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the
Jambar
 Youngstown State University



YSU theater
 to present
 'An Enemy
 of the People'

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YSU's retention ranks 5 percent above average

■ Academic and financial issues contribute to student withdrawal.

ANGELA GIANOGGIO
 CONTRIBUTING WRITER

YSU had a 68 percent first-year student retention rate for the 1995-96 academic year, according to the Ohio Inter-University Council's Annual report. Although that is 5 percent above the national average for open admission universities, what happened to the other 32 percent of students who did not return to YSU after their first year?

Under the direction of Dr. Qi Jiang, sociology, a YSU class is conducting a study to determine exactly why almost one-third of students opt not to return to this university after one year.

According to the study proposal, many universities in the United States have reported a decrease in enrollment and an increase in freshmen dropout rates.

"The purpose of the study is to examine various aspects of the university community, which potentially affect its successful enrollment and retention," Jiang said in the study report.

A survey will determine why students transfer or drop out of

school, why they choose YSU as their university, what students consider to be the pros and cons of YSU and if they are receiving the education they expected. Current YSU students, alumni, dropouts and high school seniors will be given the eight-page questionnaire.

Dr. Jan Elias, assistant provost said, "We would always like to retain more students than we do, but not everyone who comes [to YSU] intends to complete a degree." The application for enrollment recently added a section asking students their reason for attending the university.

The study began at the beginning of the fall quarter. The first results of the survey are expected to be completed within the next three weeks, however the overall results will not be completed until December.

Dr. William Binning, chair, political science said, "Enrollment is a problem and one way to address enrollment is to retain more students."

"The students that are dropping out might not represent the whole

population," he said. "Student who are working full time and going to school are most at risk [for dropping out]."

Dr. Cynthia Anderson, vice-president for Student Affairs, said 90 percent of YSU students work at least on a part time basis.

"The number one reason a student withdraws from school is a change in work schedule," she said.

Academic, financial and family issues contribute to a student's withdrawal, Anderson said.

Dr. Jane Reid, marketing director of New Student Relations, said there is also a decrease in school-age children.

"People, in the early 1980s, were not having babies," she said. "Graduating classes are getting smaller."

Reid said another factor is competition from other colleges. It used to be that colleges did not venture out of their area in search of potential students. Now, that is not the case, she said. Colleges are

Retention
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Pub karaoke



CHAD HOLDEN, THE JAMBAR

SONGSTRESS: Jameka Dobbs sings "Billy Jean" from Micheal Jackson's *Thriller*. Students took a break from class for karaoke with DKKaraoke in the Kilcawley Pub Thursday.

Martian meteorite to crash at YSU

■ Ward Beecher Planetarium will feature the show "Destination: Mars!"

JOE LANDSBERGER
 NEWS EDITOR

The possibility of life on Mars has teased imaginations since the discovery of our astral neighbor. From War of the Worlds to Mars Attacks, the notion of laser-toting cephalopods and many tentacled, celluloid space creatures has surrounded the "red planet" in wonder and speculation.

The debate concerning life on Mars, and some other celestial issues, will be discussed at YSU Friday as the Ward Beecher

Planetarium kicks off its show "Destination: Mars!" with the presentation of a Martian meteorite.

"This is as big as when Springsteen came to Youngstown," said Dr. Ray Beiersdorfer, professor of geology.

The show's opening will follow a presentation by Dr. Marilyn Lindstrom, head of the Meteorite Processing lab at the Johnson Space Center. She will discuss the meteorites, how scientists determined they were from Mars and whether they contain evidence that life once existed there. She will display a small Martian meteorite

during her presentation.

Beiersdorfer said the debate concerning life on Mars started when scientists discovered what look like fossilized bacteria inside carbonate nodules from the 3.6 billion year-old meteorite ALH84001.

The meteorite coming to YSU is a "younger cousin" of ALH84001.

Beiersdorfer said the issue of life on Mars is still a topic for

Mars
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Fast facts about the red planet



•The diameter of Mars is about half as large as Earth's.

•The Martian atmosphere would be deadly to humans because it is devoid of oxygen, and the atmospheric pressure is less than 1 percent — virtually a vacuum.

•The atmosphere of Mars is

thinner than Earth's and allows no protection from ultraviolet radiation.

•Mars has two moons named Phobos and Deimos after the mythological sons of Mars, the Greek god of war.

•A Martian year is about 687 days long.

•The surface temperature of Mars varies from 199 below zero during a polar night to 63 degrees Fahrenheit at the Martian equator during midday at the closest point in orbit

to the sun.

•If you weighed 100 pounds on Earth, you would weigh 38 pounds on Mars.

•The highest point on Mars is Olympus Mons, a huge volcano that covers the same surface area as the state of Arizona.

•Mars has the largest and deepest known canyons in the solar system. They measure as much as 2,500 miles long and six miles deep.

Professor probes culture of a corrupt community

■ Mark Shutes, anthropology, will speak at 7:30 p.m. Feb. 26 in Kilcawley's Art Gallery.

TELA DURBIN
 ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

Mention Youngstown and most people envision dark alleys littered with broken glass and gun-slitting teen-agers lurking around convenience stores. Ever wonder why people get scared when you mention you're from Youngstown? Or why people may associate your hometown with the mob, and you really don't question it? Or why you don't say you're from Youngstown, but rather the east side, west side or Boardman?

Mark Shutes, YSU anthropology professor, tries to answer those questions and more as he gives talks around the Youngstown area. He spoke recently at YSU's Kilcawley Center as a part of a series of talks in the Youngstown area. His presentations are titled "Rust Belt Ethics: The culture of a 'corrupt' community," and Shutes will present more during the next few months.

Shutes is a cultural anthropolo-

gist who has been doing what he calls an "anthropological analysis of Youngstown" for the past few years. He became interested in studying Youngstown through his works in Ireland and other European countries. Shutes is interested in the different ramifications — social, economic, political — that structure people's beliefs and values.

"For years I have worked with the Citizen's League on organized crime and the corruption of the Mahoning Valley," said Shutes.

Through his work with the Citizen's League, Shutes has discovered why the Youngstown area has become so susceptible to crime and corruption.

"I would be interested in what he has to say," said Cheryl Copanic, freshman, nutrition. "Especially since the current fraud probe in Youngstown."

Corrupt
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Tutorial Services expands

■ The new program consists of three to five group study sessions per week.

JOHN W. GOODWIN
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Students interested in extra help with difficult classes now have an added option. Tutorial Services recently started a new supplemental instruction program aimed at helping students pass difficult core classes.

The program, started by Jonelle Beatrice, director for the Center for Student Progress, and Virginia Mears, assistant director for the Center for Student Progress, has been operational since fall of this year.

Beatrice said this type of program is not new at YSU, but is a national program started at the University of Missouri, Kansas City. She said the program is also used in England.

Mears said the program consists of three to five group study sessions per week. She said student

information leaders take charge of each subject. These SI leaders are facilitators to the learning of students in the group. She said they find where most students are having difficulties and focus on those areas. "Students are trained in how to relate course content. Their mission is to elaborate where there are problems," she added.

SI leaders must meet certain criteria before being permitted to provide instruction. Beatrice said the criteria includes: successfully completing the class they want to instruct; receiving a professor's recommendation; being a current student; keeping office hours and being available to work 20 hours each week. She also said SI leaders are paid a wage conducive to other on-campus student employment.

Mears said all students attending a class offering supplemental instruction are welcome to attend.

A survey is taken at the beginning of the quarter to determine the best times for the sessions to take place. Mears also said attendance is completely voluntary, and professors are not told who attends the sessions.

She also said the average grade of those attending supplemental instruction increases from test to test. "Nationally there is a lower number of D's, W's and F's of students who attend SI and a higher number of A's, B's and C's," she said.

In choosing courses for the program, Beatrice said YSU follows national guidelines. She said the guidelines are a high rate of D's, W's or F's in specific course content, and large gateway classes — classes that are fundamental in order to progress to upper level courses — are preferred. Students are also welcome to suggest courses.

Mathcounts makes math fun

■ The Math Bowl highlighted the competition.

CHAD E. HOLDEN
STAFF WRITER

Kilcawley Center was invaded by math gurus from middle schools around the area yesterday. YSU and the College of Engineering and Technology sponsored the 15th annual Mathcounts Competition. Several local schools attended with four competitors from each school.

"Mathcounts is designed to reverse the trend and get students interested in math," said Terry Fullum, administrative assistant for Dean Stevens in the college of engineering and technology.

Fullum said he hopes this event will inspire students to enter the engineering field. Students were tested in probability, statistics, linear algebra and polynomials. The Math Bowl, a math game-show, was a fun highlight of the competition for the students.

The winners from the Mathcounts competition at YSU

will go on to compete in Columbus, and the winners from there will compete in the national competition in Washington, D.C.

Janet George, eighth grade math instructor, and Mathcounts coach from Struthers Middle School said, "We had a competition to pick our team within our school."

"We just competed in the Team Approach to Problem Solving competition in Canfield, and we won first place," said George. "We are very excited to compete in Mathcounts."

All American Offensive Line-man Matt Hogg, senior, engineering, was a guest speaker at the competition.

Funding for the competition was provided by the Mahoning Valley Society of Professional Engineers, YSU College of Engineering, Madonna Chism, community affairs representative from The East Ohio Gas Company and YSU's Arbys.

Mars

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debate.

"Most people in the field think the evidence of life on Mars could be interpreted as something else," said Dr. Warren Young, chairman of YSU's physics department, "a chemical reaction instead of a biological source."

He said the meteorites were created when something, possibly a meteor, collided with Mars and sent pieces of the planet's crust into space. Scientists can identify them as Martian because they contain gasses with the same chemical composition as the Martian atmosphere. Several such meteorites have been found in Antarctica.

Young said, regardless of whether life once existed on Mars, it couldn't exist there now. The planet's atmosphere is too thin to support life.

"There may never have been life on Mars," said Young, "but there will be — and it will be our ancestors."

The planetarium show will focus on that possibility. Set 25 years in the future, it chronicles the experiences of the first group of people to land on Mars.

"I think people will come because Mars is of great interest right now," said Sharon Shanks, plan-

etarium lecturer. "Mars is one of the few places in the solar system that might have had life at one point."

Young said the show will include pictures and other visual effects depicting Mars.

"It's a great time to do a Mars show because we have so many visual aids we didn't have before," Young said. "We can quite literally fly people over the surface of Mars."

Young said the show doesn't compare to an actual Martian visit, but is much safer.

"It's a way for you to experience a visit to Mars without having to change your underwear," Young said.

Shanks said the show is especially good for kids fifth grade and up.

The planetarium will sponsor a second lecture Feb. 27. Dr. Ralph Harvey, field team leader of the Antarctic Search for Meteorites program and geology professor at Case Western Reserve University, will argue that the meteorites are insufficient evidence of life on Mars.

Dr. Lindstrom's presentation will start at 7 p.m. Friday at the Ward Beecher Planetarium. The premier of "Destination: Mars!" will follow at 8 p.m. and run periodically for the next month.

Dr. Harvey's presentation will also start at 7 p.m. at the planetarium Feb. 27. All events are free and open to the public.

Retention

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more competitive and although YSU enrolls some long distance students, it is primarily a commuter campus. The university does not gain enough out of area students to compensate for potential local students who choose other colleges.

Jiang said the reasons for the study are to gauge academic interest, to provide information and to see what the students want.

Following a compiling of the gathered information, the class plans to present their results to campus officials in an attempt to raise awareness about the problem.

"This is a student project for the students," Jiang said. "We are only looking at our university."

Programs to retain students are already implemented by New Student Relations and the Center for Student Progress. The results will also be given to those organizations as a resource for what students want and expect from their university.

Corrupt

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Shutes attributes what he describes as "the disinvestment of the upper-class" since the 1930s as one of the causes of corruption in Youngstown. He describes this as the upper-class keeping their resources here until the 1930s, but then pulling their resources causing different ethnic groups to come to the area. Shutes said the ethnic groups who came to Youngstown were from weak city-states, so they divided themselves when they came to Youngstown, creating the culture of corruption.

Another problem he sees with Youngstown is no one wants to associate themselves with Youngstown alone, but rather the differ-

ent parts of the community such as Austintown, the north side or the east side.

"There is no larger sense of community," said Shutes. "People identify with one small part of Youngstown. That's bad because people don't see the other parts of the city as part of a Youngstown community, but as in competition with the other parts of the city."

Shutes attributes this lack of one central community as what affects Youngstown politically. He says council members and other political figures are interested in getting "their share" of what they think they deserve, leaving another community out in the cold.

"The fragmentation of the community is what I attribute to the disinvestment of the upper class — the

process I discuss in my talk," said Shutes. "It creates a culture where people in Youngstown believe politics and economics are about getting things for your particular part. People believe anybody in any other place in your community who gets something is getting it at your cost."

Shutes discusses these things in his presentations. He has another presentation in February, date yet to be announced.

"We in Youngstown have created a situation which in turn has created a set of beliefs and values that reward the corrupt over the non-corrupt," said Shutes. "That is why we cannot get anywhere. We are opening up the dialogue tomorrow about our own beliefs and values. If we don't, the Mahoning Valley is going to collapse."

Check future issues of *The Jambar* for some hot SPRING BREAK ideas! Yes, the end of the quarter is near!

Upcoming events sponsored by the Department of Economics:

Market Reforms in the Chinese Economy

Dr. Sun Wei
Associate Professor and Deputy Director, Finance Department
Changchun Taxation College
February 25, 1 p.m.
Room 121, DeBartolo Hall

Southeast Asia Political Economy: A Half-Century Perspective

Dr. John Badgley
Asian Studies Department, Cornell University
March 4, 1 p.m.

Kilcawley Center, Bresnahan Room
Cosponsored with the Political Science Department

The Challenge of Maintaining Standards in the Era of Generation X

A Discussion Lead by
Dr. Clyde Morris, Economics Department, YSU
March 11, Noon

Economics Department Conference Room (DeBartolo 305)

ALL THREE EVENTS ARE FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.

**Read *The Jambar*
Tuesdays and Thursdays!**

campus Opinions

The Jambar is published twice weekly during fall, winter and spring quarters and weekly during summer sessions. Mail subscriptions are \$20 per academic year. Since being founded by Burke Lyden in 1930, The Jambar has won seven Associated Collegiate Press All-American honors.

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Editorial

Student Government gets the job done

Complaints are a dime a dozen, but what if you have a legitimate gripe? Students have always wondered where they can turn to get things changed around here.

Student Government promises to be the place to turn. Two main complaints: Bliss Hall's hours of operation and Maag Library's limited services Saturdays are now remedied thanks to Student Government support.

Starting this Saturday, the Maag's Multimedia Center will be open during the same hours of operation as the library 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The center had been closed Saturdays until a student asked Jim Kravec, Student Government representative at large, if anything could be done to change that.

The process that follows is quite simple. A member of Student Government could bring up a problem at any Student Government meeting in New Business. Then the issue may be discussed or assigned to committee for review. That committee will approach campus officials with the proposed change and try to reach an agreement.

Sounds like a grueling process? Usually this process is completed rather quickly, depending on the situation and number of people involved.

Another student concern was the limited hours Bliss Hall was open. Basically, if genius struck in the middle of the night, students had to wait until the building opened to put those thoughts to good use. Students brought the issue to Student Government and it was resolved.

You voted for your Student Government leaders, don't be afraid to ask them to get to work for you.

Guest Commentary

Students ignore access to campus facilities

ANGELA GIANOGGIO
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Imagine you have a 5:40 p.m. class in Ward Beecher and then you have to use the computers in Meshel to type an English paper due the next day. After finishing the paper, you realize it is 9 p.m. and you have to walk all the way back to the Lincoln parking deck alone.

Do you:
A.) walk back across the virtually deserted campus alone
B.) call the campus police and request an escort
C.) pitch a tent and wait until morning

Well, unless you happen to have back pack full of camping equipment, "C" is out. That leaves walking back alone or calling an escort.

If you are like most of the nonhandicapped students at YSU, you would probably just walk back alone while keeping an open eye for any suspicious characters.

The same scenario holds true for many students when it comes to tutoring, counseling or simple advice.

The fact is, many students admit to not using the services available to them on campus.

Julie Oswick, senior, art history, said, "I've never used [any services] and I've been here seven years."

Another student said he thinks students don't know about the services.

Well for the 90 percent of students who apparently live in a cave and don't read any campus information brochures, there are services ranging

from Adult Student Services to a counseling department and a travel agency.

Some of the more common services include tutorial services the Writing Center, the escort services and the recently revived Women's Center.

Service representatives said the services are adequately used. Students, on the other hand, think otherwise.

"[Students] don't use the services to their full potential," said Emily Cronk, junior, telecommunications.

A representative of the Women's Center said many students come in to the center to research academic, legal, financial and community service material.

Virginia Mears, assistant director of Student Tutorial Services, said they receive about 250 to 300 tutoring applications each quarter.

"It's not the number you would expect, but there are people who come in on the first day of classes, and we will see them all quarter," she said.

There has to be some glitch in the system if the services said they are being used but no student admits to using them.

It seems students either don't know what they have offered to them or they choose to ignore the services.

The services need to up their standards and start seeking out more students. Advertise, broadcast — do whatever it takes to let the students know where to go for help.

There has to be a happy medium between the campus services and the students. They go hand in hand in making YSU an effective, well-rounded campus community.

The fact is, many students admit to not using the services available to them on campus.

Staff Commentary

Some brides just want a wedding, not necessarily the nuptials

REBECCA SLOAN
COPY EDITOR

Now that Valentine's Day has past, a few of my friends are sporting shiny, diamond rings and pouring over piles of *Brides* magazines as they plan their dream weddings. Sure, weddings can be wonderful, but I suspect the divorce rate might drop if they were outlawed.

"I'm thinking of periwinkle and white for my colors, and we're thinking of releasing doves after the ceremony instead of throwing rice," gushed one of my betrothed gal pals. "And I saw on 'Oprah' how one couple put little, individual cakes at every table for their guests, and then they had a separate cake they cut for themselves. Isn't that a great idea?"

"Uh huh," I responded, trying to share her bridely enthusiasm.

"And I found a dress I just love," she added. "It's princess style, and it has a full train and..." As she continued in breathless excitement, I wondered why she hadn't once mentioned her fiancé since the start of the conversation. I guess com-

pared to the thrill of babies-breath bouquets and doves fluttering off into the sunset, old Bill was as about as exciting as a stale package of Saltines.

It's not that I'm not happy for my friend. It just seems too many women are so focused on walking down the aisle they forget about the rest of the package — such as 'til death do us part and for better or worse.

Everyone wants a party in their honor, and a

It's not that I'm not happy for my friend. It just seems too many women are so focused on walking down the aisle they forget about the rest of the package — such as 'til death do us part and for better or worse.

wedding is just that. It's a brief moment where couples are bathed in a rosy glow among family and friends, and after a few hours, it's over. Yes, a wedding can be a cherished memory and a symbol of love, but the wedding itself sometimes seems like the fundamental reason many people feel the

urge to tie the knot. It seems couples get so wrapped up in planning for the big day, the rest of the picture gets forgotten.

"We're going to Hawaii on our honeymoon," says betrothed friend number two. "I can't wait! I've always wanted to go there." I tell her that's nice, but what I'm thinking is: "Maybe you could just take a vacation and have a big party instead."

Maybe I'm just cynical, or maybe I'm just annoyed that I have to spend a few hundred dollars on a couple of bridesmaid dresses. No, actually I'm just a little concerned 'cause I know it's no bed of roses. I know weddings last for a few hours, and (ideally anyway) marriage is supposed to last a lifetime.

So if you're one of those blushing, gushing brides-to-be dazzled by the shine of your brand new "dime," maybe it would be a good idea to stop, take a breath and think about what a wedding really means. It's not about the reception with a live band and open bar, or how adorable little cousin Stephanie will look in her flower girl's dress. This is the big M we're talking about. This is for life.

Letters to the Editor

Student disagrees with CD review

I'm writing in regard to the CD review in *The Jambar* about Pearl Jam. I think the writer of the review of *Yield* missed the point. I have to come to the rescue and speak for Pearl Jam fans everywhere. I think the review did a poor job to reflect

the quality of *Yield* and forgot to take certain things into consideration. Don't look at Pearl Jam as a bunch of yahoos who have little talent and put out average album after average album. Pearl Jam is still putting out great material. Yes, they were from the grunge era, but so were about 37,000 other bands — who unlike Pearl Jam, aren't together anymore. I want to say leave Pearl Jam alone, they're the best band of the '90s and this album is

without a doubt the best thing we have heard from the music industry for a while. Go ahead, pick on Hanson or the Spice Girls or the countless corporate-sellouts who are fake, dull, overplayed and completely unoriginal. The point is, Pearl Jam is a great band who continues to put forth great albums and will continue to do so for years. I think they deserve more than one and a half penguins for that.

Matt Prezioso, student

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The Jambar

Letter Policy

The Jambar encourages letters. All letters must be typed, double-spaced, and must list a telephone and social security number. All submissions are subject to editing. Letters must not exceed 300 words and commentaries must not exceed 500 words. Opinion pieces should concern campus issues. Items submitted become the property of The Jambar and will not be returned. Submissions that ignore Jambar policy will not be accepted. The views and opinions expressed herein do not necessarily reflect those of The Jambar staff or YSU faculty, staff or administration. Deadline for submission is Friday for Tuesday's paper and Tuesday for Thursday's paper.

Commentary

Cafe

on WYSU 88.5 at 7 p.m. tonight features **Maureen Cronin, Mahoning County Common Pleas Court Judge**

DISC ROUND



Pittsburgh quartet performs in Pub today

Vivid Grey has received good reviews from various audiences and been selected to participate in The X's Spring Break concert.

Joshua Nolan
Contributing Writer

With a schedule nearing maximum density, Pittsburgh's Vivid Grey has somehow managed to fit in a late morning show for its Youngstown fans today. The quartet will play for nearly two hours starting at 11:30

this morning in the Kilcawley Center Pub.

If what they have been doing in the Pittsburgh area for the past few years is any indication, the band will be well worth taking the time to check out. They have won rave reviews from audiences in the smallest clubs and teeming masses have packed in for their shows on the main stage of the I.C. Light Amphitheater in Station Square, Pittsburgh. Vivid Grey has even earned a spot in 105.9 The X's Spring Break show later this month. Quite an accomplishment, considering the Spring Break concert will showcase only the bands the station deems to be the finest, most original acts available in the area.

The band consists of the standard two guitars, bass, drums and vocals. Chris Edwards plays lead guitar and is the primary vocalist, Rob Nace is on drums, Mark Sailor on bass and Jeff "The New Guy Who's Shorter Than Everybody Else" on guitar. Nace, Sailor and Jeff all sing their share of backup vocals.

However, the music is not standard. Vivid Grey blasts through heavy metal songs and works right into moving acoustic numbers. That's their original material. They also have quite a repertoire of covers they have revamped as their own, and every show is sure to include at least one or two of these.

To find out why Pittsburgh fans are hailing Vivid Grey and why they are in such demand, stop by the Pub this morning.



OPENING NEXT WEEK: (clockwise from top) Michael DiPrizio, Todd Krispinsky, Andrew Pavelek, Susan Marcis and Rebecca McConnell star in "An Enemy of the People." The play runs 8 p.m. Feb. 26 through 28 and March 5 through 7, and 3 p.m. March 8 in Ford Theater. Tickets for YSU students are free and \$6 for the public. Make reservations by calling 742-3105. Look for the preview of this production in next week's edition of *The Penguin Star*.

Graffiti Tribe comes to Pub

Joshua Nolan
Contributing Writer

They won't be bringing any instruments, just themselves. They will be making music, though — music that has won them awards, prestigious appearances and the compliments of critics everywhere. Graffiti Tribe, the six-man a cappella act out of Denver, will be performing next Wednesday in the Kilcawley Center Pub.

Graffiti Tribe has played more than 40 college campuses, according to their last published count. The band has performed at Disney World, been on regional TV and radio and was even featured on Jerry Lewis' 1996 MDA Labor Day Marathon. In 1995, the Tribe won first place in the Denver Regional Competition of the Harmony Sweepstakes.

The show is from 8 until 10 p.m. Wednesday in the Pub. Tickets are \$3 and are on sale now at Bytes N' Pieces in Kilcawley Center. With the kind of attention this band has attracted, this is certainly a show worth taking time to see. Even Bill Bellamy of MTV promises, these guys "are gonna kill!"

On Stage

Nicole Tanner
Penguin Star Editor

BlackBox

What Are Tuesdays Like?



You're probably wondering where the extra penguin came from. It's there because BlackBox's production of Victor Bumbalo's "What Are Tuesdays Like?" was above and beyond excellent. It was outstanding and by far the best theater performance at YSU this year.

BlackBox featured a show with a topic that hadn't been dealt with before at YSU — a play dealing with the touchy subject of people living with AIDS. "What Are Tuesdays Like?" was so intense that even though you only received

minimal information about each character, you felt like you knew them and were suffering with them. Through brief interactions in a hospital waiting room, you learned about AIDS from numerous characters with completely different perspectives.

There was Howard, (Travis Ealy) the calm intellectual who liked to read; Jeff, (John LaGuardia) the loving man who was willing to put himself through immense pain to nurse his lovers; Scott, (Ian Bugno) the new-age rebel who sought a cure through methods other than medicine; Gene, (Michael DiPrizio) Scott's concerned businessman lover who had problems dealing with him; Denise, (Terri Jennings) the mother of four who had to give up her children in the end; and Randy, (Angelo Filaccio) the scared, unsure newcomer to the group.

All of the actors gave outstanding performances under the direction of Filaccio, but the highlight was LaGuardia's monologue, in which he relates the events that happened after his lover died. There was so much emotion fueled into the story, you had no choice but to cry. But that wasn't the only highly emotional part of the play, I found myself in tears during most of the scenes, and the rest of audience was sobbing as well.

The only disappointing factor was that more people didn't show up to see this wonderful performance. Students should start to take notice of BlackBox productions.

At the Movies

Mike Hurayt
Contributing Writer

The Replacement Killers



The migrating of foreign action stars to America is getting more and more common every year — almost every action star out there now was probably not even born in this country. Even those who were, such as Sylvester Stallone, speak almost unintelligible English that sounds more like a second language than a native tongue.

Which brings me to Chow Yun-Fat, (I have a feeling this name gives Richard Simmons goosebumps) a Hong Kong megastar who actually learned English for his first American movie, "The Replacement Killers." While his accent doesn't sound half bad, that can't save the cliched plot, hatch-faced actors and Mira Sorvino in a wasted, tough-chick role.

Yun-Fat is John Lee, a hit man who suddenly develops a conscience just as he should be pulling the trigger on a target. When he wimps out, his boss vows revenge, and the rest of the flick has Lee running around with Sorvino, as a document forger, trying to dodge bullets and escape the country. Let's just say if this plot were a meal at a restaurant, it would be all the leftovers from last year that fell on the floor and were never picked up. Serve that meal to someone, and they're not only likely to get sick, but they'll demand a refund.

Yun-Fat has been hailed as the savior of the American action movie, and while "The Replacement Killers" did have some decent action scenes — especially a cool beginning sequence — the rest was just a sleepwalk through recycled bits.

I think Yun Fat can definitely do better, but for this movie he's best advertised as Chow "Yawn"-Fat.

Blues Brothers 2000



I first thought the "2000" in the title referred to the weight in pounds of John Goodman, new lead singer of the Blues Brothers band, but it's actually the number of police cars annihilated in one scene of the movie. Get your cheap black suit, your sunglasses and hat and get ready for the rhythm and blues review, Chicago-style.

A lot has changed since the first "Blues Brothers" movie. A triad of its stars have passed away, all cars now have catalytic converters and fuel injection, and black suits and ties are now most commonly associated with top secret government agencies that fight aliens. This is probably one of the longest gaps between sequels in modern movie history — 18 years since Jake and Elwood smashed up some police cars and made good music while doing it.

Jake (Dan Akroyd) is finally out of prison after successfully saving the orphanage and blasting dozens of cop cars along the way.

For those who weren't fans of the original, this movie won't convert you into a follower. Those who were casual or huge fans will probably be disappointed. "Blues Brothers 2000" lacked the smooth cohesion of nonchalant humor and spontaneous song bursts of the first — the songs were as good but the jokes were copied and tired.

Akroyd does so much hamming it makes one long for John Belushi.

And the scene that made me laugh the hardest — where 40 police cars all smash into a pile for a good minute straight at unbelievable velocities — will probably just annoy most watchers. It was good to see the band again, but too many negatives overwhelmed the good. "Blues Brothers 2000" is only for die hard fans of the original.

The Wedding Singer



Adam Sandler, everyone's favorite parody singer/hot tempered golfer strikes again in this 1980s nostalgia flick, "The Wedding Singer." The '80s didn't seem too exciting one way or the other as they went by, but years later, I'm finding out I miss them a lot more than I thought I would.

Adam Sandler tries to get that feel again with "The Wedding Singer," his first movie since the hilarious "Happy Gilmore." Sandler plays bushy-haired Robbie Hart, former band member turned wedding singer who dreams about his own big wedding day, which is just around the corner.

No sooner does he don the tux than his bride stands him up at the alter and the wedding singer becomes the wedding ridiculer. In the middle of his lamenting he finds love again in the form of Drew Barrymore, a waitress, but there's a string attached — Barrymore is close to her own wedding with a Don Johnson wannabe. The clock ticks down as Hart tries to tell her they were meant for each other and break off the engagement in time to save both of them.

I had high hopes for this movie. Put the name Adam Sandler with an '80s movie and that alone is enough to make me start giggling. But except for the music and some of the clothes, it didn't have that throwback feel I was hoping for.

There were a few snickers in "The Wedding Singer" but nothing to really wet your pants over. The romance was nice, but I felt it should have either gone overboard with the slapstick humor or romance, and not just walked a tight-roped between them. The film was worth seeing, but for real '80s laughs, I'd suggest renting "Real Genius" or "Better Off Dead."

On Disc

Nicole Tanner
Penguin Star Editor

Various Artists

120 Minutes Live



For a little more than 10 years, MTV has been showcasing the best new music in a program called "120 Minutes." Airing midnight Sunday nights, this show introduced the Madchester scene, the Seattle scene and Brit Pop invasion. Along with new videos, the show occasionally features live performances by up-and-coming artists. Now Atlantic Records has captured some of the most memorable performances on CD.

"120 Minutes Live" is a perfect collection of the diversity featured on the show. Featuring bands such as Oasis, Morphine and the Sex Pistols, and influential artists like PJ Harvey and Bjork, the CD takes the listener back to the artists' be-

ginings. Some of the performances feature songs that became huge hits for the artists, such as "Supersonic" by Oasis, "Particle Man" by They Might Be Giants and "Undone (The Sweater Song)" by Weezer.

The great thing about this album is that none of the tracks are weak. All of the live performances effectively illustrate each artist's style, and there's more of a sense of honesty because most of the performances occurred before the artists hit it big.

The best tracks are PJ Harvey's "C'mon Billy" and Bjork's "Aeroplane," while the Sex Pistols' reunion rendition of "Pretty Vacant" is one of a kind.

More than 100 artists have performed on "120 Minutes," so the task of scaling that number down to the best 14 was pretty hard, but the selection of the artists was extremely well-done. If you're a fan of alternative music — the real alternative — this CD is a must have. Here's hoping to see other volumes of "120 Minutes Live."

This CD is currently on sale at Disc Go Round in Kilcawley Center.

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Owusu-Ansah

Junior Kofi Owusu-Ansah has been named Mid-Continent Conference Track and Field Male Athlete of the Week.

Sports



The women's and men's basketball teams will play Valparaiso today. The women tip-off at 5:20 p.m. and the men follow at 7:30 p.m.

Reesh's Realm

Let the man do his job part II

I know I said we need to leave the Coach Peters' situation alone, but I have been further enlightened on the subject.

With Coach Peters not resigned yet, the basketball program is having trouble signing recruits to come to YSU next year. The uncertainty of the Penguin basketball team's future leaves recruits looking for stability elsewhere. This is a major problem for the team.

The Penguins most dominant players, Willie Spellman and Anthony Hunt, are seniors and will be done after this season. The basketball team needs to recruit talented young players to keep the budding program blooming so when upper classmen are done we have other players who can step up.

Everyone wants the basketball program to be as successful as the football program, but I would say this situation puts basketball another step behind. This would never happen to the football team.

The basketball teams are having fine seasons - both leading in the Mid-Continent Conference - and attendance is growing along with support. Why would we let a chance to enhance our basketball program pass us by?

I understand the focus is on winning the Mid-Con tournament, but if we care about basketball we would not jeopardize its success. If Coach Peters is being resigned why didn't they just take care of it when the situation arose? Are they waiting for him to prove himself? It's a little too late, don't you think?

I knew by February of my senior year in high school where I was going to attend college. Most students are probably narrowing down their selections, with universities starting to collect reservation fees for incoming freshmen.

My younger brother has been heavily recruited for baseball, and colleges are asking him to make his commitment now. I do not think basketball teams would be any different.

To get back to my point from my last commentary, I still believe the media got way too involved in this problem. As I said before, Coach Peters is hard at work with his team - doing his job. He does not need the added pressure of questions about his future at YSU.

This is something Coach Peters and the athletic department need to take care of themselves. The people in charge seem to have their own plan - and anything we say or print is not going to change their minds.

'You're only as old as you feel'

MELISSA HALL
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

At age 31, senior Michael Brennan is the oldest member of the YSU men's basketball team. This is Brennan's second, and possibly last, year with the team.



Brennan

Brennan is eligible to play, despite his age, because of an exception to a rule. According to NCAA rules, a player can be no older than 25, but those who served in the military are exempt.

Brennan served in the Air Force for eight-and-a-half years before attending college.

Brennan joined the Air Force after graduation from high school in 1985. He served three years at Tinker Air Force Base in Oklahoma City, Okla. before going to Wright Patterson Air Force Base in Dayton for five-and-a-half years. He served as an aircraft mechanic, also known as a maintenance specialist.

While in the military, he played basketball on the base team, made up of the best players on the base, and he traveled with the team to play other bases and other branches of the armed forces. He also played his senior year of high school at Oak Glenn High School in New Cumberland, W. Va.

After leaving the military in 1994, Brennan attended the University of Cincinnati for a year before

transferring to YSU for the 1995-96 academic year. At YSU, he decided to pursue a career in mechanical engineering technology. He chose this major because he liked math and working with his hands. He also looked forward to the challenge the courses had to offer. He has also earned transferable college credits in the military.

He decided to try out as a walk-on for the basketball team his first year at YSU and made the team, but he was not eligible to play because of a rule stating a player has to sit out one year if they are a transfer student. He decided not to be on the team, but rather to concentrate on his studies until the following season.

He played on the team both this season and last. Despite his age, he said, "Everyone treats me like the rest of the teammates. I never feel left out."

"None of the guys look at him as the 'old guy,' even though we joke with him," adds senior teammate Dave Milliren. "His being on the team is good for everyone. He knows what it is like to win and lose, and he really helps the team."

Brennan receives no scholarship money for playing on the team. He plays for fun and to "help the team out." He considers himself a student first then an athlete.

Brennan sums up his whole experience as "pretty neat." He said, "Never in my wildest dreams did I think I would be playing Division I basketball at this age."



YSU ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT

BUST A MOVE: Senior Michael Brennan (25) displays his defensive skills during a game in Beeghly Center.

Women defeat UNKC, look to take title for fourth straight year

■ A win over Valparaiso Thursday will give the women the Mid-Con title.

JAMIE LYNN REESH
SPORTS EDITOR

Senior Shannon Beach again poured in the baskets to lead the Lady Penguins past the University of Missouri-Kansas City.

Beach, whose play was cold in the first half with only five points, turned up the heat in the second

half to score a team-high 19 points. She scored YSU's first nine points after the half.

Beach connected on two three-pointers and 7 of 12 from inside the arc. She grabbed nine rebounds and took two steals.

The Lady Penguins did not have a great offensive game against the Kangaroos, shooting

only 39.1 percent for the game.

Despite the low shooting percentage, senior Ann Marie Martin scored 16 points, canning 6 of 8 field, and teammate sophomore Missy Young sank 8 of 10 from the charity stripe.

YSU played well defensively, holding UMKC to only 22 of 62 shots from field goal range.

Senior Teresita Jones grabbed a team-high 11 rebounds and dished out three assists.

The Lady Penguins ran the game from the start, taking a 24-9 lead and led 35-22 at the half.

The win leaves the Red and White in first place in the Mid-Continent Conference with a 13-1 record and improves to 22-2 overall.

A win against Valparaiso Thursday will give the Lady Penguins their fourth straight Mid-Con title. Valparaiso is YSU's only conference loss of the season.

Men's win means a showdown

JAMIE LYNN REESH
SPORTS EDITOR

The Penguin basketball team sits atop the Mid-Continent Conference, after a 69-47 win against the University of Missouri-Kansas City in front of a crowd of 2,100 in Beeghly Center Monday.

Senior forward Willie Spellman fired a team-high 17 points, with 12 points coming from three-pointers. He nailed two from behind the arc along with a three-pointer from teammate

Anthony Hunt to take a 9-0 lead right from the start.

YSU took control of the game, but a 13-3 spurt from the Kanga-

roos cut the Penguins halftime lead to 37-26.

Freshman Dave Brown had an outstanding game, scoring 14 points and grabbing 12 rebounds. Brown shot 6 of 11 and registered a block and a steal.

With UMKC creeping in closer, the Red and White went on a 16-7 roll to push the game to 55-39.

YSU connected 28 of 63 from field goal range and shot 45.5 percent on the line.

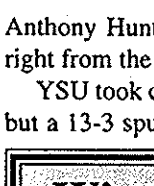
Hunt walked away with two steals, and he and junior Devon Lewis handed out six assists each.

Spellman finished the game with an assist and a steal, while hitting 6 of 11 field goals.

The win puts YSU at 18-6 overall and 11-3 in the Mid-Con. The Penguins will face-off with Valparaiso Thursday and can clinch a share of the Mid-Con title with a win.



Spellman



Hunt

Win \$150 book scholarship for spring quarter

Two YSU students can win a \$150 book scholarship, courtesy of the YSU Athletic Department. One winner will be chosen at the men's and women's basketball games tonight, and one winner will be chosen Monday against Western Illinois. Register in the lobby of Beeghly Center during the women's game, and the winner will be announced during halftime of the men's game.

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Apartment and Room for rent near YSU. Call 549-5518.

Serious students needed to rent private rooms or two and three bedroom apartments close to YSU. Stove, refrigerator, washer and dryer and all utilities included. Only \$225/mo. and up. Available now. Also pre-leasing for spring quarter. Call 744-3444 or 746-4663.

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CAMPUS CALENDAR

Day	Event
Thursday	Environmental Awareness Council meeting from noon to 1 p.m. in Kilcawley Bresnahan III.
Friday	YSU Psychology club meeting at 2:30 p.m. in DeBartolo Psychology dept. conference rm. New members please attend!!
Saturday	Williamson College of Business Administration Students meeting in the Williamson Hall rm. 103 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Free tax assistance and no tax assistance March 14.
Wednesday	Advanced PowerPoint 97 in the Carnation room in Kilcawley from 9 a.m. to noon. This course offers some new information along with the opportunity to ask questions about the techniques learned in the PowerPoint 97 session. Please bring the information packet from the PowerPoint 97 session and a blank 3 1/2 formatted diskette.
History Club meeting at noon in Kilcawley rm. 2069. Nancy Ketzler, History, will talk about "The relationship between American POWs and their German guards in World War II."	
Feb. 26	Environmental Awareness Council meeting from noon to 1 p.m. in Kilcawley Bresnahan III.
March 1	Deposit due for a trip to New York. The Student Art Association is sponsoring a trip for April 10, 11 and 12. The prices are \$272 for a single, \$180 for a double, \$147 for a triple and \$131 for a quad. These prices include bus, hotel and tips. Does not include tours or food. Can pay \$50 just for bus at Bliss Hall room 4007, call office at 742-1859 or 746-8852. \$40 deposit due when registering. Full amount due by March 1.



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FINANCIAL AID & SCHOLARSHIP ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Forms for the 1998-99 Academic Year are now available
- YSU's Institutional Aid Application (including Scholarships for Excellence, Federal Perkins, Work Study, & SEOG) for 1998-99 is due **MARCH 1, 1998**. Annual reapplication is required.
- The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) or RENEWAL FAFSA for 1998-99 should be filed as soon as possible and requires information from your family's 1997 tax return to complete.
- The FAFSA or RENEWAL FAFSA is required to be completed *and* processed *prior to* applying for Federal Stafford Loans.
- The deadline to submit a financial aid appeal is MARCH 16, 1998 to be effective Spring Quarter.

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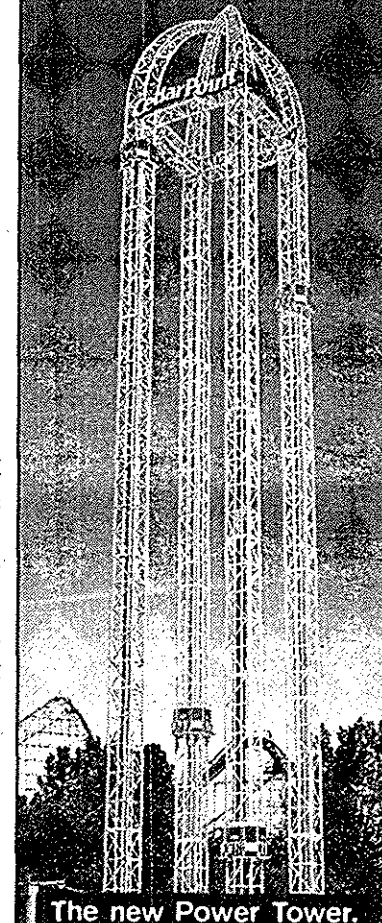
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