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weekend opening  
see page 3



# THE Jambar

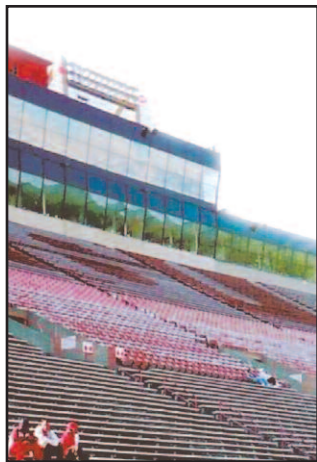
THE STUDENT VOICE OF YOUNGSTOWN STATE UNIVERSITY

Thursday, January 18, 2007

www.thejambar.com

VOL. 89 NO. 29

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### Weather

today ▶ cloudy

40 | 28

fri.: snow 32 / 20

sat.: snow 30 / 18

### YSU News

#### Trustees Meeting

The YSU Board of Trustees will meet today at noon in the Humphrey Room of Kilcawley Center to interview a candidate for the position of vice president for finance and administration.

#### Esterly named YSU chief technology officer

Donna Esterly of Poland was named YSU's chief technology officer and executive director of computer services.

She has worked at YSU for 28 years and has been interim chief technology officer since 2002.

#### College of Business hosts open houses

The Williamson College of Business Administration at Youngstown State University will host open houses for prospective business students from 1 to 4:30 p.m. on Sunday, Jan. 21, and 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 27.

For reservations, call the Office of the Dean at 330-941-3064 or e-mail Christine Shelton, coordinator of external relations, at cgshelton@ysu.edu.

### YSU

## Book prices fan financial flames

Students buy online, share textbooks to cut costs

Jenny Boyce  
ASST. NEWS EDITOR

As tuition increases strap students for money each year, another necessity becomes a burden: textbooks.

During the 2005-2006 academic year, The College Board reported that the total for textbooks and supplies ranged from \$801 to \$904 per student.

Some students have decided to turn to alternative means of purchasing their textbooks this semester, which includes buying

ing books from online stores and sharing books with students in the same courses.

"I have friends in the same major as me, so we get to share a lot of books amongst ourselves," said sophomore Kate Griffin. "It's a lot cheaper, and usually we just try to take the same courses together and divide up the costs for books."

Finding students who share similar

courses is easier now with Web sites such as Facebook and MySpace. Facebook's "Trade and Sell Text Books with other students @ YSU" and "[YSU's] Book Exchange" has an added total of 118 members.

Other students will purchase their books through online stores such as Half.com and Amazon, though the National Association of College Stores recently reported that students only purchase a total of 23 percent of their textbooks online.

"I always go to Half.com," said junior Sara Williams. "It has always saved me a lot to just buy my books that way."

Buying books online could bring just as many risks as benefits to students. For example, one of the three required textbooks for Early Childhood Education 2629 - Driscoll's "Early Childhood Education: Birth

to 8" - can be purchased at \$72.60 for a used copy or \$96.75 for a new one at the YSU Bookstore. Amazon's used copies can be found starting at \$65, while new copies sell for \$83.44. Meanwhile, Half.com is selling used copies for a mere \$46.

But online buying doesn't always equal the best choice. When looking up the required Driscoll's Early Childhood Education Kit to accompany the textbook, Half.com came up empty, while Amazon only offered used kits starting at \$94 - almost \$3 less than a brand new kit would cost at the YSU Bookstore.

Another problem with purchasing books online can include shipping, especially with some students waiting until after the first couple days of classes before ordering their books.

"I was changing around my classes a lot during the first week, last semester," said Williams. "I didn't get my books for about two weeks, so I had to borrow classmates'."

At Amazon, shipping can take as many as "2-3 days" to ship, but steer

please see **TEXTBOOKS**, Page 6

### EDUCATION

## Strickland sticks to high standards for higher education

Adrienne Sabo  
NEWS EDITOR

Higher education is a priority for newly elected government officials, namely the newly elected Ohio Governor Ted Strickland, who began work to improve college education in the state.



Strickland

Strickland said, "I am meeting with university presidents, trustees and others to talk specifically about what can be done."

Youngstown State University President David Sweet is one of the university presidents who will meet with the governor.

Sweet said he hopes the governor will look at education as a continuum and promote higher education and primary and secondary education working together.

Strickland's list of priorities includes fixing tuition costs, saving the universities' money and encouraging tuition to remain low without the annual "explosions."

Strickland said he hopes other universities and colleges will look at what the University of Toledo has done to stop the tuition increase. The university announced that it will place a hold on tuition for the year.

"Hopefully their action will serve as a model for other colleges," Strickland said.

After hearing about the steps the University of Toledo took to stop the tuition increase, some YSU students agreed with the school's decision.

Sophomore Regan O'Brien said, "If it can happen in Toledo it can happen everywhere."

Students like O'Brien believe the University of Toledo can be a model for YSU.

Freshman Patrick Peachock said, "That's awesome. If Toledo can do it, we can do it."

Strickland said he sees the annual tuition increases across the state as a huge problem. Higher education in Ohio is the second highest in the country, with only Vermont ahead.

Sweet said that with more state support, universities can stop tuition increases.

In Strickland's gubernatorial campaign, one of his goals was to change the educational culture in Ohio. He said that the state is under-educated and that education at every level is undervalued. He said, "We will find ourselves in a non-competitive state," if the trend continues.

Sweet agrees with

please see **STRICKLAND** Page 6

### CULTURE

## King's legacy lives on in Youngstown

Ashley Tate  
REPORTER

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. had a sense of strong leadership and was an advocate for non-violence and peace. His legacy continues to live on throughout different places in the world, including Youngstown State University.

King had a profound impact on the life of Victor Wan-Tatah, professor and director of Africana studies and philosophy and religious studies at YSU.

"He meant a lot to me because as a child back in Africa, I used to follow what he did in the United States as a leader. I was smitten by him. A fantasy of mine was to step foot on the ground where he was. I admire his eloquence; he was a great speaker," Wan-Tatah said.

Susan Moorers, coordinator of diversity initiatives, agrees with Wan-Tatah and feels that if it weren't for King, blacks might

still be riding on the back of the bus.

"His ability to bring people together and focus on similarities instead of differences had a profound impact on my life. He practiced diversity long before we even knew what the word meant. His leadership was phenomenal when you think about the danger he was

put in on a daily basis," Moorers said.

Wan-Tatah said that the world would be deprived of his vision, courage, insight, hope and profound wisdom. "We have to be mindful of the fact that Dr. King was an advocate of peace and non-violence and if he were alive today he would denounce our military practice."

Sophomore Ehab Traish, originally from Palestine, said that King was an inspiration to blacks as well as other races, and his message of love and peace was awesome, no matter who you are. He also said that if King never existed, there would be a lot more hatred toward one another.

"I wish that I, along with many others, had the ambition and will power [of] the great Martin Luther King," he said.

YSU is celebrating his legacy by having its fifth annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. diversity breakfast in the Chestnut Room of Kilcawley Center today from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m.

please see **KING**, Page 6



Illustration courtesy of MCT Campus

### YSU

## New year brings changes in payroll system

Renee Hardman  
REPORTER

The New Year brings new ways to access your payroll, and if you are part-time faculty, ETS faculty, 18-pay faculty or a graduate assistant, the number of times you are paid has changed.

Beginning January 2007, the university's payroll eliminated paper pay stubs and began listing employee's pay online via the MyYSU portal. The new system is called the Banner HR/Payroll system and it can be

accessed 24 hours a day.

Executive Director of Financial Services Eileen Greaif said that there was a decision to stop using paper pay stubs because it saves paper, reduces costs and takes advantage of the Banner system's functionality. Employees can now view their pay with more updated information.

The system allows employees to check their pay stubs, benefits, sick leaves and deductions, as well as change their personal information if necessary.

Since pay stubs are no longer print-

ed, some employees will have to sign a pay sheet in order to receive their pay.

Senior Diane Smith, who works in Kilcawley Center, said that she appreciated the paper pay stubs, and used them to file her payment history.

"Now I have to sign a pay sheet, check information online and it just makes it more difficult to keep everything organized," Smith said.

Junior Rachel Rhoads agreed with Smith. Rhoads, who also works in Kilcawley, said that she doesn't like

please see **PAYROLL**, Page 6



YSU

# DVDs in Kilcawley at the touch of a button

**Renee Hardman**  
REPORTER

If you think you can only get chips and candy bars out of a vending machine, think again. There is a new vending machine at Youngstown State University, and it dispenses movies.

The DVD Rentals machine is a type of vending machine that allows customers to rent or buy DVD new releases.

Automated DVD Systems, the company that brought the machine to Kilcawley, currently has a machine in Giant Eagle on Belmont Avenue and are in the process of placing more out in the public.

Customers may rent a DVD for \$2.99 for the first day, and then every additional day the DVD is out, an additional 99 cents will be charged to the customer's credit card.

The machine accepts MasterCard, Visa, American Express and Discover. For customers who are weary of placing their credit card in the machine, Geno Capone of Automated DVD Systems said, "We're using the top-rated companies for processing global payments, everything is encrypted."

Capone also said that using your credit card in the machine is just like using it at a restaurant or a gas pump.

Customers can be reassured that no one is able to see

their credit card number, and the only thing visible to Automated DVD Systems is the customer's name and what they rented.

Manager of a local Movie Gallery, Matthew Palmer, doesn't think the new DVD machines will take away from the movie store's business.

"People aren't going to trust a machine with their credit card numbers, or for accurately scanning movies back into the system," Palmer said.

Palmer also said that the machine can't deal with face to face customer complaints.

"If a customer has a problem at a video store, whether it's having a movie checked in or a scratched DVD, they can walk in and get it taken care of right away, but with a machine, good luck," Palmer said.

Capone said that the DVD rental machine started 12 to 18 months ago, beginning with the McDonald's corporation.

"The machines started out west and they did very well," Capone said.

Junior Michael Bollas lived in Denver, and said he first noticed a DVD machine out West in a McDonald's. Bollas frequently rented movies from the machine.

"I didn't go [to a store] to rent, I went to the machine," Bollas said.

Bollas said that the machine in Kilcawley is a little too expensive.

"In Denver the rentals were \$1 a night," Bollas said. "I don't think I'd use it now."

While Bollas never experienced any problems using the machine, Junior Lisa Chesnak wasn't too sure if she would use it.

"I don't feel safe putting my credit card in the machine," Chesnak said.

Chesnak also said that she doesn't like that the machine only displays new releases.

"If I went to a movie store, I could rent something from a long time ago if I wanted

to," Chesnak said.

Chesnak and Bollas both said that they think the dorms would be a more appropriate place for the machine instead of in Kilcawley.

As for its spot in Kilcawley Center, "Our goal is to keep it there as a fixture," Capone said.



Photo / Renee Hardman  
Student purchases a DVD from the machine located in Kilcawley.

## Stipulations to DVD rental:

- \$20 late fee if DVD is not returned within 10 days, plus daily fees
- If DVD is returned damaged, a maximum \$30 fee will be charged
- Customers have five minutes to return the DVD without being charged.

## Oakland is set to delivery 'Baby'

**Rudi Whitmore**  
FEATURES REPORTER

The finishing touches have been put on the set, the actors have reinforced their steps for a final time, and with music and lighting in place, "Baby" is set to deliver.

Premiering at the Oakland Center for the Arts on Jan. 19, "Baby" is a musical set in a present-day college campus, and revolves around the lives of three couples as they deal with having- or not having- a baby.

With a cast composed of old hands and new faces together, "Baby" pulls in fresh-faced enthusiasm and stage-seasoned grace.

"Baby", with seven Tony Award nominations, made its Broadway debut in 1983 and was written by Sybille Pearson and David Shire and Richard Maltby Jr composed the score.

The play strings together the lives of three couples: Lizzie and Danny, college juniors played by Stephanie Ottey and Michael J. Moritz Jr who are surprised by a pregnancy, two coaches, Pam and Nick having trouble conceiving played by Sara Klimenko and Matthew Whitem and the last couple, Alan and Arlene, having a change-of-life baby, played by Ed Smoth and Geri DeWitt-Tichnor.

Directed by Joanne Carney Smith, with over 25 years of experience at the Oakland Center, "Baby" shines and at turns is warm and playful, then unsure and sad. The mood throughout the entire play is fun, littered with bits of wisdom and tongue-in-cheek anecdotes.

Morowitz does a wonderful job of being the music director as well as a leading man, guiding the cast and chorus in numbers like, "I Want It All," "The Ladies Singing

Their Song," and the hilarious "Fatherhood Blues." Choreography throughout the entire play, done by Colleen Crish, is crisp and entertaining.

Leslie Brown designed the set and lighting, with simplicity and style. The set is versatile, but the attention to detail is meticulous, down to the ivy and bricking on the buildings.

Playgoers of any age can enjoy the catchy tunes, and the easy way the actors carry the plot of impending parenthood. The Oakland is an all-volunteer theater, but the cast's dedication and heart is professional.

"Baby" will debut on Jan. 19 at 8 p.m. Other show times include Jan. 20, 26, and 27 at 8 p.m.



Chorus in 'Baby' reacts to news of Lizzie's pregnancy.

Photo / Rudi Whitmore

## News in brief

### YSU Women's Club scholarships

Application deadline for five Youngstown State University Women's Club \$1,000 scholarships is Feb. 15.

Application forms can be found at the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships in Meshel Hall, at the Bytes and Pieces counter in Kilcawley Center or online at [www.ysu.edu/finaid/scholarships](http://www.ysu.edu/finaid/scholarships)

Applications should be returned to Denise Walters Dobson, the College of Arts and Sciences, DeBartolo Hall, Room B15, Youngstown, Ohio 44555.

### YSU weekend sports

Saturday, Jan. 20, 1 p.m. The YSU swimming/diving squad faces St. Francis/Radford in the Beeghly Natatorium.

Saturday, Jan. 20, 7:05 p.m. YSU men's basketball team takes on Cleveland State in Beeghly Center.

## Classified

### Help Wanted

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

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Wendelin Steel, located in Youngstown/Varren area is looking for candidates for part-time or full-time positions in our warehouse, no degree required. Duties include light industrial work with flexible hours. Position has substantial growth potential. Starting at \$9.00/hr. Fax or e-mail Arick Martin at 330-259-0792 or [amartin@wendelinsteel.com](mailto:amartin@wendelinsteel.com).

### Housing

Large 1 BR apt @ 205 Park. All utilities included. \$450/Mo. Phone 330-747-0500

2 BR apt. @ 207 Park Ave. \$335/MO. plus gas & electric. Phone 330-747-0500.

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Classy one- bedroom carriage house on historical Fifth Avenue property. \$400.00 per month. **Includes all utilities & laundry facility.** 330-506-0885.

### Miscellaneous

Travel with STS to this year's top 10 Spring Break destinations! Best deals guaranteed. Highest rep commissions! Visit [www.ststravel.com](http://www.ststravel.com) or call 1-800-648-4849. Great group discounts.

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YSU

Ski resorts plan weekend opening

Britta Snowberger  
FEATURES REPORTER

With recent warmer-than-average temperatures, ski resorts struggled to make snow, as they watched their hopes of a successful and profitable winter season melt away. Many resorts have not yet opened. Some have given up and will not operate at all this winter.

However, this week's blast of wintry weather has skiers and snowboarders thinking optimistically about shredding the slopes before spring arrives. Two resorts within 125 miles of Youngstown are open, allowing skiers and boarders to traverse only a few trails. Four other nearby resorts are in the process of making snow, with tentative opening dates later this week.

Ohio ski resorts Boston Mills and Brandywine in Peninsula and Alpine Valley in Chesterland provide the nearest facilities for snow sports, both located approximately 60 miles from campus. Boston Mills and Brandywine (BMBW) are separate resorts, operated by the same organization on

the same mountain, with similar hours and prices. Both offer 10 trails, while Alpine Valley boasts 11.

At a rate of about \$2 an hour, Mountainview Ski Area in Mount Pleasant, Pa. offers the most affordable lift tickets. At Mountainview, an all-day ticket for Saturday, during which the ski area is open 12 hours, costs \$25. BMBW ranks a close second at \$2.69 an hour, and Snow Trails Ski Area in Mansfield, Ohio, comes in third at \$3.36 an hour.

Ski rentals at Mountainview Ski Area are the cheapest around at \$10, while snowboard rentals at Hidden Valley Four Season Resort in Hidden Valley, Pa. are easiest on the wallet at \$20. Ski rentals at nearby resorts like Snow Trails Ski Area may cost up to \$28, while snowboard rentals at facilities like Seven Springs Mountain Resort in Seven Springs, Pa. may demand up to \$36.

For those who are unable or choose not to ski or snowboard, snow tubing is available at all six resorts. Tubing is available in two-hour or three-hour sessions, and prices range from \$13 to \$20.

Since skiing and snowboarding may prove costly for cash-strapped college students, Mountainview Ski Area and Brandywine advertise special deals for students with college IDs. Mountainview offers discounted lift tickets and rentals to students, and

Brandywine provides students with discounted lift tickets during Friday's late night sessions. Brandywine also holds Ladies' Night at Saturday's late night session, during which women receive cheaper lift tickets.

These deals are popular with YSU students, as sophomores Matt McCreary and Heather Maronen take advantage of as many discounted trips as possible.

Maronen, a skier, frequents Brandywine when there is snow.

"I ski at Brandywine once a week because they have a college night," she said.

A snowboarder, McCreary enjoys the late nights at Brandywine, but he favors the location of Seven Springs Mountain Resort. Because of the distance, he said that traveling to Seven Springs is "like a getaway."

Both students plan to visit local ski resorts on a weekly basis as soon as temperatures permit. If resort owners get their wish, the slopes will finally open this weekend. Students can get the scoop on each resort's snow status via the Internet.

Pictures courtesy of MCTcampus.com



2006  
Out with the old

Cristina Cala  
COPY EDITOR

2007  
In with the new



Celebrity babies	Celebrities adopting babies
John Habat	John Habat's paycheck
Pittsburgh Steelers	New Orleans Saints
Firing YSU employees	Reassigning YSU employees
Prince on "American Idol"	Prince at the Super Bowl
FOX's "So You Think You Can Dance"	"So You Think You Can Dance: YSU Style" at Andrews Rec Center
Republicans in Congress	Democrats in Congress
Dirty denim	Dark denim
Bush bombing Iraq	Bush bombing Somalia
Saddam in captivity	Saddam in a noose
George W. Bush's approval rate, January 2006: 44 percent	George W. Bush's approval rate, January 2007: 40 percent (Source: www.rasmussenreports.com)
Justin Timberlake on Cameron Diaz	Justin Timberlake on The 2007 Futuresex/Loveshow tour
Tom Cruise vs. Paramount Pictures	Rosie O'Donnell vs. Donald Trump
Britney Spears the Mom	Britney Spears the Drunk
Pencil-thin Nicole Ritchie	Pencil skirts
Ohio elephants	Ohio donkeys
Accessorizing with animals	Accessorizing with animal prints
Sacha Baron Cohen in a neon man-thong	Sacha Baron Cohen in a three-piece suit
Guys in girls' jeans	Guys in fitted jeans
Men's sweater vests	Men's sweaters
Gacho pants	Skinny jeans
Motorola Razor	Iphone, LG enV and Chocolate phones
Tights and boots	Dresses or skirts paired with boots and tights
Accentuating the hips with a belt	Accentuating the waist with a belt
Tattered and torn jeans	Clean, cropped pants, coats and sleeves
Layers of chunky jewelry	'70s glam gold and metallics
DVD	Blue-Ray
Microsoft's Xbox 360	Nintendo's Wii
Dark fall fabrics	Winter white

Upcoming  
events

Thursday, January 18

Tom Foss, Comedian  
from Funny Farm Comedy Club  
11am—12noon  
Peaberry's Café

Friday, Jan. 19

-Eric Ryan  
Productions presents  
When All Else Fails with  
special guests Crimson Dawn at  
The Cellar. Doors open at 7 p.m. 18  
and over.  
-Beefist, Lazy Ass Destroyer at  
The Royal Oaks. Show starts at 10  
p.m.  
-SteelHounds vs. Bossier-  
Shreveport at the Chevrolet Centre.  
Game starts at 7:05 p.m.

Saturday, Jan. 20

-Eric Ryan Productions presents  
Disco Inferno at The Cellar. Doors  
open at 9 p.m. Show begins at 10  
p.m. Tickets \$5 for 21 and over, \$7  
for ages 18-20. 18 and over.  
-Skull'RZ Bane at The Side Door  
in Salem. Show starts at 9 p.m.  
—SteelHounds vs. Bossier-  
Shreveport at the Chevrolet Centre.  
Game starts at 7:05 p.m.

Sunday, Jan. 21

American Commodore Tuxedo  
Bridal Show at Stambaugh  
Auditorium. Begins at 11:30 a.m.

Tuesday, January 23 and  
Wednesday, January 24

Blood Drive  
Sponsored by Student Government  
and the American Red Cross  
9am—4:30pm  
Chestnut Room



# JAMBAR Editorial & Opinion

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Thursday, January 18, 2007

## THE Jambar

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The Jambar is published twice weekly during the fall and spring semesters and weekly during the summer sessions. The first copy of The Jambar is free; each additional copy is five cents. Mail subscriptions are \$25 per academic year. Since being founded by Burke Lyden in 1931, The Jambar has won nine Associated Collegiate Press Honors.

### OUR SIDE

## Strickland's education promises could pay off

Governor Ted Strickland campaigned with a vision to improve higher education in the state of Ohio. Now it's time to show Ohio's college students how much better our education can be.

Strickland wants to change the way Ohioans think about education and increase the perceived value of a degree. Something we, as college students, have already learned is the value of our college education.

Strickland most importantly wants to find ways to stop the pesky end-of-the-year tuition increases, which he refers to as "explosions."

While Youngstown State University President David Sweet may argue that YSU is a low-cost university compared to other colleges across the state, no college student wants to see another tuition increase.

YSU students should be in favor of Strickland's plan, if he can come through on his promises.

The governor wants other colleges to look to the University of Toledo, which placed a hold on the tuition increase, as a model university. Finally, a governor on the side of the college students.

Strickland is also in favor of creating a system of higher education to which all Ohio universities must adhere. The system will thread all the institutions together into one cohesive group.

His planned improvements will hopefully result in a better education system in Ohio and a better educational experience that won't hurt our wallets.

## Spring semester means winter woes

Welcome back to another semester at Youngstown State University. While the four weeks off were full of warmer weather, Mother Nature graciously reminded us that it is still winter, just in time for the start of spring classes.

Like every other spring semester, it's time to layer on the clothes, scarves, hats and gloves and plot detours through extra buildings to stay warm while walking from class to class.

The cold, wet and heavy snowfall during the first day back to classes retuned us to the reality that January means school time.

No more sleeping until noon, blowing a whole paycheck at the after-Christmas sales and staying out all night with nowhere to be in the morning,

Now it's time to buy books, write papers, stress over group projects and use your money to help pay for your education instead of a new wardrobe.

We're back to the battlefield, fighting for the last parking spot at 10 a.m. after following people to their cars just to park and make it to class on time.

Sigh...

The sunshine at the end of the tunnel is only 15 weeks away.

*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.*



### COMMENTARY

## iPhone is easy to use, lose, abuse

Rudi Whitmore  
FEATURES REPORTER

Representatives of the new iPhone from Apple keep talking about ushering in a "new era" for technology. In essence, the iPhone combines your cell phone, mp3 player and laptop into one small, easy-to-lose-abuse-and-or-drop device.

As far as the technology goes, Apple rarely fails to impress, but as college students, are iPhones right for most of us? At a cost of almost \$500 for the 4 GB memory version, most would laugh and keep stirring their Ramen Noodles.

It doesn't sound like too much until you process what you've already spent on electronics that do the exact same thing your new toy would.

At Best Buy, the cheapest 2 GB mp3 player sell for about \$100, and that new LG Chocolate phone is \$299 without a plan.

Laptops can run from \$600 to \$1,300 without breaking a sweat.

For a business exec on the go, maybe having everything rolled into one iPhone can cut out a lot of hassle, but for a student, it seems excessive. Cell phones are easy to lose, forget or, quite memorably, get dropped down a storm drain. But they're also inexpensive to replace. I doubt Apple would replace your iPhone, even under warranty, after a story about, "I dunno how it got water damage; it just all of a sudden stopped working..."

With a hundred dollars more, you could buy a PS3, and for half that price, a Wii.

Besides the fact that tuition isn't cheapening and the rest of your loan money is already tied up in rent, books, cable bills and the occasional \$1.50 shots at University Pizzeria's shot night, take a quick look at where or what that extra \$500 could get you:

- 33 concert tickets at \$15 a piece
- 166 double cheeseburgers, 166 orders of fries and 166 soft drinks off the dollar menu at McDonalds.
- 228 gallons of gas at the going rate of \$2.19.
- 7 16-gallon kegs at a mid-range of \$65
- Or spend \$280 on a ticket to Ft. Lauderdale for spring break, and keep the rest for a hotel and those drinks with the umbrellas in them.
- Are iPhones awesome? Most likely, with only one physical button, sensitive touchscreens, GPS technology and Internet capabilities, all tied up with pretty, crystal clear graphics and all the music you can cram onto them.
- But remember, wouldn't that be an amazing gift, for an important graduate about to wander into the world, from proud, teary-eyed parents?

### COMMENTARY

## As the Duke case implodes

McClatchy  
MCT CAMPUS

Our criminal justice system most notoriously fails two kinds of people: wrongly convicted defendants, and crime victims whose guilty assailants walk free. Privileged young men who attend elite colleges and face charges of violent sex offenses usually don't attract public sympathy. That may be why the story of a black woman who said three white players on the Duke University men's lacrosse team raped her possessed an air of plausibility from the start.

This case may yield victims, but it appears less and less likely that the woman is one of them. On Friday, Durham, N.C., County District Attorney Mike Nifong recused himself from his imploding case and handed what's left of it to North Carolina's attorney general, Roy Cooper.

This saga began last March when a 28-year-old student at North Carolina Central

University performed as an exotic dancer at a party hosted by lacrosse team members. She accused three players of raping her during the party. David Evans, 23, Collin Finnerty, 21, and Reade Seligmann, 20, were indicted for rape, kidnapping and other sexual offenses.

Nifong announced last month that the rape charges were being dropped because the woman was no longer certain she had been penetrated vaginally. Duke then offered to reinstate Finnerty and Seligmann; Evans graduated in May. The three deny they committed any crime, but the remaining serious charges against them leave them facing the possibility of long prison terms.

Nifong's case has produced more hot-button rhetoric than compelling evidence that any Duke lacrosse players are guilty of more than house-party boorishness. The question now is whether Nifong railroaded them to help his ultimately successful campaign for re-election.

Early on, Nifong certainly got creative for the cameras. He said there was a "deep racial motivation" behind the players' alleged assault. He called them "a bunch of hooligans."

But those accusations haven't held up. The alleged victim has given contradictory statements about the attack \_ including a newly disclosed version in which she was attacked by two players while a third watched. Police conducted unorthodox photo line-ups; in one, the woman identified her alleged attackers after she was shown only photos of lacrosse team players and a few other men who attended the party. The exercise didn't include photos of certifiably uninvolved men.

There was a "60 Minutes" interview in which a second stripper at the lacrosse team party said the rape charge was bogus. Then this revelation exploded last month: The lab director in charge of a second set of DNA tests admitted under oath that, in a secret deal with Nifong, he withheld infor-

mation that the DNA of other males \_ but not from any lacrosse team members \_ had been found on the woman.

North Carolina bar officials have filed an ethics complaint against Nifong for making misleading and inflammatory comments about the case in the media. He could face disbarment. Defense lawyers have demanded that the remaining charges be dropped. From this vantage, it's hard to see why Attorney General Cooper wouldn't investigate and then do as the defense asks.

If that happens, the list of Nifong's victims will start with the defendants. But that list also will include Duke faculty members, students and Durham residents who, caught up in the symbolism and politics of the case, initially rushed to judge them guilty. One other group of victims: women everywhere who, because of this case, may have a harder time persuading police and prosecutors to bring sexual assailants to justice.



## Reviews of recent video game releases

**Billy O'Keefe**  
McCLATCHY  
(MCT)

**KARAOKE REVOLUTION PRESENTS: AMERICAN IDOL**  
**For: Playstation 2**  
**From: Blitz/Konami**  
**ESRB Rating: Everyone 10+ (Lyrics)**

The first "American Idol" game for the PS2, released by Codemasters in 2003, was a sloppy rhythm game that looked weird, involved no singing and only loosely resembled Fox's cash cow TV series.

This, on the other hand, makes sense. Konami will find any reason it can to churn out another "Karaoke Revolution" game — this is its fifth in barely more than three years on the PS2 alone — and it's almost ridiculous that such a popular show has no worthy video game counterpart after all these years. It's a dual back-scratching match made in heaven, and it (mostly) works in both parties' favor.

In almost every respect, "Karaoke Revolution Presents: American Idol" pays far better respect to the show than the first "Idol" game did. The venues — from the cheap sets seen during the audition episodes to the elaborate stage shows from later rounds — receive faithful recreations, and Randy Jackson and Simon Cowell (though not Paula Abdul, who is replaced by a generic female judge for who knows what reason) lend their likenesses. The soundtrack — 40 songs deep — comes culled from the show's best ("Do I Make You Proud") and worst ("She Bangs") moments, and you can complete the "Idol" challenge

either solo or with friends. As fan service goes, "KRP:AI" pretty much nails it without forgetting what made it popular in its own right.

Those uninterested in the "Idol" trimmings will find this latest "Revolution" anything but a song pack and little more, really. The soundtrack includes a handful of non-"Idol" songs, and "KRP:AI" brings back EyeToy support, eight-player multiplayer, character customization and many modes from previous games in the series. Just don't expect anything you haven't seen before: The bulk of creativity is reserved for the "Idol" license, and any broken ground will have to wait for the next "Revolution" game. Fortunately, if Konami has any say in the matter, it won't be a very long wait.

**UNTOLD LEGENDS: DARK KINGDOM**  
**For: Playstation 3**  
**From: Sony Online Entertainment**  
**ESRB Rating: Teen (Blood, Violence)**

"Untold Legends: Dark Kingdom" is a slightly above-average dungeon crawler. That in itself is pretty good news: The previous two "Untold Legends" games — both exclusive to the PSP — couldn't even approach average.

At least fundamentally, the series' move to a console — and a rather powerful one at that — has paid off. It's snappier and prettier, and using a controller with dual analog sticks is immensely better than loafing around with the PSP's lousy analog nub.

But early adopters expect a little something more than "looks better

than a PSP game" when it comes to a \$60 new game for that \$600 new system. And while "Kingdom" is fun at its core and a clear step up from its predecessors, it fails to approach the depth of some far less expensive PS2 dungeon crawlers you can play via backward compatibility.

Blame some boneheaded omissions. Combat in "Kingdom" is fast, arcade-y and fun, but you're stuck using the same — albeit upgradeable — weapon throughout. There are three playable characters from which to choose at the start, but the inability to change attack plans on the fly robs the game of one of the genre's most important features. Spells and plunder add variety, but it's not enough. Similar limitations crop up with regard to armor and special items. If treasure hoarding is the reason you enjoy these games, boredom will come quickly.

"Legends" falls short in other ways as well. It looks nice but mediocre by next-generation standards, and the quest falls on the thin side for a game of this sort. The online component (co-op, 1-4 players) is a nice touch, but the omission of voice chat supports undoes any illusion of real teamwork.

If you're A.) hungry for a new dungeon crawler and B.) desperate to give your PS3 some attention, your best option is to rent "Kingdom," grab a friend, take on the two-player offline co-op together, and leave it at that. "Kingdom's" thirst for fast action makes it well worth playing, but the lack of meat around the bones makes it impossible to recommend as a full-price purchase.

YSU

## Dance competition to take place in Andrews

**Laura Neely**  
REPORTER

Students have a chance to get down and boogie at the "So You Think You Can Dance" competition from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. Tuesday at the Andrews Recreation and Wellness Center.

"We wanted to try something different and we figured almost everyone likes to dance," said Mandy Potkonicky, chair of the event.

From 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. it is open dance for anyone. A panel of nine judges, made up of students as well as professional dancers, will be circulating the dance floor and distribute numbers to the best dancers. Dancers will be judged based on their style and technique.

From 8 p.m. to 9 p.m., those selected will attend a

class taught by a Fred Astaire Dance Studio's instructor and the competition continues from 9 p.m. to 9:45 p.m. More dancers will be eliminated until the winner will be chosen by crowd appeal.

The winners will receive prizes, including a dance package from Fred Astaire Dance Studio's. Throughout the event, Recreation Center workers will be passing out special prize packets every half hour to the audience. There will also be free food.

Kollin Rupert, supervisor of the Recreation Center facility said, "I have high hopes for this event. Based on the success that our Foam and Dance party has had, I think this event could do really well. This will be a really fun way to welcome students back."

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**Traverse City North Stars**

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### Take a time out to control your anger

McCLATCHY  
(MCT)

Anger is a normal human emotion. But sometimes it can boil over at inopportune or inappropriate moments.

If angry outbursts occur on a regular basis, that may be a sign of an anger-management problem.

Here are some anger-management tips, courtesy of the Mayo Clinic:

Pour your anger into physical activity, such as exercise. For instance, you can go for a walk or a run, swim a few laps, hit the weights or shoot some hoops. Practice deep-breathing

exercises, visualize a relaxing scene, or repeat a calming word or phrase to calm and soothe you. Listening to music, painting or writing in a journal can also reduce the anger level.

Consider what you'll say carefully before you speak. You don't want to end up blurting out something that will haunt you.

Practice a bit of syntax. Use "I" statements when describing the problem to avoid placing blame. For instance, say "I'm upset you didn't help with the housework this evening," instead of, "You should have helped with the housework."

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The Reproductive Center, Robert L. Collins, M.D.

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Where: 7401 Market Street, #795A  
When: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.  
Who: SFC Kenneth Abruzzini





KING, continued from page 1

The Rev. Kenneth Paramore is the guest speaker. He is the pastor of United Baptist Church in Akron and the Christian Revival Discipleship Center in Youngstown.

Moorer said it is important as an institution of higher learning to pay King homage.

"His beliefs in non-violence resistance are critical in all races. He taught us how to demonstrate without hurting anyone. He truly was for justice for all people. And for those who understand that truly show him honor."

Traish, who feels that YSU is a very diverse school, agrees with Moorer and said that celebration of his legacy is very important for all races. "It's also important we celebrate this day so we don't forget how many men, women and children did what they felt it would take to actually make a change in this world."

Freshman LaToya Howell said, "Celebrating world- and life-changing history tends to prick the hearts of those that really remember legacies. I think we

should, just for a moment, put ourselves in his shoes and imagine what it would have been like to go through all that he went through, and really have a heart's appreciation for the sacrifices he made so that we can have the freedom that we have today."

Traish and Howell said equality among mainly African Americans was something that King fought for, but he didn't limit his fight for blacks only. He fought for humanity.

"Martin Luther King had a vision that made a person's character, not skin color, important. He also wanted a society that is diverse and very much humane, and that's something we can all share. So not only are we celebrating black pride, but we are all celebrating diversity together," Traish said.

Senior Sara Wise agrees that King fought for equality and feels that his dream continues to live on each day because society continues to hurdle racial obstacles as worldly racial relationships are improving.

"It's not just an African American celebration; Martin Luther King changed everyone's lives, so everyone needs to celebrate," Wise said.

Wan-Tatah and Howell feel that the younger generation doesn't understand the history of his fight and needs to be taught and exposed to the tradition.

"We have to teach ourselves to deal with each other's differences and problems and how to survive in a hostile world where people capitalize on people that are weaker than them. We need to carry on where people left off. This is life and a change they need to grasp immediately," Wan-Tatah said.

Moorer and Wan-Tatah have been to King's gravesite memorial in Atlanta. Moorer said it was an eerie feeling being there, and even though King lived on this earth a short while, he lived his life well.

"Oh, what an impact he made. That would teach us all to use our time wisely."

STRICKLAND, continued from page 1

Strickland's view on the educational culture throughout the state.

"We here in the valley are challenged, our educational attainment trails the state and the state trails the country," Sweet said.

Peachock said, "If high schoolers know that college is more than money and class, and that it is more of an experience, I think the mindset will change,"

Freshman Angela Patterson said that influencing students to continue in college is a good thing.

Sweet said he hopes YSU would also be seen as a model university in the state. He said there are several key components to YSU's success that would help to serve as a model to other colleges:

- YSU's increasing enrollment rate
- The highest enrollment percentage increase in the state
- YSU's partnerships with local school districts through the creation of the Youngstown Early College
- YSU's partnerships with the community, local businesses and the mayor to revitalize the campus and the city
- YSU's above-average student retention rates and job attainment rates after graduation.

TEXTBOOKS, continued from page 1

clear, students; this is only the number of days the order takes to arrive to Amazon. According to the Web site, if students were to select the standard U.S. shipping method, an order can take as long as five to eight business days to arrive.

Sharing books with classmates can have its pitfalls too, with students having to take turns studying from the text, especially right before an exam.

"You can easily get ripped off if you share books with someone you don't know very well or buy books from a former student who took the class," warned Griffin.

While easier access and convenience will lead additional students to the YSU Bookstore and Campus Book and Supply this semester, choosing the traditional

store-bought option can have its ugly side too. The high costs of textbooks can leave students financially strapped for the remainder of the semester. These higher-than-average prices can be partially attributed to the gross margin of sales found in university bookstores.

The NACS's 2006 College Store Industry Financial Report found an average gross margin of 22.3 percent on new textbooks among nationwide colleges. The gross margin is the difference between what the college bookstore paid for the textbooks and the amount they chose to charge the students. Weighing factors that can increase the price of books for students include the personnel costs, costs related to operating the store (such as utilities), and the cost of

freight.

In response to the high prices tagged on textbooks, Textbook Manager John Thomas of Campus Book and Supply felt the responsibility lies with the author and publisher of the textbooks.

"They arrive to us with a set price," said Thomas. "All we do is mark it up to its retail price."

Students coming in to purchase books do unload some expected frustrations upon emptying their wallets, according to Thomas, who has witnessed a fair share of students fume over prices.

"I'll hear, 'This is a rip off,' 'Why's this so much?' or 'Do I really need this?' from customers."

The YSU Bookstore could not be reached for comment.

PAYROLL, continued from page 1

having to go online to view her pay.

"I don't like it. What if I'm not near a computer? Then I can't check it," Rhoads said.

If anyone has trouble accessing a computer, there is a station available in the Payroll Office.

According to the Manager of Payroll Operations Ron Granger, the new system has implemented a change of how many times employees are being paid. Hourly employees are now paid bi-weekly, and salaried employees are paid semi-monthly.

Part-time faculty will be paid eight semi-monthly pays, on the 15th, and then on the last day of the month. Part-time faculty, ETS faculty, 18-pay full-time faculty and graduate assistants will fall under the Banner semi-monthly taxing category.

According to Granger, based on the current W-4 tax forms, federal and state taxes will increase because the Banner's logic system calculates taxable pay over a year. This change may cause employ-

ees to be taxed more than they were before.

Employees need to fill out a new W-4 tax form based on the federal and state semi-monthly charts. These forms are available online at <http://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/fw4.pdf>, in the Payroll Office or in the Kilcawley Training Room.

Greaft wants employees to know that if they have any questions, to call the payroll office.

"Some employees may have questions concerning pay, which then they should call the payroll office; some may have questions about their employment record, which then they should call the Office of Human Resources," Greaft said.

HR and Payroll teams will help employees through the new Banner system. There will be training in the Kilcawley Training Room on Jan. 31 from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Feb. 1 from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Want proof? Go to [debunkify.com](http://debunkify.com).

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# Department of Campus Recreation • Spring 2007



**Tuesday | January 23 | 7-10PM**  
**Andrews Recreation Center**  
**Food | Prizes | Music**

Redeem this coupon during "So You Think You Can Dance - YSU Style"  
at Andrews Rec Center front desk for a Spring 2007 Calendar and Campus Rec Lanyard.

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Competition**

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More info at [www.ysu.edu/reccenter](http://www.ysu.edu/reccenter)  
or stop by Rec Center  
front desk

## Men's, Women's and Co-Rec INTRAMURAL SPORTS SPRING 2007

### Officials Meeting

**Registration Deadline:** January 18  
**Play Days:** Thursday  
**Play Begins:** 6:30 pm

### Basketball

**Registration Deadline:** January 30  
**Captain's Meeting:** February 1  
**Play Days:** Sundays  
**Play Begins:** February 4, 10:30 am

### Dodgeball

**Registration Deadline:** February 6  
**Captain's Meeting:** February 8  
**Play Days:** Tuesdays  
**Play Begins:** February 13, 7 pm

### Arena Football

**Registration Deadline:** February 6  
**Captain's Meeting:** February 8  
**Play Days:** Mondays  
**Play Begins:** February 12, 7 pm

### Volleyball

**Registration Deadline:** February 13  
**Captain's Meeting:** February 15  
**Play Days:** Thursdays  
**Play Begins:** February 22, 7 pm

### \*Inner Tube Water Polo

**Registration Deadline:** February 13  
**Captain's Meeting:** February 15  
**Play Days:** Tuesdays  
**Play Begins:** February 20, 7 pm

### + •8 Ball Pool Tournament

**Registration Deadline:** February 20/March 20  
**Captain's Meeting:** Day of  
**Play Days:** Wednesday  
**Play Begins:** February 21/March 21, 5 pm

### \* •Table Tennis Tournament

**Registration Deadline:** February 20  
**Captain's Meeting:** February 22  
**Play Days:** Thursday  
**Play Begins:** February 22, 7 pm

### \*Texas Hold'em Tournament

**Registration Deadline:** February 20  
**Captain's Meeting:** February 24  
**Play Days:** Saturday  
**Play Begins:** February 24, 10 am

### \* •Racquetball Tournament

**Registration Deadline:** February 27  
**Captain's Meeting:** March 1  
**Play Days:** Thursday  
**Play Begins:** March 1, 7 pm

### \*Scooter Soccer Tournament

**Registration Deadline:** March 5  
**Captain's Meeting:** March 6  
**Play Days:** Wednesday  
**Play Begins:** March 7, 7 pm

### \*March Madness U-Pick 'em

**Registration Deadline:** March 15  
**Play Begins:** March 15

### \*Sweet 16 – Pick 'em

**Registration Deadline:** March 22  
**Play Begins:** March 22

### \*Indoor Soccer League

**Registration Deadline:** March 20  
**Captain's Meeting:** March 24  
**Play Days:** Saturdays  
**Play Begins:** March 24, 10 am

### \*Flag Football Tournament

**Registration Deadline:** April 3  
**Captain's Meeting:** April 15  
**Play Days:** Sunday  
**Play Begins:** April 15 and 22, 10 am

Individuals wanting to play team sports may sign up on the draft sheet to be placed on a team (also located at Andrews Recreation and Wellness Center Administrative offices by the registration deadline.

\*No fee required.  
●Seeding done on site.  
+\$2 fee (paid on site).

Participation in the championship game is required in order to receive a t-shirt for 1st place and a mug for 2nd place.

## Weight Watchers

16 Week Session for \$180.00  
**Information/Registration Meeting:** Wednesday, January 17th  
**Time:** 12:00-12:45 p.m.  
**Location:** Andrews Student Recreation & Wellness Center  
\*\*Session Will Run January 24—May 9\*\*

**Contact:** Joy Polkabila Byers  
**Phone:** (330) 941-2242



## New to the Rec?

Call Joy Polkabila Byers at 330-941-2242 to schedule a tour and receive a Rec Pac!

## Group X Schedule (January 22nd - May 11th)

### Monday

6:45-7:45 am  
**SPINNING**  
Ab/SPINNING Area

12:15-1:15 pm  
**Yoga Basics®**  
Studio A

12:15-1:15 pm  
**SPINNING**  
Ab/SPINNING Area

3:00-4:00 pm  
**Tai Chi®**  
Studio A

5:15-6:15 pm  
**Butts & Guts**  
Studio B

6:00-7:00 pm  
**SPINNING**  
Ab/SPINNING Area

6:25-7:25 pm  
**Sports Conditioning**  
Studio B

7:35-8:35 pm  
**Pilates Sampler**  
Studio A

8:45-9:45 pm  
**Ballroom Dance®**  
Studio A

### Tuesday

6:45-7:45 am  
**Yoga Sampler**  
Studio A

12:15-1:15 pm  
**Pilates Basics®**  
Studio A

12:15-1:15 pm  
**SPINNING**  
Ab/SPINNING Area

3:00-4:00pm  
**Self Defense®**  
Studio A

5:30-6:30 pm  
**Cardio Kickboxing**  
Studio B

6:35-7:20 pm  
**Butts & Guts**  
Studio B

7:25-8:25 pm  
**Step**  
Studio B

### Wednesday

6:45-7:45 am  
**Tread 'N SPINN**  
Cardio & Ab/SPINNING Areas

12:15-1:15 pm  
**Yoga Basics®**  
Studio A

12:15-1:15 pm  
**SPINNING**  
Ab/SPINNING Area

5:15-6:15 pm  
**Cardiolates**  
Studio B

6:00-7:00 pm  
**SPINNING**  
Ab/SPINNING Area

6:25-7:25 pm  
**Yoga Sampler**  
Studio B

7:35-8:35 pm  
**Hip Hop Dance®**  
Studio A

### Thursday

6:45-7:45 am  
**Yoga Sampler**  
Studio A

12:15-1:15 pm  
**B4 Strength®**  
Studio A

12:15-1:15 pm  
**SPINNING**  
Ab/SPINNING Area

3:00-4:00pm  
**Self Defense®**  
Studio A

5:30-6:30 pm  
**Total Body w/Bosu**  
Studio B

6:35-7:20 pm  
**Butts & Guts**  
Studio B

7:25-8:25 pm  
**Step**  
Studio B

### Friday

6:45-7:45 am  
**SPINNING**  
Ab/SPINNING Area

12:15-1:15 pm  
**Pilates Basics®**  
Studio B

12:15-1:15 pm  
**SPINNING**  
Ab/SPINNING Area

5:15-6:15 pm  
**Pilates Sampler**  
Studio A

### Saturday

10:00-11:00 am  
**SPINNING**  
Ab/SPINNING Area



©Participants are encouraged to register for these Instructional Classes prior to January 29th to reserve a space. Space will be limited based on class formats.

For more information or to register for classes please call 330-941-3488.

## Smokeless: The Stop Smoking Program That Works!

**Dates:** February 6, 12 – 15, 19, 21, & 27.

**Time:** 12 – 1pm

**Location:** Andrews Student Recreation and Wellness Center Conference Room

Fee: Free to students and Andrews Student Recreation Wellness Center Faculty/Staff Members

\$21 material fee for non members

\* Must be a student, faculty or staff member of YSU to participate.



## Department of Campus Recreation Spring 2007 Hours of Operation

### Andrews Student Recreation and Wellness Center

6:30 am – 10:30 pm  
Monday – Thursday

6:30 am—9:00 pm  
Friday

10:00 am – 6:00 pm  
Saturday and Sunday

### Administrative Office

8:00 am – 8:00 pm  
Monday – Friday

### Beegly Physical Education Center

10:00 am – 8:00 pm  
Monday – Friday

10:00 am – 4:00 pm  
Saturday and Sunday

### Wellness Resource Center

10:00 am – 7:00 pm  
Monday and Wednesday

10:00 am – 5:00 pm  
Tuesday and Thursday

10:00 am – 12:00 noon  
Friday

Closed  
Saturday and Sunday

### Climbing Wall

4:00 pm – 9:30 pm  
Monday – Friday

12:00 noon – 6:00 pm  
Saturday and Sunday

### Stambaugh Sports Complex

11:00 am – 8:00  
Monday – Thursday

11:00 am – 2:00 pm  
Friday

Closed  
Saturday and Sunday

### Natatorium

11:00 am – 6:00 pm  
Monday and Wednesday

11:00 am – 8:00 pm  
Tuesday, Thursday, and  
Friday

12:00 pm – 3:45 pm  
Saturday and Sunday

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# JAMBAR Sports

## UPCOMING YSU SPORTS

- ▶ Today — W. Basketball @ UW-Milwaukee
- ▶ 1/20 — M.Basketball vs. Cleveland State
- ▶ 1/20 — Swimming vs. St. Francis/Radford

Thursday, January 18, 2007

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# If they're lucky, you will come

Some YSU teams have so few fans they would pay to hear voices. Any kind of voices.

Jake Glavies  
SPORTS EDITOR

Have you ever thrown a party that no one came to?

Maybe it was your eighth birthday and the kids just didn't show up.

Your parents sent out invitations.

But still no one showed.

"Why?" you asked yourself. "Don't my friends like me?"

A lot of athletes at Youngstown State University find themselves asking this same question after they compete: "Why didn't anyone come?"

According to Ian Birky, head of Counseling Services at Lehigh University, in some sports, audience turnout comes down to just giving the fans a reason to watch.

"Some sports, on average, will always pull more support, but the team that begins to win will usually pull fan support much greater than experienced in the past ... the difference between 100 and 1,000 fans can be very rewarding," he said.

Penguin softball player McKenzie Bedra has seen firsthand what winning games can do to team support.

As the squad made its improbable run toward the Horizon League Championship

last season, more and more people started to attend games.

"We always kind of joke about how no one comes to our games, but last year was kind of an inspiration," she said. "As we started winning, more people started coming ... when more people came it pumped us up even more."

For the YSU track teams, even winning it all won't bring out the crowds.

"Last year our girls were the Horizon League Champions and even kids on other sports teams at the school didn't know that," shot putter Aaron Merrill said.

"Some people don't even know we have a track team. If people would actually come out and cheer us on, I think that would help us out a bunch."

That's easier said than done, since fans have to travel 40 minutes just to see the team compete on its "home" track at Kent State University.

Merrill understands that fans can't always make the trip to Kent, but if they did, he said, it would really affect the

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YSU track team



squad. "If we did have more fan support I think it would be good for our program to know that people were actually interested," the shot putter said.

On the other end of the athletic spectrum, away from the empty track bleachers and softball stands, is the YSU football team.

Not only does the squad have a home on campus, it has a castle: an Ice Castle.

The football team is the cream of the Penguin-sports crop.

And for good reason: winning National Championships four times.

So it's understandable that the doors of Stambaugh Stadium opened a 2006 season average of 15,158 fans.

For senior cornerback Jason Perry, the crowd might as well pull on a jersey and strap up a helmet because it's part of the Penguin squad.

"That 12th man definitely helps us out on second and long and third downs. Just seeing the crowd get into it I think it gets everybody pumped up, and just gives us that extra edge to go out and make a play," he said.

Fellow teammate Marcus Mason knows the power of the crowd and has come to expect it.

"We know that Youngstown is going to be there at every game," he said.

## COMMENTARY

### Paying college athletes:

# Impossible or improbable?

Andrew Berry  
SPORTS REPORTER

It shouldn't be surprising how much money there is to be made off college athletics. With basketball tournaments, football playoffs, jersey sales and TV rights, the NCAA doesn't have a hard time paying the electric bill.

When it comes to Div. I football bowl games, one of the biggest athletic money-makers, schools receive payouts for participating in the event, win or lose. The more prestigious the game, the more money the university will receive.

But the athletes themselves aren't seeing a dime of that money, and if the NCAA has its way, they never will.

This issue is one of great debate: should college athletes receive financial income for playing?

Everyone but the players seem to be benefiting from the team's success, so why not cut them in on the action?

In reality, it's much more complicated.

If the NCAA ever decided to cut that first check they would first have to rewrite the colligate athletic rule-book.

But that's a BIG if.

A rule change like this would be doing nothing more than giving every

college in the country with athletic programs more headaches than they need.

Not every college sport produces sufficient revenue, if any at all to pay its athletes.

If a college had to fork over the cash it would be impossible to divide the stash fairly.

Football players would be getting paid the same as the lacrosse team, even though lacrosse brings in nowhere near what a home football game does.

If a university were to vote against equal distribution of revenue, they might find themselves being sued under the constitutions Title XI.

No American university would be able to get away with paying only the teams that actually brought in money.

But the million-dollar question really is: Where is all this money going to come from?

Not every college is fielding a championship football or basketball team season after season. Schools not getting big bowl payouts need the little money they have for their athletic departments, especially institutions not eligible for bowl appearances.

Elaine Jacobs, assistant director of athletics at Youngstown State University, believes there is a misconception on just how much money college athletics bring into the system.

"The Ohio State's of the world are few and far between," Jacobs said.

Paying college athletes at this time is not plausible. Even if there was a way around all the hurdles, there won't be enough pie to go around, and some athletes could end up with pieces smaller than their colligate counterparts.

It may sound like college athletes are getting taken for a ride, but looking at the big picture, getting a free-ride through college isn't a bad trade off.

"Student-athletes are already very well compensated with the education they receive," Jacobs said.

If all goes well, a student-athlete has the chance to graduate from their respective college experience with a solid education, virtually debt-free.

It is true that the players are the ones risking their well being, but they should be doing it for the love of the game and not for monetary gain.



## Penguin Basketball Standings

### Women

Teams	League	Overall
UW-Green Bay	4-0	13-3
UW-Milwaukee	3-1	7-10
Butler	3-2	6-10
UIC	3-3	9-9
Cleveland State	2-3	5-13
Youngstown State	2-3	4-11
Wright State	2-3	4-12
Loyola	2-4	4-13
Detroit	1-3	4-13

### Men

Teams	League	Overall
Wright State	4-1	11-7
UIC	4-1	9-9
Butler	3-1	15-2
Loyola	3-3	11-7
Youngstown State	3-3	8-10
UW-Green Bay	2-3	10-8
Detroit	2-3	5-11
UW-Milwaukee	2-4	5-14
Cleveland State	1-5	7-12