



'Pirates,' an unsinkable sequel see page 4

THE JAMBAR

THE STUDENT VOICE OF YOUNGSTOWN STATE UNIVERSITY

WEB EXCLUSIVES
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• The freshman 15'



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IN TODAY'S Jambar



The Playhouse's 'Sweeney Todd' a tasty thriller see page 4

Headlines

PAGE 2

YSUnity to host 'Love Makes a Family' exhibit

PAGE 2

YSU offers tech assistance to non-traditional students

PAGE 3

Young, plugged in and Democrat

PAGE 4

YSU baseball coach hopes tournament experience will keep team fighting

Pages

- ▶ Classified | 2
- ▶ Opinion | 3
- ▶ Feature | 4

Weather

today ▶ Clouds

85 | 62

Friday : cloudy 83 / 60

Saturday : rain 78 / 60

YSU News

YSU sends sympathy books to Virginia Tech victims

Sympathy books containing the signatures of more than 1,100 YSU students and employees have been sent to the families of the 33 victims of the Virginia Tech shootings.

The 51-page book, which contains a letter from YSU Vice President for Student Affairs Cynthia Anderson, was also sent to 22 Virginia Tech Students.

The book was the idea of YSU graduate John Paul DeSimone. YSU Student Government helped organize the signing campaign that took place from April 30 to May 3 on campus.

The book was funded by donations from people and organizations that signed the book and by the work of more than 50 volunteers. Students were able to submit their signatures and donate money at several stations located throughout the campus.

Copies of the book are available to be viewed throughout campus.

Please remember to recycle your copy of The Jambar

CAMPUS PARKING

Parking problems plague students

Sarah Sole
NEWS EDITOR

Youngstown State University junior Elisha Moler is particular about her parking habits in the M-2 parking deck.

"If I can't park in the bottom level, I park in the lot," Moler said, of the deck, located on the corners of Fifth Avenue and Lincoln Avenue. "The top level is the one that's falling apart."

Moler has reason to be cautious.

"If it [debris] hits your car, you're responsible for it," Moler said. A professor Moler had was required to pay for car damage caused by debris in M-2. "It ruined his new jeep," said Moler said.

Senior Kristin Marinelli said that parking in the M-2 deck is an inconvenience.

"I'm really upset because we pay so much for a parking pass this summer," Marinelli said, "There really isn't enough spaces, so I have to come here a half hour before



Jambar/Sarah Sole

YSU senior Lauren Stein walks past the closed entrance of the M-2 parking deck on her way to the parking lot across Fifth Avenue.

class to find a spot." Marinelli said she has already been five minutes late twice this summer because finding a parking space is so difficult.

Recent construction has closed the top levels of M-2, limiting the number of spaces available.

Stephanie Brown, a senior,

depends on luck to find a parking space. "It's just ridiculous. You pay all that money for a parking pass."

Others agree. "I think it's not fair," said sophomore Melissa Collinsworth, referring to the price of parking passes. "You don't have the same resources as fall and

spring."

One student has found his own way to deal with parking at YSU.

Sophomore Joe Deniakis lives near enough to walk to campus, but he is aware of the parking situation. "It's not very convenient right now," said Deniakis. "It's pretty annoying."

Junior Jolene Nagle said she always finds a parking space in M-2. "The construction has to get done. There's plenty of parking other places."

Danny O'Connell, director of support services, said that during the summer parking services power washes the M-2 deck.

During the fall and spring, parking services sells about 9,000 parking passes, O'Connell said, while in the summer they sell only about 3,000 parking passes. "It allows us to shut down the deck."

The M-2 deck is scheduled to come down in five years,

please see **PARKING**, Page 2



"It's not very convenient right now; it's pretty annoying."

Joe Deniakis, sophomore



"It's just ridiculous. You pay all that money for a parking pass."

Stephanie Brown, senior

SAFETY

YSU community more aware after robberies

Richard Louis Boccia
MANAGING EDITOR

After Sarah Luzik was mugged on Phelps Street last month, walking to class was a different experience.

"Before, I thought, 'It can't happen to me.' It's shocking," said Luzik. "It was in broad daylight right in the middle of the street. Now I'm watching what's around me and who's walking behind me."

A man held Luzik's head against her car and told her not to move — a moment later, he was gone with her purse.

"I used to walk around listening to my iPod or talking on the phone, but someone could be following right behind you," she said. "There really isn't any way you can prepare yourself for that, except being aware."

Following three thefts on and near campus, students and staff discuss ways to avoid being a victim.

Mark Lee Pringle, who teaches self-defense and Tai-Chi at the Andrews Wellness and Recreation Center, offers



For your speed dial

YSUPD,
(330) 941-3527
Student Security Service,
(330) 941-1515

ways for students to be aware of their surroundings.

Pringle has studied martial arts for 35 years, reaching the rank of third-degree black-sash.

"If you are by yourself and someplace doesn't look or feel safe, don't go," said Pringle, who has been called Coach Mark by students during his nine years at YSU.

With spring classes nearly finished when the incident occurred, Luzik did not spend much time on campus after being mugged. Still, she made a point to walk with someone to her car during the last week of class. She recommends parking near a friend, and she no longer leaves her car on Phelps Street.

"YSU in general is a very safe campus," Pringle said, but everyone needs self-defense skills. "By 'self-defense', I don't mean just 'fighting', but self-preservation—how to keep yourself away from or out of dangerous situations."

Pringle recommends walking with someone to class or keeping your phone to your ear. "If they think you are talking to someone they won't pick you as an 'easy' victim. Keep your hands free with a book bag or purse that goes over both shoulders.

Besides being more vigilant, Luzik recommends that people on campus stay calm if a similar incident occurs to them. "I panicked," she said. "I never thought anything of just walking down the street. Youngstown's not the safest place, but I never really felt unsafe."

Senior Emily Olmstead also has reason to become more alert on campus after her car was stolen in April.

"You never want to think that some-

please see **SAFETY**, Page 2

YSU

Campus cleanliness questioned while position left unfilled

Sarah Sole
NEWS EDITOR

Senior Kyle Romeo is becoming accustomed to foul bathrooms at Youngstown State University.

"There'd just be a big present sitting in there," Romeo said, of the clogged toilets, adding that he sees sinks that need cleaning as well.

Like Romeo, some students believe there are spots on campus that should be cleaner, though others hold that the university is generally well-kept. YSU has been missing a Manager of Building Services since last June, a facilities position that could have a large affect on campus cleanliness.

The Manager of Building Services bridges the gap between Facilities and cleaning companies, said Danny O'Connell, director of support services.

"The primary person to do that communication has been vacant," O'Connell said, "It's just like closing

down a road."

The university plans to fill the position, but there is not timetable, said Dr. Ronald Chordas, interim executive director of Human Resources. The position is not being advertised on YSU's Web site.

Chordas said that as the position was "classified," he could not say why it was not being advertised online.

Currently, there are three full-time janitorial positions on campus, O'Connell said. "People don't really have anyone to complain to if they do have a problem."

O'Connell said the first order of business is to get communication taken care of, as well as to make sure that there is proper employee supervision.

"Right now we're not happy across the board," O'Connell said. The prob-

lems are related to productivity.

O'Connell said that he would like to see cleaning specifications on campus put on a YSU's Web site, complete with a forum to report problems.

"We want people to understand what they're supposed to be getting done," he said.

Some students already have ideas. "The Debartolo Hall lounge area

needs to be cleaned", sophomore Tracy McKelvey said. Once, her son was jumping on the couches and dust clouds formed. "That's a little bit gross," she said, of the dusty couches, "People sleep on those."

McKelvey said that the buildings, while clean, could use some remodeling.

She also said that the bathrooms are untidy. She would like to see trash

receptacles in the stalls mounted to the walls instead of sitting on the floor. Sometimes, people have difficulty getting trash into the containers, she said, because they can't find the trash receptacles. "I've walked in and I've seen feminine products on the floor."

Senior Niquita Hosey agrees. While she believes that some buildings on campus are cleaner than other buildings, she said she dislikes the décor in the end of the day they're not too clean."

Hosey also mentioned remodeling. Although nothing is ever overly dirty, she said she dislikes the décor in Cushman Hall. "It really looks dingy to me. They don't update buildings too often around here."

Nicole Palermo, a junior, said that the buildings on campus are generally clean, though Palermo said she found a razor blade Tuesday in one of the classrooms located on the third floor in Debartolo Hall.

please see **CLEAN**, Page 2

YSU

YSU offers tech assistance to non-traditional students

Grimilda Ocasio

JAMBAR CONTRIBUTOR

SOLAR, WebCT, and The MyYSU Portal: a trio of computer terms that can invoke dread in the non-traditional student who is also non-savvy when it comes to technology. YSU tries to smooth the adjustment to the level of tech on campus by offering extra assistance to non-traditional students at orientation.

For Alan Cuevas, a non-traditional student who could not attend orientation because of his schedule, keeping up with technology in class became a struggle. Because of the layoffs at Delphi and the changing employment scene in the Valley, he is taking advantage of the education benefit that General Motors offers its employees.

Although he received one-on-one assistance from the Office of the Registrar when he regis-

tered on SOLAR, Cuevas felt lost when he tried to use the online registration system in the classroom. "Everyone had flash drives and laptops and was discussing PowerPoint presentations. I felt very intimidated."

When the professor announced that students would need WebCT to access notes and assignments, Cuevas panicked. Too embarrassed to ask the professor or any of the traditional students in his class, he went to Maag Library for help.

"If the university tracks non-traditional students, it would be nice if they sent reminders that technology help is available," he said. "The professors shouldn't assume that all students are familiar with WebCT."

Jacquita Johnson, a senior majoring in clinical laboratory science, agrees. Johnson was somewhat familiar with WebCT but opted out of the orientation because she did not know what to expect as a non-traditional student.

Johnson was guided through SOLAR and received help when signing up for email on the MyYSU Portal.

"I think YSU should post information throughout campus for non-traditional students when offering assistance with computer technology," she said.

Whether just beginning, or returning to college after a break, these students may require more than the traditional orientation to become as comfortable with campus computers as their younger peers. According to statistics from YSU's Office of Institutional Research, the non-traditional student population (25 or older) is 27.6%.

Jonelle Beatrice, Associate Executive Director for Student Life at the Center for Student Progress said, "Students can also sign up with the student tutorial services if basic computer skills are needed and assistance can begin with the mouse."

Non-traditional students are pulled from the general orientation for a special session and assigned a peer mentor that assists them to develop good study skills and if necessary, improve their computer skills. Both parties sign a contract to meet for a year. This "pull-out session" also covers instructions on how to access WebCT, a virtual learning environment used by the university.

While YSU offers introductory computer classes, not all students in need take advantage of the training for many reasons. According to Chritine Domhoff, Administrative Assistant II in the Office of the Registrar, "Generally, some non-traditional students shy away from computer classes because they are accustomed to the lecture format."

YSU will offer an Adult Preview Day for prospective students on June 7. Interested students can call (330) 941-2000 or 1 (877) GO-TO-YSU for more information.

YSU

YSUnity to host 'Love Makes a Family' exhibit

Adrienne Sabo
EDITOR IN CHIEF

YSUnity will be hosting an exhibit next week that features photographs of LGBT people and their families from across the country.

The exhibit "Love Makes a Family: Portraits of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender People and their Families" will be open Monday from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Friday from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Presidential Suites in Kilcawley Center. A reception for YSU and the community will be held Tuesday from

5 to 8 p.m. also in the Presidential Suites.

In a YSU news release Christy Campf, YSUnity president said, "We hope these photos will help cut through all the political arguments right to the heart of the issue by showing the love, caring, and connection that are so basic to all families."

Brian Wells, a YSU graduate student and a member of YSUnity said the exhibit is aimed to reach communities where there are no gay pride festivals.

Wells is also a member of Equality Ohio, the organization sponsoring the tour along with YSUnity, The Office of Equal Opportunity and Diversity, the Office of Student Diversity Programs,

Youngstown Area Parents Family and Friends of Lesbians and Gays, and the Pride Center of Greater Youngstown.

The touring display, created by Family Diversity Projects of Amherst Mass, includes 20 photographs by Gigi Kaesar accompanied by stories of each family written by Peggie Gillespie.

This will be the first time the exhibit is featured at YSU.

Campf estimates that there are about 1,500 to 1,600 gay and lesbian students at YSU based off of the national average. She said YSUnity focuses on education programs because "ignorance is the biggest problem," Campf said.

PARKING, continued from page 1

O'Connell said. Originally the deck was set to be demolished by 2010, but a new consultant report extended that date to 2011. "To do the repairs almost doesn't become cost effective," O'Connell said.

"It's probably unlikely that we're going to afford a new deck," O'Connell said, adding that the university will have to make surface parking for about 1,000 parking spots. "Ideally, I'd like to see a deck across the street," he said.

"I think sometimes you just have to bite the bullet," O'Connell said, mentioning a Florida campus that has no parking at all. "Everyone rides their bikes in," he said.

"We're moving forward," O'Connell said, "We'll really be doing heavy work sometime in July." The deck is negatively affected by thaw-

ing, snow and salt, O'Connell said. "There is some normal wear and tear that should be addressed. It's primarily at the seams." Additionally, the deck has potholes that require surface reconditioning and sealing, he said.

"It's no different than any other deck," O'Connell said, "You always get some general problems."

O'Connell is expecting an annual report from Walker Parking Consultants by the end of June. "They're still in the evaluation time," O'Connell said.

Funding for parking comes from parking fees and permits, O'Connell said. Any surplus goes into reserve, where it is used for future renovation projects.

SAFETY, continued from page 1

one's right around the corner, wanting to hurt you or take something from you," she said.

Olmstead's sister and cousin were with her in the back lot of the University Courtyard Apartments. While they moved volleyballs from the day's tournament to make space in the back seat, a man approached and demanded the keys.

"He said he didn't want to kill anyone, but he wanted the car and any money we had on us," Olmstead said.

"It could have been a lot worse had I been alone," she said, noting that she was not previously aware of the YSU Student Security Service. University police were on site within minutes. The blame is not with YSU, says Olmstead, for the "rough and pretty desperate area around campus."

Luzik said she has noticed more patrols lately, and may be more aware of police presence on campus since the incident.

"I still feel safe, but there's more that needs to be done on campus," she said. "I've been at YSU for five years, I've never seen security or police officers around."

Lt. Mark Adovasio said officers do a good job of patrolling proactively. "It means you go out and look for problem before the problem finds you," he said.

Junior Bobby Zahner is starting his third semester with the Student Security Service, which offers escorts on campus at no charge. "I feel safe," he said. "It's about how you handle yourself." Escorts are connected to YSUPD by radio during rounds.

YSUPD plans to offer self defense classes with the Rec this fall, and Police Chief John Gocala has asked students to put YSUPD's number on speed dial in their phones. Dialing directly will save you valuable time since the 911 operator forwards calls to campus police.

CLEAN, continued from page 1

Additionally, Palermo has strong opinions about the bathrooms.

"They always smell pretty bad," Palermo said, of the bathrooms. She is particularly annoyed with the third floor bathrooms in Cushman Hall. She dislikes the hand blowers that have replaced the paper towels, Palermo said. "We're all adults. We're entitled to some paper towels."

Other students said that campus generally stays clean.

Junior Wendy Rabosky said she hasn't noticed anything out of the ordinary because campus stays fairly clean. "I don't think there's as many cigarette butts," she said.

Everything on campus is tidy, senior Kayshia Washington said, and Beehly Center is the cleanest building. Once in DeBartolo Hall though, Washington noticed that the staircase needed cleaning. "It looked like somebody spit on the wall," she said.

Romeo believes there are some discrepancies between buildings.

"There's dirt all over the floor," Romeo said, of Cushman Hall and Ward Beecher Hall, while Moser Hall is quite clean.

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Deadline to apply is July 23, 2007



Jambar Editorial & Opinion

Thursday, May 31, 2007

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Page 3

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OUR SIDE

Sowing seeds of change

Even though a majority of Youngstown State University students are taking the summer off, it is refreshing to see that YSU is not.

On campus, YSU is making physical, social and academic changes.

The campus beautification process is in full swing with construction on both Elm Street and University Plaza. While the construction causes headaches now, campus is becoming a source of motivation for downtown renovation.

Additionally, the new Williamson College of Business Administration will serve as a link between YSU and the downtown business community. It will help foster relationships with the city that will promote growth for the local economy.

Since these changes will improve both the university and the surrounding areas, the benefits are two-fold.

Students are planning their own campus improvements with the SGA and grounds sponsored renovation of the Wick Pollick Inn's "Secret Garden." Volunteers cleared brush, spread mulch, and will be planting this summer.

While the university is implementing plans that will improve our future, we are pleased to see that it has not forgotten present students. A diverse student body benefits greatly from a university that addresses social issues, one that supports diversity by giving space to a photo exhibit sponsored by gay/straight alliance YSunity.

"Love Makes Family" is a reminder that diversity is a strength for any institution. The exhibit shows that there are students on campus who appreciate individuality and want to open the university's and community's eyes to relevant social issues.

Youngstown is historically conservative and it is wise that YSU is taking steps to broaden local horizons.

The changes are also affecting the core structure of the university. With the recent naming of a founding dean for the College of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics, YSU is laying the groundwork for a sound academic future.

The STEM dean and College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences dean will begin their terms July 1. The restructuring of the two colleges will aid the university in better serving the student population and create a new atmosphere for education.

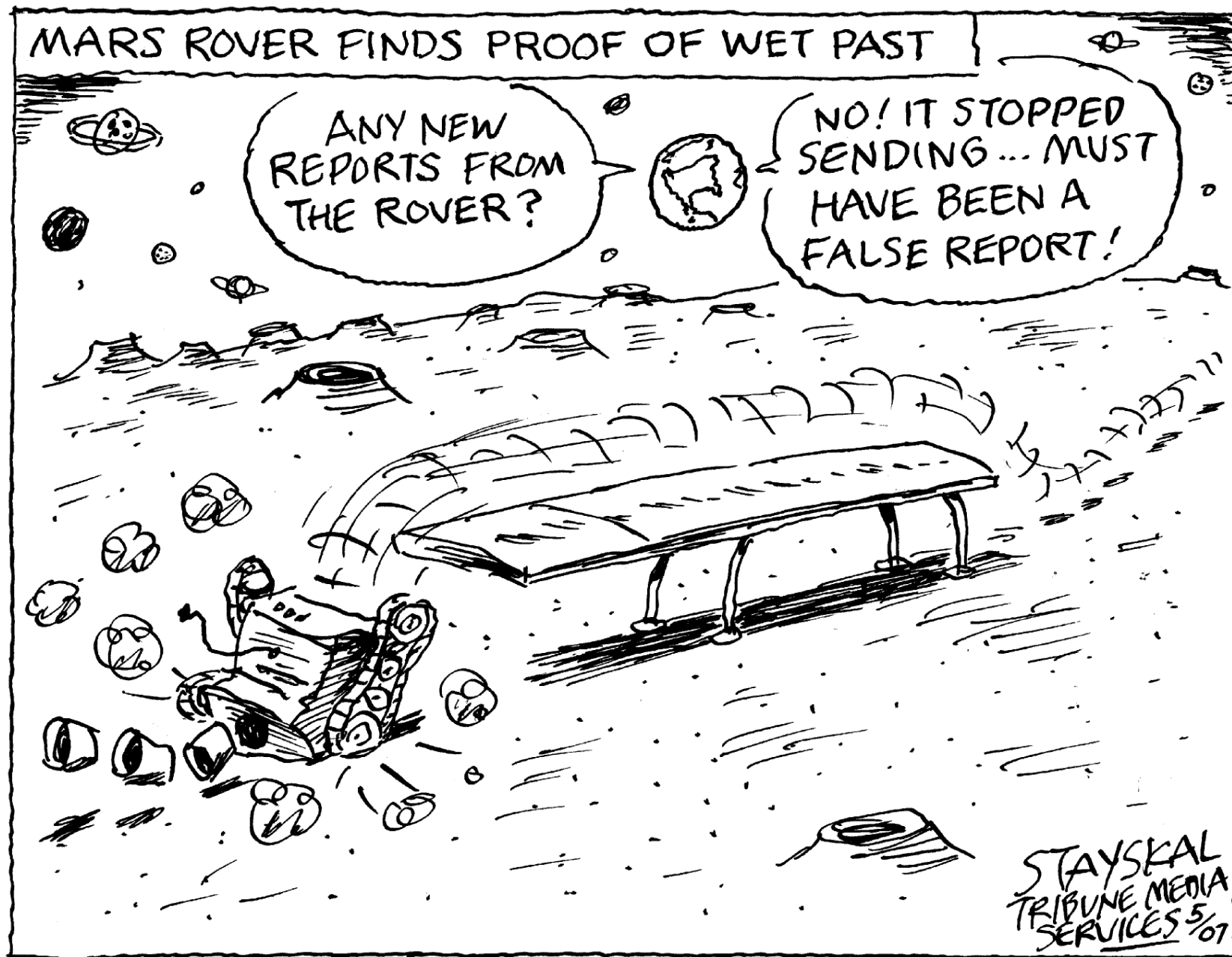
These campus changes are all a part of the bigger picture for YSU and what it means to its students and the community that it serves.

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

Why are they in charge?

Birthright is defined as a right, privilege, or possession, such as property, to which one is entitled by birth. In his article "Taking Luck Seriously" Matt Miller suggests that birthright results in the "inherited package of wealth, health, genes, looks, brains, talents and family." Approximately two-thirds (or more) of all wealth in the United States is inherited by birthright.

In a recent study conducted at Ohio State University's Center for Human Resource Research, author Jay Zagorsky stated, "Intelligence is not a factor for explaining wealth." Therefore, one may draw the conclusion that most business and political leaders are not intelligent. They did not earn their way into powerful positions but rather were manipulated into them because of birthright. This fur-

ther begs the question: why are they in charge? Why is it that our country is not run by the best and brightest? Does the merit system stop when one graduates from school?

While intelligence is certainly not the only factor in determining who is most fit to lead our society, it is certainly a better measure than birthright. In over two hundred years, the United States has failed at overcoming one of the biggest barriers to a just society. We refuse to find a way to limit the benefits of birthright and therefore make for a fairer (and better-managed) society.

"A Decade of Executive Excess," the sixth annual survey of executive compensation by the Institute for Policy Studies and United for a Fair Economy, finds the ratio of top executive to factory worker pay has exploded this decade from 42 to 1 in 1980 to 419 to 1 last year. Why are we paying executives so much more if they

don't have the intelligence and will to act in our best interest?

What tangible proof is there that top executives contribute that much more to the successful attainment of corporate goals? Why aren't these executives (Enron) given longer prison terms than car thieves? If intelligence determined corporate leadership rather than birthright, the compensation ratio would be much lower because smart leaders would recognize it as the right thing to do whereas those that are there by birthright simply don't know any better (or care). It is this ignorance perpetuated by birthright that is leading this country to collapse. Perhaps someday our society will be led by intelligent people who see their own best interest as having promoted society's best interest.

Joe Bialek

COMMENTARY

Young, plugged in and Democrat

Joni Balter
SEATTLE TIMES

While everyone else is focusing on Bush incompetence and the red-state/blue-state standoff, a more significant and quiet revolution is under way among younger voters. They are identifying more and more with the Democratic Party.

In an effort to classify the newest generation of voters, researchers say obvious things about those now ages 18 to 25. These so-called Gen Nexters rely heavily on technology and the Internet. Knew that. They maintain close contact with parents and family. Figured that. They wear a ton of tattoos. Yes, of course.

What most people may not realize is how noticeably these people are moving away from the Republican Party, compared with the same age group 20 years ago, which was much more comfortable with the GOP.

Forty-eight percent of Gen Next identify more with the Democratic Party while just 35 percent feel connected to the GOP, according to recent data from the prestigious, nonpartisan Pew Research Center, making this the least-Republican generation of all generations currently voting.

The 2006 midterm elections revealed a proclivity for Democrats among most voters. The tendency is to dismiss this voting bloc because younger people are notoriously lame at voting. But Pew noticed an uptick in their participation in the 2004 presidential election.

"I see the Democrats as offering a new response to a lot of issues right now," said Mike Alston, a 20-year-old sophomore at Seattle University who's active in Young Democrats. "Global warming is huge now among my generation. We've had Republicans leading both houses and the presidency and they have had no answer to global warming."

In a telephone interview, Alston added, "The war from the beginning."

The trend may be easily dismissed as fleeting sentiments, but once a voter favors a party three elections in a row, experts say, they tend to stick with that party a long time.

In a close race, these tech-savvy, tattoo-wearing folks with a painter's palette of Day-Glo hair colors could help shape the outcome.

On the national level, these voters might not be interested in budding dynasties and loyalties.

Sorry, Hillary. They want someone new, someone able to heal the rift between our nation and the rest of the world. That bodes well for Barack Obama for the Democratic presidential nomination and perhaps for Rudy Giuliani for Republicans. Giuliani is moderate on social issues and younger voters have no patience for intolerance, bigotry or homophobic politics.

"In their political outlook they are the most tolerant of any generation on social issues such as immigration, race and homosexuality," says Pew in a January 2007 report.

A more recent Pew report about party affiliation the past 18 years says the change for all ages is more a stampede away from Republicans than a flocking to the Democrats.

Perhaps, but the table for signups for College Republicans at the University of Washington does not sit idle. Jake Foxcurran, vice president of the group, says there may be more leftists on campus but his organization is quite strong. Max Wagner, president of Young Democrats, believes the campus is far more Democratic than Republican, citing the several dozen students who attend weekly meetings. Republicans probably have a few less.

Washington voters don't register by party but conventional wisdom says the breakdown is typically a version of Neapolitan ice cream — one-third Republican, one-third Democratic, one-third independent. Independents are trending D right now.

For younger voters, it is not that hard to explain. Students coming of age are often a product of the moment in which they become politically aware. It makes sense for them to self-identify with a party that speaks to their concerns.

Numerous people who became politically active in the 1980s and 1990s were drawn in large numbers to the politics of Ronald Reagan, avuncular, lovable and a powerful spokesman for bedrock Republican principles of fiscal conservatism and small government.

Generation Next experienced something altogether different. They came of age as George Bush was stumbling through the war, trashing America's image worldwide and spending like a crazy man.

Candidates hoping to do big business in 2008 should carefully observe the voting tendencies of these younger voters. They are socially tolerant, open-minded about race and gay issues, and they grow angrier all the time about the fighting in Iraq.

got an opinion?

Send letters to:
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Page 4

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THEATRE

The Playhouse's 'Sweeney Todd' a tasty thriller

Laura Brown

JAMBAR CONTRIBUTOR

The Youngstown Playhouse calls "Sweeney Todd" a "funny, spine-tingling thriller," and the dark humor is scrawled across the playbill in the bloody title of a musical about the Demon Barber of Fleet Street.

The chorus is left out of the humor and begins the show with a haunting theme. Immediately the audience is drawn in by their incredible voice range and detailed costumes. They chant a memorable little ditty about the demon barber, who kills his clients so his accomplice can use their "meat" for her pies. This terror-filled melody repeats throughout the production and seems to gain heightened intensity as we learn more about Sweeney Todd and his evil plans.

David El'Hatton's powerful performance as the title character exhibits both vocal and emotional depth, and is dead on in the portrayal of an escaped convict looking for his family — and his revenge.

His tall stature and the dark circles painted heavily around his eyes create an unforgettably monstrous look. His presence pulls the audience into his determined sorrow, and tragedy is

ready to boil over when he meets Mrs. Lovett.

Cyndi Weichey plays the adorable Mrs. Lovett, complete with down-to-earth facial expressions and lower class accent. Laughter erupts as she nails "The Worst Pies in London," a song that almost instantly introduces her as the comic relief.

Weichey brings comedy and a sweet vulnerability to the table — along with some strangely delicious meat pies — as her character begins to fall in love with Sweeney. She will do anything to make him happy, even if that means covering up his murderous ways with her unconventional baking.

Stephanie Holt's random wanderings as a beggar woman add even more comedy as the tragic plot unfolds. She begins by singing a poor-me melody to lure charity from the people of London. Once she has their money, the beggar woman quickly changes her tune, lifting her skirt to the fast tempo as if she were dancing in Vegas.

Other stand-out performances come from Aaron Franek as Tobias, the tortured helper who follows Sweeney around like a lost dog, and Khaled Tabbara as Adolfo Pirelli, the fancy-pants barber who thinks he can beat the demon of Fleet Street. While Franek may be the stronger performance, Tabbara is certainly a crowd favorite, and both provide impressive vocals.



Photo courtesy of The Youngstown Playhouse

Cyndi Weichey as Mrs. Lovett and Aaron Franek as Tobias perform during the Youngstown Playhouse's production of "Sweeney Todd, the Demon Barber of Fleet Street."

"Sweeney Todd," directed by John D. Holt, runs smoothly from the first song to the final bow. Despite a few minor microphone interruptions, sound is impeccable thanks to musi-

cal director Michael J. Moritz, Jr. The cast serves up a slice of meaty emotion that earns two enthusiastic — and possibly bloody — thumbs up.

Upcoming events

Wednesday

Mickey's
Ladies Night, 3 free drinks and buy one get one free beers for girls and guys

Barley's
Quarter Flip Night

Dusty Armadillo
18 and over, \$10 cover charge (Reduced with a college I.D.) 21 and over get in free

Thursday

The Cell
\$2 everything all night
\$3 cover charge for guys and girls under 21

Summer Concerts

Championship Bull Riding
Rostraver Ice Garden
June 9

The Rowdy Frynds Tour: Lynnyrd Skynyrd and Hank Williams Jr.
Bryce Jordan Center
June 9
Tickets on sale now

Trace Adkins : Gary Allan
CONSOL Energy Park
June 16
Tickets on sale now

Counting Crows, Live, and Collective Soul
Consol Energy Park
July 25
Tickets on Sale June 2

MOVIE REVIEW

'Pirates,' an unsinkable sequel

Mike Minotti

JAMBAR CONTRIBUTOR

In a summer filled with giant blockbusters aimed more at producing toys than legitimate film, "Pirates of the Caribbean: At World's End" is a refreshing reminder of what a summer film should be.

Johnny Depp, Keira Knightley, Orlando Bloom, and Geoffrey Rush return in this third installment. As hinted at in the end of the "Dead Man's Chest," the story continues with the quest to rescue Jack Sparrow from the pirate afterlife of Davy Jones's Locker.

Shortly after, the film returns to the usual formula of epic ship fights and humorous Jack Sparrow moments as the world's pirates unite to fight the East India Trading Company.

Betrayal is a constant theme, with characters double crossing each other almost as often as they speak. Although this is appropriate behavior for pirates, it leads to a confusing plot. It's hard to remember exactly where each character's allegiances lie.

"World's End" expands

Ray Cerimeli, a YSU Sophomore, dressed as Captain Jack Sparrow at Cinema South in Boardman during the first showing of At World's End.



Jambar/ Mike Minotti



the "Pirates" mythology, adding resurrections, visits to the afterlife, and even more pirates that look like fish people. Most bizarre is the Calypso subplot. The goddess comes and goes arbitrarily, turning into a giant, and then into a million crabs that disappear into the sea.

"World's End" can be forgiven for an overly ambitious plot since it still hits the mark on sword fighting, humor, and special effects. A scene with multiple Jack Sparrows running around the Black Pearl will have whole theaters in an uproar.

The computer animation is some of the best ever put on the big screen, especially Davy Jones, the first completely digital character to really seem alive. Kudos to Bill Nighy, who not only provides the voice for this incredibly character, but also stood in as a reference for the animators during filming.

Composer Hans Zimmer brings back the now famous themes of the series and introduces a new song, eerily sung at the gallows by a young boy about to be hung.

"World's End" offers the humor, action, and fun that fans of the franchise have come to expect, and serves as a great bookend to the trilogy.

BASEBALL

YSU baseball coach hopes tournament experience will keep team fighting

Len Brown

JAMBAR CONTRIBUTOR

The Youngstown State University baseball team competed in the 2007 U.S. Army Horizon League Championship from May 23-27. Teams from Butler, Cleveland State, UW-Milwaukee, Wright State, joined championship winner UIC at the University of Illinois in Chicago.

In the final elimination game, UW-Milwaukee Panther Dan Iuzak pitched an eight-hit shutout to the Penguins.

Coach Florak looks forward to next season. "We have to keep going forward and keep fighting," he said. "These guys will have tour-

nament experience. They'll figure out what it takes to keep plugging away and not give up any at bats."

YSU lost their first game against UW-Milwaukee 16-6, while the Panthers got off to a fast 3-0 lead in the first inning with Wichser's RBI double and a two-run home run from Groves. The Penguins then came back with two runs in the third inning with walk on bases loaded and Diedrich's RBI single to tie the game 3-3. The Panthers came back in the



bottom of the third with Hart's scoring double, but YSU tied the score again in the sixth when Parks hit his fifth homer of the season. Wozniak from UW and Diedrich from YSU both hit home runs to tie the game 6-6, but that was the last time YSU scored, and Milwaukee got 13 extra runs in the last two innings.

Next game, Chuck Schiffhauer was the starting pitcher when YSU in eliminated Butler 20-7.

John Koehnlein from YSU set a Tournament single-game record with six hits (with seven at bats). Mike Turjanica hit two home runs and Tom Clayton hit a fourth-inning grand slam. Chomicz from Butler answered with a homer in the bottom half. YSU answered back with five runs in the third and eighth, and in the fourth they sent 13 men to home against three Bulldog pitchers.

On Friday, in game #6 against Cleveland State, YSU scored 10 runs in the last two innings in a comeback bracket to face Milwaukee in another elimination game. YSU ended their season with an overall record of 17-35.