

## Sweet seeks 10 percent tuition increase

By ALICIA HOUSTON  
The Jambar

Students will pay about \$250 more next fall if trustees follow University President David Sweet's recommendation to raise tuition by 10 percent.

Trustees will meet at 9 a.m. today to discuss the increase.

Sweet announced his plans to seek the increase Tuesday as he met with faculty, staff and students for a "Campus Conversation." The

increase, he said, would offset almost \$8 million in deficit projected for next fiscal year.

Sweet said a 10 percent increase would still leave \$2.3 million in debt. He said the university is committed to reducing expenses and hopes the state will increase its funding.

Sweet has blamed a lack of state funding and rising salaries on campus for the projected deficit, and said the requested increase would tack an additional \$250 to students'

"We are concerned about the increasing levels of tuition and we would much prefer not to have to raise tuition."

— DAVID SWEET  
University President



said. "On the other hand, we believe strongly that the quality of our programs is essential. We believe in investing to the best of our ability in

expanding financial aid resources."

Eighty percent of students receive some type of financial aid from YSU, Sweet said. To help students cope with rising tuition, Sweet said the university will add \$800,000 in university resources and increase scholarships and grants.

Junior Chris Tennant said he was skeptical about the plan.

"I think that the whole university student body is going to be upset at the fact

that we're going to have another 10 percent increase," Tennant said. "[Sweet] is saying that they're going to try to get more grant money, more state funding, but are we going to get it? Probably not."

Sweet said projecting the budget and setting a tuition rate now would allow the university to assess financial aid packages earlier, as well.

Last year, Sweet said, financial aid packages were

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## Disabled students will cross the stage

By JAMIE MERLO  
The Jambar

For the first time ever, students with severe disabilities will be able to cross the stage along with their classmates to receive their diplomas during the upcoming commencement ceremony.

The university's Office of Events Management has ordered a new ramped stage for the Dec. 15 ceremony to assist in the flow of students and to allow students with severe restrictions in mobility to access the stage.

In the past, the dean of each college would have to come down off the stage to give diplomas to those students unable to maneuver the stairs.

With the new ramp, all students will be able to cross the stage to receive diplomas and take pictures with the dean of their college.

"We feel very positive about the new stage," said Cindy Helton, secretary in the Office of Events Management. "We have always tried to accommodate special needs students, and we feel this is a major accomplishment."

Jain Savage, coordinator of Disability Services, said one student in particular — Albert Gibbs, who is a quadriplegic — was the catalyst for getting the new stage. Gibbs is graduating in December with a degree in Criminal Justice.

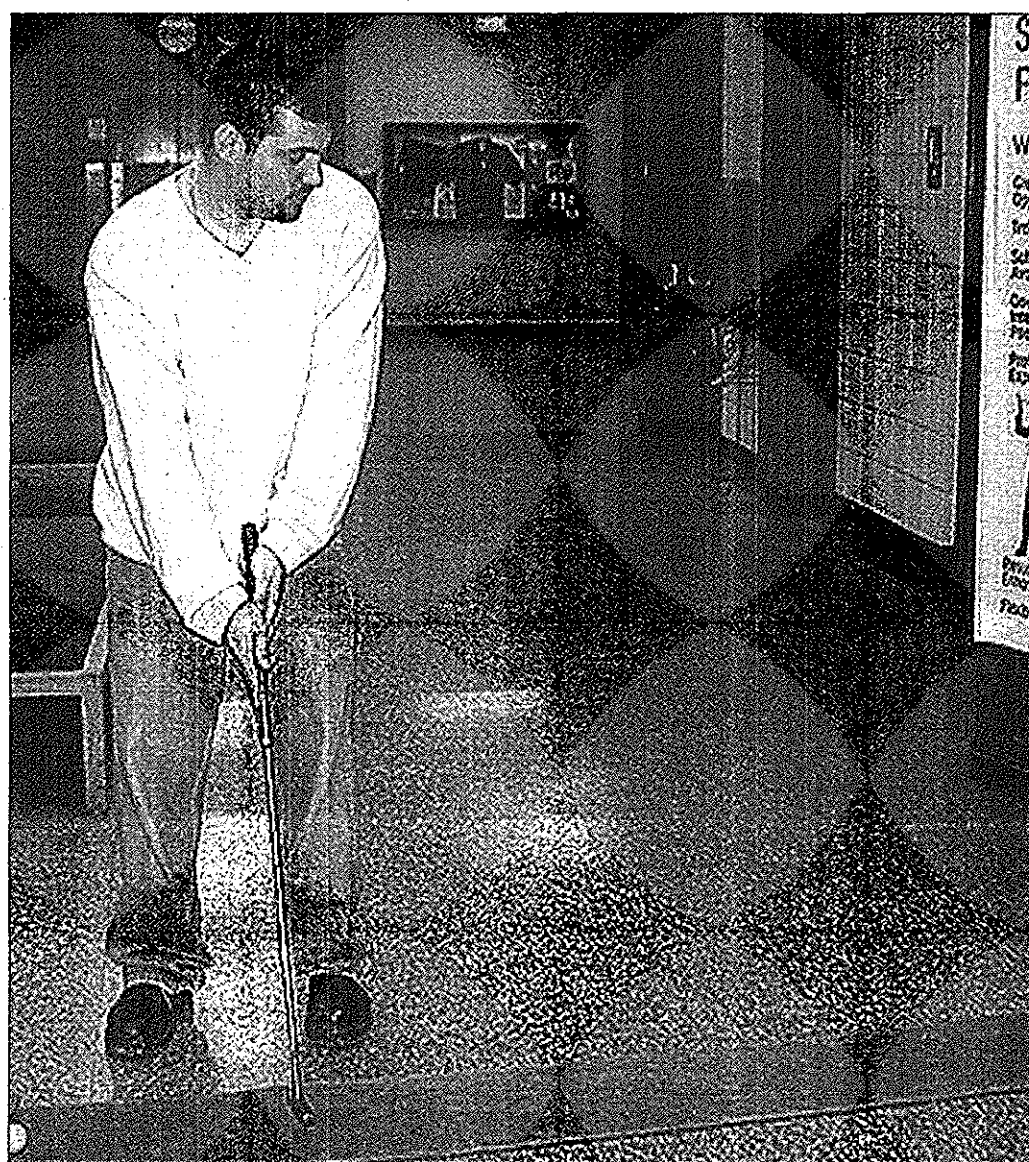
Knowing that Gibbs was set to graduate in December, Savage said she pushed the idea for the new stage. She went directly to John Hyden, YSU's Director of Facilities.

She then met with Hyden and John Habat, vice President for Administration, to discuss the idea.

"I have known in the past there were students with disabilities who did not attend

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## PUTTIN' AROUND



Jani Boninsegna/The Jambar

SINK IT: YSU senior George Samonas practices his putting game in Kilcawley Center to attract people to fill out applications for Vektor Marketing, who is hiring students for winter break.

## SGA engineering resolution passes; dean defends major

By MELISSA MOSCHELLA  
The Jambar

The Student Government Association's legislative body passed a resolution Monday asking that students not be penalized financially because of his or her major.

SGA Vice President Emily Eckman presented the resolution, which was in direct response to concerns from College of Engineering and Technology representatives, to Academic Senate on Wednesday.

Representatives Ellen Fabrizio and Mehmet Ergezer have said it is impossible to graduate with an engineering degree in four years and want university officials to stop advertising it as such. The dean of the college, however, says a four-year degree is possible.

Hours before SGA's Monday meeting, several engineering students standing outside Moser Hall agreed with representatives, saying a four-year degree in their college is almost an oxymoron.

Three mechanical engineering students stood outside the William Rayen College of

Engineering and Technology earlier this week, just hours before the Student Government Association passed a resolution that said students should not be penalized financially based upon his or her choice of major.

"That's an advertising pull," senior Greg Mazurek said with a laugh.

Mazurek is in his seventh year in the College of Engineering and Technology. He, however, alternates taking classes one year and working in his field the following year to better prepare himself for the future.

Cynthia Hirtzel, dean of the college said no one is trying to mislead students.

"We are very up front with the students when they enter the program," she said.

Hirtzel said that achieving a bachelor's degree in the College of Engineering and Technology requires a student to complete between 132 and 136 credit hours, a standard set by the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology International Organization, not YSU.

See MAJOR, page 4



## WHAT'S THE BUZZ???

As finals approach, students talk about their cravings for caffeine

By MELISSA MOSCHELLA  
The Jambar

Next week is the all-dreaded finals week — the week that all students' stress levels hit the roof.

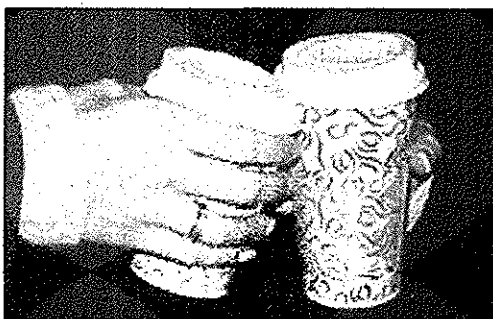
With endless cramming to make up for weeks of procrastination, students look for an edge to stay awake, stay focused and — in some cases — stay sane.

And for many college students, that edge comes from caffeine. Employees at coffee shops on and near campus said they are preparing for their own annual rush.

"Caffeine is a stimulant that helps

you stay awake and can prolong the number of hours you may be able to study for an exam," said Carol Vaupel, an instructor of normal nutrition. "But a lot of caffeine won't help you with your grades."

Steve Brown of The Beat on Lincoln Avenue said the café mocha — a double whammy of caffeine loaded with coffee and chocolate — is a best seller at his coffee shop.



Café mocha and strong coffee blends are the drinks Brown predicts will be top sellers during finals week. He said he expects The Beat to be

busier than usual next week as students slug down coffee, cram for exams and finish up final projects.

Coffee is such an essential this time of year that some places on campus are giving it away.

Junior Jennifer Brophy works at

Peaberry's Café in Kilcawley Center. She said during finals week, refills on coffee are free after purchasing a first cup. She said this promotion makes regular coffee the best-selling beverage of the week.

Brophy said while many people in search of alertness order drinks like double espressos, there is actually more caffeine in a cup of coffee.

Brophy and co-worker Breanna DeMarco, a senior, agreed that finals week is a hectic time in the semester for Peaberry's.

Other trendy beverages waking up the tired world are energy drinks like

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## Sneak Peek

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## Inside today's issue:

Local rock band Circusdog set the groove. Page 6



A ride-along with the YSU Police. Page 2



Have a great winter break. The Jambar will resume publication Jan. 14.





## United Way campaign inches closer to its goal

By LA'EL HUGHES  
The Jambar

YSU's contributions for the United Way campaign continue to grow. University officials said they believe they may reach their goal before the end of December.

On Nov. 12, YSU joined several local chapters of the United Way for their annual campaign kick-off.

Walt Ulbricht, executive director of Marketing and Communications, said the deadline for United Way donations was Nov. 20 but the university decided to extend their campaign along with the Mahoning Valley chapter until mid-December.

Ulbricht said he was hopeful that the university would reach its goal of \$35,000, which is a 10 percent increase from last year.

"As of Nov. 20 the university has raised \$15,000 in cash donations and has 150 donors from the university," Ulbricht said. "Our goal is to have 215 YSU employees make donations."

Debbie Lowe, YSU volunteer for the project, said in

order for YSU employees to make donations to the United Way they have to fill out individual solicitation cards. Lowe said cards have been delivered to departments and she is asking for donations from people through e-mail.

The donations from United Way goes to 31 local agencies. Ulbricht said these agencies include the American Cross, Big Brother and Big Sister program, Goodwill Industries, Neil Kennedy Recovery Clinic for Alcoholics and Drug Abusers and the Second Harvest Food Bank.

Ninety-nine cents from every dollar donated will benefit the local community represented by the several United Way agencies.

"One of the new options that donors have this year is the full-choice option," Ulbricht said.

"Donors can check off what specific agency they would like their donation to go to. But we recommend that donors who choose this option make a minimum contribution of \$50."

He said in the past this option was not available, the

United Way chose what agency would benefit from the donations.

Ulbricht said the donations received from the employees come in a variety of monetary amounts.

"Some donations come to us through large amounts with annual payments while others come in amounts of just what people can afford to give," Ulbricht said.

Betty Jo Licata, dean of the College of Business, is one of the 150 YSU employees that decided to give to the United Way. Licata said she has been giving donations to this organization for the last six or seven years.

"I have given to the United Way fund since I have been working here," she said. "The United Way Fund is a very effective way to give to 31 agencies. I think it is important to improve the quality of life."

Licata said she hopes everyone realizes the importance of these programs and decides to support the United Way.

Call La'el Hughes at  
(330) 941-3523.

## A ride-along with YSU Police

By REBECCA MARQUIS  
The Jambar

It is a slow time for the YSU Police Department.

As Sgt. Bryan Remias drove the perimeter of the mutual aid area on Tuesday - the section of Youngstown patrolled by both YSU Police and Youngstown City Police - things were fairly quiet.

Remias, a full time employee of YSPD since 1996, said the slow period was typical for the weeks prior to finals and winter break.

On a ride with Remias in the early evening hours, the veteran sergeant said the biggest problems this time of year are from people who steal books and try to sell them back to the bookstores.

"This is the time of year where people sneak through buildings and take things," Remias said.

The "opportunity thieves" strike when students leave their belongings unattended, he said.

Earlier that evening, though, there had been some excitement.

A woman sat in a room at the station on Spring Street, smelling of alcohol and yelling at

the quickly tiring officers who were trying to arrange for her transportation home.

"You have two options," Officer Dennis Godoy told the unsteady woman. "Either someone can come and pick you up, or you can spend the night in the county."

After a few phone calls, a man arrived to pick her up and take her home.

Minutes later, though, after a screaming match, he left alone.

YSU Police Chief John Gocala said since no one could pick her up, she would have to go to the county jail.

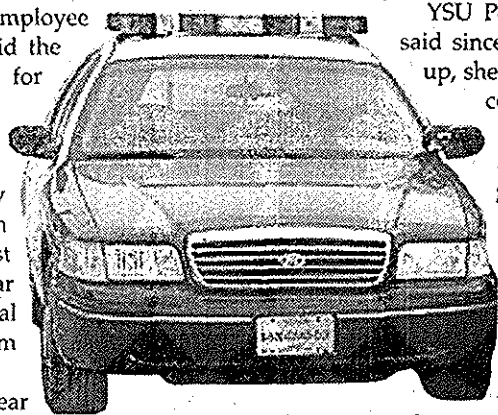
"We can't release her because she is a danger to herself and others," Gocala said, pointing to a copy of the Ohio Revised Code 4301.22.

The officers transported the woman to the cell where she would spend the night before attending court the next morning.

Remias said such a scene does not happen often, though many of the officers said they knew the woman and had dealt with her before.

Things again became quiet.

Call Rebecca Marquis at (330) 941-1811.



## TUITION, continued from page 1

sent to students in April. Next year, the university will work toward sending the packages in late February or early March.

Despite a tuition increase, Sweet said he believes the quality of education that YSU provides, along with the increased number of class sections and the increasing number of faculty members, will attract students to YSU.

The retention rate for first- to second-year students is above the state average, Sweet said. YSU, he said, has responded by increasing its faculty by 15 new members and offering 157 more sections this fall than last fall.

Also during the Campus Conversation, which was held

in the DeBartolo Hall auditorium, Sweet addressed other university issues, including diversity and international student enrollment.

"I came into this institution saying enrollment, diversity, and partnership are my top priorities," Sweet reminded listeners. "I stand here two and a half years into my presidency saying enrollment, diversity, and partnership are my top priorities."

"I think we can demonstrate that we have made progress on diversity issues. We haven't made as much progress as I'd like to make or as many colleagues would like to make, but we are committed to continue to make that progress."

Sweet reported that there are 227 international students enrolled at YSU and noted changes that have been made in the international student program. In January, there will be a lounge in Kilcawley Center dedicated to the international program.

To increase the enrollment of minority students, Sweet said the Upward Bound and Academic Achievers programs work directly with minority students to recruit them to YSU.

Sweet said the actual increase of minority enrollment over past two years has been in the double digits.

Call Alicia Houston at  
(330) 941-3758.

## STUDENTS, continued from page 1

commencements because they could not cross the stage," Savage said.

"The president's goal is diversity, and this is an area of diversity we need to take a look at."

Helton said the stage has been long sought.

"The university has been trying to get a ramped stage for a long time, and the idea has been worked on for a number of years because of the logistics," Helton said. "The grade and width of the ramp

have to meet the national standard for wheelchair access set by the ADA [American's with Disabilities Act, 1990]. Also, Beeghly is narrow, so it took a bit of discussion and engineering to keep from infringing on seating."

With approximately 600 potential graduates this December, seating was a factor.

Hyden said he worked with a staging company out of Akron called North Coast Theatrical to order the new stage.

He said when the stage arrives it will be assembled to make sure it is safe and suitable. Then it will be taken apart and reassembled and skirted the day before the commencement ceremony.

"I believe it is one of the truly good days in the life of a student that can be a part of their university experience," Helton said. "The goal of this office is to make the day of commencement a positive experience for the students and the University."

## News in brief

### Ken Gray to serve as keynote breakfast speaker

Ken Gray, author and professor of education at Penn State University, will serve as the keynote speaker at the Annual College Tech Prep Partners breakfast Dec. 5 from 7:30 a.m. to 9 a.m. The breakfast will be held in the DeBartolo Stadium Club.

Following the breakfast, Gray will participate in a forum for guidance counselors, YSU faculty, staff and students and the general public at 10 a.m. in the DeBartolo Stadium Club.

The free event is geared toward middle school, secondary and post secondary administrators, community and business/industry leaders from Mahoning, Trumbull and Columbiana counties.

Gray is the author of several books including "Getting Real: Helping Teens Find Their Future" and "Other Ways to Win" and co-author of "Workforce Education: The Basics."

Gray holds degrees in economics from Colby College, a degree in counseling psychology from Syracuse University, and a degree in technical education from Virginia Tech.

Prior to joining the Penn State faculty in 1987, he served over 20 years in public education as a high school teacher, guidance counselor and administrator.

Reservations are required and can be made by calling the Office of Associate Degree and Tech Prep Programs at (330) 941-2331.

### DREAM will hold meeting today in Kilcawley

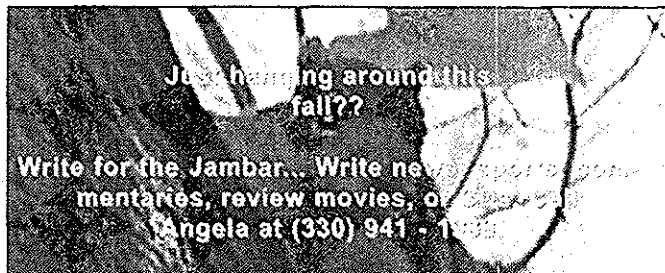
DREAM, an organization formed to promote unity among minority students and educational achievement and advancement on cam-

pus, will be having a meeting today at 3:30 p.m. in the Bresnahan Suite in Kilcawley Center. All interested students are encouraged to attend.

### ISA will have free, open Christmas Party Dec. 6

The International Student Association will have a free, open Christmas Party Friday, Dec. 6 at 3 p.m. in the Cafaro Suite in Williamson Hall.

Free food and gifts will be available for everyone.



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## Today's Editorials

### Celebrate peace and freedom

This holiday season, as we look at YSU and the world as a whole, we know there are great challenges to overcome.

In the last four months alone, the university community has been beset by a number of financial problems and social arguments — problems and arguments that make us realize there is no greater time for the holiday season and its universal message.

Remember peace and freedom as you celebrate your Hanukkah, your Ramadan, your Kwanzaa, your Christmas. Remember that, despite the different religious views that our students and professors hold, peace must be the ultimate goal for each individual.

In recent weeks, the domestic partners debate that ushered in a new school year has been rekindled. A professor has cited morality as his reason for opposing benefits for same-sex partners. The comments fueled an already strong fire.

We prefer to think of the message of Hanukkah — peace and religious freedom — or Christmas — peace on earth, goodwill toward men — when faced with these moral dilemmas.

We all think differently, but those thoughts are a result of different morals, religiously based or otherwise.

The holidays should be a time to set aside those differences — a temporary truce, of sorts. While we all are different in thought, philosophy and ideology, we are the same in that our goals should center on peace and freedom.

Remember: peace and religious freedom.  
This will be The Jambar's final issue of the year. Good luck on finals and have a wonderful holiday. See you in January.

### Tuition talk is no surprise

What? You were actually surprised when University President David Sweet announced he is seeking a 10 percent tuition increase for next fall?

We weren't.  
In the last few weeks, Sweet made the rounds with his PowerPoint presentation and statistics, setting up the inevitable today's likely vote by trustees to allow the tuition raise.

We knew it was coming. The state had made it a point to stop funding higher education, and just about everyone at YSU besides the students had received a raise.

No one should be surprised. No one did anything to prevent it, so here it is.

In reality, Sweet probably has no choice. There probably is no better way to control a monster of a deficit. And we're sure Sweet doesn't suggest tuition increases just because he can.

No, the tuition — the troubling thing — behind all this is that while YSU is still a relative bargain for Ohioans looking at public schools, it is beginning to rival larger schools such as The Ohio State University when it comes to cost.

Students will soon look at college as they would a new car. Car A is slightly more expensive than Car B, but Car A will get you further because it's a better brand.

We don't question the quality of education here at YSU — it is exceptional. But YSU is no OSU. Just ask Jim Tressel.

YSU has done its best to better market and highlight the positives of the university. The emphasis needs to be placed not on the graduates in the form of a glorified "success story," but on the programs that get them there.

**The Jambar will resume publication Jan. 14. Please forward all letters to the editor in the interim to thejambar@hotmail.com**

The Jambar editorials reflect the opinions of The Jambar and its editorial board. Letters must be typed and should not exceed 350 words in length. Each letter must include a name and telephone number for verification purposes. All submissions are subject to editing for spelling and grammar.

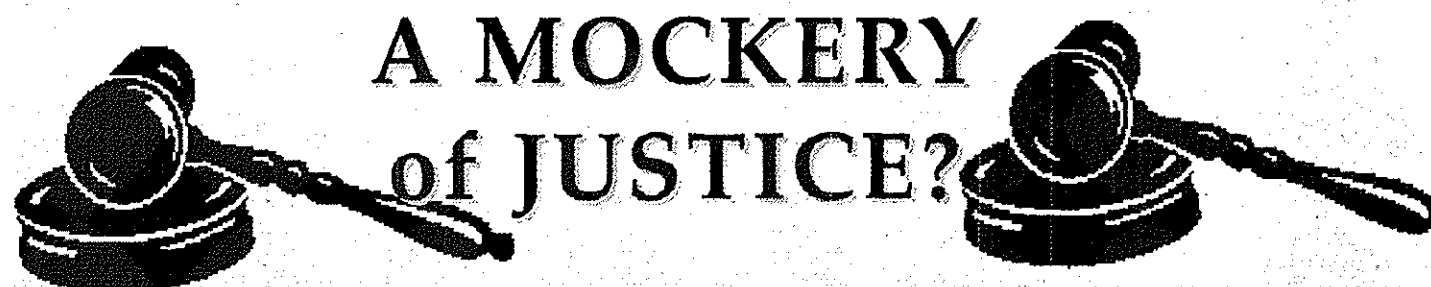
The Jambar will not print letters that libel others or threaten harm to another party. The editor in chief reserves the right to reject letters that do not follow policy.

Opinion pieces submitted by students, staff and others outside the staff are welcome and should be no longer than 500 words. The newspaper reserves the right to edit or condense submissions. The views and opinions expressed herein do not necessarily reflect those of The Jambar staff or YSU faculty, staff or administration.

## The Jambar

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An editorial cartoon in the Harvard Business School's student newspaper, *The Harbus*, sparked such backlash that the editor in chief resigned and several other editors said they were harassed by faculty for the cartoon. The cartoon, which poked fun at the HBS career services program, was in poor taste, Harvard officials said. The resulting debate led to a final exam in the form of a mock trial for students in the YSU Journalism major's press law and ethics class. Below are closing arguments from each side.

### The Plaintiff

## Harvard ought not limit free expression

BY JEN FARKAS  
Special to The Jambar

Let me give you a brief run down of the situation that brought us here today:

1. The Career Services at Harvard experienced technical difficulties resulting in scrambled interview schedules for students and possible employers.

2. The Harbus published a satirical cartoon referring to Career Services as "incompetent morons."

3. School officials began blasting student editors and the editor-in-chief, Nick Will resigned.

That's what happened. The First Amendment of the United States Constitution promises us that we will have a freedom of the press.

Harvard decided that Amendment didn't suit them. Fine. Harvard is a private institution.

However, Harvard has something called "community standards." These standards preach about developing "outstanding business leaders who contribute to the well being of society." These community standards admit that developing outstanding leaders requires an environment of trust and mutual respect, free expression, free inquiry and a commitment to truth and lifelong learning.

After seeing everything that truth and free expression are only acceptable if Harvard school officials are satisfied with which truths and which free expressions are exercised. Nowhere does it state that

### The Defendant

## Cartoon was hurtful to HBS employees

BY ZACH WHITE  
Special to The Jambar

According to the American Heritage Dictionary of the English Language, Fourth Edition, the term "incompetent" is defined as being someone inadequate for or unsuited to a particular purpose or application.

The term "moron" is defined as a stupid person or a dolt.

Justly stated, the same term also includes a reference point that states: "The term belongs to a classification system no longer in use and is now considered offensive."

To paraphrase, The Harbus, for clarification purposes, called the staff of Career Services inadequate and stupid.

Obviously, this statement alone presents a case of libel.

We, the defendants, have referred to the United States Constitution to provide clarification on the rights of college newspapers.

While free expression and speech may be protected for public institutions, Harvard University is a private university and does not have to adhere to these laws.

We have also shown the court how Nicholas Will and his staff have violated the Harvard Business School's "Community Standards."

Did the cartoon The Harbus show respect for others?

Did it show honesty and integrity in dealing with other members of HBS?

Has the Harbus and its staff accepted personal respon-

sibility for their obvious lack of thinking?

All three of the questions posted are answered the same, no.

Therefore, not only did the Harbus do damage to the integrity of Career Services, it also did harm to its credibility as HBS students.

In 1987, the highest ruling court in the nation, the United States Supreme Court, heard the case of Hazelwood School District vs. Kuhlmeier.

This landmark decision held that a school sponsored newspaper without a "policy or practice" establishing it as a public forum for student expression could be censored where school officials demonstrated a reasonable educational justification and where their censorship was viewpoint neutral.

The problem we have discussed today is Hazelwood vs. Kuhlmeier all over again.

If the highest court in the nation agrees to censorship, is there any question that what the defendant did punish Harbus is unfair or unjust?

Once again, the answer has to be, no.

Personally attacking members of the community is not what Harvard teaches and professes to their students. Harvard students are taught to have dignity and respect for others.

The administration of this great campus wants to ensure that neither of those two principles are lost.

## Running high on emotion, exhaustion

BY JOLENE POWELL  
The Jambar

So this is it. I'm finally done after three and a half years.

For the first time since I started college in the fall of 1999 I can clean my room — I mean really clean it. I won't have stacks of ongoing projects and papers covering the floor.

I am relieved, but now that I'm writing this goodbye I find myself a little sad.

When I first started college I was a wide-eyed freshman who loved school and absorbed everything around me. So what if I was little more reserved this semester and that fight I'm known for has fizzled a little?

I attribute it all to exhaustion. I know I'll get it back after I've rested a little so anyone who's ever had a debate with me don't think I'm giving up, I'm just taking a break.

For my colleagues at The Jambar who think they don't know me as well as they should there are a few things I want you know.

First, I want you to know that I am the first child in my family to graduate from college. I am also the first grandchild on my mother's side and only the second on my father's side to graduate from college. I am telling you this because it means a lot to me and lets you where I come from.



"I haven't had it easy, and I know many other people at this school haven't either. That is why I think I speak for most of them when I say I'm proud of my accomplishments and I hope you are proud of me, too."

I haven't had it easy, and I know many other people at this school haven't either. That is why I think I speak for most of them when I say I'm proud of my accomplishments and I hope you are proud of me, too.

I also want you to know that I wish you the best and I know you will all do well. As for Alyssa, our adviser, thanks for the support.

For all of the professors I've had I also want to thank you for the outstanding education you have provided me with. Every teacher on this campus was willing to answer my questions when I asked them and that means the world to me and makes this all worth it.

I also want to comment on some of the issues that the newspaper covers everyday, like same-sex partner benefits and administration raises.

Just because someone lives a private

life in a way other than the social norm doesn't give those who control whether same-sex partners get benefits the right to deny an established couple the human decency of things such as health care benefits.

I think it is disgraceful that an employee's partner can not receive benefits. It only shows that what we learn in the classroom won't always extend into the real world and that makes me lose a little faith in higher education.

As for the administration and their raises, I do think that their experience and education qualifies them for such earnings and would be justified if the university and Youngstown as a whole were thriving.

Since the city and the university is not, the administration should also show a little compassion and try to give back to those students who are most deserving through the form of scholarships or book exchange programs.

And finally, for every student here: appreciate your education and make the best of it, and if you don't maybe you shouldn't be here.

Jolene Powell is the assistant news editor for The Jambar. She graduates from YSU on Dec. 15.



## Local residents discuss the paranormal

By MATT LILLER  
The Jambar

Col. Dave leaned forward in his chair, elbows propped atop of his knees, and bluntly said he has seen the unbelievable, the controversial and the paranormal.

"I saw some stuff that most people don't see," he said with a slight upward grin.

Col. Dave is part of a group of about 30 that gather once a month in a local restaurant to discuss their observations, fears and dreams.

Members of the group, which most recently met Nov. 16 at Denny's restaurant in Austintown, said they are interested in the presence of the paranormal. The discussion ranged from characters such as Big Foot to UFOs to aliens.

Col. Dave said he works for the Department of Defense. He refused to give his real name but said he has seen a great deal in his years of working for the government, such as U.S. jets that were created to fight UFOs.

Many of the people who came to Denny's said they have seen things others have not. When asked how many had seen a UFO, more than half of the group raised their hands.

The Art Bell Coast-to-Coast Discussion Group gathers each month to listen to speakers, swap stories about unexplained events and to give each other a sense they are not alone.

Most were not alone in their belief that unexplained life and mysterious

events do occur.

The group is based on Art Bell's AM radio show that deals with similar paranormal issues. Guest speakers who have aired on Bell's syndicated program often speak to the group at the meetings.

The speaker for this past meeting was Bruce Forrester, an alien expert and UFO technology entrepreneur.

"Why try and prove or dispute the existence of aliens? It's moot," Forrester said.

Forrester spoke to the audience about two types of aliens, the Grays and the Blondes, and showed slides detailing both of the aliens' appearances.

He explained that Blondes look human, almost Roman, while the Grays appear to be the stereotypical aliens with large eyes.

"The Blondes are more controversial," said Forrester. He said they communicate telepathically and live among us. Therefore, he said, we could interact with them everyday.

But when someone comes in contact with a Gray it is more like a mugging, he said regarding what he called the Gray's scans and probes.

Forrester said that since nuclear weapons have been used, there has been a rise in alien sightings.

He asked those who said they had seen a UFO to write down what they saw.

"Get out your napkins and start drawing what you saw," he said. By writing down what was seen during a sighting, Forrester said, there would be evidence.

Rita Buckosh, like many at the meet-

ing, said she had seen a UFO sighting.

"It looked like a diamond shape," Buckosh said. "It was pink and had three lights."

Forrester's presentation hit on other topics like government cover-ups, Henry Kissinger's deal with aliens and dimensionality.

He was even questioned about Big Foot.

"I believe that Big Foots aren't on duty 24-7," said Forrester. He noted that Big Foot is not his area of expertise, but he believes that Big Foot may exist in a different dimension and appear only briefly.

"There is some dimensionality there."

"I don't know about the Big Foot stuff," Buckosh said. "I think we should just leave him alone."

Not everyone, however, who goes to the meetings believes in aliens and the paranormal, but no one was judgmental.

"I just need more proof," said George Fairchild, who asked numerous questions throughout the presentation. "It's just good to keep an open mind."

"We don't all subscribe to the same view," said the group's founder Laura Tellman.

As Forrester packed up his equipment and got ready to leave, some of the group lingered around to sip on coffee and discuss the presentation.

Most of the stragglers, including Col. Dave, agreed they enjoyed Forrester's presentation.

"Science is more weird than any Science Fiction writer can fathom," Col. Dave said.

MAJOR, continued from page 1

"It's doable in four years, but it's tough," Hirtzel said.

Hirtzel said the obtaining the degree has not been falsely advertised.

"No one wants to mislead prospective students," she said.

Senior Jeremy Lazzari, a mechanical engineering student, agreed with Hirtzel - four years is possible but taxing.

"In theory you can get out if you take 18 hours a semester and go in the summers," he said.

Lazzari, however, said he was not advised about how extensive the curriculum in the college of engineering and technology is when he entered the program five years ago.

"That's why I've taken classes three summers," he said. "If you have a good adviser, they'll tell you."

The students explained that advisement has been a problem in the past in the college.

"Advisement has gotten better because it had to," Lazzari said.

Mazurek said that an accreditation firm came to the college last year and found

problems with advisement.

"Since then, every student must see an adviser every semester," Mazurek said.

Senior Brian Votaw is also in his fifth year in the program. He said it may be possible to graduate in four years, but not exactly feasible.

"The majority of us have to work, too," Votaw said.

SGA's resolution stated that certain degrees, such as all majors in the College of Engineering and Technology, require students to take more than 16 hours per semester in order to graduate in four years.

Last spring, the number of hours a student can take a semester under a flat rate was reduced to 12 to 16 credit hours per semester.

SGA's resolution urged university administrators to either increase the number of hours a student could take for a flat rate or refrain from advertising these programs as two- and four-year degrees.

Eckman said she did not know when SGA would hear back from Academic Senate.

Call Melissa Moschella at (330) 941-1811.

CAFFEINE, continued from page 1

caffeine, these beverages contain other ingredients such as taurine, vitamins and ginseng, all of which promise a boost.

Brown, however, said Red Bull is not popular among students and customers at The Beat.

"It didn't do as good as we hoped," Brown said.

Caffeine is popping up everywhere at YSU these days. Even those who despise the taste of the coffee, cappuccino and espresso at the various coffee shops across campus can find some form caffeine to provide that much needed end-of-semester jolt.

There is caffeinated water and even caffeinated mints for those who want the boost without the coffee breath. And, of course, there is old-fashioned soda pop.

But someone has discovered yet another way to give caffeine-craving college students a jolt - a sucker buzz you can unwrap.

Signs on campus reading, "Java Pops: Coming Soon to YSU," are creating hype for the

latest way to wake up.

Vaupel said students who do not usually consume caffeine should not add the substance to their diets to stay awake to study for an exam.

This may cause what is known as a "crashing" effect, she said.

What students should do during finals week, Vaupel said, is maintain a well-balanced diet.

"The brain needs fuel to function," Vaupel said. "Caffeine is not a fuel. The brain functions on glucose, which can be found in foods that have sugar or carbohydrates."

Other tips to stay alert during finals week include eating small meals rather than large portions, which may send you to the couch for a nap. Taking a brisk ten-minute walk can also serve as a quick pick me up.

But Vaupel is a realist, too. "A little caffeine won't hurt."

Call Melissa Moschella at (330) 941-1811.

## Rockets firing duds after successful start

By JOE SIMON  
The Jambar

After a hot start, the Youngstown Phantom Rockets have come back down to earth.

The Rockets (6-11) started the year out winning four of their first seven games - and this in just their first year of existence.

That, of course, was followed by an eight game losing streak which left the team back at square one.

Head coach Bob Hawthorne said he expected the team to have growing pains, but hopes they can turn things around after winning two of their last three games.

"We expected to struggle until about Christmas or the first of the year," Hawthorne said in a recent interview. "But hopefully that's past us and the kids are learning what it takes

to win."

After dropping eight straight games the team is beginning to show signs of life. Sunday the Rockets exploded with a decisive 7-4 victory over the Brownstown Bombers, ranked third in the league.

Hawthorne

hope's the win will give the team some momentum.

"Hopefully after Sunday's game, we can turn things around," said Hawthorne. "We struggled in the first period and then we really dominated the last two, hopefully that's a sign of things to come."

This Thursday the team will be lobbying for fourth place in the division when they

take on the Dayton Gems at home in the Ice Zone.

The Rockets play in the Continental Elite Hockey League, a Junior A League organization. The CEHL serves as a farm system to the

four Division I NCAA college leagues and also develops potential talent for the NHL, OHL and various minor league professional teams.

In the Rockets first year in the league, Hawthorne said the team is facing the typical hard times of an expansion team, citing inexperience and inconsistencies to be the team's main area of concern.

"We're a young team, we've got a lot of inexperience - we only have, I think, four kids on the team that have

played at the Junior A level," said Hawthorne.

Hawthorne said the inconsistencies are coming at the wrong times and emphasized the team's need for size.

"The goal tending started off very hot and the team struggled, now the team seems to be coming together and playing well and the goal tending is struggling."

Hawthorne also mentioned that the team might be looking to make a few trades to add bulk to their front line.

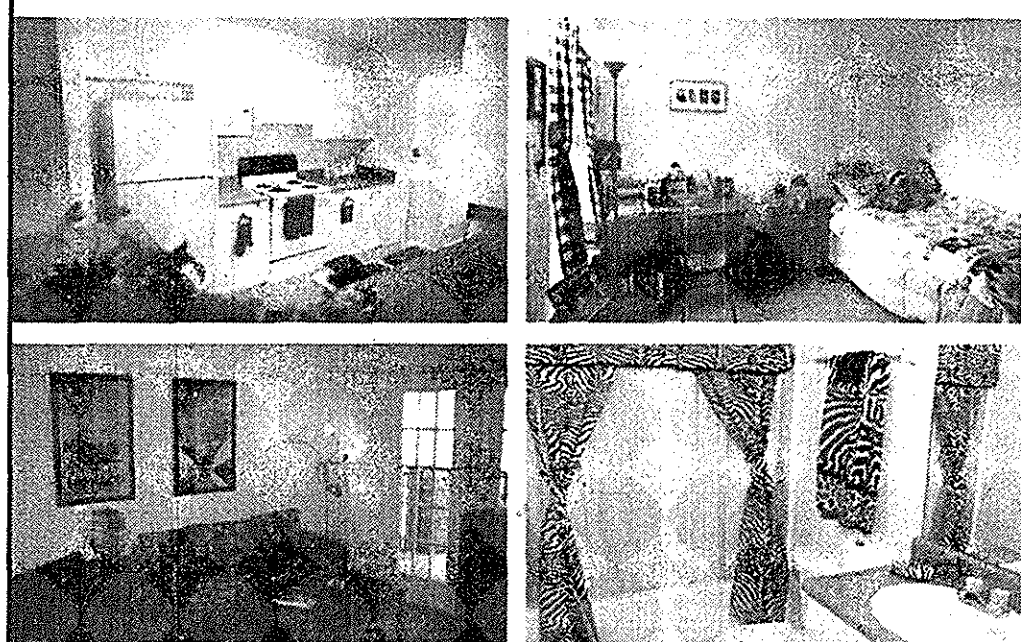
Overall, Hawthorne said he was impressed by his players' ability to come together as a team in such a short period of time.

"As a unit, on and off the ice, I think this team has really come together."

Call Joe Simon at (330) 941-3758.



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**Campus Calendar**

**Friday:** The Penguin Review is hosting an evening of poetry and music - open stage 8 p.m., followed by the reunion of Shillelagh Law and Rainbow Tribe. The event will be held at Inner Circle Pizza starting at 11 a.m. For more information contact Cathie Hillston in the Penguin Review office, 0006 Fedor Hall, or email crhillston@student.ysu.edu.

**Sunday:** The YSU Ice Hockey game vs. Edinboro is at 7 p.m. at the Ice Zone. \$2 for students, \$3 for adults.

**Notices:** The YSU InterVarsity Christian Fellowship student group meets Friday evenings, 7:30 p.m., at the home of Dr. Phil and Carolyn Munro. For more information, 220-941-1748, 330-744-2393, PcMunro@cc.ysu.

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**FOUND:** Keys, cell phones, hats, gloves, books, bags, etc. The campus LOST AND FOUND is located at Bytes 'n Pieces on the upper level of Kilcawley Center.

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**Services**  
Sunday Mass: The Newman Center, Catholic Campus Ministry, 254 Madison Ave. (across from Lyden House) every Sunday at 6:00 p.m. Call (330) 747-9202 for info.

Personal Problems? Need someone to talk to? Contact the Counseling Center, 3101 Beeghly College of Education, 330-941-3056.

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Ticket Price: Students: \$10.00 - Adults: \$18.00 for the DINNER  
**African Cultural Celebration**  
Thursday, December 5, 2002 ~ 6:00 p.m.  
Kilcawley Center, Chestnut Room

Keynote speaker: Dr. Isaiah Jackson, Director Youngstown Symphony Orchestra & Scholar-in-Residence in the College of Arts & Sciences  
Special Guest: The Lost Boys of Sudan  
For additional information contact: YSU Africana Studies Program Office at (330) 941-3897

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# Entertainment



## Ya-Ya, it's worth the hype

By JOLENE POWELL  
The Jambor

One of the summer's most hyped movies is now on video, and is a must-see for all women or any man who struggles to understand the depth of friendships and the damage secrets can cause.

"The Divine Secrets of the Ya-Ya Sisterhood" begins with playwright Sidda Lee Walker (played by Sandra Bullock) giving an interview to a Time magazine reporter.

Somehow, when the story is published, the essence of Sidda's words is absent from the page, leaving readers to read a story about Sidda's troubled childhood and relationship with her mother, Vivi, (Ellen Burstyn). Vivi reads the article, which immediately starts a war between her and Sidda.

It is obvious by the morbid letters and packages that the two send each other after a blowup about the article that their relationship was flawed even before the story was published.

Both mother and daughter are clearly suffering from the estrangement, so much so that the Ya-Yas — Vivi's long-time sisters in friendship — take their cue to save the day.

The three friends leave the south and head for New York to visit Sidda. Once there, they take her out to a bar, where they slip a date-rape drug in her drink.

Once unconscious, the Ya-Yas put Sidda on a plane, with the help of her fiancé, Conner, who just wants the fighting to end.

The Ya-Yas take Sidda to a cabin not far from Sidda's parents' home and make sure Vivi does not know Sidda is in town. The point of the kidnapping is to divulge the secrets of Vivi and the sisterhood in order for Sidda to understand why her childhood was so painful.

Memories of alcoholism, abuse, lost love and attempts to break a three-generation long chain of mother-daughter pain are relived in the cabin as the Ya-Yas try to get Sidda to forgive Vivi.

Fences are mended and strides are made when Sidda faces the truth and Vivi stops hiding.

Overall, if you are not ready to cry at the close of this film, you're heartless.

The greatest lesson that this film teaches is that secrets aren't always best hidden. I would agree.

Call Jolene Powell at  
(330) 941-1913.

## Entertainment in brief

"Jazz at the Holidays," a seminar designed for music lovers and jazz enthusiasts in the Mahoning Valley, will be held from 2 to 4 p.m. Dec. 5 in the Ohio Room of Kilcawley Center.

The free event is part of a newly-instituted series of Dean's Seminars from the College of Arts & Sciences.

The Dec. 5 seminar will feature Isaiah Jackson, music director of the Youngstown Symphony and a Scholar-in-Residence in the College of Arts & Sciences, along with jazz pianist and Steinway Artist Joe Augustine and arranger Artie Schroeck.

## Circusdog not clowning around



DOG DAYS: From left John Mitrega, brother Jim, Tim Dunn and Jason Genaro make up Circusdog, a Niles band trying to break through in the Youngstown music scene.

By HENRY GOMEZ  
The Jambor

Circusdog drummer Jason Genaro has just finished sound check and is preparing himself for a short 45-minute warm-up set at The Cellar.

Genaro, 23, sits on a bench and talks with a friend, hunched over with his T-shirt clinging to a small, unassuming frame. He has been playing with Circusdog locally for about two years, but the bouncer making his way to Genaro's bench isn't convinced.

"Hey, can I see your ID?" the bouncer asks, worried he has let a minor slip past his watchful gaze. "Are you with the band? Are you 21?"

Genaro rights his youthful frame and a smile forms on his baby face as he reaches into his pocket to show the bouncer he has been legal for two years.

Such is life for Jason Genaro. The YSU junior who majors in psychology has been pounding drums for years, but no one — at least those who see him in person — can really believe the big sound he makes comes from such a little guy.

Circusdog began to take shape in 2000, when Genaro and childhood buddy Jim Mitrega [lead vocals] teamed up to experiment with some of their favorite music styles.

Heavily influenced by popular acts such as Dave Matthews Band and O.A.R.,

Genaro and Mitrega later added bassist Tim Dunn and recruited Mitrega's brother, John, to play saxophone. The four friends were all born and raised in Niles.

The result is a rough but developing sound that relies heavily on Jim Mitrega's feel-good vibes and Tim Dunn's powerful chops. With a handful of local shows, including an October opening act for the locally popular Red Wanting Blue, Circusdog has begun to create a small but devoted following.

The band opened for Ten Days Straight last weekend at The Cellar in Struthers, and despite a small early crowd, was able to elicit wild cheers for some of its covers and even one or two of its originals.

As a cover band, Circusdog pleases and pulls off such tunes as "All Along the Watchtower" [Bob Dylan, later mastered by Dave Matthews at live shows] and "That Was a Crazy Game of Poker" [O.A.R.] with relative ease.

John Mitrega wails with the saxophone, and brother Jim has a soothing voice. Genaro looks like a man on a mission with his drum set, pounding fiercely on a collection of cymbals.

But on originals, the band seems somewhat uncomfortable. "You Make Me Smile," an upbeat song likely about head-over-heals love, lacks emotion or strength in the vocals — although the instruments form a great melody.

The true highlight of Circusdog's

original setlist, aside from Genaro and his drums, is "There You Go Again." That, along with "You Make Me Smile," is part of the band's demo disc, which they distribute for free after performances.

"There You Go Again," shows the depth of Jim Mitrega's vocals and the talent of Dunn. Genaro again shines on the drums, and all band members come together for an original sound.

But perhaps the biggest knock against Circusdog is that they mimic the styles of O.A.R. and other modern jam- or ska-type bands. While this is obvious on some originals, especially "You Make Me Smile," there is great original talent evident in the band's efforts.

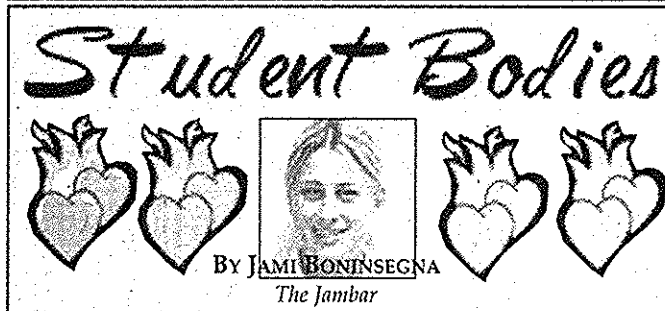
At the band's October performance, Genaro closed the opening set with an extended drum solo, which Red Wanting Blue fans watched in amazement. The 45-minute set last weekend did not allow for a Genaro drum solo.

The band did, however, play three covers, two from O.A.R. — including "Poker" — and "All Along the Watchtower."

Although the O.A.R. covers came at the request of the few fans in attendance, Circusdog would be wise to polish its originals and work on presentation.

The talent is there, and in many cases, so is the music.

Call Henry Gomez at (330) 941-1991.



Ahh yes. It's that time of year again. There's slush all over campus. You have to wake up fifteen minutes early just to scrape ice off of your car in the morning. And the holiday season is here.

That means it's time to shop.

There are two kinds of people at this time of year. There are those who break off relationships because they're cheap and don't want to buy a gift.

And, then there are those of us who feel better having someone special to spend the holidays with — but we can't figure out what to buy them.

Here are a few tips for those of us who are brave enough to tackle traffic jams, freezing temperatures and the mall.

The perfect gift for a guy.

— plus if you don't like what he normally wears this is how you can do something about it.

Playstation games/DVDs/CDs. Guys love TV, music and their playstations. If you want to make a really good impression, get them the classics. Don't just pull the latest hits off the shelf, instead get the greatest hits.

Alcohol. I'm talking good liquor. Get a bottle, not a case of beer. Crown Royal. Jack Daniel's. Kettle One. Taking a trip to the liquor store might seem a little tacky but it will definitely win your man over.

The perfect gift for a girl.

Clothes, clothes, clothes. To all you guys out there, get the girl clothes. Do whatever you have to do to get them. Shop on-line. Get a gift certificate. Even bring your girlfriend's mom shopping if you have to. Just make sure you find out her size before you shop. The salespeople will definitely talk about you if you point to a shopper and say, "I think she's that size." And, your girlfriend will be pretty upset if you get something too big.

Stuff to pamper her with. Every girl loves to be spoiled and pampered, and this option will even keep guys out of the mall and away from wrapping

## Weekend Calendar

Nyabinghi, Friday - The BooginZ, Girth, Cyrus. Saturday - Today's the Day, Bloodlet, Bongzilla, Kitchen Knife Conspiracy. Sunday - (ALL AGES, 6 p.m. and 10 p.m.) Benefit shows for the family of Dan Ditommaso w/8-10 local bands TBA.



**BENEFIT:** A pair of benefit shows for the late Dan Ditommaso will be held this Sunday night at Nyabinghi on Salt Springs Road. Each show will feature four to five local bands with all proceeds going to the Ditommaso family. Show times are set for 6 and 11 p.m. For more information visit [www.nyabinghi.com](http://www.nyabinghi.com), or call The Nyabinghi @ (330) 799-9750

Cedars, Friday - Fenster, All Media. Saturday - Favorite Action Hero, My Sister the Sun.

Plaza Cafe - Friday - Ohio Nocturnal Hybrid. Saturday - Mystic WIP Hustler, SAB, Funch.

The Bombshelter - Friday - Johnie 3.



**PUNK ROCK:** Local Ramones inspired punk rockers Johnie 3 will play The Bombshelter in New Castle Friday night. Show time is set for 10 p.m.

Freddie Fresh's - Friday - Moral Dilemma, Pleasureburn, Landis, Spathole.

Call Jami Boninsegna at  
(330) 941-1913.