



Batter up: The 8-11 overall baseball team won two games over the weekend. See page 7.

The Jambor

The student voice of Youngstown State University

STUDENT DEBT

College students have become prey of credit card companies

By: Jenny Boyce
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Mike was just another average student at Youngstown State University five years ago; finishing up his junior year, maintaining a B-average and belonging to a fraternity.

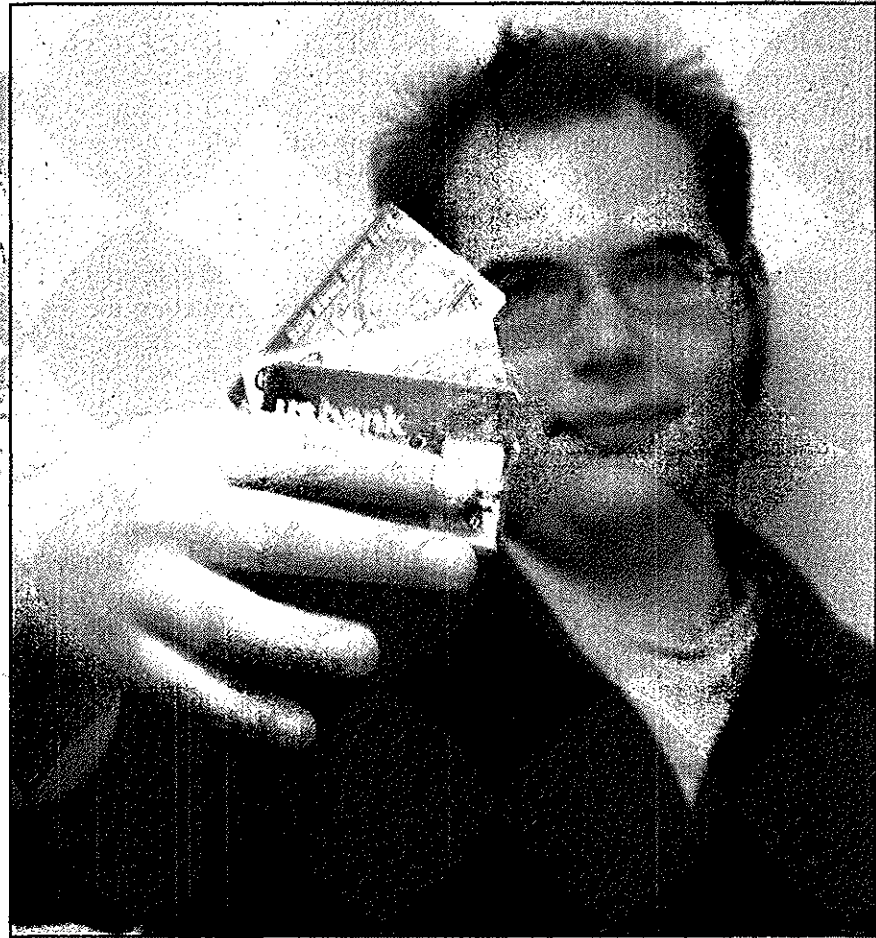
By the spring of 2001, the past caught up with him. Years of credit card abuse left him nearly \$10,000 in debt.

Mike had gotten his three credit cards through offers he received during his first year of school. By the end of his junior year, Mike was struggling to pay off bills from years of dining out, treating friends and going on trips with his fraternity.

"It was a vicious cycle," Mike's mother recalled. "He had to try to pay off all those bills."

Not being able to finish his junior year at YSU, Mike enlisted in the United States Army as a way to escape his debt. Due to his current position in the military, his real name is being protected.

College students have become a favorite among credit card companies, with certain companies specifically preying on the vulnerability of students with no income, according to founder of Independent Financial



Jambor Photo Illustration: Katie Libecco

YSU telecommunications student Jason Mauro displays several credit cards. Mauro says that he generally only uses a debit card.

Counselors, Gary Schatsky, Nellie Mae, one of the nation's largest student loan companies, revealed in a 2004 study that 76 percent of undergraduates began their school year with credit cards. With annual fees, late payment penalties and interest rates, the

term "borrowed" money takes on a whole different meaning for many students.

If a credit card owning student fails to pay his or her monthly balance, more money accumulates for the companies, especially if that debt is not immediately resolved. Late and missed payments are not only more costly later on, but will count against their credit report for seven years.

"Your credit score is as important as your GPA," said Robert Manning, author of "Credit Card Nation."

After graduation, when a student goes out into the world for a job interview, tries to buy a house or a car, or applies for insurance, their credit history is often the first thing that is looked into. With a bad credit report, the applicant is more likely to be turned down. Some students, however, don't take into consideration the possibility of still being in debt once they go into their profession.

"Many students' expectations of their earning potential after college far exceeds what their actual income will be," said Mary Ann Campbell, founder of www.monemagic.com.

In Nellie Mae's 2004 study, taken from 1,413 undergraduate

please see DEBT Page 4

Out of the Red: Do today's youth have it harder?

By: Amy Baldwin
KINGST RIDDER NEWSPAPERS (KRT)

Massive student loans and credit card debt combined with mediocre jobs and iffy health benefits are making the 21st century a lousy time to try to make it on your own.

That's what a 25-year-old Village Voice freelance writer argues in her book, "Generation Debt: Why Now is a Terrible Time to be Young," (Riverhead Books, \$23.95), published last month.

Anya Kamenetz laments that young people often have to work several jobs and take on massive debt to go to college and many don't finish.

Kamenetz, a 2002 Yale grad who admits she's had it better than most in her peer group, weaves in first-person accounts from young people in her book. Some are disheartening — like that of a young man who dropped out of college because his parents couldn't help him out and he couldn't get enough loans. Others are encouraging — like that of a

woman who got out from under \$12,000 in credit card debt.

I caught up with Kamenetz last week to chat about Generation Debt — the book and people. Questions and answers were edited for brevity and clarity.

Q: What are the solutions to Generation Debt?

A: On an individual basis, I really advocate educating yourself on finances in a way you did not learn in school — most schools — and setting up automatic savings plans, taking advantage of per-

sonal retirement accounts. Very basic stuff. On the political side, I encourage them to get involved. Hold your governor and state legislature accountable for tuition increases. On a national level, there are a lot of reforms that I propose in the book like on student loan funding. Look for someone (in political races) who advocates national health care. Young people are the largest group without health care.

Q: You graduated from Yale with no student debt. How?

A: My grandparents pitched in quite a bit of money. It was because I got into an Ivy League school that they decided to subsidize it. I had scholarships as well.

Q: Given your debt-free Yale education and the fact that you live in Manhattan, when many young new-to-New Yorkers are relegated to Queens, how can you relate to your more down-trodden peers?

A: Gosh. First of all, I pay \$800 a month, which is

please see YOUTH Page 2

SGA

Campus begins Wi-Fi connection

By: Cheryl Thompson
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

Students at Youngstown State University will soon be able to access the Internet with their own laptops and PDA's starting this week in the stack area of Maag Library.

Chad Miller, Student Government Association Parliamentarian, said YSU Network Services is ironing

out some last minute details to make accessing Wi-Fi as easy as possible. He said the McDonough Museum and the third floor common area of Meshel Hall are slated to have open wireless access in the near future as well.



MILLER

Donna Esterly, YSU's interim technology officer, updated SGA

please see SGA, Page 2

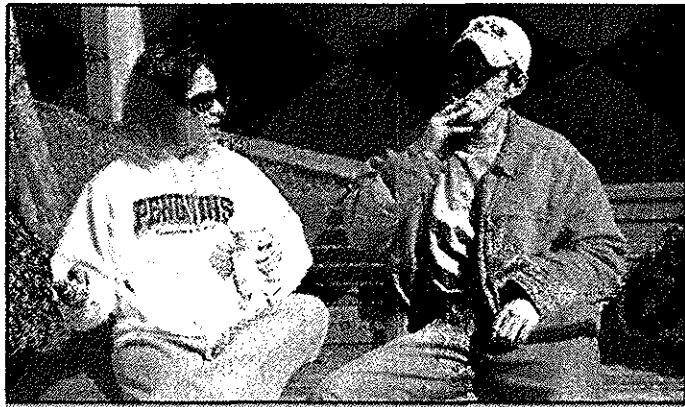
SGA

SGA to smokers: Keep YSU pretty

By: Bill Rodgers
NEWS EDITOR

The Student Government Association wants to clean up dirty butts on campus.

"It's not as vile as it sounds," though, Youngstown State University's SGA is considering an effort to clean up cigarette butts on campus. Some solutions discussed in recent weeks included making more cigarette bins available and making better-defined smoking areas out-



Jambor/Katie Libecco

Psychology majors Niki Radack and Michael Augustine stop to smoke a cigarette and enjoy the afternoon's nice weather outside Maag Library on Monday afternoon. They agreed that littered cigarette butts made the campus less attractive.

side of buildings.

Sarah Vansuch, Chair of the Student Affairs Committee considering the idea, said there was some discussion to encourage students to smoke within those areas, but no real actions have been taken.

"It's pretty much on the backburner right now," Vansuch said.

She said there was no talk of restricting smoking on campus to those areas.

please see SMOKING, Page 2

News Briefs

Comedy show features D. Ellis

A comedy show will be held at McKay Auditorium in the Beeghly College of Education Wednesday at 7 p.m. featuring comedian D. Ellis. The cost for YSU students is \$3 with a valid YSU ID, and for the general pub-

lic it is \$5. The event is sponsored by Office of Student Diversity and Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity.

Education conference focuses on careers

A conference titled "Today's Business for Tomorrow's Leaders" will

be held 8 a.m. today in the Chestnut Room of Kilcawley Center. It is aimed to equip guidance counselors, career education coordinators, administrators and classroom teachers with resources to help students reach career goals.

Honors society inducts new members

YSU Chapter 143 of the Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi will induct 99 new members in the Chestnut Room at 6 p.m. Wednesday.

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Weather >> rain
50 | 39
wednesday: cloudy, 56/40
thursday: sunny, 65/50

INTODAY'S JAMBAR

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the jambor poll
Last Question: Do you play Magic: the Gathering?
92% YES
8% NO
Today's Question: Have you accumulated debt?
vote online
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SMOKING, continued from page 1

"Details are still sketchy at this point, but SGA could have a plan by the beginning of fall semester," Vansuch said.

"We're still in the working stages," Vansuch said. "We're looking at possibilities and seeing where the biggest smoking areas are. Hopefully we'll finish by the end of the year and have something ready to go by next semester," Vansuch said.

The plan was first introduced by Amanda Mielke, SGA's vice president. Mielke said she was taking a walkthrough of Cushman Hall with YSU Vice President John Habat and facilities director John Hyden earlier this semester when she was challenged by Habat to find a way to clean up the cigarette butts littering the outside of the building.

She said that Habat bet if SGA could clean up the butts across campus, he would find the funds to make improvements to the atrium of Cushman.

Mielke said she took the idea back to SGA to discuss. She suggested a publicity campaign to keep the outside of the buildings clean.

"We suggested a slogan: 'Pretty Inside, Pretty Outside,'" Mielke said. She said the slogan would promote a cleaner campus and a better-looking Cushman atrium.

Call Bill Rodgers at (330) 831-3274.

SPILL, continued from page 1

DEPC can cause irritation to the eyes and skin so reacting quickly was of importance to Cooper.

"I wanted to be better safe than sorry," Cooper said.

After police cleared the building, Youngstown firefighters contained the chemical, which was given to YSU's Chemical Management Center to be restored. Cooper said the spill was a simple cleanup but it was "better to get people out of the building".

"It was cut and dry. It was a very effective response, the system worked. We have a great police staff. They're really good guys," Cooper said. "Everybody lived up to their responsibility in the way they're supposed to perform."

Cooper said the chemical is used in the laboratory to clear Ribonucleic Acid (RNA) enzymes and is not kept in large amounts. Cooper stated that each chemical has its own specific barcode to keep an inventory of use.

Cooper also added that spills are not uncommon in laboratories and did not want to "blow things up bigger than they were."

"Minor things happen. We break beakers all the time and spill water. Major things are rare," Cooper said. "That's the most significant spill I've had in the six years I've been here."

Call Steve Lettau at (330) 941-1913.

SGA, continued from page 1

about the Information Technology Master Plan during Monday's general meeting.

The plan includes expanding Wi-Fi in Maag Library, where until recently, students were able to be able to wirelessly surf the web, but only on laptops borrowed from the library for three hours at a time.

While Esterly said she is excited to see the initiative falling into place, she said she is somewhat disappointed at Wi-Fi's slow start on campus. Esterly said the plan to implement Wi-Fi picked up after the university hired Jason Rakers as the Director of Network Services, a position that was vacant following the February 2005 retirement of Tom Doctor.

Esterly said when students are logged in at Maag Library and other Wi-Fi spots on campus, they will have peace of mind to know that their laptops are safer than compared to other

venues. "I know you can go into any coffee shop these days and find wireless Internet services, but at YSU you can be certain that it's a secure connection. We paid particular attention to security," Esterly said.

However, because of the network's security, logging in could prove difficult. Miller, who worked with Esterly regarding Wi-Fi, recommends that students stop at the Tech Desk on the fourth floor before trying to access the network.

Esterly also briefed the group on the progress of the Luminous Portal, a software program similar to MySpace.com that will give students the opportunity to form and join groups. The portal will also allow students to access their CUE-mail accounts, billing information and registration from one online location.

Student community involvement Representatives in the

Student Affairs Committee met with Youngstown Mayor Jay Williams before spring break to discuss ways to increase student involvement in the downtown area, including opening more restaurants and general stores.

Sarah Vansuch, Student Activities Committee chair, said Williams discussed creating downtown's housing possibilities and said four buildings are being surveyed for residency.

Wood Street, the area just south of Lincoln Avenue is where YSU is planning to build the new Williamson College of Business Administration building and will be a focal point for the committee.

In addition to meeting with Williams, the committee discussed its plans with Hunter Morrison, the director for the Center for Urban and Regional Studies, about updating the area. Vansuch said there was some concern with moving the new

Williamson building so far off campus, but said improving the Wood Street area would prevent some of the reasons for her concern.

"The area around Mighty Moe's, The Beat and University Pizzeria with addition of the new business school, will be the connection between YSU and downtown," Vansuch said.

Miller said if YSU students want to revitalize downtown, they should take a hands-on approach. Miller said a plan is in the works to have business students set up shop downtown as a way for students to gain real-life experience while generating money for the city.

"If we are really interested in revitalizing Youngstown," Miller said, "we should take some initiative ourselves."

Call Cheryl Thompson at (330) 941-1913.

YOUTH, continued from page 1

not outrageous for New York. I could save money by living in Queens but I also travel around a bit and work from home and so it kind of makes sense. Overall, I approach this as a journalist. I am interested in representing young people across the economic spectrum. But when you ask how I relate to it, it's the thing that affects people across the spectrum — uncertainty. Industries going under. Am I going to be able to get health insurance? This year I was offered health insurance for the first time by the Voice.

Q: How are this generation's issues different from struggles previous younger generations have complained of?

A: It has always been tough starting out. The difference today is the quality of jobs is going down. And, in order to get a decent middle-class job you have to have a college degree. It takes longer to get your education and get out on your own. Now it takes so

much longer for people to complete the transitions, to become financially independent.

Q: Looking back, would you still have gone to Yale to be a writer? You note in the book that when you finished it cost 300 percent more than when your father graduated from there.

A: That is an open question. I was doing internships and getting my feet wet and thinking about my career even when I was in school. That was something that was looked askance at in the Ivy League. My senior year I could take a couple different seminars in things I was interested in but weren't necessary to my major. [She majored in English and noted that Yale doesn't offer a journalism program.] Or, I could go three days a week to the Voice to intern. That was the decision I made and I have to say it paid off very well. It was not the mainstream choice. The stakes were different for me. That is obvi-

ously unfortunate.

Q: What's your advice for high school seniors as they consider college?

A: The question I have to pose to people is: What are you hoping to get out of your college degree? It is not an automatic pass to a good job. If you aren't sure what you want maybe take a gap year and decide what you want to do. Have a clear plan in mind. It will mean more to you.

Q: Some say it's expectations of the younger set that are out of whack — that we want big-screen TVs over retirement nest eggs. Any merit to that and any advice?

A: We have grown up marinated in this very heavy advertising environment. We do feel this pressure to have the latest and greatest stuff. I de-emphasize that in the book because there is a limit to what personal responsibility can do when there are real income shortfalls and lack of security and plastic is picking up the slack on that.

Q: What about for 20- and 30-somethings who do have good jobs and still have too much credit card debt?

A: I talk in the book about a girl who literally worked for a credit card company and had \$12,000 in credit card debt not because of an income problem but because she just was a shopaholic. She put in spending controls. She put in a one-month delay when she saw a new pair of shoes. You have to look at your own lifestyle and see where the fat is.

Q: Did you ever think you'd be writing about personal finance at such a young age, — before you even had a retirement account?

A: Not at all. Frankly, I didn't find these topics that interesting until I started seeing the impact they have on people's lives.

Check out Anya Kamenetz's blog: <http://anyakamenetz.blogspot.com>.

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Editorial & Opinion

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thejambar

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OUR SIDE

Immigration reform hysteria ignores basic American ideals

There are currently about 11 million illegal immigrants in the United States and more than 1.1 million people were caught trying to illegally cross the U.S.-Mexico border in 2004.

The U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee approved Monday an immigration reform bill that would that would make it a felony to be in this country illegally. While the government heralds the bill as allowing illegal immigrants a chance to earn citizenship, debates and protests are erupting nationwide.

The protests are likely just the beginning of the controversy that lies in the future of immigration reform. The bill will now proceed to the full Senate for debate.

Peaceful protests at major cities throughout the country — including Columbus, Denver, Atlanta, Los Angeles, Washington D.C., Detroit and New York City — lasted well into their third day on Monday. Protestors are against the criminalization of illegal immigration.

High school students to Catholic priests are taking a stand in the fight for immigrants' rights while Republicans cite the need for a solution to the "immigration crisis."

But, what exactly is the crisis? Nationwide, there is no unemployment crisis, so it can't be the loss of jobs. Are we fearing further attacks by terrorists? How likely are such people to move to Canada or Mexico, become citizens there and then sneak across borders into our land.

Border control is an important issue in terms of national security and it should be addressed, however, it's not fair to punish hardworking immigrants who want to work for America, not destroy it.

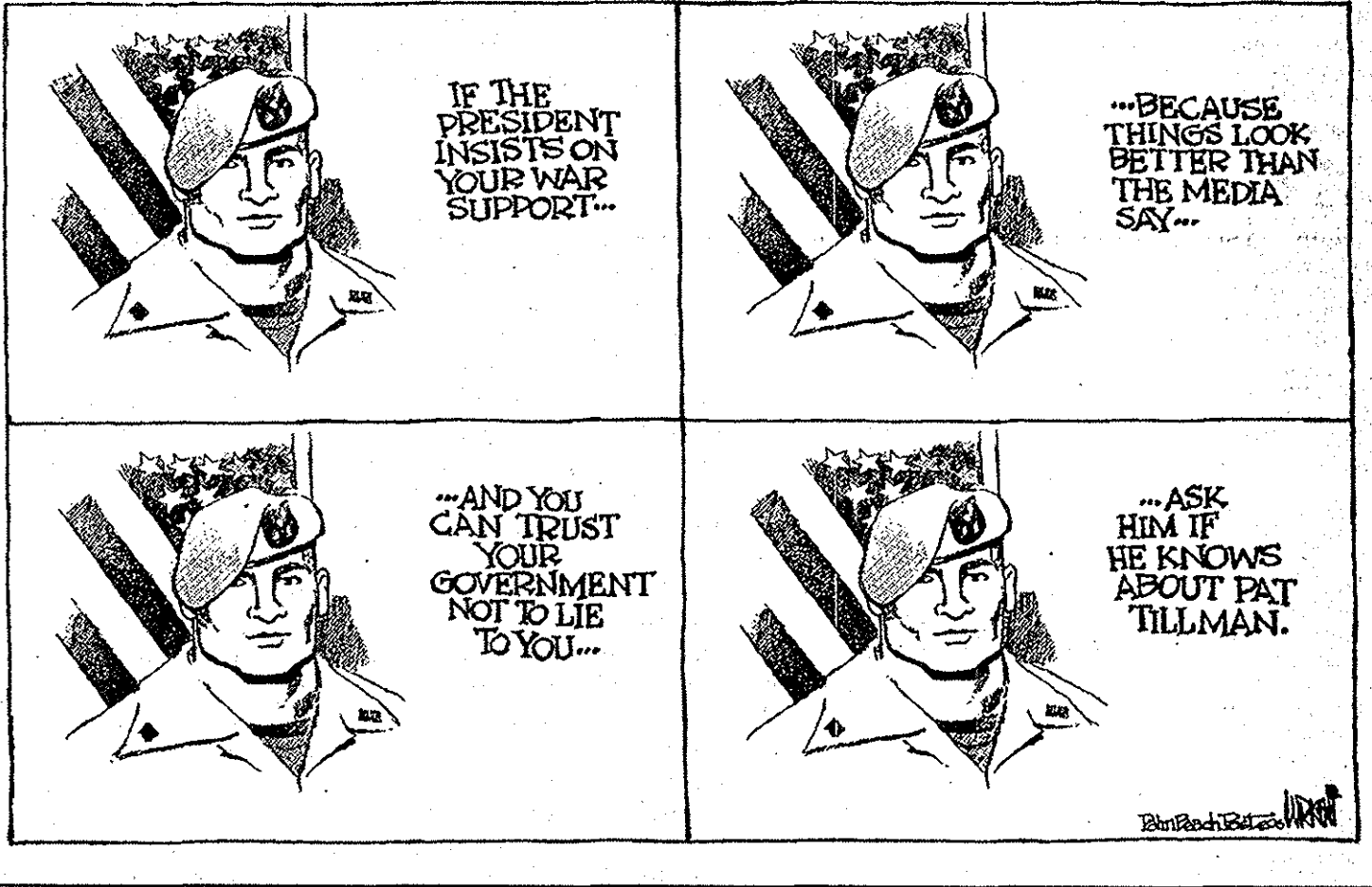
Even when America turns it's back on those hoping for something better, people still try to make their way into the country. Hundreds of Mexican immigrants risk their lives each and every day, making dangerous attempts at sneaking through 700 miles of walls and fencing along the U.S.-Mexico border for a long trek through the harsh desert.

Like it or not, this country was founded and flourished through extensive immigration. In fact, if you are an American citizen not descended from Native Americans or African slaves, your family at some point immigrated.

Immigrants seek to improve upon their lot in life, and in most instances, are successful. This is an opportunity that should not be denied. While it is important to respect the rights and safety of legal American citizens, those seeking to live and work in the United States should not be denied the American Dream.

EDITORIAL POLICY

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



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Getting the Facts: Fair & Balanced

Editor:

Folks, I didn't even read the article "Corruption Hits Close to Home" in last week's edition; I saw Alex Mangie's name and knew without a doubt that whatever he was saying, it would be "Fair & Balanced" like Fox News.

Okay, I'm lying. I did read former Judge Patrick Kerrigan's name in the article and I knew that Mangie was onto something. I knew he'd point out corruption in terms of Kerrigan getting a job. I also knew he'd recognize and not mention that "close corruption" is merely a relative term in the case of Tom "Coin Gate Scandal" Noe in Columbus: making our Governor corrupt with shady deals. Further, I knew Mangie'd consider the distance of California completely out of the question where Noe's corrupt money reached the hands of the governor.

Mangie being "Fair & Balanced" — calling out the Democrats — had the good sense not to mention that Bush had sworn he had never met Noe, although Noe had contributed significantly to his reelection — part of that deal was getting a photo with Bush. Being so fair and balanced, Mangie would have had to mention the photo and the denial; but,

clearly, the relative closeness of DC to Youngstown in this instance can be dismissed: Bush's policies couldn't possibly affect Youngstown. McKelvey proved that.

Democrat or not, I have to respect the Right-Wingness of Mangie as he has proved himself a vigilant observer of the political winds. Though I fretted he might be ill, since, certainly, in good health, Mangie would have been one of those few Republicans howling when Bush tried turning our port security over to hostile Arabs. Moreover, I have faith that Mangie will eventually balk at the idea of Halliburton now getting the port security; certainly, Mangie'll point out that at least Halliburton won't be around to sell the Army meals and bath towels jacked at 300 percent the cost. Folks, it's going to be a great letter when Mangie writes it.

Further defense of Mangie that he was either out of the country or seriously taken ill when he didn't comment on Chaney's vindictive outing of CIA agent Valerie Plame, letting his Chief of Staff (Scooter) take the fall — Wait a minute! Noe was chairman of Bush-Cheney reelection campaign in northwest Ohio. This coupled with Bush's personal aide stealing from Target ... Gee, I better wait before I come to praise Mangie and not rebuke him.

Ted Williams

My Beef with Bob Mackey

Editor:

Bob Mackey's suggestion in last Thursday's Jambar of creating Dorito-flavored Eucharist, such as "Cool Ranch Christ" and "Jalepeno Jesus" was most appalling. Holy Eucharist is a way for Christians to remember what Jesus did for them and to give thanks. The presence of Christ is more than fulfilling for Catholics. We don't need heaving portions or extra flavoring.

Mackey seems to confuse the concepts of church teaching and biblical law. He claims that "biblical law was stretched so the faithful could enjoy hot, pink, dripping beef" on St. Patrick's Day. Where does the bible forbid eating meat on Fridays? Abstaining from meat on Fridays during lent is a church teaching, not biblical law. Therefore, if the church decides that their teaching should be modified to celebrate a religious holiday, they have the right to do it. If you, Mackey, are not a practicing member of the church, the decision doesn't affect you and you shouldn't be concerned about it.

Likewise, referring to lent as "a gut-busting hedonistic party" is most offensive to people who celebrate the season of lent. Lent is a time of intense preparation for Easter. We make personal

sacrifices through prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. I don't think Mackey has the right to judge the success or the sincerity of our Lenten sacrifices.

How could the San Diego chicken possibly be a more welcoming "mascot" than the crucifix? The crucifix is a reminder of Christ's sacrifice and love for us. If you don't think that the crucifix has enough meaning, you don't have to belong to the Church. I think most people would reject the idea of replacing Christ with a chicken.

I was very disappointed in Mackey's article. He attacked important beliefs and traditions, without trying to discuss them intelligently. Some of it didn't even make any sense. He described premarital sex as "something to do after drinking when you try to forget". He then asked, "Would you rather have me driving around after I get drunk, possibly going to abortion clinics along the way and giving them my support?" Aside from the fact that drunk driving is illegal and dangerous, no one is preventing him from doing these things. How are they related and why should I have to pick which behavior I would rather have him do? Just because Mackey doesn't agree with Catholicism doesn't mean that he should write intolerant articles against it.

Nicole McElroy

COMMENTARY

through the looking glass

By: Mike Pingree
 KRT CAMPUS

THE MAGIC HAS GONE OUT OF OUR MARRIAGE

A couple in the indigenous Mayan Indian town of Oxkutzcab, Mexico, got into a domestic disturbance the likes of which is rarely seen. After they hurled knives and fired shots at each other, the husband ended the disputation when by throwing a homemade gasoline bomb, injuring her and burning down the house.

When arrested, the husband said he was glad he burned his wife, and she said

her only regret was that she hadn't "hacked off his manhood."

WELL, WELL, WHAT HAVE WE HERE?

As Portland, Maine, police prepared to release a man after booking him for assault, he threw up 31 bags of heroin.

CLEARLY, HE DIDN'T THINK THIS THROUGH

A man made a bumbling attempt to extort money from Taco Bell in Traverse City, Mich., by putting a dead mouse in his burrito, leaving plenty of clues for authorities that it was a scam. After complaining that his burrito tasted funny, he refused a free

replacement and insisted on keeping the one he had.

He later called a regional manager, requesting money to make his bogus charges disappear. In addition, his girlfriend told authorities she saw him buy frozen mice at a pet store.

CALL THE POLICE STATION, YOUR PICTURES ARE READY

Two young men stole the outdoor surveillance cameras at a museum in Prince George, Canada, apparently not realizing that the cameras were recording them the whole time, taking fabulous close-ups of their faces. Arrests were swift.

OH, AS LONG AS YOU HAD A GOOD REASON

After being released from jail where he had served a term for carjacking, a Florida man immediately carjacked another vehicle. He told police who subsequently arrested him that he didn't have a ride home.

NICE CAR ... HEY, WAIT A MINUTE ...

A man stole a car in Hopedale, Ohio, drove three miles, then stopped at a house to ask for directions. By an amazing coincidence, the man who answered the door was the father of the woman whose car he stole. Dad called the cops as soon as he pulled away.

Classified

Help Wanted

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Christian Social Service Organization seeking 1 male and 1 female for openings in afterschool program. Must have H.S. Diploma or equivalent, experience working with children/teens and a valid drivers license. Send resume and cover letter to: Inquiry, 75 Jackson Dr., Campbell, OH 44405.

WANTED: Students to assist with the YSU Spring Job Expo on Thursday, April 20, 2006 in Kilcawley Center Chestnut Room. Employers will need help transporting their display materials and equipment. Must be able to lift 50 pounds. Hours: 8:00 - 10:00 a.m. and 1:30 - 3:00 p.m. **Stipend \$50.** Interested: Apply in person in the Office of Career & Counseling Services, 1034 Jones Hall.

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Apartment for rent. 1 block from YSU. 2 or 3 bedroom with large kitchen. Appliances and utilities included. Call 330-720-0964.

Walk to YSU, quiet 1 bedroom apartment behind Cafaro House, with living room, kitchen with appliances. Students welcome. Call 330-506-0104.

For rent - very clean and safe apartment or house. 1 to 3 bedrooms. \$200.00 to \$300.00 plus utilities. More information call 330-743-3887.

Miscellaneous

DeCato's Pub - previously "Little Gail's," bar specials from open - close, **FREE PLAY** juke box open - close, open 7 days. 1545 Mahoning Avenue across from Wonder Bakery.

DEBT, continued from page 1

alternative loan applicants between the ages of 18 and 24, only 21 percent of students with credit cards reported paying off all their dues each month. Though 44 percent said they make more than a minimum payment, 11 percent said they make less than the minimum required amount each month.

With unrealistic expectations of the future and a false reassurance that their fees can easily be paid off, the damage that can be done to students' credit histories and pocketbooks aren't taken into much consideration during their college years.

Solicitors

Popular marketing strategies employed by credit card companies include mail, offers in textbooks, fliers and rented tables where solicitors encourage students to sign up. With assertive marketing and alluring deals, students with a lack of financial knowledge can be easily enticed.

Numerous universities have multi-million dollar partnerships with credit card companies that encourage students to apply, according to the "College Student Performance and Credit Card Usage Study" published by the Journal of College Student Development.

"I'm not aware that we have any partnership with a credit card company," Jim Herschel, director of Student Accounts and University Receivables,

said. "It could be through YSU, it's not in any way through my office."

Charles Sabatino, director of YSU's bookstore, said credit card applications that are sometimes put inside bookstore bags along with a purchase are placed there by the company that makes the bags and YSU receives no financial gain.

In January, the Ohio Society of CPAs sent four certified public accountants to the campus of YSU to quiz students and distribute information. In their quiz, the Ohio Society revealed college freshmen receive an average of eight credit card offers during their first week alone.

For those universities that have partnerships with credit card companies, credit cards are easy to come by for students, and hard to resist.

"My daughter received mail from the WSU Alumni Association promoting a credit card to 'Support WSU and show school pride,'" the mother of a Wright State University freshman told reporters from The Guardian.

Susan Smith, executive director of Alumni Relations at WSU, responded that their Alumni Association has an affinity agreement with the MBNA Bank, as do more than 700 other colleges and universities in the United States.

Erin DeBernardo, administrative assistant with the YSU Alumni Association, said there was a partnership between the Association and MBNA.

A partnership with MBNA, or any credit card company, helps universities by receiving help funding campus-related programs, according to the American Civil Liberties Union

Responsibility

Avoidance may not be the best strategy when it comes to credit. In fact, most large necessities such as homes and cars generally require the purchaser to have a good credit history for approval.

"The best reference you'll find on a credit report is a major credit card paid on time, all the time," said Gerri Detweiler, author of "The Ultimate Credit Handbook."

A lack of good credit history could hurt a student just as much as being in major debt. By managing credit cards responsibly, both of these can easily be avoided.

Manning suggested students, especially freshmen, start out with a debit card. This way, they can't spend any money that they don't already have.

Another useful tip for students is to avoid impulse shopping by only carrying one card, to have in case of an emergency or to use for necessities. Cards with annual fees or percentage rates of more than 20 percent should also be avoided.

As the Nellie Mae study concludes, students should not be banned from access to credit cards, but they should be encouraged to learn how to use them wisely.

More News in Brief

Women's History luncheon

Women's History Month luncheon and awards recognition program will be held on March 28 in the Presidential Suites of Kilcawley Center at noon.

Humor conference presented by former John Hopkins dean

Former Assistant Dean for Teaching at Johns Hopkins University, Ronald Berk, will present "Humor as an Instructional Defibrillator" at 10 a.m. Thursday in Kilcawley's Bresnahan Suite, Rooms I and II.

Music careers seminar to be held

"Careers in Music," a program aimed at students majoring in music-related fields, will be held in the Recital Room in Bliss Hall at 11 a.m.

Globalization and ethics lecture to be given

A lecture on globalization, ethics and solidarity will be given 12:30 p.m. Thursday in the Chestnut Room. The lecture is sponsored by the Center for Working-Class Studies at YSU, the YSU department of Philosophy and Religious Studies and the Office of Social Action in the Catholic Diocese of Youngstown.

Business seminar part of Williamson Symposium

YSU graduate Patrick Calhoun will speak to students about the "Keys to Managing a Successful Business Turnaround"

today at 9:30 a.m., 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. in the Zona Auditorium in the Butler Institute of American Art. It is part of the Williamson Symposium series.

Nonprofit organizations sought for internship program

The Center for Nonprofit Leadership at Youngstown State University is seeking nonprofit organizations interested in participating in a new internship program. For more information e-mail Jane Reid, YSU professor of marketing and director of YSU's Center for Nonprofit Leadership, at jmreid@ysu.edu or call at (330) 941-1870.

SMARTS features Juvenile Justice art

SMARTS Center in downtown Youngstown, 258 West Federal Plaza, will open an exhibit of artwork by students at the Juvenile Justice Detention Center in Youngstown 5 p.m. Wednesday.

Scholarship for future law student

Applications for the Judge Sidney Rigelhaupt and bert Rigelhaupt Pre-law Scholarship are available through the Political Science Department, Room 444 in DeBartolo Hall. The scholarship is available to students in all colleges of YSU who are planning to attend law school. The application is also available by visiting www.yosu.edu/finaid.

Williamson College of Business Administration

Williamson Symposium
Tuesday, March 28
 9:30 a.m., 11:00 a.m. & 2:00 p.m.
 Lunch Presentation: *RSVP 330-941-3064*
The Butler Institute of American Art
Zona Auditorium

Where in the World are our students & faculty?

- Czech Republic and Hungary** - Bon Voyage to 13 business students and 4 faculty traveling to the Czech Republic and Hungary. The trip is sponsored by the "Emerging Markets Initiative" grant awarded by the U.S. Department of Education.
- Washington, DC** -- Congratulations to Daniel Flaningan, Jessie Kinsley, Gary Mariano, Elizabeth Nelson, and David Quillin, MBA students, for competing at the George Washington University International Case Competition. YSU is one of twenty schools chosen to compete from around the world.
- Fort Wayne, Indiana** -- Congratulations to our Human Resource Management team who placed third out of 16 teams in the statewide Human Resource Games. Dr. Stan Guzell, faculty advisor, will be traveling to Fort Wayne in April with students, Brian Whitfield, Heather Novak, and Chris Solvesky, for the Human Resource regional games.
- Sao Paulo, Brazil** -- Dr. Mark Toncar will be a visiting professor at the University of Sao Paulo in Brazil from March 27-April 1.

For additional updates please check: www.wcba.yosu.edu

Patrick Calhoun, '84
 Former President & Chief Operating Officer of Intercontinental Manufacturing YSU Alumnus

Patrick Calhoun is the former President & Chief Operating Officer of Intercontinental Manufacturing (IMCO), the sole source supplier to the US Government of Mk 80 series bombs and the aluminum-forging supplier to the Aerospace Industry. He joined the company as Director of Finance in 1996 and, after holding several positions was named IMCO's President in 1999. During his tenure as President, he grew the company from \$40 million to nearly \$150 million in annual revenues by establishing an environment emphasizing clear vision, strong leadership, and the aggressive pursuit of new market opportunities.

IMCO continued to expand and improve its market share and to experience financial growth and success until its acquisition in September 2003 by General Dynamics' Ordnance & Tactical Systems Division. At that time, Mr. Calhoun left the company to pursue other opportunities. He is currently working with former IMCO staff members on a start-up company.

Prior to joining IMCO, Mr. Calhoun spent seven years with Marine Mechanical Corporation of Euclid, Ohio and four years with Goodyear Aerospace of Akron, Ohio. Mr. Calhoun holds a B.S. in B.A. degree from Youngstown State University.

For more information, please contact Christine Shelton, Coordinator of External Relations, at 330-941-3068 or cgshelton@ysu.edu.

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KENT STATE UNIVERSITY

Senate committee OKs 'guest worker' immigration program

By: Dave Montgomery
KNIGHT RIDDER NEWSPAPERS
(KRT)

WASHINGTON — The Senate Judiciary Committee on Monday approved a comprehensive immigration bill that would create a foreign guest-worker program and put millions of illegal immigrants on track toward permanent residency and U.S. citizenship.

The Republican-controlled committee voted 12-6 to advance legislation that embraces key elements of a bipartisan bill crafted by Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., and Sen. Edward Kennedy, D-Mass., a member of the committee.

"Considering all of the hurdles and all of the pitfalls it's a good result," said Sen. Arlen Specter, R-Pa., the committee chairman, who joined three other Republicans and eight Democrats in supporting the measure. Other GOP members supporting the bill were Lindsey Graham of South Carolina, Mike DeWine of Ohio, and Sam Brownback of Kansas.

The Senate was scheduled to begin debate on immigration on Tuesday but delayed the issue until later in the week. Nevertheless,

Specter pressed committee members to finish the comprehensive measure by the end of the day on Monday to meet a deadline imposed by Majority Leader Bill Frist, R-Tenn.

Although Specter expressed confidence that the measure offered bipartisan appeal that could win a majority of votes in the Senate, it differs sharply from a bill passed by the House of Representatives, which calls for toughened enforcement, including the creation of a 700-mile fence along the Southwest border.

Fanned by election-year politics, immigration is one of the nation's most volatile issues, with the public and Congress deeply divided between those calling for tougher enforcement and pro-immigrant groups who seek to protect the estimated 12 million aliens now in the United States illegally.

The committee bill would enable illegal immigrants in the country as of Jan. 7, 2004, to obtain visas and stay in the country for six years while they apply for permanent residency by paying fines and back taxes and demonstrating a proficiency in English and civics. At Specter's insistence, they would have to "wait in line"

behind the more than 3 million applicants now seeking green cards.

Under the guest-worker program, up to 400,000 foreign workers a year could come into the country for up to six years to hold low-skilled jobs bypassed by U.S. workers. They also could apply for permanent residency and citizenship.

The committee also agreed to a pilot program that would allow up to 1.5 million undocumented immigrants over a five-year period to hold agricultural jobs under temporary visas. They, too, could apply for green cards to become permanent residents. Sen. Dianne Feinstein, D-Calif., said that program would ensure a source of legal workers for thousands of agricultural jobs now largely held by undocumented workers drawing low wages.

Committee members, rejecting a more hard-line approach by the House, voted against proposed criminal penalties on illegal immigrants. They approved an amendment by Sen. Richard Durbin, D-Ill., to shield church and charitable groups from criminal prosecution for providing aid to illegal immigrants.

The panel also voted to nearly double the number of border patrol agents, calling for 12,000 more over the next five years, to bring the force to 23,000.

Nearly 60 percent of U.S. citizens oppose allowing illegal aliens to apply for legal temporary-worker status, according to an NBC News-Wall Street Journal poll. A Time survey found that three-fourths of Americans favor more border safeguards.

Continuing a chain of recent massive demonstrations across America, several thousand immigrants and activists gathered at the sunlit West Front of the Capitol to demand greater legal protections and denounce the House bill, which threatened illegal immigrants with felony prison sentences.

Demonstrators joined hands to sing "We Shall Overcome," the anthem from America's civil rights protests, and brandished signs proclaiming "We are America" and "We are all immigrants." Many were undocumented immigrants who spoke little or no English.

President Bush, calling immigration one of the most important issues of his pres-



Thousands gathered to join in on the immigrant hunger strike and peace march as they waved signs and flags during a rally outside Senator Dianne Feinstein office in downtown San Francisco on Monday, March 27, 2006. (Bob Larson/Contra Costa Times/KRT)

idency, is urging Congress to enact a three-pronged approach comprising improved border security, aggressive enforcement at the workplace and a guest-worker program to give U.S. businesses a steady supply of low-skilled workers.

Bush hasn't fully defined his plan, but administration officials have said his guest-worker plan would cover both foreigners who want to come to the U.S. to work and aliens now in the country illegally, provided they

pay substantial fines and meet other conditions.

The president underscored his demand for revisions in a speech Monday before several dozen newly naturalized citizens in Washington.

"Completing a comprehensive bill is not going to be easy," he said. "It will require all of us in Washington to make tough choices and compromises. And that is exactly what the American people sent us here to do."

Sex column kick-started a young career

By: Erica Dietsche
THE RECORD
HACKENSACK, N.J.

"(I'm) v. noticeable," Natalie Krinsky wrote in an e-mail as we confirmed our coffee date. She wasn't kidding.

Krinsky, 23, has earned national attention and acclaim for her writing. While a student at Yale University, she penned a sex column called "Sex and the (Elm) City" that received hundreds of thousands of Internet hits, landed her a feature in The New York Times and earned her a book deal with Hyperion. The book, "Chloe Does Yale," a fictional account of the life of a Yale University sex columnist named Chloe Carrington, comes out in paperback Tuesday.

Now she's turning her book into a screenplay, writing a second novel and working on television development projects. All this makes her the Candace Bushnell of the twentysomething set.

"Oh, I'm so flattered when I get comparisons to her," she says, beaming. "She makes great money and has great shoes."

On a cold, windy Friday recently at Joe, a tiny coffee shop where she likes to write, Krinsky seems warm,

smart, the kind of woman everyone wants as her best friend. She is articulate, thoughtful and intelligent, but not above saying "That's hot!" and laughing when a strand of her curly, dark red hair falls into her mouth.

Over regular coffees ("You always can tell the quality of a coffee shop by the quality of its regular coffee," she says), Krinsky shares her story.

"Sex and the (Elm) City" began in 2001 when Krinsky was a 19-year-old sophomore. A friend of a friend who edited Scene, the Friday entertainment section of the Yale Daily News, asked her to submit a few sex columns as a favor.

"He had never seen my writing, we never talked about writing," she recalls. "I figured I'd write a column or two until he found someone else."

The editor, Chris Rovzar, did not need to look elsewhere; her column was an immediate success. "We had no idea what a stir it would create and the reach it would have," Krinsky says. "We were exploring, there were no expectations. Now, there are expectations."

She's referring to the mass proliferation of sex columns on college campuses across the country that followed her column's suc-

cess. "It's nice to be credited with starting a trend," Krinsky says. "But everyone brings their own spin to it."

Does she consider herself a role model? Krinsky looks surprised. "No one has ever asked me that before," she says, and pauses a minute before answering. "No, I don't consider myself a role model. I'm more of a prototype than a role model."

Krinsky was not the first college student to write a sex column, but she was the first to take an "average bear" approach to writing about sex and relationships. "I'm just normal. I wasn't, and I'm not, any more or less experienced than anyone else," she says. She aimed to be inclusive, eschewing columns bashing boyfriends or being graphic just to shock people. She wanted to capture an accurate look at collegiate relationships. Krinsky credits her success with the fact that she was careful to avoid stereotypes. "It wasn't girls are that way, guys are this way," it was something that everyone could relate to.

Of course, not everyone appreciated her efforts. She received many insulting e-mails and comments. The ones that were the most hurtful, she recalls, criticized her upbringing. "You

can judge me," Krinsky says, "but taking it to the next level is wrong."

At first, she says, her parents "freaked out" that their daughter was the school sex columnist. "But they never said, 'You can't do this.' They were just worried about my well-being. Eventually they came around. They are very supportive. They certainly didn't think it would lead where it did."

Neither did she. "I was never worried. I never realized what I was doing. I never thought to use a pseudonym, never thought that it would impact my own life in any way."

The column did not affect her grades or damage her reputation on campus. "My work was never brought up in the classroom," she says. "Occasionally, a professor might say that they were a fan of my column, but it never went beyond that."

Though Krinsky helped make writing about sex for college publications acceptable (and potentially very lucrative), its stigmas linger. Heather K. Strack, 20, from Englewood, Colo., writes a sex column for the Dartmouth Free Press. Strack says she's very concerned about what others might think of her work.

"I write on my resume

'columnist' instead of 'sex columnist,' and when asked, I say I write about 'social issues.' That said, none of my columns are so risqué that if others were to read them they would be offended," she says. "I recognize that many of my professors do read the DFP and I do not want to threaten my academic livelihood. However, simply the term 'sex columnist' implies a certain level of promiscuity, a level of promiscuity that I don't think is a fair association but exists nonetheless."

Krinsky agrees. "When you say you're a sex columnist, it's easy for people to say you're a whore. College is about finding out who you are. Sex and dating are one of the ways, granted prominent ways that help us do that. Going into college, who we are and what we expect are very different things. Mitigating those differences is the ultimate goal, the ultimate challenge and the ultimate success."

Krinsky, who speaks the

way she writes, isn't convinced that she rocketed to fame because people were surprised to hear of sexual escapades at an Ivy League school. "Ivy League students are just like anyone else, maybe with higher SAT scores, but maybe not."

One of her theories about her work's appeal is that "college is a place that people are afraid to explore." It can't hurt that "Chloe Does Yale" features many of the columns that caught people's attention, though Krinsky is quick to say that she is not Chloe and that she is not necessarily her column. "That voice is more out there, defined, opinionated," she says.

Does she have any regrets? "None. I'm too lucky," she says, smiling.

And while sex is the theme of her work, she says she's learned more about people than anything else. "I'm no better in bed now, at least I don't think so," she says with a laugh.

POLICE BLOTTER

A Youngstown State University police officer discovered that an unknown suspect spray painted the word 'penis' on the wall of the Inner Core Walkway on March 26, according to police reports.


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IDOL, continued from page 8

"Walking After Midnight" like a pro, which by then she practically was.

With "Idol," the stars are no longer delivered to us, shined up and prepackaged. That's also part of the show's genius, realizing that we like to watch the sausage getting made.

From the excruciating auditions to the rookie mistakes in the opening rounds to the "Idol" winner's debut CD almost always a million-selling, critically panned, forgettable recording we watch a star being born, and the procedure is about as pretty as birth itself.

Extending this questionable analogy, that would make judges Randy Jackson and Paula Abdul the proud parents, judge Simon Cowell the midwife and host Ryan Seacrest the PR director of the hospital (the only way Seacrest could ape Dick Clark's career more closely is if he dyed his hair jet black).

Cowell is the show's one crucial presence. As a successful producer and businessman, he acts as "Idol's" economic conscience. He is forever reminding the singers not to choose "safe" songs a far more withering rebuke than his better known, "That was just horrible," because failure to take risks means failure to sell records. And selling is the only way to measure stardom.

Sustained risk-taking and consistent selling take years, but it speaks well to the "Idol" format that it has launched a wave of megastars in Canada, Great Britain and other countries.

The first winner here, Kelly Clarkson, has become a polished and creative performer and Grammy winner. She also can't be bothered to discuss her time on "Idol," meaning she truly has become a diva.

Compare "Idol" with

another musical-talent show currently airing on USA Network, "Nashville Star." Now in its fourth season, "Nashville Star" has minted some budding country-music artists but is, to put it mildly, not having the impact on America, or even Nashville, that "Idol" is.

Besides the obvious reason it's on cable "Nashville Star" suffers from two crucial defects. Unlike "Idol," which can feature Southern talent like last season's winner Carrie Underwood and runner-up Bo Bice, "Nashville Star" plays only to the country crowd. Also, "Nashville Star" refuses to let people see the Jimmy Dean getting made, and that's just bad TV.

Last week's premiere had less than two minutes of off-key auditions, and then it was on to the star search, featuring only 10 finalists, one of whom was kicked off that night by the panel of judges.

As she left, one of the judges assured her that "we love ya!" and co-host Wynonna comforted the blubbery contestant: "They say it's God's timing, not our own."

"Idol" doesn't act as though losing is delayed winning. This isn't a basketball tournament; it's a once in a lifetime shot at stardom that almost nobody on the show thought they would get. (That's why the presence of 17-year-old Paris Bennett, the amazing, TV-ready, song-belted prodigy, feels like a cheat: As the granddaughter of Sounds of Blackness great Ann Nesby, Bennett was probably going to get her chance anyway, "Idol" or no "Idol.")

The endless drama of the show revolves around whether each singer is really ready for that life-changing, potentially soul-quenching head trip or was destined all along to be a lounge act.

No one embodies this drama more this season than Taylor Hicks, the 29-year-old dues-paying nightclub singer with the Steve Martin hair.

Last week he electrified the "Idol" studio audience with an over-the-top, Gloria Gaynor-empowerment version of Stevie Wonder's "Living for the City."

Judge Cowell, in one of his trademark backhanded compliments, declared, "Taylor, your appeal is you're like every dad who's ever gotten drunk at a wedding gone on stage and sang. The difference is, you can sing!"

And he can be a star if he wants to be. But Hicks still seems a little too amazed at his success, when at this point in his career he ought to be expecting it. There seems to be a question like that hanging over every contestant, propelling them forward, luring us back to TV's hit-and-sausage factory.

SEASONS, continued from page 8

wasn't like waking up five minutes before your alarm goes off, terrified by the danger — and mandatory pants-wearing — that will follow getting out of bed.

• July and August — "Interminable Swelter": Just as we're enjoying the warm weather, things take an ironic turn as temperatures shoot up to levels where frying things on driveways would be practical if not for the health risks involved. "Interminable Swelter" does have one benefit though — citizens of France use this season to kill large amounts of their elderly. In America, we keep our elderly refrigerated like large slabs of beef, and we're forced to sit inside with them during these months and listen to them complain about our haircuts.

• September and October — "Prank Summer": "Prank Summer" is a welcome change from the temperatures of "Interminable Swelter," but unfortunately this is the time of the year where most of us go back to being trapped inside of buildings. This imprisonment can make even the sanest person

look back fondly on the months of July and August, when climbing into a parked car was akin to willingly sitting in a pizza oven. Even if we do make it outside, the shortening days make it so vampires can come out earlier, which is never a good thing for the average vampire-hating Northern Hemispherian.

• November and December — "Stuffsma's": I really don't remember anything about these months besides eating a lot and getting presents, so I have dubbed them "Stuffsma's." During "Stuffsma's," people are generally too busy dealing with unwanted family members and buying unwanted presents, so the meteorological happenings of "Stuffsma's" are never really noticed.

• January and February — "Absolute Zero": The direct opposite of "Interminable Swelter," "Absolute Zero" is slightly better if only because we aren't encouraged to go outside during this season to burn off several layers of skin. We aren't completely safe, though; in this season

nature literally attacks our roads and walkways with elements that destroy the friction we humans love. I'm a huge fan of friction, as well as traction, but I find it hard to judge "Absolute Zero" so harshly when many of its properties are school-closing. Unfortunately, the college experience is hardly affected by this season; the University doesn't seem to close unless weather reports include "mother of all storms" and "repent."

You'll find that my system is accurate, and in using it you will avoid the frustration of our traditional, inaccurate seasons. Despite all this, we're still at the mercy of our Sun, which throws things into orbit without even asking. If I had my way, the sun would revolve around us, just like when believing anything other than that was a sin. It's been bossing us around for far too long.

Bob Mackey thinks that Indian summer is a Navajo curse. He can be reached at (330) 941-1913.

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Penguin Review Literary Magazine

- Editor-in-chief also earns part of his/her tuition.

Neon Yearbook Positions

- Photographer, assistant editor, design editor, copy editor
- Neon staff earn part of their tuition.

Where to pick up an application:
 Applications are available from Lynn Haug in the Kilcawley Staff Office located on the upper level of Kilcawley Center. One application applies for all three publications—simply check the position(s) you are most interested in.

APPLICATION DEADLINE:
 1 p.m. Tuesday, April 11, 2006.
 Interviews will be scheduled for mid-April.

- ▶ 3/28 — Baseball @ Toledo
- ▶ 3/28 — Women's Tennis @ Duquesne
- ▶ 3/29 — Softball @ Toledo
- ▶ 3/29 — Baseball @ Ohio

YSU FOOTBALL

Heacock gets four more years

By: Justin Smolkovich
 SPORTS REPORTER

Football coach Jon Heacock signed a four-year contract extension Friday that will solidify the coach as leader of the Penguins through the 2009 season.

Heacock owns a 32-24 mark at YSU and lead the team to finish last season with an 8-3 record overall. He also earned the Gateway Conference Bruce Graddock Coach-of-the-Year honors, was a finalist for the Eddie Robinson Coach-of-the-Year award and was named Division I-AA Region Four Coach-of-the-Year.

Heacock, who took the reins of the Penguin football team in January 2001, said staying in the area was key to his career and his personal life.

"My family and I are very excited to continue our relationships with our extended family of assistants, coaches, players, athletic staff and administration here at YSU," Heacock said in a press release. "Youngstown State University and the Mahoning Valley are places near and dear to my heart because the people are absolutely tremendous."

Heacock contract, which includes a \$115,000 base salary, will be incentive laden. The performance-contingent incentives will come as a result of achievements such as winning the Gateway Conference, winning the national championship and maintaining

YSU's high Academic Progress Rate.

Heacock guided the Penguins to their first ever Gateway Conference title last season and helped the Penguins finish with a ranking of 13. The Penguins started the season unranked.

Athletic director Ron Strollo said that maintaining the Penguin's prestige as one of the most storied I-AA schools in the nation was a major factor in extending Heacock's tenure at YSU.

"The classy manner in which he has represented the school on and off the field speaks volumes for his commitment to one of the most well respected Division I-AA programs in the nation," Strollo said in a press release.

The four-year extension will add years onto Heacock's already lengthy stay at YSU. Heacock joined the Penguins staff in 1990 and continued through 1996, leaving to take a job at Indiana University. He returned to YSU in 2000, spending six of his years at YSU as the defensive coordinator, before becoming the fifth head coach in YSU's history in 2001.

Strollo said Heacock's extension will help when recruiting athletes.

"I think when you are trying to sell a university to students, it is very important to have continuity at the leadership positions," Strollo said.

Call Justin Smolkovich at (330) 941-3758



Photo Courtesy of John Heacock, YSU's head football coach, signed a four year contract extension on Friday. Heacock lead the penguins to a Gateway conference title last season.

YSU BASEBALL

Baseball uses extra innings to drop league foe Indianapolis



Photo Courtesy of Ron Stevens

Sophomore Ryan Sellman throws a pitch during a game this past weekend. The Penguins stand 8-11 overall and 2-1 in the Horizon League.

Youngstown State University's Erich Diedrich hit an RBI single in the 12th inning, one of 22 YSU hits, as the Penguins defeated Butler 11-10 Sunday afternoon at Bulldog Park.

The Penguins also won the continued game from Saturday 7-3 by scoring four runs in the 11th inning. The wins improved YSU to 8-11 overall and 2-1 in the Horizon League.

Diedrich had five hits and five RBIs between the two games while Brandon Caipen homered twice in game two. Sophomore Ryan Sellman picked up both wins in relief.

In the continued game from Saturday that was delayed at the start of the 10th inning, Mike Turjanica walked with the bases loaded and Caipen hit a three-run double in the 11th to put YSU up 7-3. Butler led 2-0 before Diedrich hit a two-run single in the seventh to tie the score. Diedrich then singled home J.D. Hannan in the ninth to put YSU up 3-2, but Butler's

Stephen Gill tied the score after reaching on an error, advancing to third on a sacrifice and a wild pitch and scoring on a two-out infield single.

Hannan had three hits in the game while Diedrich, Charles Schultz and John Koehnlein had two hits apiece. Butler's Tony Barnes had a game-high four hits while Joe Pauley had three.

Ryan Sellman earned the win, throwing 2 2/3 scoreless innings of relief.

In the series finale, YSU rallied from a 9-5 deficit with four runs in the ninth inning to send the game into extra frames. Koehnlein and Josh Page delivered RBI singles and Brent Parks came through with a two-run double to left center.

Caipen and Barnes homered in the 10th to keep the score knotted at 10, but Diedrich singled home Schultz and Sellman retired the Bulldogs in order in the 12th for his second win of the day.

The Penguins will play at Toledo 2 p.m. Tuesday.



Hockey season ends 21-35-5



Jambar/ Katie Libecco

Forward Ben Manny takes possession of the puck in a system during Friday's game, which they won 6-0. The SteelHounds went on to defeat the Ft. Worth Brahmas on Saturday night 4-2 before a sellout crowd. The inaugural season for the SteelHounds ended on their second three game winning streak of the season, finishing their inaugural season 24-35. Jeff Christian was named team MVP, with 107 points overall this season. Other honors for the team included naming Kelly Sickavish as defenseman of the year and Chris Shaffer as rookie of the year.



YSU SPORTS IN BRIEF

YSU Hockey Moves to Division

Boardman, Ohio (Thursday, March 23, 2006) - Youngstown State University's Club Hockey Team has been granted Division 1 status by the American Collegiate Hockey Association for the 2006-2007 season.

The ACHA approved the Penguins' move up from Division 2, where they just finished their inaugural season at the Club level. YSU finished with a record of 13-8-0 this season, which included capturing their AHA conference championship. In the process, the Penguins will be featured in a brand new conference.

They will compete against the University of Pittsburgh, Slippery Rock University, Duquesne University, the Indiana University of Pennsylvania, John Carroll University, and Washington and Jefferson College.

College Hockey Mid-America will conduct a sixteen-game conference schedule and a conference playoff tournament. The Ice Zone will host next year's ACHA Division 1 National Championship Tournament. Earlier this month, Rhode Island defeated Penn State 3-1 to win this year's National Title.

Source: Ice Zone

Tennis: Raiders Top Penguins, 6-1

The YSU men's tennis team dropped its first Horizon League match of the season to Wright State 6-1 Sunday at the Boardman Tennis Center. Sophomore Ryan Trapp was the lone winner for the Penguins defeating Dan Sandersingh, 6-7, 4-6, 11-9 at No. 5 singles.

In other singles action, at No. 1 Lance Koetter defeated Scott Kathary 6-7 (3), 6-2, (9-7), at No. 2 Nick Camalleri beat Tom Barth 6-2, 3-6, 4-6, at No. 3 Craig Smith beat Brian Meek 4-6, 4-6, at No. 4 Brian Butt defeated Jason Trapp 1-6, 3-6, and at No. 6 Michael Hall downed Sarantis Karousis 0-6, 1-6.

Jason Trapp and Ryan Trapp beat Sandersingh and Drew Jackson 8-2 at No. 2 doubles for YSU's only win.

The Penguins play next at Butler on Saturday at 2 p.m.

Source: www.ysusports.com

LOCAL MUSIC

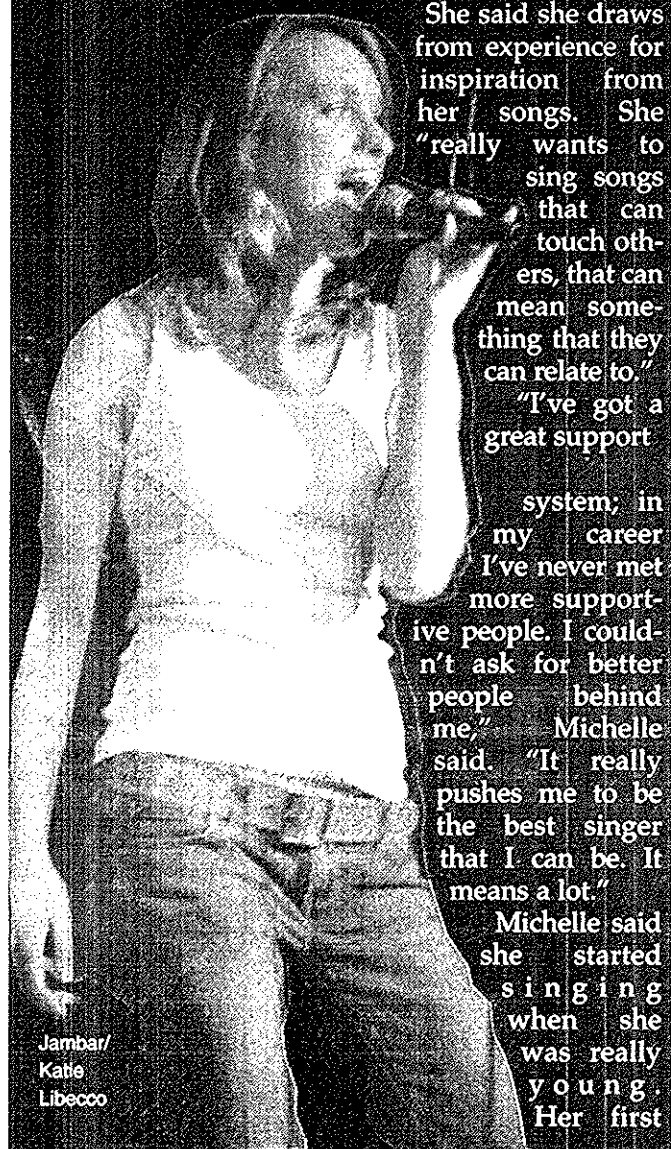
Country sensations shine at Cellar

By: Katie Libecco
COPY EDITOR

For those who frequent The Cellar in Struthers, it's not very often the club is filled with cowboy hats and rawhide boots. But Friday night, the area's local country crowd came out to support two young and hopeful country artists Sara Michelle and headliner Kellie Lynne.

Though the girls are young, Michelle is 18 and Lynne is 21, their sets included original music and covers while they graced the stage with a country charm and warmed the club. When Kellie invited Michelle onstage to help her sing Gretchen Wilson's "Redneck Woman," their voices belted the song while their young personalities lit up the stage. There was no denying the similarities the girls possess — including an incredible amount of talent.

Michelle, who opened with Lynne for the first time Friday, hails from nearby Hermitage, Pa. and attends Pennsylvania State University's Shenango Campus. Her set was performed as a solo over pre-recorded backing.



Jambar/
Katie
Libecco

She said she draws from experience for inspiration from her songs. She "really wants to sing songs that can touch others, that can mean something that they can relate to."

"I've got a great support system, in my career I've never met more supportive people. I couldn't ask for better people behind me," Michelle said. "It really pushes me to be the best singer that I can be. It means a lot."

Michelle said she started singing when she was really young. Her first

big performance was at a karaoke contest, where she lost to a Willie Nelson impersonator.

But until recently, her dreams were hundreds of miles from Nashville, in New York on Broadway. Michelle did musical theater in her high school, the New Castle Playhouse. She also got experience singing with vocal academies like the Dana Vocal Academy.

"I was going to Kent State for theater, then John Carter Cash [singer Johnny Cash's son] called me a week before I went to school. I was invited to go to Nashville and record or go to college. I was rejected from just about everything for musical theater — I don't know if I wasn't right, or it was my voice. But this just felt like my calling," Michelle said. "I had always been really comfortable with the country music sound. I grew up on it. There's meaning in the songs, and I love telling stories through music. I really think the crowd can relate to that."

The young girl seems a little overwhelmed by the attention she gets onstage. When the crowd cheered after one song, she laughed and gushed, "Thanks guys! I'm just so happy when people clap for me!"

Michelle said she met Lynne when she opened for the Povertyneck Hillbillies' show at The Cellar last month. The show was arranged by The Cellar, but the connection between the acts was great.

"They were a really nice band. They were very sweet and very, very encouraging," Michelle said. "I would love to perform with her again, we exchanged numbers and everything, so I hope so. She was great, so nice. Sometimes in this business it's rare to find people like that."

The similarities between the two young performers seem endless. Lynne also went to college for theater, at Indiana University of Pennsylvania, but left to pursue singing. They are both currently waitresses and list Martina McBride and Patsy Cline as their biggest musical influences.

"I worship their music, I love it. Their voices and their songs are just great," Michelle said, while Lynne added Shania Twain and Faith Hill to her favorites.

"We actually talked before the show and we were like, 'Oh my God.' It's just that we have so much in common," Lynne said. "She's just really down to Earth and it was really nice to meet her. She's very talented. I can't wait to see how she gets going."

Lynne, from Lower Burrell, Pa., said she has worked on putting together her five-piece band for two years.

"We put up ads online at different musician Web sites, fliers at some of the local music stores. I actually met my keyboard player at the Keith

Urban show — he's from Erie, so it's about a two hour drive for him. We met some people through friends and family too," Lynne said. "We kept going through band members like any other band. It's hard to find good ones that can stay close and be dedicated."

Lynne said she grew up singing country, doing talent shows, senior citizens shows, "little country acts all the time." She said she began singing "basically as soon as I began talking," and her first performance was a second grade talent show when she sang Dolly Parton's "I Will Always Love You."

"There's definitely home video of it. We watch it and laugh at it all the time," Lynne said.

The good-natured teasing about the second grade performance is just an indication of Lynne's support system.

She said that they have been there for her "all the way."

"My family has been there for me since day one. My mom does the booking for the shows and my dad does the sound and lights. I can't thank my friends and family enough for their support," Lynne said.

Though she went to college for theater, she said her heart just isn't in it. She would rather pursue singing, she said. Lynne said her dream is to "break into the music industry, land a record deal and go on tour and perform." She said she's currently working on finding a record deal.

Call Katie Libecco at (330) 941-3758.

BELOW: Kellie Lynne, 21, performs a ballad Friday night at The Cellar.

BOTTOM RIGHT: Rising country artist Sara Michelle opens for Lynne during the performance.



Jambar/
Katie
Libecco

COMMENTARY

A man for more seasons

By: Bob Mackey
COLUMNIST

The recent passing of March 20 marked the beginning of spring, an event that I can only call a joke on a cosmic level. As I write this, temperatures are in the mid-20s, and people are dying of exposure on cross-campus dogsled expeditions, all for cups of coffee. Wandering polar bears — straying from their Alaskan homes — have camped out in front of our campus-adjacent prison, eating anyone the state would dare to release on "good behavior." While prison overcrowding is a major problem in America, my main point is that it's very cold outside, and too cold to be labeled as "spring." Sure, scientists may tell you that certain astronomical phenomena designate seasons, but most scientists have horrible beards and, therefore, should not be trusted.

Why can't we adopt a more progressive season system? We've produced results on a larger scale, changing our chronological terms B.C. and A.D. to the secular B.C.E. and C.E., even though they still use the estimated birth of Jesus

as their starting point. After all, not everyone is a Christian, but most people believe that Christians exist and use religious events as a basis of their calendars.

"During 'Stuffsmas,' people are generally too busy dealing with unwanted family members and buying unwanted presents, so the meteorological happenings of 'Stuffsmas' are never really noticed."

Bob Mackey

There may not be any God to extract from our current seasons, but I feel that a little more nuance can be added by breaking our year down into more than four parts, and I've been kind enough to provide this new system we should follow. Please note that this only applies to the Northern Hemisphere of the Earth, because we are the best hemisphere. You inferior Southern Hemisphere people will just have to deal with your crazy, backwards seasons.

• March and April — "Bi-Polar Bastard": Starting with where we are now, I designate this season "Bi-Polar Bastard." During "Bi-Polar Bastard," one can expect snow, rain

hurricanes, tornados, heat stroke, hypothermia, locusts, and nuclear fallout. What's it going to be like outside today? Roll a die. If the result is greater than zero, you will be com-

pletely unprepared. "Bi-Polar Bastard" is a prime example that nature hates us, and that we should contain it as much as possible as well as find a way to make weather illegal.

• May and June — "Habitable Earth": It is exclusively during "Habitable Earth" that we find living on this planet bearable; unfortunately, it only lasts one-sixth of the year. Most of "Habitable Earth" is spent barbecuing, opening pools, and polishing boats, but any delight that could be had during this period is eliminated by the dread of the following season. "Habitable Earth" would be enjoyable if it

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AMERICAN IDOL

'American Idol' is hotter than ever, but why?

By: Aaron Barnhart
KNIGHT RIDDER NEWSPAPERS

There must be a good reason why "American Idol" is not only the biggest show in television, but the hottest as well.

From the minute Season 5 began in January, "Idol's" ratings have been up, way up, over Season 4. About 3 million more are watching, a spike of 11 percent.

In January "Idol" forced President Geena Davis out of ABC's White House and into an undisclosed location. Last month it reduced NBC's Winter Olympics to a three-ring circus.

It's unheard of for a reality show with "Idol's" mileage to be gaining steam. Why is it?

Not even Mike Darnell knows. The Fox network's dark prince of reality TV (besides "Idol," he has "When Animals Attack" to answer for) recently told the publication TelevisionWeek that the growing appeal of "American Idol" was "an almost unanswerable question."

Is it this year's talent pool? Can't be. It's no deeper than in seasons past, no



Photo courtesy of KRT Campus

matter what host Ryan Seacrest says. One theory out there is that, unlike TV's last phenom, ABC's "Who Wants to Be a Millionaire," Fox didn't run "Idol" into the ground with repeated airings. It's on for just four months a year. Then it's gone.

In show business as in much of life, absence does make the heart grow fonder. But that hardly explains "Idol's" massive and growing appeal.

Here's my theory. Americans have a lot of choices for music today. They can listen to commercial radio, satellite radio or their iPod mix. They can buy music from artists under contract to major labels or music just in the niches that interest them.

But a singing star is still made only one way.

"American Idol" is magnetic for the same reason that "Your Hit Parade" was magnetic on radio and early TV after the war. It's why Arthur Godfrey and his "Talent Scouts" became so powerful in the 1950s.

"Idol" has grasped a basic truth: Mass taste didn't go away when the CD burner was invented.

With no help from the recording industry or radio, it has replicated the hitmaker environment that we all took part in during our youth.

The difference between then and now is that Godfrey wouldn't let anyone on his show until they were ready. I have a CD of Patsy Cline's first appearance on Godfrey's "Talent Scouts," belting out

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