



# MBAR

The student voice of Youngstown State University

## PAGE 6

## Robert Downey Jr. has super year

THE SIDEBAR



#### **FEATURE**

May Day gets down 'n' country with musical talent ......6

#### **NEWS**

Divorce may harm childs future relationships ......2

CLASSIFIEDS.....2

**TO THE POINT .....2** 

#### **EDITORIAL**

It's hard to let go.....**5** 

The Jambar senior staff says goodbye ....5

#### **FEATURE**

Regional performers to rock University Pizzeria ......6



#### SPORTS A

Five straight against Raiders marks pivotal *series* ......**8** 

#### WEATHER

Today .... 69° 53°

Friday Saturday

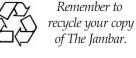
Sunday

Monday

Tuesday



72° 50° Wednesday a



# YEC PROGRAM LEARNS LESSON

## Poor performance at college level sparks changes

J. Breen Mitchell

Reporter

The first class of Youngstown Early College will graduate this year, and so far, the program is not living up to expectations.

YEC is a program by which high school students can earn college credit throughout their four years of high school, combining the two levels of education with the intention of giving the students a head start on their educational careers.

The goal set forth by YEC administration is for students to earn 45 to 60 college credits during their four years of high school. The first graduating class only has four students achieving this goal by receiving associate's degrees.

Reasons for the shortfall may be due to a couple of factors, said John Wilson, YEC dean.

One reason, Wilson said, is that the program is still fairly

"It's the fourth year of a new program," said Wilson, who added that this is his first year with YEC.

Wilson said the college is

designed for students to be able to receive the 45 to 60 credits that are available once planned

changes in recruitment and class schedules are implemented. He said that YEC is one of the first programs of its kind in Ohio, and that is one reason for some ini-

"There were a lot of lessons to be learned, and we have learned," said Wilson.

Wilson said that this year some changes in recruitment have been implemented, adding a scoring rubric based on grades

and attendance, as well as the original criteria of "economically disadvantaged, underrepresented popula-

"There were a lot of lessons to be learned, and we have learned."

John Wilson, YEC dean

first generation, and underachieving students.'

Another change, described in the YEC program update as a short-term solution, is the elimination of study halls and the addition of more electives, which are needed for graduation.

In addition, Wilson said that next year, freshmen and sophomores will take more high school courses, while juniors and seniors will take more college based courses.

"Looking at the history, we had kids going to the wrong place at the wrong time," said Wilson.

Wilson said that he expects the changes to improve the performance of the program in the immediate future.

"We'll be on track to achieve the goal of 45 to 60 credits for most students,"Wilson said.



## Former Jambar editor starts rock-painting tradition

Jeanette DiRubba

Reporter

"Sherwin-Williams must have become wealthy over all these years," said Dennis LaRue.

the He's referring to Youngstown State University Tradition Rock. The copy editor of The Business Journal who attended YSU at the time when Ben Hayek, former editor of The Jambar, wrote an editorial about regaining lost school spirit, and the tradition of painting the rock

began.
"I was sitting in The Jambar offices, which were inside Kilcawley at the time, and I was

watching all these students walking back and forth across campus and past this rock that was dug up while Kilcawley Center was being excavated," Hayek said. "I felt like it was a pity there was nothing for the students to rally around and then I just stared at this rock," he

Hayek's editorial ran in the March 17, 1967 Jambar, and informed students that "the rock in the student center courtyard ... bears no special tradition on this campus — it does nothing ... This monument to tradition has seen neither a drop of paint nor the head of a chisel. We have cheated this

The editorial went on to explain

that this rock might be "the only true campus tradition we might ever have."

Hayek said in a recent interview that the day after the editorial printed in 1967, students were painting "It was an immediate

response," Hayek said of the students acting on his editorial.

Since 1967, the rock has become so thick with paint that layers have been peeled off to get the Rock back to its original size.

Students who've painted the rock saw just how much paint their forbears slopped, sprayed and splashed to get their message across to the entire campus. Desmond Wallace, senior and

member of Theta Chi fraternity, jokingly described how the Rock has grown. That thing used to be the size

of my fist, I swear," he said. Theta Chi painted the rock for their founder's day.

"While we painted the rock, we had a push-up contest," he said.

Senior and Sigma Alpha Lamda member Amy Rook has painted the Rock, too for a Relay for Life bake sale.

"Unfortunately it got painted over the same day," she said.

Rook also noticed how thick the paint is.

There's a spot with so many layers of paint, you can dent it with your hand," she said.

SGA

## SGA draws more voters than CSU student elections

Sarah Sole

News Editor

In an approximate, non-scientific comparison to two other public Ohio state colleges, Youngstown University's Student Government Association ranked second in student voting participa-

Six percent, or 750 out of 12,755 students, of YSU voted in April's SGA elections. With Cleveland State University's most up-to-date enrollment total of 15,142, a figure from 2006, CSU shows that 4 percent, or 601 students, voted in recent student elections. Kent State University ranked first in student voter participation, with approximately 8 percent of students voting in student government elections. The 8 percent figure comes from Donna Carlton, associate director of the Center for Student Involvement at Kent, who said that close to 1,900 students participated in recent elections, while Jonathan Bey, executive director of Undergraduate Student Government, reported KSU's

enrollment at around 24,000 stu-

Carla Hill, elections board commissioner for SGA at YSU, said this year's numbers were a big

increase from the past. Outgoing SGA president Dave Spatholt agreed, saying this was the highest turnout so far. The year he came to YSU in the fall of 2004, about 600 students participated in

SGA elections, he said. Spatholt said student involvement in SGA has improved this year, and attributed the increase in election participation to more involved freshmen and a more competitive election.

"We've had great attendance at

all of our events," he said. Aside from having the ability to appropriate funds to other organizations, SGA controls minor things on campus like helping to choose a homecoming chair, Spatholt said. Major SGA actions include making recommendations, backed up with evidence, to the administration, and working alongside administrators to help carry out the tasks.

"Things have been really good," Spatholt said of the SGA's progress this year, adding that they had a meeting to renovate student lounges

SGA has less to do with power and more to do with networking between members and with YSU officials, he said. The Associated Student

Government at The University of Akron operates similarly to YSU's Cory McManamon, University

of Akron junior and Honors College senator in ASG, said his organization plays a role in allocating funds for student organizations. ASG also approves new student organizations and co-sponsors

"We're pretty close with the administration here," McManamon

McManamon said the administration responded quickly to ASG's critique of campus on safety by fixing emergency phones and adding additional lighting. ASG usually passes resolutions

urging administration action. One recent resolution urged the university to bring a Chick-fil-A to campus, and another encouraged administration to create more parking. For the most part, the administration carries out ASG's goals, McManamon said.

McManamon said they are trying to get more students involved with ASG. We're making strides," he said.

Student involvement is also important at Cleveland State University. Though C. Blake Almaguer, a

senior at CSU and SGA president, said many more students stop by SGA's office, he said asking students about SGA is still going to be "a shot in the dark." If a person asks 10 people about

SGA, four of those people will know what the organization is, and of those four, one person will actually know what the organization is doing, Almaguer said. Almaguer said the amount of

students who take part in elections have to do with the relationships the candidates have with the people who are voting.

SGA page 2

Student chivalry is alive and kicking, survey says

Samantha Pysher & Ashley Fox

Chivalry may still be alive, at least at Youngstown State University.

"Chivalry isn't dead. It's on life support," said sophomore Frank Baverso.

The Jambar asked 50 students if chivalry is dead and found that 76 percent disagreed. The survey was taken by 27 women and 23 men.

Freshman Corey Stephens said chivalry's not as big as it used to be. Still, if he's on a date, he'll open the car door.

"I'm not going to throw down my coat over a mud puddle." he added.

Senior Josh Camuso said that he is bothered that some people believe chivalry no longer exists. He said even though there are still people who care about others, those that don't believe chivalry is still kicking have good reason.

Camuso also said he sees chivalry as courtesy, respect and putting someone else ahead of yourself.

"It shows that the person cares a little more by just doing something simple like holding a door,' Camuso added.

Steve Ellyson of the psychology department said classic chivalry of the fairy-tale Prince Charming variety has been abandoned in the modern age, but some vestiges survive in common courtesy like opening doors, paying for dinner and pulling out a chair for your date.

"It comes back to, 'If you're nice to me, I'll be nice to you," Ellyson

"Today's gender roles seem more flexible," Ellyson added. An example he mentioned was contemporary dating where "the rules aren't as rigid or stereotyped as they used to be."

Ninety percent of students answered "yes" to the survey question: "Can a girl ask a guy out?"

Of the guys that were asked about common acts of chivalry, most of them said that around campus, girls hold the doors open for them more so than other guys.

The chivalry survey showed that 100 percent of gentlemen open doors for their dates. As far as paying for dinner, 50 percent of those

CHIVALRY page 2

#### **TO THE POINT**

#### **Open Art Discussion**

Fred Wilson, an artist and Skeggs lecturer, will lead an open discussion on the topic of the role of art in contemporary culture. The discussion is open to all YSU students and will take place today from 2 to 4 p.m. at the McDonough Museum of Art.

#### Spring Graduating **BFA Show**

The opening reception for the Spring Graduating BFA Show is being held Friday, May 2 from 6 to 8 p.m. at the McDonough Museum of Art.

#### Penguins to Play at Eastwood Field

Eastwood Field will play host to the YSU baseball team when they take on Wright State this weekend. Game times are Friday at 7 p.m. and Saturday at 1 p.m. and 4 p.m.

#### Students Present Original Operas

students Youngstown State University's SMARTS (Students Motivated by the Arts) program have created two original operas. The music, sets, and dialogue are credited to the work of 40 first through 12th grade students. The operas will be performed today at the Ford Family Recital Hall in the DeYor Performing Arts Center. General Admission is \$1 at the door.

#### Business in Brazil

A federal grant funded a tenday trip to Sao Paulo, Brazil as part of the Williamson College of Administration's Business Emerging Markets Initiative. Ten tudents, three faculty members, and one staff member made the trip last month where they attended lectures and visited Brazilianowned companies.

#### YSU Nursing Alumni to Celebrate YSU Centennial

Invitations were sent to YSU nursing alumni to celebrate the YSU Centennial and honor eight alumni. The celebration will be held Thursday, May 8 from 5 to 8 p.m. in the atrium of Cushwa Hall. The cost to attend is \$12 per person.

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May Alcott)

January 22-25, 2009 Second Stage BLACKBOX Production ALMOST, MAINE A Comedy By John Cariani

#### **RELATIONSHIPS**

#### Divorce may harm childs future relationships

#### Alice DeBonis

Jambar Contributor

The United States National Vital Statistic Reports that there were over 3 million divorces in 2007, and studies have found that the effect of parental divorce on young adults may harm any future relationships they intimate encounter.

For example, in the 2001 Journal of Marriage and Family, Dr. Susan Jacquet and Dr. Catherine Surra studied over 200 couples and found that young adults from divorced parents showed less trust in their romantic partners, had lower levels of commitment or dedication toward them, and had greater difficulty in maintaining friendships as compared to adults whose parents remained married.

However, according to a 2004 Huntington College study, divorce may not be as emotionally detrimental as previously believed.

The goal of the study was to determine if the level of intimacy of college students whose parents were divorced was different than those whose parents remained married. The results showed that there was no major difference between the two, and that those whose parents were divorced may not be as profoundly affected in intimate relationships as past studies have claimed.

Youngstown State University psychology professor Steve Ellyson wasn't surprised by these results. He said that in a lot of ways, many do not give credit to the ability of young adults and children to cope when dealing with divorce.

"Being adaptable is one thing humans do well," Ellyson said.

Senior Brian Jones is among those who are capable of adapting. He said that he had a good childhood and he doesn't think that his future intimate relationships will be affected by his parents' divorce. "I was always fine," Jones said. Senior Jonathon Johnson, whose parents are married, feels

that divorce will only affect a person under difficult conditions. "I suppose it depends on the

nature of the divorce," Johnson said. On the other hand, Freshman Jaime Hughes feels that divorces are emotionally draining, and that people carry that emotional baggage for a long time.

"I have friends whose parents are divorced. It's evident," Hughes said.

Ellyson said that not every adult and child who has divorced parents will suffer long-lasting effects in their lives, and to believe so would be making a generalization. Yet, Ellyson notes that for some, divorce can be more difficult to deal with.

"Divorce may be horrible for some, while others will roll with the punches," he said.

#### **POLITICS**

## Obama's lead seen dwindling in North Carolina

#### Jim Morrill

McClatchy Newspapers (MCT)

Larry Cowie decided months ago to vote for Sen. Barack Obama. But this week's provocative remarks by Obama's former pastor gave him pause.

"They've shaken my confidence (in Obama)," said Cowie, a Charlotte customer service representative. "But they haven't swayed me to jump ship."

The latest flare-up over the Rev. Jeremiah Wright came a week before Tuesday's primaries in North Carolina and Indiana. Polls suggest the North Carolina race was tightening even before his latest comments drew a sharp rebuke from Obama.

The question for Obama is, how much damage did Wright cause? A strong showing by Sen. Hillary Clinton in North Carolina could reinvigorate her campaign perhaps sway crucial superdelegates.

Kerry Haynie, a Duke University political scientist who teaches a course on race and politics, called it "a severe blow" to the senator from Illinois.

"The Rev. Wright issue will hurt him both among the blue-collar white voters and the more liberal wing," Haynie said. "The luster has sort of worn off The more he comes to be seen as the `black candidate' or the candidate aligned with black interests, the more we see this historical pattern coming into play: the more white voters will fall away."

On Monday, Wright praised Louis Farrakhan and repeated his assertion that the government

invented AIDS to kill black people. He also suggested Obama privately agrees with him on many things and distanced himself only for political purposes.

Obama forcefully denounced Wright Tuesday in Winston-Salem, calling his remarks destructive and saying they give "comfort to those who prey on hate."

As both Obama and Sen. Hillary Clinton campaigned through North Carolina this week, polls showed the race getting closer, though how close depends on

A SurveyUSA poll, for example, found Obama's margin falling from 10 points three weeks ago to 5 this week. One by Public Policy Polling showed his lead cut from 25 to 12 points in a week.

Polls in Pennsylvania and other states also saw the race tighten as the election approached.

"There's certainly encouraging poll numbers," said Ace Smith, Clinton's North Carolina director. "But the bottom line is we started 25 points back here. And we'll be happy if we can pull to within 15 points or better. This is an incredible uphill

Tom Jensen, a spokesman for Public Policy Polling, said Obama could benefit from heavier-thanexpected turnout by African Americans, his most loyal constituency. In early voting, he said, black voters have accounted for 39 percent of party turnout, more than pollsters projected.

Some black Obama voters are angry, and not just at Wright.

Rev. Jeremiah Wright is not running for any political office," said Sharon Marshall, 59, an African American social worker from Charlotte. "And I just wish you guys (in the news media) would just leave that alone."

Jacqueline Stewart, 48, a sales consultant from east Charlotte, leaned toward Clinton before the controversy. Wednesday, she voted for Obama.

"The media blew everything out of proportion," she said. "If you're going to attack (Obama), attack him for what he believes, not for what someone else does."

some white voters remained bothered by Obama's ties to Wright.

"That has hurt Obama a great deal with me and probably with some other people," said Margaret Aldridge, a retired Charlotte teacher. "Recent presidents have had Billy Graham as an adviser and we're wondering in our mind – `Is he going to have Wright as an adviser?' - which would be a disaster."

Obama supporters downplayed any lasting damage.

"What (voters) want to know is, what is he going to do about gas prices?" said Raleigh lawyer Ed Turlington, who had chaired John Edwards' campaign. "What's he going to do about health care? What's he going to do about all these North Carolina National Guard people deployed to Afghanistan and Iraq?

Even some Clinton voters say Wright obscures other issues.

"That's just clouding over the actual issues," said Linda Weaver, 63, of Cornelius. "This is not what Obama stands for, not what he is about."

(Staff writers Tim Funk, David Ingram, Greg Lacour and Allen Norwood contributed to this report.)

#### CHIVALRY page 1

surveyed said the guy should pay. Forty-two percent said the person who initiated the date should

Ninety-three percent of the ladies surveyed expect their date to open the door for them, and 44 percent expect their date to pull their chair out for them.

"You never really see guys opening doors for girls or pulling chairs out for them. Girls do all the cool stuff for guys," Mike Lester, a sophomore said.

Sophomore Jennifer McCallistor said that chivalry is around, but "it's very rare."

"Guys don't seem to open doors anymore or do things that they are supposed to be known for doing," McCallister stated.

McCallister noted that when someone does act chivalrous towards her, she feels good.

"Acting courteous shows that for once they're not thinking of themselves," McCallister said.



SGA page 1

Steve Liss, director of student involvement at CSU, said 601 students took part in SGA's latest election. Liss said the amount was the lowest in five or six years, and attributes it to the fact that SGA moved buildings. The elections topped 1,100 once, he said.

Almaguer said that the SGA's primary role at CSU is funding student organizations. They also do outreach activities and community service. The organization has \$160,000 to put toward allocations. Like YSU's SGA, CSU's organization an also make resolutions to urge the administration to take action about something.

However, Almaguer said SGA doesn't make too many resolutions and instead saves them for important areas. Not one resolution has been ignored by the administration, he added.

In addition to cultivating a relationship with the administration, SGA at CSU also worked to cultivate a relationship with students. Recently, SGA advised the university and the state to find additional funding to supplement the financial aid for students who are veterans.

While Almaguer said he sees the university taking action to fix the veterans' gap in financial aid, he said he is not sure if the state will pay attention to SGA's recommendations.

While some government associations are parallel in structure, University's State Undergraduate Student Government has different respon-

Bey, a junior at Kent, said that this year USG will be responsible for events and lectures on campus. USG also allocates funds to other student organizations. Usually, the requests average less than \$10,000, he said.

Bey said the administration pays attention fairly often to USG's resolutions. Recently, USG pushed to keep the Student Center open later, and the university carried out the organization's request.

USG is working on a proposal to bring a video rental facility to the Student Center, and Bey said it doesn't seem likely that the administration will oppose

"We don't really need their approval for the idea," Bey said, adding that the only way the administrators could influence USG's decision is if they would deny space for the rental facility.

Despite USG's activities, Bey said student participation is fairly low. He won the office of executive director with a little over 1,000 votes, he said. Many students aren't aware

of what USG is what its members do, he said. Many students also have part-time jobs or live off campus. 'It's not really convenient for

them to come back at night," he

Carlton said generally 8 to 10 percent of students take part in student government elections at

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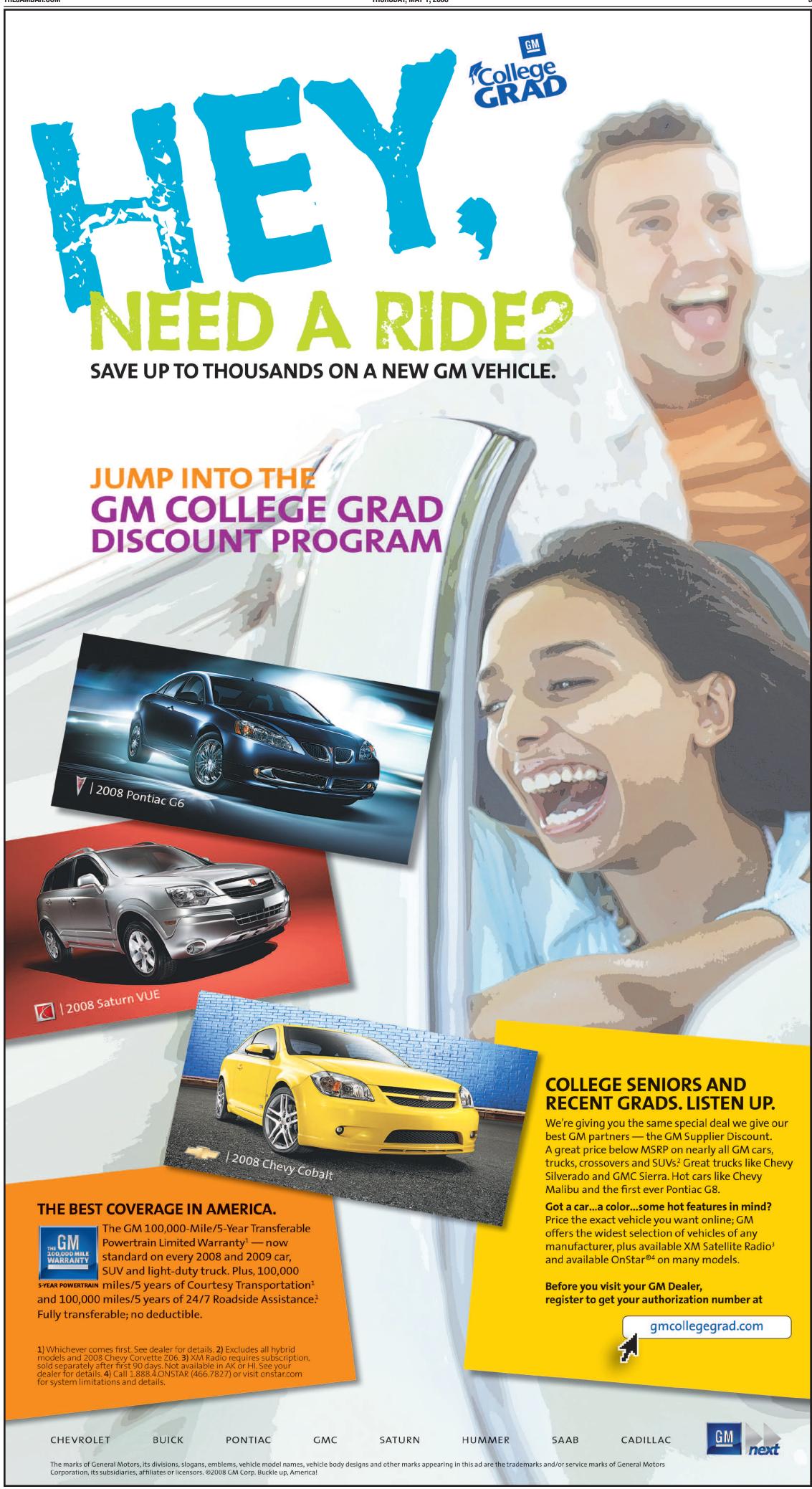


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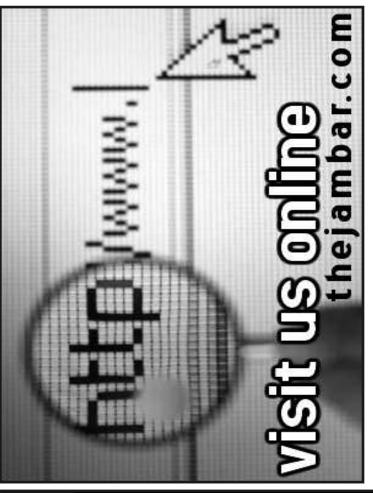
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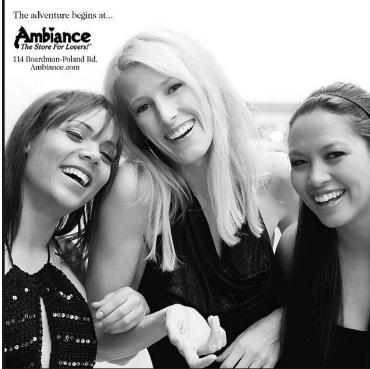
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THEJAMBAR.COM THURSDAY, MAY 1, 2008

**OUR SIDE** 

## It's hard to let go

It's finally, wonderfully, terribly over, and what a year it was at Youngstown State University. For some students, it was our last.

In between school, work and thinking about what's coming after graduation, the students of YSU managed to do some pretty amazing things this academ-

The national spotlight cast on our city and school when three presidential candidates visited Youngstown.

The focus is also on YSU during the centennial celebration that ends at Homecoming in October. For those not leaving the university, that seems like a long way off. For graduates going on to bigger and better things, talk of college rituals may bring a single, nostalgic tear or else an emphatic, "see ya!"

Some of us are saying goodbye to campus jobs and departments that have become like a second home. What will it be like when we don't see those people every week, every day? Do the friendships continue when the shared experiences end?

When we left high school, all we knew about college was that everything would change. For some it was like an arrival that we'd looked forward to for years. For others, the thought of leaving home made us almost want to stay in high school. Graduating from college is completely different.

When we leave this campus, it's the final goodbye to an era of our lives. No one can question our adulthood anymore, except perhaps car rental companies that refuse business from the under-25 set.

Not to knock higher education, but grad school seems like more of the same college life. For many of us, that doesn't feel like the right fit anymore. And what will the university be like without us? After we've poured so much of ourselves into this institution, we can't help but worry about our time here.

Letting go is easier when we see the students who'll take our place. When YSU's Press Day brought more than 400 high school students to campus Tuesday, we met them face to face.

Some were simply getting out of a day of classes, but the students who asked questions and explored campus are the ones who'll go far if they come to YSU.

As for the graduates, we'd like to thank the university for offering us challenges that forced us to grow beyond who we used to be. We're ready for what's next.

#### **POLICIES**

Editorials in The Jambar reflect the opinions of the editorial staff, including the Editor in Chief, News Editor, Managing Editor and Copy

The Jambar encourages letters to the editor. E-mail submissions are

welcome at the jambar@gmail.com. Letters should concern campus issues, must be typed and must not exceed 400 words. Submissions must include name and telephone number for verification, and letters are subject to editing for spelling, grammar and clarity. Items submitted become the property of The Jambar and will not be returned.

Letters will not be rejected based on the views expressed in them. Letters may be rejected if they are not relevant to Jambar readers, if they seek free publicity or if the editorial staff decides the subject has been sufficiently aired. The Jambar will not print letters that are libelous, threatening, obscene or indecent.

The views and opinions expressed in published letters do not necessarily reflect those of the staff of The Jambar or the faculty, staff or administration of Youngstown State University.

#### ABOUT THE JAMBAR

Since being founded by Burke Lyden in 1931, The Jambar has won nine Associated Collegiate Press

The Jambar is published twice weekly during the fall and spring semesters and weekly during sum-

mer sessions. Mail subscriptions are \$25 per academic year. Additional copies of The Jambar are \$1 each.

#### SENIOR STAFF GOODBYES

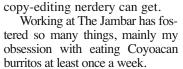
#### Cristina Cala

Copy Editor

Comma splices, misplaced modifiers, starting a sentence with a gerund and overuse of the word "as" are just a few of my favorite things to eradicate.

In my two years as copy editor of The Jambar, the AP Stylebook

has become bible. For one year I worshipped peacefully; then Richard Boccia came staff. on Those in the newsroomwho have witnessed Richard and me argue to death-by-redover hyphen placement know heated



Besides the deadlines, headlines and fine lines between journalistic integrity and sanity, it gave me an outlet for The Yo' Magazine: my journalistic lovechild with The Jambar's cold, creepy-at-night Fedor Hall basement.

My three semesters as editor in chief of The Yo' Magazine have fostered breakdowns, five-day stretches with four dollars of sleep (unit of measurement for the sleepdeprived), threats to come to campus in a bathrobe, interruption of an induction ceremony when the use of odd fonts corrupted nearly every PDF of the winter issue, and any and every other last-minute detour on the road to print.

But my fellow staff members have been there behind me, my drama, my impersonations, my mood of the hour. I can't express my gratitude for those who worked with me on The Yo', and hope that my Yo' successors continue to make me proud after I'm gone.

On production days at The Jambar, we've all got our roles and our corners of the newsroom that make us unique. The designers are lax while they paginate, Adam Rogers listening to his pop music, Andy Berry with his classic rock, Brian Cetina with his emo.

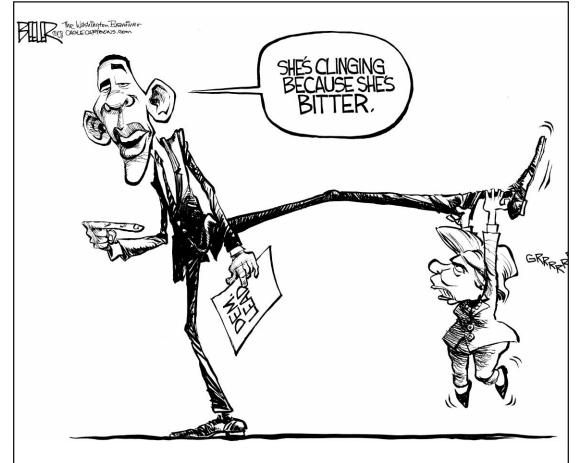
Adrienne Sabo's the managing mama who understands all my problems but can't understand why I don't like country; news editor Sarah Sole is not listening to music because she's interviewing on the phone. there's Then Richard and me copy editing, wishing everywould one either use headphones or play glorious Madonna.

Thanks to Adam, I know that the lyrics to Justin Timberlake's "My Love" are not, in fact, "I can see your swollen hands / Walking on the beach our toes in the sand," nor is the song about Mr. Timberlake making a Mrs. into the woman whose hands are swollen from pregnancy.

Andrew, we all know your design is "usually stunning."

Ashley Tate, my Mama Troll, 'whyonchu" keep in touch so I can hear your amazing laugh because "Ionknow" what I'd do without it?

My editorial staff ladies, our laughs have rubbed off on each other. I've picked up Adrienne's satisfying sigh after a good bout of laughter and Sarah's AC-DC leg kick and body seizing (or did she pick that up from me?), and at least a couple of you copy my banging on desks, pulling out drawers or grabbing the nearest knee for laughing leverage. Adam giggles, Richard does some version of Ernie from 'Sesame Street," but Ashley gets my vote for Best Jambar Laugh when she wails so hard she cries.



I'll never forget the Jambar trips — mostly because they are well documented on my camera. (I promise no one will be exposed on Facebook.) February's coverage of the Democratic presidential candidates in Youngstown and Cleveland was the highlight of my Jambar career. My MSNBC debate and rally press passes are keepsakes that document history that I was part of as I brushed elbows with AP photographers and mingled in national press pools. (They'll mean even more when Hillary is president!) Walking through a buzzing St. Louis the night the Cardinals won the World Series in 2006 was only one highlight of my first College Media Convention trip. The next year's conference in Washington, D.C., with our group of nine coincided with a Halloween I'll always remember. Richard, Sarah, that Dracula guy who tried to wrap me up in his cape was no

match for the three of us dressed as Greasers. "MAYBE!" And then there was the Sago internship trip, which I really won't forget because the ice-slicked, backwoods, claim-your-life cliffs of West Virginia came two feet and one emergency brake from swallowing me, Rudi Whitmore and Bob Smith's Cavalier.

A shout-out to the Jambar mascots, including Extreme Tickle Me Elmo, brought to us by adviser Mary Beth Earnheardt's 2-year-old daughter Ella. The Jambar Chicken, of course, will be with me always, along with images of Brian, Andrew and Chelsea Pflugh dancing through our ritzy D.C. hotel while wearing the yellow feathermess of a costume. Chelsea, my successor at copy desk, I need you to remember two things: me on next year's trip, and everything in the stylebook.

And to my faculty, thank you for resistance when I needed to be

pushed, criticism when I needed to be motivated and encouragement when I needed to be appreciated. Guy C. Coviello, you're the reason I applied for a job at The Jambar. Mary Beth, Tim Francisco, Alyssa Lenhoff, you have taught me to keep my critical eye open to top yesterday's performance.

I go by the rules in this job, and so my plan was to leave you with precisely 400 words, in adherence to The Jambar's editorial wordcount policy. But this is not an editorial, and the friendships I have made at The Jambar are not like those at most jobs. I love my job, and making good journalism better. I can only hope my career brings me more inspiring work and people. My goodbye totals 961 words, but in my two years at The Jambar, Fedor Hall has hosted twice as many laughs and memories, which I'll be filing in my own personal style guide, right beside the AP Stylebook.

#### Adrienne Sabo

Editor in Chief

Through the good and the bad. the early mornings and late Sarah to hear and Brian, keep nights, the staff at The Jambar has stuck together. We've become our of YouTube videos, especially own mini-family with all of its Tanisha. Richard, keep taking inside jokes and weird

humor. It is one family that will be difficult to leave.

If there is one thing that I've taken away from my two years here at The Jambar, especially this year, it's the importance of friends to rely on. Someone to

rely on when driving back at 2 a.m. in a snow

storm from the Democratic debate in Cleveland, someone to rely on when attempting to produce three publications in one night and someone to rely on after receiving harsh criticism.

Thank you to the journalism instructors, Tim Francisco, Alyssa Lenhoff and Guy C. Coviello for all that you've done. I don't think that I would've made this far in the program or achieved as much without your guidance. Mary Beth Earnheardt, thank you for not letting me get away with pouting on production days. I value your advice and am very appre-

ciative for all that you've done. I want to thank the staff of The Jambar for all that they've done. It has been amazing to watch each of you grow and progress throughout the year. Andrew Berry, Aaron Blatch, Liz Boon, Jeanette DiRubba, Elena Macris, J. Breen Mitchell, Chelsea Pflugh and Darlene Wagner, I've enjoyed the past year with you and wish

you all the best.

and Richard Boccia, thank you for being the troopers that you are. Your humor made it much What a difference a year easier to get through production nights. Adam, continue to make jokes under your breath for only playing The Jambar's daily dose

jokes to next gross out level. I'm so glad to have been on staff with you this year and

And finally to my two girls ple that you instantly connect every stage of life we can continour love of being Italian and telling the whole entire world offices to pig pickin's at Tabacco these next few years hold for us.

When I look back on this year at The Jambar, what I see most is laughter. You've made this one of



become friends. Sarah Sole, I'm so proud of you and happy that I've been able to work and become friends with you this past year. I know you will continue to fur-

ther the progress of the paper and be a wonderful editor. Whatever you do, don't let one day of it go by that you don't stop and appreciate the opportunity you have and the great experience this all is. Don't forget, when you don't get your way just pout about it until it changes.

who've been there from day one, Ashley Tate and Cristina Cala. It is rare in life when you find peowith, and I can't tell you how much happiness and laughter you bring to each day. I hope that at ue to be there together. Cristina, thank you for always sharing in together. And Ashley, I think we've seen it all, from Sago mine farms. I can't wait to see what



I never imagined that I would have made some of my best friends while working at The Jambar for the past two years. No I understand that you can't make it in life by yourself. You always need someone, no matter what it is your doing.

I don't consider the people I worked with at The Jambar my coworkers, but my friends that I've grown up and matured with in the field of journalism.

To my journalism advisers and instructors, Tim Francisco, Alyssa Lenhoff and Mary Beth Earnheardt, your words of wisdom and criticism will never be forgotten as I embark on my new journey in life.

Tim, you are a great and funny guy who helped me realize that my organizational skills aren't obsessive-compulsive disorder, but something that truly is an advantage. Alyssa, you told me I could do things when I didn't want to do it or didn't think I could

do it because you had that much faith in me. Mary Beth, YSU is a much better place with you here because you bring a certain vibe that no other professor Maybe because you are

much closer to my age, HA! You taught me not to be afraid to talk to people because the

worst that can happen is that they'll say no. So what, move on.

My Fedor Hall basementdwelling homies are some friends I'll never forget because Facebook won't allow me to. Brian Cetina, thank you for always lovingly calling me a bigot and spaghetti face when I was feeling down for whatever reason. But when it came to Wednesday nights out at Barley's, you never neglected to invite me. Adam Rogers, I'll miss hearing you say something on the sly when you thought no one was listening. Richard Boccia, even though we got off to a rough start, I don't think the same about you even though some people say first impressions are everything. To The Jambar you brought great ideas and visions that only you could have thought of. Chelsea Pflugh, aka Chels, you are a great person to hang out with at work and outside of work when we had our "journalism students go wild" outing and my birthday trip to Barley's. You are truly a sweet girl who I am glad to have met. Andrew Berry, thanks for always greeting me every day by yelling

'ASHLEY TATE!" Sarah Sole, my lil "shotty." It's OK, I know you have a hard time pronouncing

> shawty and it sounds like shotty, but I still love you. Timbaland won't be mad if you call him "Timberland." It's so weird that the first time I really got to know you was in Sago, W. Va., when me, you and Kelly slept in a bed with windows around it without

curtains and my poor Adrienne slept on the floor. You are a smart girl who needs to stop apologizing for everything. Quit saying you're sorry for things that don't matter!

Cristina Cala, my baby troll. What would I have done without you? I didn't like you at first because you seemed snooty, but I can honestly say you are one of my best friends at The Jambar. I don't know if I'll be able to go on without you doing one of your many impressions when you were supposed to be copy editing. Your many stories that you've told on production nights about the shenanigans that go on at clubs or your relationship stories are so outrageous that only you could go through such crazy things. "Ionknow" if you know this, but my other friends have grown to love you because of your risky and hilarious adventures. Your personality is so different that I could never replace you as a friend; I would never even attempt to because no matter what someone is going through, you always have a funny story to tell. I love you and will definitely miss you.

Adrienne Sabo, my homeslice since the beginning of this ridiculous and incredible journalism ride. Oh my gosh, you have been there since day one in communications class when we were told that our professor dated Beyonce (yeah right). Sago wouldn't have been the same without you because we were contemplating turning around and going home once we realized that we had to drive up such a steep hill in the sleet turning into snow to get to our "Real World" house. I knew I would connect with you because we are on the same level in everything. Trips to your house, nights out on the town, and out-ofstate adventures to West Virginia and North Carolina have been moments I'll never forget. Your friendship is something I'll always treasure, and I hope that one day, our paths will cross again. Thank you for being what a true friend is supposed to be.

## WHAT DO YOU THINK? Adam Rogers, Brian Cetina the most enjoyable experiences. **SEND US AN E-MAIL** THEJAMBAR@GMAIL.COM

THURSDAY, MAY 1, 2008 THEJAMBAR.COM

May Day gets down 'n' country with musical talent

Brandon Judeh

Jambar Contributor

Thanks to Penguin Productions, today is May Day for Youngstown State University, complete with a country music theme, performances by two bands, free food and a cash bar at Rec 5. Students can also win prizes.

The outdoor basketball court across from Pete's Place will stage the Joe Zelek Band and Jr. and Abby Acoustic.

Zelek has shared the stage with the likes of Gretchen Wilson, Ronnie Milsap and Taylor Swift. His sound is best described as a mix of country, rock and pop. Zelek, who is from Tiltonsville, has also played the popular festival "Jamboree in the Hills."

"This originally started out as a Penguin Pre-Party, but the interest in it kept growing," said junior Kelsey Rupert, Student Programming intern.

Rupert said she hopes that the event will draw 500 or more students, since the foam and dance parties usually draw that number.

Open to YSU students and faculty, the event



**COUNTRY MIX** – Joe Zelek will perform with his band today at 7 p.m. on the outdoor basketball courts across from Kilcawley. Jr. and Abby will also perform as part of the event's country theme.

is free with a university ID. Rupert said she hopes to get several student organizations involved in the event.

"We hope to get some student organizations to attend May Day. That way they can set up some promotional stuff for interested students and maybe even set up a few games," she said.

Students can play corn hole before the show. The other band that will be performing is Jr. and Abby, from Weirton, West Virginia. Their MySpace page describes them as country, acoustic and rock.

"We think this is a great event and hope that a lot of students turn out and have some fun at the May Day festivities," said Rupert.

#### **MOVIES**

## It's Super Year for once-troubled actor Robert Downey Jr., starting with 'Iron Man'

The Philadelphia Inquirer (MCT)

The Summer of Downey?

On Friday, "Iron Man" - easily one of the smartest, most satisfying comic-book superhero movies since Tim Burton's first opens across America. And Robert Downey Jr.'s the guy: As playboy industrialist Tony Stark, a billionaire inventor who transforms himself into an awesome armorplated crimefighter, Downey puts the iron in irony. He's cool, he's tough, he's weird.

And at the other end of Hollywood's most lucrative season - after a May, June and July full of sequels, franchises, and star-studded, special-effects-laden "event" pictures - Downey will show up again, in Ben Stiller's buzz-aplenty Vietnam War-pic parody "Tropic Thunder." If you've seen the trailers, you know what Downey's up to in the Aug. 15 release, and it's extreme (and extremely funny): He's playing an Australian actor playing an African-American GI, in blackface.

"Those are the two biggest genres around," says Jon Favreau, who lobbied for Downey in "Iron Man," and directed him, too. "If you could make it in the superhero action genre and you can make it in comedy \_ those are the locomotives driving Hollywood right now.

"It's so nice to see Robert go from the guy that I had to plead the case for to get everybody to sign off on him, and now he's one of the hottest names in Hollywood."

Downey, who had to audition for "Iron Man," thinks it's nice, too.

On the phone in Paris last week, midway through an "Iron Man" tour that has taken him to Australia and Korea, the 43-yearold actor – and former parole-violation poster boy – was happy to talk about his turnaround.

"Without taking myself too seriously, there's just sort of a focus that came in," says Downey, who points to 2005's noirish "Kiss Kiss Bang Bang" as the project that got him to start straightening up his act an act infamous for its drug busts, fistfights and DWIs.

badness? A 1996 arrest for DWI, heroin and firearm possession. A 1998 fight with another inmate in L.A. County jail. Drug rehabs. Drug relapses. Hired for the hit show "Ally McBeal." Fired from the hit show "Ally McBeal." He couldn't even land

wanted to hire him, for one because insurance companies saw him as a risk.

Downey's second wife, producer Susan Levin, who worked with him on "Gothika" and "Kiss Kiss Bang Bang," gets credit for turning him around.

"It strangely also corresponded with me becoming a bit of a martial-arts devotee," he adds, "and a bunch of other stars lining up just so. You know, being in a great relationship ... and deciding to behave in a slightly different way and really go for the gusto."

Downey put a plan together in his mind, he says, and found support from his "missus," his management, his friends.

"I know at the end of the day that it's very much like how Lance (Armstrong) feels when he wins a Tour de France," says Downey, who does a little road cycling of his own. "It's not like his team comes up there and grabs the trophy from him, but if they did nobody would be too surprised, because it really is the team that wins."

Gosh and golly.

In "Iron Man," which begins on Afghan battlegrounds and which costars Jeff Bridges (the scheming business partner), Terrence Howard (the trusty friend), and Gwyneth Paltrow (the leggy gal Friday), Downey looks buff and believable as a party-hearty tycoon. His Stark Industries supplies high-tech weaponry for a world at war, and part of what makes the \$186

million Paramount picture so successful is that it serves up expensive toys and spiffy special effects (and pole-dancing stewardesses on Stark's private jet) but still manages to preach (a bit) about the insanity and moral corruption of the military-industrial complex.

Like Sam Raimi's first 'Spider-Man," it's A highlight reel of Downey's also one of the rare superhero-comic adaptations that doesn't try to

hastily dispense with the "origin story." How Tony Stark becomes "Iron Man" is part and parcel of the film. "There's a definite plus and a minus to doing an origin story," parts in films - Woody Allen explains Favreau, who's climbed the directing ladder from "Made" to "Elf" to "Zathura" to this.

"The minus is that it often feels like two movies just stitched together. But it does give you a tremendous character arc to play, whereas sequels tend to find the character much as you leave him. They don't change much.

'And as a filmmaker, your best friend is character arc.'

And for Favreau, his best friend is Downey, too. "He wasn't the most obvious choice," the director says of his star. "But from the minute I met with him, I really cottoned to the idea of him playing Tony Stark, and people who knew the books know he's really spot-on as far as what his attitude is, and his subversive sense of humor. Iron Man has always been a hero that ran against the grain. Even among a pantheon of heroes that are all sort of quirky, he stands apart from the rest.

For his part, Downey says he simply showed up at a meeting with the Marvel Comics movie people and Favreau. "We started talking about 'Iron Man,' and I quickly convinced myself that it would be a great idea if they hired me. And then it was the process, the ups and downs of trying to make that happen, and then the

Although it's uncommon for stars of Downey's stature to do so, he had tested for the role of Charlie Chaplin in 1992's "Chaplin" – and received an Oscar nomination for his efforts. So why not?

"I did three scenes," he recalls, "one of which wound up being the opening scene in the movie, in the Army convoy in Afghanistan. I definitely had a certain take on the character, and I'm also not a moron, so I knew that if I'm doubting and they're doubting, then who's actually on my side?

"So I decided I might as well be in my cheering section, and try to make a bunch of noise for a change, although it's very out of character for me to do that. I thought it would be a nice piece of moral psychology and humility running tandem."

Downey has another potential hit on his hands this year: "The Soloist," based on former Philadelphia Inquirer scribe Steve Lopez's just-out book, an account of his relationship with an L.A. homeless man who happens to be a musical genius and a paranoid schizophrenic. Downey plays Lopez, now a Los Angeles Times columnist, and Jamie Foxx is the homeless musician Nathaniel Ayers. The film, directed by "Atonement's" Joe Wright, comes out Thanksgiving week.

"It's certainly not commercial in the way `Iron Man' or `Tropic Thunder' will be," Downey says of the movie, a DreamWorks production shepherded by Steven Spielberg.

"I don't know why this happened, but I wound up for once in my life having a solid year of work in which I kind of hit the trifecta. You know: a big summer movie, another big summer comedy, and then what I would



## Regional performers to rock University Pizzeria

Jeanette DiRubba

Reporter

Three bands, each with one or more members from Youngstown State University, will perform in the End of the Semester Rock Fest at University Pizzeria on Friday.

Junior Kyle Daley, member of the rock ensemble Mr. Kyle, said the event is a celebration of the established music scene, as well as "a strong thank you to all of the YSU students who have made University Pizzeria what it is today."

Bands performing include Mr. Kyle, blues/rock ensemble Acoustic Juggernaut and solo guitarist and vocalist Kevin Rosan.

Besides playing on campus, the bands are seasoned performers.

gigs ranging from \$50 to \$500 in Northeast Ohio as well as Western Pennsylvania," Daley said.

Senior Bobby Wolff of Acoustic Juggernaut said he is looking forward to school ending just like anyone else, but most of all hopes "just to have a good show.'

Wolff expects the event to be "pretty packed."

Rosan, a senior at YSU, said the event will end with members of each group forming a five-piece band and coming together "to play a few cover songs that the crowd will know and have fun with."

The End of the Semester Rock Fest begins at 10 p.m. with a \$5 admission fee. Special Guest MC for the Evening is Viking Jim of WNCD 93.3-FM The Wolf.



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**SOFTBALL** 

## Season finale on the horizon

The 2008 regular season will conclude this weekend for the Penguins as the team heads out on the road for a three game series with Green Bay.

#### **Aaron Blatch**

Sports Reporter

An up-and-down season for the Youngstown State softball team continued Tuesday with the Penguins dropping both games of a doubleheader to Pittsburgh, 11-3 and 8-2, a day where pitcher Cheryl Cale said that her team came out "flat." The disappointing performance came after a competitive series against Horizon League contender Valparaiso that left the Penguins feeling good about their effort.

Cale said that the team's inconsistent play has been frustrating because its offense and defense can't seem to perform well at the same time.

"We've talked about it a lot," she said. "There have only been a few games when we've put both sides of the game together, but when we do we usually win.'

Pitching was the culprit biggest Tuesday, as the Penguin starters gave up 15 earned runs in the two games. The team's offense has slowly been coming around as of late, scoring 33 runs in the last 7 games after averaging just 3 runs per game prior to that stretch. Cale said that the

improved production has largely been the result of the offense making more productive outs and learning how to move runners.

Leading the offense is senior slugger McKenzie Bedra, who has recovered from a slow start to her season to put up all-league numbers. Bedra, along with teammate Rochelle Vanyi, has set a single-season Penguin record with 11 home runs and has upped her batting average to a team-best of .347. That kind of play earned her Horizon League Softball Player of the Week honors last week.

The senior's fingerprints are all

over nearly every big inning, as she has come through in big spots this year. Bedra's 32 RBIs nearly double the total of any other Penguin. Cale said that Bedra fought through her early-season slump with hard work and confidence in herself.

"She's really comfortable right now," Cale said. "She's seeing the ball and getting comfortable in the box. She worked hard when she was struggling and kept her head up."

The team has one more regular season series, this weekend's match-up at Green Bay, before league tournament play begins. Green Bay is coming off of two consecutive wins over Butler, their only two league victories of the season, but had previously lost 12 straight games. The Phoenix

"There have only been a few games when we've put both sides of the game together, but when we do we usually win."

Cheryl Cale, sophomore pitcher

are in last place in the league standings and have the worst offense in the conference, hitting just .234 as a team with only 3 home runs.

#### Horizon League Softball Standings

THURSDAY, MAY 1, 2008

TEAM	<b>LEAGUE</b>	<b>OVERALL</b>
Cleveland State	13-3	28-13
Valparaiso	11-4	29-16
Illinois Chicago	12-6	21-28
Wright State	10-7	25-23
Loyola	9-7	15-23-1
Butler	5-12	16-27
Detroit	4-10	10-23
<b>Youngstown State</b>	5-14	11-33
Green Bay	2-8	8-20

In the circle, don't be fooled by the stats of the Phoenix pitching staff. The team has a talented group of arms, but the pitchers

have suffered statistically this season due to a serious lack of run support from the offense.

Anna Bluemel is 5-9 on the season in 13 starts. Despite having a losing record, Bluemel has pitched a solid 73.2 innings this season posting a 3.80 ERA while striking out 42 batters.

If the Phoenix are able to flash any offense against the Penguins, expect it to come from Mollie Kaebisch. The sophomore

third baseman is hitting a respectable .297, the highest on the team. Kaebisch has played in all 28 games for the Phoenix this season and leads the team with 22 hits and 34 total bases.

The bright spot for Green Bay's offense is that they do not run themselves out of innings. The Phoenix hitters have hit into only two double plays all season.

If the team doesn't come out with more energy than they did against Pittsburgh, it may not matter who they are playing. Cale said that someone on the team has to be vocal and make sure that everyone is ready to play each

"We played like a completely different team than we did against Valparaiso last weekend," she said. "We can go from beating the number one team in the league to losing a doubleheader to Pittsburgh. One team member needs to step up and get us going and I think everyone else will follow. We need to take every game like we're playing the number one team in the league."



#### Impact Penguin



McKenzie Bedra Infielder Senior, No. 16

.347 average 42 hits 7 doubles

11 home run 32 RBIs 23 runs

Mollie Kaebisch Infielder

No. 10

22 hits

1 home run 9 RBIs

8 runs

**BASEBALL** 

## Five straight against Raiders marks pivotal series



HARD ROUND - Senior firstbaseman Mike Turjanica rounds second base as he kicks up the infield dirt on his way to third. Turjanica and the Penguins have a big weekend ahead of them as they play three games against the second best team in the Horizon League on their home turf at Eastwood Field in Niles. Photo courtesy of Ron Stevens.

#### **Andrew Berry**

Sports Editor

There is a lot of baseball still to go in the 2008 campaign, but the Youngstown State University baseball team has come to one of the more crucial portions of its regular season schedule.

The Penguins have the tall task of playing the same opponent five straight times against the Wright State University Raiders. The five game series begins Friday at Eastwood Field with first pitch scheduled for 7 p.m., followed by a doubleheader Saturday.

The five game haul will conclude April 9 with the second doubleheader of the

series at Wright State. With the Raiders coming into the weekend as the No. 2 team in the Horizon League standings, the Penguins will look to gain some ground on Wright State after the team's series loss with Cleveland State, which allowed the Raiders to jump further ahead.

Head coach Rich Pasquale said that despite losing two out of three games to the Vikings in the team's most recent league series, the Penguin squad is playing competi-

tively and he likes what he sees out of his players. "Every conference weekend is huge and this weekend is very crucial if we want to stay ahead of the pack," Pasquale said. "It's going to be difficult but I like the way we're

playing." Pasquale admits that Saturday's ninth inning loss to Cleveland State was a tough pill to swallow, but knowing that his team has the ability to fight all the way to the end is encouraging.

"For us to come back and then lose in the bottom of the ninth was tough, but it's encouraging to see that we have the ability to come back," Pasquale said.

The Penguin skipper was quick to point out his team's success when they jumped on the opposition early. The Penguins are 11-2 this season when leading after the eighth inning.

Unfortunately as Pasquale noted, the team is not so successful when trailing after the eighth, an aspect the head coach feels must be

"For us to come back and then lose in the bottom of the ninth was tough, but it's encouraging to see that we have the ability to come back,"

Rich Pasquale, head baseball coach

changed before the tournament.

But the Penguins did not get a chance to work on ninth inning heroics Sunday as starting pitcher Aaron Swenson delivered a complete game where the sophomore hurler stifled the Viking offense just enough to allow his offense to put the crooked numbers on the board for the win.

Swenson's strong outing helped the team avoid a series sweep against a league rival and preserved the team's position in the league standings. Swenson's victory kept the Penguins in a tie for third place

with the Vikings. Considering the team had been outscored 28-16 in the previous two games against the Vikings, Pasquale was glad to see the team get back in a rhythm and win the

rubber match. "Swenson came in and gave us the win we needed," Pasquale said. "It showed a lot, considering the day before we didn't play very

Coming back to Youngstown and having home field advantage for the first three games of the series

with the Raiders will help, but the general consensus in baseball is that winning two

games in one day is a chal-For the Penguins to have a chance to win the

series, the team will have to take at least one game from the Raiders. A weekend sweep by the Raiders will mean a series loss for the Penguins, even with two games to go.

Unfortunately for the Penguins, the Raiders have been on a roll and are winning games left and right.

Wright State has won eight out of their last 10 contests and has swept its last three doubleheaders against Butler, Valparaiso and

Illinois Chicago. But Pasquale likes his team's chances against Wright State. The Penguin skipper acknowledged his team's ability to sweep as his team has won both games of doubleheaders against Valparaiso and

Milwaukee this season. "It's tough to sweep a doubleheader, but we can look back and say we've done that before," Pasquale said.

#### **PENGUIN SPORTS TO THE POINT**

#### Men's golf team places third

The Youngstown State University men's golf team was down one stroke in the third and final round of the League Championships, but could not overtake Cleveland State and Detroit for the lead at Shaker Run Golf Club and finished third.

Entering the final round on Tuesday, the Penguins were down by a total of six strokes at the Championships. A late rally by the team got them within one, but Cleveland State and Detroit were able to withstand

As a team the Penguins finished third after shooting a three round total of 896 (303-296-297). League Champions Cleveland State finished the event with a total of 892 (294-299-299), while Detroit was only one stroke back with an 893 (295-301-297). YSU had the lowest second and thirdround totals.

Individually no Penguin shot out of the top 20.

Leading the way for the Penguins with a sixth-place finish was freshman Michael Turner who carded a 223 (75-74-74). Joining Turner in the top 10 was fellow freshman Spenser Sulzener whose three round total of 224 (74-74-76) put him in ninth.

Just outside the top 10 was junior Ryan Stoke, who finished in 12th place after firing a 227 (81-73-73). Sophomore Tim Morrow's three-round total of 228 (75-75-78) was good for 14th place at the

Source: Sports Information