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THE SIDEBAR



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ACADEMICS

Prerequisites: Are they really required?

Ashley Tate
News Reporter

Either the system is working the students, or the students are swinging with ease through the academic credit system.

Some students at Youngstown State University take upper division courses while they complete the prerequisites for those higher level courses at the same time. A student with fingers crossed for sweeping through courses to graduate on time may look at this "working of the system" as better bang for your buck, worth the American value of

"I think it delays getting your degree, but it helps out in the long run because you know more about the classes you take."

— Lauren Kocher, sophomore

higher education. YSU sophomore Lauren Kocher said prerequisite courses can obstruct timely graduation. "I think it delays getting your degree, but it helps out in the long run because you know more about the classes you take," she said.

But when simultaneously taking courses and their prerequisites, these double doses may be fatal for earning good grades. Sophomore David Boyer was supposed to complete news reporting before he took feature writing, but he is taking both classes at the

same time.

Boyer said he didn't know that he needed news reporting to take feature writing, something his adviser didn't tell him.

"It definitely would've helped if I took the class before. Basically I just sign up for classes on the sheet and wing it. There's no order for anything."

Although Boyer said he's passing both classes, he would've been "better off" taking the prerequisite first.

A transfer student from Southeast Missouri State University, Boyer said he wasn't

PREREQUISITES page 3

ACADEMICS

Community college may absorb YSU associate degrees

Robert Smith
Jambar Contributor

Youngstown State University plans for its community college to take responsibility for some of its associate degrees once the community college is completed.

Nathan Ritchey, professor and chair of mathematics and statistics, said, "It's very possible the entire associate program at YSU may be the responsibility of the community college."

Eric Fingerhut, chancellor of the Ohio Board of Regents, said the topic is still in discussion.

"Some of the programs will be the responsibility of the community college, but not all. We haven't worked out those details," he said.

YSU currently has 25 associate degrees in subjects such as business, criminal justice, civil and construction engineering, and dental hygiene, according to the YSU Web site.

"Most people don't even know the existence of our associate programs," said Ritchey.

A phone survey conducted by the university revealed that 48 percent of business leaders in Mahoning County were not very well informed about YSU's associate programs.

Since the majority of YSU students have a four-year degree in mind, Ritchey said that the community college might be a better place for two-year programs.

"A community college might get these programs more attention," said Ritchey.

Sophomore David Drogowski said he was not informed about how many two-year programs YSU offers.

"They may be better suited at a community college because people will look for them there," he said.

If the community college absorbs YSU's associate degrees, it will keep partnerships with businesses established by YSU.

YSU's Electric Utility Technology program has a strong partnership with First Energy of Akron. Students conduct lab training at the First Energy facility two days a week, according to YSU's Web site.

First Energy employees conduct many classes, and the company hires many university students.

"The community college would like to honor these partnerships with local business," said Ritchey.

Still, some professors want certain two-year programs to stay at YSU.

Ronald Tabak, professor of physics and astronomy, said, "Some two-year programs are essential to YSU and lead into the four-year programs. I would hate to see our two-year engineering degree leave this university."

The reason for YSU's involvement with the community college is to address Tabak's concerns. The community college's two-year degrees will still work with YSU's four-year programs, said Sweet.

Tabak said that YSU faculty is better suited to teach some associate degrees such as engineering. He said that while community colleges have affordable education, the faculty is usually not as qualified as in a four-year university.

"You get what you pay for," Tabak said.

Professors at the community college will be equipped to teach students, said Fingerhut.

YSU President David Sweet said that most community college professors have either master's or doctorate degrees.

"The faculty at the community college will be qualified," he said.

The qualification of professors

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

Getting WYRE'd

Without YSU radio station of their own, students turn to podcasting

Sarah Sole
News Editor

Hovering over a recording studio monitor in Bliss Hall, Youngstown State University sophomore Steven Peterson's voice exploded into a microphone.

"Jesus Christ! Chris, stop killing everybody for the love of God!" Peterson bellowed.

"Oh, my legs!" he continued, his voice dissolving into indecipherable yells.

He was recording these dramatic sound clips for his audio project, an assignment that lets students practice audio editing to compose a short work of fiction. Working on an audio project for his audio productions class, the telecommunications major's voice surprisingly survived the screaming he did for the recording.

Though he had seemingly mastered the art of dying through his computer speakers, Peterson aims to become involved in a decidedly different audio medium: a student-operated podcast.

While some feel dissatisfied with WYSU-FM's content, the new podcast, called The WYRE, could offer students a chance to broadcast radio content in an alternative form. It would be an answer to the absence of a YSU college radio station, since some students think implementing a traditional radio station would be difficult.

For his part, Peterson believes in the new medium.

Sitting at a table outside the recording room with fellow telecommunications majors Shaun Brown and Chris Meeker, Peterson explains that podcasting has become the new standard because of its convenience.

"I think I'd rather hear something than read it," he said.

"We can be like 'The View,'" he said, referencing the popular daytime talk show with mock enthusiasm, as Brown and Meeker



STORMY SESSION—Telecommunications students Steve Peterson, Shaun Brown and Chris Meeker record audio clips for their project, "Dark and Stormy Night," for their audio productions class.

laughed.

Peterson has more serious plans for The WYRE as well.

"If possible, music would be awesome," he said.

Music podcasts also interest Brown and Meeker.

Clad in a Ninja turtles T-shirt and a Metallica baseball cap, Brown said he would like to run a series as part of The WYRE podcast about new music and concerts coming to the area. The exposure would help unknown groups.

"It's hard to get your name out there as a local band," Brown said.

Brown, a junior, smiled as he said the podcasts could also touch on important issues such as politics.

Despite his new internship for WYSU as an assistant audio pro-

duction engineer, Brown views the possibility of a student-run radio station with practicality.

"I don't think they trust us enough," he said, referencing the administration.

The administration would withhold the students' free rein, he said, spreading his hands only so far as if to illustrate the breadth of student freedom on the air. The university would worry about students saying off-color things, he added.

Brown said The WYRE would offer a great outlet for student information and programs.

"How many people listen to the radio for music anymore?" he asked.

Like Brown, Meeker envisions a strong musical focus for The

WYRE.

"I'm very musically driven," the sophomore said.

Topics could extend beyond music, however.

The WYRE could also focus on campus life and theater, Meeker said.

The subject material would differ from WYSU's content.

"There's nothing here for the student," Meeker said, of WYSU.

Samantha Lemke, a freshman interested in becoming involved with The WYRE, agrees.

"It's not at all what your average person, let alone a 21-year-old, would listen to," she said of WYSU's classical music, although she added that a student station

WYRE'D page 2

HEALTH

Love the lipstick — Is that lead you're wearing?

Heavy metal proves non-toxic in cosmetics, despite spam e-mail warnings

Jenny Boyce
Enterprise Reporter

If you regularly find spam when checking your e-mail, the odds are good that you have received a version of the Lead Lipstick warning circulating the Web:

"Lipstick Alert!!!!!!!!!!!!!! The higher the lead content, the greater the chance of causing cancer. Watch out for those lipsticks which are supposed to stay longer. If your lipstick stays longer, it is because of the higher content of lead."

The e-mail also advised

women to put lipstick on the back of their hands, then use a gold ring to scratch it. If the lipstick color changes to black, then it contains lead.

Youngstown State University senior

Tara Lewis received one of these e-mails. Lewis said the message was sent to her some time ago, and she immediately marked it as spam.

The consumer advocacy group Campaign for Safe Cosmetics published a study of 33 red lipsticks from different brands last month, saying that tests showed one-third of the samples contained lead levels greater than 0.1 parts per million, which is the federal limit for lead allowed in candy.

A spokesperson for the Food and Drug Administration, Stephanie Kwisnek said in a recent interview that the agency had conducted its own analyses based on past reports

and found that such concerns about lipstick were unfounded.

L'Oreal challenged the claim, saying its products have been tested by toxicologists and doctors and are in compliance with federal regulations.

Across the campus of YSU, women do not see the issue of lead-based lipstick as one of concern.

"I've heard things about lipstick, saw the reports, but I love wearing lipstick, especially red," said sophomore Allison George. "It looks great on me; I can't help it."

Freshman Anne Mahoney had a more serious outlook to the possible toxic product, but still did not see it



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COMMUNITY COLLEGE page 2

TO THE POINT

Students partner with Fireline for customer survey

Williamson College of Business students partnered with Fireline, a manufacturer of high-performance ceramics, to work on a questionnaire.

The students will help to develop the survey, distribute it to Fireline's customers, analyze the results and present them.

Fireline paid for the service. The proceeds are being split equally among the YSU chapter of the American Marketing Association and to each of the students.

The students plan to use the money for a study tour for London and Dublin, Ireland.

Metro College features seminar on exporting

"Understanding Exporting," a seminar sponsored by the International Trade Assistance Center and the Ohio Small Business Development Center at Youngstown State University, is set for Wednesday at the YSU Metro College from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Registration will begin at 9:30 a.m.

YSU Heritage Award nominees to be screened

Dec. 31 is the deadline to nominate former faculty or administrative staff for the Heritage Award, the most prestigious award bestowed to those groups, according to YSU's Web site.

The nominees are screened by a 16-person committee of alumni, faculty, staff and YSU Retiree Association representation.

The nomination forms are available at the human resources Web site or at the office of alumni relations.

Board of Trustees meetings to begin

The Youngstown State University Board of Trustees will hold its quarterly meetings at 8 a.m. today on the fifth floor of Maag Library and 8 a.m. Thursday in the Presidential Suites in Kilcawley Center.

Social Work students collect toys

The Student Social Work Association will hold a toy drive for the Ursuline Sisters H.I.V. and A.I.D.S. ministry Tuesday from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. in Kilcawley Center.

Toys and gift cards for infants to age 18 or monetary donations to help to purchase gifts will be accepted.

New Music Society plays Butler's 'Music at Noon'

The Music at Noon series continues Wednesday at noon at the Butler Institute of American Art, featuring the New Music Society, directed by Robert Rollin.

University Archives to officially open

Youngstown State University will officially open the University Archives in the fifth floor of the Maag Library 3 p.m. Wednesday with a ribbon-cutting ceremony.

YSU President David Sweet and Paul Kobulnicki, executive director of Maag Library, will be on hand to cut the ribbon.

NURSING

Cuyahoga Community College drops nursing associate program with YSU

Jumal Brown

Jambar Contributor

After sophomore Allison Ware received a letter in the mail informing her that the associate nursing program she was enrolled in was being canceled before the fall semester, she was confused as to how something like this could happen.

"I was under the impression that I wasn't going to be affected," Ware said.

It was even more crucial because it's going to take time for Ware to apply and then be accepted into other programs offering a nursing associate. Ware couldn't understand why Cuyahoga Community College pulled out so abruptly, and wondered if funding had something to do with it.

Youngstown State University's last nursing associate class was accepted in 1987, and graduated in 1989. Cuyahoga Community College had recently collaborated with Youngstown State University to serve as a base for the online associate nursing program offering

"I was under the impression that I wasn't going to be affected."

Allison Ware, sophomore

the specialized fields of clinical nurse specialist, chronic illness care, school nurse and nurse anesthetist.

"We have been very fortunate in regards to funding, when compared to the nursing shortage across the rest of Northeast Ohio," said Patricia Hoyson, chairperson and associate professor of the nursing department.

Hoyson did not foresee any immediate concerns when it came to funding within the nursing department.

"We are doing just fine when it comes to this matter," said Hoyson.

John Yemma, dean of health and human services, also expressed that funding was not an issue.

"We could always use more funding, but it's adequate to run the nursing program efficiently," he said.

Ware felt that going for an associate would be more beneficial and faster for her. Her aunt had advised her that if she went for her associate first, that she could always go back to finish, but she would have a good job to help support her.

"But now everything is kind of backed up, and I'm on a waiting list all over again," she said.

For now she is taking classes at YSU to keep her GPA at an acceptable average.

Cuyahoga Community College felt that they weren't getting enough student applications to justify the program, said Yemma. YSU is going through all the mechanisms of instituting a two-year nursing associate program.

The accreditation process should be developing in the spring, so that the program can be presented to students in September. YSU's two-year program will be offering the same specialized areas that were offered by Cuyahoga Community College.

From WYRE'd page 1

could open up many possibilities.

Lemke said the university could be taking advantage of more opportunities with WYSU, "and they're just not doing so."

While news could still be part of the lineup, the radio station could also inform students about Penguin Production events, or entertainment at Peaberry's, Lemke said.

Lemke said she enjoys listening to indie and old-school music on Akron's student station, WZIP-FM, when she's driving at night.

"They played things that you wouldn't hear. Like on Hot 101," she said, rolling her eyes.

Frank Bozak said he thinks an audience exists for a student station, since listeners often become annoyed with the same songs played on many radio stations owned by large corporations.

"It may not be favorable for someone who's riding around in their car all day," the telecommunications major said, laughing.

Many students want to create student programs in addition to listening to them.

Some of his friends feel angry because they only have "Homework Express" for experience, and many of his peers are interested in having more student-run programs, Bozak said.

"It would be a lot of fun for us t-comm majors," he said.

Running a radio show makes people better storytellers because images are absent, Bozak said.

"It's like writing a book," he said. "You have to become the visu-

al medium."

Bill Brophy, adjunct faculty member for telecommunications studies, said his students have continued to question a student radio station's absence from campus.

Brophy, however, understands WYSU's different market.

"It's mission is something entirely different," Brophy said, adding that WYSU is primarily an outreach program from the university.

Gary Sexton, director of WYSU, said that from its roots, WYSU has been a fine arts service, adding National Public Radio to its broadcasts. A basic community service, the station provides for five regional counties: Mahoning, Trumbull and Columbiana in Ohio and Mercer and Lawrence county in Pennsylvania.

Eventually WYSU will offer digital channels in addition to its analog one, Sexton said. The digital medium will enable the single radio signal to split into two separate channels, one for classical and jazz music and one for news and information. This change though, will not be implemented until at least 2011, when more people have access to digital radio.

Sexton said the opportunity for a student-operated station would be possible only if the digital signal can be split into three different channels instead of just two. Currently, the FCC allows one digital signal to be split into two channels. However, there has been experimentation with further split-

ting the signal.

Sexton said offering a student station has been challenging. Firstly, a shortage of available stations exists in this regional market. Secondly, buying an FM station costs millions of dollars.

"The means for providing it has been very difficult," he said.

For the time being, Brophy is working on securing a student radio alternative.

Brophy said The WYRE would have to branch out from traditional music radio to distinguish itself from radio stations. It could offer a weekly sports podcast, and longer interviews with local bands featuring the members playing their songs.

The WYRE was actually run about a year ago, until the student in charge transferred to another school, Brophy said.

"It's one of those seeds that never grew the way it was supposed to, but we'll do it again," he said.

Brophy said he began thinking about The WYRE again when he realized the computers on Maag Library's third floor had podcast capabilities.

Now, Brophy is turning his plans into reality, scheduling an organizational meeting for the first week of spring semester.

Brophy said he encourages involvement from all majors.

"Frankly, I don't want this to just be a t-comm thing," he said.

From COMMUNITY COLLEGE page 1

at the community college is not the only concern for Tabak. He said there is concern that the community college will take away valuable YSU professors.

"Usually at universities the last hired are first fired," he said. "And when they take an associates program, they might take valuable professors with them."

This is especially unfavorable for students because, sometimes, Tabak said, young professors are

more valuable to students than older ones.

"They are usually more informed about changes in their fields," said Tabak, who worries that the community college may take younger professors away from YSU.

The plan is for the community college to operate inside existing buildings on campus, Ritchey said, although a stand-alone building is expected to be built by July 2017.

All community college programs will then move to the new building, Ritchey said.

Pat Donaldson, a junior at YSU, said, "If all the two-year programs move into their own building, we will have lots of empty space in YSU."

Still, many classrooms used by two-year programs are still used by four-year programs.

"I doubt there will be any empty space at YSU," said Ritchey.

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www.kc.ysu.edu

From PREREQUISITES page 1

trying to "get around the system" by taking the classes at the same time. Feature writing sounded "cool" to him. Prerequisites are required courses that prepare you for the next course, Sherry Linkon, co-director of the Center for Working Class Studies and English academic adviser, said.

"I don't think you should just take something because it sounds cool," Boyer said.

Prerequisites give students the required skills and knowledge to advance to take the next course, she said.

But the YSU registration system isn't able to tell if a student has taken a required class or not.

"We have a problem at YSU where our registering system doesn't stop you from registering for a class if you don't have the prerequisite," Linkon said.

William Countryman, interim executive director of enrollment services, said SOLAR tries to warn students about prerequisites before they continue with registration.

"There is a notification that will come up that says something to the effect of 'please note the prerequisite for this course.'"

But students can bypass this notice and continue registering, even if they haven't taken the prerequisite for a course they are signing up for, Countryman said.

In the future, this problem may be solved with the help of a new system called Banner.

Banner, Countryman said, won't allow students to take classes if they haven't taken the prerequisite.

The only problem is that it will be a major job for the system to look up all the classes students have taken in their academic career and to look over transcripts, Countryman said.

Everyone has their share of blame in this problem, Countryman said.

The university doesn't emphasize the importance of prerequisites enough. They are covered lightly

during orientation, assuming students are listening, he said.

Prerequisites help students "advance from Point A to B to C."

Students need to pay more attention when registering and do more research to see if a course requires a prerequisite instead of just saying, "OK, I need 12 hours" and registering, Countryman said.

Besides SOLAR preventing students from continuing with registration when the prerequisite wasn't taken, YSU students face another problem.

"If you take a class and pass it and didn't take the prerequisite for it, you can't go back and take [the prerequisite] even if you need it for your major," Linkon said.

And even if students do take the class, they won't receive credit for it.

Linkon said the message is for students to see their advisers, but Boyer said his adviser didn't help him in deciding what classes he needed to take now.

"[My] adviser pulled up my records and showed me the classes I need to take. So I went home and signed up for feature writing."

Boyer said if his professor would have announced that students needed news reporting prior to this class, "then I would've dropped it real quick and picked up something else."

Linkon said professors assume students have the required skills needed and students find themselves in a course that they are not prepared for.

Boyer said, "It made me feel pretty dumb coming in and Guy [Coviello] saying 'You were supposed to have news reporting,' and it's like 'Gee, thanks.'"

Freshman Abigail Drost said she took news reporting before feature writing and the basics of news writing helped her understand the basics of feature writing.

"I think [prerequisites] are necessary. I would've done really bad if

I hadn't take it; I would've been lost. Learning how to lead and write a story was something I learned."

On the other hand, students may feel that prerequisites are not preparing them for the next level course.

Junior Alice DeBonis, also in feature writing, said she took news reporting first, and it didn't help her. She said she is still not sure about how to write a story or on the basics of the AP Stylebook.

"We were sent to write a story and didn't know how to write it."

Another problem prerequisites cause for students is prolonged completion of courses.

"I tried to schedule two junior classes when I was a sophomore, and I couldn't, and now I'm gonna have to take them when I'm a senior," junior Kyle Jones said.

Junior Erin Laughlin predicts an academically rough senior year due to prerequisites.

"I'll have a lot of tough classes I'll have to take my senior year because of all the prerequisites," Laughlin said.

Yet others have no trouble at all, like senior Paul Buncic.

Math and statistics professor and academic adviser Eric Wingle said sometimes prerequisites might be more of a maturity level than a content-based class.

But the danger of not taking a prerequisite is if it was content-based and students end up failing classes when they don't know something, Wingle said.

"We wouldn't put someone in Calculus 3 if they've never seen calculus."

Linkon said that occasionally students can get special admission to skip a prerequisite, but they should talk to their department chairperson if they do that.

Wingle said sometimes they will waive a prerequisite if they thought the student would do all right in the next level course and if the prerequisite wasn't content-based.

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From LIPSTICK page 1

as a major concern.

"The findings against what [Safe Cosmetics] are claiming sounds right. I don't ingest my lipstick, so it's different than it would be for say, a baby putting one of those lead-based toys in their mouth and chewing on it, or the eating candy with lead," said Mahoney.

Paula Begoun, known as the "Cosmetics Cop" for her books and Web site, <http://www.cosmeticscop.com>, examined these claims of potentially toxic lipsticks.

Begoun said in a press release and on her Web site that the Safe Cosmetics report "incorrectly states that lipstick is ingested like candy. It mentions the FDA's 0.01 parts per million limit for lead in candy, and that no such safety limits exist for lipstick. What's missing is that women aren't eating lipsticks in the same manner they do candy or food."

The amount of lipstick ingested

is minuscule compared to what comes off on coffee cups and other objects, Begoun said.

"Without question, lead is a harmful substance; however, there is simply no proof that the tiny amount that may be in some lipsticks is causing harm," she said.

Lewis agreed with the Begoun on the small amount of lipstick ingested, but understands the cause

for concern.

"Everyone's scared because of all these lead findings, but this is different than it being found in toys for children or pets," said Lewis.

"Adults make the choice of whether to use that product or not, and I don't apply lipstick that excessively either. It doesn't seem likely that very much of it could be ingested — not by adults."

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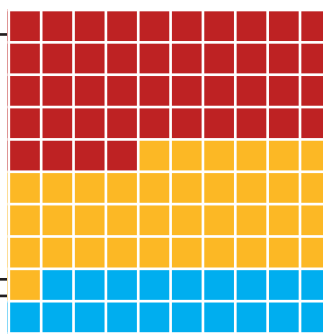
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CORRECTION — In the Nov. 20 issue of The Jambar, the front page article "Boxed in" was cut off due to an editorial error. The full version is available online.



Do you know where to find
The Jambar office on campus?



44% Yes.

38% No.

19% The Jambar has an office on campus? I didn't know.

These percentages do not add up to 100 due to the number of votes cast.

This poll is not scientific and reflects the opinions of only those Internet users who have chosen to participate. The results cannot be assumed to represent the opinions of Internet users in general, nor the public as a whole.

ENTERTAINMENT

U.S. 'Betty' is an ugly idea

Sibylla Brodzinsky and Glenn Garvin
McClatchy Newspapers

"Ugly Betty" is returning to her roots, and Colombians aren't sure they like the idea. ABC's hit satire of "telenovelas" has just begun to air throughout Latin America, but here in the country that gave birth to "Yo soy Betty la fea," the "novela" on which "Ugly Betty" is based, a lot of people see the U.S. show as a pale imitation and an outright counterfeit of the original.

"Watching the gringo version would be like reading "100 Years Of Solitude" in English," says Fabian Sanabria, an anthropologist at the Universidad Nacional who studies television. "It makes no sense." Executives at Sony Entertainment Television, which operates a Latin American cable channel that reaches 17.7 million viewers, think he's dead wrong.

"Even though everybody in Latin America knows the story from "Betty la fea," I think "Ugly Betty" brings something different," says Carolina Padula, SET's chief programmer, speaking by phone from her office in Caracas. "It's an adaptation and a very successful one." The repackaging of "Ugly Betty" for Latin Americans represents yet another remarkable chapter in a show that began as a routine "telenovela" and quickly blossomed into an international sensation.

"Betty la fea," an ugly-duckling tale of a smart but unattractive young woman working in the fashion industry who blossoms with the help of true love and a skilled makeover artist, debuted in Colombia in 1999 and soon was the rage of the entire Spanish-speaking world — including the United States, where it aired on Telemundo.

Eventually, the show was dubbed into other languages for release all over the globe, including India, Lithuania, Indonesia, Poland, Bulgaria, Romania, Malaysia, Hungary, the Czech Republic, Italy, Switzerland, Turkey, the Philippines, China and Japan (under the catchier title "Betty, The Secretarial Office of Love and Betrayal").

Its worldwide success prompted keen interest among U.S. television executives in adapting "telenovelas" to the English-speaking market and even the creation of the all-"novela" network MyNetworkTV. But most of the projects flopped before ever reaching the air, and MyNetworkTV abandoned "novelas" after several months of abysmal ratings.

"Ugly Betty" was the exception, perhaps because the show gave "Betty la fea" a makeover as profound as the one its title character underwent. Besides setting the show in the United States (at a fashion magazine rather than a design shop), producers turned it from a soap opera with daily cliffhangers into a weekly comedy with plots that begin and end in each episode.

"Ugly Betty" was an instant hit, drawing more than 14 million viewers a week. Even though the show's audience has declined a bit to 11 million this season, it remains one of ABC's strongest performers and the opener of its powerhouse Thursday-night lineup.

Padula, SET's programmer, is confident that the show — which debuted across Latin America on Nov. 7 — will be a hit for her network, too.

"The show has a lot of attitude, a sense of humor and high quality," she says. "It portrays, in a very positive way, Latin American culture. It sets aside stereotypes, in a very positive way... It has a lot of differences from the original "Betty la fea," but it still keeps faith with the original version."

In fact, "Ugly Betty" already has proven that, like "Betty la fea," it can cross cultural boundaries. The American show has drawn big audiences in



Australia, New Zealand and South Africa, and SET's parent company, Sony Pictures Television International, has purchased its scripts to produce Russian and Indian versions with local casts.

"Sometimes you have to massage the show a little to work in different cultures," one Sony official explains. "In the Hindi-language version, the characters couldn't kiss."

"Ugly Betty" will get a few tweaks for Latin America, too. SET will show it with Spanish subtitles (or Portuguese, in Brazil). "Sometimes that allows us to adapt a joke to make it more understandable to our audience," Padula says.

But that's necessary much less often than you might think. SET shows a lot of subtitled American programs, including "Grey's Anatomy," "Desperate Housewives" and "Medium." The network attracts a young, upscale audience fascinated by U.S. cultural references, no matter how peculiar and idiomatic. SET viewers, for instance, flocked to the eccentric New York neuroses of "Seinfeld."

"Believe it or not, "Seinfeld" was one of the biggest success stories of all time in television here," Padula says. "It was very hard for us at the beginning to explain the show. But when it had been on the air five or six years, it became very, very popular. ... It's been running 12 years here now, even though they aren't making new episodes anymore, and it's still popular."

Even less explicable are shows that flopped in the United States but developed a big audience in Latin America. American TV viewers who remember "Action," a comedy about a ruthless Hollywood producer and his hooker assistant that aired on Fox for two months in the late 1990s, could probably hold their national convention in a phone booth. But it was a hit on SET.

"In the United States, the shows are given very few opportunities to find an audience because they're canceled so fast," Padula says. "Here, people respond more or less by habit. They watch a lot of episodes, they get used to it, and they get upset when it's canceled."

But that loyalty, some Colombians say, will hurt "Ugly Betty" here. "This series could be a moderate success around the rest of Latin America, or it could even be as successful as "The Sopranos" or "24," says Omar Rincon, the TV critic at Bogota's El Tiempo newspaper. "But in Colombia, no one will watch it."

TECHNOLOGY

As if remaking the iPhone weren't enough, whiz kid working on new projects

Martha McKay

The Record (Hackensack N.J.)
(MCT)

The iPhone kid — young George Hotz of Glen Rock, N.J. — came back from Rochester Institute of Technology last week with his head full of new ideas.

Not surprisingly, the tinkering teen's also been up to a bit of mischief on the upstate New York campus.

Next month, the Bergen Academies high school grad is headed for Sweden to attend the Stockholm International Youth Science Seminar and talk about his 3-D imaging invention (called Project Holodeck) that netted him a \$20,000 Intel prize earlier this year.

Hotz, 18, became an instant celebrity in August when he claimed to have won the worldwide race to unlock the iPhone for use on a carrier other than AT&T.

In the months following Hotz's solution, which involved some soldering and modification of the phone's hardware, others have unlocked the device by changing software only.

But Hotz unquestionably took his place in the history of great hardware hacks.

After the initial whirlwind of TV appearances and interviews, the teenager got tired of the media ("They all ask the same questions.") and turned down most interview requests.

He spoke last week to The Record about his recent months at school and what new projects are on his mind.

Q: Can you solder in your dorm room?

A: Oh, no. I got written up for that.

Q: Are you sleeping more?

A: No. I go to sleep at 6 in the morning and get up for class at 10. I'm getting a lot of computer work done. I learned C-sharp and Vision C plus plus.

Q: What else are you working on?

A: I did a little project up at RIT. I reverse engineered the card readers, and I can build a card reader-writer for \$20.



George Hotz of Glen Rock, New Jersey, who cracked the code to use the iPhone, is now a student at the Rochester Institute of Technology, November 21, 2007. (Chris Pedota/The Record/MCT)

Q: For what kind of cards?

A: Any card with a magnetic stripe on the back. At RIT, your ID has a magnetic stripe on it. But any credit card, ATM card, hotel room card — they all have that same magnetic stripe.

I've understood the protocols they use and I've written some software. Using any normal computer with a sound card and a little bit of hardware — which you can build for \$20 — you can read and write the cards.

Q: So what can you do with the cards you modify?

A: I've messed around a little with my RIT card.

Q: And?

A: Well, I can open any door at the school.

Q: Are you still using the iPhone you hacked?

A: Yes. But I hate working on the iPhone now.

Q: Any other extra-curricular projects?

A: Yes: a universal radio transceiver.

Q: So what is that going to do?

A: Well, think of an iPhone, which is a PDA with some cell phone functionality and WiFi and Bluetooth. Inside the iPhone you have individual chips for each one

of those things. You have a chip for the cell phone, you have a chip for the WiFi, you have a chip for the Bluetooth.

Imagine one device that's universal that can work anywhere in the radio spectrum with any modulation — it can act like cell phone, a GPS or your garage door opener.

You could just download some code into my device and it can act like those things as well.

Think of it as a universal remote for your world.

Q: Where are you with this project?

A: I wrote up a two-page abstract for it and I've been e-mailing a few companies to see if I can get development boards for a few chips.

Q: You're going to Stockholm?

A: Oh, yeah. I have no idea what I'm doing there.

Wow, they want to talk about Project Holodeck. I haven't talked about that in forever. I've got to dig up that old Powerpoint on it. I could always talk about the iPhone, even though I hate talking about the iPhone.

Q: Anything else catch your eye lately?

A: Well, I've been learning about cryptography. ...

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OUR SIDE

'90s Nostalgia can't make us love outdated SOLAR

1994 called. It wants its online scheduling system back.

The Student Online Academic Registration, the same system Youngstown State University students currently use to register for classes, launched in 1994, while we sang our hearts out to Hootie and the Blowfish.

SOLAR does not keep track of the prerequisites that we have taken and are still required to take. It is up to the student to check before finalizing a schedule.

In some cases, skipping the prerequisite may not affect a student's grade. In other cases, though, a student can fall behind from the first day of class without the skills and knowledge gained from a course's prerequisite.

SOLAR causes other complications as well. When students take classes out of sequence, they are unable to obtain credit for the higher-level courses.

Now that the '90s have been laid to rest (R.I.P. New Kids on the Block) we need a scheduling system that can keep track of prerequisites and all courses taken by each student, and one that can notify the student about errors.

Though an update might be expensive, it would benefit all students. Replacing SOLAR would be better than seeing Boyz II Men live.

The invested money would affect more than one college or organization. This time around, the funding isn't just for a small or specific group of students. Every student enrolled in the university will benefit from the update.

It is the responsibility of the student to double check prerequisites, but sometimes we forget. Sometimes our advisers do, too.

Just because we still watch reruns of "Family Matters" doesn't mean it's the only television program available. Computers are totally rad, dude. There's no reason not to apply the technology we have available. All YSU has to do is update it.

SOLAR is a relic that belongs in the University Archives, rather than in our everyday lives.

If the Spice Girls can come back stronger than ever and wiser for their age, so can the scheduling system at YSU.

POLICIES

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

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

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

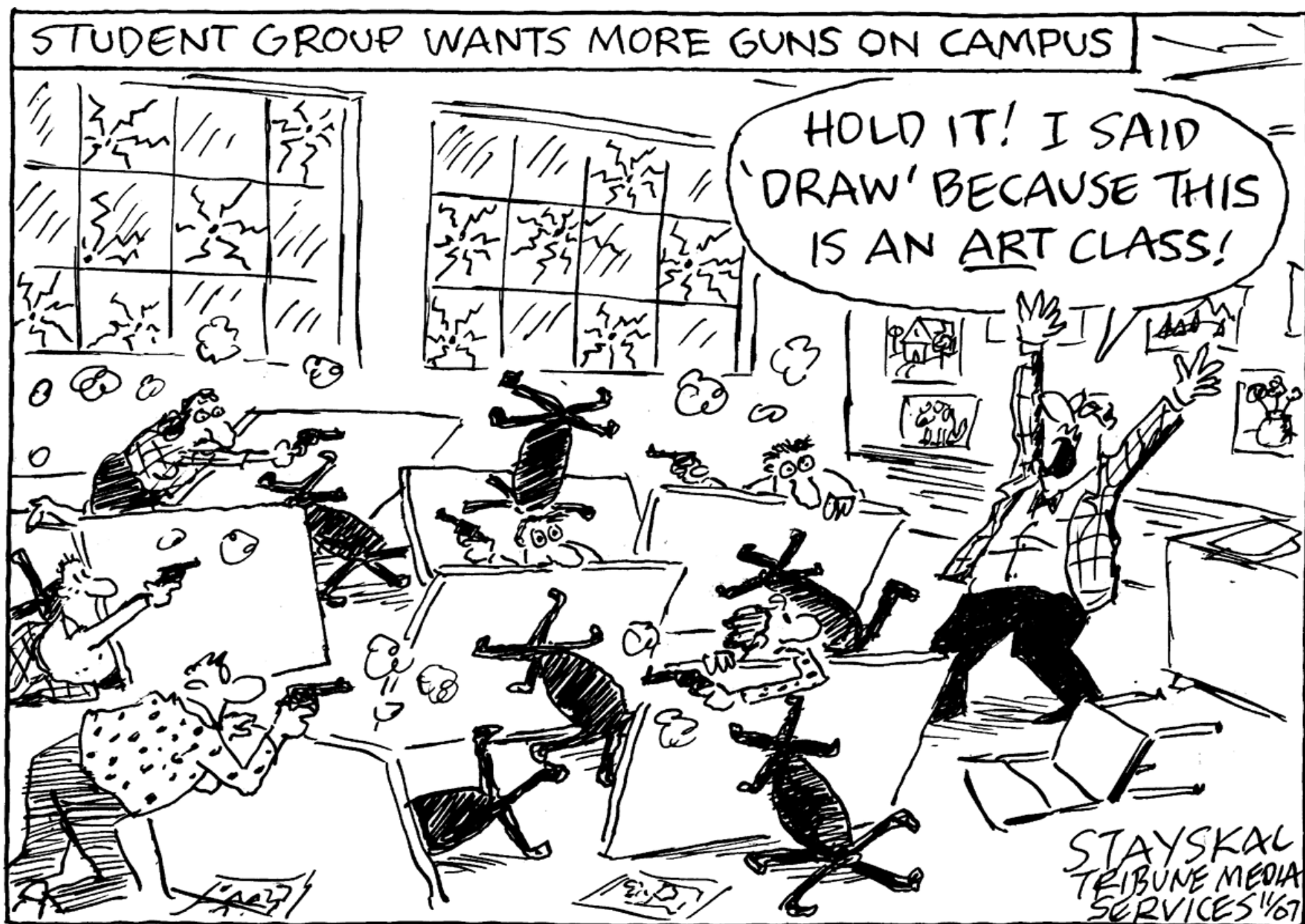
The Jambar will not print letters that libel others or threaten harm. The Editor in Chief reserves the right to reject letters that do not follow policy.

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

ABOUT THE JAMBAR

The Jambar is published twice weekly during the fall and spring semesters and weekly during the summer sessions. Since being founded by Burke Lyden in 1931, The Jambar has won nine Associated Collegiate Press Honors.

Mail subscriptions are \$25 per academic year. Additional copies of The Jambar are \$1 each.



The Jambar asks: How did you survive Black Friday?



Eric Wegendt, senior

"The mall was a madhouse! And all I wanted was my Kate Voegel CD."



Kristina Javor, freshman

"There were tons of people, really long lines, and it was just pure chaos."



Desmond Wallace, junior

"I went out to J.C. Penney, and it was hell. They had great deals, but it was hectic."



Mike McGiffin, junior

"Shopping was crazy. I went to Best Buy and the lines were ridiculous."

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor,
 It seems we use probability, chance, and odds often to describe what is happening in the universe. In physics we say that the odds that an electron is in a certain position are very high or very low.

Indeed, Professor Tabak mentions that "a strong case can be made using statistics and probability arguments that there is indeed life elsewhere in the universe."

Scientific consensus in physics and astronomy seems to be constantly changing. For example, 15 years ago the odds in favor of Pluto being a planet were very high.

But recently Pluto has been reclassified, and the odds in favor of it being a planet are not as high.

It seems to me that many of our scientific findings are often based on non-physical evidence and

inference from data we collect. None of us has touched nor seen an electron.

None of us has physically been to Jupiter nor obtained a physical sample of it. Yet the odds in favor of Jupiter or an electron existing are enormous.

While studying astrophysics at YSU in the late 1960s we learned we could take all available data and develop a model of a planet's atmosphere.

The odds in favor of this model being correct had a certain value. As more data poured in, the odds in favor of that model being correct changed.

New and exciting scientific discoveries are constantly being made: black holes, dark matter, gamma ray bursts and others. Might we soon discover that

velocities greater than c, the velocity of light, are possible?

Perhaps we should develop a new branch of astronomy which entertains this notion of velocities greater than c.

Could it be that our extraterrestrial counterparts have developed a mathematics and physics based on this premise and it is so superior to what we have developed that we can't easily detect them until they "slow down"?

It would be thrilling to see various departments at YSU be innovators in developing courses that would study the existence of extraterrestrials, their technologies, and their physics/mathematics systems.

Jack Auman,
 1970 YSU graduate,
 mathematics major

COMMENTARY

Students in Iran protest lack of freedoms

Said Razavi
 The Institute for War
 & Peace Reporting
 (MCT)

Relations between Iranian students and the authorities are at all-time low after demonstrations against President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad at Tehran University.

The angry response to Ahmadinejad's appearance at the university last month was caused in part by an earlier speech he'd given while visiting the United States in September.

During an appearance at Columbia University on Sept. 24, the president said, "Freedoms in Iran are genuine, true freedoms. Iranian people are free. Women in Iran enjoy the highest levels of freedom."

But back home, the Office for Fostering Unity — a leading reformist student organization — presents a very different picture.

It says since 2005, when the current administration took power, 43 student organizations have been closed, at least 130 student publications banned and more than 70 students detained for criticizing the government.

In short, the group says, "all student institutions critical of the government have been suspended or dissolved, and there are currently almost no critical organizations at the country's universities."

Students were also upset by what they saw as the government's attempt to stage-manage the president's appearance at the university by packing the audience with his supporters, many of whom had no connection to the university.

Engineering student Reza Dargahi said the protesters were determined to thwart the propaganda display despite the high level of security, the presence of intelligence agents, and the generally intimidating atmosphere.

The president has been unpopular with many students right from the start. During his first year in office, crowds of students chanted slogans attacking Ahmadinejad and burned pictures of him when he visited the Amir Kabir University in Tehran.

In response, the president and officials at the higher education ministry have talked of the need for "cultural revolution" at Iran's universities.

Since coming to power, the government has gradually

stamped out any activities it considers to be a threat, such as the labor and women's rights movements.

Earlier this year, Minister of Intelligence Gholam Hossein Mohseni Ejeji reiterated the claim that Iran's enemies were planning to use the students' and women's movements as the vehicle for a "soft coup."

Universities in particular have been the target of the government's repressive tactics. Non-conformist lecturers have been dismissed, student associations closed and their publications banned.

According to the Office for Fostering Unity, more than 100 prominent lecturers have been dismissed or forced to retire in the last two years.

Female students in particular say they've been the target of the government's crackdown.

Parisa Shokouhi, who studies literature at Tehran University, said that in the last two years, restrictions on female students' dress and on their contacts with male students have become stricter.

She claims there is clear discrimination to discourage women from attending the university.

With its latest crackdown on the country's institutions of higher learning, however, the government runs the risk of alienating more than just the academic elite. A recent survey conducted by the Iranian Student News Agency found that academics are the most respected group in the country.

And it's this group that continues to criticize the government on a wide range of issues, ranging from its Holocaust denial to the crackdown on social freedom to the nuclear standoff with the West.

So far, the government's response to the growing criticism has been to crack down even harder.

Publications that support the government have also joined the fray. The daily Kayhan newspaper described the students who protested Ahmadinejad's appearance at Tehran University as "the enemy's foot-soldiers" and "Zionist clients."

Other media outlets claimed the students were funded by Western intelligence agencies.

So far, however, crackdowns and criticisms have failed to stop student protests against the government.

COMMENTARY

Cuisine both haute and healthy

McClatchy-Tribune News Service
 (MCT)

The following editorial appeared in the Chicago Tribune on Saturday, Nov. 17:

Not so long ago, french fries and bagels passed for vegetarian fare at many college cafeterias. Ketchup, in all its corn syruped glory, provided the vegetable content. Students knew to sidestep the mystery mush that was labeled "vegetarian." Low-grade hunger pains and canned kidney beans were the constant companions of those who stuck to a meat-free diet.

Who could ever have imagined that in the last decade, we'd go from veggie-eeek to veggie-chic? These days, colleges compete to provide their best and brightest with multiple varieties of the best and greenest. Like decked-out gyms and luxury dorms, tofu and

tempeh now signal a school's commitment to its students' "wellness."

Nobody, it turns out, does it better than Northwestern University — at least not when it comes to food. An online poll conducted by peta2, the youth arm of the People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals, named Northwestern the most vegetarian-friendly college in the United States, just ahead of Yale University and the University of California at Berkeley.

A full 20 percent of the recipes used at Northwestern are either vegetarian, meaning meat-free, or vegan, meaning free of all animal products, including dairy products and eggs. The increased offerings are good news for all students, even those who would never put aside an all-beef patty for a veggie burger.

Veggie "chicken" strips can be indistinguishable from the real thing, even to meat-eating students. Same with tofu pumpkin pie and vegan pancakes. All offer students a way to test-drive eating habits and add a new or additional healthy component to their meals. "Whether a main dish for vegetarians or a wonderful side for everyone else, anybody walking through the dining hall can pick up the food and find it to be wonderful comfort food," Anne Vanosdol, assistant director for food service operations, and a vegetarian, told Chicago Tribune reporter Jodi S. Cohen.

College is a time to learn about and try new things — food, friendships and majors. Thanks to Northwestern's dining services, all students — vegetarians and vegans included — can do so on a full stomach.

MENS BASKETBALL

Solid start could get even better

After a hard-fought game with Notre Dame, the 2-2 Youngstown State men's basketball team will hit the road again on Wednesday when it takes on a struggling St. Francis team.

Aaron Blatch
Sports Reporter

With four games in the books, the Youngstown State men's basketball team has a lot to be pleased about. With a 2-2 record the Penguins have been as good as they could have realistically hoped for, with their only losses coming to perennial powerhouses UCLA and Notre Dame.

The loss to the Irish was the first contest of a three-game road trip that the Penguins will wrap up this week. With two struggling teams left on the schedule — St. Francis, Pa., and Eastern Kentucky — the team has a great opportunity to return home to the Beeghly Center with a winning record.

Early season optimism is largely a result of a balanced, hot-shooting offense that has four Penguin starters averaging over 11 points a game. The team is shooting 46.9 percent from the field, including an outstanding 45.1 percentage from 3-point range. These numbers are even more impressive considering last year's statistics: The team had only two players average double-figures in points, shooting 43.1 percent from the field and 34.4 percent from three.

Through three games the Penguin offense had trouble keeping possession of the ball, but they did a much better job in their 87-75 loss to Notre Dame. The team only had 12 turnovers against the Irish while forcing 17 miscues. These statistics show the progression of a team working multiple freshmen into its rotation, particularly Vance Cooksey at point guard.

While the team's offensive production has been fun to watch, senior forward Dwight Holmes said the key to having a successful road trip is playing with the toughness instilled by head coach Jerry Slocum.

"Our biggest strength right now is working hard every day," Holmes said. "Effort and toughness

"Our biggest strength right now is working hard every day. Effort and toughness have been trademarks of the basketball program here."

— Dwight Holmes, senior forward

have been trademarks of the basketball program here."

Holmes also said the team's mental toughness will be tested in this early road trip. Last season the Penguins struggled to a 4-13 record away from home. Holmes attributes this to "not having as much determination on the road as we had at home."

The Penguins undoubtedly hope that trips to Pauley Pavilion and the Joyce Center will prepare them for other games in hostile arenas. Their next test will be Wednesday at St. Francis, Pa. Despite its winless record, the Red Flash from the Northeast Conference could be a dangerous opponent for YSU. The St. Francis Red Flash are 0-5, but like the Penguins, they have played tough against high-level competition.

Already suffering close defeats to Penn State and La Salle, they will be hungry to pick up their first victory on their home floor. The Penguins can prevent that by putting pressure on the ball and limiting the touches for 6-6 guard/forward Devin Sweetney, who, as a freshman, established himself as one of the better players in the NEC. The Red Flash turned the ball over nearly 17 times per game last season and will likely have problems with the swiftness of Cooksey and senior guard Byron Davis.

The Penguins should also hold

an edge around the basket. St. Francis' big men are inexperienced and will have to fight for position with forwards Jack Liles and John Barber, each coming off of their best games of the season. Since Liles and Barber outweigh St. Francis' bigs Bassirou Dieng and Randy Spaid by considerable margins, they should be able to continue their solid play.

Saturday the Penguins travel to Eastern Kentucky to take on the Colonels of the Ohio Valley Conference. The Colonels have a 2-3 record, but their victories have come in games against the not-so-impressive West Virginia Wesleyan and Thomas More. The team has had problems scoring, with junior forward Mike Rose being the only player to average double figures in points. If the Penguins continue to shoot near their season percentages they should have no problem heading back home with a victory, since Eastern Kentucky has shot just 41.7 percent from the field so far.

Holmes said that aside from the obvious goal of winning the final two games of the trip, the team also wants to continue to progress and prepare for the Horizon League schedule.

"We need to learn," Holmes said. "We need to play well and grow from where we were yesterday because doing that will help us later in the season."



FRESHMAN IMPACT — Freshman guard Vytas Sulskis tries to muscle his way around a UCLA defender while blocking a steal attempt. The Penguins season has started strong with the team's only losses coming on the road against powerhouses UCLA and Notre Dame. The team has two more road contests to complete before its first game at home in the Beeghly Center. Photo courtesy of YSU Sports Information.

WOMENS BASKETBALL

Lady Penguins break into win column

The team ended a three-game losing streak to open the season with a win over Albany.

Andrew Berry
Sports Editor

It took longer than they may have liked, but the Penguins earned their first win of the 2007 regular season on Saturday.

The team finished their season-opening road trip that featured four games in New York with a 54-52 victory over the Albany Great Danes in Saturday's consolation game of the Long Island Turkey Classic.

In a game where the teams combined for 47 turnovers, the Penguin defense was able to keep the damage under control to give the team a chance for a comeback after trailing the Great Danes for a majority of the game.

It was a tale of two halves for the Penguins as the team struggled to maintain consistency early on against Albany. The Penguins opened up the contest with an 0-4 deficit that was the result of two turnovers, a foul and a missed layup. It wasn't until senior guard Heather Kerner hit one from three-point range before the Penguins snapped out of it and began to point on the board.

But Albany proved to be no pushover despite the Great Danes' 1-5 record coming into the contest. Albany put together an 11-point run to garner a big lead of 23-12 with just over four minutes to play before the end of the first half.

Taking what they could, the Penguins scratched back and played solid defense as the half ended with Albany leading 27-22.

In the second half, the Penguins kept the game within reach and got

the big shots they needed when Kerner drained back-to-back buckets from behind the arch to tie the contest at 37-37.

After Britney McGee hit a layup to give the lead back to Albany, senior guard Lauren Branson was fouled and hit both her free throw attempts to put the game back in a deadlock at 39 all. It would be the last chance Albany had to lose the lead as the Penguins hit their next 10 free throws to make it 12 straight from the charity stripe in the final 10 minutes of the game.

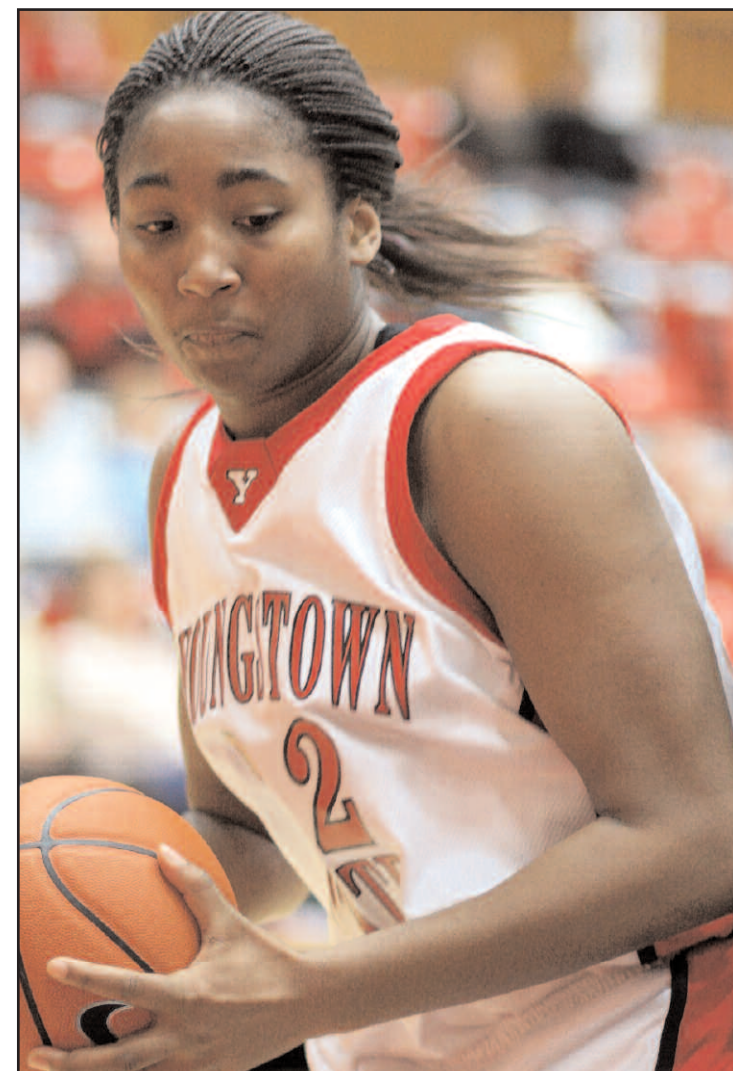
The Penguin defense was impenetrable as the Great Danes were just one of 16 from 3-point range and suffered a five-minute scoring drought in the second half that allowed the Penguins to pull away.

Albany attempted to storm back late, with five straight baskets and two free throws to score within 36 seconds left to play. It wasn't until Tanika Thrower's desperate 3-point attempt went astray that the Penguins finally clinched the victory.

While the Penguins haven't had the early success they wanted this season, Branson said the team has played hard, despite having only one win to show for.

"We were disappointed with the first two losses, but we weren't disappointed with our effort. The effort was there and we had every open shot we could've wanted, but we just couldn't buy a basket," Branson said.

Branson believes there is still plenty of time to turn things around and become a better basketball team. With so many difficult opponents lined up early in the season,



DOUBLE THREAT — Junior forward Ashley Pendleton has been a force on both ends of the court this season. She is the team's second leading scorer with 38 points with an average of 9.8 points a game and leads the team with eight blocks. Photo courtesy of YSU Sports Information.

the Penguins will be well tested before the rigorous Horizon League schedule begins.

The Penguins' out-of-conference schedule has already included Northeast Conference pre-season favorite Long Island University and still features tough

road games at Cincinnati and No. 15 Ohio State.

"We don't schedule cupcake teams," Branson said. "There are a lot of good players in the Horizon League, and playing against cupcake teams isn't going to help us prepare for that."

Women's Basketball

Butler	4-1
Green Bay	2-1
Illinois-Chicago	3-2
Cleveland State	2-2
Milwaukee	1-2
Youngstown State	1-3
Loyola	1-4
Valparaiso	1-5
Wright State	1-5
Detroit	0-4

Leading Scorers

Traci Edwards (Milwaukee)	21.0 ppg
Kailey Klein (Cleveland State)	19.0 ppg
Sheylani Peddy (Wright State)	16.2 ppg
Jessica Miller (UIC)	15.4 ppg
Rachel Porath (Green Bay)	15.3 ppg
Kalya Groh (Green Bay)	15.0 ppg
Heather Kerner (YSU)	14.5 ppg