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ONLINE

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# The Jambar

The student voice of Youngstown State University since 1931



VOL. 93, ISSUE 24

Thursday, November 18, 2010

THEJAMBAR.COM

## 'This is no surprise to us' YSU prepares for upcoming budget cuts

**Joe Giesy**  
NEWS EDITOR

Officials at Youngstown State University are making a call to students, staff and faculty to be understanding and do their part during upcoming budgetary reductions.

"We're in this together, and we're going to solve this together," YSU President Cynthia Anderson said.

Anderson sent an e-mail

Tuesday evening to all YSU employees requesting that divisions across the university reduce their operating budgets by 8.5 percent "to address current and future projected budget shortfalls."

A reduction of \$3 million will be the first cut the university experiences because of a deferment of payment from fiscal year 2011 to 2012 by former Gov. Ted Strickland's office.

"This is no surprise to us,"

said YSU Board of Trustees Chairman Scott Schulick.

Federal stimulus money has been helping state budgets, avoiding a \$1 billion deficit that would have resulted in a significant cut last year, he said.

The current plan, which was under Strickland's administration, is to defer \$127.5 million to distribute only 11 monthly payments to each university for FY 2011 and distribute 13 payments in FY 2012 rather

than 12 payments in each of the years.

Strickland's two-year budget for FYs 2010 and 2011 "prioritizes investments in education for job creation," according to highlights of the operating budget on Ohio.gov.

However, the budget prepared by Strickland's administration nearly two years ago was for FYs 2010 and 2011; Gov-elect John Kasich will be creating the state's budget for FY 2012.

Universities across Ohio are treating this deferred payment as a cut. Most fear that a state deficit of nearly \$8 billion will also result in more cuts through FY 2012 and beyond.

Kasich's spokesperson Rob Nichols addressed any rumors of future cuts as "pure speculation." Kasich's administration has not yet received the necessary numbers to put together a

BUDGET PAGE 3



## Study reveals connection between students' mental health, relationship with technology

**Brenda Haines**  
REPORTER

MTV's 24-hour college network, mtv-U, along with the Jed Foundation and The Associated Press, recently released the results of a new poll of college students' close relationship with technology and how it is affecting their state of mind.

According to the study, which surveyed more than 2,000 undergraduate students at randomly chosen four-year colleges about their mental health in relation to being perpetually connected to technology, approximately seven out of 10 students reported reading cries for emotional help from people close to them on social networking websites. While most

students polled said they would offer support in some way to those struggling, less than half would make a personal visit.

"There is anonymity with social networking sites," said Dr. Nicole Ranttila, a licensed clinical psychologist and Girard native. "One can place status updates that may be cries for help, but if the person regrets it later, it could be played off as a joke or just a bad day. If a person really needs help, the social networking site may potentially reach more people than the person would typically come across in a day's activities. Furthermore, young adults often want to reach out to people who they feel are most like them — their peers."

By reaching out, these students are making an effort to be understood, Ranttila said.

"Who better to understand than those they may

have chosen to be in their friend circle?" she said. "Unfortunately, when a social networking avenue is chosen as a cry for help, many people are unsure how to deal with the information presented. The uncertainty may come from the fact that friends are not professionals, friends have their own fears and emotions associated with having a friend in danger, and others may take concerns as not serious since they are presented on the Internet."

For many college students, being constantly connected to digital communication media adds an additional complexity to their day-to-day lives.

Approximately 48 percent of the students polled reported that when they read e-mails, text messages and posts on social networking sites, half of the time they are unsure about whether the sender was

STUDY PAGE 3

## YSU improves sustainability grades

**Joe Giesy & Marissa McIntyre**

The grades are in. According to the College Sustainability Report Card prepared by Sustainable Endowment Institutes, Youngstown State University has received an overall grade of a C- for sustainability in 2011, up from a D+ in 2010.

YSU has the second lowest grade of the seven other Ohio public universities who participated, only passing the University of Akron, which received a D+.

GreenReportCard.org has released an annual report card for 322 colleges and universities from all 50 states as well as eight Canadian provinces every year since 2006.

Overall sustainability grades were determined much like a college GPA, by calculating the grades of nine separate categories: administration, climate change and energy, food and recycling, green building, student involvement, transportation, endowment transpar-

ency, investment priorities and shareholder engagement.

The categories' grades were based on set criteria determined by research and reports given by each school.

YSU received its only A in the category of food and recycling. The report card states the use of local and organic items in the food budget, "trayless" meals and the recycling program as reasons for the high grade.

Dining services instituted a trayless day, a day no trays are used in order to reduce water usage, several years ago and is now moving toward a completely trayless food court.

The report found that YSU recycles more than 30 percent of its waste, including electronics and traditional materials, and composts most of its consumer food waste.

SUSTAINABILITY PAGE 3

YSU SUSTAINABILITY REPORT CARD	
ADMINISTRATION	C
CLIMATE CHANGE AND ENERGY	D
FOOD AND RECYCLING	A
GREEN BUILDING	D
STUDENT INVOLVEMENT	B
TRANSPORTATION	D
ENDOWMENT TRANSPARENCY	F
INVESTMENT PRIORITIES	C
SHAREHOLDER ENGAGEMENT	D
<b>OVERALL:</b>	<b>C-</b>

PHOTO ILLUSTRATION AND GRAPHIC BY LAMAR BALTER/THE JAMBAR

## NEWS BRIEFS

### Theater, music performances planned for Thursday night

Thursday evening will be a busy one for the YSU College of Fine and Performing Arts. The night begins at 6 p.m. with a free concert by the Dana School of Music's Clarinet Ensemble; the concert will take place in Bliss Recital Hall. At 7:30 p.m., Dana Saxophone Studio students will present a free recital at First Presbyterian Church of Youngstown, located at 201 Wick Ave. Also at 7:30 p.m., University Theater will perform "Once on This Island," which will be staged in Bliss Hall's Ford Theater. Finally, the Dana Guitar Studio will present a free performance at 8 p.m. in Bliss Recital Hall.

## POLICE BRIEFS

### YSU Police arrest wrong suspect for menacing

On Sunday, a YSU Police officer conducted a traffic stop. The officer asked the car's driver for license and insurance information, which he ran through YSU dispatch. During questioning, the driver's 6-month-old son began crying in the backseat. YSU dispatch reported that the driver had an active warrant for menacing. Although the Youngstown Police Department verified this information, the driver said she was unaware that she had a warrant and that the suspect must be someone else with the same name. The officer placed the driver under arrest, and the child's father was called to pick up his son. However, after further investigation, YSU Police discovered that the Social Security numbers of the driver and the warrant suspect did not match, and the driver was released.

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# Crosswalk conversation

## Students, faculty and community voice concerns about street safety

Caitlin Fitch  
REPORTER

On Tuesday, Youngstown State University students, faculty and community members expressed their concerns about safety and traffic control of streets around the YSU campus during a meeting in Kilcawley Center's Chestnut room.

YSU and the Ohio Department of Transportation are teaming up to complete a project that started during the Youngstown 2010 plan.

The YSU Campus Areas Roadways Engineering study was just one of the public workshops held in the area focusing on traffic and pedestrian safety.

On display were 10 boards with pictures and graphs of existing pedestrian conditions. The boards highlighted where the potential problems are, where accidents occur and general routes for bikes.

Valerie Croasmun, speaker for MS Consultants, Inc., a company that provides engineering, architecture and plan-

ning services for transportation and construction markets, led the discussion and spoke of the process required for YSU to have better safety and road

Lincoln Avenue," Croasmun said. "Then, we will evaluate the improvements that have been made, and lastly we will develop a strategic plan to fix

to give their input at the workshops.

"This is a federally funded process where the input of the community is accepted and encouraged," he said.

Students present also had an opportunity to voice their opinions.

Croasmun said the study aims to make all the campus more connected, bring awareness to students of potential accidents and have better signage on the streets.

According to the collected data, intersection lights were operating at a good level. However, some of the streetlights on side streets, such as Elm Street, were operating at poor levels, and were not allowing enough pedestrian cross time.

Student Government Association University Affairs Committee Vice President Gary Davenport attended the meeting and voiced concerns about the crosswalks.

He said SGA hoped to have crosswalks painted thoroughly to ensure the safety of students and staff.



Students cross an uncontrolled crosswalk near the Lincoln and Phelps Buildings.

PHOTOS BY NICK YOUNG/THE JAMBAR

conditions. "There is a process that we have to go through to fix the problems existing around this campus. Firstly, and this is the step we are on presently, we will be and are gathering data of the conditions of the streets surrounding YSU: Rayen Avenue, Wick Avenue and

the problems existing around campus." Hunter Morrison, director of campus planning and community development, said complaints and concerns about the traffic conditions around campus have been voiced for a while. He said now is the time for those community members

## Architectural firm selected, Kilcawley renovation plans near completion

Andrea DeMart  
NEWS EDITOR

One of the most recognizable buildings on the campus of Youngstown State University is set to get a facelift. Kilcawley Center will begin renovations tentatively at the end of May 2011.

The projected plan for the building is to make the first ground floor a student-centered area and concentrate all offices to the upper floor.

The student area will be renovated to have a more modern feel, typical of other universities with similar areas. The idea is to include more glass features and windows.

"A lot of the features are to try to get more light, get more views of the campus," said Matthew Novotny, executive director of student services in Kilcawley Center.

YSU is working with WTW Architects, a national architectural firm with a branch office in Pittsburgh. Although this is the first time YSU will be working with the company, WTW has worked with Kent State University. KSU's student center is the unofficial model for the Kilcawley renovation.

Kilcawley Center was originally constructed as three buildings.

The first building, which includes the Chestnut Room and everything located above, was built in 1965. The second building, completed in 1974, includes the center portion of the building, from the end of the first building to the bookstore. In 1982, the front area, which includes the food court and Bresnahan meeting areas, was added.

Since 1982, limited cosmetic renovations have kept the building clean and efficient.

One essential area to the center is the Chestnut Room, which is located on the first floor. The room is intended for large meetings or gatherings, but the room capacity does not allow all functions to be held comfortably.

"When we have a lot of events, we take over that lounge behind the Chestnut Room. We also take over Thompson's [common study lounge], and that's taking away from student spaces," Novotny said. "We need to do it, but we don't like to do it."

He said some events, such as Dana School of Music productions, have to be held downtown, and he hopes to bring these large events back to campus.

The projected plan will relocate the Chestnut Room to the second floor and would allow a capacity of 500, up from the current capacity of 350.

The food court and restaurants are also a focus of the renovation plans.

"The general positioning of the food court now is back in the corner, low visibility," Novotny said. "Its terrace ... makes a lot

of difficulty for who can use the room, and it really doesn't fit the overall scheme."

Arby's also poses an issue. When the restaurant closes for business, the doors are locked, blocking off all of the available seating located within.

The goal is to create a central sitting/eating area with the restaurants located around the seating.

Novotny said one of the goals of the renovation is to create more student programs with the new space.

Areas such as the food court and platform of one stairwell will allow space for concerts with live bands.

Another main feature of the renovation will be enclosing the open courtyard area between Kilcawley Center, the bookstore and the Center for Student Progress.

"It will add more space. You won't have to go outside to go between the bookstore. It will really tie us together," Novotny said. "That's a major component, not only to add space but to make the connection to us, and that we'll become one big complex."

Kilcawley Center is changing the look inside the building, but some furnishings will be reused.

Novotny said the furniture in the conference rooms is relatively new and will not need to be replaced. The lower level will take on a new look, but due to budget issues, some furniture may have to be temporarily reused.

Committees focusing on student feedback have been created over the past few years.

He said main requests from students are transparency or openness of the center, more opportunities to interact and more social lounges.

"We hope to increase student satisfaction. We want them to feel that the center is now modern and reflects some of the things they like ... in the conference portion we want to be able to house more events, book more events," Novotny said.

The renovation is projected to cost \$10 million, with primary financing coming from capital bonds.

"We hope that at some point we will be looking for donors, and as this progresses the donors may say, 'I'd like to help out,'" Novotny said.

The renovation is expected to be complete by fall 2012, but Novotny said he hopes the food court will be complete by fall 2011.

He added there would be sporadic interruption in conference rooms as the renovation is underway, but meetings will be scheduled elsewhere on campus such as in the Williamson College of Business Administration.

"There's going to be a little bit of pain, but in the long term [we're] trying to keep it as short as possible," Novotny said. "We don't want to drag this out over five years where we're always interrupting each year."

## SGA roundtable

The Student Government Association at YSU hosted a roundtable discussion for students, faculty and staff interested in exploring disability services and environmental hazards on campus for those with physical disabilities, chronic illnesses and injuries. Campus safety issues and accessibility for disabled students on campus were key topics discussed. Faculty and staff members in attendance included Tammy Blake, coordinator of the Office of Equal Opportunity and Diversity; Eleanor Congdon, associate professor of history; John Hyden, executive director of facilities; and Gina McGranahan, assistant director of disability services.



PHOTOS BY NICK YOUNG/THE JAMBAR

## SUSTAINABILITY PAGE 1

Since it began in the early-1990s, the YSU Recycling Program has received several awards and grants including the national U.S. EPA Waste-Wise College/University Program Champion and funds to expand the re:CREATE program, which allowed for a managerial position now filled by Dan Kuzma. Kuzma could not be reached for comment.

When determining a letter grade, the report evaluated policies by dining services and recycling programs on campus.

On the other end of the spectrum, YSU received its only F for endowment transparency, or lack thereof.

"The university makes a list of all holdings available to trustees and senior administrators at foundation trustees meetings," according to the report, but the shareholder voting record is not public.

Research found about 80 percent of the 322 schools that participated in the study did not make endowment holdings available to the public.

YSU also received low grades in the categories of climate change and energy, shareholder agreement, green building and transportation, all of which received D's.

Director of parking services Danny O'Connell said the grade wasn't shocking to him, since YSU is composed of mostly commuter students, but possibilities are available for improvement.

The institute awarded points toward the transportation letter grade for promotion of a pedestrian/bike friendly environment, inclusion of alternative-fuel vehicles and incentives for carpooling or using public transportation.

The Alternative Transportation Committee, which has been around for two years, is

looking at different ways to improve going green, which include promoting carpooling and bicycling.

According to the report card, YSU has no environmentally friendly vehicles out of the 72 vehicles on the motor fleet.

"Given that we don't have the budget, I couldn't justify purchasing [environmentally friendly vehicles] when there are more cost-effective ways to get the task accomplished," O'Connell said. "Unfortunately, the best cost isn't going to be as green friendly as we'd like it to be."

Support services recently purchased trucks that cost \$4,000. An "eco-friendly" vehicle could cost four or five times more, anywhere between \$15,000 and \$20,000.

"It's not that we're not trying. It's just that improvement isn't going to happen overnight," O'Connell said.

Other praises the university has received by the report include incorporation of a sustainability committee into the 2020 Strategic Plan and lobbying by the Student Government Association to get the Presidents' Climate Commitment signed by YSU.

The lobbying for the climate commitment, a commitment by university officials to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, was part of last year's SGA administration. SGA President Nicholas Meditz said he'd be inclined to continue sustainability initiatives and is open to any new ideas the student body has to offer on new programs.

The Sustainable Endowments Institute, founded in 2005, is a nonprofit organization focused on advancing sustainability in campus operations and endowment practices through research and education.

## BUDGET PAGE 1

budget, he said.

"Every program, every dollar will be put under the microscope," Nichols said.

In the meantime, YSU is planning for "whatever happens," said Eugene Grilli, vice president for finance and administration.

The university is in the process of identifying parts of the budget to reduce, but Grilli said it is hard to say across the board what will happen.

"[The budget cuts] could cause some operational difficulties," he said.

He said he believes once YSU's budget and divisional budgets have been properly assessed and costs have been cut, there will be reductions in travel and materials used. Hir-

ing of non-faculty positions will face tougher review.

"We all will sacrifice at some level," Schulick said.

The university receives money three ways: government funds, donations and tuition. If the projected budget cuts occur as university officials are preparing for, Schulick said YSU would rely on donations and tuition.

An agreement between Strickland and Ohio universities has prevented tuition increases for the past few years, but when federal stimulus money runs out in 2012 it is likely there will be an increase in tuition.

"We're kidding ourselves if we think [operating] costs won't go up," Schulick said.

Any increase in tuition will depend on what budget the state presents for FYs 2012-2013, and what kind of tuition cap Kasich decides on.

"Our goal is to make sure the [academic] programs are intact," Grilli said.

Anderson said the university is still committed to being fiscally responsible. She and Grilli said the cuts would have a major impact across campus.

"The budgetary situation facing YSU and all of higher education is extremely difficult and unlike anything we have experienced in many years," Anderson said.

She said her goal is to ensure "we are still offering high academic programs and services."



## STUDY PAGE 1

serious or joking, which leads to misunderstandings, confusion and uncertainty.

"It is all too easy to misunderstand or be unsure of the tone or intent of a text message or online post," Ranttila said. "Friends may become quite stressed when reading an ambiguous message from a friend, especially when verbal and face-to-face contact cannot be made to clarify a message."

Ranttila said if this pattern of misunderstandings persists, ongoing conflict might become part of the relationship. Some friends may be hesitant to explore such patterns with their friends, which can result in significant interpersonal stress.

"I've said things to friends over Facebook and then realized how rude I sounded," said Youngstown State University sophomore Amy Williamson. "You never know when to take people seriously or when to assume they're joking."

Today's college students have been perpetually connected to technology since their childhood; so 57 percent of those polled reported they would actually feel more stressed if they were to unplug from their devices. Stress has caused 63 percent of these students to withdraw from friends and social settings.

"I'm online constantly, and my phone is never away from me," Williamson said. "I've even found that I'll pick up my phone and carry it with me to the kitchen or to the restroom without thinking about it."

As an intervention, Williamson's friends played a trick on her one day and hid

her phone when she walked out of the room.

"They told me I spent too much time on my phone, and I'd get it back after I had some time apart," she said. "Even though I knew my phone wasn't lost or broken, I was angry, upset and totally stressed because I didn't have it on me. My phone is pretty much my baby. There are times when I wish I could just toss my phone in a drawer and forget about it for a couple days. But I know that I could barely manage a couple hours, let alone a couple days."

Students are busy, Ranttila said, so technology can make life easier. However, although social networking sites are "fun and interesting tools to increase connection," it's important to make sure that they "do not replace the value of relationships and attachment," she said.

"The trends noted in the millennial generation are continuing as younger generations prepare for college," she said. "It's all about ease and convenience, even with making friends. I encourage people to utilize them to augment existing relationships, stay in touch, meet new people and cultivate meaningful interactions away from the computer, in addition to those at the computer."

For many YSU students, the results of the mtv-U poll confirm what they already believe to be true about students' mental health and connection to technology.

"The human race isn't just attached to our technology, we're dependent upon it," Williamson said. "We'd pretty much die without it."

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OUR SIDE

## Preparing for the storm

The Jambar  
EDITORIAL BOARD

RELATED STORY

Budget, page 1

Get involved before it's too late, before Youngstown State University's funding is cut and before your tuition is increased.

YSU is taking shelter. The pending storm of uncertain magnitude may leave the university and its students awash in budget cuts and leave the state in a storm of debt.

The rain has already come, as YSU will be losing \$3 million as Ohio's public universities prepare for severe budget cuts.

Cue the hail.

A one-time federal stimulus of more than \$7 million will run out by fiscal year 2012, leaving YSU with less money to work with. Professionals in academia and elsewhere are predicting an \$8 billion deficit, a staggering increase from the \$1 billion deficit the state faced this year. It's unlikely that higher education and other institutions will receive much state support.

Rob Nichols, spokesman for the governor-elect, said the state budget for the next two years hasn't been put together yet, so any reductions or allocations of funds are "pure speculation."

Once the new governor's administration gets a chance to review all factors affecting the budget, Nichols said they will be looking at what programs work and how they can "work smarter and more efficiently."

Balancing the budget and developing a plan for higher education funding should be the governor-elect's top priority.

If YSU becomes a victim to state budget cuts, the board and administration will be forced to make YSU students a victim to tuition increases.

Write the governor-elect and let him know your education is not a matter of speculation.

ABOUT THE JAMBAR

Since being founded by Burke Lyden in 1931, The Jambar has won nine Associated Collegiate Press Honors. The Jambar is published twice weekly during the fall and spring semesters and weekly during summer sessions. Mail subscriptions are \$25 per academic year. Additional copies of The Jambar are \$1 each.

OUR SIDE POLICY

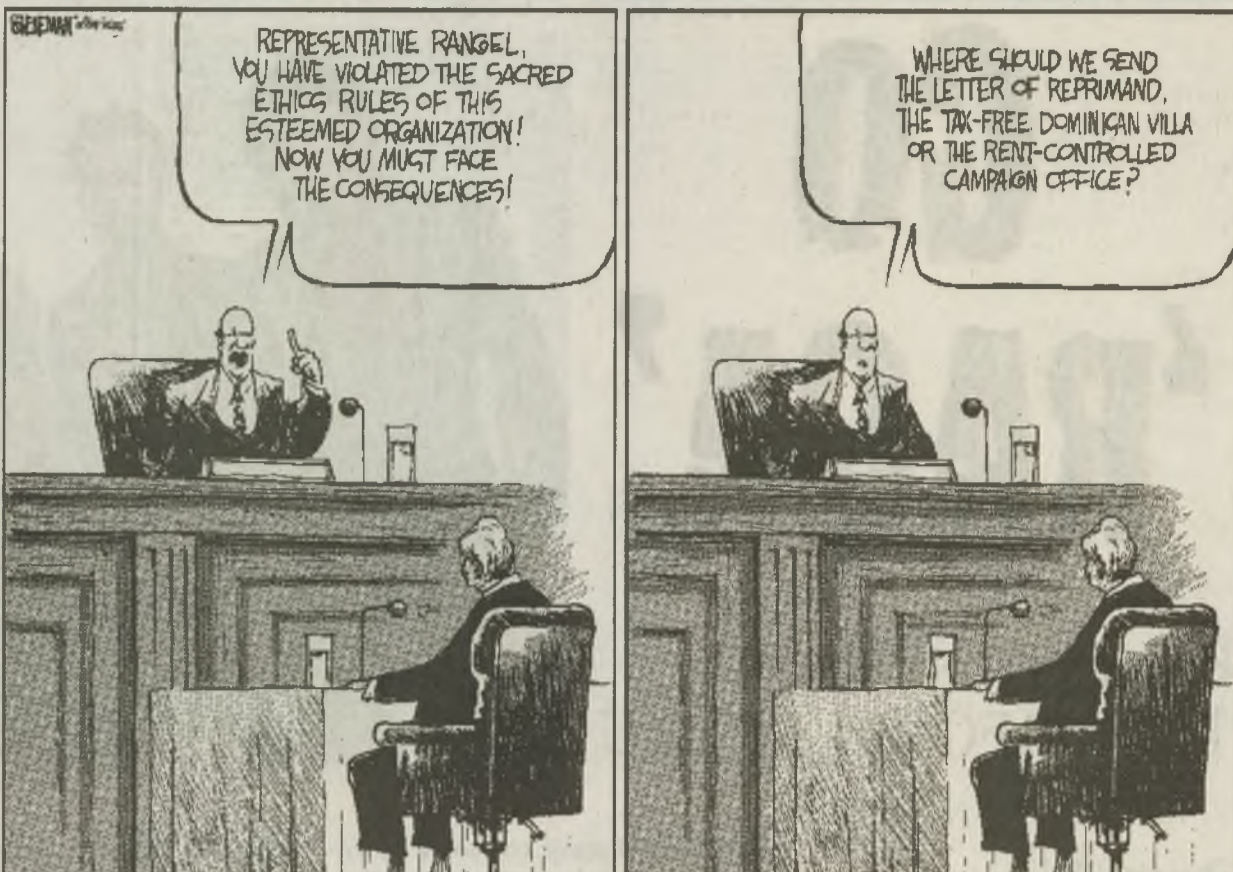
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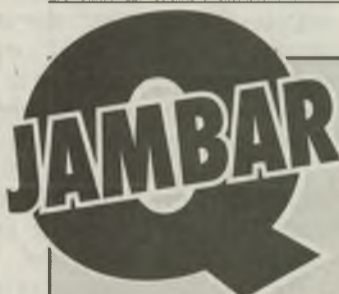
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The views of this syndicated artist do not necessarily agree with those of The Jambar.



*If you were advising YSU President Cynthia Anderson, what budget cuts would you suggest?*



*"The 90 percent of the staff whose job could be replaced by a computer, such as scheduling, billing or accounts."*

Craig Butrick, senior



*"Campus activities held. They could put more money into the tutoring programs. There are not enough tutors."*

Acacia Johnson, freshman



*"Pete's Place; no one ever eats there. Shut it down."*

Chris Garrett, sophomore

## Training better teachers

Camille Esch  
LOS ANGELES TIMES

It seems everyone is down on bad teachers these days. But the truth is that simply removing the bad apples won't fix our education problems. After all, it's not as if there's a large pool of superstar teachers waiting to replace those who are weeded out. Our best hope to improve education broadly and deeply is to strengthen the programs that develop and prepare the vast majority of the nation's teachers.

Unfortunately, many of those systems are in sorry shape. Research has found that teacher preparation programs across the country frequently have low admissions requirements, low exit criteria and a lack of academic rigor. Certainly there are some strong and innovative teacher training programs. But the vast bulk of teachers receive training that is disconnected from what they will experience in actual classrooms.

Coursework tends to be long on theory and short on practical training in such essentials as classroom management and how to actually teach specific subjects. The result is that beginning teachers often walk into their new schools with very little idea how to handle and teach a classroom full of kids.

This lack of preparation is unlikely to be measured or even noticed. Few teacher education programs measure their graduates' success as teachers, or ask graduates or their employers to evaluate the quality or relevance of their preparation. Most school districts have no system in place for evaluating how new teachers from one program compare to those from another. Accreditation agencies monitor program quality at the institutions that train teachers, but they're funded by the very universities they're evaluating and tend to focus more on program design and materials rather than actual outcomes. Although states are supposed to identify and assist programs that are low performing, they rarely do. Out of more than 1,400 colleges of education across the nation, states identify only 38 as having low-performing programs. That doesn't square with the widespread quality concerns raised by outside observers.

About a dozen years ago, Rep. George Miller, D-Calif., led a federal effort to establish a better quality-control system for teacher preparation programs. After a long and controversial battle with universities, he succeeded in getting a federal requirement that education schools must report certain outcomes, such as how many program completers pass teacher licensure tests. But that kind of information, besides being wildly inconsistent across states, says almost nothing about whether graduates are effective teachers.

Certainly the government shouldn't determine exactly what is taught, or how, in education schools. But given the well-documented importance of teacher quality to educational success, government support for education schools should be leveraged to require colleges to get serious about teacher preparation.

That would mean tracking more meaningful measures of success, including information about whether graduates actually get (and keep) teaching jobs, what beginning teachers and their employers think of the quality of their preparation, and whether their teaching has a measurable effect on the achievement of students in the classroom. This kind of information would be invaluable to programs seeking to innovate, and to prospective teachers seeking an effective training program.

Sound impossible? It's not. Louisiana has developed a strong data system that allows it to track where graduates of different preparation programs go and what kind of effect they have on K-12 student achievement. The state also asks new teachers to rate how well their teacher education programs prepared them for their first year of teaching.

In California, the Cal State system voluntarily surveys program graduates about the quality of their preparation, both at graduation time and during their first year of teaching. The university system also surveys the employers and supervisors of graduates and works with several large districts to determine whether the graduates of some programs are more effective teachers than others.

Beyond just collecting this type of data, states should ensure that universities use it to improve teacher preparation programs. This will look different at every college, but for starters it could include tightening standards for program entry and exit. Programs should also focus more on clinical training, and universities should dedicate more tuition revenue to teacher preparation instead of treating the training programs like cash cows to finance other priorities. School districts should carefully collect data on how a program's graduates perform in the classroom. And if, year after year, the data show dismal results for particular teacher preparation programs, then it's fair for the state to shut them down, as U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan has said should be done.

But again, as with teachers, getting rid of a few bad programs isn't nearly as important as strengthening the programs that will continue to educate our teachers. With unemployment so high, it may be hard to imagine a time when many more new teachers will be needed, but as baby boomers retire over the coming decade, we'll need new teachers. And for the sake of children, we need people who are ready for the job on Day One.



TheJambar.com

## GO 'RAGA'

### PAKISTANI BAND TO PERFORM AT YSU



PHOTO COURTESY OF ANNA RUSCITI

Chelsea Miller  
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

Youngstown State University's Performing Arts Series has set its sights across the globe to bring the series' most recent musical act to campus. The Raga Boyz, an internationally renowned music group from Pakistan and India, are set to perform on campus Sunday.

The Raga Boyz consist of brothers Inam Ali Khan, Nayab Ali Khan, Ahmad Hassan Ali Khan and Wali Hamid Ali Khan, the sons of renowned Pakistani singer Ustad Hamid Ali Khan. The band blends various musical genres, including classical, semi-classical, rock and hip hop, to create a unique sound. "Raga" is a Sanskrit term that refers to one of the melodic modes used in In-

dian classical music composed of five or more musical notes upon which a melody is made.

The band has been performing for several years and has toured the world. However, the group's performance at YSU will be the first time at an American college or university.

The Raga Boyz have won several awards internationally, including five Pride of Performance awards from the Pakistan government and two Sitara-e-Imtiaz awards. The Sitara-e-Imtiaz, or star of excellence, is one of the highest honors that can be bestowed on a person in Pakistan. The award is given once a year on Independence Day by the president of Pakistan for distinguished merit in the fields of literature, arts, medicine, sports or science.

Michele Lepore-Hagan, director of the Performing Arts Series, said the main goal in bringing The Raga Boyz to YSU was to increase diversity on

campus, which the Performing Arts Series often strives to do.

"YSU has always been known for its diversity, and this production will continue this tradition," she said. "By bringing this group to YSU, we're giving them ... a greater venue to perform to the YSU community and the greater community."

Lepore-Hagan said community outreach and exposing students to different styles of music were important when scheduling the concert.

The Pakistani Community of Greater Youngstown, the YSU Office of the Provost, the Center for Islamic Studies, the Center for International Studies and Programs, and the Office of Equal Opportunity and Diversity are also sponsoring the event.

Yasmin Rashid, member of the Pakistani Community of Greater Youngstown, had a major part in getting The Raga Boyz to come to YSU.

Rashid, a recording artist, has worked with the group in the past.

The Raga Boyz were interested in performing at the university and Rashid, a former YSU student, spoke with Ikram Khawaja, provost and vice president for academic affairs, who helped organize the concert. Rashid said The Raga Boyz are popular in Pakistan, and that she hopes YSU students will attend their performance.

"This is a young group and our main focus ... was to expose this kind of music to all the world. People should know what's going on in the world. Even though the language is one thing you don't understand ... what's good is good ... It touches your heart," she said.

The concert is free and open to the public. It will begin at 6 p.m. in the Chestnut Room of Kilcawley Center.

## What were you like in college?

The Jambar is starting a new series titled "What were you like in college?" Each week, we will profile one YSU faculty, staff or community member and ask him or her to revisit life as a college student. To kick off the series, reporter Jon McKelvey delves into the mind of Ray Beiersdorfer, professor of geological and environmental sciences.



RAY BEIERSDORFER

Class  
of  
1974

Jon McKelvey  
REPORTER

Most Youngstown State University students know Ray Beiersdorfer. He's easy to spot with his shoulder-length hair, beard, Hawaiian shirts and mismatched Chuck Taylors. He is YSU's award-winning professor of geology.

Beiersdorfer grew up in Ridgewood, N.Y., a neighborhood that's situated between Brooklyn and Queens. Although his father dropped out of high school at 16 years old, Beiersdorfer graduated from Grover Cleveland High School in 1974. He then enrolled at Queens College, a division of the City University of New York, and was the first member of his family to attend college.

"In some ways, [Queens College] was a lot like YSU, predominantly a commuter school," Beiersdorfer said. "It was an open enrollment university, which allowed anyone with a high school diploma to attend. The big difference is that it was ... free tuition, and I tell my students that. YSU should be free, and I was fortunate that Queens College was free."

He mentioned that things have

changed since the mid- and late-1970s. For instance, some professors used to smoke in classrooms as they taught.

"The drinking age was 18 and concert tickets were \$10," Beiersdorfer said. "I remember in 1975, I waited 13 hours in line for The Rolling Stones, and everyone in line was complaining that tickets were so expensive. They were \$12.50. It was a different place. You could go to school for free, drink at 18 and concert tickets were cheap."

Although Beiersdorfer was a good student, his effort and investment in class depended on how interesting the professor made the subject.

"Professors that motivated me, I would always get A's in their classes, and the professors that didn't motivate me, I would end up getting a B or a B+. I noticed, even then, that professors made a big difference," Beiersdorfer said. "If I had one that inspired me and motivated me, I would work extra hard and do quite well because I like being there. It was interesting. Whereas if they were boring, I don't think I put in as much effort."

Geology wasn't Beiersdorfer's first choice as a major. He was originally an economics major who planned to attend law school.

"It wasn't until my sophomore

year that I took my first geology class. It was actually just a friend that said, 'Why don't you try this class?' I had been interested in science, but I just hadn't thought about it as a career," he said.

He liked his geology professors and classmates, along with the amount of travel geologists were able to do.

"I got hooked on that," he said. "They call geology nothing more than 'legitimized tourism.'"

Beiersdorfer also drew motivation from a desire to catch professors' mistakes.

"I would listen so intently trying to catch them making a mistake," he said.

And then, one day, he did. "It took a while," Beiersdorfer said. "[My professor] was off on something else, and I was thinking and focusing, and I raised my hand and said, 'You said that and how can it be?' and he says, 'Very good, Ray. I got it wrong.'"

Beiersdorfer said this amazed his classmates.

"We thought they knew it all, and you tend to do that," Beiersdorfer said. "You go to college and tend to believe that the professors know it all, and it isn't until you get to graduate school that you realize that no one knows everything."

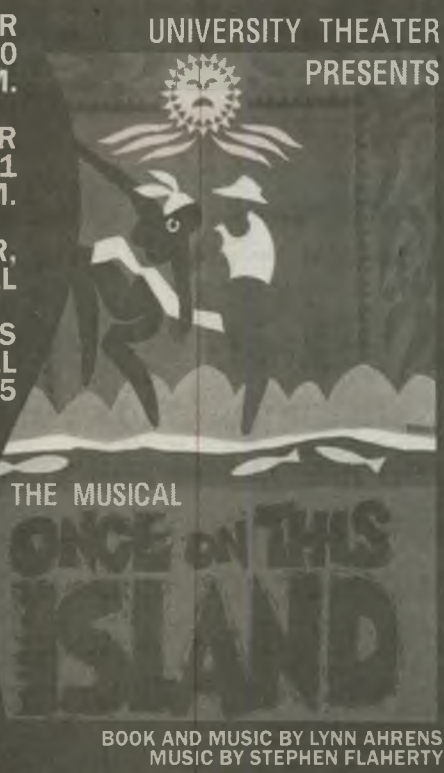
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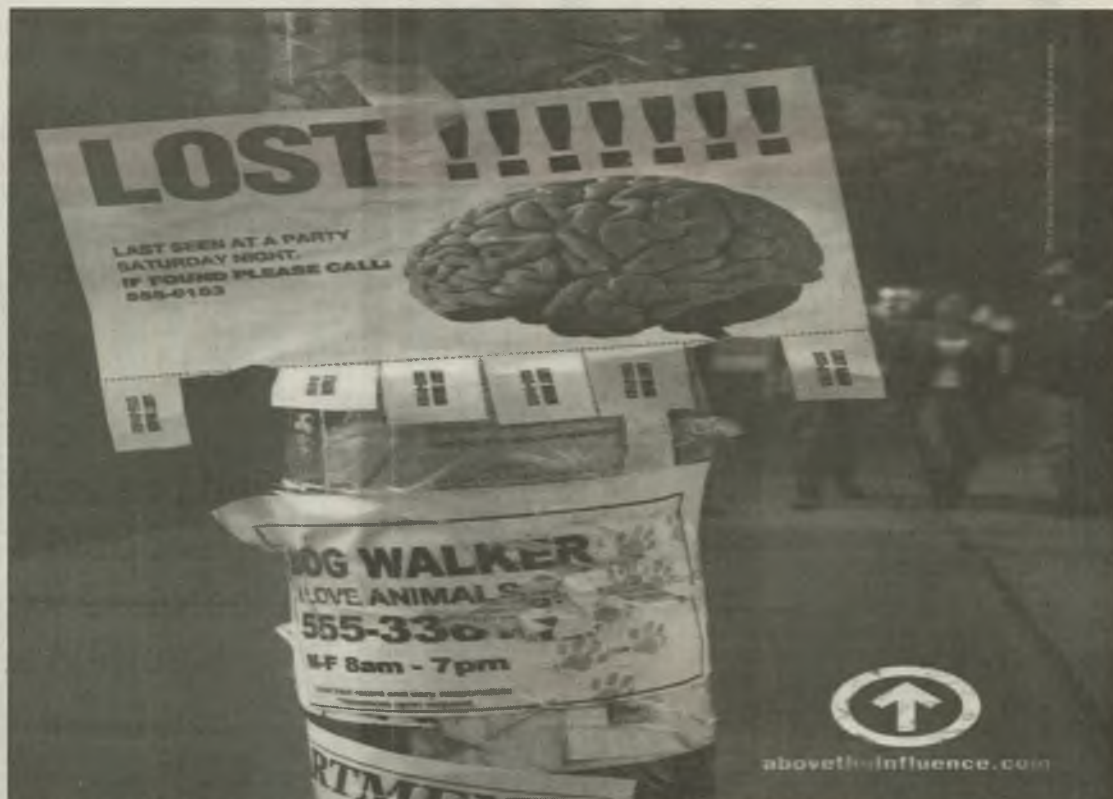


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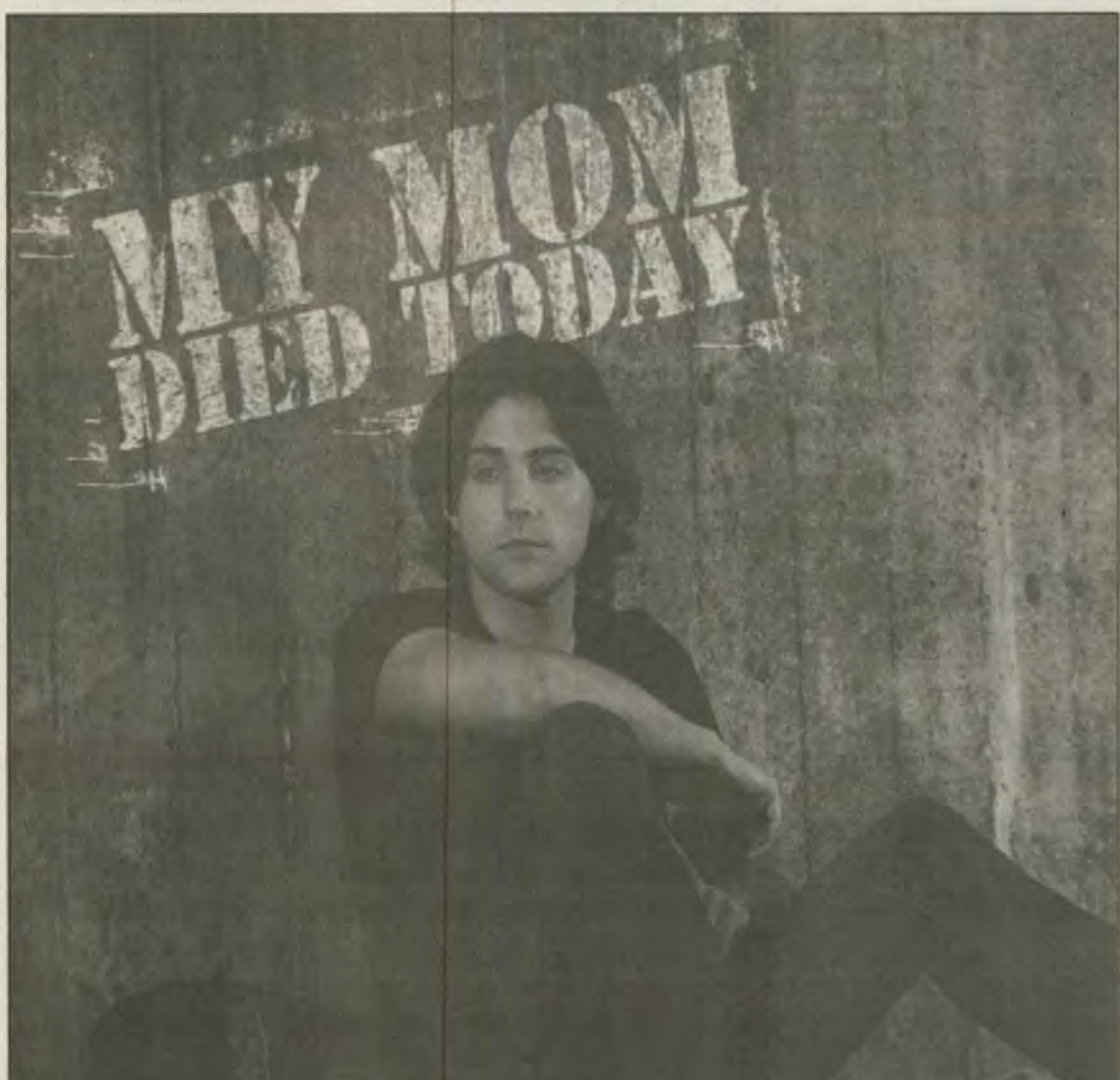
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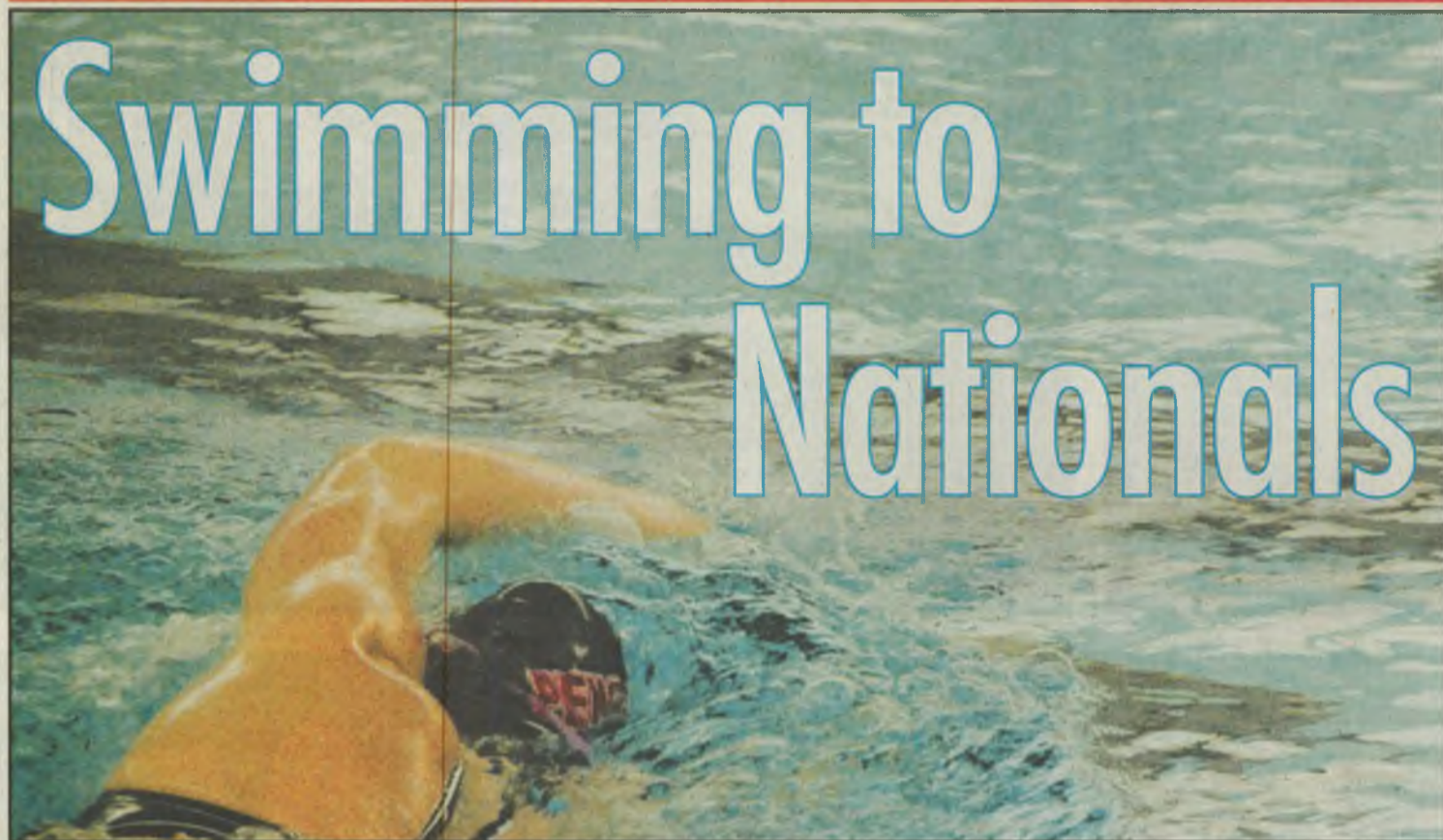
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2 Loyola (IL)	0-0 3-0	T5 Butler	0-0 1-1	8 Milwaukee	0-0 1-2
3 Youngstown State	0-0 2-0	T5 Illinois-Chicago	0-0 1-1	9 Wright State	0-0 0-1



**SOPHOMORE LEADER**-Sophomore Samantha Roberts practices her freestyle stroke in preparation for one of her events, the 400 IM. Roberts wants to improve on her 200-yard breaststroke time to make the national time of 2:16 in that event.

## Roberts a key component of swimming team

Keith Langford Jr.  
SPORTS EDITOR

With only a year and change of experience under her belt, Youngstown State University swimming and diving team member sophomore Samantha Roberts has supplanted herself among the top tier of swimmers the Penguins have on their roster.

Growing up in Spencer, Ind., Roberts had other dreams besides the "Hoosier State's" obsession with basketball. Roberts never found basketball or any sport with a ball interesting. She was a dancer before her interests

switched to swimming.

"I'm really terrible with anything on land or with a ball," Roberts said about her athletic endeavors outside of swimming.

The 2000 Summer Olympics in Sydney drew her away from dancing and more toward competitive swimming. She started competing at age 10, but had been swimming since shortly after birth.

"My mom had me in the pool when I was a baby to get used to it," Roberts said.

She said it is important for kids from birth to 5 years old to learn to swim to avoid drowning, and credits her mother for her ability to swim at a young age.

During her high school years, Roberts set school records in four different events at Edgewood High School. Roberts set records in the 200-yard individual medley, 100-yard breaststroke, 100-yard butterfly and the 500-yard freestyle.

Roberts said the biggest adjustment between high school and college was the difference in yardages.

She added that her high school didn't practice in the morning like she does at YSU and that college practices are more difficult.

Roberts misses her family, her dog, Biscuit, and being out in the country.

During the recruitment process to bring Roberts to YSU, head coach Matt Anderson would call her every day. Roberts liked the team when she visited and said her team is what she likes most about YSU.

Roberts said that one thing she didn't like about YSU is people smoking on campus.

"I hate it when they stand outside the buildings," she said.

YSU was Roberts' only collegiate visit even though other schools had recruited her. Roberts visited one Hal-

loween weekend and signed her national letter of intent to come to YSU two weeks later.

Anderson said that what Roberts brings to the team is "her personality."

"She always has a smile on her face and she's happy to be here ... she trains really hard," he said.

Since Roberts has been at YSU, she has done more than impress. Anderson expected big things from her in the 200-yard breaststroke but was surprised by what she brought to the table in the 100-yard breaststroke and the 400-yard IM.

With the 100- and 200-yard breaststroke records already in her back pocket, Roberts now eyes a bigger goal: making the national time in her strongest event, the 200-yard breaststroke. The national time is set at 2:16, and her YSU record set last year in the Horizon League Championships is 2:21.

"It takes a lot of hard work and dedication. I'm faster than I was last season. My times are faster than at this time last season, and I'm already close to my best times already," Roberts said.

### BASKETBALL TOP 25

1. DUKE
2. MICHIGAN STATE
3. KANSAS STATE
4. OHIO STATE
5. PITTSBURGH
6. VILLANOVA
7. KANSAS
8. NORTH CAROLINA
9. FLORIDA
10. SYRACUSE
11. GONZAGA
12. KENTUCKY
13. ILLINOIS
14. PURDUE
15. MISSOURI
16. BUTLER
17. BAYLOR
18. WASHINGTON
19. MEMPHIS
20. GEORGETOWN
21. TEMPLE
22. VIRGINIA TECH
23. BRIGHAM YOUNG
24. TENNESSEE
25. SAN DIEGO STATE

### QUOTE OF THE DAY

*"I'm really terrible with anything on land or with a ball."*

-Samantha Roberts

### PENGUIN SPOTLIGHT



DAMIAN EARGLE

**POSITION:** Forward  
**YEAR:** Sophomore  
**HOMETOWN:** Warren, Ohio  
**HIGH SCHOOL:** Harding  
**2010-2011 Stats (Per game average):**  
**Points:** 5.5  
**Rebounds:** 10.5  
**Blocks:** 3

### SCHEDULES

**SWIMMING & DIVING**  
 Nov. 18-20-@ Radford Invitational  
 Jan. 7- @ Ohio  
 Jan. 15- AKRON/ST. FRANCIS (Pa.)  
 Jan. 22- @ Cleveland State  
 Jan. 28- @ UIC

### WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Nov. 17- @ Bowling Green  
 Nov. 20- IPFW  
 Nov. 24- BUCKNELL  
 Nov. 27- OHIO  
 Dec. 1- @Kent State

### MEN'S BASKETBALL

Nov. 20- @Akron  
 Nov. 24- TOLEDO  
 Nov. 27- SAINT FRANCIS (Pa.)  
 Dec. 2- @ Milwaukee  
 Dec. 4- @ Green Bay



PHOTOS BY KEITH LANGFORD JR./THE JAMBAR

## Renewed Penguin squad takes undefeated record to Akron

Keith Langford Jr.  
SPORTS EDITOR

A fast start to a season is a bit of a mystery for the Youngstown State University men's basketball program. For the past two seasons, the Penguins have lost their season-opening games, and have not gotten off to a 2-0 start since the 2004-2005 season.

This season is a bit different. The Penguins made significant changes to their roster, with 11 new Penguin players compared to last season's eight-win team.

The Penguins are winning games with a very young team. The starting lineup includes freshman point guard Kendrick Perry and transfer sophomore forward Damian Eargle.

"I think the fun thing for us in the game is that you can learn from winning," head coach Jerry Slocum said.

Before he addressed the media after the win against the University at Buffalo Bulls, he jokingly switched the chair from the one that junior Ashen Ward and Eargle sat in beforehand to one free of sweat.

He switched chairs because of all the sweat Ward and Eargle passed off.

No joking matter, however, was the physicality the Penguins displayed against the Bulls. The supposedly bigger Mid-American Conference team in Buffalo was outplayed

and outbounded by the supposedly smaller, quicker Horizon League team in YSU.

"We had to show them we're no pushover team," Eargle said after the game.

The Penguins had a similar start last year at home in November. They won all three of their home games through six games but won only three more home games, out of 12, the rest of the season.

Slocum said he believes all the home games this month can only benefit a young team.

"This is going to be an interesting month for us. Obviously, we're excited to play some home games early," Slocum said.

But the Penguins will go on the road for the first time this season Saturday night. They will take the short drive across I-76 West to face the University of Akron Zips, another tough MAC team.

The Zips were picked to finish third, out of six teams, in the east division of the MAC conference. This season, the Zips are 1-1 with a win against Millikin University, a Division III school, and a loss in their last game against the University of Dayton Flyers.

A key player the Penguins should plan for is Zips junior guard Brett McClanahan. McClanahan is a lethal shooter from three-point range in his career and this season. He has made six of his 16 three-point attempts this season in two games. He is the leading scorer for the Zips with 15 points



**THROWING THE HAMMER DOWN**- Sophomore forward Damian Eargle energized the crowd with this dunk against Samford University in the Penguins' season opener. He's averaging 5.5 points per game and is leading the team in rebounds, averaging 10.5 per game.

per game and chips in five rebounds a game.

The last time these two teams met was in the 2008-2009 season at Beeghly Center. The Zips got the best of the Penguins on that night as they won easily, 67-53. Former Penguin DeAndre Mays led the Penguins in defeat with 18 points.

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vember. They won all three of their home games through six games but only won three more home games, out of 12, the rest of the season.

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