

## Witness hopes panel report clears Habat

By HENRY GOMEZ &  
ANGELA OLIN  
*The Jambar*



HABAT

A key witness in a committee's investigation of John Habat said he hopes

panel's report - now in the hands of top administrators - clears the vice president for Administration of using his university laptop to view pornography.

Ron Krauss, an electronics technician who did work on Habat's computer and testified before the committee, said he was anxious to see the report

and felt the situation had been blown out of proportion.

University President David Sweet received a copy of the report Wednesday, Ron Cole, manager for News and Information Services, said. The university, however, will not release a statement until late this morning at the earliest.

"It's more of a scheduling

thing," Cole said, adding that Sweet received the report just before an afternoon of budget talks and meetings with visiting lecturer, Mario Cuomo.

Psychology Chair James Morrison chaired the three-person panel, which included retired Counseling Center director George Letchworth and music professor Darla

Funk. University officials would not confirm the committee's response, but Krauss said there is no reason for action to continue.

"There was no pornography," Krauss said. "I never used that word. I would not classify what I saw as pornography."

Krauss would not give

specifics of what he saw on Habat's laptop but did say he thought the images could be innocent enough to be a part of someone's "family album." He said he asked Dale Ethics Center Director Gabriel Palmer-Fernandez about what he saw because he was unsure

See HABAT, page 2

## YSPAN war teach-in ends with argument



Angela Olin/The Jambar

By HEATHER SHAW  
*The Jambar*

Closely huddled together with hot tempers under the cold grey sky Tuesday, about 15 students and members of YSPAN gathered outside of Kilcawley Center to discuss the past, present and future relationship between the U.S. and terrorism.

At the end of the discussion, several students engaged in a heated debate over the war in Iraq. YSU Police were on hand to make sure there was no violence.

Jacob Harver, member of YSPAN, organized the teach-in for students, staff, and faculty to voice their feelings concerning the U.S.'s role in terrorism, and the current situation with

Iraq.

"We are gathered here today to raise awareness on what's going on in the world we live in. (YSPAN is) not here as an underground conspiracy, but to give you what you're not getting on CNN," Harver said.

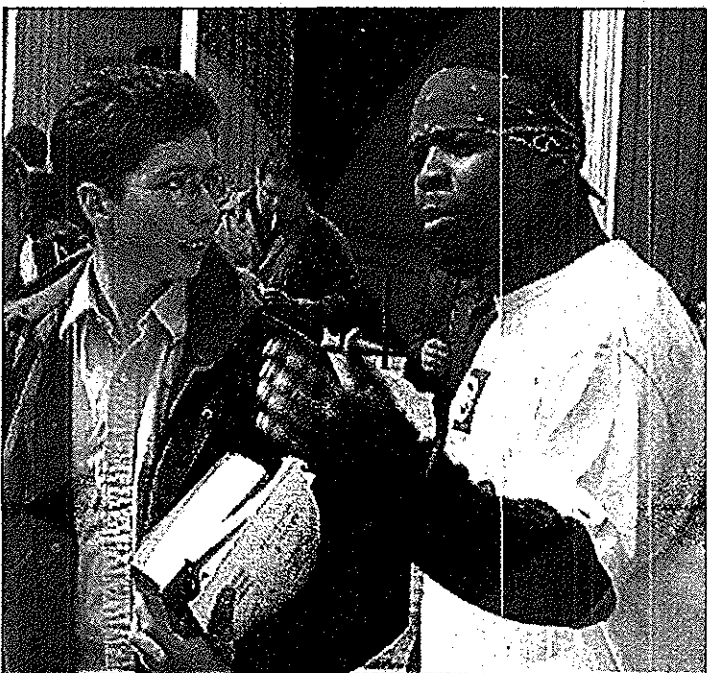
The discussion then moved into questioning U.S. involvement in training secret forces as well as using degrees of terrorism during times of war. Another question raised was the use of Special Forces in the military and who is held accountable for this type of "terrorism."

"The BBC reported that seven to ten Iraqi civilians were killed by American

See YSPAN, page 2

**HOT AND HEAVY:** Above: Youngstown State Peace Action Network member Jacob Harver, far left, shouts as he tries to make his case Tuesday to Ariel Jacobson, right. The argument, over terrorism and the war in Iraq, came at the end of YSPAN's teach-in outside Kilcawley Center.

At right, Mike Lewis, left, talks with another student about the war.



## Elections chairman selected

By ROXANNE TORELLA  
*The Jambar*

With the Student Government Association election less than two weeks away, SGA leaders on Monday introduced the committee that will oversee it.

Don Rudolph, SGA secretary of Student Services and Administrative Affairs, will chair the five-person panel, which includes SGA Parliamentarian Dan Procopio. The committee will monitor election rules and the candidates' campaigns.

Rudolph said Monday that he hoped to e-mail candidates from the eight teams running for president and vice president by the end of the week.

"I hope to set up times so we can meet with everyone," Rudolph said.

This election committee

See STAFF, page 4

## Former SGA rep blasts leaders

STAFF REPORT  
*The Jambar*

The way Dan Griesemer sees it Student Government Association representatives have cheated students of the 800 hours he said they pledged back in August.

Griesemer, a former representative running to reclaim a spot on SGA next year, chastised leaders Monday for not fulfilling their goals or attending their required weekly office hours.

"I remember sitting in the gallery the first time this body met," Griesemer said. "And each rep said how excited they were. What I'm asking you today is what did you do with your one hour a week that you promised to the student

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## Local journalists discuss ethics of embedded reporters



Chuck Rogers/The Jambar

POINT: College of Fine & Performing Arts Dean George McCloud, left, makes a point to Tony Paglia, senior regional editor for The Vindicator, at Wednesday's debate.

By ANGELA OLIN  
*The Jambar*

Journalism professionals and students gathered at DeBartolo Hall yesterday to discuss the issue of embedded reporters with the military in the war with Iraq.

Journalism instructor Alyssa Lenhoff began the forum by asking the panelists one question: "Is it ethical, is it not ethical, for journalists to be embedded with the military?"

Panelists included Vindicator Senior Regional

Editor Tony Paglia, Tribune Chronicle Assistant Metro Editor Guy Vogrin, Jambar Editor in Chief Henry Gomez, College of Fine & Performing Arts Dean George McCloud, and news directors from three local TV stations: Mona Alexander from WFMY, Pat Livingston from WYTV and Nick Matesi from WKBN.

Embedded reporters agree to several restrictions before joining troops. They cannot report on ongoing issues without clearance, cannot report specific results of missions,

and cannot report specific numbers of troops, aircraft or ships.

"I don't see a major ethical problem," said Paglia. "I'm fairly comfortable with it at this point."

"If you look at the history of war, this is something new. It's far better, as far as I'm concerned than the Gulf War."

Alexander said she felt the access embedded reporters have outweighs the stipulations to which they may agree.

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## Inside today's issue:

Goth inspired band rages onto the charts. Page 6



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Staffer warns buyers of 8-Mile DVD. Page 6



**HABAT, continued from page 1**

if he should report it.  
"But I never used the word pornography," Krauss said. "The person who made the complaint used it."

Palmer-Fernandez, a professor of philosophy and religious studies, first informed Sweet of his concerns in a January e-mail, in which he did not name Habat. A month later, Palmer-Fernandez followed up on his e-mail, this time identifying Habat as a high-ranking administrator who used his university-issued laptop to view pornography.

Palmer-Fernandez, who also testified before the committee, has said three individuals informed him of seeing pornography on Habat's laptop.

Habat has denied the allegations and said other people can use a computer without the owner's knowledge. Krauss said it was possible Habat was not responsible for each image on his computer.

"I don't believe he had any idea what was happening," Krauss said.

Krauss said he is worried

his own intentions may be misunderstood. He said he simply wanted to know if he should report what he saw. Personally, he felt the answer was no.

"I hope he was exonerated," he said. "And once the report is out, I will tell him that personally."

*Jami Boninsegna contributed to this article.*

Call Henry Gomez at (330) 941-1991.

**YSPAN, continued from page 1**

troops yesterday, after passing through checkpoints," Harver said. "I question the accountability of what's going on with these secret forces. Who are they accountable to if it's a democracy."

"What is terrorism? We are participating in terrorism and the American people do not even know about it."

Keith Lepak, an associate professor of political science and coordinator of Peace and Conflict Studies, spoke to the crowd. Although Lepak is pro-war, he said he recognizes its troubles.

"While I support the war, the Special Operations Forces are possibly the most dangerous area of our military,"

Lepak said.

In expressing his concerns, Lepak read an article written by Washington Post columnist David Ignatius, titled Get Ready for the American Ninjas. In his article, Ignatius reminds readers of the Vietnam tragedy and compares current Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld's fascination with special operations to those of Robert S. McNamara.

In his article, Ignatius explained that an order signed by Rumsfeld in early December gives these Special Forces power to be on scene, undercover and ready to act as soon as they receive intelligence.

"They will not have to operate through embassies or the regional commanders in chief and will be a force unto themselves," Ignatius wrote.

Lepak said it is critical for the U.S. to rebuild its relationship with its allies who do not support the war. He also emphasized the need for Americans to open their eyes to the operations of the military.

The teach-in also offered an open-microphone for any students, staff or faculty to speak about terrorism and the current war with Iraq.

Call Heather Shaw at (330) 941-1811.

**ETHICS, continued from page 1**

Gomez said he felt there was no question embedded reporters have ignored their ethics, but said the real issue was whether the access justifies it.

McCloud took a different approach to the issue.

"Modern circumstances require adjustments to reality," McCloud said. "Reporters can no longer be reporters in war,

they can be witnesses."

For some, however, objectivity was the real issue behind embedded journalists.

"Objectivity is what really bothers me," Livingston said.

At the panel, Lenhoff asked students in the audience: If they had the chance to cover the war overseas, would they prefer to be on their own or rather an embedded journalist

with the military?

Vogrin said that is an issue that depends on the individual.

"It comes down to your own personal priorities," said Vogrin. "Am I an American first or a journalist?"

Call Angela Olin at (330) 941-1989.

**CUOMO**

*Rebecca Marquis/The Jambar*

LECTURE: Mario Cuomo, former three-term governor of New York, spoke on campus Wednesday evening as part of the Skeggs Lecture Series and at a fund-raising dinner to establish an endowed faculty position in Italian culture and language.

Cuomo held a news conference shortly before the dinner and field questions about the war in Iraq.

"It's inevitable to me that we are going to win," Cuomo said. "You have to think about Saddam and al-Qaeda as cancers."

A full story on Cuomo's appearance at YSU will be in the April 8 edition of The Jambar.

**News in brief****Colors of India to be Saturday**

Colors of India, a celebration of Indian culture, will take place at 7:30 p.m. Saturday in the Chestnut Room at Kilcawley Center.

The event is to promote awareness of the culture on campus, coordinator Jaymin

Patel said. All students of all backgrounds are encouraged to attend.

Last year, the event was held in Peaberry's Café, but coordinators expect a larger turnout this year and have moved to the Chestnut Room.

**ISA will meet to discuss events**

The International Student Association will meet at 3 p.m. Friday in the Cafaro Suite at Williamson Hall.

Members will discuss events for late April, including a picnic and International Day.

For more information, call Ozgur Baykal at (330) 941-3524.

**8-MILE, continued from page 6**

Kim Basinger's performance as Rabbit's strung-out mother borders on over-acting, but Mekhi Phifer, whose egoistic Dr. Pratt character makes "ER" all but unwatchable, turns in a relatively poignant and reserved performance as Future, Rabbit's strongest supporter.

The pacing is meandering at times, but the overall film is a raw and gritty look at the racial and economical boundaries that define our lives and at times resembles "Rocky" with its depiction of a young man struggling to find the strength and courage to beat the odds.

If you don't mind hearing the "f" word dropped about every three seconds, "8 Mile" is definitely worth renting.

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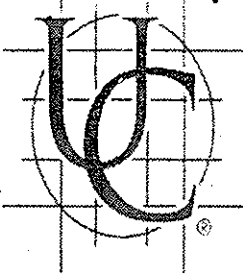
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## TODAY'S EDITORIAL

### Some suggestions for a new trustee

With Eugenia Atkinson's service as a YSU trustee fast approaching its end, leaders in Columbus must look for a fresh replacement to represent student interests.

One look at the current Board of Trustees and it is easy to see that there is not much diversity. Sure there is a nice mix of gender, ethnicity and race, but there are very few trustees representative of the Mahoning Valley's population.

Our trustees represent the business community in Greater Youngstown. They own their own businesses, have medical practices — one even touts his experience as a deacon in the Catholic Church as a factor in his voting.

At a time when budget cuts wreak havoc on the university's daily business, the trustees we have are out of touch with students and the problems that face it. There is, without a doubt, no better time to send a wake-up call to the board than by injecting it with an enthusiastic, energetic trustee who actually can represent student interests.

There are two types of candidates the state and Gov. Bob Taft should be considering: those who are young and those who represent the Valley's blue-collar community.

A young trustee will finally give the students a true voice and vote on the board. The state allows for two student trustees — currently Jeff Parks and Matt Pastier — but neither have a vote. What good is it for us if we do not have a more representative presence?

A young trustee — say in his or her mid-20s — would be recently removed from college and actually have a grasp of the issues facing us. Our current trustees spend too much time approaching things from a business angle, and thus, make foolhardy decisions such as spoiling the president with raises and burning students with tuition increases.

A newer, younger member might not be able to block another tuition raise, but at least would be able to challenge his or her board colleagues to see it from another perspective.

If not a young trustee, how about someone from the labor community or arts community? This is very much a blue-collar, shot-and-a-beer kind of town. Populist politics prevail over big business and high society, yet the latter two are what seem to prevail on the Board of Trustees.

A trustee who has labor experience would present a key, missing dynamic to the board: someone who knows the crippling history of Youngstown and will not take unrealistic steps to separate the city and university from the culture and class around it.

If YSU wants to be a leader in the community, it must be led by people who know what is best for it. Please, Gov. Taft, when you select Eugenia Atkinson's replacement, think not of the partisans who will be loyal to your politics and think not of the businessmen and women who have high community profiles.

Think about the students, if for just this once.

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*The Jambar will not print letters that libel others or threaten harm. The editor in chief reserves the right to reject letters that do not follow policy. The views and opinions expressed herein do not necessarily reflect those of The Jambar staff or YSU faculty, staff or administration.*

As the war in Iraq continues, we want to hear from you.



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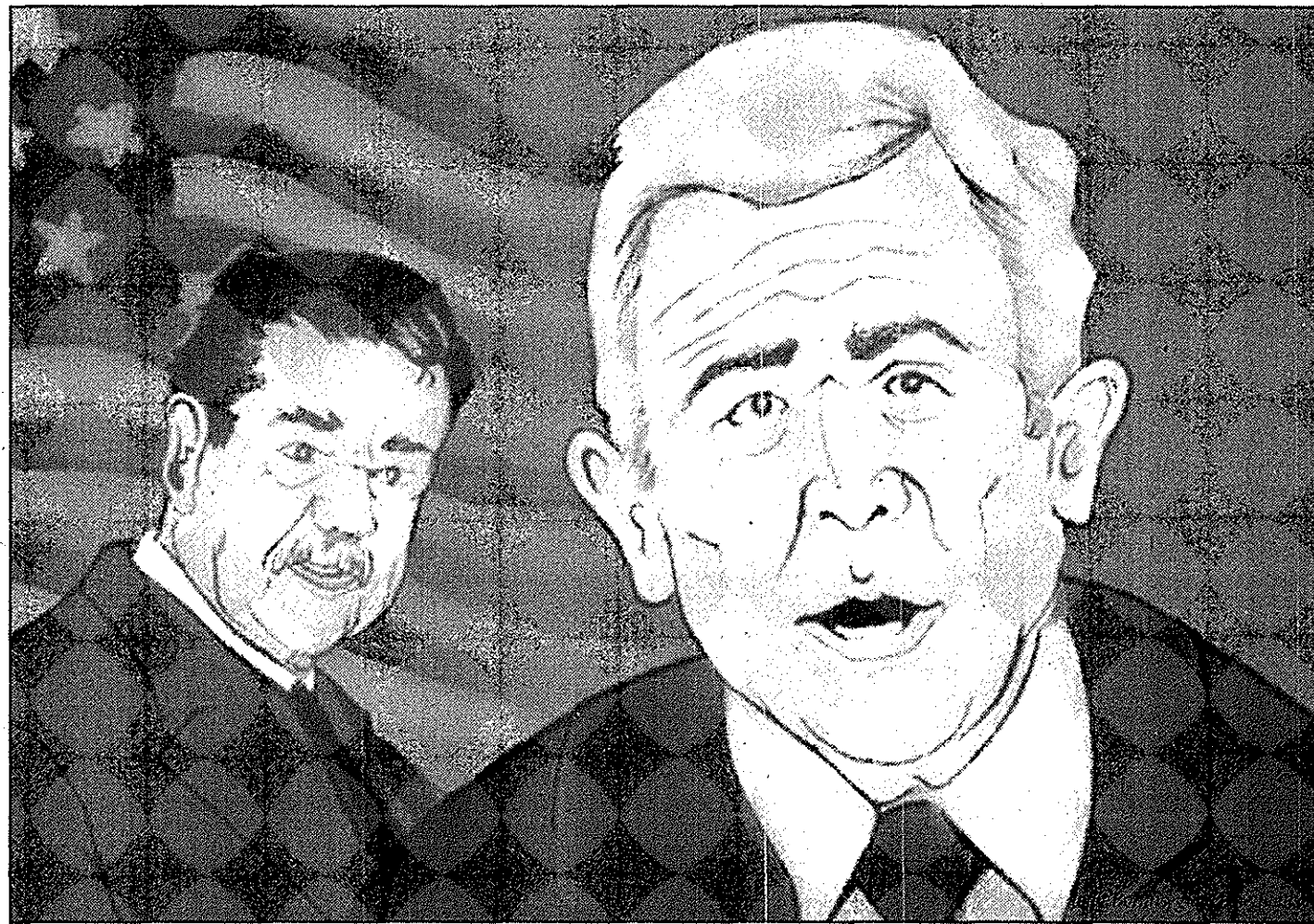
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The Jambar is published twice-weekly during fall and spring semesters and weekly during summer sessions. The first copy of The Jambar is free; each additional copy is 5 cents. Mail subscriptions are \$25 per academic year. Since being founded by Burke Lyden in 1931, The Jambar, located in the basement of Fedor Hall, has won nine Associated Collegiate Press All-American honors. Call (330) 941-3095 with questions or comments.

## CLASH OF THE TITANS



### Iraq and the new McCarthyism

By MATT LILLER  
The Jambar

A successful propaganda campaign is achieved by stating a phrase over and over until it becomes the truth in the mind of the listener. The validity of the phrase is not important. Repetition is essential.

It has been said in plain language that if you do not unconditionally support the president's campaign in Iraq, then you must not be supporting our troops. Or worse, you support Saddam Hussein. This is an accusation that is being made all over the country with a straight face. This is the case of the new "Red Scare" in America.

The media outlets are so terrified of being seen as liberal or un-American, they all go merrily along with the plan. The machine keeps rolling on, and no one questions any of the reasons why we're in Iraq in the first place. Keep in mind that we went to the U.N. about disarmament, yet this war is called "Iraqi Freedom".

This is all an attempt to gag any anti-war notions by describing them as anti-American. Meanwhile, the media re-demonizes Saddam and ignores the once Hitler-esque bin Laden. Don't get me wrong, Saddam is a really bad guy, but he's hardly the only dictator in the world. Plus, there are plenty of other countries with no

running water or food that are in need of liberation, but we are not considering occupying them. Why Iraq? Why now?

Actors, filmmakers, musicians, professors, and reporters are being targeted by patriotic zealots. The Dixie Chicks (those bastions of free speech) were blacklisted on many country radio stations after they said they were ashamed our president was from Texas. Reporter, Peter Arnett was fired from his job at NBC because he told Iraqi television that our war plan was faulty. I admit that it was rather stupid of him to talk out about the war on Iraqi television, but our own generals had already made similar admissions.

Max Cleland, a former senator from Georgia, found out that being branded as un-American is difficult to shake. His opponent in last year's election ran a fierce campaign that accused Cleland of being unpatriotic because he did support Bush's inevitable war with Iraq. Consequently, he did not win his reelection. But it may be of importance to mention that Cleland lost both his legs and an arm fighting for his country in Vietnam, while his opponent did not serve.

This proves the absolute contradiction of many of these "Super Patriots" who never served in the military but feel that they can loudly question others' dedication to this country. Donald Rumsfeld and

Colin Powell are the only two in the White House who have served in the military, and some are calling for Powell's resignation because he is not a team player.

All this patriotic finger pointing started when the Bush administration wrote a 350-page piece of legislation only a month after 9/11. It was called "The U.S. Patriot Act", and it virtually cut the Bill of Rights in half. If a member of Congress showed any displeasure against this rushed piece of legislation, they would have been unpatriotic, of course. In the immortal words of Bush's Press Secretary, Ari Fleischer, "Americans need to watch what they say."

Another edge of this argument is that now is not the time to be speaking out against the war. When are you supposed to speak out against war then? When it's over?

I've also been told, "Soldiers died so you have the right to say you're against the war." Does that mean I shouldn't speak out then? I can think of no better way to support our troops than not wanting them to die unjustly.

And then the ever popular, "If you love Saddam so much, why don't you marry him?"

Joseph Stalin was once asked what his definition of fascism was. He answered, "Whatever I say it is."

Wake up people.

## READERS' LETTERS

### Why doesn't YSPAN understand freedom?

For weeks now, I have been reading in The Jambar about Jacob Harver and other 20 members of YSPAN wax poetically regarding the war. I have tried to find some logic embedded in all the metaphorical diatribe. So far, their logic eludes me.

In the March 20 issue of The Jambar, Harver asks the question: "How is America's sovereignty a justification for violating Iraq's And I am left wondering — where was I when Iraq acquired sovereignty? The people of Iraq are strangers to the concepts of sovereignty, autonomy or volition.

Their vicious dictator, however, knows a thing or two about domination. If Mr. Harver finds oppression so loathsome, and if he insists that Iraqi lives are just as valuable as American lives, then I'd like to know where his concern for the Iraqi people was before war talks began? The horrific stories of Hussein's depraved sons raping and brutalizing helpless Iraqi women are not new to any informed American. Neither are the tales of the hundreds of Iraqi men, women, and children fallen dead in the streets when Saddam fancied testing some of his chemical weapons.

So where were YSPAN peace poetry readings then? Perhaps YSPAN is only concerned with protest when it involves trendy protesting against the United States.

Harver has also maintained that no link between the tragedies of September 11 and Hussein has been made, and that President Bush was "all speculation." Well, I am sorry, Mr. Harver, that we didn't have a Polaroid of Hussein and bin Laden having a cocktail together, or perhaps a video of the two of them participating in the gang rape of a helpless Middle Eastern woman, to convince you that they are birds of a feather.

However, without said incriminating evidence, the lesson of September 11, 2001, has not been forgotten by most Americans, and thankfully not by our president.

Just when I think that Mr. Harver's comments can't get any more nonsensical, he says the following: "To me, there is no difference between terrorism and war." Well, if this is the case, Mr. Harver, then I feel very sorry for you. Let me see if I can help you with such complicated concepts.

Terrorism can be defined as unsubstantiated, criminal malevolence resulting in the slaughter of innocent people. It is orches-

trated by evil, fanatic tyrants and executed by daft, brainwashed twenty-something's who martyr themselves in order to secure their place in Heaven with their very own collection of virgins. Here is the most important distinction that YSPAN needs to recognize. In a war, death of innocent people is an unfortunate side effect that occurs on the way to achieving the ultimate goal.

In terrorism, death of innocent people is the ultimate goal. This war is about justice, about fighting oppression — two things that Harver claims to be deeply concerned with. But first and foremost, this war is truly about the safety of United States citizens, as well as the safety of the world.

I will always respect every person's right to speak his opinions freely. But if I appear to be disrespectful to Mr. Harver, it is because of his utter disrespect for this great nation of which he is privileged to be a citizen.

Most insolent of Harver's statements is that the American flag "represents oppression for so many, worldwide and domestically..." Mr. Harver, our country is far from perfect. And our history is anything but unblemished.

But you'd be hard pressed to find a better place to live more freely, more privileged, more autonomous. It is self-evident that there is no better place to bring your dreams to fruition than the United States of America.

Perhaps you should ask some of the thousands of immigrants flooding our shores each week why they are fleeing here. I can't help but wonder why Jacob Harver hates America. Perhaps, Mr. Harver, you should consider the fact that both this country and the First Amendment to our Constitution afford you the opportunity to expound your mindless discourse ad-nauseum in The Jambar, and at your protests, and at your poetry readings.

Mr. Harver, if you find this country so oppressive, please leave. Perhaps a country like Iraq would suit you better? You should be careful though. Try to engage in some of your anti-oppression dialogue there, and a member of Saddam's Republican Guard will be more than happy to remove your tongue for you.

Leslie Werek  
Junior, Psychology

## SGA, continued from page 1

will work to ensure fairness on the campaign trail and make sure each candidate is following the rules. A complete list of the rules will be available later this week, SGA President Jeff Parks said.

Parks reminded everyone on Monday that the elections are a major focus at the end of the year, as he reminded SGA representatives there is only one general meeting left this year.

"Elections are our number one issue right now," Parks said.

This year, eight teams - more than any other year in recent history - will challenge for the offices of president and vice president. The teams are:

- Brad Adair and Joseph Trocci
- Heidi Critser and Thomas Corey
- Emily Eckman and Adam Vukovic

- Trevor McAleer and Courtney Trimacco
- Jessica Moss and Colette Tabet

- Roy Palumbo and Gino La Rocca
- Matt Pastier and Jaymin Patel

- Tony Spano and Melissa Morvay

Critser, who did not respond to a Jambar reporter in time for Tuesday's edition, delivered her campaign plat-

form to The Jambar. Critser and Corey have come up with a six-point "action plan," consisting of, assertiveness, compromise, teamwork, initiative, objective and a non-biased attitude. Critser and Corey said they want to develop and institute a student-run radio station, work with YSU on financial aid, promote higher student attendance at SGA meetings and encourage government officials to act on their

commitments and promises to the university.

Although reconnecting is important to them, according to their platform, reacting and producing results to the students concerns and wishes is emphasized in their plan.

Call Roxanne Torella at (330) 941-1811.

## Committee set to find new women's coach

The search to replace long-time women's basketball coach Ed DiGregorio will begin with a seven-person committee.

Athletic Director Ron Strollo announced Monday that Elaine Jacobs, associate athletic director, would chair the committee. DiGregorio resigned last month after coaching the Lady Penguins for 20 years.

Others serving on the committee are:

- Rick Bevely, events manager
- Frank Bosso, associate professor for human performance and exercise science
- Kathylyn Feld, NCAA faculty athletic representative and professor of health professions
- Jane Kestner, associate dean of the College of Arts & Sciences
- Rick Love, athletic marketing and promotions
- J.P. Daliman, attorney.

## REP, continued from page 1

body?"

As part of their duties as representatives, SGA must schedule one hour each week at a designated office to field student concerns and work on SGA business. Griesemer estimated that of the 32 weeks SGA is in session, the 25 representatives were responsible for 800 hours. The amount of work accomplished, he said, indicated few were using the time productively.

Representatives defended their records at the close of the meeting, but some said they had been too busy to uphold their SGA responsibilities.

"I can't give one hour a week all the time," College of Health & Human Services Representative Anthony Candel said. "But I am in my building [Cushwa Hall] all the time. I am there to know what's going on."

One of Griesemer's complaints, which he voiced during the public remarks portion of Monday's meeting, was that SGA delegates too much to its committees. College of Arts & Sciences Representative Rajah James disagreed.

"Committees work," James said. "By having committees, you can take action

and service more students." James said he feels SGA has dealt with more student concerns this year than any other. He did, however, say that organizational problems kept representatives from addressing each one.

"I think the main focus of this administration — because of previous, unnamed administrations — had to deal with a lot of infrastructure," he said.

At-large Representative Ryan Siskind said SGA has done its job, which he said is listening to the students.

"Ninety percent of this job is thinking about what to do,"

he said. "The other 10 percent is getting it done."

After the meeting, Griesemer said he was discouraged that few representatives were willing to admit they had done little work. Griesemer said with the DogEars Web site and body image forums, SGA had plenty to tackle.

"You can't convince me that a majority of reps did that much work," he said.

Griesemer passed around five advertisement designs he made for upcoming SGA-sponsored activities. He said he designed all five in one hour.

"If you guys used the one hour a week you promised, you could do so much more," he said. "It's time for everyone else to pick up the slack."

Griesemer, however, said there was some time left for representatives to redeem themselves. This year's SGA session ends in May.

"You still have a month, yet," Adviser Amy Cosentino told members. "Keep focused on your goals. Keep supporting each other."

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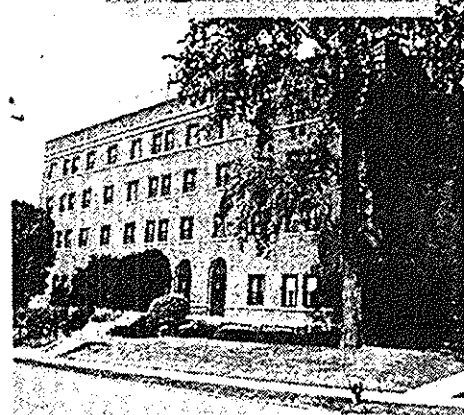
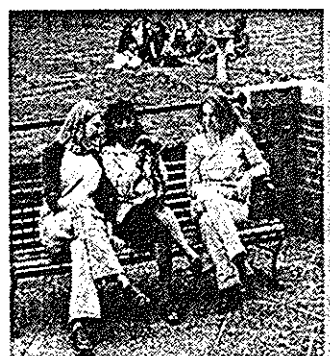
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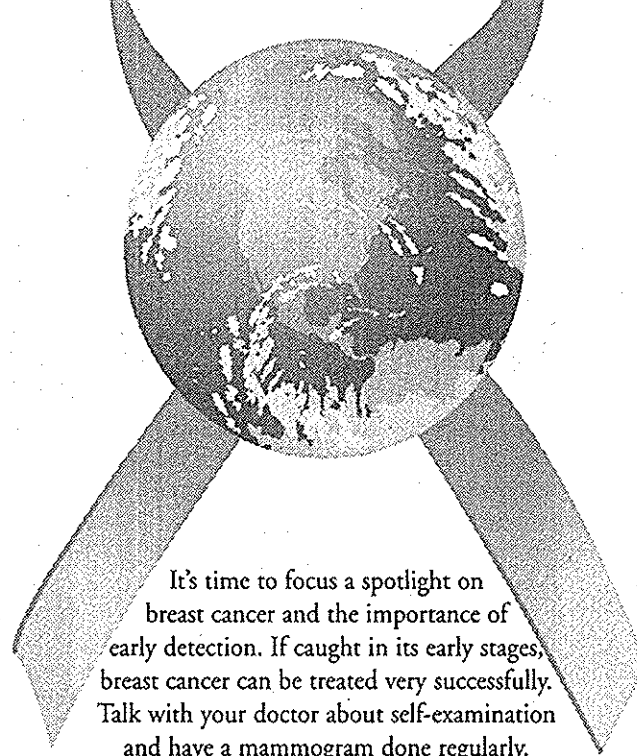
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**Campus Calendar**

**Today:** The YSU NeoPagan Fellowship is hosting Paganism Forum. Students, faculty and staff will be able to participate in a question and answer session with officers and members of the YSU NeoPagan Fellowship regarding all aspects of Paganism. The presentation will center on debunking the many myths surrounding Pagans. Brochures and flyers representing several aspects of Paganism will be available. The YSU NeoPagan Fellowship is a student organization dedicated to religious tolerance for people of all faiths. The group meets every Thursday from 4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. in Bresnahan Suite, Killebrew Center. All students, faculty and staff are welcome to attend. For more information email ysuneopagans@yahoo.com

**Friday:** The 67th Annual Student Art Exhibit opens at the McDounough Museum of Art. The opening is from 6 p.m. - 8 p.m. with an awards ceremony at 7 p.m.

**Wednesday, April 9:** The Social Work Department is organizing a trip to Columbus for Rally/Lobby Day from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. to lobby against the budget cuts in Education and Health and Human Services. Any student who is interested should sign up on the Student Social Work Association bulletin board, 3rd floor Cushman Hall, outside room 3028.

**Notices:**  
Need Extra Cash? Earn \$100 just for designing a t-shirt! The Department of Human Performance and Exercise Science in conjunction with the College of Health and Human Services at Youngstown State University is currently planning the third annual Fitness and Wellness Expo to be held October 8th in Killebrew Center. To help kick-off the event, the Department is offering \$100 to the student who designs this year's Expo t-shirt to be worn and sold during the event. A maximum of three colors will be used for the shirt. The only requirements are that the shirt includes the words "The third annual Fitness and Wellness Expo" and October 8, 2003. T-shirt designs should be turned in to Room 307 Beeghly Center (main offices) by April 23rd. The winner will be announced May 5th. Be creative and win \$100.

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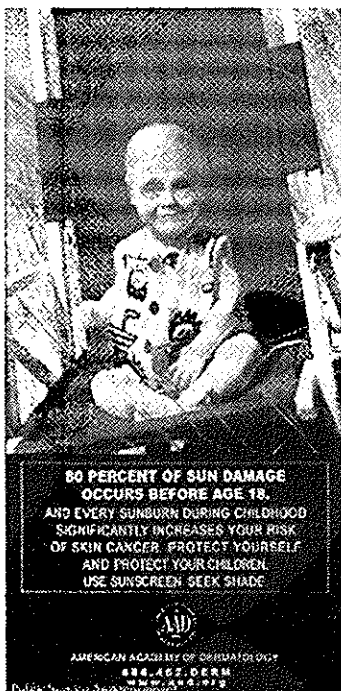


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# Entertainment



## Goth-inspired band rages onto the charts



Photo courtesy of evanescence.com

**FEMME FATALE:** Arkansas based rockers Evanescence's new album "Fallen" debuted at No. 7 on the Billboard 100.

By RYAN MCCABE  
The Jambar

After establishing some pre-release buzz from their contributions to the "Daredevil Soundtrack," the Arkansas based quartet Evanescence watched their debut album, "Fallen," land at No. 7 on Billboard's Top 100 Albums chart — a feat all but unheard of for a new rock band.

While their Goth-inspired sound at times resembles a cross between Stabbing Westward and Linkin Park, its haunting vocals of lead singer Amy Lee that ultimately sets Evanescence apart from the other nu-metal bands out there jamming the airwaves and driving a stake through the heart of rock and roll.

On "Going Under," one of the album's standout tracks, Lee invokes a gritty vocal growl reminiscent of Garbage's Shirley Manson while addressing the difficulties of moving on after a relationship is over. "Don't want your hand this time I'll save myself/Maybe I'll wake up for once/Not tormented daily defeated by you."

The Christian theme of "Tourniquet" illustrates a disturbing take on suicide and redemption.

"I'm pouring crimson regret and betrayal/I'm dying, praying, bleeding and screaming/Am I too lost to be saved?"

"Bring Me to Life" and "My Immortal," two holdovers from the "Daredevil Soundtrack," may be the best songs on the album. From the

Linkin Park-inspired "Bring Me to Life" to the Sarah McLachlan-inspired "My Immortal," it's hard to believe one band can show such range in going from one extreme to another while actually sounding good.

In addition to "My Immortal," "Hello" also relies heavily on a solemn piano and Lee's heavenly vocals. The pain and emotion Lee conveys in her lyrics is so incredibly heartbreaking and moving that it puts any of the somber elevator music on Norah Jones' Grammy winning "Come Away With Me" album to shame.

"Fallen" wraps with a pair of hard-hitting rock songs, "My Last Breath" and "Whisper," which incidentally, both focus on death. Lee's vocals may not be chipper, but their gloominess is neutralized somewhat by the crunching guitar riffs and pounding bass.

About the only bad thing that can be said about this album is it may be a tad over-produced. With everything sounding so perfect and Lee's vocals seeming to be emanating from a cathedral, you have to wonder how they sound as a live band.

Radio has not and most likely will not embrace Evanescence, so their reputation as a live band as well as positive word of mouth about their album will be essential to their survival.

As far as debut albums go, this one is an instant classic. If you haven't heard of Evanescence yet, you will.

## Professor points out perception of music

By RENESHA MARTIN  
The Jambar

The sound of country twang and the wallows of love gone wrong filled the Jones Room at Kilcawley Center last week.

Working Class Studies sponsored a lecture last week, titled "Country Music Goes to Town." Guest speaker Rachael Rubin from the University of Massachusetts discussed the history and culturalization of country music and how it has evolved over the years.

One subject Rubin touched on was why country music was avoided in academics. She said country music is thought to be "too commercialized, over processed, and nostalgic." Rubin said that most country songs are about country music rather than sadness and depression.

"It's more accurate to focus on the sentimental play of country music," Rubin said. "Otherwise you'll miss the joke."

Rubin demonstrated this by showing an album cover of the group Alabama, titled "40 Hour Week." On the cover, the group is dressed in large cowboy hats, pointed cowboy boots, and colorful plaid flannel shirts taking a break from a hard days work.

Rubin also displayed an album by Dolly Parton titled "9.5," where the singer was dressed as a nurse trying to juggle several different jobs at a time.

She also spoke about the history of African Americans in country music.

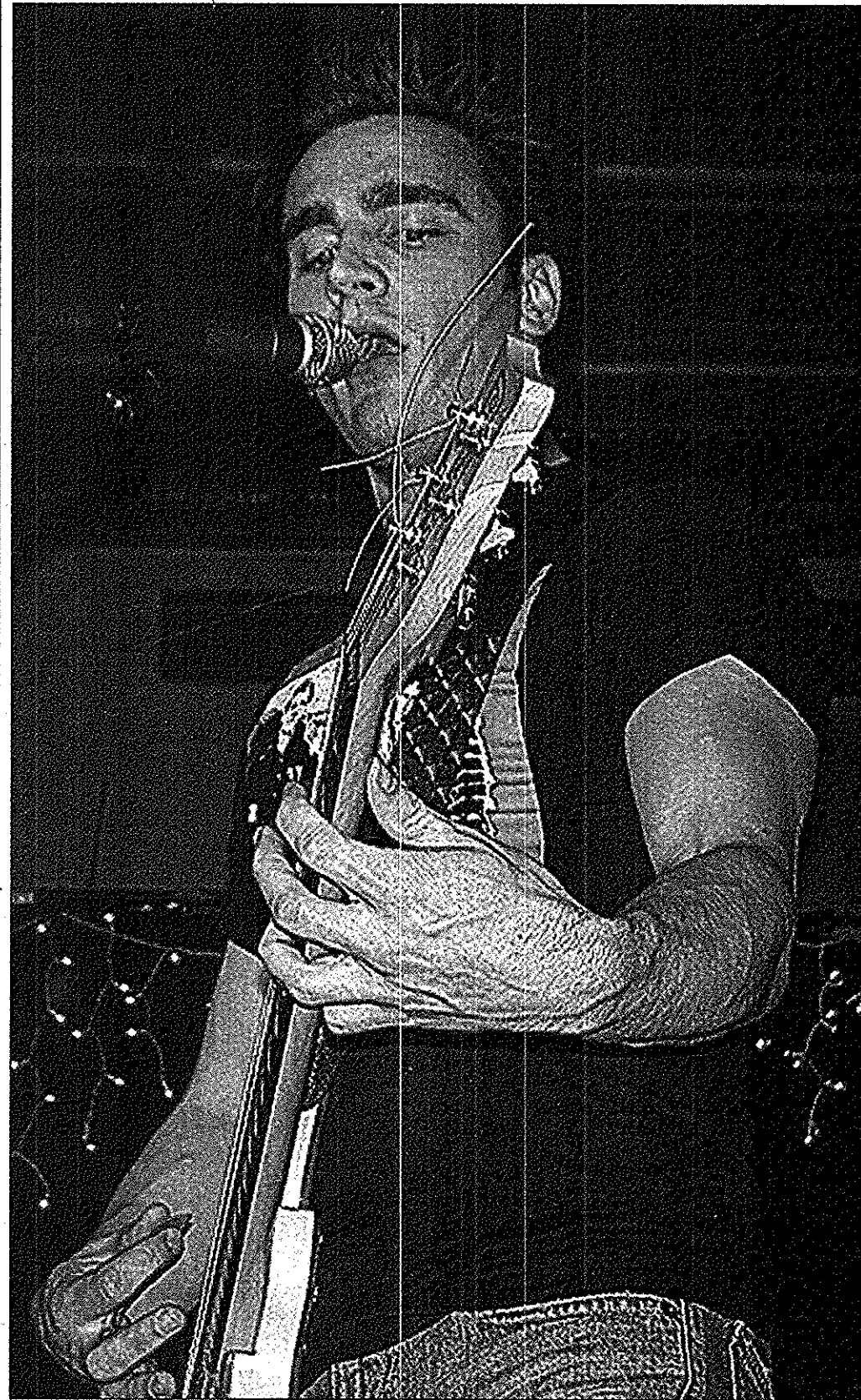
"There has been a small number of successful African American country singers," Rubin said. "This music has acquired a stereotype for a white man's music."

"Black singers such as Bobby Womack, Ray Charles, ZZ Hill and the Supremes have all covered a country music song," said Rubin.

Rubin said country singers such as Jimmy Rodgers were inspired by black artists.

"I don't know where country music is going," Rubin said. "I don't know who needs it. Country music's time seems to be more or less over."

## THE CONCEITED



BJ Lisko/The Jambar

**WHITE PICKET FENCES:** Local rockers The Conceited played Saturday night at Cedars Lounge. The band describes themselves as falling somewhere between Tom Petty and The Misfits. For more info visit [www.theconceited.com](http://www.theconceited.com)

## Buyers beware of '8 Mile' DVD

By RYAN MCCABE  
The Jambar

Buyers beware: that copy of "8 Mile" you recently purchased may be edited!

In an unprecedented move, the movie's distributors have foolishly opted to release two versions of the R-rated film: censored and uncensored.

The censored version does not edit the film itself, but rather opts to clean up the special features. In general, special features are usually un-rated, but the censored version bleeps out the swearing in the highly touted "never before seen rap battles."

The swearing in the "Superman" video was edited as well as porn star Gina Lynn's nudity and a lyrical reference to "anthrax" (oddly enough, "anthrax" is still edited on the "uncensored" version).

The censored version says, "special features not rated," but don't be fooled, they are. The difference between the censored and uncensored versions is a yellow sticker that reads "uncensored bonus materials" on the uncensored version.

Some family-oriented stores such as Wal-Mart only carry the censored version, but it doesn't have any kind of "censored" sticker, nor is there any other indication your copy is censored until you take it home and pop it in your DVD player.

High-grossing movies tend to debut on video with an extra disc devoted entirely to bonus materials, but the "8

Mile" DVD is a bit light.

Included are such standards as the original theatrical trailer, production notes, and a cast and filmmakers listing.

A "making of the movie" documentary runs a measly 9 minutes and offers little more than director Curtis Hanson, producer Brian Grazer and Eminem taking turns kissing each others' asses. From the interviews they give, you'd think they all sat down for tea together in between takes and discussed art.

The story does clear up any confusion about how much of the movie was based on Eminem's life.



Photo courtesy of 8milmovie.com

"We took things that happened in my life and twisted it a bit. We added some things and took out some things," Eminem said in the documentary.

Much of the film focuses on "rap battles" and the effects they have on their participants. In these battles, two contestants take the stage amidst a thumping rap beat and in a pre-determined time frame

each participant uses words as fists to exploit the weaknesses of an opponent.

The audience judges who won the "fight" by cheering the loudest for whoever they think had the best put-downs.

The "never before seen Eminem rap battles" is an original and interesting idea for the special features section, but poor audio makes it hard to decipher the rappers during their tirades.

Concocted by Curtis as a way of giving his extras something to do between takes, 134 extras signed up for the prospect of battling Eminem during a montage near the film's climax.

Though you don't see all of the extras audition, you do get to see a panel of judges narrow the field to 20 before coming to a unanimous decision on four "fighters", three males and one female.

Conspicuously absent from the special features is the video for the Oscar-winning song "Lose Yourself," from the film's soundtrack. For some reason the "Superman" video from Eminem's "The Eminem Show" album was substituted instead.

Also missing is a director's commentary, which has all but become a staple of the DVD revolution.

The film itself is worth a look. Love him or hate him, you can't deny the charisma and energy Eminem brings to the screen in his acting debut, even if the Rabbit character he's playing is modeled after himself.

## Weekend Calendar

Nyabinghi, Friday - 25 Suaves, Geography, The Fools Like You. Saturday - Motorpsychos.

Cedars, Friday - 5 Day 30. Saturday - Little Green Men, Nanosecond, Silverlace.

The Cellar, Friday - Northcoast. Saturday - Legacy.

Plaza Cafe, Tonight - Mystic WIP Hustler, Five Day 40. Saturday - Ash Blanket

Hammerjacks, Saturday - Dilligaf.

## Play highlights love

By ALICIA HOUSTON  
The Jambar

The tragicomedy "Stop Kiss," which debuted last weekend, plays out a love between two women and how such a relationship can have fatal consequences.

When Sara, played by senior Alecia Sarkis, moves to New York from St. Louis and meets Callie, played by junior Holly Massaro, the two instantly become close friends.

When their friendship turns into a romance, they are quickly reminded that everyone does not accept all types of relationships. Callie and Sara are attacked by an unidentified man for expressing their love with a kiss, which leaves Sara unconscious. As she recovers from the attack, Sara must decide whether to stay in New York with Callie or return home with her family.

A post-performance symposium is held each night of "Stop Kiss" to discuss the issues raised in the play.

"Every night we come and hear new perspectives of the play," Sarkis said. Junior Adam Thatcher, who played Sara's ex-boyfriend, Peter, said that he does not look at "Stop Kiss" simply as a "gay play."

"It's a love story that happens between two women," Thatcher said. "It's not just a play about gay people."

"It's not about forbidden love, it's just about love," added senior Stena J. Buck, who played the nurse.

Additional performances of "Stop Kiss," by Diana Son, will be Friday and Saturday at 8 p.m. and Sunday at 3 p.m. in Spotlight Arena Theater in Bliss Hall.

Call Alicia Houston at (330)-941-3758.