

You can go to uni without your pants, but don't go without your trousers
— Learn real slang from England in one student's story of studying abroad

THE JAMBAR

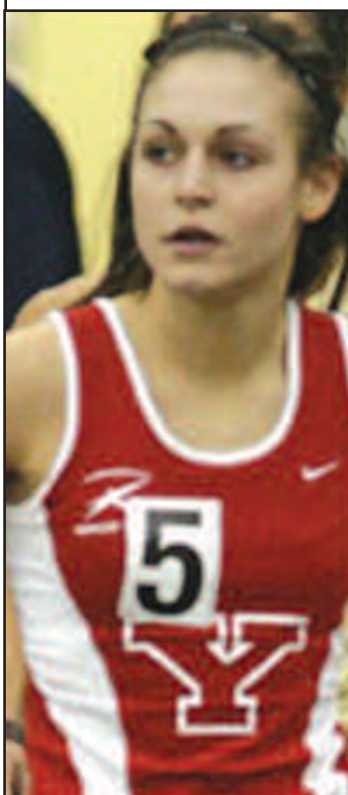
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VOLUME 90, ISSUE 29

THE SIDEBAR

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NATIONAL

\$600 QUICK FIX REFUND

Tax refund bill may offer quick fix, but recession needs longterm solution, expert says

Adrienne Sabo
Editor in Chief

Adam Reed is glad to get a refund check from the government. The Youngstown State University freshman doesn't have a job or a lot of money. "I'll probably put it in the bank," he said.

Reed is doing the opposite of what the government wants Americans to do.

According to the White House press release, the federal government plans to offer tax refunds ranging from \$300 to \$600 for individuals and from \$600 to \$1,200 for couples. These refunds are available to those with incomes between \$3,000 and \$75,000 for individuals and up to \$150,000 for couples.

The refund policy is in the process of being passed.

Tod Porter, professor and chair of the YSU economics department, said the basic idea behind the refund policy is that people will go out and spend the money to boost

ECONOMY page 3



President George W. Bush speaks during a news conference, as Treasury Secretary Henry Paulson, left, watches in the White House briefing room in Washington, D.C. Photo from MCT Campus.

FINANCIAL

IDENTITY THEFT 'I need your social security number'

Ashley Fox
Reporter

A Federal Trade Commission survey estimated that 8.3 million American consumers became victims of identity theft in 2005.

If your credit card statement is more than you remember charging, you could be part of the 3.7 percent of adults who fall victim to this growing financial crime.

Michael Kraus, information security officer at the cam-

pus Home Savings, said identity theft happens at any age.

All it takes is someone getting a hold of your information: your name, birthday or social security number.

Phone solicitors normally target the elderly by saying, "Hello, I'm from your bank. There's a discrepancy so I need your social security number."

Normally almost anyone will fall for this when they hear "from your bank," Kraus said.

"Banks do not ask for personal information," said Kraus, adding that if a "bank representative" does, get his or her name and place of employment. If the said representative doesn't comply, then he or she doesn't really work for a bank.

Missing credit card

For Vicki Hoskin, a junior at Youngstown State University, it pays to discover.

Hoskin's Discover credit card fell out of her wallet when she dropped it, and the

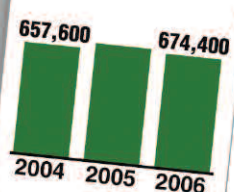
Identity theft

Tips from E*Trade on protecting your identity online:

- ▶ **Run anti-virus software** on your computer; keep software up to date
- ▶ **Do not open attachments** or click links in spam or unsolicited e-mails
- ▶ **Do not fill out forms** in an e-mail or pop-up, even if they appear to be from a company with which you do business
- ▶ **Be wary of e-mail** that asks for personal financial information, even if the sender appears familiar
- ▶ **Log off** when you are finished at financial Web sites that you have visited and close your browser

Personal Finance

The numbers
Identity theft complaints
to the FTC



© 2007 MCT
Source: U.S. Federal Trade Commission, E*Trade
Graphic: Pat Carr

company noticed. "Discover called me because there were unusual charges on my credit card," Hoskin said.

The thief had the card for four days, testing each transaction by charging small gas purchases, then finally making a \$1,000 purchase at Wal-Mart.

Hoskin did not have to pay the balance and was issued a new account number and card.

"I was amazed Discover caught that."

According to Kraus, if an

individual discovers that their identity has been stolen, that person should first contact the police and file a report.

Next, notify of the three major credit bureaus, Equifax, Experian or Trans Union.

Kraus said the bureau "will put warning flags on your credit report" so it won't count against you in the future.

IDENTITY THEFT page 3

ACADEMICS

Organization, not procrastination, can mean school success

Samantha Pyszer
Reporter

Youngstown State University sophomore Delores Leigh has a hard time staying organized. Leigh splits her time between her three-year-old daughter Jady, school and home upkeep.

"I don't consider myself organized at all; I think it's hard to make sure that you have time for everything and [make] sure that your priorities are met," said Leigh, a self-professed procrastinator.

There are some tricks of the trade that can help those who want to get organized. Two organizations on campus that help students organize their time are the Center for Student Progress and the Reading and Study Skills Center.

Jonelle Beatrice, CSP director and associate executive director of Student Life, suggests starting with

time management.

"Don't think it; ink it. Put it on paper. First put down what cannot be changed first, like class times. Then write down your work hours. Also, take every syllabus you have, and put down every due date that you will have," Beatrice said.

To help them organize their time, students can pick up time management sheets at the CSP.

"I personally prioritize and create a to-do list. Also, every time I have something to do, it goes on paper so there is always a visual reminder," Beatrice suggested.

Sophomore Sarah Monroe considers herself well organized.

"I have my own little planner in my purse. I write down all of my work hours, assignments and test days. I also designate a folder and



notebook for each class. Everything has its place; that's how I stay organized," Monroe said.

Monroe's advice is to find an employer that can work around your school schedule.

"I had to quit a job because they wouldn't work around my schedule, and school comes first,"

Monroe advised. "Also, buy a planner."

Keeping a routine is also one of the ways Monroe stays organized.

TIME page 3

Penguin Pre-Party is back

Thursday event to feature free food, cheap drinks, live music

Rachel Ciardi
Reporter

Free food, \$1.50 domestics, entertainment and prizes will be sure deals every other Thursday at Peaberry's Café, starting this week. Campus Recreation and Student Programming will sponsor the biweekly Penguin Pre-Parties, scheduled from 7 to 10 p.m.

The pre-parties began last semester when Youngstown State University administration wanted to create an evening program for students to attend before going out that evening. Programming interns developed the event.

"Our intent is to provide an entertainment-based event with drink specials, free food and prizes," said Kelsey Rupert, event chairperson.

Guests receive complimentary pizza, hot dogs, popcorn, pretzels and Chex Mix while Peaberry's stays open so students can purchase from the menu. Along with staying open late, an extended happy hour makes drink specials possible.

Freshman Miranda Berdine said the party is a great opportunity for new students to get involved and meet new people.

Purchasing an item from Peaberry's is one way to get entered in the raffle for prizes such as concert tickets for the House of Blues or a gift certificate from area businesses and restaurants. The other way is to fill out an evaluation.

"Students fill out evaluations about what they want to see," Rupert said.

Student feedback in the evaluations from fall semester resolved which bands and entertainment are scheduled for spring semester.

"I like to know that I have a role in picking the entertainment I get to see," Berdine said.

Red Wanting Blue will be the first band showcased.

"Musically speaking, we are a strong, honest dose of Americana," said Scott Terry, lead vocalist of the group.

Each week has a different lineup of artists and a new theme, including Rock-n-Rap, which shows different colors during diversity week, and Laugh and Lyrics, which features a Funny Farm comic and an acoustic artist.

"The music doesn't really appeal to me, but it could be a fun thing to do with friends on a Thursday night," said junior Alicia Smith.

The number of people attending the parties last semester ranged from 100 to 250. Rupert is looking forward to this year and would like to see an even larger turnout.

"We hope to further increase student involvement with the attendance of student organizations and groups," she said. "Penguin Pre-Party is a great way for struggling or established organizations to further gain membership or publicity through our promotional packages we have recently developed."

TO THE POINT

Centennial Emeritus Luncheon

More than 60 retired Youngstown State faculty members attended the Emeritus Faculty Luncheon on Monday. The event was held in the Chestnut Room. The luncheon was part of the YSU centennial celebration, bringing faculty from the last few decades together. President Sweet was among speakers. YSU faculty and staff who have retired within the last 10 years are eligible for Emeritus status with a recommendation by the president.

YSU receives Humanics award at National Meeting

Youngstown State University was issued the American Humanics Excellence in Internships Award at the American Humanics Management and Leadership Institute in Kansas City, Mo. YSU offers a certificate in humanics, a field that focuses on humanitarian and nonprofit careers, according to the Williamson College of Business Administration's Web site. YSU was recognized for the nearly 90 percent of American Humanics students completing internships in the past year. Students must complete 300 hours of internship hours with a non-profit organization among other requirements.

'Wednesdays' Web series

Tomorrow is the first session in the seven part "Wednesdays WebConference Series on Creating and Funding University Startups." Williamson Hall's Cafaro Suite will host the conference from 12:30 to 2 p.m. The series features some of the nation's leading experts from both universities and the VC/Angel Communities. The National Council of Entrepreneurial Tech Transfer is sponsoring the program. The remaining six sessions will be held Feb. 13, 20 and 27, and March 5, 12 and 19. Reservations are required, but there is no charge and free parking is available at the Wick parking deck.

Jewish, Islamic lecture series

The public is welcome to a discussion called "The Afterlife" at 7 p.m. Thursday in Kilcawley Center's Jones Room. The discussion will focus on the "Studying the Jewish and Islamic Traditions" lectures sponsored by the Center for Islamic Studies and the Judaic and Holocaust Studies Program. Mustansir Mir and Helene Sinnreich, respective directors of the programs, will lead the discussion. For more information, call (330) 941-1604.

Women's scholarship deadline

The deadline for the Youngstown State University Women's Club scholarship applications is 5 p.m. Feb. 15. Five scholarships, the YSU Women's Club Scholarship and the Martha Kryston Shuster Award will be awarded to one male and one female undergraduate. Applicants will also be considered for the American Association of University Women Scholarship. The AAUW recognized Dorothy Evans this year. This year the award will go to a non-traditional female student demonstrating need and academic success. Application forms are available at <http://www.yzu.edu/finaid/scholarships>.

YSU

WHAT'S IN THERE?

The Jambar takes you inside the building that haunts northeast campus

J. Breen Mitchell

Reporter

"It's in Youngstown, right?" Junior Renee Daniluk is one of many students at Youngstown State University who do not know what's inside Melnick Hall.

Located two doors down from the Wick-Pollock Inn on Wick Avenue, the campus building is a mystery to most students. Due to its remote location and lack of classrooms, students rarely walk past it.

"I don't think most students realize it's here," said Brandy Gerbasi, desk attendant at Melnick, and several students interviewed by The Jambar voiced similar opinions.

Junior Emanuel Tiliakos said that he knew nothing about Melnick, and said that he probably wouldn't go.

"Unless there are some girls there," he said.

When asked what she thought was inside Melnick, freshman Nicole Turner said, "Maybe a factory?" Other students thought it was an art museum, and another said it might be a factory.

The building is home to the Rose Melnick Medical Museum, which welcomes tours from the YSU nursing program as well as groups from other schools like Kent State University.

"It's a great way to view the changes in health care settings and how medical and nursing practice has evolved," said senior nursing student Jess Wilmoth.

Gerbasi and Kallay said that most days there are few, if any visitors, though.

"We did have a guy come in here once, taking photographs of everything, which you're not allowed to do. When we asked him to stop, he asked if we had anything that was 'not living' that he could look at."

The current exhibit, When the President is the Patient, looks at the medical care of United States Presidents through the years.

In the future, they are considering bringing in space medicine from NASA.

Aside from the museum, the building is also used for Faculty Meetings and storage.

Once the ITT Technical Institute building, Melnick was purchased by YSU in 1999 with a donation from Dr. John C. Melnick, who named the museum after his mother.

Additional reporting by Nick Young and Courtney DiGiorgi.



Student theories on what's in Melnick

"Maybe a factory?"
— Nicole Turner, freshman

Junior Emanuel Tiliakos said that he knew nothing about Melnick, and said that he probably wouldn't go. "Unless there are some girls there," he said.

The real answer

The building was once the ITT Technical Institute, but now houses the Rose Melnick Medical Museum.

Phi Kappa Tau looking for change

Amy Brown

Reporter

Changes are coming to the Youngstown State University chapter of the Phi Kappa Tau Gamma Pi fraternity.

Group members said these are changes they hope will bring increased interest in Greek life and help the chapter's brothers advance themselves to the fullest.

During a Friday press conference, chapter President Joe Iesue announced the fraternity will offer 70 to 100 percent of financial assistance for fraternal expenses to brothers who complete 90 to 100 percent of their fraternal duties.

"I think this is a very positive thing to help bring people into the Greek life," Iesue said. "Almost

every time I talk to people about joining, the first thing they say is that they cannot afford it. Now you can."

The organization's efforts include project Go Green, and a Web site to jumpstart it. Go Green is an effort to make fraternity brothers more aware of the environment and what is happening around them.

Along with hopes to host national speakers, Phi Kappa Tau is hoping to bring Depression Protection to the YSU campus. It's a program being established to inform the brothers on the signs and symptoms of depression. They plan to implement a pre-planned strategy so fraternity members can support fellow brothers who show signs of depression.

Another initiative underway for

Phi Kappa Tau is Educate Our Leaders. With it, the group is hoping to bring in community leaders and business people to inform the brothers of different business concepts and strategies.

Iesue and Vice President Robert Froth, with the help of the Intercollegiate Studies Institute and Com Start, said they are working together to create book clubs to increase educated, academic and civil debate among the brothers.

"We are the only fraternity on campus that has signed the pledge against rape, and I believe that says a lot of us and is a great step toward change," Iesue said.

Phi Kappa Tau is also offering the Poe Award, which is open to anyone who enjoys writing. The Poe Award and gift prizes will be granted.

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[the yo* magazine]



ECONOMY page 1

the economy. Porter said the government should look to "institute more financial discipline" in the future. He also said there are other options to boost the economy. Monetary policy would cut the interest rates to encourage banks to be more willing to lend money and to encourage individuals to seek out loans. This is also a short-term solution to the problem, Porter said. Freshman Christine Thomas has the same plans as Reed. "I'll probably just save it. I am surprised, but I think it's a good idea," she said. The refund checks are in response to a possible recession in

the American economy. "The basic idea is a downturn in the total output of the economy," Porter said. Those most affected by a recession would be those who are in a transition period, he said, such as students about to graduate. "It doesn't mean there won't be any jobs, [you] will have to search longer," Porter said. Another effect of a recession would be a decrease in state revenue, which funds public universities, he said. The last time the economy downturned was after Sept. 11, 2001, Porter said, with the most recent recession in the '80s. In 1983, Porter said, the unemploy-

ment rate was 9.6 percent. In December 2007, the rate was 5 percent. Porter said the current average is "not terrible" — in fact, it's about average. According to the Associated Press, the bill is expected to pass in the House as early as Tuesday and then move to the Senate. While both political parties have changes they would like to make changes to the bill to include unemployment benefits or higher food stamps. According to the article, President Bush has warned against any of the changes because it would derail the effort. *Additional reporting by Melissa Frederick.*

TIME page 1

"There is one important thing to keep in mind when organizing your time," Beatrice said. "It's difficult for some people to be organized. The best way to start there is to start small. For example, start a study log where you know what times you mostly study." A good rule of thumb when it comes to studying, Beatrice said,

is to spend two hours studying for every hour spent in class. Leigh said there are steps she can take to organize her disorganized life. "Don't procrastinate. Even if I do, make sure that you're not taking on too much. I'm planning on dropping a class because I feel like I'd be taking on too much," she said.

Leigh said better organization would help her to spend more time with her daughter and perform better in classes. "I believe that organization is the foundation for getting things accomplished," Beatrice advises. "Being organized will help you spend time on things that you want to do."

IDENTITY THEFT page 1

Saving money and identity

Another tip to help protect yourself, Kraus said, is to shred any type of mail with any of your personal information so "dumpster divers" who go through trash can't start

applying for credit cards and loans in your name. He also said to order credit reports to make sure no new accounts have been opened. If you find anything suspicious, file a report and call the bureaus. One quick tip for credit or debit cardholders is to write "photo ID required" in the card's signature

box on the back. This way, any person presenting the credit or debit card will also have to present a photo ID that matches the presenter's name and face. For more information on identity theft, go to <http://www.homesavings.com>.

take a look online

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The student voice of Youngstown State University since 1951
Current Issue: January 21, 2008

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→ Spring enrollment increase builds on strong fall numbers
→ To the Point

Opinion
→ Penguins ready for first conference match-up with Valparaiso Crusaders
→ Low light and cold weather cause castin fever for students.

Entertainment
→ Abstinence tells the tragedy of one life-changing lie
→ There Will Be (Academy Awards) for Blood

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2008-2009 Financial Aid Awareness Week

Stop by one of our tables for information on financial aid for the 2008-2009 academic year. The priority deadline to complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) on the Web and the YSU Institutional Aid Application is February 15, 2008.

The following is a list of places, dates and times when staff from the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships will be available to distribute forms and answer questions:

Monday, January 28, 2008	10 a.m. - 3 p.m.	*Kilcawley Center - 1 st floor across from bank
Tuesday, January 29, 2008	10 a.m. - 3 p.m.	*Kilcawley Center - 1 st floor across from bank
Wednesday, January 30, 2008	10 a.m. - 3 p.m.	*Kilcawley Center - 1 st floor across from bank
Thursday, January 31, 2008	10 a.m. - 3 p.m.	*Kilcawley Center - 1 st floor across from bank

AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY MONTH CELEBRATION
Youngstown State University

Proverb of the month: "If God breaks your leg, he will teach you how to limp" (The Dagbani of Ghana)

Saturday, February 2
Noon-6:00 p.m., Chestnut Room, Kilcawley Center
The African Marketplace
Join us as we begin the celebration of African American History Month with the African Marketplace. The Marketplace offers everyone the opportunity to view—and purchase—art objects, Afrocentric writings and a wide variety of goods and products that represent the creative genius of Africans and African Americans. Entertainment is provided by the dynamic and festive performances of the Harambee Youth Group and the Drum Circle of the Unity Building of Youngstown.

Thursday, February 7
7:00 p.m., The McDonough Museum of Art
Art Exhibition and Panel Discussion
by Featured Artists: Elizabeth Asche Douglas and Julius Lyles
Exhibition at the Bliss Hall Art Gallery, College of Fine and Performing Arts
Elizabeth Douglas is an artist, musician and educator with degrees in painting and design from Carnegie Mellon and the University of Pittsburgh. Her professional exhibition record covers five decades. She has won many Art Awards, including the Arts Award from the Guild Council of the Pittsburgh Center for the Arts. She also performs as a jazz and gospel vocalist.
Julius Lyles is a graduate of Kent State and Cleveland State universities, where he studied graphic design and photography. His colorful, complex work has been featured at several galleries in Cleveland, Pittsburgh, Washington D.C., New York, and Chicago. (Co-sponsored with the College of Fine and Performing Arts)

Wednesday, February 13
6:00 p.m., Chestnut Room, Kilcawley Center
Education Summit
This event will bring together stakeholders in the elementary school system in Youngstown, to recognize and learn from those whose performance, experience and success in producing exemplary models in the system are worth emulating. This event is a culmination of earlier effort by the Family Institute to identify positive trends in the Youngstown School system, begun last year by focusing on successful classroom practices. (Co-sponsored with the Family Empowerment Student Institute)

Thursday, February 14
7:00 p.m., Youngstown YWCA
Panel Discussion on African Development
Topic: Are Western Organizations and NGOs an Impediment to African Development?
A panel discussion will follow a lecture by Dr. Edward Elmendorf, an economist with the World Bank with extensive experience in the United Nations Development Program (UNDP), and World Health Organization Africa regional office. He has taught at a secondary school in Ghana, and currently spend his time with the World Bank and the United States UN Office (UNA USA). (Co-sponsored with Youngstown Chapter of the United Nations)

Saturday, February 16
7:30 p.m., The Chestnut Room, Kilcawley Center
Keynote Lecture by Dr. Julia Hare
Topic: The State of the Black Family
Nationally recognized authority on broad range of issues in the African American community, Dr. Hare is a founding member of the Black Think Tank in San Francisco. She will address the history of black upheaval, the destruction and devastation of the black family — and how to correct it, starting with Black Male/Female Relationships, including domestic violence, displaced rage and division — and how to correct it. She will talk about the children and the thoughts behind her books, *The Miseducation of the Black Child*, *Bringing the Black boy to Manhood*, and *How to Find and Keep a Black Man Working*, and address other relevant topics.

Saturday, February 23
7:00 p.m., Chestnut Room, Kilcawley Center
African and African-American Fashion Show
The runway comes alive with African and African-American contemporary fashions, African hair designs, and other special features. The African and Pan African Student organizations are involved in this event.

Monday, February 25
7:30 p.m., The Ohio Room, Kilcawley Center
Selected Black Faculty Research Showcase and Panel Discussion
African American faculty at YSU will put their publications on display in the Maag Library Gallery, and participate in a panel discussion on their current and future research projects. Participants include Dr. Samuel Adu-Poku, Art Education, Dr. Cryshanna Jackson, Political Science, and Dr. Tom Odeh, Physics and Astronomy, among others.

Thursday, February 28
7:00 p.m., Chestnut Room, Kilcawley Center
Panel Discussion: Race Relations in Youngstown
Race relations in the Youngstown area have been marked by the painful struggle for economic resources, political gains, and human dignity. But that struggle goes beyond familiar stereotypes and simplistic solutions. The panel for this important discussion includes longtime Youngstown residents as well as those who have been observers of different groups. The panel includes Youngstown Clerk of Courts Sarah Brown-Clark; Dr. William Jenkins, Professor Emeritus of YSU; Rev. Kenneth Simon, Pastor of New Bethel Baptist Church; Ka Shauval Davis, student; Rev. Gina Thornton and Abby Ron Miller, and will be moderated by Brother K, former host of "Let's Talk about It" on WGBT Radio and a student of race relations.

Friday, February 29
7:30 p.m., Gallery, Kilcawley Center
Poetry Competition
Participants at the poetry competition covering a range of topics that include African and African American lives and experiences, or those in celebration of Youngstown State University's centennial. Compositions must be original, and must not have been presented or published previously. The three best poetry submissions will receive prizes and will be judged on style, content and delivery by a panel of experts. The deadline for submissions is February 23rd. Open to the Public.

University Centennial-Related Events
Dr. Claud Anderson, author and expert on Black empowerment through Povernomics
Thursday, April 10
7:00 p.m.
Dr. Anderson will offer practical suggestions and tools to participants interested in starting new businesses or expanding existing ones. (Co-sponsored by the NU Valley Black Chamber of Commerce)

Future Featured Skeggs Lecturer
Dr. Cornel West
Professor of Religion and African American Studies at Princeton University
Monday, October 6
7:30 p.m., Stambaugh Auditorium
Dr. Cornel West is America's most preeminent and prolific public intellectual. He is a much sought-after speaker in universities across the country, and addresses a wide variety of topics across disciplines to different audiences. He is the recipient of more than 20 honorary degrees and a National Book Award. His many books include *Prophesy Deliverance: An Afro-American Revolutionary Christianity*, *Race Matters*, and *Democracy Matters*. Dr. West is a longtime member of the Democratic Socialists of America.

For further information, call the Africana Studies Program at 330-941-3097

Event parking is available at the Lincoln Deck and lot M24, next to McDonald's on Fifth Avenue.

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YSU student learns new lingo and perspective in Winchester, England

Jeanette DiRubba
Reporter

After studying abroad in Winchester, England last semester, senior Carly DeNicholas said the only part of Youngstown she missed was the garlic.

"I'm Italian, and I really missed garlic! Winchester doesn't know how to use it. The food doesn't use many spices, and it's very bland," DeNicholas said.

Although she didn't care much for the cuisine, DeNicholas said she had the experience of a lifetime. She described Winchester as "the safest, hilliest place I have ever visited," and said she encountered many things British, from incomprehensible slang to views right out of a Harry Potter movie.

"I really made that place my home. I miss all the friends I made there, and I definitely have the 'travel-bug' because I want to keep traveling."

Life in Winchester

DeNicholas spent most of her free time at Winchester's student union, and in The Vault, where most of the weekly student events take place.

"The Vault was an amazing place to frequent. It's a club-bar venue that can fit up to 900 people," she said.

DeNicholas said there was entertainment available every day, advertised in a news and entertainment schedule called "What's On Winchester" that was delivered to their dorms twice a month.

One of her memorable entertainment experiences occurred at one of the theme parties that The Vault hosted weekly.

"I attended the crazy Headphone Disco where everyone on the dance floor was supplied a set of headphones with two channels and two DJs to choose from. It was definitely entertaining to momentarily remove the headphones to hear everyone else singing to themselves, grooving to inaudible beats," she said.

DeNicholas found that tradition is a major part of Winchester, symbolized by the cathedral in the center of the city.

"If a city exists in England," DeNicholas said, "it's because of a cathedral. The heart of the city has been Winchester Cathedral, and it was truly a religious experience to sit in the candlelit presbytery and witness the thousand-year-old tradition of 'Evensong' being sung by the cathedral choir," she said.

While sight-seeing in Salisbury, DeNicholas said the view was just like a scene out of a Harry Potter movie.

"I saw these little school kids running down a cobblestone path. They had little capes with their school emblem on them and bow ties," she said.

While the British accent was easy enough to understand, the unfamiliar lingo proved more difficult. DeNicholas had to learn what people meant when they talked about quid, gammon and fizzes, for starters.

"It took me about two weeks to really get what people were saying," DeNicholas said. "You just have to stop the people when they're talking and say, 'Wait a second! I have no idea what you're saying!' I really did get annoyed when people kept saying 'cheers' instead of our American 'thank you.' That word was definitely over used," she said.

DeNicholas said any students thinking about studying abroad should most definitely consider the opportunity.

"Do it because everything is new, and it's good to gain a new perspective," she said, calling the travel a life experience.

"I decided to study abroad for a new approach to higher learning and to discover a new culture," she said.

Affordable abroad

DeNicholas became interested in studying abroad after visiting a friend in Florence, Italy who was studying there as an exchange student. When she got home, DeNicholas began searching the Youngstown State University Web site and found links for the Center for International Studies Program.

After much research and help from CISP Director Jef Davis and International Program Coordinator Annette Al-Hayek, DeNicholas decided on the Winchester program because of its low tuition and classes offered in her major. DeNicholas said that her semester in England was affordable, and that other students should consider studying abroad, despite the notion that the cost of traveling and living overseas is unattainable.

"This should not stop anyone from pursuing to study abroad!" DeNicholas said, since there are varying options and costs when it comes to going overseas.

For her, the University of Winchester was very affordable.

"In England, higher education is a priority, so college tuition prices are government regulated and made to be low. I opted for catered halls of residence, which means that once I arrived, my housing and meals were already paid for," she said.

While DeNicholas never lived in a dorm before, she was "pleasantly surprised by the spacious single person room and nice meals."



LIKE KILCAWLEY, ONLY BIGGER — Senior Carly DeNicholas, left, made friends with Abbey, also referred to as "Moo," at the University of Winchester in England. The students are pictured in front of the student union at their "uni" (short for university). Moo is wearing DeNicholas' YSU hoodie, or "jumper" as it is known in England. Contributed photo.



During her time in Winchester, DeNicholas kept a log of some of the slang she learned.

English Word	American Word	English Word	American Word
pants	underwear	timetable	class schedule
trousers	pants	module	class
chin chin!	cheers!	tutor	teacher
cheers	thank you	uni	university
trainers	sneakers	fresher	freshman
jumper	hoodie	hall	dorm
proper	really	pavement	sidewalk
well	totally	motorway	highway
fit	attractive	boot	trunk (of a car)
pissed/wankered	drunk	till	cash register
quid	bucks	tick	check mark
mental	crazy	queue	line/to get into line
nutter	crazy person	loads	a lot
fag	cigarette	you all right?	what's up?
backy	tobacco	holiday	vacation
canteen	cafeteria	toilet/bog	bathroom
sweets	candy	bin	trash can
jacket potato	baked potato	rubbish	garbage
chips	fries	film	movie
crisps	chips	cinema	movie theatre
salad	lettuce	knackered	tired
gammon	ham	safe/sound	cool
prawns	shrimp	dodgy	sketchy
fizzy	soda	taking a piss out of...	making fun of...
biscuit	cookie	have a sleep	take a nap
university	college	to be fair...	honestly...
college	high school	at the end of the day...	seriously...

Scripted shows step down...reality TV to the rescue

Jeanette DiRubba
Reporter

Junior Liana Daubner is going through withdrawal.

Thursday nights are the hardest for her, when around 9 p.m. she experiences an empty sadness while sitting on her couch in front of her TV.

"I cry myself to sleep every night, and I wanna be heavily sedated until it comes back on," Daubner said.

She was expressing her disdain for the Hollywood writers strike, the cause for the lapse in her weekly dose of her favorite show, "The Office."

As of Nov. 5, the Writers' Guild of America has been on strike for being unable to successfully negotiate with the Alliance of Motion Picture and Television Producers.

The last strike of its kind occurred in 1988, lasted 21 weeks and six days, and cost an estimated \$500 million, according to the New York Times article "Writers say strike to start Monday."

The November strike is in its eleventh week and costing, so far, an estimated \$1 billion.

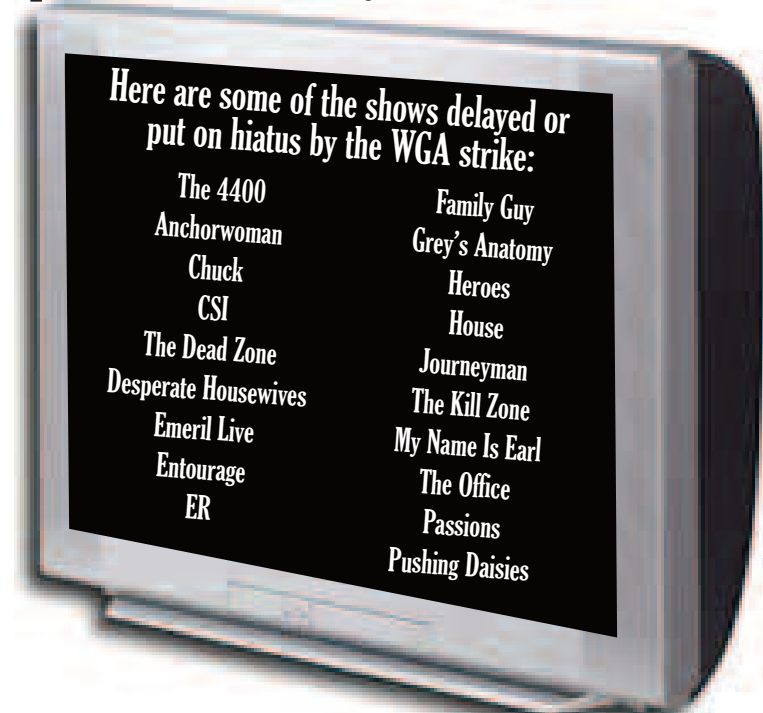
Because of this debate over payment contracts that TV and film writers receive, reality TV is now infiltrating the networks.

According to MSNBC, reality shows are not written under a WGA contract. Because of this, shows like "American Idol" are not affected.

So what does this all mean for Youngstown State University students?

Junior Brittany Thomas said she was agitated about the strike.

"I'm very upset with the way it's being handled because a lot of people watched the shows that are being cancelled," she said. "It just gives these networks a bad rep if they don't



fix this situation soon. Plus it screws up my schedule and is making me very frustrated."

Senior Mark Komlanc said, "I'm concerned that 'Prison Break' only has five new episodes."

"What happened to 'Grey's Anatomy'?" senior Jessica Stephenson asked. "I thought it was cancelled, but have there been new episodes?"

Most students said they haven't been affected yet but are starting to get sick of reality shows.

Senior Malorie Toot said she doesn't watch much TV except for the Disney Channel, which hasn't been affected by the WGA.

"Most of my shows are back," said senior Ben Kalaman. "Reality TV blows, though." Sophomore Jennifer Tomerlin agrees with Kalaman's stance on reality shows.

"I don't watch reality TV because I don't believe it's even reality," Tomerlin said.

Freshman Stephen Mulholland also negatively views reality shows.

"Reality TV is a joke. Even though they say it's reality, it's still highly scripted. None of my shows have been affected by this writers strike, though," Mulholland said.

Junior Rob Johnson, however, said he believes the writers have a purpose for going on strike even though he hates that reality shows are dominating networks.

"I think the writers need to step up for themselves. They are the ones getting screwed. We might view this situation negatively and think the writers are greedy because it's Hollywood, and the writers have outrageous salaries, but it's worth it for them to fight for," Johnson said.

upcoming events

Tonight	Wednesday	Thursday
Guitar Hero 8 p.m. The Cellar	Music at Noon 12:15 p.m. The Butler Institute of American Art	Penguin Pre-Party 7 p.m. Peaberry's
Country Night at the Wedge 8 p.m. The Wedge	College I.D. Night at the Wedge 9 p.m. The Wedge	Weekly Cornhole Tournaments, 8 p.m.-2 a.m. The Wedge
		Open Mic Night 9p.m. University Pizzeria and Italian

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OUR SIDE

\$600 may be the cost of bread and circuses

RELATED STORY

ECONOMY page 1

What student would turn down \$600?

Everyone can appreciate a little extra weight in their wallets.

In order to combat a declining economy and silence the fears of a recession, the U.S. government has a plan that could potentially line the pockets of taxpayers.

The idea is a quick fix, and it'll make a lot of people happy.

And if the government wants to stimulate the economy with a nice check for us to spend, then why not?

Without any great knowledge of economics, we could interpret the tax refund as a pacifying policy. But it's hard to question 600 or more bucks in our pockets.

They say that the Romans gave the common people cheap food and entertainment to keep them happy even while greater problems were ignored. Bread and circuses. Our base desires are met, but the economy might still be in trouble.

Still, we can't give the \$600 back. Should we want to?

We are already set in our money spending — or saving — ways. Those who have a tendency to burn a whole in their pockets will always want the \$600.

And those who enjoy saving their money, investing it and watching it grow, will do that.

Some of us can't wait to get to the nearest store and buy something. A new suit for the job hunt or a well-researched computer purchase to help for those term papers.

If the government gets its desired results, then enough of the money will be spent to help boost the economy back to where it was.

However, the effects could be the opposite.

The fiscally conservative among us will save and possibly invest the money. A wise decision, but not the intended purpose of the refund.

While as consumers we welcome the extra money, this isn't really going to teach any of us the best habits of money management.

Our attitude toward money, and how the government spends it, might need to change.

A recession seems like a good time to reevaluate.

POLICIES

The Jambar editorials reflect the opinions of The Jambar's editorial staff, which includes the Editor in Chief, News Editor, Managing Editor and Copy Editor.

The Jambar encourages letters to the editor. E-mail submissions are welcome at thejambar@gmail.com. All letters must be typed and must not exceed 400 words.

Submissions must include name and telephone number for verification, and letters are subject to editing for spelling, grammar and clarity. For Tuesday's edition, letters are accepted until noon on the previous Friday. For Thursday's edition, letters are accepted until noon Tuesday.

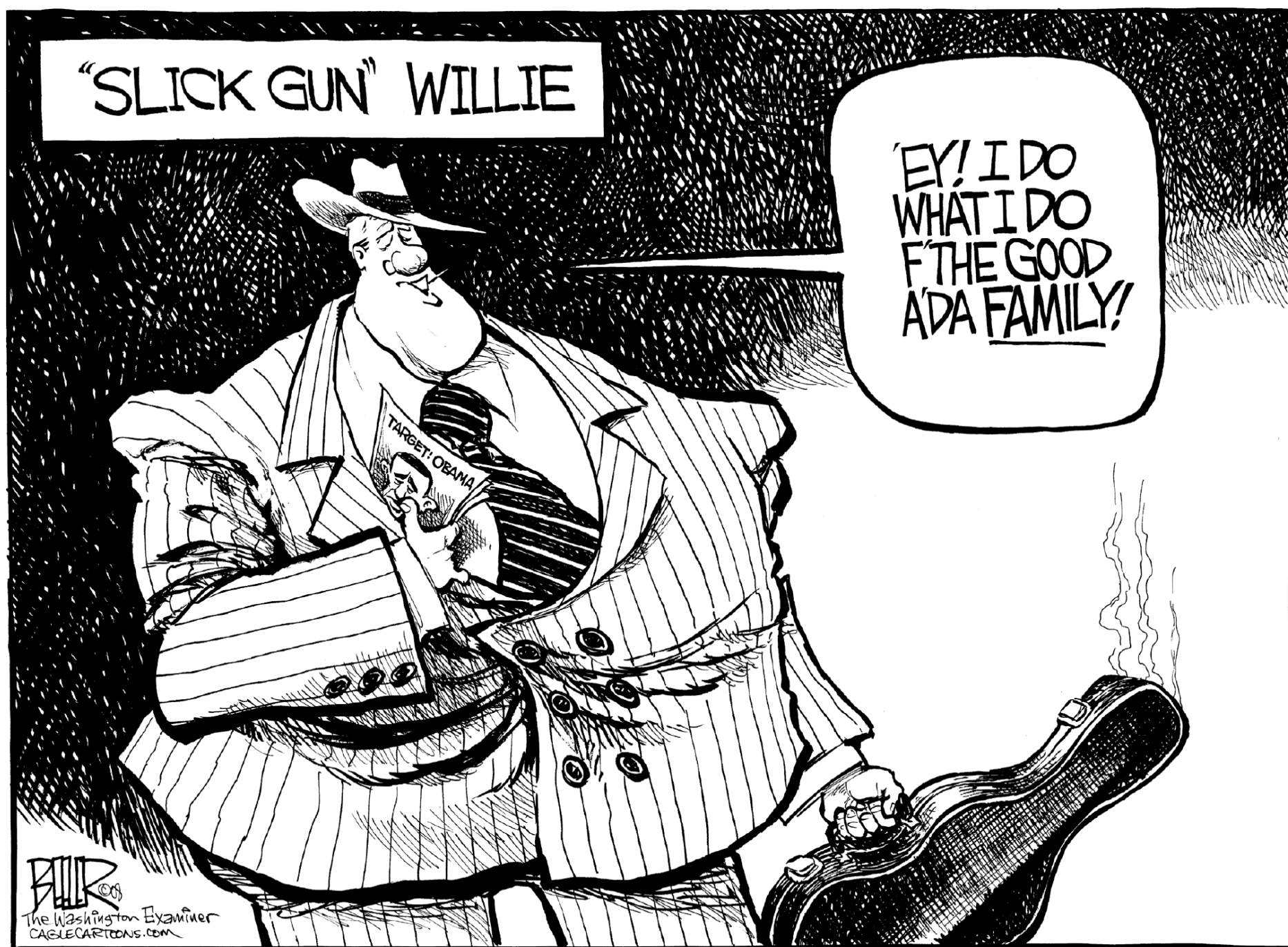
The Jambar will not print letters that libel others or threaten harm. The Editor in Chief reserves the right to reject letters that do not follow policy.

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

ABOUT THE JAMBAR

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COMMENTARY

Put the soup on: A guide to recession retrenchment

Karen Heller

The Philadelphia Inquirer (MCT)

How, precisely, to dress for a recession?

Modestly, resourcefully, with an eye toward vintage. Moth-eaten sweaters will stage a comeback. Holes are huge.

Worn shoes, too. Hand-me-downs, share-arounds, what-was-I-thinking and if-it-still-fits-wear-it will out-Vogue Vogue.

The old-money look will be the epitome of style. Without, understandably, the money part.

Slippers are a sound purchase, unlike stocks, as many Americans won't be traveling anywhere with their farcical dollars. We will be spending much, much more time at home, with the heat turned way, way down.

Contrary to conventional hem-line economics, short skirts — normally a sign of rising markets — will resurface in the spring. This is because old skirts have

remained the same length while we, perhaps, have gained more avoirdupois in the intervening years.

Correspondingly for men: behold-the-flood pants, useful in inclement weather.

Overpriced, oversized handbags will be rendered the sartorial equivalent of the dodo, a dead joke, akin to paying too much with a subprime mortgage. If India's Tata Motors can turn out a \$3,000 car, then women can do without four-figure handbags that are enriching somebody but certainly not them.

In? Reusable shopping bags.

What to eat for the recession? Soup. Soup is always good.

Also, apples, a historical crowd-pleaser from the Great Depression. For some reason, broccoli. Water, drunk from a glass, will be the height of elegance while mindful of the environment. Bottled water is so 2007. Four-dollar coffee, too.

Four dollars is what we'll spend on soup. Made with bro-

coli. Purchased with reusable shopping bags.

Know what else is so 2007? Discretionary income.

How best to travel? By foot. Bike, too. This is healthy for the body and planet, to say nothing of cash flow. As we shrink, our savings will grow, along with the lengths of our old skirts and pants, a win-win all around.

Rediscover the exoticism of regional rail. Compete with friends and family to play Skip the Pump, seeing how long you can go between gas-station visits.

Know how wretched air travel has become? Give it up! Listen to others commiserate about late flights, missed connections, lost luggage and mystifying comestibles while being freed from such anxiety, disappointment and lost hours crammed inside such joyless, germ-infested vessels.

This is virtuous in all regards. Every dollar saved on oil is another one not directed toward Saudi Arabia, which is so busy buying

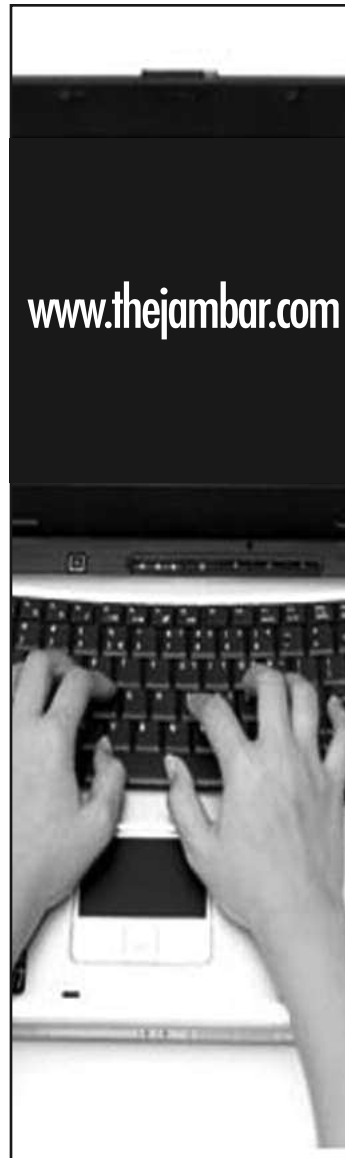
our banks, businesses and precision-guided bomb kits while repressing its women back to the 12th century.

How to entertain ourselves recession-style? Bundling, snuggling while playing How Low Can It Go? with the gas bill. (Alas, not much.) Reacquaint yourself with dear friends, loved ones and adolescents who share DNA and a residence but limited information and affection.

Other possible parlor games for the new economy: Let's Pay Cash!, Don't Check the Investments (Till the Mess Is Over), and, for those given to delusion, Recession? What Recession? It's Just a Little Ole Correction.

See? There are so many creative ways of adjusting to the cumulative effects of an oil addiction, costly war, stalled economy, trade imbalance, mortgage and banking crisis, and overdependence on countries with horrible human-rights records.

Fun! Let us eat soup.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor,

Are you a registered democrat who votes Libertarian Party candidates whenever they present themselves?

Consider a vote for democrat John Edwards in the Ohio primary March 4.

Democrat John Edwards is the only candidate of his party whose career has been spent defending individual liberty and the powers of individual conscience under law. John Edwards is the only candidate who understands the corporatist megaliths and media-massaged mass opinion that drive the real rulership in the United States.

Consider the so-called frivolous medical malpractice lawsuit crisis. The American Medical Association latched onto a price dispute between some physicians and some medical mal-insurance vendors, and through a relentless propaganda campaign, transformed it into a bogus crisis that threatened the vitality of the nation. The AMA's answer was, and still is, to strip 300 million Americans of their full powers of citizenship by denying them the right to seek full compensa-

tion for injuries done them by medical negligence. I have never heard of a popularly elected government that so willingly conspires with an extremist medical lobby to render its citizens poorer, sicker, less secure, and now, less free. Can Ohio's ACLU be drawn from its manger-and-menorah gig to examine the AMA's unchecked grab for influence at the public's expense?

Yes, libertarian purists will object that John Edwards favors universal health care. Who doesn't favor universal health? Getting health care for sick people is always a good thing to do. What John Edwards knows is the solution to too much government, as Medicare is, is enough government to do the job right, as universal health will be.

Only democrat John Edwards has the qualifications and character to deal with the corporatist assault on our dwindling liberties, and restore government to its proper place.

Please vote for democrat John Edwards on March 4.

Jack Labusch
Support Services

YOUR SIDE

THE JAMBAR ASKS "What do you think of the tax refund?"



"\$600? Nice. I'll take \$600!"

Brandice Thomas, sophomore



"Getting a \$600 rebate sounds good to me."

Toby Ellis, sophomore



"It won't help the economy at all, because most people will use the \$600 for paying their bills, or they will just save it."

David Shook, senior

"It's a good thing, it would help me out a little bit. The interest rate for loans is so high, the government should give us a bigger refund like this."

Phil Smida, sophomore



BASKETBALL COMMENTARY

Horizon League hoops: shedding the 'mid-major' label with quality, depth

Aaron Blatch

Sports Reporter

A year after putting two teams in the NCAA Tournament, the Horizon League is again thrusting itself into the national spotlight with solid play throughout the conference.

The Horizon League features the 14th-ranked team in the country in Butler (18-2), an emerging power in conference-leading Cleveland State (14-6), an established tournament contender in first-year league member Valparaiso (14-6) and seven teams that currently have winning or .500 overall records.

According to RealTimeRPI.com, a Web site that ranks college basketball teams and conferences, the Horizon League ranks as the tenth strongest of Division One's 32 conferences, ahead of the better known Conference USA and Mid-American Conference.

It is not a surprise that Butler has found a place in the Top 25 after last season's run to the Sweet 16, but what has really strengthened the league is the turnaround of Cleveland State and the Horizon's depth top to bottom.

Coming off of a last-place league finish, the Vikings now sit in first place after back-to-back wins over Butler and Valparaiso. The quick emergence of the Cleveland State program should be a confidence boost to programs like Youngstown State. The Vikings have used smart recruiting and an energetic coach to build a team that should compete for league titles in the next few years.

Even Butler and Cleveland State have not been able to roll through the league schedule. Butler is undefeated in its non-conference schedule, beating power conference opponents Ohio State, Virginia Tech and Texas Tech, but has lost league games to Cleveland State and Wright State. Cleveland State has a quality win over Florida State this season but recently lost to a solid Green Bay team (11-8, 5-4 in-conference).



RISING TO THE TOP — Junior Jack Liles moves into position and looks to fly to the hoop for a dunk against the Butler Bulldogs. With the amount of talent in this year's Horizon League, mid-major teams like Butler and YSU are proving that the small schools can go head to head with the big guns. Photo courtesy of Ron Stevens.

YSU assistant coach Brian DePaoli and Valparaiso associate head coach Bryce Drew recently complimented the depth and competitiveness that has made the Horizon League one of the strongest mid-major conferences in the country, each using the "on any given night any team can beat any other" cliché. This time, it actually seems to be true.

This deep into the season the

question is not whether the Horizon is for real; it is why can a mid-major league compete so consistently with major programs? There is more than one answer, but this trend of parity in college basketball is likely here to stay.

The number one reason is that there are more good basketball players than ever before. Basketball is the easiest sport for kids to practice and one of the few that you can

improve your skills in without help from others. A young Peyton Manning couldn't throw the football to himself, and Barry Bonds couldn't simulate 90 mile an hour fastballs alone in his backyard (or for that matter receive shipments of HGH), but LeBron James could work on his game with nothing but a ball and a basket.

The simplicity of the game makes it easy to practice, especially

for those in urban areas that may not have money to buy equipment necessary for other sports. This has led to a surplus of high school graduates with the skills to play for major programs but not enough scholarships to give them. Not every high school senior can sign with Duke or UCLA. So some, like Butler's Matt Howard, go on to become immediate stars on strong mid-major teams.

Another reason for mid-major success is that NBA early entrees are nearly nonexistent. When YSU's Quin Humphrey finished a junior year during which he led the Horizon League in scoring and rebounding, there was no question he was coming back to school. He returned as a senior and led the Penguins to their best season in years. If he would have led the SEC in those categories, the lure of agents and NBA millions would have forced him to make a tougher decision.

Anyone who has watched the NCAA tournament knows that to win you almost always must have familiarity with a system and good guard play. Since players don't leave the Horizon and other mid-major conferences early, these smaller schools are usually senior oriented. And while it is very difficult to recruit a great 6-11 big man to a mid-major, there are 6-1 kids all over the country who can handle the ball, knock down 3's and run a team. Many of those players fall through the cracks of power conference schools, end up spending four years learning how to play at a mid-major and eventually cause trouble for a more highly touted, but freshman-oriented team in March.

This parity throughout the college game is why the tournament is the most enjoyable playoff system in sports. The recent tournament runs of Kent State, George Mason and Butler have proven that mid-major conferences can compete with the best in college basketball, and this year the Horizon League is leading the way.

BASKETBALL Penguin basketball teams stumble over weekend

Vikings outshoot Lady Penguins in second half comeback

Three players reached double figures but the Youngstown State women's basketball team shot just 35.5 percent in the second half and dropped a disappointing 77-64 loss to Cleveland State on Saturday afternoon at the Wolstein Center.

The Lady Penguins owned a 38-37 halftime advantage and scored eight of the first 11 points of the second half to take a 46-40 lead against the Vikings.

Following a timeout by Cleveland State, the game began to gradually slip out of the Lady Penguins' hands.

The Vikings put together runs of 17-4 and 15-5 to slam the door shut on the Lady Penguins and their bid to claim second place in the Horizon League standings.

Penguins fall short in Green Bay despite valiant effort

A solid first-half effort and a 16-of-17 performance from the free-throw line was almost enough, but the Youngstown State men's basketball team suffered a 66-58 defeat to Green Bay at the Resch Center on Saturday afternoon.

The Penguins shot 38 percent from the field and a season best 94.1 percent from the charity stripe. Freshman Vytas Sulskis contributed a game-high 19 points, 13 of which came in the first half.

Senior Byron Davis scored 16, while junior Jack Liles came off the bench for the first time this season to score 12.

Despite the Penguins' sharpshooting early on, the Phoenix eventually buckled down and stifled the Penguin offense.

After Davis nailed a 3-point shot to trim Green Bay's lead to 52-51, the Phoenix defense became an impenetrable wall holding the Penguin offense scoreless for the next five minutes of play.

Green Bay hit all eight of its free throws in the final minutes to seal the win. The Penguins' record dropped to 7-13 and 3-7 in the league with the loss.

SWIMMING AND DIVING



MAKING WAVES — Junior swimmer Olivia Arnold rips through the water the way she has been ripping through the competition this season winning two events on Saturday. Photo courtesy of Sports Information.

Penguins post record numbers in final home meet against Akron

Andrew Berry

Sports Editor

While the Youngstown State University swimming and diving team fell short in its final home meet of the season, the Penguins were still able to put together a stellar performance.

The Akron Zips stole the contest by the final of 170-119, but it was junior swimmer Olivia Arnold who stole the spotlight for the Penguins.

Arnold broke her own school record in the 1,000-yard freestyle posting a second-place time of 10:38.91 and besting her old mark by four seconds.

Arnold also captured first place in the 200 MI with a time of

2:16.89, and first in the 500 free with a time of 5:16.09.

Joining Arnold's record-setting ways was junior Natasha Bray who set a personal-best of 25:43.86 in the 1,000 free and now ranks second in school history.

Freshman Alana Kane also swam her way into the record books against the Zips.

Kane's efforts Saturday earned her personal-best of 25:71 in the 50 free and a mark of 2:00.83 in the 200 free. Kane's 50 free time moved her into YSU's eighth slot all time and her 200 free time landed her 10th in school history.

Despite the loss to the Zips, the Penguins posted 19 season-best times and nine personal-best marks.

TRACK AND FIELD

Young talent makes impact for Penguin track and field teams

Keith Langford

Reporter

The Youngstown State University track and field teams are striving to win the conference title after both teams finished second place in the Horizon League play a season ago.

While both teams are off to impressive starts to the already underway indoor season, the Penguins have been reaping the benefits of several individual performances that already have fans turning heads.

The team didn't have to wait long for its young core of athletes to break onto the scene. By the conclusion of the squad's first meet, the Penguins had already discovered they had a real gem in freshman sprinter Breanne Romeo.

Romeo laced up for her first collegiate event and ran straight into the Penguins record books at the Golden Flash Gala on Dec. 8.

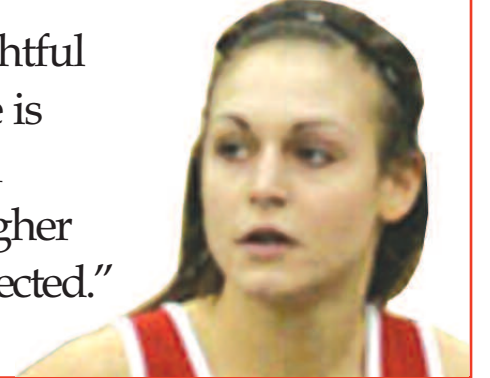
The Boardman native scorched the 400m with a time of 56.06, the second fastest 400m time in YSU history.

Romeo capped off the evening with a fifth place finish in the 200m with a time of 25.54, another landmark achievement for the YSU career record book. Romeo's strong showing her first time out landed her Horizon League female athlete-of-the-week accolades.



Track and field head coach Brian Gorby on freshman sprinter Breanne Romeo

"It's been a delightful surprise, and she is performing at an extraordinary higher level than we expected."



Head coach Brian Gorby said of Romeo's quick adjustment to the collegiate level is "a delightful surprise, and she is performing at an extraordinarily higher level than we expected."

As the season has progressed, Gorby has been met with more delightful surprises as the youthful Penguins continue to post big numbers and collect more victories.

Junior middle distance runner Harold Jones' 800m win stole the spotlight at the Akron Quad Jan. 11 meet. Jones led the entire length of the event and crossed the finish line nearly two seconds ahead of the pack.

Following the Penguins' strong outing in Akron, the team once again came up big at the Jan. 18 meet at Kent State where the men's and women's squads both earned second place finishes overall.

Sophomore Alisha Anthony provided a spark with a double win in the triple jump and the long jump at Kent State.

Freshman shot putter John Pallini said, "I think we have a good chance to accomplish good things."

Sophomore weight thrower Alexis Hall shared the same optimism as Pallini. Hall believes the make up of this year's squads will give the Penguins the edge over the rest of the Horizon League.

"We have a lot of young kids and I think we will do well at conference," Hall said.

Gorby believes the next couple of weeks and months could be special for his track and field team.

The track and field coach said that with another year of experience and leadership coming from the juniors and seniors on the team, the Penguins stand an excellent chance of winning the conference title in 2008.

"We have a complete team and have depth at all positions," Gorby said.

Additional reporting by Andrew Berry.

UPCOMING EVENT

Akron Invitational
Akron - Friday, 5 p.m. and Saturday, 3 p.m.