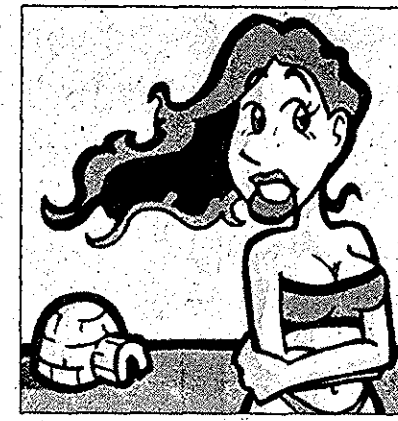


Teddy Pantelas plays at Cedar's every Tuesday for Jazz Night. Page 6

Students share experiences with misleading spring break getaway packages. Page 2



# The Jambar



Vol. 84, Issue 39

Youngstown, Ohio

Thursday, February 21, 2002

## Traficant trial draws few locals

Reporters fill the benches of the courthouse, but few others show up.

By SOMOUD NISER  
Jambar Editor

Despite all the hype surrounding U.S. Rep. James Traficant Jr.'s trial, the courtroom was empty Wednesday morning except for about a dozen reporters and two or three spectators.

Some residents of Cleveland passing by the courthouse said they hadn't heard of Traficant or that a congressman is on trial.

YSU officials offered reasons why the courtroom was not packed with spectators and why some Cleveland residents were not familiar with the trial.

Dr. William Binning, professor and chair, political science, said he hasn't gone to the trial in Cleveland and he could understand why it's not as crowded as many people expected.

"From what I've heard from reporters who have gone to both the previous trial and the current trial, there were more people at the other trial than there is now," Binning said.

Binning said the reasons behind that might be because the character witnesses now aren't as interesting as they might be later.

"I think it might pick up later when the cast of character witnesses expands," Binning said. "When witnesses like [local businessman John J.] Cafaro and other Valley residents take the stand, people might become more interested."

Binning said that although the charges listed now are the most serious, the close of the trial is what will draw in more spectators.

John Habat, special assis-



READY TO ROLL: Reporters and camera crews wait outside Wednesday for witness Joe Altiero to emerge from the U.S. District Court in Cleveland.

tant to the president, said that despite the fact that he is a resident of Cleveland, he has not had the opportunity to go to the trial.

"I work in Youngstown, now," Habat said. "It's hard to take an entire day off of work just to go to the trial."

Even though Habat said

he thinks watching the actual trial would be very interesting, he said he thinks the other Cleveland residents probably aren't as interested.

"The Plain Dealer does cover the trial on a regular basis, but it's usually buried somewhere in the middle," said Habat. "I think the whole

concept is more appealing to local residents."

Habat also said not many people know who Traficant is because they pay no attention to who their elected officials are.

One spectator, who was on

See TRAFICANT, page 2

## Press keeps watch

By BJ LISKO  
Jambar Editor  
AND MIKE BALALE  
Jambar Reporter

Witness Joe Altiero intently walked out of the courthouse on Superior Avenue in downtown Cleveland on Wednesday after his testimony in the trial of U.S. Rep. James Traficant Jr.

Greeted by a small mob of reporters and a barrage of quick questions, Altiero casually shrugged his shoulders as he crossed the street on the way to the parking deck.

"We wait all morning to get comment then we chase him down the block for 25 seconds, and he's gone," said WYTV reporter Gerry Ricciuti.

Covering the Traficant trial is no easy task. The journalists up to this challenge can certainly testify to that.

Chasing witnesses, lawyers and the congressman himself make for a hectic day, and it all starts again bright and

See PRESS, page 2

## Inside

### News

**Math honor society** prepares for weekend conference. Page 2

**Speaker brings** Black History Month program to YSU students. Page 4

**Two members of the** new YSU speech team win awards at statewide competitions. Page 4

### Editorial

**Staff says** Student Government is back on the right track after passing new election by-laws. Page 6

### Quote of the day

Philosophy! Empty thinking by ignorant, conceited men who think they can digest without eating!

— Iris Murdoch

## Weather

Cloudy today. High around 40. Low around 30. There will be flurries Friday. High in the mid-30s. Low around 20. Flurries on Saturday, also. High in the upper-30s. Low around 30.

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## University unions look for positive results

By HENRY GOMEZ  
Jambar Assistant Editor

University administrators met with members of three YSU labor unions last month to voice ideas and concerns, but top union officials say the true progress will be determined in the coming months.

Administration officials and members of the Association of Professional and Administrative Staff, Association of Classified Employees and Fraternal Order of Police attended the three-day Relationship by Objective summit, which included federal mediators.

"What that allowed us to do was to tell our full side [as administrators]," said Hugh Chatman, executive director, Office of Human Resources. "It

"When I tell something to the union, I want them to know I tell them straight-up."

— HUGH CHATMAN  
Executive Director, Office of Human Resources

gave us a chance to tell how we could help each other."

YSU ACE President Roman Swerdan agreed the summit was productive in talk but said there are no actions to judge its success.

"Right now it's hard to tell," Swerdan said, adding that union officials and administrators will be meeting again in March to evaluate progress.

Contracts for ACE employees expire this year. With negotiations set to begin in coming months, Swerdan said the sum-

mit provided an outlet for both employees and administrators to talk of concerns that lingered from previous administrations.

"We got them out in the open," Swerdan said. "We got to hear the university's concerns — they heard ours. We know where each other is coming from."

Swerdun said, at this time, he has no specific goals for negotiations, as the union has not yet set an agenda for them.

Chatman and Swerdan agreed, however, that the sum-

mit was not held with negotiations in mind, but rather to improve labor relations.

Last fall, faculty union officials expressed concern over relations with previous President Leslie Cochran and hopes that labor relations would improve under President David Sweet.

"We're rebuilding trust that was lacking previously," Chatman said. "When I tell something to the union, I want them to know I tell them straight-up."

Sally Kenney, president, APAS, attended the summit and said she has seen positive changes with the Sweet administration.

"We thought labor relations had come to a boiling point on campus," Kenney said.

"With this administration, there seems to be an effort to address poor labor relations on campus."

But Kenney, like Swerdan, said the progress of the summit cannot be measured until both sides talk again in March.

"We don't know if they'll be successful," Kenney said. "I've learned not to have expectations."

Chatman said the talks proved beneficial because they allowed for each group to air a number of "varying concerns."

"Everyone provided excellent comments to learn where union concerns are," Chatman said.

"It also allowed union representatives to learn of management's concerns. Now we can move forward."

## Senator visits YSU, addresses SG

Tim Ryan, a graduate of JFK High School, said he came back to the Valley to "turn the area around."

By KELLY GEISEL  
Jambar Reporter

The day before he announced his intention to run for the 17th Congressional District, state Sen. Tim Ryan, D-Niles, told Student Government about his plans to get college students across the state more involved in their schools and communities.

Ryan addressed SG on Monday about funding for higher education, the lack of job opportunities for college graduates in the Valley and how his campaign can help students.

Ryan said he wants more state funding for higher education and he wants students to be more actively involved.

"They need to realize they can have a voice," Ryan said.

College Democrats brought Ryan to campus, and they said they plan to organize many events to get students more involved, said College Democrats President Angela Chasebi, senior, political science.

Chasebi said nothing is set yet but the organization hopes to have a voter registration drive within the next month. She also said these activities are not limited to Democrats and she hopes Republicans will get involved.

Ryan graduated from Warren John F. Kennedy High School in 1991.

He attended YSU for a year and a half before transferring to Bowling Green State University.

He graduated from Bowling Green in 1995 and went to law school at Franklin

Pierce Law Center in Concord, N.H.

Ryan said he had opportunities for jobs in New England but he came back to the Valley to "turn the area around."

"I don't really trust anyone else to do it," Ryan said.

SG Representative Mike Phillips, sophomore, political science, said, "It is encouraging to see that he cares about young people in this area and wants to make a positive change."

SG Representative Rob Smith, sophomore, undecided, said Ryan has good ideas and he will "help our generation."

Ryan said, "Students can be a part of the solution."

The 17th District includes half of Mahoning County, most of Trumbull County, Portage County and the eastside of Akron.



BACK TO SCHOOL: State Sen. Tim Ryan, D-Niles, addresses Student Government representatives after their regular meeting Monday at Kilcawley Center.

# \$pring broke

YSU students say spring break getaways sometimes offer more trouble than they're worth.

By DEBBIE TUECHE  
Jambar Assistant Editor

With spring break rapidly approaching, students are planning their trips to the beach, but some travel agents warn that vacation deals are not always what they seem.

Many companies advertise in college newspapers to encourage students to make travel arrangements.

Aren Barbee, senior, criminal justice, responded to a Student Express advertisement for a trip to Mexico.

"We looked [the advertisement] up online, and it seemed like a good deal."

However, when Barbee and her friends arrived in Cancun, Mexico, she experienced something different from what the Web site led her to think.

"You go online, and it says 40 hours of

drinking and ten free meals. But when you go, you find out the drinking is at specific times, sometimes as early as nine in the morning, and I'm not a kegs and eggs kind of person," said Barbee.

Barbee also said she purchased a wristband so she would be able to attend nightclubs while in Cancun.

"To make things worse, you go to a club, thinking you are going to drink free because of this wristband that you paid all this money for, and the bartenders refuse to serve you if you not only tip them, but you have to tip them enough money.

"The bartenders were very rude about it, too," said Barbee.

Tara Musolino, freshman, accounting, said she would not respond to an advertisement; she would rather keep her spring break planning local.

"If you keep it local, you can always ask



what people know about it and see what they think," said Musolino.

Tracey Innocent, a travel counselor with the Pan Atlas Tours on the YSU campus, said it is best to plan trips with a travel agent to avoid misunderstandings advertisements may produce.

"Go with a travel agent to be safe. Know your money is safe and you are getting what you paid for," said Innocent.

"Students have gotten taken advantage of; it is always best to go with a travel agent for security."

Innocent said she thinks some of the advertisement agencies could be safe to deal with. However, it is important to have the confidence you are getting what you paid for.

Robert Baranoski is the general manager of Student Travel Services, a travel agency that specializes in spring break deals.

He said travel agents are very important to

their business.

"Travel agents purchase [trips] through us," said Baranoski.

He said it is important for students to go through travel agents in case something bad happens. This way they have someone who can help when they get home.

Baranoski added that the spring break industry is a bit different. Many students do deal with his agency directly to avoid a third party.

According to Baranoski, STS can offer a different kind of travel insurance than many other agencies.

"Tickets are non-refundable. For \$39 you can purchase travel protection for sickness or death in the family," said Baranoski.

"With the insurance you can change your mind or send someone else up until the day of departure. At the airport the cost to change is \$25."

## YSU math students plan for annual conference

Last year's event drew nearly 90 students and faculty from the Youngstown area.

By KRISTIN FANSLER  
Jambar Reporter

Students who have ever wondered how sports leagues determine team schedules or want to know how to pay cash for a new car five years from now may find answers to their questions this weekend.

These and other math-related topics are set for discussion at the Pi Mu Epsilon 2002 Regional Conference on Saturday.

Pi Mu Epsilon is a national mathematics honorary society and is designed to help further the study of mathematics among college students. This is the fifth Regional Conference to be held at YSU.

The meeting is organized by YSU Pi Mu Epsilon members and will feature student research topics and results. Undergraduate students from YSU, Kent State University and other regional colleges will speak about their projects from the past year.

"This is a one-of-a-kind event. It's an informal conference that is for students, run by students," said Dr. Angela Spalsbury, assistant professor,

mathematics and statistics and Pi Mu Epsilon adviser.

"The conference allows students to present papers in front of their peers and gives them an opportunity to investigate new topics [in math]," she said.

In addition, this year's meeting will feature a session on internships and career preparation.

Christopher Jones, junior, mathematics, is the Pi Mu Epsilon member organizing the internship session.

"Student liaisons will lead an informal question-and-answer session focusing on how they got their jobs or internships and the important skills needed," Jones said.

Liaisons from GM Lordstown, Oakridge National Laboratory and Watson Wyatt Worldwide are among those scheduled to speak.

"The information will not focus on the companies themselves, but on the interview and application process," Jones explained.

In addition to YSU math majors, the group invited mathematics students from colleges within a two-hour radius of YSU to attend the conference

either as speakers or audience members. Pi Mu Epsilon members also invited math students from Youngstown area high schools to attend this year's meeting.

Tom Wakefield, senior, mathematics and economics, was Pi Mu Epsilon president last year and helped organize the 2001 event.

He said that last year's meeting brought approximately 90 students and faculty members from area schools, including John Carroll, Duquesne, Westminster and Mount Union.

"The meeting is good for all math students, but I think the high school students and college freshmen and sophomores are likely to gain the most since they could meet upperclassmen and see what math students from other schools are doing," Wakefield said.

The student paper meeting will begin at 10 a.m. in Cushman Hall and will last until 3:30 p.m. All YSU students and faculty are invited to attend. For more information or a schedule of speakers, contact Spalsbury in the Department of Mathematics and Statistics.

"The information will not focus on the companies themselves, but on the interview and application process."

—CHRIS JONES  
Junior, Math

### PRESS, continued from page 1

early the next morning of the trial and is courthouse bound by 6:30 a.m.

"We're usually here at the courthouse by 7:15 or 7:30. We try to get here early to talk to anyone that might be important to the trial."

According to Riccuiti, Traficant himself can prove to be a tough interview to get.

"The only time we can catch Traficant for comment is in the morning when he arrives and in the afternoon when he leaves," said Riccuiti.

"He doesn't comment during trial breaks. Some days he wants to talk to us, other days, nothing."

Riccuiti isn't the only journalist having a bit of a tough

time this trial.

Squatting with her cell phone in a quiet corner of the courthouse, WYTV reporter Michelle Nicks reports live on the air for the twelve o'clock news.

"It's hard waking up early enough to get there and getting something of importance from [Traficant]," she said just before making the call.

Nicks stays overnight in Cleveland for the trial and said that rules in the courtroom prove to be an added challenge.

"We have to rely on the court liaison for a lot of information because if we interview or quote anyone related to the trial while in the building, all of our media privileges will be

revoked," she said.

Both Riccuiti and Nicks, veterans of covering Traficant and his antics, said they are a bit uncertain of how the trial will conclude.

"I really don't know how it's going to turn out," said Riccuiti. "He may pull another Houdini like he did last time. At this point, though, if he were to turn it around it would be amazing."

Nicks said, "It doesn't seem likely the trial will go in his favor, but stranger things have happened."

Whatever the verdict may be, Nicks, Riccuiti and a whole host of other journalists will be there every step of the way.

Jambar Editor Somoud Niser also contributed to this article.

### TRAFICANT, continued from page 1

his way to the Cleveland Clinic on Wednesday morning, said he decided to stop by the courthouse to watch some of the trial.

However, Jonathan, who asked to use his first name only,

said he was more impressed by the building's "architecture and its cathedral-like appeal."

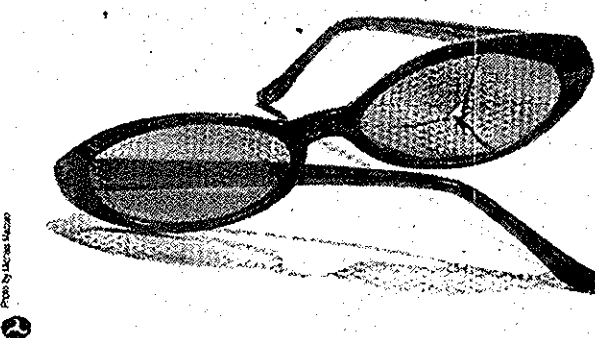
Jonathan said he was disappointed with what he saw during the testimony and would have rather walked

around the courthouse to see the different courtrooms.

"That would probably have been more interesting than the actual testimony," he said. "Nothing spoke of today was beneficial for either side."

Amanda Geiger never saw the drunk driver.

Friends Don't Let Friends Drive Drunk.



U.S. Department of Transportation

Ag Council

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## Women's Day dinner

The Center for Women's Studies at YSU and the Youngstown Business and Professional Women's Club, Inc. will be sponsoring a celebration of working women in the world with dinner and a short film.

The film will feature the Triangle Shirtwaist Factory Fire that took place in New York City at the turn of the century, where hundreds of young women died. This fire led to reform legislation that became the template for the New Deal.

The event will take place at 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday at Bruno's Restaurant and Catering. If interested, RSVP today to Anne McMahon at (330) 742-2350 or to Women's Studies at (330) 742-2311.

## A SALUTE TO THE MOVIES

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

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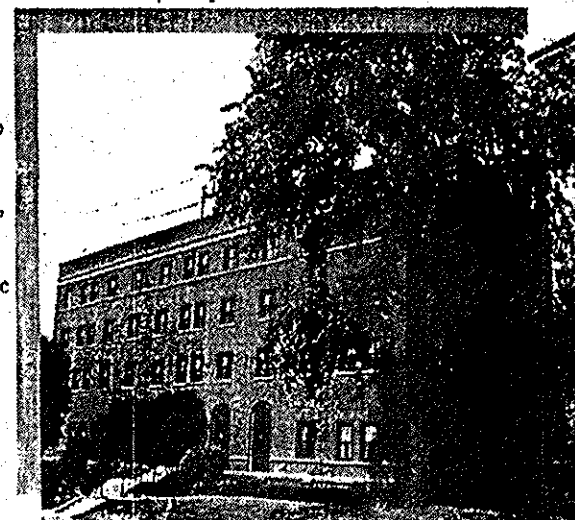
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- Fitness and laundry room
- Internet capability and access to YSU Network



# Editorial & Opinion

## What We Think SG improves its campaign rules

The last Student Government presidential election saw the winning team disqualified for attending an off-campus party where posters promoting their candidacy were displayed.

At the time, several SG representatives admitted that the by-law that forbids off-campus campaigning was pointless but some of those who voted to disqualify Rajah James and Nazim Wahab said rules are rules and must be followed.

With SG's passage of new election by-laws two weeks ago, we're confident SG representatives will not be faced with the same moral dilemma this year.

SG President Joe Long said the new by-laws, which are the first part of a new SG constitution he hopes to pass, have thrown out the rule against off-campus campaigning. The passage of the by-laws shows that SG has taken a critical first step to restore its credibility after last year's election fiasco.

The problem with the old by-law was that it so blatantly forbade "campaigning" anywhere but on YSU campus yet so vaguely described what could be considered campaigning.

The interpretation was cast into murkiness last year when James and Wahab said the party they attended was not a campaign party.

However, SG representatives favoring James and Wahab's removal from the ballot said the team's presence, along with the presence of beer and posters bearing their names, was enough to suggest campaigning.

In addition to being vague, the old by-laws made a determination that should ultimately be left in the hands of voters. Restrictions on campaigns, especially campaigns at commuter colleges like YSU, should be limited. Students can make their own decisions and will be stuck with the consequences if the choice proves to be bad.

SG finally delivered. Joe Long made good on his promise to address concerns in the election by-laws. But, indeed, this is a first step.

It's encouraging to see progress made, especially when that progress seemed unlikely earlier in the school year. SG now must follow up its success in passing the by-laws with a successful passage of a complete constitution.

Long said the election by-laws were passed because at the time, they were the only part of the revised SG constitution that were complete.

SG leaders said they expect the remaining pieces of a new constitution to come before the body in the coming weeks.

In its waning days of leadership, this year's SG is showing signs of productivity.

But with the upcoming elections, members cannot let politics get the best of them as they did last year.

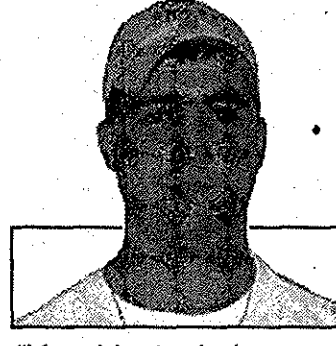
In the last few weeks, progress has proven to be a priority for SG. It must stay that way.

## What You Think Do you feel safe on campus?



WENDY LOVE, post baccalaureate, pre-physical therapy

"I do feel safe because at around 9:30 p.m., I still see a lot of people walking around."



BRENT BARRETT, junior, civil engineering

"Yes. I just mind my own business and I hope everyone else [does the same]."



MATT KALE, sophomore, accounting

"Yes, I do feel safe enough because I don't think ... crime happens on campus."



ALLISHA MCQUERRY, freshman, musical theater

"Sometimes. It depends if the police are patrolling or not. There's not that many lights on campus."



KELLY NESBITT, freshman, psychology

"Yes, I feel safe because when I went to orientation, [YSU police chief] John Gocala made me feel safe."



JOHN M. HOWARD, sophomore, music theory

"Yes, because I have lots of friends here."

Compiled by Patrecca Adams/The Jambar

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### Letter Policy

The Jambar encourages letters. All letters must be typed, no more than 350 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.

OLGA ZIOBERT  
Business Manager

ALYSSA LINHOFF  
Advisor

## Cloning is not the cat's meow



BY DEBBIE TUECHE  
Jambar Assistant Editor

Many people are attached to their feline friends. Fluffy cat might up her owner's life.

However, when she dies, she is gone forever. Or is she?

According to a USA Today article, "Clone scientists produce copy cat," by Dan Vergano, pet owners can soon clone their cats. This announcement comes after the successful cloning of a cat named cc (short for copy cat).

The procedure was done at Texas A&M University. The 8-week-old kitten is the sixth species to be cloned.

Scientists say cc is doing well and is developing normally. She is playing and acting like regular cats.

That is great. I'm happy the

cat is functioning as normal and overall doing well. However, I question the need

for a cat to be cloned. Each cat has its own personality. Sure, scientists can clone a cat that looks identical, but it will not have the same character traits.

For example, if my cat sleeps in my room every night, it doesn't mean its clone will. If my cat watches television with me, it doesn't mean its carbon copy will.

There are so many cats roaming the streets without

homes. Many are sitting in adoption agencies waiting for someone to come take them

home. Yet, scientists still feel the need to bring new cats into the world.

According to a press release from The Humane Society of the United States, "Cats outnumber dogs in animal shelters and most shelters have kittens as well as juvenile and adult available for adoption."

The press release quotes HSUS Senior Vice President Wayne Pacelle.

"The Humane Society of the United States opposes pet cloning because it is dangerous for the animals involved, serves no compelling social purpose, and it threatens to add to the pet overpopulation problem. It doesn't sit well with us to create animals through such extreme and experimental means when there are so many animals desperate for homes," he said.

HSUS estimates that there are 73 million pet cats in the United States. I agree with Pacelle — there are so many cats in need of good homes. In the Youngstown area alone, there are several adoption agencies and a lot of cats waiting for the perfect owners.

I think anyone considering cloning the family cat should think about the well-being of all cats and not have one made to fit his or her own individual needs.

"Cats outnumber dogs in animal shelters and most shelters have kittens as well as juvenile and adult available for adoption."  
Human Society of the United States

## Letter to the Editor Coach Knight wasn't necessarily right

Editor:

A question for BJ Lisko: Is it acceptable for Valerie Banner to physically hit you when your writing is below the standard of excellence as it was on Tuesday?

I don't know Coach John Robic personally so I can't comment on the allegations of Jeff Ball, but your article comparing Robic to Bobby Knight was interesting. For the most part I agreed with what you had to say about coaching.

A coach who is vocal or one who pushes his or her players to their limits is not

necessarily abusive.

In my personal experience those are the coaches you want. Even though you hate them when you're running off your stupid mistakes, even though you hope they're sick so then you don't have to be yelled at while at practice, and even though you despise them when they make you stay following the sorriest game of your career so you can practice AFTER the game, you want them on your side; not coaching for your opponents.

It's their drive and intensity that keep you going on the field. You know better than to

mess around or you're going to be paying for it.

However, a coach has no reason, or right, to physically hit a player and for you to shrug off Knight's ignorant behavior with a "So what?" makes me question your intelligence.

Using violence to get results is not something that should be okay or commonplace in the sports world. Successful coaches don't have to touch their players.

They foster a sense of respect and pride, not fear like Knight.

To state he is one of the

greatest coaches of all time disturbs me.

Sure he has lots of trophies, but at what cost? And who paid?

Your saying he is justified in resorting to violence is like saying it's acceptable for a man to hit his wife because his pot roast isn't cooked to his liking or his children because they aren't smart enough.

Please think before being so nonchalant.

Gretchen Foley  
Senior  
BS/MD Program & Combined Sciences Major

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Write a letter to the editor and give us your opinion.  
Keep your letter to 350 words. Be sure to include your name, rank, major and phone number. We'll try to publish your letter.

# Lecture offers healing words

By PATRECKA ADAMS  
Jambar Assistant Editor

They say violet is the color of healing and peace. If that is true, then Dr. Bylye Avery definitely came dressed to heal.

An audience comprised of mostly Youngstown-area women gathered to hear Avery speak Tuesday night in the Ohio Room, Kilcawley Center, as part of YSU's Black History Month celebration.

An expert on black women's health care issues, Avery founded the Women's Health Center in Gainesville, Fla., the National Black Women's Health Project and co-edited the women's health news journal "Stage Femme."

Avery said she got started in the field of black women's health after her husband died of a massive heart attack at age 33.

Avery said his death allowed her to see that a person's ignorance regarding health care and education could result in his or her death, so she decided to do something about it.

The Women's Health Center, said Avery, gave women in Gainesville a place to obtain information and medical services that treated both their bodies and minds.

"Statistics often show what we die from," Avery said. "We wanted to know what we were living with."

The National Black Women's Health Project, which Avery founded in 1982, has chapters in more than 20 states and offers black women assistance and support to help improve their health and self-esteem.

"Our health is about every single day living. We have to be in charge of it," she said to the audience.

Avery said before the



Patrecka Adams / The Jambar

Dr. Bylye Avery speaks to a large group of Youngstown-area women in Kilcawley Center. Avery came to YSU as part of YSU's Black History Month celebration. She discussed issues from The National Black Women's Health Project, which she founded in 1982.

Health Project came along, many black women either wouldn't or couldn't discuss subjects germane to their health.

"By taking the risk to talk about these issues," she said. "We broke the conspiracy of silence."

Avery's work has taken her to many diverse places throughout the country and has won her much acclaim.

She served as a visiting fellow at the Harvard School of Public Health, and she's a member of both the Dana Farber Cancer Advisory Board and The International Women's Health Coalition.

In addition to lecturing, Avery is also the author of an inspirational book for black

women titled "An Altar of Words." Clad in a violet ensemble, Avery chose to vacate the podium and speak from the center of the room.

She encouraged audience members to share their experiences with one another, saying it's important for black women to be "active participants in [their] healthcare."

Dr. Victor Wan-Tatah, professor, philosophy and religious studies and director of the Africana Studies program, said Avery's presentation was necessary because black women make up a key segment of American society.

"Her lecture is important because African-American women have been the foundation for the African-American

community and the main support in American society," he said. "To educate black women and to invest in their health is a major investment in society."

Wan-Tatah added that Avery's work with black women's issues have played an integral part in American history since the days of slavery and these concerns have to be addressed.

"Black women provide the nurture for young black men and women. They are the mainstay," Wan-Tatah said.

"If we don't provide support for black women so they can take care of their own health, we are making a big mistake. It's a matter of priority."

# Center names YSU as official freedom station

By YESENIA RIVERA  
Jambar Reporter

Freshman nursing student Michelle Nelms said that learning the history behind the Underground Railroad made her open her eyes and look at the black migration history from a completely different perspective.

The Department of Africana Studies and the Center for Historic Preservation offered a workshop last week that explained the importance of the Underground Railroad in the Mahoning Valley.

YSU has been named the official Freedom Station of the National Underground Railroad Freedom Center in Cincinnati.

Dr. Donna DeBlasio, director, Center for Historic Preservation, said the initiative of making YSU the Freedom Station was taken by the group of provosts from northern Kentucky and history professor Dr. William Jenkins.

Speakers of the workshop said the YSU Freedom Station would serve as a center for study, education and research about the journey for freedom that many black slaves traced.

Nelms, who attended the Underground Railroad workshop to educate herself more about her African roots, expressed a lot of excitement and interest in the information that she received.

"The truth is so logical it makes sense," Nelms said. "I thought the Underground Railroad was literally underground, but it is not."

Nelms said this workshop helped her realize the

Underground Railroad is not restricted to blacks but that it was a joint effort among people of all colors.

"I learned that some white Americans got killed because they helped fugitive slaves and that the term 'underground' is just a metaphor because these slaves paid under the table for their freedom but had no specific destination," Nelms added.

Dr. Victor Wan-Tatah, professor, philosophy and religious studies and director of the Africana Studies program, explained that the Freedom Station would benefit those of all ethnic groups interested in learning about the roots of blacks.

"White people generally still continue to think this is only for black people; I don't think that's the case," he said.

Wan-Tatah also pointed out that Latinos and whites, as well as blacks were actively involved in the Underground Railroad.

He said that might be why the project could be so meaningful to YSU and the rest of the community.

DeBlasio emphasized the importance of the Freedom Station as a vehicle toward a more accurate understanding of the black culture and its relevance.

"The Underground activity in this area began around the 1840s, but it was really more active by the 1850s," said DeBlasio.

"It's hard to say because it was an illegal activity, and if you got caught assisting a fugitive slave, you'll be liable for prosecution at the very least," DeBlasio said.

# Security means awareness

By ANGELA OLIN  
Jambar Reporter

Jason McKinley said he was studying for a test in Maag Library on Friday when he set down his book bag for a moment while he left to use the restroom.

"When I came back, in a matter of around 20 seconds, it was stolen," said McKinley, senior, nutrition.

McKinley is not the only one who says he was affected by theft. There have been numerous thefts on campus recently, and YSU Police Chief John Gocala offered a few ideas about how students can protect themselves and prevent crime.

"Crime knows no person, no time or no place. Safety on campus can only be achieved when there is a cooperative relationship among the students and the police," Gocala said.

Gocala said the YSU Police Department is there to keep YSU safe but the department cannot do it alone; the students must help.

He said thefts, such as the stealing of book bags, is the biggest problem for YSU, and students need to be aware.

Many students leave their book bags unattended, do not lock their car doors or do not hide their belongings under their seats or in their trunks, Gocala said.

Laura Ahlswede, sophomore, English, is another student who has had her belongings stolen.

"My freshman year, I went to the bathroom towards the end of class time, I left my books and book bag in the classroom, but when I came back, the class was gone and so were my books,"

she said.

According to FBI crime statistics, in 2000, there were 147 thefts on the YSU campus, 139 of these were items stolen, such as books, book bags and purses. There were two stolen cars and six accounts of burglary.

The 2001 FBI statistics are not available at this time.

Gocala said that besides not leaving property out in the open, students can take other measures.

"Preventative, proactive strategies, such as The Club or an alarm, make thefts difficult for the criminal," he said.

Jimmy Cliff, sophomore, art education, said he takes precautions to protect his car in the parking decks of YSU.

"I park my car far back into the deck so that no one else's car hits mine. I also have The Club. I feel like I don't have to worry; it gives me a peace of mind," Cliff said.

Gocala said although The Club or an alarm can be effective, it could be defeated. However, he said it will delay the criminal and may encourage him or her to go to another car without a security device.

Students may also want to take measures to improve their chances of getting their belongings returned to them in the event they are stolen.

Engraving tools can be obtained from the YSU Police Department to engrave a social security number or some other identification on personal items to make them more easily identifiable, said Gocala.

He said another way is to choose a favorite page number, such as 106, then go into each of

# YSU theft reports during 2000

Items stolen include on the YSU campus:

139 miscellaneous items such as: books, book bags, and purses

Two stolen cars

Six accounts of burglary

A total of 147 thefts occurred on the YSU campus

Source: FBI crime statistics

your textbooks and make a significant mark on that page.

Then, if a student's book is stolen the police can check with stores, such as Campus Book and Supply, to see if anyone has returned the textbook.

If it was returned, the police can then check that page number and trace it back to whoever sold back the book.

McKinley said he used this method and was able to identify his books after they were sold back to Campus Book and Supply.

Gocala said there are many ways in which students can also protect themselves on campus. Gocala demonstrated an easy way that students can protect themselves while walking on campus at night.

He suggested that students place car keys in the fists of their hands, with two or three keys protruding outward from in between their fingers.

This way, Gocala said, if someone should try to attack a student, the student could hit the

attacker and it would be enough to hurt and leave a mark, making it easier for the police to identify that person.

The YSU police also offer much more when it comes to protecting students, he said.

YSU has an escort service, located in Kilcawley Center, to walk students to their cars, especially at night, Gocala said.

George Hanumar, the YSU crime prevention officer, has a closet and cabinet full of pamphlets, books and videos available to students, concerning crime prevention and protection.

In addition, Gocala said the police department offers seminars to students and faculty who are interested. It has a speaker's bureau that covers a number of topics.

"All you have to do is ask," Gocala said.

Hanmar said the YSU Police Department also holds two crime prevention fairs each year, in Kilcawley Center, where students can obtain information about how to protect themselves, and how they can buy merchandise to protect their cars and belongings.

# Growing YSU speech team wins awards at state level

By HENRY GOMEZ  
Jambar Assistant Editor

As the funding continues to come from their own pockets, members of the new YSU speech team have placed as finalists at recent meets, including state tournaments held earlier this month.

Brothers Nick and John Angelis have organized the team — currently with four members — to replace one eliminated by the College of Fine and Performing Arts two years ago.

Nick Angelis, sophomore, pre-nursing, made it to the final round of impromptu speaking at the Cedarville Novice State Tournament and Bowling Green State Tournament.

He also placed in the poetry event at the Geneva College and Westminster tournaments.

One new member, Matt Vansuch, senior, political science, had not competed in speech since graduating from high school in 1998.

He joined the YSU team last month and finished sixth in extemporaneous speaking at the state novice meet.

"I wanted one last shot to see what I could do before I graduate in May."

— Matt Vansuch  
senior, political science

"In the four years that I've been out of high school, I haven't competed, but I have coached, and I felt that I had grown tremendously in that time," Vansuch said. "I wanted one last shot to see what I could do before I graduate in May."

The university is not funding the team, but Vansuch said some money has been granted to competitors through Student Government financial appropriations.

Vansuch said the state novice tournament the team recently competed at consists of many college freshmen trying speech for the first time.

"Many of my critiques said that I would be really good at this with more time, and they gave me tips for improving," he said. "Little did they know ..."

Vansuch followed up his performance at state novice with another sixth-place finish at Geneva College and a double victory at Westminster: Second place in extemporaneous and fifth place in impromptu speaking.

Extemporaneous means off the cuff and involves preparing a seven-minute speech regarding current issues. Vansuch was a two-time state qualifier in the event as a high school student and coaches the event at Howland High School.

Impromptu, like extemporaneous, involves quick preparation of a speech but usually deals with quotes and other phrases.

In poetry, contestants recite selections from a book or play.

Dr. Daniel O'Neill, professor, communication, has said the team was folded after the retirement of longtime coach David Robinson in 1999.

The new team has no official coach but is receiving help from alumni and other former speech competitors and judges.

**Campus Calendar**

**Tuesday:**  
**The Mahoning Valley Dietetic Association** and St. Charles Health Ministries are sponsoring a free lecture on diabetes from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at St. Charles School Auditorium, 7325 Westview Drive, Boardman. This free program includes refreshments, exhibits and a Chinese Auction to benefit the MVDA Scholarship Fund. Speakers include Theresa O'Conner RD,LD,CDE; Angie Palumbo RN,CDE; Linda Veith RN,CDE; Dave Weinberger RN,CDE. To register call St.Charles (330) 758-2325. Registration deadline is 4 p.m. Feb. 22.

**Friday:**  
**The International Student Association** has having a Spring Dance from 7 p.m. - 11 p.m. in the Phelps building. For more information contact Kinga Orban at (330) 629-9943.

**Thursday, Feb. 28:**  
**The History Club** will meet at noon in Kilcawley Center, Room 2069. Dr. Rick Shale, English, will give his annual predictions on the winners of the Academy Awards. The public is invited. Please feel free to bring a lunch.

**Notices:**  
 With double-digit increases in the percentage of people applying for certain graduate degrees, Kaplan Test Prep, a division of Kaplan, Inc. offers free help. Kaplan provides college students and others bound for grad school the chance to take a practice admissions test for FREE at an event called Test Drive. Here, event participants can gauge their test-taking skills and get a feel for what to expect on the actual tests. Kaplan, the nation's leader in test preparation and admissions services, will offer free practice tests for the LSAT, GMAT, GRE, and MCAT at Youngstown State University on Sunday, Feb. 24. In addition to the free practice test, Kaplan experts will provide an overview of each exam and its role in the admissions process. On March 4, participant can also receive their scores, complete with personalized computer analysis of their performance. For more information or to register, call 1(800) KAP-TEST.

**The Dental Hygiene Clinic**, located in Room 1114, Cushwa Hall, is now taking appointments. The following services are provided free of charge by dental hygiene students under the supervision of a licensed dentist and a dental hygiene instructor: Oral examinations, radiographic surveys, study models, fluoride application, scaling and polishing teeth, sealants. Appointments in the Dental Hygiene Clinic take longer than those in a private office, and frequently more than one appointment is needed. All patients under 18 years of age must be accompanied by a legal guardian for their appointments. The Dental Hygiene Clinic should not be used as a substitute for comprehensive dental care provided by a private practice dentist. Because dental health is constantly changing, it is very important to seek routine dental care that includes definitive diagnosis from your private practice dentist. To make an appointment call (330) 742-1767 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

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# Arts&Entertainment

## Bars keep locals busy on weekdays

By KELLY WALSH  
Jambar Editor

Variety is the spice of life. It is also the spice of Youngstown's nightlife.

Though it's the main priority, the local bar scene is not just about bringing live shows to the stage. Bars offer events and drink specials to keep locals entertained during weekdays.

Cedar's Lounge presents an eclectic weekly lineup in order to appeal to different types of people. Tuesdays are Jazz Nights, which feature local jazz musician Teddy Pantelas. He also features different musicians on stage with him.

Lisa Eaton, a manager at Cedar's, said Pantelas has been playing Jazz Night for 14 years. "He has been playing ever since I started working here," she said.

Also at Cedar's is Swing Night, which is every Thursday. There, men dress up in dapper clothes and dance all night to the swing music. There are also swing dancing lessons offered earlier in the evening.

"The variety we offer," said Eaton, "brings in all different types of people."

Cedar's recently started New Band Night on Wednesday nights. Eaton said the event started as an idea the band booker had in order to bring in people on Wednesdays.

Similarly, The Plaza Café has acoustic Open Mic night every Tuesday. This gives musicians who don't normally play live a chance to share their music with others.

Beef, an employee of the café, said the Open Mic night is a lot of fun.

"A lot of people come out to it, and sometimes bands will come up and play with other people," he said.

Also at the Plaza Café, the jam band, Mystic WIP Hustler, plays every Wednesday.

Although Nyabinghi prides itself in bringing in live bands, it has events going on during the week to keep everyone entertained. Manager Greg Barratt recently started a karaoke night on Wednesdays. However, it is not normal karaoke — it's Crapaque.

"It's just a lot of fun,"

Barratt said. "We have costumes to put on, and we give bar trinkets and other dumb s--- away as prizes."

What's different about karaoke at Nyabinghi is that those participating don't take the event seriously. Also, Barratt said the bar only has 1,500 songs, whereas regular karaoke usually has around 5,000 songs.

"None of our songs suck, though," said Barratt. "We have some 80s rap in there and other songs that normal karaoke wouldn't."

Barratt said Crapaque is more fun because no one takes it seriously.

"We don't alienate people if they can't sing. We actually encourage that," he said.

Nyabinghi sometimes has All-ages Night on Sundays, where those who are younger than 18 can enjoy the bar's atmosphere.

And if you do your homework, those older than 21 may be able to drink pretty inexpensively every night by checking out the drink specials for each bar.

For instance, on Sunday night, students can head out to



KELLY WALSH / THE JAMBAR

**JAZZIN' IT UP:** Chris Hemmingway jams on the sax, joining Teddy Pantelas on Jazz Night at Cedar's.

Nyabinghi and save some money by getting \$1 off of all drafts.

Leslie's Lounge offers happy hour every day from 4 p.m. to 9 p.m. On Tuesday's, ladies can get "smashed" at

Nyabinghi for a good price. Leslie's Lounge has \$2 off on 32-ounce domestic beers as well. The Plaza Café has Hot and Thirsty Thursday every week, which also offers drink specials.

## Theater prepares for opening night

By KELLY WALSH  
Jambar Editor

Tuesday night, students, faculty and others involved in university theater scurried around at dress rehearsal to make sure every aspect of the play "Sweet Charity" would run smoothly that night — opening night.

After a long day of classes, the energetic cast and crew, running on caffeine and enthusiasm, stayed on campus until after 11 p.m. to get everything in place, and this includes much more than what meets the eye in the final product.

Getting the lights in place, ensuring that the music matches up with the dancing, making sure all the dance steps are perfect, finding and making all of the props and building the different sets are just a few things that go into a play production.

This list doesn't even include the hours spent memorizing lines or practicing every evening after school.

YSU theater has been working hard on the production since before Christmas break. The play is infused

with popular musical numbers, special effects and Bob Fosse dance routines.

"Sweet Charity" is based on the book by Neil Simon.

The play's focus is on the character, Charity Hope Valentine, played by Jennifer Windle. Valentine is a hopeless romantic who is always falling in love with different men and getting her heart broken.

She is surrounded by a fast-paced setting in Times Square that constantly keeps the scenes interesting.

Dr. Frank Castronovo oversees the play's production as director. He is in charge of coordinating with the entire cast and crew in order to make the show run smoothly. Castronovo said he has directed more than 100 plays in the past.

"The play I am directing at whatever given time is always my favorite," he said. "We have been doing seven weeks of solid work, and after living and breathing it for so long, it has to become my

favorite."

Castronovo said he is working with a talented cast that is very committed to doing the best that it can.

"When all the dust settles," he said, "there is a final product that everyone is happy with."

Christina Kopcoso is the stage manager for the production and has to oversee everything that happens on and behind stage. There are 12 different sets and 147 different cues for which she is in charge. "I have to deal with all the crap," she said.

But the work of a play goes beyond the setting of a stage.

Since "Sweet Charity" takes place in the 1960s, each specialist must be able to understand that time period

in order to portray it to the audience.

Jay Anthony Ferello is the lighting and special effects designer. He said he had to do individual research about the original production and he had to research the time period.

But in order to make the play's musical numbers work, Christine Cobb, the choreographer, had to envision and create all of the dance pieces used. From there, she had to teach the cast the dances and work out all of the transitions.

"Because of time," Cobb said, "I created the dances at night and then brought them in and worked with the students."

But that is not as easy as it may sound for both the choreographer and the people learning the dances.

Jens Peterson, who plays various "snotty New Yorkers," has been in other plays in the past and worked with different choreographers. He said, "It's really hard to get used to the different styles of the choreographers."

However, he said he decided to be in this play

because of the dance style.

"My friend told me about this production because I love Fosse. I had to be in it."

David Kahley, who plays many different roles, also enjoys the dance aspect of the play even though he said it is a really big commitment.

He said, "I can't dance, but I have fun with it, and I get to wear a bow-tie."

Castronovo is enthusiastic about presenting this play to the university.

"It is a very fresh play from the 1960s, and it deals with universal themes that all students will like."

However, he said he would like to see more students supporting theater.

"It is all part of a cultural experience. Movies are great, and I teach a class about movies, but it is also important to see live productions," said Castronovo.

The play opens tonight at 8 p.m. and continues through the weekend. On Sunday the show starts at 3 p.m. The production will also run March 1 and 2 at 8 p.m. and March 3 at 3 p.m. Tickets are free to students who present a current YSU I.D. General admission is \$8.

## Weekend Events Calendar

### Tonight

Cedars Swing music night  
Choices Disco Explosion  
Disco 9 p.m.  
Hot Rod Cafe Jam Night  
Open mike  
Opus 21 Joe Augustine, piano 6-10 p.m.  
Roadhouse Cantina Jay Byrd Blues 6-10 p.m.

### Friday

Boomers Nevermind (Rock)  
Cedars November Loop  
Club Leon's Benders (Rock) Frieda's Live jazz blues  
Funny Farm Scott Angrave and James Sibley  
Hammer Jacks Fetish  
Hot Rod Cafe Disco Explosion  
Kuzman's Ivory Coach (Oldies)  
Opus 21 Joe Augustine, piano 6-10 p.m.  
Plaza Cafe Volume XII  
Roadhouse Cantina Jay Byrd (Acoustic blues) 5:30-8:30 p.m. No Xcuse. 10 p.m.-2 a.m.  
Salty Grog's Hellenback

### Saturday

Avalon Gardens Guys Without Ties  
Boomers Smackdaddies (Rock)  
Bull & Bear Tavern Carl Severino  
Cedars Tilt 360, Sindust  
Chrystal's Cleveland Fats (Blues) 7:30 p.m.  
Club Leon's Big Daddy Burl (Blues)  
Frieda's Live jazz, blues  
Funny Farm Scott Angrave, James Sibley, Grist Mill No Xcuse (Rock)  
Hammer Jacks Edison's Medicine  
Mocha House Charlie Mosbrook 8-11 p.m.  
Office Vegas (Dance)  
Opus 21 Joe Augustine, piano. 6-10 p.m.  
Plaza Cafe Via Sahara w/Sauce  
Rachel's The Rage, Sugar Fuzz (Rock)  
Roadhouse Cantina Take II 5:30-8:30 p.m. Special Forces 10 p.m.-2 a.m.  
Salty Grog's Nevermind

## Local scene changed over time

By JOE DEMAY  
Jambar Reporter

All right, I'm outing myself today. I'm Joe, and I'm a nontraditional student. I think, at this point, my fellow nontraditional students say, "Hi, Joe."

Anyway, despite my nontrad status, I'd like to think I've remained relatively cool through the years. As a wily veteran of the campus and the Youngstown area in general, I can say the music scene has changed dramatically.

To invoke that rapidly tiring phrase, back in the day things were a lot different 'round these here parts. Take the number of bands proliferating the scene now. Check out [youngstownscene.com](http://youngstownscene.com) and you'll find 76 bands listed on that section of the site. 76!

Go back about 10 years and it was more likely to be six bands who were worth going to check out. The Februarys, Boogie Man Smash, The Infidels,

Coinmonster (who, to be fair, is still working hard and playing out) all spring to mind and while I may, in my old age, have missed a notable band or two, I certainly haven't missed very many.

Yeah, sure, the sheer quantity of bands these days does not necessarily equate to a proportional increase in quality. But generally speaking there are more bands playing good music than there were years ago, and the musical variety in the

Youngstown scene has unquestionably increased dramatically.

Certainly the growth in numbers and vitality in the Youngstown scene has been helped by the number of bars and clubs catering to the traditional college crowd.

In those dark-days of the '80s and '90s there was only one Mecca, and that was

Cedar's. No doubt about it, Cedar's was the place to play if you were in a Youngstown band and the place to be if you wanted to see a cool Youngstown band.

Perhaps there would be some argument from those loyal to The Pub — a very cool wreck of a place on the corner of Madison

and Elm. They may have some argument, as I recall The Pub being the first place I ever saw a real live, albeit not too convincing, drag queen.

But since Cedar's has withstood the test of time and is still in operation, The Pub will have to settle for second place.

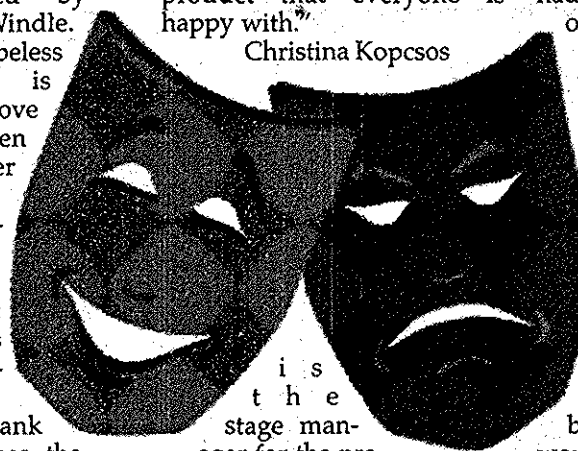
Pyatt Street Down Under, to its credit, did have some good shows as well and rounded out the "cool" venues of the time, but that's about it. That was the

Youngstown music scene if you wanted to see a band other than The Rage, Graphic Pink or the Fabulous Flashbacks.

Today we have a veritable plethora of bands and venues to choose from. In the foggy mists of my memory, it was a rare weekend when you actually had to choose what band you wanted to see. In fact, it was a great weekend if two bands you actually liked were playing on the same weekend.

And let us not forget the great informational god we have nowadays, known as the Internet. Weekend planning now consists of a few little mouse clicks, and away you go for a night of music, debauchery and whatever else comes your way.

Our bible was The MetroEye, now The Metro Monthly, or the various bulletin boards covered with scads of cleverly designed flyers announcing various shows. Ah how the times have changed.



Christina Kopcoso

## Reality show to hit YSU again

By KELLY WALSH  
Jambar Editor

YSU is the first campus where the two will be speaking.

Greg Gulas, assistant director of Student Activities, helped bring in the duo, along with Housing and Student Programming.

He said the women will be talking about topics that every campus needs to be aware of.

"I hope a lot of students can make it, and I would like to see the athletic department present," he said.

Adam Kirschner, Becky and Kelley's agent, said the show will be very useful for college students and it should be entertaining.

"The two knew of each other before they appeared on the recent "[The] Real World" and "Road Rules Extreme Competition 2002," but they really bonded over that experience."

The show will begin at noon Tuesday in the Chestnut Room, Kilcawley Center.

**Commentary**