICE BLOTTER

Home Savings and Loan in reference to a theft from an account. The victim, Cynthia Hirtzel, Dean of Engineering and Technology, stated that she received about 20 e-mails from someone presenting themselves as the Service Department of Home Savings and Loan Co., according to the police report. The victim forwarded her debit card and pin numbers to the sender, whereupon \$500 was stolen from her account, the report said.

YSU Police responded to a complaint of an unidentified male who attempted to fraud Kilcawley Center's Candy Counter and Home Sayings and Loan using the "quick change money" method on Feb. 7.

According to the police report, the suspect went to Home Savings and Loan where he gave the teller several \$1 bills and four quarters, asking for a \$5 bill. He

On Feb. 2, police were dispatched to | continued to exchange money until he reached \$20, which he did not have and repeated a similar course of action at the Candy Counter, but left when he was unable to get additional money, the report said. Police said a similar incident occurred at Campus Book and Supply. Police said they are reviewing surveillance video.

> Police reports indicated that YSU police were called to the University Courtyard Apartments on Feb. 5 to investigate a report of forced entry into the apartment of a resident. According to the police report, the victim told police that an unknown subject kicked in her door at approximately 2 p.m., but

did not enter the apartment. There have been no arrests in regards to the incident.

▶ YSU Police Escort Service

#### (330) 941-1515

#### CHATMAN, continued from page 1

serve wherever the President asks me and do the best job I can to the best

said. Chatman wished to dis- mented, not true.

Sweet refused comment on the listsery message, saying only that the panel's being considered. Sweet

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Silver Jewelry

Copper Enameling

Basketball

Field Hockey

English-Riding

"All I can say is that I'll mendations following a meeting with YSU's board of trustees.

In an interview conduct-

of my abilities," Chatman ed Wednesday night, Palmer-Fernandez com-"If Hugh pel another rumor his staff Chatman indeed has been informed him of. He said asked to step aside, my rumors claiming he had first question is: Will he resigned from YSU were just sit in a corner for the institution back. My suspinext 30 months, collecting over \$100,000 a year?"

Palmer-Fernandez said that if a decision were recommendations were made to remove Chatman, it would be a good first said he would release an step in re-establishing posaction plan for the recom- itive labor-management 941-1989.

climates on campus. Palmer-Fernandez said Chordas was an "honest, stand-up guy."

"This is a first step in the right direction. The question is whether David Sweet will take a second and third and all the steps necessary to bring this cion is that he won't," Palmer-Fernandez said.

Chordas declined to comment in a telephone interview Wednesday.

Call Bill Rodgers at (330)

#### **BURSAR**, continued from page 1

with her bill.

card and pay for bill," Ali and mad," he said.

to questions about their bill.

Sophomore Belinda Trott said she saw a need for a customer service manager because she had many probminimum amount the second time, the lady at the desk told her she never paid the first time, Trott said.

Freshman Antwaun Colpetro said he hates getting sent to different staff members when he as a

question.

Freshman Sonya Ali said son to person and each one she's never had concerns says something different, then they get me confused "I slash out the credit and then they get frustrated

DeFrances said he knows Other students said they students get frustrated if hate getting sent from one they have to go from person person to another in regards to person explaining their problem. He said with this new position, students can come directly to him. DeFrances is also charged with training his employees lems with her bill last year. to better help students and When she went to pay her address their concerns on

> Herschel said he wants students to give him feedback on how to improve the billing system and that he's open to suggestions that any students may have.

"They send me from per- (330) 941-3758.

Call Maysoon Abdelrasul at

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Judaic and Holocaust Studies Committee is proud to offer a

Trip to the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, D.C.

Date: March 12, 2006

Time: Bus will depart YSU at 3:00 a.m. and return at approximately 11:00 p.m.

\$10.00 (cash or check made out to YSU) The low cost of this trip is made possible by

the Mr. & Mrs. William B. Clayman Endowment Fund

To secure a place on the trip, please send the above fee along with a brief 1-2 paragraph explanation of why you would like to go to the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum. If you are going on the trip as part of a class, please include that information on your application.

imited spaces available, first come first serve Submit by February 15, 2006 to:

> Pamela Palumbo Office of Events Management Tod Hall Youngstown State University Youngstown, OH 44555

After registering, you will be notified of a short meeting prior to the trip date for a required orientation and discussion of details.

For trip questions, please call Dr. Helene Sinnreich Department of History (330) 941-1603 or email at hjsinnreich@ysu.edu

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The Jambar is published twice weekly during the fall and spring semesters and weekly during the summer sessions. The Jambar is free. Mail subscriptions are \$25 per academic year. Since being founded by Burke Lyden in 1931, The Jambar has won nine Associated Collegiate

OUR SIDE

#### Silence is great for libraries, not university trustees

Silence.

In libraries it can be great, but when it comes to public officials, silence is anything but golden.

In the aftermath of the Labor-Management Review Panel's report, which suggested a number of ways Youngstown State University might recover from August's faculty and staff strikes, YSU's nine trustees have largely remained silent.

With the exception of Trustee John Pogue, who is a also a member of the labor panel, telephone calls to various trustees throughout the last few weeks by Jambar staffers seeking comment for timely, relevant and important stories regarding labor relations have not been returned or a response of "no comment" has been given.

Aside from Jambar reporter evasion, it is unlikely many (or any) of the trustees spend much time on campus, conversing with students, faculty or staff on these very important

So if the trustees won't come to us, we must go to the trustees.

Below is a list of their phone numbers and email addresses. We urge students, faculty, staff and administrators who are concerned with the future of YSU to contact YSU's trustees and let them know what's on your mind.

H.S. Wang, MD (Chairperson) (330) 746-7696 ihswang@yahoo.com

Attorney John Pogue (Vice Chairperson) (330) 392-1541 jpogue@hhmlaw.com

William J. Bresnahan (330) 799-3221 wjb@hynesind.com

Donald Cagigas (330) 746-8494

Millicent S. Counts (330) 743-5149 Ext. 204 umcc34@neo.rr.com

Larry D. DeJane (330) 332-4241 secretary@cityofsalemohio.org

Sudershan K. Garg, M.D. (330) 533-3040 gkcbcc@hotmail.com

Dianne Bitonte Miladore, M.D. (330) 533-5430 milly41@zoominternet,net

Scott Schulick (330) 743-7000, ext 223 schulicks@butlerwick.com

#### 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.



#### LETTER TO THE EDITOR

#### Values misplaced in America

Editor: Two matters in

Tuesday's issue (Feb. 7, 2006) have provoked me to write: The first concerns a point of fact in the front-page story on "SADD founder visits campus" that is possibly relevant to me alone; the second relates to general editorial-op/ed coverage of the Labor-Management Review Panel from a faculty point of view. What links these two stories for me, however, is reflection on the priorities of our society or rather, what I view as misplaced American values.

While I applaud the general mission and goals of the SADD organization, I must take issue with either the speaker's mastery of facts or the reporter's coverage. For while the speaker, Bob Anastas, may have been a COACH at Wayland

School of the high school, having lived and attended school in the town of Wayland since seventh

When I graduated, the percentage of WHS graduates was reported as 86 percent; the statistic I saw reported as The drinking age in recently as two years New York at the time, ago was closer to 100 by the way, was 18, and percent. I doubt that so I began there as a freshradical a dip between man at 17. 1969 and 2003-4 should have occurred.

While having been an saturate honors student (i.e., nerd) in high school

country (Barnard College of Columbia University). I don't mean to deny the value of athletics OR partying — fortunately for us at

Columbia, we had the New York subway to ride home after a party.

cited was the college- scene. I find irony in bound rate of high- the placement of the opschool ATHLETES. ed piece "Shades of gray Chatman controversy" next to words in the edimay have not won me torial "president seemany popularity contests ingly above the law." nor got many dates to My personal relations wild parties, I found my with John Habat have quate (judging by some knows the law well. As

Massachusetts in 1981, I more prestigious acade- PROFESSIONAL conwas a 1969 GRADUATE mic institutions in the tact with Mr. Habat occurred several years ago, when he handled initial organization of a faculty task force on which I served. This was, by the way, the ONLY faculty committee I ever served on at which we got served lunch TWICE at the university's expense, Readers may draw the long hours and ignored in the administration's ultimate decision-making: an administrative firing and hiring without benefit of national search, and

without faculty input. Just such a search process (or lack of it) brought John Habat to alma mater to have pro- been consistently cor- YSU in the first place. vided more than ade- dial, and I am sure he And I am not putting the blame solely on the of the adjustment prob- for the U.S. president — YSU upper administralems of my college I did not vote for him, tion or the Board of classmates) preparation so I may have expected Trustees. Dr. Sweet may

in for study at one of the no better. But my only be entitled to bring his own legal advisor, and value personal loyalty. What troubles me considerably, however, is a systematic lack of respect for professional educators and academic support (staff, etc.) in the funding of the educational process at all levels. While touting "democratic," "public" institutions, we continthanks to Habat. It was ually prefer hierarchical hardly a free lunch, decision-making, scorn however, if I consider the intellectual, and refuse to face the real their own conclusion on wrenching discussions I educational needs of I suspect that the 28 the above. I turn my endured, only to find our young people percent rate the Jambar attention to the local this service seemingly and simultaneously line the pockets of the rich, the famous, the corporate, and their handlers.

> "Shades of gray" indeed saturate many issues of social concern. It is therefore all the more distressing that we become increasingly polarized into black and white.

> Melissa T. Smith, Professor Department of Foreign Languages

By: Mike Pingree KRT CAMPUS

#### REMEMBER, AVOID THIS AREA ... AIEEEEE!

A ski instructor in the mountains Vorarlberg, Austria, took his students to the edge of the safe area to show them where not to go because of the danger of avalanches. As soon as he stepped into the danger zone, an avalanche 'swept him into a ravine and buried

snow. He survived. WHERE WAS I? UH, AWAY ON BUSI-NESS, YEAH, THAT'S IT, BUSINESS

A woman in Buenos Aires called the police after her husband left for work a week earlier and had not returned home. She feared he had been kidnapped. The cops tracked him down at a brothel, where he had been enjoying the company

of two prostitutes the divorces. whole time. The wife has filed for divorce.

YOU SEE, MY HUS-BAND IS RATHER CHILDLIKE

A woman in England won \$2.7 million in the lottery three years ago, but never told her husband, who she believes is irresponsible. She fears that he would return to his old drug habit and would want to stop working if he were to find out. So, when she buys somehim under 60 feet of thing extravagant, she tells him she got the money from working overtime.

YOU WILL **BELIEVE I AM** WEALTHY, VERY

WEALTHY A 57-year-old man in Tokyo, wound up with a harem of 10 women in their 20s and 30s after he married them one after the other, and all of them continued to live with him after their

He said that he had to the much-younger of a neighbor who women by reciting an incantation that came to him in a dream.

WE JUST TOOK THE GOODS OUT FOR SOME AIR After burglarizing a

home in Winchester, Ind., a husband and wife team of thieves got

their car stuck in the muddy driveway, made himself attractive attracting the attention asked them what they were up to. They admitted everything, but the woman said, "We better take it back inside so we won't be charged with

> SO LADIES, ARE YOU DOING ANY-THING LATER?

Once a year, all the women in the village of Vellakadu, India. parade naked through the streets in a ritual that is supposed to bring good health and prosperity. Due to the surge of curious male visitors, authorities banished all males over the age of six from the town during the march.



The rash of arsons has left

firefighters puzzled and

neighbors wondering who's

Department arson investi-

gators turned to the public

for help in solving the mys-

"We've never had inci-

dents where there have

been multiple fires at the

same time. It causes a risk to

the firefighters," said Lt.

Johnson said there have

been 42 vacant house fires

since July 1 between Wick

Avenue and McGuffey

Johnson said firefighters

were injured fighting

Sunday's vacant home fires

and that more than \$200,000

in damages was lost in the

blazes. He said officials are

aggressively seeking clues

that might lead to any

A representative of the

organization that owns the

burned home on Illinois

Avenue described what

arsonists must have had to

do to get the home burning

and how the neighborhood

"It looked like 'Gone

with the Wind' here on

Mark Peyko, a represen-

tative of the Northside

Citizens Coalition, which

buys and restores homes on

Peyko said the coalition's

"Someone went to great

lengths to get in and burn it.

This was a malicious act.

This was a criminal act,"

Johnson and Ware said

firefighters have made

arrests for arson fires in the

past, but they are worried

about this latest rash of

blazes and warm help from

seen something.

said.

neighbors who hight have

"There were six injurea

and there was an excess of

\$200,000 damage plus col-

lateral damage," Johnson

The fire department is

"Someone, somewhere,

saw something," Johnson

said. "They can call (330)

782-0055 and give informa-

Until the arsonists are caught, Shaffer and Svitak

said they will be wary. Shaffer said he is especially concerned since the baseball

team starts its season away

in Oklahoma in a few

away in five weeks," Shaffer

said. "I'll be nervous to see

if our house is still here. I

don't want anyone thinking

Call Steve Lettau at (330)

that it is empty."

"I'm definitely not comfortable that we're going

tion anonymously."

offering a \$5,000 reward for

information on the arsons.

looked Sunday night.

Sunday night," said

the North Side.

Peyko said.

home was locked.

tery on Wednesday.

Kevin Johnson.

Road.

arrests.

Two Youngstown Fire

next.

ARSON, continued from page 1

#### **PROTEST**, continued from page 1

"By his opting for a path of delay under the guise of studying the Panel report further, Mr. Sweet has repudiated the Panel report in an exhibition of cronyism that has no precedent in the modern history of this university to my knowledge," Shipka wrote.

Shipka wrote that asking the panel not to name names, particularly Habat's, and the decision to honor the contracts of Habat and Chatman, show Sweet's disregard for

Sweet wrote that the inclusion of names in the Panel's report raises legal issues and weakens the possibility of the recommendations being followed. Sweet also says it may hamper recruitment of new professionals and harm future labor-management communication. .

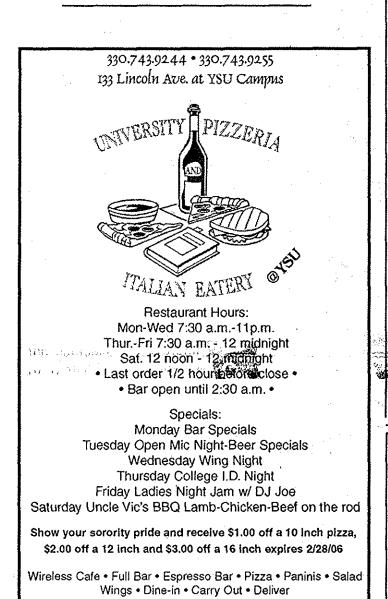
"Unfortunately, it also exposes every human being within the university's employ the same personal singling out and attack in the future," Sweet wrote.

Shipka wrote that if Sweet were to follow through with the panel's suggestions, then he would reprise his role as emcee at campus events.

Sweet wrote that while advisory councils can make recommendations, they have no responsibility for their implementation, prioritization or the need for further planning. He wrote that this falls on the president of the university, who has to act within certain parameters, which could have far-reaching effects on campus.

"[Presidents] must function within the law, within standards of ethical behavior, within contractual commitments and within very real budget constraints—many of which can affect every division and unit in the university," Sweet

Call Cheryl Thompson at (330) 941-1913.



## 'Arrested Development' seems headed to

#### another network or cable

(HAS TRIMS) By Virginia Rohan The Record (Hackensack N.J.) (KRT)

What's in a name? Could "Arrested Development" have somehow stunted that show's growth?

There's a psychology to titles, and that one does not trip lightly off the tongue. But that's not enough to explain why a comedy that seemingly offered everything a discerning viewer could ever want \_ originality, eccentricity, clever inside jokes and pop-culture references, vivid characters, outstanding writing, first-rate acting, even a multipart guest appearance by Charlize Theron - forever found itself in the nether regions of the Nielsen list.

The Bluth clan also had almost all the elements that would ensure a TV family longevity -rave reviews, great pedigree, occasional big promotional pushes, even a great big Emmy as validation. So, why couldn't it find enough of an

This Friday night, the Fox network will air four "Arrested Development" episodes that may well be the last hurrah for Mitch Hurwitz' critically acclaimed Bluth-centric comedy. Officially, Fox is calling the two-hour block a "mini-marathon third season finale," but the Bluths are unlikely to be seen ever again on Fox - or network

The good news is that last month, ABC and Showtime expressed interest in picking up "Arrested," and Showtime seems especially keen on

At the recent television critics press Showtime Entertainment President Robert Greenblatt said his network was in talks with Twentieth in a relatable way. And then there's the Television about bringing "Arrested" to

"I've loved it since it first appeared," Greenblatt said. "About a year ago at a (Hollywood Radio and Television Society) luncheon, they asked me .- if I Development" deserves a place on work, what would it be? My answer the television pantheon. Besides the was Arrested Development. I always bushels of awards it has received Hought it was probably a better fit on a including the Emmy for outstanding work."

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He's probably right. HBO comedies like "The Larry Sanders Show" and "Curb Your Enthusiasm" couldn't have survived on network TV. Success is measured differently on pay cable.

"If only a small fraction of the loyal audience that's on Fox came to Showtime, it would be one of our highest-rated shows," Greenblatt said, adding, "I think the show is only worth continuing if Mitch Hurwitz was at the helm running it. I think he's the genius behind it. And he hasn't yet come to that decision to continue the show."

Even if a Showtime deal does come to fruition, the lavishly lauded comedy will no longer have access to a mass audience.

Why was mainstream success so elusive?

For one, "Arrested Development", has serialized plot lines, which can deter viewers, and it's a single-camera comedy - shot without a studio audience or laugh-track. That format works well for HBO but has a spotty track record on network TV.

This season, NBC's "My Name Is Earl" instantly clicked, and "The Office" has started to pick up steam - enough for the network to pair it with "Earl" as part of a new "Must-See TV" Thursday comedy strategy. But "Scrubs," for all its great reviews, has never been a huge hit for NBC.

Though Fox's "Malcolm in the Middle" caught on for a while, critical darling "Action" (1999-2000) was a ratings failure. ABC had a similar experience with "The Job."

Apparently, for all their complaints about stale sitcoms and annoying laugh tracks, viewers may be more attached to the old format than they let on.

The Bluths are dysfunctional, but not voiceover narration by executive producer Ron Howard. Though very funny, it puts a certain distance between the Bluths from viewers.

All that said, "Arrested could take one show from another net- another network, as well as a place in cable network than on a broadcast net- comedy series in 2004 - it can make you laugh out loud. And that's rare.







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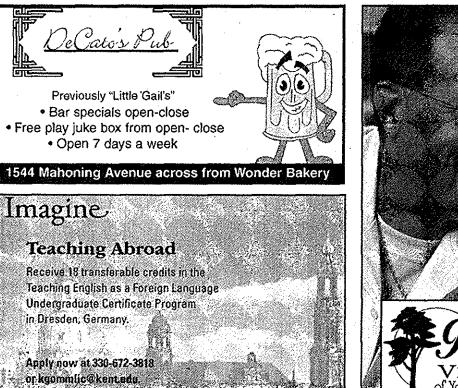
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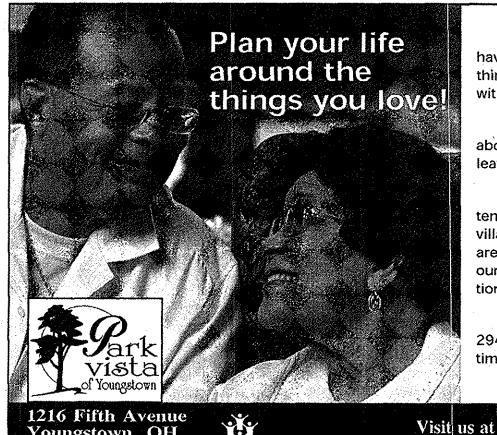


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#### YSU BASKETBALL

## Basketball teams hope to finish strong

Men looking forward to tournament play | Women's basketball squad has

By: Justin Smolkovich SPORTS REPORTER

Jerry Slocum has 30 years of coaching experience and chances are that he has a book filled with inspirational quotes and motivational tools aimed at getting the most out of his athletes.

During Tuesday's press Slocum, conference, Youngstown State University's men's basketball coach, let the media in on what he has been telling his Penguins as they enter the most pivotal stage of the season: Keep going forward.

"At this time of the year, especially when you put yourself in a position that every conference game matters, we've got to keep on focusing on what is ahead of us and not what is behind us," Slocum said.

The Penguins, currently sit in a very precarious position only days before the league tournament tips off. The Penguins currently reside in last place in the Horizon League sharing the spot with rival Cleveland State by the slimmest of margins. The Penguins 4-7 mark in the league is only inches behind three teams with a 5-7 mark. The Penguins are 7-14 G 1,47 overall.

Slocum compared the middle of the conference pack as a "logiam" and that the Penguin's remaining six games are important in deciding where they get seeded at season's

"It is extremely impor- [4 tant. There is one game separating the fourth through the last spot and obviously we have more conference road games

than home games so that is a pretty daunting task," Slocum said of not only having to compete tooth and nail for a decent seeding, but to do it four times on the road. "But we put ourselves in a position that we are still fighting to finish in that top-tier middle section to get a home playoff

> game." Of the remaining six games, the Penguins are 3-2 against the final opponents with a trip to Canisius as part of the ESPN's Bracket-Buster Saturday on February 18.

> > While

Penguins

have had

success this season against their remaining

opponents, Slocum said things needed to be better defensively, especially when it comes to hitting the boards. The Penguins on average out rebound their opponents 35-33 on the season, but Slocum said defensive rebounding was a concern.

"If we are going to have a chance to win any games on the road the rest of the way, we gotta defensive rebound the basketball," Slocum said.

The defensive rebounding will be twice as important as usual for the Penguins as the final weeks of the conference play finish up because not only are teams playing twice as hard, but the conference itself has proven to be one of the most balanced in the country, according to Slocum. "I think it's a very close conference in terms of talent

level. I think it is a very fine

on given nights

between winning and

losing," Slocum said.

Call Justin Smolkovich at (330) 941-3758.

battled uphill so far this season

By: Justin Smolkovich SPORTS REPORTER

If asked how the Youngstown State women's basketball season has been, threeyear head coach Tisha Hill would probably answer with one simple word. Bittersweet.

The Penguins, 6-16 overall and 2-9 in the Horizon League, are somewhat of a Catch 22 for Hill, who admits that this season has been a perfect example of paying dues. Those dues this season have been paid in the form of an uphill battle with many fresh, yet inexperienced, faces on the roster.

"Granted, we are not happy with the outcome right now," Hill said. "But to see the improvement offensively for us, to see some of the players step up and get some experience out there, it is definitely going to help us in the long run."

With a majority of the campaign in the books, Hill said she is seeing improvements within the Penguin ranks. She said she thinks that can mean only good things once the league championships get underway. later this month.

"The players are

really starting to 🧉 get out and pick it up on both ends of the court and they continue to just plug away," Hill said. "They are really into the norm of what they like to

Of the five regular season games remaining, the Penguins open the final five games at home. They will spend the next three games on the road before finishing the season back home against Loyola. Hill said she hopes that the next game at home will end in a win and spur the Penguins on their

"The players are really starting to get out and pick it up on both ends of the court."

> Tisha Hill, YSU Women's Head Coach

road stint. The Penguins have struggled on the road following home games this season at 1-3. "We need to take that

momentum off

of a home game, onto the road," Hill said. For the

Penguins to be sucthey make a

run into the post season, Hill said she believes two things are paramount. Shooting and defense.

On the season, the Penguins are shooting 37 percent from the field compared to 43 percent from their opponents.

continue "Just improve our shooting, our execution in the half court and defensively get back to what we used to do a little better and that is to get some stops on the perimeter," Hill said of her team's focal points for the next few weeks.

The Penguins need stops on the perimeter where their opponents are hitting nearly 35 percent from three-point range.

The Penguins resume action this Saturday against UIC after a week hiatus. Tip off is set for 2:05 p.m.

Call Justin Smolkovich at (330) 941-3758.

#### WINTER OLYMPICS

# Snowboarding's popularity is growing

By: Jo-Ann Barnas DETROIT FREE PRESS (KRT)

Move over figure skating? Maybe not quite, but buoyed by the popularity of the Winter X Games,

snowboarding is enjoying a growth-spurt as far as Olympic organizers are concerned. Added to the program at the 1998 Nagano Games, the sport entered the mainstream at the

where a capacity crowd of more than 16,500 saw Ross Danny Powers, Kass and J.J. Thomas the halfmen's pip medals.

2002 Salt Lake Olympics,

The sweep was the first for the Americans in any sport at the Winter Games since 1956, when they won three medals in men's figure skating. On the women's side, Kelly Clark, with Blink 182

in her headphones, won America's first gold medal

Courtesy of KRT campus

of the Salt Lake Games, in the halfpipe. Viewers at home took notice as well.

noted, was among men in that age group, with a 26 percent

increase over Nagano. ty of so-called extreme sports California whose helmet is equipped with an iPod. among teens and fans in their 20s, the International Olympic Committee added a third men's and snowboarding

event for Turin to join halfpipe and par- strongest halfpipe teams in the world. allel giant slalom:

snowboard cross. In snowboard cross, alpine course filled with moguls, waves spines (jumps with 90degree angles). Riders race in groups of four, with the top two in each heat going through to the next round until just four are left to contest the final

Doug Wren of Ferndale, who has taught skiing for 39 years, including the last eight as ski school instructor for the Oakland County-based Winter Walden ist, and newcomers Andy Finch and Mason Aguirre. Ski Club, said snowboarding is popular with teens and preteens. He noted that local ski areas such as Mt. Brighton and Alpine Valley have improved their terrain parks and halfpipes.

"Snowboarding has a slower start up. It takes longer to

NBC saw viewership among people ages 18-34 increase get going," said Wren, 55. "So for a lot of kids it depends on 23 percent over Nagano. The biggest jump, the network the frustration level. But once they do take off, they really take off."

So whom to watch in Turin? Begin with Shaun White, a Capitalizing on the populari- 19-year-old millionaire and skateboard champ from

> White, nicknamed "The Flying Tomato" because of his wild red hair, won all five Grand Prix qualifiers leading up to the selection of the U.S. Olympic men's halfpipe team. (Highland's Danny Davis was in contention until the final event.) White will lead what is turning out to be one of the

"Snowboarding has a slower start up. It athletes navigate an takes longer to get going, so for a lot of kids it depends on the frustration level. But once they do take off, they really take

> Doug Wren Walden Ski Club

He will be joined in Turin by Kass, the 2002 silver medal-

Clark returns to her defend her gold medal. She will be joined by Olympic rookies Gretchen Bleiler, Hannah Teter and Elena Hight.

## Campus Crusade for Christ shares God's word

By: Maysoon Abdelrasul FEATURES REPORTER

Junior Tyra Rice was studying in Peaberry's Café Tuesday afternoon when she was interrupted by people who were moving their chairs to form a circle.

Rice said she was confused, unsure if she was in the way. Then someone whom she'd never met approached her and gave her a piece of paper with 17 sentences and told her that she could join the group, if she wanted.

The circle of about 20 people was a meeting for members of Campus Crusade for Christ. Coordinator Drew Sulzer said it is an organization at Youngstown State University that offers students the opportunity to give and hear the message of Jesus Christ.

Rice said she decided to stay and participate since Sulzer approached her nicely.

The paper was an icebreaker where people had to guess what characteristics the others members

"I am trying to figure out where said.

this is going," Rice said.

place for people to meet.

As the members were discussing the activity, Rice said she beliefs. realized the concept. She said the activity was to prove that you

students the opportunity to hear of the Campus Crusade for Christ. the message of Jesus Christ," he

Campus Crusade for Christ is founded by Bill and Vonette Los Angeles. The campus ministry has more than 1,000 campuses worldwide.

director for Campus Crusade for Christ, said 55,000 college stuthe end of last year.

"Actively involved' meaning to do. not only attending meetings, but planning and organizing Bible group studies and sessions," he

A 32-year staff member, Arnold Sulzer said an aim of Campus said he wants to give college stu-Crusade for Christ is to provide a dents an opportunity to see what the organization is about and then leave them to choose their own

The YSU chapter is part of the larger Cleveland Metro chapter. can't judge someone by the way. There is a staff of non-students that meet with each college twice "The main goal of Cru is to give a month to discuss the progression

Looking for people, like Rice, who want to share the message of Jesus Christ is important to the an international organization organization, Sulzer said. The comfortable atmosphere and the Bright in 1951 at the University of boldness of Sulzer approaching Rice gave her the green light to join the group.

As for the questions of whether Tony Arnold, media relations religious groups have a place at public universities, Rice said she didn't see anything wrong with it dents were actively involved by as long as no one is forced into doing something they don't want

> "If people are allowed to have parties and concerts on campus, then religious groups should be no different," Rice said.

Jason Delisio prays during the closing of a Campus Crusade for Christ meeting in Peaberry's Cafe on Tuesday. They meet there every Tuesday at 5 p.m. to share the word of God and meet other students.

William Blake, director of that represents America today," Student Diversity programs at Blake said.

Call Maysoon Abdelrasul at (330)

"It is part of the mini-diversity 941-3758

#### COMMENTARY

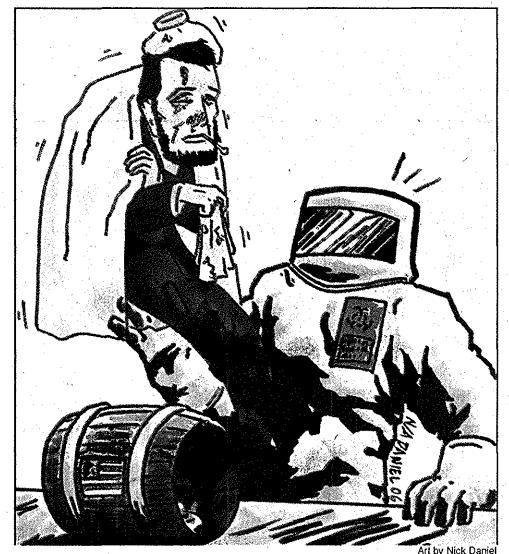
## Stop sickness before it starts

By: Bob Mackey COLUMNIST

Cold and flu season is upon us, or maybe it isn't; I'm too sick to check at the moment, and the robot I'm dictating this to at my bedside has too much of an attitude to check for me. All I know is that the name is misleading. Unlike deer season, when it's clear what should be killed, the shocking twist to cold and flu season is in the fashion of "The Most Dangerous Game," where humans are the prey and germs are the evil Russian nobles that are hunting us on their private island. And even if you've never read that particular short story, it's no surprise that being sick is no picnic, and if it is a picnic it's one where bears do unspeakable things to your body before they eat you. Looking back at my healthy years, I realize a few preventative measures could have been taken to prevent my current status; I will share these with you before I die.

• Avoid doorknobs: This cannot be stressed enough. If life was the movie "Outbreak," then doorknobs would be shrieking, infected monkeys, with you not having the Morgan Freemanesque tenacity needed for survival. Not only will avoiding doorknobs make your life healthier, it will also make your life more exciting. While at first it may seem impossible to avoid these globular Petri dishes, a little creativity and an action movie mindset will help you get where you need to go. For example, did you know that most doors can be kicked down with a good 10 to 20 minutes of work? Even if this doesn't pan out for you, someone will surely open the door so the scene you are undoubtedly causing will end. Also keep windows in mind as an alternate form of entry; you may even earn clever nicknames such as "Glass Shard Seamus."

•Avoid Civil War-era time capsules: I know what you're thinking, "How often am I going to run across a Civil War-era time capsule?" The truth is that there are millions of these scattered under the fertile soil of these United States, and every year I usually throw away five or six of them that I uncover doing minor yard work. You'll no doubt be curious regarding the contents of these capsules, but I advise against opening them. If you remember the Ken Burns documentary "The Civil War," you'll know that in all of those soldiers' letters to home, the words "scarlet fever" and "rubel-



la" were mentioned ten times more remarkable thing he did).

ents with long names which, in medical jargon, will "knock your ass out."

has been proven that dogs have cleaner mouths than those of humans, I just don't trust them. Also, should you really be kissing your dog? That's perhaps take the animal out for coffee and then say, "It's not you, it's me," when you clearly know that it's not you. You may want to find a relatively your face if your dog persists.

• Wash your hands: Even if it's clear than slavery. You really don't want that you did not intentionally urinate diseases that have had 200 years to on your hands, they still need washing mutate crawling all over you, and after every visit to the bathroom. surely you don't want to open the cap- Don't let this behavior end at the toisule that contains Lincoln's angry let, though; every action in your life ghost, put in the ground by should be followed by a rigorous Rutherford B. Hayes in 1878 (the only hand-washing session. About to eat dinner? Wash your hands. Save the rec •Oranges: Not only are they rich in center from evil land developers? vitamin C, they can also be sold on Wash your hands. Just finished washbusy stretches of highways to orange- ing your hands? Wash your hands. starved commuters at an extremely After all, your filthy hands touched high profit margin. This money you the soap, no doubt spreading germs earn can be traded at most pharmacies during that first washing. With pracfor medications that contain ingreditice, this routine should prevent illness, or as least cause so much pain to your chapped and disfigured hands •Stop kissing your dog: While it that any illness you do come down with will go unnoticeable.

While I have nothing but regrets, there's no reason to not take this advice, unless you want my death to creepy. If you don't want to break its be in vain. I would also like to add that heart, I recommend that you instead while my death may not be "official," give your dog a firm handshake, or my creditors can stop sending me their threatening letters. Have they no respect for the dead?

Bob Mackey's illness merely stems from clean and angry cat to hold in front of an imbalance of the humours. He can be reached at (330) 941-1913.

#### Friday:

Two-man comedy,"Greater Tuna," enters its final weekend at the Oakland Center for the Arts, 220 W. Boardman St. Directed by JoAnne Carney-Smith, the actors portray all residents of Tuna, Texas in this classic play. The show starts at 8 p.m. Reserve tickets by calling (330) 746-0606.

c bands Audion. Diamond Dust and Let All Prevail will perform at the Royal Oaks, 924 Oak Street. \$5 (18+)

Cleveland rockers The Whiskeyhounds will play Cedar's Lounge, 23 N. Hazel St. with Detroit's 5piece string band, the Salt Miners. (21+)

1980s rock cover band Edison's Medicine at Salty Grog's, 1203 Boardman-Poland Road in Boardman. (21+)

Harlequin's Voice is playing an all-ages show at Section 8 Skate Park, 770 N. Main St., in Hubbard with Lady Fantastic, Falling Stars Burning Bright and Futon Palace. Doors open at 6 p.m. and cover is \$5.

#### Saturday:

You Are The War That I Want, Sam Goodwill, Stef Grimaldi and F-Minus at Youngstown's oldest bar – the Royal Oaks, 924 Oak Street. \$5 (18+)

Cover band "The Houseband" at Salty Grog's in Boardman, 1203 Boardman-Poland Road in Boardman (Route 224). (21+)

'Greater Tuna" at the Oakland Center for the Arts, 220 VV. Boardman St. 8 p.m. Reserve tickets by calling (330) 746-0606.

Check out cover band Disco Inferno at The Cellar, 162 S. Bridge St., in Struthers. Tickets are \$6 and the show starts at 10:30 p.m. (18+)

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

An evening of Broadway classics by the "Three Phantoms in Concert" at the Youngstown Symphony, 260 Federal Plaza. Kevin Gray, Cris Groenendaal and Craig Schulman will perform songs from popular musicals Tickets begin at \$18. Curtain goes up at 8 p.m.

You can catch an act unlike any other if you check out Tony Mentzer at Cedar's Lounge, 23 N. Hazel St. Tony will be backed by the new All-Star Oddballs.

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