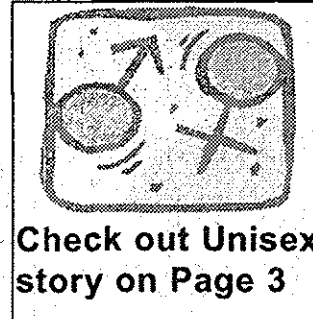


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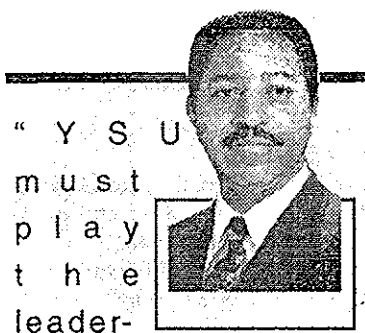


Vol. 83, Issue 63

Youngstown, Ohio

Thursday, June 28, 2001

Atwater gets provost post N. Ky. University official becomes first black in No. 2 spot



"Y S U must play the leadership role to revitalize the Youngstown and Warren areas."

—DR. TONY ATWATER
University Provost

By MIKE SANTILLO
Jambar Editor

Dr. Tony Atwater was officially introduced as the new provost and vice president for academic affairs yesterday during a press conference at Tod Hall. Atwater will become the first African American to hold the No. 2 position at YSU; Atwater will begin provost duties Aug. 1.

The provost is the chief academic officer of the university and is second in command to the president.

Atwater is dean of the College of Professional Studies and Education at Northern Kentucky University. Before his term at

Northern Kentucky, Atwater served as associate vice president of academic affairs at the University of Toledo.

Dr. David Sweet, president, said, "I'm confident in his ability to perform as provost. He has a strong sense of integrity, and I am looking forward to Aug. 1."

Atwater focused mainly on YSU being a metropolitan university and how great an asset that is.

Atwater said, "YSU can be a supreme example of a metropolitan university. A metropolitan university takes teaching to communities beyond boundaries. They touch the heart of people in enriching ways; it's a very powerful concept."

Atwater talked about the steel

mill closings; he said he looks at that as a golden opportunity for YSU to come to the rescue.

"YSU must play the leadership role to revitalize the Youngstown and Warren areas. There is a real opportunity to break some new ground and be viewed in a positive light," said Atwater.

Atwater already has some goals in mind.

"I want to strengthen the planning process to support the president's agenda. I plan to respond promptly to the needs and aspirations of the community. I'm a realist; I understand there is a flat budget situation, but I don't see that as a negative but a challenge."

See PROVOST, page 2

Arts fest 2001 puts accent on diversity

By MELISSA CENTOFANTI
Jambar Reporter

What do Scottish bagpipers, Hungarian Flamenco dancers and Chinese sword performers have in common?

Give up? For the entertainment and enlightenment of the Youngstown community, all will be featured at the third annual YSU Summer Festival of the Arts, July 7 and 8 on campus.

According to an article in the Sunday edition of The Vindicator, the festival "will promote understanding, respect and appreciation of the diversity among people of the Mahoning Valley" through an eclectic arrangement of performances and exhibits showcasing diverse cultures, traditions and lifestyles.

Sponsored by the Mahoning County commissioners and the Youngstown/Warren Regional Chamber of Commerce and endorsed by the Trumbull County and Columbiana County commissioners, the event requires the active interest and participation of local businesses.

Sandra Ciminero, festival coordinator, said the festival is important to the community because "it projects a good image for Youngstown with so many agencies working together."

A central part of the arts festival, the Festival of Nations, strives to promote appreciation and understanding of the Mahoning Valley's diverse peoples in a presentation of 28 ethnic cultures, 12 ethnic cuisines, and entertainment from 14 ethnic cultures.

Many of the ethnic communities represented in the Valley will share their cultures through displays, food and cultural enrichment, according to the festival's Web site.

The Festival of Nations menu

See FESTIVAL, page 2

Smith family donates mineral museum to YSU

By JIM CALKO
Jambar Reporter

More than 42 years ago, Clarence R. Smith, Sr. started a collection with one mineral from Arizona. Today he has more than 300 rocks, gems and minerals on display in the new Clarence R. Smith Mineral Museum in Moser Hall, the engineering building.

This collection contains many of the world's rare gemstones, such as a 119-carat, Golden Scapolite from Tanzania. There are also diamonds and other gemstones.

The exhibit features fine gemstones only available to collectors such as fluorite, a bluish-green stone.

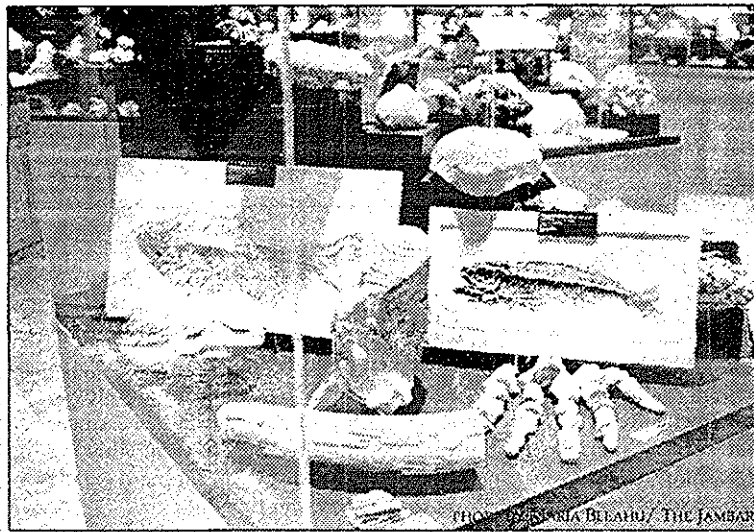
The exhibit also includes several prehistoric fossil displays. They include a fossilized elephant

tusk, Therizinosarus (a cretaceous period dinosaur) eggs, a footprint of an unknown dinosaur and a blue whale flipper.

In addition there is a set of trolobite fossils. One of these small fossils is distinguished by a snout. Ann Harris, professor, geology, said she hasn't seen anything like that in her 40 years of teaching at YSU.

The museum also has on display rocks and minerals exclusively from Mexico, Brazil, Namibia (in Africa) and Ohio. The exhibit features various raw ores, such as nickel and copper; calcites, such as calcite crystals that refract light; and cabochons, such as quartz and opalized wood.

Currently 300 rocks and minerals are on display. However a total of 600 rocks, minerals and fossils has been donated. The



MINERALS: There are several new sights to see in Moser Hall. Here are some of the minerals on display.

museum directors plan on rotating the showcases every six months to use all the donated items.

Clarence Smith Sr. was born and raised in Youngstown. In the winter of 1952 Smith went to Arizona. In 1962 Smith had a mineral shop in his bar. After Smith died in 1970, his collection was moved to Adamas Jewelry in

Boardman. Clarence R. Smith, Jr. owner of Adamas, donated the exhibit.

The museum opened June 16. It will open during the Festival of the Arts July 7 and 8. For more information call, 742-3612, to schedule a viewing, or visit the Web site <http://clarence-smith-museum.yzu.edu>.

Vacationers opt for sunny destinations

By DEBBIE TUECHE
Jambar Editor

As the first session of summer comes to an end, some YSU students, faculty and staff begin planning vacations. There are so many hot spots to choose from, it can be hard to decide on the best destination.

When in doubt, travel agents are ready and willing to provide the right advice to plan a great getaway. Equipped with ideas, they are able to plan a trip for every budget and interest.

Many people will be enjoying a vacation this summer, according

to an article by Ayesha Court, travel columnist for USA Today.

"A Travel Industry Association of America poll found that Americans plan to take 237 million trips at least 50 miles from home during June, July and August."

With these statistics in mind, it is no surprise that Pan Atlas Travel on campus is busy making summer vacation arrangements.

Tracy Innocent, travel consultant for Pan Atlas Travel explained how she develops vacation plans for YSU students and staff.

Although summer brings fewer classes and students, the

agency is still busy with arrangements for those remaining on campus.

"Summer is quieter because fewer students are here, but it is busier with faculty making arrangements," said Innocent.

She said several southern spots have become popular with faculty and staff.

"A lot of faculty like Punta Canta and Cancun, and Hawaii is also popular," she said.

In addition to these types of trips, there are specials running to several popular spots, including

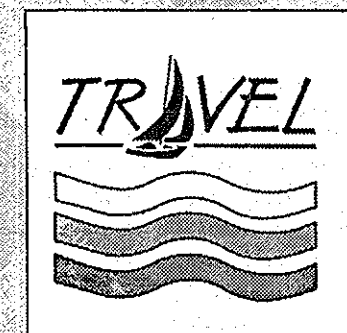
See TRAVEL, page 2

Top 10 Travel Destinations

TRAVEL INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION RANKS THESE PLACES AS FAVORITE VACATION SPOTS

- 1) Florida
- 2) California
- 3) New York
- 4) Texas
- 5) Hawaii
- 6) Colorado
- 7) Arizona
- 8) Nevada
- 9) Washington, D.C.
- 10) South Carolina

Source: USA Today



Editorial & Opinion

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How we see it

Gay or straight, we all deserve the same rights

Millions of gay Americans and their supporters are marching this month to raise awareness on issues of basic human rights, including marriage and childrearing.

Why is it only one state in America has legalized the unions of homosexual couples? Is it possible that some holier-than-thou Christians see same-sex marriages as a threat to the Christian population?

That very well may be the case.

What do we mean by that? Well, many, not all, Christian groups do not consider gay and lesbian couples worthy of being called Christians because these groups believe they have committed a sin by leading homosexual lifestyles. And obviously gay and lesbian couples cannot reproduce without medical intervention. That, in some Christians' eyes, most definitely poses a problem. To them it means that fewer people will be raised as Christians.

Furthermore, if same-sex couples do somehow bring a child into this world, there is a chance the child will be gay, too, continuing the vicious cycle, some think.

Come on. How ridiculous can you get?

Gay people are human, just like everyone else. And they haven't committed a sin by being who they truly are. Isn't being honest and non-judgmental the true meaning of being a Christian?

Duncan Mitchel, reporter for the Indiana Daily Student, said in his column, "According to an Associated Press story, Judith Stacey and Timothy Biblarz found that children of gay and lesbian parents 'show more empathy for social diversity, are less confined by gender stereotypes and are probably more likely to explore homosexual activity themselves.'"

This raises more questions about same-sex partnerships. Will they make good parents, or will they prove to be detriments to their children's lives?

If the parents provide the guidance that child needs, what does it matter if the child is homosexual or heterosexual?

It shouldn't be assumed because people are gay or lesbian that they have forfeited the right to have children or that they are incapable of raising a healthy child. Not just heterosexual couples have the desire to raise a family.

In most ways a homosexual couple is no different than any couple and should be treated as such. The people involved have developed a loving, committed relationship, and they can provide their child with the same sense of values.

Gay and lesbian couples should be afforded the same rights of marriage and childrearing and given the same opportunities as everyone else to be productive members of society.

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The Jambar

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

Letter Policy

The Jambar encourages letters. All letters must be typed, no more than 300 words and must list a name and telephone number. E-mail submissions are welcome. All submissions are subject to editing. Opinion pieces should be no more than 500 words. Items submitted become property of The Jambar and will not be returned. Submissions that ignore policy will not be accepted. The views and opinions expressed herein do not necessarily reflect those of The Jambar staff or YSU faculty, staff or administration. Deadline for submissions is noon Monday for Thursday's paper.

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Homosexuality is not a prison



BY SHANNON WALLS
Jambar Editor

Internet that literally made me talk to my computer screen. I saw the headline: "Controversial study says homosexuality is 'a choice.'"

I thought aloud, "What do you mean a 'choice'?"

A major in college is a choice, but a person's sexual orientation is something he or she is born with, and it cannot be converted by therapy sessions or by repenting.

Gays and lesbians do not have the option of modifying their sexual behaviors to fit the mold of what society calls the "normal" person nor should they feel the need to do so.

Holly Johnson, reporter for the Indiana Daily Student, quoted Chris Mandeville, a homosexual college graduate, in her article.

"Like a lot of other people I've talked to, I think you can change behavior but not who you are," said Mandeville.

According to Johnson, Mandeville was referred to Overcomers, an "ex-gay ministry," to change his homosexual affinities after confiding in a Christian counselor.

The gay community is being led by church leaders and counselors to believe that they must ask God for forgiveness for their lifestyles. Some men and women are confused about their feelings, so they turn to these so-called support systems for guidance only to learn that divulging their secrets was a mistake.

This idea of therapy isn't a matter of providing a person with help for depression — it's about trying to change what that person is on the inside, and that, in my eyes, is not morally or ethically justified.

Moreover, the therapy doesn't always work.

According to an article by Bill Shepson in Charisma magazine, Jeremy Marks, director of Courage — a group that helps people free themselves from homosexuality — said the "conversion therapy" used

to help people overcome homosexuality changes only the outward behavior and that none of the people to whom he ministered achieved long-term success in sexual re-orientation.

What I don't quite understand is why "ex-gay" movement groups use the term "freedom" when they refer to the conversion from gay to straight. I didn't think homosexuality was ever considered a prison.


Why do some assume that because a person is not heterosexual, he or she is unhappy and looking for a way out? Are heterosexuals that self-righteous?

It's true there are plenty of homosexuals who are confused about their feelings, but they need guidance — someone who will listen and give them the help they need. They certainly don't need to be judged.

Homosexuals are far from being sinners; they are being honest to themselves and to their feelings. And they should not be forced to think they have to ask for forgiveness for it.

That would be a sin.

Unisex does not mean single-user restroom



BY SUSAN KELLY
Jambar Editor

When you visit a dormitory's office you probably use the one common bathroom located adjacent to the waiting room. No one makes a big deal about it, or for that matter, even thinks about the fact that the restroom is serving two sexes.

On college campuses, however, the tag "unisex" restrooms has managed to stir up controversy and confuse some students and parents alike.

Ohio University in particular has been cajoled into the spotlight and touted as a cutting edge proponent of transgender and gay population sensitivities.

The fact is, according to Mike Sostarich, vice president of student affairs at OU, "we've had some of these single-user restrooms in place since 1970." Other single-user bathrooms have recently been added to dormitories, "to serve visitors to the residence halls," and not, as some may have thought, in the common living areas.

He said several transgender students on campus expressed safety concerns in the use of traditional restrooms, and it was "definitely a part of our intention to afford security and safety" to students by offering common-use facilities.

In this context, it is a measure that lends itself to equality.

I believe the media and the public need to be careful about the use of the term "unisex." All kinds of messages are parlayed into that graphic terminology. The defini-

tive word "single" is the ticket. Single user sends very different messages than unisex restroom.

You may wonder why this issue is so important to me. Well, it's because I took a mental trip when I read the article that appeared in The Vindicator recently.

I pictured stalls and male and female students using the same restroom. I had about six others read the article to be sure we were all getting the same message, and they read it the same way. So either we're all lacking in judgment, or the facts were woven to read a little hazy, or the reporter didn't really know the facts either.

It's another example of why journalists should do their research well before turning on the word faucet.

Have something to say?
Write a letter to the editor that has fewer than 300 words. Make sure to include a name and phone number for verification.

CAMPUS CALENDAR


TODAY

Commentary Cafe with Bill Binning and Bob Fitzer at 7 p.m. on WYSU 88.5 FM. The topic will be Congressman Jim Traficant with guest Dr. Thomas Flynn.

IMPORTANT UPCOMING EVENTS

The Rayen High School 10-Year Reunion will be the weekend of August 17 to 19. For further questions, call Jessica Carter at (330) 788-6378.

Check out the redesigned Jambar Web site at www.thejambar.com. Don't forget to register to take full advantage of all the site's features!



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| Adventures Of Joe Dirt (PG-13) (*1:30) 1:45 4:55 7:15 9:45 | Cast Away (PG-13) (*1:50) 4:00 7:00 10:00 |
| Tomcats (R) (*12:00) 2:00 4:35 7:40 10:20 | One Night At McCool's (R) 11:40 2:10 4:25 7:05 10:05 |
| Stow (R) 1:15 2:00 4:45 7:30 10:15 | O Brother, Where Art Thou (PG-13) (*11:35) 1:55 4:20 7:25 9:55 |
| The Iron Giant (Thursday only) (*10:00) | |

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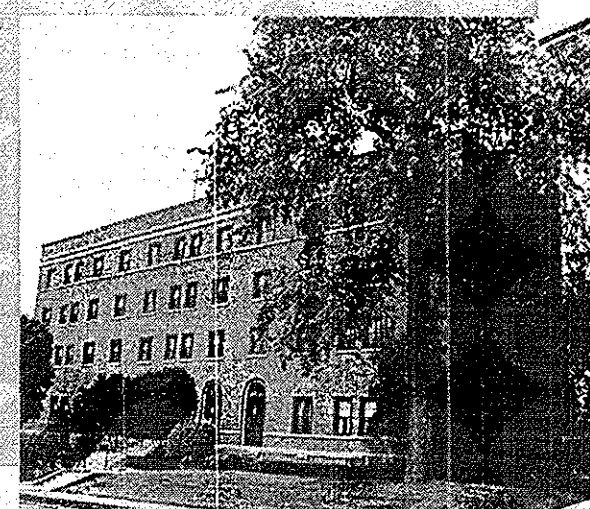

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