

The Jambar

The student voice of Youngstown State University since 1931

PAGE 2

SPRING SEMESTER RINGS BIG RECEIPTS AT YSU BOOKSTORE

'NOT RESPONSIBLE'

Charges dropped against football players despite conflicting testimonies

Josh Stipanovich
NEWS EDITOR

The alleged assault that took place at a house on Alameda and Fifth Avenue early on the morning of Nov. 16 involving four football players and a group of students has taken a turn after an investigation by the Office of Student Life at Youngstown State University.

Tailback James Cravens, cornerback Averick Walker and free safety Adam House said the charge of assault against another student filed by 19-year-old student and victim Kyle Long was dropped after each stated they were found not responsible after their hearing with the School Disciplinary Board.

"All charges were dropped, and we were all found not responsible for the assault on Alameda," Cravens said. "We want for the public to understand we are not guilty."

Associate Director of Student Life Dr. Martin Manning was in charge of administering the investigation and said he was not able to declare what the final verdict was due to FERPA (Family Educational Rights & Privacy Act), but did say this case was a difficult one to close due to the circumstances and severity.

"I think [Craven's accusation is] bulls--- because I remember seeing him landing punches to my face before I hit the ground."

-Kyle Long

"The hearing went over three hours time ... when it was all said and done probably three hours and 10 minutes. That's a pretty substantial hearing," Manning said.

The police report taken by the Youngstown Police Department said Long had been allegedly punched in the right eye and choked after making a joke about strong safety Nick Gooden. The report also read that Long said the other suspects held him down, which led to the point in time when the other three suspects became involved.

FOOTBALL page 4

Sweet awarded for leadership

Alicia Pattillo
REPORTER

Youngstown State University President Dr. David C. Sweet was awarded the 2009 Chief Executive Leadership Award by the council of the Center for the Advancement and Support of Education.

The annual conference was held in Chicago where Sweet was nominated by his peers to receive the award for his leadership attributes.

"It's always great to be recognized by your peers," Sweet said.

The award illustrates Sweet's leadership in increasing enrollment, diversity and partnerships throughout the city of Youngstown during his time as president.

Sweet said 10 years ago when he and others searched the process to improve YSU, three primary areas were the focus. Sweet said in his time at YSU and with the help of others he has effectively established increasing enrollment at the university, rising diversity in students, faculty and staff and has established many partnerships with the city.

"I am proud of our partnerships throughout the city of Youngstown. They will carry continuing importance of years to come," Sweet said.

Sweet is set to retire June 30. He said the university could not have grown without teamwork.

"When one reflects on success, teamwork is an essential ingredient of success," he said.



Enrollment steadies for spring semester

Juliana Hull
REPORTER

This spring, enrollment numbers at Youngstown State University have reached almost 14,000 students, up from 11,787 students at the beginning of President Dr. David C. Sweet's term in 2000.

On Monday, Director of University Communications Ron Cole said, "The enrollment numbers as of today is 13,597 students."

There are many reasons for the university's jump in students; the main one is the economy, said YSU's Director of Undergraduate and International Admissions Sue Davis. Davis said she has seen a drastic jump in the number of adult students enrolling at YSU since last year.

"I can tell you from the fall semester we have had a lot of adults that want to go back to school. Also some adults can't afford room and board at other schools," Davis said.

Along with lower room and board rates at YSU, the Western Pennsylvania Advantage, which eliminates the out-of-state tuition charge for students in eight Pennsylvania counties, is another major reason for the increase in students.

"Reduced tuition is very attractive to people from the western Pennsylvania area; we also have some academic programs too that other schools do not have," Davis said.

ENROLLMENT page 4



Drag queens and kings strutted their stuff as part of the LGBTQ culture drag show sponsored by the Office of Housing & Residence Life and YSUUnity in Kilcawley Center on Wednesday evening.

IT'S RAINING (WO)MEN



PHOTOS BY NICK YOUNG/THE JAMBAR

Administration pleased with new HR director

Dan Pompili
ASSIST. NEWS EDITOR

After years of turmoil surrounding the office and months of searching and interviewing candidates, Youngstown State University has a new director of human resources.

Kevin W. Reynolds of Rocky River officially began work on Jan. 4.

Reynolds brings 38 years of ex-

perience in human resources and labor relations along with a graduate degree in the discipline from Cleveland State University.

After obtaining his bachelor's degree in business administration from Kent State University in 1972, Reynolds spent three years in various human resources positions in local and state governments.

From 1976 to 1985, he served as personnel and payroll officer for the Cuyahoga County Board of County Commissioners, where he

administered collective bargaining agreements, presided over grievance issues, developed policies for state and federal law compliance, and was responsible for numerous other human resources duties.

From 1985 to 2000, Reynolds was a senior consultant and project manager at Dublin, consulting firm Clemans, Nelson & Associates, Inc. There he managed the provision of various human relations and

HUMAN RESOURCES page 4

EDITORIAL: BLAME GAME page 5

NORTEY'S SHORT ON HEIGHT, BIG ON CONFIDENCE page 8



TAKE OUR URBAN DICTIONARY QUIZ page 6

WEATHER

TODAY 36 | 28

FRI 36 | 30

SAT 38 | 31

IN THIS ISSUE

NEWS BRIEFS

Home Savings awards scholarships to business students

The Home Savings and Loan Company has received the WWR Outstanding Community Partner Award. The award is given to an Ohio community bank that partners with its community for educational, community outreach and service programs. Home Savings received \$2,000 as part of the award. The bank decided to donate those funds in the form of four \$500 scholarships for YSU business students. Daniel DeMaiolo, Patrick Reed, Megan Vendemia and LaVonn Snipes were awarded the scholarships. All are juniors or seniors with a 3.0 GPA or better.

Board of Trustees meetings scheduled

The Youngstown State University Board of Trustees will hold meetings with each of the four final candidates for university president. Meetings with candidate Dr. Jack Maynard Jan. 18 at 5:30 p.m. at the Holiday Inn in Boardman and Jan. 20 at noon in the Cochran Room of Kilcawley Center. Meetings with Dr. Cheryl Norton will be held Jan. 20 at 5:30 p.m. and Jan. 22 at noon in the Cochran Room. Dr. Cynthia Anderson will appear Jan. 25 at 5:30 p.m. and Jan. 27 at noon in the Cochran Room.

Spring semester rings big receipts at YSU Bookstore

Emalee C. Torisk
COPY EDITOR

Despite spending \$360 on textbooks already, junior John Thomas isn't finished shopping. When he's done, Thomas estimates he'll end up having paid around \$600 for all his spring semester books.

Thomas isn't alone. Halfway through the first week of spring semester 2010, the Youngstown State University Bookstore, located in Kilcawley Center, was a flurry of activity as students scrambled to find and purchase required tomes for courses.

Although Thomas said he looked at textbooks online, books were required "right away" for many of his classes. So, he bought them at the YSU Bookstore.

"I'm in my core classes right now," Thomas, a marketing major, said. "I'm spending a little more this semester."

Again, he's not the only one. Last semester was Aaron Mrvelj's first, and he spent around \$200 or \$300 on textbooks. However, he ended up forking over more money for this second semester: \$400 or \$500.

"All my classes had books, and a couple I couldn't get used," Mrvelj said. "I needed to buy them new."

Freshman Mary Truhan also must finish buying books, even after paying \$310. Truhan estimates she'll spend "probably another \$150." For Truhan, though, this rate is average and "about the same" as last semester.

"[Textbooks are] probably so expensive because there's always a new edition," Truhan said.

Likewise, sophomore and transfer student Martanique Hardy said this is her first semester back at YSU, and she was "a little surprised" by the cost of her books.

"Oh my goodness," Hardy said. "They were \$457." Hardy said she was thinking of buying some textbooks online to save money, but she needed her books immediately.

Some YSU students are even turning to alternative means to save money on textbooks. Graduate student Sarah Hahn said she spent \$45 this semester at the YSU Bookstore, but borrowed all other books through the Ohio Library and Information Network.

"It depends on the book," Hahn said. "If I think I'll want to keep or use the book again, I'll buy it."

Additionally, some students, like junior Pat Andrews, a telecommunications major, benefited from textbook discounts. He spent \$54 for textbooks this semester. However, if he hadn't received financial aid, his purchases would have totaled about \$290.

Although Andrews typically frequents Campus Book and Supply, he shopped at the YSU Bookstore this semester so his financial aid could be applied. Andrews' most expensive book this year was a geology text, which cost \$125.

Graduate student Lauren Fabrizio often shops at the YSU Bookstore for textbooks because she can apply her YSU-employed father's discount to her purchases.

Still, she spent around \$200 for textbooks this semester, less than usual. Fabrizio attributed this to some classes not requiring books, and even professors discouraging the buying of pricey texts.

The PhysD degree versus the PhD

Eric Jaffe
L.A. TIMES

The current rumbling over psychotherapy methods centers on a type of therapist degree called the PsyD, which emerged in the 1970s and has since exploded in popularity. Critics claim these schools don't properly train their students in science-based approaches to therapy.

The PsyD movement began because too few psychologists with PhDs were enter-

ing private practice but were instead becoming academic researchers. PsyD programs, in contrast, often require students to accumulate more hours practicing therapy, and their graduates tend to become professional therapists. From 1988 to 2001, the awarding of PsyDs soared 170 percent, compared with relatively no increase in PhDs.

Many PsyD programs are housed at free-standing schools that is, unaffiliated with an established university. Their high acceptance rates

have led some to consider them diploma mills. On average, PsyD programs accept 41 percent of applicants, compared with 11 percent for PhD programs. PsyD graduates also on average score lower on professional psychologist licensing exams.

In 2003, the late Donald Peterson, father of the PsyD movement, reconsidered what he had created: In an article in the American Psychologist, he termed the programs' high acceptance rates and low licensing scores "a dangerous situa-

tion." But the leap from high acceptance rates to unscientific training is itself a "most unscientific error," says Morgan Sammons, dean of the professional psychology school at Alliant International University, a free-standing program based in California. "Acceptance rates have nothing to do with the scientific basis of a program," Sammons wrote in an e-mail.

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Have you had any problems with parking on campus?



"No, I got my pass early. I get here 10 minutes early."

Brittney Hill, freshman



"It's s----y. I didn't know the first week we had to have our passes. It takes forever to find somewhere to park, and traffic is backed up."

Francesca Baldarelli, senior



"Not really. I did forget [my pass] the first day, so they charged me \$5."

Nathan O'Malley, sophomore

got an opinion?

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**Applications are now being accepted
for the following positions for the
Spring 2010 semester**

- General Assignment Reporters
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What you need to know

- All positions receive a paid stipend.
- Applicants will be interviewed by the Student Publication Committee.
- Applications are available from Lynn Haug in the Kilcawley Staff Office located on the upper level of Kilcawley Center.

**** Application Deadline: 12:00 p.m.,
Monday, January 25, 2010 ****

FOOTBALL page 1

According to the report, Long said "he went to the hospital because his lip was split open, which required five stitches, he had bruises on his head, fractured nose and contusions on his right eye."

However, Cravens said in a telephone interview with The Jambar that this information was false, and that he was just there trying to break up the fight.

"The only thing I tried to do was break the fight up before it got bigger. I could not do it alone," Cravens said. "I guess Kyle thought I was trying to fight him. I really don't know what he was thinking. Once I realized I could not break up the fight, I got in my car and left. Days later his friends convinced him to file charges."

Long said Cravens was involved with the fight even before Long had initially been knocked to the ground.

"I think [Craven's accusation is] bulls--- because I remember seeing him landing punches to my face before I hit the ground," Long said.

Long said after the alleged assault, he did file charges, but wasn't able to find out what had been decided. He said that he heard through an acquaintance that the players were put on probation.

"I left school and went back home for Christmas vacation before we could find out anymore about what happened. We had a meeting with the school board to say what happened and also what the school would do about the incident," Long said. "We heard from a few people that the worst thing that happened was probation."

Manning said when charges are filed, it usually means those charges are enforced against the suspects the majority of the time.

"Reality is, most of the cases that get referred to this office probably after we've

gone through that review process, I'd say nine out of 10 of them are going to have charges filed. Most people just don't randomly file a report of a student that really hasn't been involved in anything," Manning said. "Just because it gets reported into this office doesn't mean that we just jump to the conclusion that the student's responsible, because we have an obligation to maintain a fair and objective process."

Long said during the hearing, the police officer he spoke with at the time of the alleged assault attempted to explain to the board that Long was unable to get up from the ground because "eight people were on him."

Cravens, House and Walker all said Long's allegations are false.

Since the alleged assault, Cravens said there is still a football future for him at YSU.

"I can only speak for myself on the football issue, [but] as far as football goes, I'm fine," Cravens said.

The same cannot be said for Walker, who told The Jambar via telephone he was told after the incident, he would no longer have a spot available on the Penguin football roster. Walker also said he had been in some trouble with the team prior to alleged incident with Long.

"It was embarrassing that I had to go through that when I didn't do anything," Walker said. "I'm not even on the football team anymore ... I had been getting in some trouble but I didn't do that."

Editor's note: The Jambar has attempted to contact suspect Gooden as well for comment, but a response has not yet been received. Youngstown Police Department Detective Sergeant Rick Spotleson, lead detective for the case, also could not be reached for comment.

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ENROLLMENT page 1

These programs that YSU now offer are the pre-physical therapy degree and the new forensic science program. Since these two programs at YSU are now available, Davis said the Bitonte College of Health and Human Services "has seen a large increase in students."

Despite the sudden jump in students at YSU, academic advisers are not dramatically

affected, and most have made adjustments to ensure that every student is seen. Advisers at the Bitonte College of Health and Human Services now schedule appointments every 20 minutes, instead of every 30, so they can see more students. Senior academic adviser Sally Kenney said they "are trying to make the best of it."

HUMAN RESOURCES page 1

labor relations resources to public and private sector employers. Reynolds said the majority of his clientele were in the public sector, and most of those in government.

From 2000-2004, he served as human resources administrator for the city of Lakewood, where he oversaw labor relations for more than 700 full and part-time employees, managed recruitment and hiring, compensation and regulatory compliance, prepared budgets and developed and implemented human resources policies and procedures.

From there, Reynolds developed an interest in higher education, and brought his expertise to Cuyahoga Community College, where he served as district director of labor and employee relations. There he managed human relations functions for more than 3,200 employees.

He is currently a member or executive of six human relations and labor relations professional groups, including the Northern Ohio chapter of the International Public Management Association for Human Resources where he served as president during his time with the City of Lakewood.

Reynolds has received two prestigious awards during his career. In 2003, he received the Central Region IPMA-HR/CPS International Training Conference Scholarship, and the 2004 Ohio Governor's Excellence in Worker's Compensation Award.

Reynolds submitted his resume to YSU in July, when the vacancy notice for the position was posted. According to Dr. George McCloud, Special Assistant to the President for University Advancement, and chairman of the search committee, the decision was made shortly before Christmas. Vice President for Finance and Administration Eugene Grilli signed Reynolds to the three-year contract, which took effect on Jan. 4.

Grilli and McCloud both spoke in glowing terms about their perception of the search committee's efforts and, ultimately, the hiring of Reynolds

to the office.

"I think we're all very pleased with Kevin and the fact that he's here," Grilli said. "He has a firm knowledge of the public sector and the Ohio Revised Code, and he's very experienced with labor relations."

I think this committee worked very hard and took this appointment to heart," said McCloud. "They really wanted to get this one right, and I think [they] did."

McCloud said he felt Reynolds had very strong experience with human resources, specifically in an academic setting. Of the four finalists, Reynolds was the only candidate whose resume included human resources experience at an educational institution.

Reynolds said he saw the job as an opportunity to advance his career and emerge into an expanded leadership role in human resources. He has had a strong interest in working with institutes of higher education since taking the position at Cuyahoga.

"I believe the best hope for Northeast Ohio are the institutes of higher learning charged with implementing Governor Strickland's plan ... and producing more college graduates," said Reynolds. "That's a big part of the solution to some of the economic problems."

Reynolds said he is familiar with the reputation of YSU's human resources department and that his first priority is to transform the image of the department into one of effectiveness and efficiency "more in line with the goals and core values of the university."

Reynolds met with the cabinet this morning to discuss the issues he is attempting to identify, in the interest of implementing more effective practices.

"I've received nothing but encouragement and support," he said of his interactions with staff and administration thus far.

"He's going to prove to be a vital force in creating one of the best H.R. departments in the state," said Grilli.

2010-2011
Financial Aid
Awareness Week

Stop by one of our tables for information on financial aid for the 2010-2011 academic year. The priority deadline to complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) on the Web and the YSU Institutional Aid Application is February 15, 2010.

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

| | |
|-----------------------------|----------------|
| Monday, January 25, 2010 | 10 a.m.-3 p.m. |
| Tuesday, January 26, 2010 | 10 a.m.-3 p.m. |
| Wednesday, January 27, 2010 | 10 a.m.-3 p.m. |
| Thursday, January 28, 2010 | 10 a.m.-3 p.m. |

**All dates are in the Kilcawley Center-1st floor across from bank

OUR SIDE

Blame game

RELATED STORY

Football, page 1

The Jambar
EDITORIAL BOARD

Under the law, everyone is innocent until proven guilty.

The alleged assault involving YSU students is a situation encompassing a lot of hearsay and, as expected, stories from both parties are not lining up.

This is where the legal system comes into place.

Although the Office of Student Life handles disciplinary cases multiple times a year, we have to wonder where the line is drawn between the university's investigation and the city police department's investigation.

While the university dropped the charges against the football players, the city still had a part in the case. The police report was filed by the Youngstown Police Department, and they had one of their detective sergeants on the case. So, was the case closed through the city as well? It is difficult to assume any scenario without a return phone call.

Each of the football players accused in the incident were found not responsible after their hearing under the School Disciplinary Board, and if what the report alleges is true, how could the board find them not responsible?

Dr. Martin Manning said in an interview that "nine out of 10" cases that come through his office are often resolved with charges against those at fault. Kyle Long stated in the police report that he was injured to the point of having to go to the emergency room. Aside from stitches, he suffered a fractured nose, which he said had to be re-broken into place merely a week ago. It is hard to imagine the justification for not filing any charges against anyone in this case.

Division I athletes are expected to exemplify all the qualities of good sportsmanship on and off the field or court. When they play with the law in any way, it shines poorly upon the athletic department as well as the university.

Let's hope they weren't let off the hook because of their stature at a university.



ABOUT THE JAMBAR

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

OUR SIDE POLICY

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.

YOUR SIDE POLICY

The Jambar encourages letters to the editor. E-mail submissions are welcome at editor@thejambar.com. Letters should concern campus issues, must be typed and must not exceed 400 words. Submissions must include the writer's name and telephone number for verification and the writer's city of residence for printing. Letters are subject to editing for spelling, grammar and clarity. The editorial board reserves the right to reject commentaries that are libelous or that don't defend opinion with facts from reliable sources. The editorial board will request a rewrite from the submitting writer based on these requirements.

Letters will not be rejected based on the view expressed in them. Letters may be rejected if they are not relevant to Jambar readers, seek free publicity or if the editorial staff decides the subject has been sufficiently aired. The Jambar will not print letters that libelous, threatening, obscene or indecent. The Jambar does not withhold the names of writers of letters or guest commentaries.

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



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

America's persuader crusaders

Gregory Rodriguez
L.A. TIMES

Fox News analyst Brit Hume ruffled some feathers last week when he suggested that Tiger Woods should convert to Christianity from Buddhism if he hoped to recover from his humiliating personal fall. Hume's public proselytizing was clumsy and presumptuous, but it seems to me that the only rule he broke was the one that dictates that you shouldn't talk about religion in polite company.

I mean, the guy gets paid for giving his opinion, and, well, he gave his opinion. But religion is different, right? Well, actually, no. Among many other things, religions are worldviews, and our right to free expression allows — indeed encourages — us to share our worldviews. And when I say "share," I'm not referring to the "aren't all cultures wonderful?" pageantry of, say, public television, but of the rough-and-tumble world of competing ideas and beliefs.

The doctrine of the separation of church and state seems to leave a lot of Americans thinking that religion has no place in the public square. But nothing could be further from the truth. In fact, recent history shows that democracy actually energizes public religious activity and competition among faiths.

As Emory University law professor John Witte Jr. wrote: "The problem of proselytism is one of the great ironies of the democratic revolution of the modern world. ... On the one hand, the modern human rights revolution has helped to catalyze a great awakening in religion around the globe. ... On the other hand ... the human rights revolution has brought on something of a new war for souls between indigenous and foreign religious groups."

In the United States, the Constitution doesn't merely protect religious practice; it also protects a believer's right to try to change someone else's beliefs. As the ninth vice president of the United States, Richard Mentor Johnson, once put it, "Our Constitution recognizes no other power than that of persuasion, for enforcing religious observances."

Indeed, if you step back, you'll see that our institutions actually encourage religious persuasion. We put a premium on individual belief (which in part derives from the Protestant doctrine of the "priesthood of believers" — all men have equal access to the God), and from elementary school on we are taught to "de-

cide for ourselves" and choose our own paths. In our willy-nilly search for truth, we Americans make our way through a bazaar-like marketplace of ideas where aggressive salesmen try to make us see things their way. If we respect our intellectual culture and political tradition, we have to admit that proselytism is not a threat to the public square; it's integral to it.

And no, it's not polite. Hume basically said, "My faith is better than Woods'" and he was attacked as "sanctimonious" and "stupid." He wasn't being respectful, and neither were his critics. Neither is our intellectual and political tradition.

Newspaper op-ed pages are dedicated to people who are trying to change your mind about all sorts of issues. Cable news shows are all about the clash of opinion shapers. From the now-nonstop political campaigns of Democrats and Republicans to advertising to PR onslaughts, it's nearly impossible to escape the daily bombardment of persuasion. Contemporary social media now enables just about anyone with a computer to shape their friends' views on anything from politics to movies. You can become a fan of any cause on Facebook. If you have a bad experience at a restaurant, you can weigh in against it by writing a review on Yelp. If you loved that book you just read, you can let everyone know by writing a review on Amazon.com.

And not only are we a nation of persuaders, we are citizens of a persuasive nation that likes to try to convince others of the rightness of its views on human rights, capitalism and democracy. In no small way, the entire Cold War was an attempt at global persuasion. We wanted the world to be like us, and we still do.

Social psychologists have done extensive work on the mechanics of how we are influenced by others. But only recently have they turned their attention to what people get out of influencing others. Some of these studies have shown that the persuasion of others is a part of our attempt to better control our environment.

I suspect that whatever the researchers find in the end won't be too different than what Goethe discovered in the early 19th century. "People," he wrote, "have a peculiar pleasure in making converts, that is, in causing others to enjoy what they enjoy, thus finding their likeness represented and reflected back to them."

Hume wasn't just trying to help Tiger Woods; he was trying to mold him in his image.

Craigslist and crime

L.A. Times
MCT

Craigslist's vast network of classified-ad Web sites has been a boon not just to bargain hunters but also to criminals searching for victims. The San Francisco-based company has been linked to a wide range of crimes in recent years, from petty thefts to grisly murders. The most recent was a rape in Wyoming allegedly orchestrated by the victim's ex-boyfriend, a former Marine in Twentynine Palms, Calif. The 27-year-old mechanic is accused of placing an ad on Craigslist purportedly from a woman seeking "a real aggressive man with no concern for women." He allegedly continued the impersonation in e-mails and instant messages, enticing a 26-year-old Wyoming man to the victim's house to engage in abusive, humiliating sex.

The incident brought more scrutiny to Craigslist, which stopped taking ads for "erotic services" last May under pressure from several

state attorneys general. The company replaced the erotic services section with "adult services" listings that must be approved in advance by Craigslist (ostensibly to bar pitches for prostitution and other illegal activities) and paid for (creating a commercial paper trail). Yet the attack in Wyoming led some critics to suggest that Craigslist wasn't monitoring such posts closely enough. "If a woman is putting an ad online saying she'd like to be raped, I'd hope it would be stopped," said a spokesman for an Illinois sheriff who'd tried in vain to hold Craigslist liable for publishing solicitations by prostitutes.

Craigslist's popularity and breadth make it attractive to the seamy elements of society, as well as to fringe groups of all types. But despite the headline-grabbing nature of some of the crimes linked to the site, it makes sense to shield the company from liability for what gets posted on its site, as the Communications Decency Act currently does. Bear in mind that there are many outlets besides Craigslist

where people can publish fraudulent come-ons in relative anonymity, such as alternative newspapers and Internet newsgroups. But the information Craigslist collects from those who post ads can provide better leads to investigators than they might obtain from, say, a newspaper that accepts cash for classifieds.

More important, society has much to gain from encouraging companies to create venues for people to speak and collaborate freely. Holding sites liable for the wrongs done by a tiny percentage of users could make it impossible to build low-cost services that can grow rapidly in value to the public. Web sites would instead have to maintain large staffs to keep tight control on what users published, reducing customers' freedom to air their views and participate in the culture. It's better to encourage users to police Craigslist by reporting material that crosses the line than to have Craigslist try to police them.

Lost In Definition

Lamar Salter
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT
EDITOR

It's easy to get lost in language. Different dialects, accents, pronunciations and word choice are a lot to comprehend. But luckily the human mind can handle the weight pretty well.

Since the early days, language has been the de facto tool in communication and as time progresses, language evolves with rate of word usage and the way we say pronounce phrases, and over time, we have even come to manipulate and develop new forms of speech.

That's where slang comes in. According to <http://www.dictionary.com>, the definition of slang is "the very informal usage in vocabulary and idiom that is characteristically more metaphorical, playful, elliptical, vivid and ephemeral than ordinary language ..."

While the word may originally be characterized as a product of urban culture associated with hip-hop, slang has been around as long as civilization.

Simple techniques like shortening and literal transformations of common words could be described as slang, according to the definition.

These days, slang has gone to technology.

Online chat and text messaging have popularized "LOL" and "TTYL" often to the point that people say these terms in real life.

Slang has become so popular that we have even started building communities around it.

In 1999, Aaron Peckham was a college student at California Polytechnic State University. A freshman in computer science, Peckham became interested in the slang terms he heard around campus and decided to create a Web site defining the things he heard. He coined this new Web site UrbanDictionary.com.

"The original idea was a dictionary where anyone can add their own definitions," Peckham said via e-mail. "In response, people added hilarious and accurate definitions to the site."

More than 10 years later, the Web site regularly receives millions of visitors and now has almost five million definitions. About 2,000 definitions are sent in every day, a number that surprised its creator.

"I never expected it would be popular! Urban Dictionary started as a hobby project, one I really believed in and enjoyed working on," Peckham said.

The words found on Urban Dictionary straddle the line between accurate definitions and completely made-up terms to describe situations.

"Photobombing" is defined as a situation when a person jumps into a group picture. "Indoorsman" is a person who spends considerable time indoors with television, video games and/or the Internet.

One popular word, the "Kobe Special," refers to husbands buying jewelry to appease angry wives.

Students at Youngstown State University shared their favorite words to look up.

Junior Bill Gaims looked up "noob" once, which is a gaming term for a new or inexperienced video game player.

Junior Shari McQueen gave her favorite word. "I like 'go ham,'" she said with a laugh. "It means to go dizzy, you know like go all-out."

Senior Patrick Peachrock's favorite definition is one a little close to home. "I love the definition for Youngstown," Peachrock said.

One of the many definitions for Youngstown on the Web site describes the city as "where Satan threatens to send residents of hell who are deemed unworthy."

While Youngstown and other content on the Web site may not sound as accurate or objective as a standard dictionary, Peckham said the site serves a greater purpose.

"I also started the site because there's something a little fishy about referring to a heavily researched, static, printed dictionary to settle arguments," Peckham said. "I think asking people around you what words mean, or what they mean when they use a word, is a better way to understand each other."

It might not prove to be incredibly beneficial to list slang language as a second language on a resume, but understanding the words we use, both formal and informal, can help build bridges between cultures and generations alike, something Peckham is looking at for the future.

Peckham said in addition to selling merchandise like mugs and mouse pads printed with definitions, he plans to make an Urban Dictionary daily calendar too.

"We'd like to continue doing products like that, because it makes the Urban Dictionary definitions available to people outside of the Web site," Peckham said.



1. Canadian Refrigerator

A. A unique refrigerator made in Canada.

B. A refrigerator created for universal youth, similar to Canada's universal health care system. Everyone has access to the refrigerator.

C. A bank or pile of snow during the colder winter months of winter, where food or beverage products (namely soda and beer) are stored.

2. ALCULATE

A. Another word for an ALGEBRAIC Calculator

B. To calculate how cost effective an alcoholic beverage is.

C. To guess how drunk someone is.

3. Ear worm

A. A person who is annoyingly talkative.

B. That itchy, annoying feeling you get in your inner ear that you just can't seem to shake.

C. A song that is stuck in your head.

4. Badunkadunk Butt

A. Someone with a large butt.

B. A really really big cigarette butt.

C. Swahilian for apple cider.

5. Askhole.

A. Someone who asks many stupid, pointless, obnoxious questions.

B. An offensive question designed to attack the person who is being asked the question.

C. A question designed to prove whether or not a person is a jerk or not.

6. Elf Esteem

A. An extremely short person with an uncharacteristically high self esteem.

B. The feeling of being overworked, underappreciated and like you don't exist to others during the holidays while in actuality the season's success depends on you.

C. A humorous play on a person who becomes overexcited for the Christmas holiday season.

7. Doored

A. Someone who instantly becomes influenced by music by The Doors.

B. To crash into and/or over a driver's side door.

C. To slam the door in a person's face during a heated argument.

1. B 2. B 3. C 4. A 5. A 6. B 7. B

Diversity in action: Valley honors MLK

Gary S. Angelo
FEATURES REPORTER

On Jan. 17, 18 and 21, the Martin Luther King Planning Committee of Mahoning Valley will host events honoring the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. The events will start Sunday with a worship service honoring King at Elizabeth Baptist Church in Youngstown.

The service will also honor Clifford O. Johnson, Martin Luther King Dream Team chairperson, who passed away on Dec. 4. William Blake, director of the Youngstown State University Office of Student Diversity Programs, adds, "Johnson's volunteerism will be sadly missed." Johnson was

an active member in the Trumbull County NAACP. An advocate of education, Johnson worked as a consultant with Youngstown and Warren City Schools.

On Jan. 18, the Martin Luther King Planning Committee of Mahoning Valley will host a series of health care workshops at the First Presbyterian Church on Wick Avenue.

"The workshops will be focused on the health care needs of people in the Mahoning Valley," Blake said.

Health care organizations will participate in the roundtable discussion. Additionally, a congressional representative from Rep. Tim Ryan's office will give an updated presentation about how the legislature views the state of health care.

On Jan. 21, the YSU Office of Student Diversity Programs and the Martin Luther King Planning Committee of Mahoning Valley will be hosting the eighth annual Martin Luther King Jr. Diversity Breakfast. The breakfast will start at 8:30 a.m. in Kilcawley Center's Chestnut Room, and will feature, as guest speaker, the Rev. Otis Moss Jr. of Chicago's Trinity United Church of Christ.

Some organizations involved in the Martin Luther King Planning Committee of Mahoning Valley include the Jewish Federation, YSU, the YSU Office of Equal Opportunity, the YSU Office of Student Diversity Programs and the Dream Team.

"Students are welcome to

participate in any of the activities, and can also participate in the breakfast," Blake said.

The Rev. Lewis W. Macklin of the Holy Trinity Missionary Baptist Church in Youngstown said each year gives people an opportunity to improve the quality of life in the community. Macklin is also the president of local diversity group, Alliance for Congregational Transformation Influencing Our Neighborhoods. He will participate in the health care workshops.

"As we revisit Dr. King's speech, we have to look into things that affect modern society, and this year's focus is health care," Macklin said.

Macklin stressed the importance of celebrating King's birthday, but also to celebrate

his works to improve diversity.

"Dr. Martin Luther King's dream transcended onto us, and it's a day of meaning and engagement. Dr. King still inspires us today to march for education, community safety and health care," Macklin said.

Macklin said the Martin Luther King Planning Committee of Mahoning Valley does a great service for the less fortunate in the community.

"We collect food and used DVDs and distribute them to veterans homes, homeless shelters and nursing homes," Macklin said. "Instead of relaxing at home on Martin Luther King Day, we are fighting and advocating the quality of life in the area."

Climb out of your music rut and generate a new playlist

Edward Ortiz
(MCT)

My iPod contains 10 vastly different playlists, but they're all beginning to sound stale.

Name a tune from any playlist and I can tell you which artist follows. Even without thinking, I know that Mozart's Adagio from his Piano Concerto No. 12 follows Morcheeba's "The Sea."

As a music critic, I like to explore the horizons. To do so I visit online playlist generators or Internet radio stations. They go by names like Pandora, GrokMusic or Slacker. And they are just the ticket for shaking up my listening routine.

Several have been around for years, yet many people in my age group have yet to discover them. Only a quarter of those ages 36 to 50 now listen to an Internet radio station, according to a recent Pew study. Even among adults ages 18 to 35, a group considered more Internet-savvy, a little more than half were not listening to free streaming samples of songs online.

"Most people, as they get older, lose touch with music," said Tim Westergren, chief executive of Pandora, the most popular music streaming site. "They're stuck with the music of their youth and have a very hard time finding new stuff."

Pandora launched in 2000 as a site where audiences could find independent musicians. Even today, 70 percent of the 85,000 artists in Pandora's collection are independent artists, Westergren said.

Pandora and a growing list of competitors have become a powerful tool, one that feels like a virtual radio station and uses musical experts to suggest tracks from an archive of thousands of recordings.

Some, like last.fm, go a step further by incorporating a social-networking element where you can meet people with similar tastes, no matter how obscure the music. And most work with smart phones such as the iPhone, BlackBerry and Android phones.

Here are five free, user-friendly sites that offer an experience very much like falling through a musical rabbit hole:

www.last.fm

— Scoop: The runner-up to Pandora in popularity, this site claims more than 30 million users in roughly 200 countries. What sets last.fm's apart from Pandora is its music suggestion software called "Audioscrobbler" (requires download), which automatically adds the tracks you play to your profile. Allows you to meet other members and groups with similar tastes through social-networking forums like one called "I Still Buy CDs," a forum that boasts 54,212 members.

— How it works: Type in the name of an artist and get a screen of suggested tracks, artist information and videos. As you use the site, it builds a detailed profile of your tastes from Internet radio stations, computer or portable music device.

— Cost: Free
— Pros: Simple and elegant screen layout; great musical social networking site; downloadable to all smart phones

— Cons: Requires download of last.fm software; your listening choice information is shared with record labels

www.pandora.com

— Scoop: The leader in the music-suggestion realm, with more than 30 million users, Pandora uses an algorithm called the "Music Genome Project" to suggest artists and new songs.

— How it works: You select artists or songs you like, which triggers an online playlist. Using that information, Pandora launches a streaming station to explore that part of the musical spectrum. The Music Genome Project cap-

tures the complex musical DNA of the songs and uses a team of 50 musicians to plumb it, then kicks out suggestions. The result? You get a Green Day suggestion with your Nirvana.

— Cost: Free
— Pros: Well-stocked library; available as an app on smart phones

— Cons: Sometimes makes quizzical suggestions; doesn't allow skipping back to tracks; large banner ads.

www.slacker.com

— Scoop: Don't let the name turn you off. This clean application allows you to listen to more than 100 stations for free or upgrade to a subscription. You can try stations programmed by music experts or create a custom station.

— How it works: Click your favorite music category on the home screen, and you are taken to a screen of subgenres. For example, if you like jazz, it offers up eight subgenres, from "smooth" to "acid jazz" that are easy to navigate. The site also offers up "Top Hit" or "Top Station" lists and album reviews.

— Cost: Free. Offers upgrade to its "Plus" plan at \$4.99 a month or \$47.88 a year. The upgrade gives you no ads, unlimited song skips and complete lyrics. I thought the free option was well worth dealing with an ad every half hour.

— Pros: Good sound quality and nice graphic look; little or no buffering; works as an app on most smart phones

— Cons: Free option allows only six songs skips per created station and periodic ads.

www.awdio.com

— Scoop: Do you have a hankering to listen to live music being played in, say, Ibiza, Spain? Or in a hip club in Manhattan? If so, then this site is for you. Awdio.com is the first platform solely devoted to broadcasting live music and the first to offer a music player that broadcasts multiple channels of live music to any Web browser.

— How it works: From the home page, navigate to the Events Page box and a calendar of what is being performed, where and when. Includes schedules for upcoming acts from more than 100 venues worldwide, from rap to house to classical music. A great tool for listening to music festivals with their multiple stages.

— Cost: Free
— Pros: High-quality streaming of live music

— Cons: Limited to live events; many festivals' broadcasts are obscure; does not suggest music; no smart phone app.

www.GrokMusic.com

— Scoop: This site wins my vote for the best name and the most graphically simple music-suggestion page. Use a music map on the home page to links for similar artists, or fill in the music-suggestion box that allows you to reach across dissimilar genres for new music. It also offers music articles, bios and links to radio station webstreams.

— How it works: Upon entering, you are prompted to type in the name of an artist. Typing in U2, for example, creates a bubble map that offers artists such as Travis, the Killers and Queen. A music-suggestion box below that asks for three artists. Putting in U2, Beyonce and Beethoven brought up a dozen suggestions, including Rihanna, Mozart and the Pussycat Dolls. You can indicate whether you "Like it," "Don't like it" or "Don't know it." This input feeds the Grok Music discovery engine for future use.

— Cost: Free
— Pros: Easy to use, fun for play, the site suggests music far afield from home entry.

— Cons: The music-suggestion process can be clunky, and there's no smart phone app.

YOUNGSTOWN STATE UNIVERSITY

Diversity Leadership

RECOGNITION NOMINATIONS

Nominations are being accepted for the Youngstown State University Diversity Leadership Recognition Celebration to be held Thursday, March 25 at Mr. Anthony's. Nominations are being accepted in the following categories:

Leader of Tomorrow – Recognizing a current, upper division YSU student.

Campus Leadership – Recognizing a University faculty member, administrator, staff member, campus organization, or campus initiative.

Community Leadership – Recognizing an individual, business, group, agency, organization, or community initiative.

For recognition criteria and submission form, visit the Diversity Leadership website at <http://www.ysu.edu/NominationFormLD8.pdf>

NOMINATIONS MUST BE POSTMARKED BY FEBRUARY 15, 2010

Youngstown
STATE UNIVERSITY

6 CRITICS' CHOICE MOVIE AWARDS NOMINATIONS

SAOIRSE RONAN STANLEY TUCCI
BEST ACTRESS AND BEST YOUNG ACTRESS BEST SUPPORTING ACTOR

BEST CINEMATOGRAPHY
BEST ART DIRECTION BEST VISUAL EFFECTS

"ONE OF THE BEST FILMS OF THE YEAR. INCREDIBLY POWERFUL!"
AIN'T IT COOL NEWS HARRY KNOWLES

"SAOIRSE RONAN IS EXTRAORDINARY."
NEWSWEEK DAVID ANGER

"STANLEY TUCCI IS MAGNIFICENT."
ROLLING STONE PETER TRAVERS

"PETER JACKSON SCORES AGAIN!"
TODAY GENE SHALIT

GOLDEN GLOBE AWARD NOMINEE
STANLEY TUCCI
BEST SUPPORTING ACTOR

SCREEN ACTORS GUILD AWARDS NOMINEE
STANLEY TUCCI
BEST SUPPORTING ACTOR

THE LOVELY BONES

MARK WAHLBERG RACHEL WEISZ SUSAN SARANDON STANLEY TUCCI MICHAEL IMPERIOLI SAOIRSE RONAN

DREAMWORKS PICTURES IN ASSOCIATION WITH FILM4 PRESENT
A WINGNUT FILMS PRODUCTION MARK WAHLBERG RACHEL WEISZ SUSAN SARANDON
"THE LOVELY BONES" STANLEY TUCCI MICHAEL IMPERIOLI SAOIRSE RONAN
ORIGINAL MUSIC BY BRIAN ENO EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS STEVEN SPIELBERG TESSA ROSS KEN KAMINS JAMES WILSON
PRODUCED BY CAROLYNNE CUNNINGHAM FRAN WALSH PETER JACKSON AIMEE PEYRONNET
BASED ON THE NOVEL BY ALICE SEBOLD SCREENPLAY BY FRAN WALSH & PHILIPPA BOYENS & PETER JACKSON
DIRECTED BY PETER JACKSON

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BW79

Penguin women's team to host Valparaiso, Butler

Keith Langford Jr.
SPORTS EDITOR

The women's basketball team remains optimistic despite their winless record half-way through the season.

The 0-15 team will look to pick up win number one this week as they host the visiting Valparaiso Crusaders on Thursday and then the Butler Bulldogs on Saturday.

Head coach Cindy Martin said the Crusaders are a well-coached team who will present a challenge for their team on Thursday.

"They can all shoot and they are all extremely versatile," Martin said of the Crusaders.

Sophomore guard Macey Nortey thinks they can pull out their first win against the Crusaders. "This is a team we

can beat," she said confidently. Nortey pointed out the Crusaders can all handle the ball and they have a slight height advantage over the Penguins.

The Penguins should feel a little bit of confidence in their matchup with the Crusaders. The Penguins beat the Crusaders on March 7 last season. The win came off a string of 18 consecutive losses a season ago as they found the winning touch a season ago 54-38 over the Crusaders.

Fast-forward to 2010 and the Penguins are in same situation as a season ago. They have a long losing streak of 15 straight losses this season, and the Crusaders come into the Beeghly Center once more. In the past four matchups between these two teams, the teams split 2-2.

The Crusaders come into the Beeghly Center with an

overall record of 4-10 with a mark inside of the Horizon League of 1-2. Inside of the 4-10 record lies a 0-6 road record for the Crusaders. This combined with the Penguins' recent success against the Crusaders, may spell the Penguins' first win of the season.

Some key players the Crusaders have on their team the Penguins should keep an eye on are 5-foot-7-inch sophomore guard Betsy Adams and 5-foot-11-inch senior forward Lauren Kenney. Adams leads the Crusaders in scoring (13.3) and in games started (14). If the Penguins foul this scorer, she's one of the best free throw shooters in the country with an 88 percent free throw average.

As for the matchup on Saturday against the Butler Bulldogs, the Penguins have not fared as well as they have with the Crusaders. The Pen-

guins lost the two matchups a season ago with the Bulldogs. This season, the Bulldogs are one of the top tier teams in the Horizon League. They invade the Beeghly Center with a 9-5 overall record and 2-1 inside the Horizon.

Senior forward Melanie Thornton poses problems for the Penguins. Thornton scores, rebounds, and blocks shots and leads the Bulldogs in all three categories with 15.4 points per game, 8.6 rebounds per game, and 20 blocks on the season.

The Penguins' leading scorer, Boki Dimitrov is out one to two weeks with a knee injury. Energetic sophomore point guard Macey Nortey and her back court mate sophomore Kenya Middlebrooks will need to fill the void missed by Dimitrov's team leading 12.8 points per game in order to get their first win of the season.

HORIZON LEAGUE

1. Butler
2. Detroit
3. Green Bay
4. Wright State
5. Cleveland State
6. Milwaukee
7. Youngstown State
8. Loyola
9. Valparaiso
10. UIC

NCAA TOP 25

1. TEXAS (56) 15-0 1,616
2. KENTUCKY (9) 16-0 1,569
3. KANSAS 14-1 1,441
4. VILLANOVA 14-1 1,426
5. SYRACUSE 15-1 1,353
6. PURDUE 14-1 1,317
7. MICHIGAN STATE 13-3 1,191
8. DUKE 13-2 1,178
9. TENNESSEE 12-2 1,030
10. WEST VIRGINIA 12-2 1,006
11. GEORGETOWN 12-2 934
12. NORTH CAROLINA 12-4 844
13. KANSAS STATE 13-2 746
13. WISCONSIN 13-3 746
15. CONNECTICUT 11-4 633
16. PITTSBURGH 13-2 565
17. GONZAGA 12-3 569
18. BRIGHAM YOUNG 16-1 456
19. TEMPLE 13-3 388
20. GEORGIA TECH 12-3 342
21. MISSISSIPPI 12-3 326
22. BAYLOR 13-1 301
23. MIAMI (FL) 15-1 289
24. CLEMSON 13-3 167
25. FLORIDA STATE 13-3 155

PENGUIN SPOTLIGHT



DEANDRE MAYS

POSITION: Guard
YEAR: Senior
HOMETOWN: Dallas
PPG: 13.2
RPG: 2.9
APG: 2.6
FG%: .360
BPG: 0.4

SCHEDULES

MEN'S BASKETBALL

- Jan. 14 @ Valparaiso
- Jan. 16 @ Butler
- Jan. 22 MILWAUKEE
- Jan. 24 GREEN BAY
- Jan. 27 NORTH CAROLINA CENTRAL
- Jan. 30 @ Cleveland State
- Feb. 4 @ Loyola
- Feb. 6 @ UIC
- Feb. 11 BUTLER
- Feb. 13 VALPARAISO
- Feb. 15 @ Milwaukee
- Feb. 20 @ ESPN

BracketBuster

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

- Jan. 14 VALPARAISO
- Jan. 16 BUTLER
- Jan. 22 @ Cleveland State
- Jan. 28 @ Detroit
- Jan. 30 @ Wright State
- Feb. 4 LOYOLA
- Feb. 6 UIC
- Feb. 11 @ Butler
- Feb. 13 @ Valparaiso
- Feb. 20 CLEVELAND STATE

SWIMMING & DIVING

- Jan. 16 @ Saint Francis (Pa.)
- Jan. 23 @ Wright State
- Jan. 24 @ Butler/Ball State/ Eastern Illinois
- Feb. 6 @ Cleveland State/ UIC

INDOOR TRACK & FIELD

- Jan. 16 @ Doug Raymond Invitational
- Jan. 22 @ Jane Herman Invitational
- Jan. 30 @ Tom Wright Classic
- Feb. 5-6 @ Notre Dame Meyo Invitational
- Feb. 5-6 @ New Balance Armory Invitational
- Feb. 12-13 @ Akron Invitational
- Feb. 19 @ Zips Invitational
- Feb. 20 @ Kent State Tune-Up

Sports Briefs

Former Wide Receiver Donald Jones Invited to NFL Combine

Former Penguins wide receiver Donald Jones has been invited to take part in the 2010 NFL Scouting Combine. The Combine will be held Feb. 24 - March 2 at Lucas Oil Field in Indianapolis.

Jones led the team this season and set a school record for catches in a single-season with 77. Jones was a first-team All-MVFC selection and had 77 receptions for 790 yards and six touchdowns.

Fans can follow Jones via his Twitter account @Dajones81 for updates as he pursues his professional career.

DeAndre Mays named Horizon Player of the Week

The Horizon League announced Monday that Penguins guard DeAndre Mays was named player of the week.

The Dallas native helped the Penguins to a 2-0 record last week and averaged 22.5 points per game, while shooting 50 percent from the field, 66.7 percent from 3-point range, and 84.6 percent from the free-throw line.

Mays scored a career-high 30 points in the Penguins' 71-67 win over Loyola on Jan. 9.

"He had a heck of a week, there's no doubt about that. It's well deserved."

Head coach
Jerry Slocum



Sophomore Macey Nortey looks for a teammate to dish the ball to.

YSU's Nortey short on height, big on confidence

Keith Langford Jr.
SPORTS EDITOR

Macey Nortey has traveled a long, winding road to play basketball at Youngstown State University.

Nortey is a native of Toronto, but played high school basketball at Millikan High School in Long Beach, Calif. She was recruited by YSU, which was a main reason she chose this university. She found out YSU had a good nursing program and that was the final factor in her decision to attend YSU. Nortey said once she graduates, she would like to become a registered nurse.

The transition from the California sun to the harsh winters of Northeast Ohio did not deter Nortey from YSU. She says the cold weather doesn't bother her because she's originally from Toronto and enjoys the cold weather. Nortey said she's not really a heat person so Northeast Ohio is fine in her eyes.

As a freshman last season, the 5-foot-3-inch

Nortey started in 25 games and was a solid contributor to the team as she averaged 5.6 points and 2.7.

Nortey has shown no signs of a sophomore slump in her second season as a Penguin. She's bumped her scoring up to 8.8 points per game. She has almost doubled her assist average per game from her freshman season, dishing out 5.3 assists per game, up from 2.7.

Nortey said she enjoys the physicality of the college game compared to the high school game. The fast-paced of the college game suits Nortey's non-stop, aggressive style of play on the court.

Nortey counts her mother as her main role model but said she looks up to Steve Nash as an athletic inspiration. The Canadian connection has something to do with Nortey's love of Nash, as Nash is a fellow Canadian. Nash currently plays for the Phoenix Suns as their point guard, the same position Nortey plays.

Despite the winless record the women's basket-

ball team has posted so far, Nortey's not shy about her passion for her team and their integrity.

"We still know we can go out and win games," Nortey said confidently. She added the team has still maintained the right attitude even though the season has not turned out the way they planned.

Even though some fans may not share Nortey's enthusiasm about the team, Nortey remains vehemently positive about the situation.

"We just have to stay confident and we'll be fine," Nortey said.

Nortey said something the average fan would never know about the women's basketball team is how well the team gets along. Nortey said with a smile even though the women on the team spend almost half the day together, they still get along. She explained women who hang out for long periods of time usually get tired of one another because that's how women are, but not the women's basketball team. Let's hope this team unity translates to the win column.