

THE JAMBAR

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SERVING UP BAGELS, SMILES

THE SIDEBAR

University growing despite economy

Lamar Salter
REPORTER

Despite recent economic turmoil, Youngstown State University continues to grow at a steady pace without the need for any drastic changes, particularly staff pay cuts.

Last year, Washington State University's president took a \$100,000 pay cut in an effort to manage the school's budget. Many presidents at colleges such as the University of Connecticut and Rutgers

University have turned down bonus pay in support of their schools during the country's financial crisis.

In Ohio, Northeastern Ohio Universities Colleges of Medicine and Pharmacy President Lois Margaret Nora returned \$26,666 to the medical program for budgeting purposes.

However, YSU has not needed to cut pay of any staff thanks to continued contributions and high enrollment.

Ron Cole, manager of news and information services, said the university has been doing very well in spite of the economic crisis.

Cole also said YSU faculty and staff, including President Sweet, have contributed to YSU in support of various programs.

"Collectively, the top administration has donated a total of \$65,000 in contributions to the school's centennial capital campaign," Cole said.

The centennial capital campaign is a program designed to fund student scholarships, programs and projects, such as the construction of the new Williamson College of Business Administration building, which is currently underway.

Job search challenging for students given economy

Michael Bury
REPORTER

Tough economic times are leaving soon-to-be graduates with even more worry about finding a job than in previous years.

With companies like Time Warner Inc. and Boeing Co. laying off people in droves, many college students are finding their futures in a tailspin. Recently, General Motors announced they will be laying off nearly 2000 of its employees.

The Office of Career and Counseling Services releases yearly statistics that show how many recent graduates are fully employed. The last statistics released from Career and Counseling services show 58.6 percent of males and 52.3 percent of females were fully employed after graduation. 80 percent of those graduates did not relocate.

Sophomore Jessica Pignatelli, education major, hopes she'll be able to find work after she graduates.

"Yeah, I'm worried. I'm still deciding what I want to teach, but I hope I find a job," Pignatelli said.

However, some professors are still optimistic about their students' futures.

Joan Boyd, professor of health professions, said employment in the medical field will probably be safe. Boyd said there are many jobs for graduates in clinical labs.

Boyd also said as long as students have the proper credentials and training, they should have no problem finding a job in the medical field. Those that do not will eventually suffer from the troubled economy.

"It may show up [in a] year or so if students don't have the proper training and do not get the proper amount of money for tuition," Boyd said.

Mary Eckard, academic advisor for education, said that leading jobs will be in education and medical fields. Jobs will always be available for those that are willing to relocate.

"Some students are now going to job fairs to get jobs in other areas of the country such as Florida or California," Eckard said.

Eckard cautioned that as graduates leave the area, it will lessen the demand for teachers, causing more teachers to be laid off.

Physical education major Jason Smith is one of those willing to relocate to obtain a job in his field. Smith said he will prob-

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Survey of recent graduates

GRADUATES EMPLOYED FULL-TIME

52.3% Female
58.6% Male

GRADUATE STUDIES EMPLOYED FULL-TIME

78.5% Female
76.6% Male

NOT EMPLOYED

18.3% Female
25.7% Male

80% of those employed did not relocate.

SOURCE: 2008-2007 OFFICE OF INSTITUTIONAL RESEARCH

Celebrating Heritage



The Youngstown State University Gospel Choir sings to open the Shereka: Black Heritage Festival held in the Kilcauley Center.

Mental health training offered in McKay Auditorium

Sheridan Sullivan
CONTRIBUTOR

The Mahoning County Board of Mental Health will partner with the Youngstown State University police department to offer free crisis-management training to faculty and staff.

Two sessions of MTRAC [Mental Health Training and Response Awareness on Campus] will be offered in the Beeghly College of Education's McKay Auditorium Feb. 17 and 18, from 7:45 a.m. to noon, and will then continue from 12:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. A panel discussion and Q-and-A session will follow.

Interested parties should register via the office of the vice president for student affairs with Donna Greenaway. There is no set capacity or deadline, though approximately 180 people attended last year. Those registering will be asked to complete a brief survey.

Partially in response to the Virginia Tech incident, the aim of the workshop is to make people aware of the signs and symptoms of mental disorder, said Toni Natarro of the Mahoning County Mental Health Board. Natarro cited a "lack of communication and awareness"

"Every one of us has the potential to be dealing with mental health issues, and we need to take care of each other."

Toni Natarro, Mahoning County Mental Health Board

with the troubled student. The sessions will cover how to recognize a student in crisis and respond to them, said Michael Cretella of the YSU police. At least one representative of the police department will be present to take questions during the session's concluding panel discussion. De-escalation tips and self-control techniques will be presented to faculty and staff who may choose to intervene with a troubled student. Cretella recommends asking open-ended questions that allow the student to direct the conversation. Early warning signs of stu-

dent trouble include a sudden change in dress and behavior, difficulty dealing with the end of a relationship, a confrontational attitude and, most importantly, said Victoria Kress of YSU's community counseling clinic, verbalizing discomfort.

As for whether the global recession has anything to do with an increased need for mental health care, Julie Thomas of YSU's psychology department said, "Money can't buy love, but problems with money can certainly contribute to problems with relationships."

Thomas pointed to intimate relationships as a major source of tension for college students. Any students experiencing discomfort over the end of a relationship should first be examined physically, especially if they are female, Thomas said.

Many students have trouble leaving their old social circle and investing all of that energy into a single relationship. This tendency, combined with the brevity and volatility of college life, can be dangerous, Thomas said.

Thomas attended one of last year's sessions and found it to be "helpful and educational."

Additionally, Kress said the ability to cope with a student's psychological condition is a valuable skill for any educator.

Natarro also said it "goes without saying" that the less anxious and depressed a student is, the better his or her academic performance will be.

For many, anxiety, depression and alienation are typical, normal struggles. The main goal of therapy or counseling, then, is to teach the person coping skills and provide them with a support system. Cretella described his personal experiences with students in crisis. Sometimes, the student "can't even tell you what's wrong," he said.

The workshop is funded by a grant made possible through the Margaret Clark Morgan Foundation, while additional funding is through the Ohio Department of Mental Health and the Ohio Board of Regents. The program is also part of a study conducted by Northeastern Ohio Universities Colleges of Medicine and Pharmacy. This multi-party program is the first of its kind, Natarro said.

"Every one of us has the potential to be dealing with mental health issues, and we need to take care of each other," she said.

Two sessions were offered last year, and two more will be offered next year. A similar program open to students is in the works.



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THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2008

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News Briefs

YSU hosts business workshop

Liberty High School students will be on campus Feb. 4 to take part in an international business workshop. The Williamson College of Business and the Emerging Markets Initiative will be teaching students the importance of America's role in the international business market. Students will participate in computer simulations, discussions and will be able to sample some international cuisine.

Drama workshop to be held in Bliss

Alpha Psi Omega and the national theater honors society host will be hosting a drama workshop for high school students Thursday, Feb. 19 in Bliss Hall's Ford Theatre. The \$6 admission allows guests to participate in the workshops, lunch and performance of "The Servant of Two Masters."

Police Briefs

Police investigate fight

On Feb. 2, two YSU officers were sent to the Lyden House in regard to a fight. Upon arrival, one officer spoke to a man who stated that he was trying to break up a fight. The man had a large laceration on his forearm. An ambulance arrived and the man was taken to St. Elizabeth's hospital for treatment.

Man arrested at Kilcauley

On Feb. 3, two Mahoning County Sheriffs advised YSU police that they had a visual on a man at YSU's Kilcauley Center with a warrant out for his arrest. Another officer arrived on the scene to investigate and the man was detained until the warrant was confirmed. The man was transported to the Mahoning County Justice Center for booking.

Phone lost at Bliss Hall

An officer was called to dispatch on Feb. 3 after a cleaning supervisor at Bliss Hall turned in a black AT&T flip phone that was found on the third floor of Bliss Hall. She contacted the owner who stated that she would pick up the phone.

Woman witnesses sexual act

On Feb. 3 an officer was sent to the Cafaro House honors office to meet with a student who witnessed a man masturbating in his car after the man had asked the same woman for the time. The woman ran north on Elm Street to avoid the subject. She was unable to observe a license number or direction of travel of the vehicle.

Funding for college harder to get; start planning early

Kira Millage
 MCCLATCHY NEWSPAPERS

College always has been an expensive endeavor for families and students, but in the coming academic year it could be even worse.

The recession and collapse of several financial institutions that provided student loans means less federal and state funding is available for students to use for education.

And the cost of college, especially at state schools, is increasing as higher education institutions try to offset budget cuts as much as possible.

"It's definitely harder to get funding now," said David Thomas, managing director of D.P. Thomas Consulting in Bellingham, which helps families figure out how to pay for college. "The problem is this year there is less money and fewer underwriters available. ... There are a lot still in the (loan) business that are not doing these loans anymore."

In 2008, about \$169 billion was available for financial aid across the country, according to the College Board, with about 44 percent coming from the federal government.

It is unknown how much federal and state funding will be available this year. But it is still possible to find it, especially if people start planning early, Thomas said during a recent workshop on college

financing.

The best way to start is by filling out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid, which is the only way people can qualify for federal funding, including Pell Grants and subsidized Stafford loans, Thomas said. By filling out the form, families find out what the government thinks they should be able to pay, giving them a starting point in determining how much money to raise.

Many families who send their kids to college "borrow to the hilt," Thomas said, relying on home equity loans and stock market investments to make ends meet. But the stock and housing market declines have made those options less available.

Tuition costs won't be known until the state budget is finalized, but in Gov. Chris Gregoire's proposed budgets, four-year schools in Washington state would be able to raise tuition by 7 percent. For the 2008-09 school year, tuition at Western Washington University, not including room and board and material fees, was about \$5,800 for three quarters. University of Washington was about \$6,800, not including room and board.

Tuition at private schools has also been rising, even though their funding is not tied to state budgets. According to the College Board, private college tuition rose an average of 5.9 percent this academic year,

Some people fill out the FAFSA online and stop. You have stopped way short if that's all you've done."

David Thomas, managing director of D.P. Thomas Consulting

bringing the average cost to about \$25,000, not including room and board.

But there are plenty of other funding opportunities through private organizations and schools. Students and parents need to be sure to research their college of choice, know what scholarships are available and how to maximize spending power. Families also should talk to tax professionals about options that involve tax credits.

"Some people fill out the FAFSA online and stop," Thomas said during a workshop. "You have stopped way short if that's all you've done."

Oil, gas leases withdrawn for Utah red-rock lands

Renee Schoof
 MCCLATCHY NEWSPAPERS

The Interior Department on Wednesday put the brakes on a Bush administration plan to expand oil and gas drilling in Utah's wild red-rock country near Arches and Canyonlands national parks.

Interior Secretary Ken Salazar withdrew the leases of 77 oil and gas parcels, or 130,000 acres. The leases were also near Dinosaur National Monument and Nine Mile Canyon, an area with prehistoric rock art. Salazar said the auction Dec. 19 took place without a proper environmental review and consultation with the National Park Service.

Salazar said the department would reconsider the leases and decide whether they were appropriate. It's possible that "a very large portion" of the land could be put up for lease, he said.

The cancellation of the leases was one of the first actions that the Obama administration has taken to protect environmentally sensitive public lands. Salazar called it "an important first step to making sure we have the right balance between development of our resources and protection of our environment."

Actor Robert Redford said in a statement that Salazar's announcement was "a sign that af-

ter eight long years of rapacious greed and backdoor dealings, our government is returning a sense of balance to the way it manages our lands" and added: "American citizens once again have a say in the fate of their public lands, which in this case happen to be some of the last pristine places on Earth."

Jack Gerard, the president of the American Petroleum Institute, objected to the decision, saying that it ran counter to President Barack Obama's goal of reducing reliance on foreign oil.

"We hope today's decision does not signal the administration is returning to the failed policies of the past, leaving much of America's vast energy resources locked up while the nation's demand for energy continues to grow," he said in a statement.

Environmental groups had sued to try to block the sale, and U.S. District Judge Ricardo M. Urbina issued a temporary restraining order in January that prevented the Bureau of Land Management from going ahead with the leases.

Salazar's decision requires the BLM to return about \$6 million to the companies that bid on the leases.

The decision didn't affect the leases on nearly 20,000 other acres of public land in Utah that were auctioned Dec. 19.

Salazar said at a news conference Wednesday announcing the decision that he was

reviewing about a dozen other decisions that he said were rushed through in the last days of the Bush administration, but he declined to give any hints about what he'd do.

One of them was a go-ahead for oil and gas development off the coasts.

"It's very much on the table," the interior secretary said. Obama has said the Outer Continental Shelf might contain appropriate places to explore and develop, Salazar said. "We simply are in the process of reviewing what kind of changes ought to be made," he said.

Republicans in the House of Representatives announced Wednesday that dozens of their members, led by Reps. Kevin Brady of Texas and John Shimkus of Illinois, had written to Obama urging him to go ahead with the offshore leasing. They argued that jobs and energy security were at stake.

"We depend on the resources we extract from our land for a great part of our energy portfolio," Salazar said.

The U.S. gets about one-third of its oil and gas and 50 percent of its coal from federal lands, Salazar said, and he predicted that the country would continue to use oil, gas and coal "as we open up the new energy frontier we're creating." He has said in the past that carbon-based fuels are needed until alternative fuels are more widely available.

their majors.

Nicholas Bolash is glad he picked engineering as his major. Bolash felt other majors might have problems, but doesn't foresee any difficulty finding a job in engineering.

"Since I'm going into engineering, I'm not all that concerned. But for most professions, graduating in the next couple of years, I would be concerned," Bolash said.

Classifieds

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got an opinion?

ECONOMY page 1

ably relocate to North Carolina or South Carolina because the job situation is better there. He doesn't mind though because he loves physical education.

"There's nothing I'd rather do," Smith said.

Fellow physical education major Matthew Murray thinks he'll end up managing a health and nutrition store in a mall if he has to stay around here.

"If I have to be here, I'd rather be doing something I like," Murray said.

Brianna Rapp, forensic science major, is among the students who think they are safe in their career choices, because there will always be a need for it.

"I think it will be okay, because my field has to do with criminals," Rapp said.

Others also feel secure in

PAID ADVERTISEMENT

A QUESTION FOR THE UNITED STATES HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL MUSEUM

I have asked the Director of the Center for Advanced Holocaust Studies at the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum, Dr. Paul Shapiro, if he can "provide, with proof, the name of one person who was killed in a gas chamber at Auschwitz." Dr. Shapiro does not respond. I copied my letter to Dr. Shapiro's colleagues at the Museum. They do not respond. I have asked more than 2,000 American academics the same question. None has responded.

Following WWII the gas-chamber story was the primary instrument used to morally justify the Jewish conquest of Arab land in Palestine, and following that to morally justify the ruinous U.S. alliance with Israel against the Palestinians and whomever. After 9/11, Iraq, Afghanistan, and now Gaza, we can all see what has come of that one, and perhaps what is yet to come.

I'm willing to be convinced that I am wrong to ask this question. If you believe I am wrong, or that no moral issue is involved, tell me why. I can be reached at [HYPERLINK "mailto:bradley1930@yahoo.com"](mailto:HYPERLINKmailto:bradley1930@yahoo.com) bradley1930@yahoo.com.

Bradley R. Smith, Founder

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Youngstown State University



African American History Month Celebration 2009

Proverb of the month: "If you understand the beginning well, the end will not trouble you." *Ashanti of Ghana*

Wednesday, February 4
6:30 p.m., Chestnut Room, Kilcawley Center
Sherekea: The Black Heritage Festival
This celebration of many aspects of black culture, recognizes traditions and talents rooted in South American, African, Caribbean, and American cultures. The event will include poetry readings, a gospel choir and mime performances. Harabebe and step dancers, and foods of various cultures. This event is co-sponsored by the Office of Housing & Residence Life. (Sherekea is Swahili for Celebrate.)

Thursday, February 5
7:00 p.m., The McDonough Museum of Art
Reception: 5:00 p.m., Bliss Hall Gallery
Panel Discussion 6:00 p.m.
Art Exhibition and Panel Discussion "Recreation: Green Art Forms"

Christine Bethea is a nationally renowned artist and arts educator from Pittsburgh, PA. Although she commonly refers to herself as "The Accidental Artist," her works have been featured in a national best selling quilt book, *A Communion of the Spirit: African American Quilters, Preservers, and Their Stories*, by Roland L. Freeman. Ms. Bethea has received numerous awards as an arts administrator, curator, and supporter of the visual arts. She recently co-founded Passports, an art diversity project which promotes the work of artists of all backgrounds in southwestern Pennsylvania. Her art will be on display at the Bliss Hall Art Gallery, College of Fine and Performing Arts, throughout the month of February. This event is co-sponsored by the College of Fine & Performing Arts.

Saturday, February 7
Noon-6:00 p.m., Chestnut Room, Kilcawley Center
The African Marketplace
The Marketplace offers a wide range of dazzling sights and objects to view, sample, and purchase, ranging from art objects, jewelry, and Afrocentric writings to creations that are rare and hard to find. The variety of goods and products represent the creative genius of Africans and African Americans. Entertainment will be presented by the dynamic Harabebe Youth Group.

Tuesday, February 10
6:30 p.m., The Gallery, Kilcawley Center
Location of Displays: Maag Library
Black Faculty Research Showcase and Panel Discussion
Selected African American faculty will display their publications in Maag Library and participate in a panel discussion on their current and future research projects in the Gallery, Kilcawley Center.

Friday, February 13
5:45 p.m., Chestnut Room, Kilcawley Center
A Play: Boys, Pull Your Pants Up
This theatrical performance is based on a new book by Akron novelist Jeweleen Banks. It satirizes the current style among African American youth of wearing their pants below their waist. The impact of negative hip hop styles and videos is closely scrutinized. Banks' message is quite simple: appearances matter, and first impressions mean everything, especially to talented youth.

Friday, February 20
7:00 p.m., The Ohio Room, Kilcawley Center
Lecture: African Architects of Egyptian Civilization
Anthony Browder

Mr. Browder is a cultural historian on Ancient Egypt, an author, publisher, artist, and educational consultant. He is a graduate of Howard University's College of Fine Arts and has lectured extensively in the United States, the Caribbean, Africa, Japan, and Europe. He is the founder and director of Cultural Resources and has spent 28 years researching ancient Egyptian history, science, philosophy, and culture. He is author of publications that include *Nile Valley Contributions to Civilization*, *Egypt on the Papyrus*, and *Decoding Egyptian Architecture and Symbolism*. Mr. Browder's books will be on display and he will be available for book signing after the lecture.

Monday, February 23
7:00 p.m., The Gallery Room, Kilcawley Center
Lecture: Africanist Value-Centered Education in the Global Village
Dr. Yvonne Brown is a Canadian educator who has done extensive research on the link between colonization and globalization. She has sponsored international service-learning projects in Africa and Canada. In her position as manager of international initiatives for the faculty of education at the University of British Columbia, she has analyzed and interpreted the university's internationalization policy and weighed its implications for education. Papers and articles she has written include "Green Paper on Internationalization" in the *Faculty of Education and Education's Global Journey in Teacher Education*.

KEYNOTE LECTURE: BY THE SKEGGS LECTURER

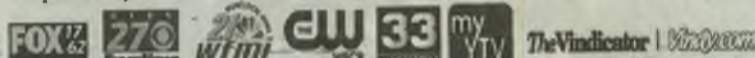
Thursday, February 26
7:30 p.m., Stambaugh Auditorium
Dr. Cornel West

Professor of Religion and African American Studies at Princeton University
Dr. Cornel West is one of America's most prominent and prolific public intellectuals. He is a much sought-after speaker in universities across the country addressing a wide variety of topics across disciplines to various audiences. He is the recipient of over 20 honorary degrees and a National Book Award. His numerous books include *Prophecy Deliverance: An Afro-American Revolutionary Christianity*, *Race Matters*, *Democracy Matters*, and *Hope on a Tightrope*. Dr. West is a longtime member of the Democratic Socialists of America.

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

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Bagel Stop boasts best service with a smile

Tracylyn Tsarnas
REPORTER

Almost daily, prospective students tour Youngstown State University's campus. Among their stops are Maag Library, Kilcawley Center and, inevitably, the Bagel Stop. Ranking in the top five among all Sodexo Bagel Stops nationwide for customer service, YSU's Bagel Stop often sports a long line of students between classes.

Due to the success of the Bagel Stop, the previous Corner Cafe on the Wick Pedestrian Bridge is now being converted into a Bagel Stop Express, which will feature an identical menu.

However, the Bagel Stop's success is not wholly due to its convenient location or menu. Tom Totterdale, general manager of dining services at YSU, claims it is partly due to the overwhelming popularity of Bagel Stop employees Linda Wittenauer and Denise Lobaugh.

Known for their kindness and service with a smile, these ladies have become campus fixtures over the past few years. Most students know them by name. Both Wittenauer and Lobaugh treat students like their own children, even assuring touring parents their children will be looked after. Typically, Wittenauer is best at remembering students' names and faces, while Lobaugh remembers their orders.

Wittenauer has worked at YSU's Bagel Stop for the past eight years, and Lobaugh has been her partner for the past two. In the years they have spent in the center of campus, Kilcawley Center, the most unusual occurrence they've experienced was this past Halloween. A student, dressed as Party Boy from the 2006 movie "Jackass Number Two," ran through Kilcawley wearing nothing but underwear and a bow tie.

Although Wittenauer and Lobaugh don't pick favorites among their customers, they, like many regulars, have

favorites off the Bagel Stop menu. Lobaugh likes the ever-popular Buffalo Chicken Wrap, while Wittenauer likes the Peanut Butter with Marshmallow Fluff and Chocolate Chip Sandwich. Even so, Wittenauer admitted she sometimes gets sick of the food.

"[After work], I go home and make my husband dinner. Sometimes he wants peanut butter and jelly sandwiches, and I want to scream," Wittenauer said.

Despite different favorites off the Bagel Stop menu, the ladies said they are quite similar. Both have two sons; Wittenauer's boys are 33 and 35, while Lobaugh's sons are 23 and 25. Also, both women have 5-year-old granddaughters. Wittenauer and Lobaugh said some students might be surprised to learn this kind of information about them.

"My boys are both of age and I have a granddaughter. Kids always think I'm too young for all that," Wittenauer said.

Maybe it's the striking amount of similarities between the two women, but Lobaugh and Wittenauer stressed how much they enjoy working together at the Bagel Stop. They claim to work hand-in-hand and are an in-sync team.

"Denise is the closest to a dream. I try and thank her once a day for all she does," Wittenauer said. "I do have my bad days, but I try not to show it. They will never see it because I don't bring it to work."

"She will start a job and I will finish it," Lobaugh added.

Both Lobaugh and Wittenauer like their jobs, their bosses and love the students. In recent customer satisfaction polls, they received 93 percent customer satisfaction reviews, which is a full 35 percent above the current national average. If ratings foreshadow the future, it seems to be a safe assumption that Wittenauer and Lobaugh will be a part of YSU's campus life for quite some time to come.

Really cold winter has birds befuddled

James M. O'Neill
THE RECORD

With temperatures lingering well below freezing on many days, January turned out to be one of the coldest in 25 years cold enough to attract birds from the Arctic and force others to head south.

Because of the cold, northern New Jersey ponds, creeks and marshes have iced over. Unable to feed, some water birds have shifted their home base to the region's more open waters while others who usually winter here have packed up and flown south, according to local naturalists.

Meanwhile, birds not normally seen this far south have appeared in the Meadowlands including owls who normally breed in the Arctic tundra and winter in northern Canada and birds who usually prefer the frigid Great Lakes.

One recent Saturday during a bird walk, Newhouse said he saw about a hundred ducks crammed into a tiny opening surrounded by ice in one impoundment pool.

"They're getting pushed out of their favorite haunts and moving," said Pete Bacinski, director of the Sandy Hook Bird Observatory.

The long-term average temperature for Newark is just about freezing, while it has been 28 degrees this month, causing many waters to ice over. Newark Airport recorded 18 days in January when the average temperature was below normal.

In Wayne, N.J., the daily high temperature never even made it to 32 degrees on 14 January days, and the daily low was in the teens or colder on 18 days. There were lows of 8 degrees, 5 degrees and even zero.

"The rough-legged hawks have a difficult time hunting in deep snow," said Mike Britt, regional editor of New Jersey Birds, the Audubon Society's quarterly magazine.

"The cold can also push down more bald eagles, and we've seen a number at Mill Creek Point in Secaucus," Britt said. "I saw one a couple of weeks ago hunting a ruddy duck. The ducks all had their tail feathers up in the air, like they were signaling an alarm."

The rough-legged hawks and snowy owls aren't likely to hang around the Meadowlands for long. Newhouse said these are early breeders, and will probably start to make their way back north by the middle of February.



LEFT: Denise Lobaugh, (left) and Linda Wittenauer



ABOVE: Denise Lobaugh (right) and Linda Wittenauer show their Super Bowl spirit. The women admit that they are opposites.



ABOVE: Denise Lobaugh, Bagel Stop employee, waits on students during the lunchtime rush. Photos by Tracylyn Tsarnas.

SUCKED IN BY VAMPIRES

Tyler Landis
CONTRIBUTIONS

Bloodsuckers were a hot commodity in 2008; movies, books and bands all had a valiant hand in this pop culture wave coming full circle. Vampires have been a popular subject in past years with TV shows like Buffy, and '80s flicks like "The Lost Boys," and various Dracula recreations.

The most obvious source for this new rage was the "Twilight" books. Written by Stephanie Meyer, "Twilight" is a series of four vampire/fantasy/romance books. The main storyline of the first novel follows Isabella Swan's adventures into the vampire world when she falls for a mysterious boy named Edward Cullen. The book translated into film and the rest was history. The film has earned more than \$180 million worldwide, and sequels are on the way.

The "Twilight" movie has made its money, but how do fans compare it to the book?

Junior Lauren Rider has her own opinion. Many people who read the books went into the movie with high expectations, she said.

"They were disappointed when they realized that some parts of the book had to be left out because there just isn't enough time in a movie to retell an entire book," Rider said.

The film stands at a mediocre 50 percent on Rotten Tomatoes, a Web site devoted to news, information and reviews of movies.

Some are awaiting something better the second time around.

While Angela Messenger, interim coordinator at the Youngstown State University writing center, acknowledged that the movie has made a large profit, she admitted that certain parts of the film felt decidedly low budget.

"It's very entertaining, but I hope the producers loosen their purse strings a bit more for future productions," Messenger

said. Still, Messenger has her own theories on the appeal the books have to a mass audience. A loyal fan to the series, Messenger first caught on when her Barnes and Noble book club suggested that the club read "Twilight" in November 2007.

"Vampirism has always been appealing whether for the heightened strength and senses, immortality, or supernatural abilities that writers sometimes bestow on these creatures as in the case of Meyer. Twilight further appeals to our lust for true love," Messenger said.

A little merchandising may not hurt, either.

Junior Jason Newman attributes part of the Twilight fad to a consumer ploy.

"Places like Borders and, moreover, Hot Topic shove it down the throats of consumers who, in turn, buy everything with the word Twilight or a picture of Edward Cullen on it," Newman said. "People find it appealing to fantasize about living forever with fictional characters. It isn't about vampires; it's about Twilight, per-se."

Even so, the craze has extended beyond the silver screen.

American director and screenwriter Alan Ball created an HBO series called "True Blood," which takes place in the fictional town of Bon Temps, Louisiana, where humans and vampires live together. The show started slowly without a dedicated crowd, but a second season has already been green-lit.

Though the U.S. has vampires roaming on both the big and small screens, the most unknown and possibly most critically acclaimed take on the vampire myth in 2008 came from Sweden. "Let the Right One In" is a Swedish foreign film that racked up awards from critics all over the world.

Most won't be able to catch "Let the Right One In" in the theater, but it may gain attention when it hits DVD. The film is also scheduled to be re-made in America by 2010; if it's done right, the American version could expand this pop culture phenomenon a few more years.

"People find it appealing to fantasize about living forever with fictional characters."

Jason Newman



British actor Robert Pattinson, left, plays perfect vampire boyfriend Edward Cullen to Kristen Bell's Bella, in "Twilight." (Summit Entertainment/MCT)



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OUR SIDE EDITORIAL

Freedom of speech

THE JAMBAR EDITORIAL BOARD

We will not protect bad ideas from public scrutiny. We ran an ad last week which appears again today from a man named Bradley R. Smith of the Committee for Open Debate on the Holocaust. In it, he calls into question whether the Holocaust actually occurred.

The response from readers has been, uniformly, to ask us why we would run such an ad. They point out how offensive the ad is, especially to those who have had relatives die in the Holocaust, or survive it. They wonder why we would give voice to what many would classify as hate speech.

As a newspaper, we are in a position to control speech, or to defend it. We could easily say that since this particular ad is extreme in nature, it should be suppressed. But then, who defines extreme? If we start to suppress the voices we don't believe in, it would start with this ad, but could spill over into far less volatile areas.

If we set that precedent, perhaps future editors could take it a step further and suppress views they disagree with on issues such as abortion, global warming or taxes.

If we only allow the acceptable voices to be heard, what would happen when we disagreed with the acceptable voices?

We are an open forum. Just as Smith was able to run his ad in our pages, anyone is free to shout him down, and is welcome to do so.

We enjoy a tremendous freedom in this country. It is not a freedom not to be offended. Rather, it is a freedom to hear all voices, and have ours be heard. It is through the marketplace of ideas that bad ideas are defeated.

President Woodrow Wilson said, "I have always been among those who believed that the greatest freedom of speech was the greatest safety, because if a man is a fool the best thing to do is to encourage him to advertise the fact by speaking."

EMBARRASSED AND HUMILIATED, BOBA FETT FINALLY REALIZED THAT HE LOOKED UTTERLY RIDICULOUS IN THE COLOR PINK.



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

COMMENTARY

And now ...

McClatchy-Tribune MCT

The sweep of Illinois government's first 190 years included a panoply of servants and scoundrels elected to lead. Most survived their terms or died trying. But come 2009, the breathtaking abuses of Rod Blagojevich, criminal defendant and former governor, so stirred public passions that Illinois lawmakers had no choice but to expel him.

This was not, though, the curative removal of one rogue tumor from an otherwise robust body politic. We're a sick state, stricken as much today as yesterday by the Illinois culture of political sleaze. For lawmakers who despised him, amputating one friendless governor was easy: He was defiant, a bungler and indisputably dishonest.

The uncomfortable truth, though, is that his disgusting story is as much about the rest of us as it is about him. Which confronts the people of Illinois with three questions:

Years from now, will the defrocking of Blagojevich be renowned for provoking a course correction in the history of this state?

Or is this a momentous event whose repercussions won't last past ... the moment?

And the clincher: How can each of us make Thursday truly historic not some footnote to our culture of political sleaze?

Look at what Illinois has to show for its last 10 years of scandal.

Neither major political party stands tall.

A Republican governor, George Ryan, went from the Statehouse to the Big House. The foul cloud of corruption that enveloped Ryan and his phony claims of innocence restricted him to one term as chief executive. He knew better than to ask voters for a second term. A federal jury did the rest.

Next came a Democratic governor, elected in 2002 on his promise to "end business as usual." He didn't but you couldn't discern that from the behavior of his party's swells:

By 2006, when Blagojevich sought re-election, his friend and fundraiser Antoin "Tony" Rezko had been charged in a 24-count corruption indictment including allegations that he had sought kickbacks for the governor's campaign fund and had used the governor's office to plant operatives in state positions of influence. Investigators were probing illicit state hiring, diversion of pension investments in exchange for political contributions, the awarding of state contracts, a mysterious \$1,500 check made out to the governor's then 7-year-old daughter by a man whose wife had just landed a state job after failing a hiring exam ... and on and on.

Yet the state's Democratic leaders rallied around Blagojevich. They looked askance as the scamster spent millions of dollars not just to smear his GOP opponent, Judy Baar Topinka, but to incessantly portray her as human trash.

Do you remember all those honorable Democratic leaders denouncing Blagojevich's bold hypocrisy? Criticizing his perpetuation of business as usual in Illinois? Telling voters to think seriously about how they invest their votes?

Neither do we. Blagojevich reminded state senators Thursday of "the things all of us in politics do." There was nothing criminal about his actions, nothing wrong with his exercise of judgment or, by implication, theirs. "Zero. ... I didn't do anything wrong!"

We can conduct our own private impeachments and expulsions.

House prosecutor David Ellis spoke a grave truth Thursday at the Senate trial's conclusion: Governing, he said, is not a politician's constitutional right. It is a privilege.

We voters of Illinois chronically have been reckless with that privilege. We have embarrassed ourselves and our state.

We need to do better. Office by office, candidate by candidate, we shall.

COMMENTARY

Phelps, pot and consequences

McClatchy-Tribune MCT

Were you shocked to see the British tabloid photograph of Olympic swim champ Michael Phelps firing up a bong at a recent college party?

Many people were no doubt startled, and chagrined, to see the all-American athlete inadvertently trashing his image.

Many others may have been less surprised that Phelps did the drug than that he was foolish enough to do so in public, putting his multimillion-dollar product endorsement deals at risk.

Phelps has apologized, laying blame at the fact that he's only 23 years old and not exactly a paragon of wisdom. Please, Phelps is a grown-up and has to own his

poor choices. But government statistics do indicate that the age group most likely to use marijuana is 18 to 25 years old; after that, pot use drops off sharply.

Will young Americans who buy Wheaties because they see Mr. Eight Gold Medals on the box now be more inclined to inhale pot because they see him cupping a bong?

The decline in stigma attached to marijuana use could make trying it easier, but it's hard to establish a direct connection.

While it can't please parents that their kids' favorite Olympic champion is revealed as a recreational drug user, the good news is that marijuana is less popular today than it was in the late 1970s.

The bad news is the potency is much higher. Research over

the last decade has established a link between marijuana use and forgetfulness, having to do with the effect of cannabinoids, the pleasure-giving substance in marijuana, on brain chemistry. And while marijuana is not addictive in the same way cocaine and alcohol are, scientists have found evidence that for 10 to 14 percent of the population, developing a pot dependence is all too easy.

It's also worth thinking of another young Phelps, Rodney Phelps, a Detroit man profiled by Luke Bergmann in his acclaimed recent book "Getting Ghost." Rodney Phelps was a young, black, petty dealer whose life was filled with all the chaos and violence that comes with living in a city and culture permeated by the drug trade. As Bergmann

tells it, Phelps tried to get out of the life and start anew but was gunned down, probably by old drug-dealing rivals.

The two Phelps lived worlds apart, but the famous one's indiscreet pleasures depend on the daily misery of the obscure one who died young and in pain.

It bears repeating that the names and faces of innocent Mexicans killed by drug cartels for whom marijuana is their biggest moneymaker will never make it onto a Wheaties box to be seen by the privileged Americans who, like Michael Phelps, take a recreational bong hit now and again.

Yet their fates are not so easily separated. That's something pot smokers like Michael Phelps have to own, too.

COMMENTARY

Mother of six didn't need fertility treatments to give her eight more

McClatchy-Tribune MCT

Some 4.1 million babies will be born in the United States this year. Whatever the actual total, it'll be eight more than it should have been.

The birth of octuplets to single-mom Nadya Suleman last week has raised a ruckus, not the least of it from anguished medical ethicists throughout the nation. So naturally there's talk of legislation to prevent this kind of misuse of fertility treatment.

But let's hold off. Medical guidelines already in place should have stopped this travesty. One isolated case is no reason for legislators to veer into the quagmire of reproductive regulation when they've got more urgent things to worry about.

A new law couldn't make it any more clear that this multiple birth was unacceptable. Here's what two leading experts in the

field told reporters:

"If she is fertile and was given infertility treatments, then we've left ethics and we're into malpractice," said Arthur Kaplan, the University of Pennsylvania's director of the Center for Bioethics.

"When we see something like this in the general fertility world, it gives us the heebie-jeebies," said Michael Tucker, a researcher in infertility treatment. "If a medical practitioner had anything to do with it, there's some degree of inappropriate medical therapy there."

Higher-order multiple births — the medical term for three or more babies — are considered dangerous for both the babies and the mother. Infertility experts with a shred of ethical sense discourage anything more than twins because of the huge risks, not to mention the high costs to the mother and the hospitals where such babies are born. Kaiser Permanente Bellflower Medical Center reportedly used a 46-member team to

deliver the babies, and the cost of raising the octuplets is estimated at \$2.5 million.

Of the 4 million babies projected to be born in the United States this year, only 7,000 will be higher-order multiple births — less than two-tenths of 1 percent. And 95 percent of those will be triplets. This shows that the current guidelines are effective.

To more firmly prohibit cases like Suleman's, lawmakers would have to set a limit on the number of embryos a woman could have implanted. Italy and Germany have done this, deciding on three. But imagine the debate it would spark here, raising religious questions and giving new meaning to a woman's right to choose.

Maybe anyone considering having triplets or more should have to spend a few weeks in a nursery trying to care for multiple babies with no help. That wouldn't have stopped Suleman, who already had six children. But for practically anyone else, it would do the trick.

OUR SIDE POLICY

The editorial board that writes Our Side editorials consists of the editor-in-chief, managing editor and news editor. These opinion pieces are written separately from news articles and draw on the opinions of the entire writing staff. The Jambar's business manager and non-writing staff do not contribute to editorials, and the adviser does not have final approval.

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Men's basketball at Loyola, 2/5, 8:00 p.m.
 Men's basketball at UIC, 2/7, 8:00 p.m.
 Women's basketball at Green Bay, 2/5, 8:00 p.m.
 Women's basketball at Milwaukee, 2/7, 3:00 p.m.
 Track and Field at Baldwin-Wallace Invitational, 2/6, all day



HEADING WEST

Penguins to travel to Illinois for games against Loyola and UIC

Keith Langford Jr.
SPORTS EDITOR

After a long home stand where the Youngstown State University men's basketball team went 1-3, the team travels to Illinois for games against the Loyola University Ramblers and the University of Chicago Flames.

The team has to regroup after Saturday's tough overtime loss to the Detroit-Mercy Titans. The Penguins can attribute poor free throw shooting along with not being able to close a game out for the three-game losing skid.

Head coach Jerry Slocum said the team is working hard to improve.

"There are little things in the game of basketball that are absolute musts, and making foul shots and not turning the ball over and those things are absolute. And if you don't do those things, you aren't going to have a chance to win," Slocum said.

The Penguins face the Ramblers Thursday. The Ramblers are 12-11 overall and 4-7 in the Horizon League. The Ramblers and Penguins squared off earlier in the year on Jan. 10, but the team got the best of the Penguins at Beehly Center with a 68-57 victory. The Ramblers hold a slight 11-9 advantage all-time in the series and have won five of the last seven meetings between the two schools. The Penguins are looking forward to tilt the recent trend of winning in this series to their side.

The Penguins should watch out for the Ramblers' leading scorer J.R. Blount, who averages 14.4 points per game so far this season. Blount's range is limited, since he only shoots the 3-point shot at 20 percent. The Ramblers point guard Justin Cerasoli had a good game as he spent most of the night at the free-throw line. He made eight of eight free throws and scored 11 points for the Ramblers in the last meeting. The Penguins committed just 10 turnovers but shot under 40 percent from the field.

The Penguins stay in the state of Illinois as they square off Saturday against the Flames. The Penguins had more success against UIC since they extinguished the Flames 80-70 on Jan. 8. The Flames are tied with the Penguins in the Horizon League standings at 3-8 but have a better overall season record at 10-11.



Junior Kelvin Bright rises up for a jumper for the Penguins.

The Flames average 67 points a game while giving up 65. Senior guard Josh Mayo leads the Flames team with his 16.4 points per game. Mayo has range, shooting a 37 percent clip for field goals. Helping out Mayo is 7-0 center senior Scott Vandermeer. Vandermeer averages 11.3 points and pulls down nine rebounds per contest. Vandermeer gives the Flames a viable low-post threat to go along with Mayo's shooting touch. Mayo and Vandermeer hit their season's averages against the Penguins in the last meeting, but the Penguins held everyone else in check for the victory.

The Penguins leading scorer junior Kelvin Bright lit the Flames up with a 23-point performance. The Penguins need to sink free throws as the season winds down, as they shoot just 64 percent from the line this season.

PHOTO COURTESY OF RON STEVENS

Hockey squad looks to take air out from under Hawks

Josh Stipanovich
SPORTS REPORTER

The Youngstown State University men's hockey squad begins their six-game home stand to end the regular season on Friday night as they host the Crimson Hawks of Indiana University of Pennsylvania.

The Penguins are coming off of their weekend sweep of John Carroll University and Mercyhurst College to improve to 13-9 while IUP has not won a game since December.

YSU is currently ten points ahead of IUP in the standings and will be looking to avenge their one-point loss to the Hawks earlier this season. The Penguins, who were down 3-0 with 14:22 left in the game, were unable to complete the comeback even though they received two goals from junior forward Naaman Moorman midway through the third period.

A win over the Hawks will improve their record to 14-9 with a chance at the No. 1 seed.

Six points stand between the No. 1 and No. 5 seed in the conference, so every game here on out is crucial.

With the season coming to a close, the race for the No. 1 seed is tightening. The Penguins currently share the No. 3 seed with the University of Pittsburgh. Both teams have 28 points in the standings with West Virginia University on their tail with 27



YSU forward Dave Cornich chases after the puck.

points.

Washington & Jefferson College sits alone at the No. 2 seed with 32 points, and the Penguins will play host to Washington & Jefferson College Feb. 22 at the Ice Zone to end the season.

Duquesne University and Washington & Jefferson both have nine games left to play, while Pitt and YSU each have six.

If the Penguins can win out the rest of the way, they could be looking at their first league title

in their three-year history, along with the No. 1 seed heading into the College Hockey Mid-America playoffs, which begin Feb. 27.

PHOTO BY JOSH STIPANOVICH/JAMBAR

Men's baseball gears up for first practice, season

Josh Stipanovich
SPORTS REPORTER

The Youngstown State University men's baseball team held their first practice of the spring on Monday afternoon at the Valley Sports Ltd indoor facility in Struthers.

The practice kicked off with the entire pitching staff and eight position players working out. After their workouts were complete, the entire team practiced for two hours, focusing mainly on hitting and defensive drills.

The Penguins, who finished the 2008 season at 23-33, are predicted to finish third this season in the Horizon League. Head coach Rich Pasquale said that it is great that other coaches believe that YSU is near the top of its program.

"It shows that the other coaches feel that we're somewhat towards the top of our conference,"

Pasquale said. "It feels pretty good, but you still got to do it," he added.

Pitching and defense are the two main phases of the Penguins' game that need to be improved upon, according to Pasquale. First year assistant coach Tom Lipari, has been working with the pitching staff exclusively.

"I think we've made some good strides with coach Lipari. He's doing a great job on the mental side with our pitchers," Pasquale said. "I think that's going to improve, and it already has ... they're in the best shapes of their lives," he added.

Last season the Penguins tended to fall apart defensively in key situations and Pasquale said this is another part of their game that has already improved. "I think we're stronger defensively, and I look for that to improve," he added.

YSU will also be bringing

back junior pitcher Aaron Swenson, sophomore Joe Iacobucci, junior Anthony Porter, junior C.J. Morris, and junior Tom Clayton. All will be the guys to watch this season, Pasquale said.

Swenson, who was last year's pitcher of the year, will be the Penguins number one pitcher this year. Iacobucci hit .339 last season and drove in a team-leading 33 RBIs. Morris, Porter, Clayton and Swenson were all recently voted as the team captains for the 2009 season.

Youngstown State also signed two student athletes for 2010. Infielder Zac McFarland and pitcher Bill Turosky will be playing for the Penguins come 2010, and Pasquale said they will bring tremendous talent to the team in the future.

"When they signed on, we became better as a program," Pasquale said.

McFarland is one of the num-

ber one top-rated players in Ohio, according to the Buckeye Scout, and he is one of the top hitters in the state, Pasquale said. "His power is tremendous," he added.

Turosky is a left hander pitcher who can throw the ball in the mid to upper 80s. "He hides the ball well ... great control ... throws all of his pitches for strikes," Pasquale said. "We're pretty excited to have those guys coming," he added.

The Penguins open up their season on Feb. 20 at Georgia, and will continue to be on the road for the first month of the season. Pasquale isn't worried about this year's schedule. "I think because the guys are so used to it, being northern players, and it's an opportunity every time we go out to show how hard we work ... as a staff and all the way down," Pasquale said.

Track and field look forward to Baldwin-Wallace Invitational

Keith Langford Jr.
SPORTS EDITOR

With the Horizon League indoor championships less than a month away, the Youngstown State University men's and women's track squad gear up with the Baldwin-Wallace Invitational in Berea, Ohio all day this Friday.

The Penguins have been solid this track season on the men's side as well as the women's side.

In the last track and field meet at the Kent State Triangular, YSU finished behind the host Kent State Golden Flashes. Several Penguins had nice days, including junior Adam Kagarise, who ran a school record time of 48.06 seconds in the 400-meter. Kagarise placed second in the 200-meter with a time of 23.33 seconds.

On the women's side of the equation, Freshman Kiplangat Tisia also had a stellar day. Tisia dominated the distance events as she won the mile and 3000-meter-run. Tisia ran a time of 8:26.41 in the 3000-meter-run and a time of 4:18.35 in the mile.

Junior Alisha Anthony and sophomore Breanne Romeo had solid performances for the women's track squad. Anthony ruled the field events, while Romeo



Junior Alisha Anthony shines in the long jump

PHOTO COURTESY OF SPORTS INFORMATION

blazed the track. Anthony won the long jump with a distance of 5.42 meters. Romeo won the 400-meter with a time of 58.56 seconds.

The Penguins now look to perform well at the Baldwin-Wallace Invitational to keep building momentum leading up to the Horizon League Championships.

Penguins sign 16 recruits, 6 local



| NAME | HOMETOWN | POS. | HIGH SCHOOL |
|------------------|--------------------|------|------------------------------|
| Taylor Hill | Youngstown, Ohio | DE | Cardinal Mooney High School |
| Sylvester Gibbs | Austintown, Ohio | LB | Austintown Fitch High School |
| Nick Liste | Niles, Ohio | P/PK | Niles McKinley High School |
| Gannon Nulea | Poland, Ohio | ATH | Poland Seminary High School |
| Kyle Stadelmyer | Girard, Ohio | LB | Girard High School |
| Carson Sharbaugh | New Wilmington, PA | TE | New Wilmington High School |