

# THE Jambar

THE STUDENT VOICE OF YOUNGSTOWN STATE UNIVERSITY

Cavaliers earn first trip to NBA Finals see page 4



VOL. 89 NO. 59

Thursday, June 7, 2007

www.thejambar.com

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### YSU News

#### Adult preview day

The Adult Preview Day will be Thursday June 7 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. in the Ohio Room of Kilcawley Center. Adults interested in learning more about YSU are invited to attend.

#### YSU Trustees set June schedule

The YSU Board of Trustees has set their June schedule. The meetings will be held June 19 at 8 a.m. in room 2068 of Kilcawley Center, June 21 at 8 a.m. in the Board Meeting Room of Tod Hall and June 29 at 3 p.m. in the Board Meeting Room.

#### WEB EXCLUSIVES thejambar.com

- FBI training
- Conference courses



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YSU

## Wick-Pollock garden no longer secret

Richard Louis Boccia  
MANAGING EDITOR

Student and staff volunteers replanted the Wick-Pollock Inn garden Saturday using leftover funds from the Student Government Association operating budget. Rather than letting the funds expire with the fiscal year, SGA spent the money on landscape consulting services, two wooden benches, flowers and other plants.

Erienne Raib, SGA vice president for university affairs, said the "transformation" of the garden shows the direct effect students can have on campus.

Thirty students and classified staff worked over four days to clear the overgrown weeds, till the soil and mulch the flower beds, which are now full of purple petunias and other annual plants.

Annuals will bloom until the winter frost and need to be replanted next year. Future volunteers may plant perennial flowers, which grow for multiple seasons. Annuals were deemed the quickest, cheapest way to demonstrate the garden's potential, replacing weeds with colorful flowers.

To graduate student Bob McGovern and many others on campus, it truly was a secret garden.

"I didn't even know it existed," said McGovern, until he saw pictures that SGA Parliamentarian Chad Miller posted on Facebook.com. McGovern is

the graduate studies representative for SGA.

"It's thrilling to see the changes from beginning to end," Raib said, considering how long the garden sat in disrepair.

Seniors Amy Dattilio and Andre Ptichkin were on site Saturday, carrying mulch in buckets and spreading it by hand. Both are electrical engineering majors.

The garden's fountain will need to be rewired, said Ptichkin, but the drain works.

Miller described the "huge outpouring of support" for the revitalization, which includes a half-price discount from landscaping consultant Kridler Gardens in Homeworth, Ohio.

For many, the revived garden is more than a study spot. Raib said she has heard many stories from staff and faculty about picnicking there as children. Miller said the project wants pictures from the garden's heyday, but Maag Library and the Mahoning Valley Historical Society have found none.

Groundskeeper Larry Tooker is donating his time and expertise. He worked twelve years as horticulturist for Mill Creek MetroParks. "I'm amazed how dedicated these students are," Tooker said. At the start of the project, they moved seven small dump truck loads in four hours. The work continues. "A garden's never finished," Tooker said. He plans to water twice a



Photo courtesy of YSU Student Government

Volunteers work to renovate the garden near the Wick-Pollock Inn.

week, and there are more steps to clean, saplings to clear and soil to be tilled.

A walking path may exist under the dense grove that blocks the three north entrances to the garden.

Old growth flourishes beside the new plants. Thick ivy hangs from the stone walls, trees and shrubs line the paths, and the garden's lily of the valley may have survived from Pollock's time, said Tooker.

According to Raib and Miller, the garden is older than the stone arch carved in dedication to Mary Wick-Pollock in 1930. Once the private park of a steel magnate, the garden is now a public space for students, with three sunken tiers of flower beds shaded by tall trees. A wooden trellis with grape leaves covers an alcove where SGA placed two new benches.

YOUNGSTOWN

## High gas prices make commute difficult

Laura Brown  
JAMBAR CONTRIBUTOR

Driving to class hits commuters hard this summer with high gas prices.

Sophomore Janine Marinelli said that she is definitely driving less due to the outrageous gas prices.

"Even though my parents usually pay for gas, I drive a Trailblazer, so they definitely want me to drive less. I work a minimum-wage job and it seems like the price of gas is counteracting my paycheck," Marinelli said.

Junior Kelly Monroe agrees. "I don't like to talk about it because I pretend it's not happening. All it does is start fights between me and my boyfriend about who is going to drive," Monroe said.

Junior Colleen Lozano said she complains about it all the time.

"I specifically got over-draft protection on my debit card," Lozano said, "because I know by filling my tank I shovel the rest of my money to the government."

According to the National Fuel Gauge Report, gas prices are now 30 cents higher than they were last year. Some students' driving is unaffected by inflation, however.

Freshman Perry Alexandrides said he has not changed his driving habits.

"I'm actually looking for a faster car right now," Alexandrides said. "I think it's pointless to complain about it because it's a necessity."

Luckily for students, there are ways to cut costs at the pump.



Jambar/ Jen Brown

**ABOVE:** Karen Coldwell fills up her car at the Fifth Avenue Sunoco station on Wednesday.

John Boehm Jr., professor of German, suggests that students walk as much as possible, ride bikes, or carpool to avoid emptying their pockets for gas.

Senior Brett Johnson, who shells out close to \$40 on gas every week, drives without his air conditioning and always lets his tank empty before filling up.

"It's ridiculous," Johnson said.

#### Cheapest Local Gas Prices

Station	Address	Reg. Gas Price
Sunoco Sunoco Service Station	151 Struthers Liberty Rd Campbell, OH	\$2.96
Sunoco Sunoco Service Station	590 5th Ave Youngstown, OH	\$2.96
Unbranded Hubard Gas & Minima	175 Youngstown Hubbard Rd Hubbard, OH	\$2.98
Speedway Speedway 3377	806 W Liberty St Hubbard, OH	\$2.98
Shell True Energy North Energy LL	204 W Liberty St Hubbard, OH	\$2.98
Bp Bp Oil	2703 Belmont Ave Youngstown, OH	\$3.00

Source: AAA

Jambar/ Mike Minotti

"I don't understand it at all, and I'm basically willing to do anything to save money spent on gas," Johnson said.

YSU

## Noodles changing name, look for the fall

Grimilda Ocasio  
JAMBAR CONTRIBUTOR

Dining Services will reopen Noodles Restaurant as Pete's Place this fall, adding mascot-themed booths to the 3,000 square foot restaurant.

"It was time for Noodle's to get a face lift," said Catering Director Debbie Picchiotto.

Graduate Student Carmella Williams said, "It's a positive

change. We need something that will add pizzazz to the Kilcawley Center."

Director of Kilcawley Center Matt Novotny said, "We hope these changes will please the YSU community and others so they have a positive dining experience and become regular customers."

"The entrance into Pete's Place from the second level of the Kilcawley Center will also be handicap accessible," Novotny said, "and there



will be a new look to the entry-way between housing and the center."

General Manager of Dining Services Tom

Totterdale said that campus focus groups and surveys influenced the new look.

Hours are Monday through Friday, from 7:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. for the breakfast buffet and 10:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. for the lunch menu.

Pete's Place promises to have a welcoming atmosphere, fast service and an exciting menu.

YSU

## Exhibit opens eyes, minds

Sarah Sole  
NEWS EDITOR

Beth Farrow wishes that Americans could learn to view love from a 7-year-old's perspective. "Through the eyes of an innocent, the true meaning of love can come out," she said.

Education needs to begin at a young age, Farrow said. There needs to be constant open forums about homosexuality.

"No more hiding; no more being quieted. Until that barrier is broken, someone will always be made uncomfortable," she said.

Like Farrow, other individuals were able to contemplate diversity in sexuality and the family while viewing "Love Makes a Family," a touring exhibit shown at Youngstown State University this week in the Presidential Suites of Kilcawley Center.

The exhibit showed pictures and writings from gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered people and their families.

Farrow said exhibits like this are opportunities for all students, not just gays and lesbians. "It's very comforting. It's good to know that in an area like this we can be so open-minded."

Junior Nicole Peterson said she appreciated learning the individuals' stories and seeing what they have faced. "It was very powerful," she said.

"There's still a long way to go," Peterson said of the university's approach to diversity, "but I think they're hopefully headed in the right direction."

Junior John Clay said he was impressed with the parents' ability to speak publicly on the issue. By acting now, he said, the parents increase their children's chances of living in a more culturally diverse world. "They're trying so incredibly hard to make sure they're doing the best possible thing."

One student said the event needed more publicity.

Graduate student Vivianne Asturizaga said, "If I was not walking by, I wouldn't have come."

please see EXHIBIT see page 2

EXHIBIT, continued from page 1



Jambar/ Sarah Sole

Senior Beth Farrow browses through the touring photo exhibit during its stop at YSU

The exhibit was an eye-opener, Asturizaga said — all of the individuals in the photographs looked content.

David P. Colts, executive chair of the Pride Center of Greater Youngstown, said that the exhibit helps to make individuals more aware of the pluralism in our society.

"I think the images speak for themselves," Colts said, adding that though the photos are black and white, they have great depth of feeling.

Some students are pleased with the administration's encouragement.

"Everybody has been very supportive," said Brian Wells, graduate student and YSUnity member, "We'll have a good number of people."

Christy Campf, president of YSUnity and senior at YSU, agreed.

"I think a lot of doors have been opened," Campf said. "This is another way to bust stereotypes."

As a former student who attended YSU during the 80s, Colts recalls a time when the university was not so receptive.

Campus diversity has changed dramatically since when he attended YSU in 1984, Colts said. "There was really nothing for us. We kind of grouped. But there was no real voice for us on campus."

Diversity week set precedence for the university, Colts said.

"It gives me great pride as a pending YSU graduate to see how things have evolved," Colts said, adding that he plans to return to the university to pursue a major in studio art. "I have to applaud Youngstown State. We've come a long way."

Though pleased with current support, some individuals admit that improvements are still needed.

"We need to improve people's understanding of diversity," Wells said. The people that are least likely to attend the exhibit are the ones that should come, he said, adding that diversity is more than just a word.

"It just seems so simple when you're reading," Wells said, "That's how it should be. It shouldn't be such a big issue."

Colts also has ideas for the future.

Awareness needs to be fostered for faculty and staff members, he said. "Without that sensitivity we'll never rid ourselves of that prejudice. For YSUnity to operate as a whole it's necessary for every department on campus to in the least he said be aware."

The university could also offer homosexuality studies, he said.

Additionally, Colts said he would like to see YSUnity become more involved with advocacy. The HIV/AIDS issue also deserves attention, he said.

This particular exhibit is part of a larger collection of exhibits that focus on families, Wells said. The other exhibits tackle race, disability and mental health issues. Another exhibit shows images of all families.

Although there are no current plans to have the additional exhibits shown at the university, Wells said that he would love to see them here.

"Maybe this will kind of spark the interest," he said, adding that disabilities services could show the corresponding exhibit during diversity week.

"Love Makes a Family" will travel to eight locations, Paul Schwitzgebel, treasurer of Equality Ohio, said.

"It's really a matter of networking to find people who are interested. We have a vision of an Ohio where everyone feels at home," he said.

The Mahoning Valley has its own perception of gays and lesbians, Wells said. "I really think the photo exhibit will help to normalize gay and lesbian people and their families."

The exhibit will be open today from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Friday from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Viewers are encouraged to "sign out" with their names and opinions in a book that travels with the photos.

## YOUNGSTOWN

## Agencies hope zero tolerance will decrease violations, serious crimes

Shaiyla Hakeem

JAMBAR CONTRIBUTOR

Local law enforcement agencies believe that zero tolerance, the policy of stopping drivers for minor violations, will potentially help decrease future violations and more serious crimes.

Zero tolerance was rolled out after a quadruple murder on the south side in January 2007, although it had been planned previously.

Some YSU students feel that the policy is too strict and focuses on the wrong things.

"I was pulled over on the East Side for not completely stopping at a stop sign, and the cops searched me and my car for no

reason," freshman William J. Staples said.

"The more policemen, the less crime there is," Liberty Police Chief Tony Slifka said. He looks for broken headlights and drivers without seatbelts since arrest "starts with something simple."

Youngstown City Mayor Jay Williams said zero tolerance is intended to remind people that there are laws to be followed.

"Traffic stops are the most effective way to get in contact with the public," Williams said. "This will be ongoing as a part of an arsenal of weapons to fight unpredictable crime."

Since the enforcement of zero tolerance, crime has been displaced, but not eliminated, Slifka said.

Liberty police are encouraged to stop cars daily, even to tell drivers to have a

nice day. The police just want to keep a safe environment and for the people in the community to feel safe, Slifka said.

Slifka reported stopping a car for expired tags and found out the driver had a suspended license and a warrant for arrest — in addition to processed crack cocaine and a concealed weapon.

Youngstown State Police Chief John Gocala agreed with Slifka. "You have to go back to the basics, you have to go back to the small things," Gocala said.

Williams described zero tolerance in terms of striking a balance between absolute freedom and absolute security, two impossible extremes. Youngstown should not be a police state, he said, but he does not want it to become lawless.

## YSU

## Engineering students build bridge in 2 minutes 20 seconds

Lou Gattozzi

JAMBAR CONTRIBUTOR

Seven students proved that YSU's steel bridge team is first in the region and the eleventh best in the country in competitions with other universities.

The engineering students constructed the 18-by-36-by-29 foot bridge in a remarkable 2 minutes and 20 seconds, with other schools' times falling between 3 minutes and 18 minutes.

All the practice in the basement of Moser Hall paid off when the team won the regional at Ohio State University in late March. The national took place at California State University.

Team captain Kevin Lynch said, "The

### YSU's regional champion bridge team

Kevin Lynch  
Mike Lyda  
Bill Pitoscia  
Bryan Kopachy  
Mike Grumley  
Nick Sanford  
Mike Meder



National Competition was intense, but we had a bridge and team that could handle the excitement."

The YSU engineering students finished the fastest out of 43 teams. After

the bridge was built, judges calculated points based on the speed of construction, lightness, aesthetics and the ability to hold 2,500 pounds.

Team advisor Scott Martin said the team conducted test runs as if they were real competitions. "The bridges are designed to mimic actual bridge construction," Martin said, "for example, a bridge over a river."

The team finished second at the 2006 nationals in Salt Lake City, Utah after being disqualified for not meeting one of the bridge requirements.

Lynch said the team has high expectations for next year. "We would like to place in regionals and go back to nationals," he said.

## JOB OPENING

Advertising Sales Assistant for The Jambar beginning August 2007. Must be self-motivated, detail oriented, and organized. Outgoing and friendly phone personality and Advertising sales experience is a plus.

The Sales Assistant is responsible for bringing in new advertisers, assisting the Advertising sales manager with ads and forming new contracts with potential advertisers. Must be a full-time student in good standing. Previous experience in sales is helpful, but not required.



To apply see Lynn Haug in the Kilcawley Center Staff Office, and ask for a Jambar application

**Deadline to apply is July 23, 2007**

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- Because we have flexible scheduling and you can bring your friends or family!
- We have lots of great jobs like working in the Children's Art Tent, helping the artists unload or giving directions at the main information tent.

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# Jambar Editorial & Opinion

Thursday, June 7, 2007

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## THE Jambar

Excellence in journalism since 1931  
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### OUR SIDE

## Dependant on independence

As students at a commuter college, most of us have had a minor heart attack at the gas pump. We complain, but when will we reach the point that we start to make changes?

The majority of the campus community is old enough to fondly remember the good old days of cheaper gas prices. What most students have not known is profound or life-changing need — we were fortunate to have enough food, adequate clothing and sometimes even spending money for most of our lives.

We have never lived through a real economic depression. Most of us have not had to sacrifice like generations of the past. Our grandparents might argue that having a car to complain about is a privilege and an achievement in itself.

We enjoy the camaraderie of sharing complaints about the outrageous numbers on the gas pump. We may even explore the hypothetical consequences of the dreaded five-dollar gallon. Sometimes, we speculate on the larger issues, like our nation's dependence on oil and whether that relates to the war in Iraq.

Still, not enough of us talk about changing our driving habits.

Considering the hardship of expensive gas, how many people in the YSU community carpool? How many decide against taking that road trip? Who has considered selling their SUV and downsizing to a smaller car?

We seem intent on living our lives at the same pace. Spending more on gas is a nuisance we choose to live with. The price of gas may change, but we do not.

Rather than wishing that it were cheaper to drive, perhaps we should be thinking about lessening our dependence on cars.

The independence of having a car is a lifestyle that we have always known. It has become a necessity, and making a change would be too much of a compromise. When we talk about carpooling and public transportation, many of us feel that is not practical.

It can be hard to find a bus because it never occurs to us to look for one.

If bus routes are limited, it is because not enough people use them. Nothing short of major pressure — like the hardships of the past — will get us to change.

The Jambar editorials reflect the opinions of The Jambar and its Editorial Board members. Those wishing to schedule meetings with the Editorial Board should call the editor in chief.

### LETTERS POLICY

Letters must be typed and should not exceed 400 words. Each letter must include a name and telephone number for verification purposes. Submissions are subject to editing for spelling, grammar and clarity. Letters must be received by noon Friday for Tuesday's edition and by noon Tuesday for Thursday's edition.

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



### LETTER TO THE EDITOR

#### It is time for Sweet to go

Editor,  
What would you say to a man who was attacked in his own home: his wife raped, his children brutalized, and his belongings stolen? If you're David Sweet, you would probably say the victim is responsible. This is the kind of man who is president of YSU.

Since he first arrived, Sweet has never taken responsibility for any of the mistakes he and his administration have made, and the number is legion. Initially, he refused to talk to faculty members for his first six months on campus. It is clear that his "leadership" has not improved during the last six years.

D. Sweet is a "Bubble Boy" — the first ever at YSU! — one who never comes in contact with reality. He is the poster boy for the Peter

Principle: he has been promoted to his level of incompetence. (Some of us might say "way beyond.")

Sweet's most recent faux pas was his pathetic and disturbing letter of April 30 to faculty and staff where he claimed that "EVERYONE IS RESPONSIBLE" for the poor morale at YSU. He states that "since July 1, 2006, the administration has been confronted with the filing of 42 grievances. . . and four unfair labor practices (ULPs). . . Each of these indicators is an illustration of an adversarial approach to labor-management relations that is time consuming, expensive, and demoralizing to administrative staff trying to get their regular job done."

This is consummate bullshit. If it weren't for the incompetence and maliciousness of Sweet and his staff, THERE WOULDN'T BE 42 GRIEVANCES AND 4 ULPs! If he wants to

improve morale, have him cut the number down to zero.

Consider some of Sweet's other suggestions/comments from his letter.

He proposes a "time out" for faculty and staff, just like parents do to their 3-year-olds.

He claims that relations are strained only with "selected members of the labor leadership." Here, "selected" means 100%.

He wants us to "share the cost of engaging an independent accounting firm to evaluate the financial condition of YSU. . . ." This means the money will come out of my pocket, but he'll take his share out of student tuition.

It is time for Sweet to go. If he won't resign, he should be fired immediately.

Ronald G. Tabak, Professor  
Physics & Astronomy

### COMMENTARY

## Fear of flying with tuberculosis

#### MCT Campus

One unglamorous truth about airplane travel is that it is a place where several hundred people are trapped for hours in a confined space, coughing, breathing on one another and sharing germs.

Nowhere is this more true and upsetting than in the case of a budding groom from Georgia with a dangerous form of tuberculosis. This Atlantan simply had to get to Europe and back on two trans-Atlantic flights for his wedding. He didn't care that he was potentially infecting numerous fellow passengers and flight attendants.

Obviously, the passenger is self-absorbed.

Health officials say Andrew Speaker was advised not to fly. The 31-year-old personal-injury attorney from Atlanta knew he could expose others when he boarded a jet from Atlanta to Paris and later from Prague to Montreal.

There may have been a communication breakdown on the outbound leg, when the man says he was aware of a suggestion, nothing more, to stay home.

But authorities subsequently contacted him in Europe to tell him he should not fly back

because further testing revealed he had a rare, "extensively drug-resistant" form of TB. His TB is so dangerous he is under the first U.S. government-ordered quarantine since 1963.

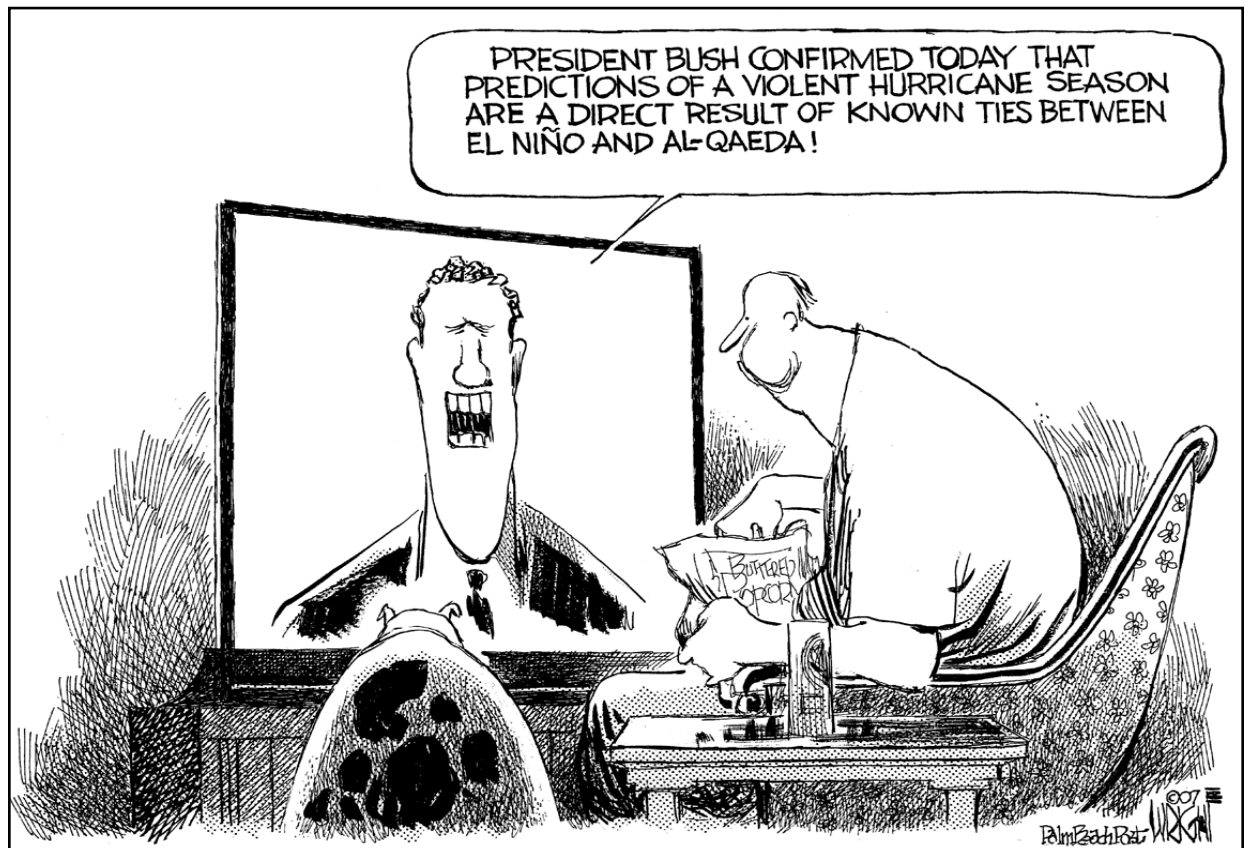
First and foremost, the government must do all it can to track down the innocents who sat a few rows in front of or behind Speaker. They are the victims. They need to be tested. They also need full information.

The Atlanta Journal-Constitution reported this week that several passengers had been unable to get the airlines or the Centers for Disease Control to tell them where the man was sitting on the aircraft. How ridiculous. After a day or two, the CDC released the seating information. What could possibly explain not doing so? Information is power.

This story, this passenger's conduct, highlights an important

health issue: At what point does a passenger police himself to protect others? A congressional hearing will be held next week to determine if the government did enough to protect the public.

Thousands of passengers fly every day, landing in good health. But one bad apple can compound the angst of flying. This case should become the template for determining how to proceed with similar cases in the future.



## got an opinion?

Send letters to:  
thejambar@gmail.com

# JAMBAR Feature

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Thursday, June 7, 2007

## STUDENT LIFE

## Campus residents adapt to slow summer at YSU

Sarah Sole  
NEWS EDITOR

Though many residential students find ways to entertain themselves, some admit that there are pros and cons to staying at Youngstown State University during the summer months.

Resident Assistant and senior Hasan Ghayur said he prefers to stay. "It's a nice way to socialize and make friends," he said, and living in housing means he does not have to worry about cooking for himself.

Although his job as a summer RA at Cafaro keeps him occupied, Ghayur goes to the Southern Park Mall in his free time and attends and plans programs in the residence hall.

He attended a recent ice cream social and looks forward to the upcoming volleyball tournament. The dollar-theater would be a great place to hold another student activity, he said.

Cafaro's housing coordinator Josh Mays wants to increase the number of activities over the summer, Ghayur said. During fall and spring semester Cafaro holds about six activities, while in the summer it holds about eight.

Other students are involved on campus. Sophomore Callie Lowe belongs to the Alpha Xi Delta sorority and is involved in planning for the sorority's formal. She plans to attend the sorority sleepover in July.

Fewer residents on campus make some daily tasks easier, like doing laundry. During



Senior Dorian Chenault, sophomore Vance Cooksey, and sophomore Cedric Perry are shown here spending free time in the KC food court.

the fall and spring, junior Juli Merhaut sometimes has to fight for a washer or dryer — but it can be lonely. "It's like a ghost town," Merhaut said.

Merhaut is involved in a Residence Hall Association. "That carries over into the summer a little bit," Merhaut said.

Although Merhaut prefers staying on cam-

pus during fall and spring because there are more activities, she said she likes summer's slower pace and the Catholic Student Association barbecues.

While Sophomore Nick Miladore does not feel socially disadvantaged by staying on campus during the summer, he would like to see more places open at convenient times.

Although many places are open for summer, sometimes they have limited hours. During the week, the lab he and his classmates attend runs until 9 p.m., while the dining hour ends at 6:30 p.m. "Three nights out of the week we can't even eat dinner here," Miladore said.

"There's not too much that goes on," Miladore said of campus life during the summer. However, as an RA at Cafaro, he said he is more involved with activities that his residence hall puts on.

One student does not rely on the university to stay occupied.

Stephen Foley, a junior who lives at Weller House, believes the university should not be responsible for executing student activities.

"I don't really think the university needs to change what they're doing, he said."

Foley said he usually goes to Pittsburgh when he wants to find things to do off campus. He would like to see more restaurants and other destinations available around campus. "You don't want to have to go very far," he said.

"You can only do what you prepare for yourself," Foley said, of campus activities, "The University doesn't provide anything as far as entertainment goes."

Danielle Myer, associate director of housing and residence life, said there are 70 students staying on campus this summer for full or part-time. Last fall, there were more than 800 students staying on campus.

## NBA

## Cavaliers earn first trip to NBA Finals in franchise history

Jen Brown  
JAMBAR CONTRIBUTOR

Cleveland Cavaliers fans at YSU are excited, and for good reason. After a four-game winning streak in their first run at the championship, the Cavs have proved they want to win the series as much as any team.

Junior Greg Mook said, "What LeBron James has done with this team in the time he's been in Cleveland is amazing. It's so exciting to see a Cleveland team on the brink of a championship."

Though not predicted to win the series, the Cavs finally beat the Pistons after losing to Detroit twice. LeBron James leads the Cavs on and off the court, with averages of 25.7 points, 9.2 rebounds, and 8.5 assists per game.

YSU alumni Jordan Norbo commented on the praise and encouragement James gives teammates. "It's unbelievable how LeBron James had so much determination to get to the championship," Norbo said.

"I heard that in the locker rooms before each game, the thing he would say after they all put their hands together was 'championship,'" she said.

Mook also credited James for good team morale. "He not only carries them, but he gives them confidence to play at a higher level," Mook said.

James scored 29 of the last 30 points in overtime, refusing to let his team or fans down.

Rookie Daniel Gibson scored his career high of 31 points, with 19 in the fourth quarter in the Saturday game. Gibson also made three 3-pointers in the last 2:16 of the fourth quarter for a

total of five.

The last time that any Cleveland team from a major sport has won any championship was in 1964, when the Browns won the football championship.

The Cavs are the third team to have a conference final comeback after a 0-2 deficit.

The Cavs will go on to play the San Antonio Spurs in the NBA finals. The first game begins tonight at 9 p.m.

**Cleveland Cavaliers** guard LeBron James, right, drives to the basket past Detroit Pistons defender Richard Hamilton during first half action in Game 6 of the NBA Eastern Conference Finals at Quicken Loans Arena, Saturday, June 2, 2007 in Cleveland, Ohio.



## TECHNOLOGY

## Console war: battle for the hearts and money of gamers

Mike Minotti  
JAMBAR CONTRIBUTOR

There is a lot of money to be made, and three very different companies are battling in a console war for the hearts and dollars of gamers everywhere.

Sophomore P.J. Smerechansky prefers the industry-leading Nintendo Wii, which is cheaper than the competition and features simple games with unique motion-based controls. "The low price and games like 'Zelda' made the Wii an easy purchase for me," Smerechansky said.

The Wii's success could be attributed to its casual-gamer appeal. People who were intimidated by old consoles have no problem playing tennis by simply swinging their controller.

The Wii retails for \$249.99, the Microsoft Xbox 360 for \$299, and the



Sophomore Kevin Miller, sophomore P.J. Smerechansky and freshman Jill Roemer are shown in action playing a game on the Nintendo Wii console

Sony Playstation 3 for \$599.99.

Sophomore Kevin Miller finds the PS3's extra media features compelling. "It sounds more expensive, but the inclusion of a Blu-ray player — which usually sells for \$1,000 on its own — actually makes it something of a bargain," Miller said.

The PS3 is behind in sales as the expensive box that has the most powerful hardware but no blockbuster games. The Wii has "The Legend of Zelda: The Twilight Princess," the 360 has "Gears of War." The PS3 won't be getting a comparatively big title until "Metal Gear Solid 4: Guns of the Patriots" is released in March 2008 at the latest.

Meanwhile, "Super Mario Galaxy" and "Super Smash Bros. Brawl" will be coming out for the Wii this fall, while the 360 will get "Halo 3." Those games are likely blockbusters that will help increase console sales.

Right now, it looks like Nintendo

may have the number one console for the first time since the 1991's Super Nintendo. The 360 is in a comfortable spot, and "Halo 3" will likely increase sales, but the PS3 will have to wait until 2008 for games like "Metal Gear Solid 4" and "Final Fantasy XIII." Those big games and a potential price drop could see the PS3 surprisingly pull ahead.

Although the Wii still lags behind the 360 in total units sold, it may pass up the 360 sooner rather than later. The 360 had one-year head start, which means more games than the competition, including mega-hit "Gears of War." Overall, Microsoft sold 5.4 million units and Nintendo sold 2.5 million, according to the NPD Group, a market research firm.

The Wii was the best selling system for April with 360,000 consoles sold, according to the console sales data from the NPD Group. The 360 was next, with 174,000 consoles sold, and the PS3 trailed with 82,000 consoles sold.