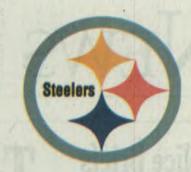


### The student voice of Youngstown State University since 1931.



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### JAMBAR SPORTS: SUPER SUNDAY PREDICTION

# THESIDEBAR FROZEN TUITION, TEMPS CONTINUE



Several students were forced to trudge through several inches of snow and ice on Wednesday before classes were cancelled.

### Winter blast closes campus for second time

Samantha Pysher

Youngstown University students felt that the class cancellations came too late Wednesday. Classes were cancelled beginning at 1 p.m.

Junior Maria Piersante said YSU should have closed earlier because the roads were already bad in the morning and they were going to be worse by tonight.

By not cancelling classes sooner, students were put at risk by having to drive through the rough road conditions, she said.

"Is it worth the risk of human lives to keep the university open?" asked senior Tom Pugh.

He said students have to come to campus because their professors have mandatory attendance

"Teachers were teaching in classes half-empty," said Pugh.

Sophomore Branden Sivley said it would've been easier for YSU to close earlier.

"It's dangerous to come all the way here to find classes are cancelled and then have to travel back



Despite snow, YSU groundskeepers attempted to ready campus for classes Thursday.

home," he said.

Sophomore Nick Hrelec agreed and said there were too many dangers involved with traveling through Wednesday's weather conditions.

"Just on my way here, I kept sliding," Hrelec said.

University of Akron, Kent State University's Ashtabula, Stark and Trumbull County branches and Penn State University Shenango

had all closed before YSU. When deciding whether or not to cancel for the day, certain factors are taken into consideration such as temperature and road

"They look at the ability to clear lots and to assure that sidewalks are clear and safe for faculty and students," Ron Cole, manager of marketing and communications,

"Students come to YSU and pay tuition, so we do what we can to keep the campus open," he

### Revitalization plan to last through 2010

Emmalee C. Torisk NEWS EDITOR

Although the Youngstown 2010 plan is commonly perceived as reaching completion next year, it actually functions as a vision and direction to carry the city through 2020 and perhaps beyond.

According to Chief City Planner Anthony Kobak, the 2010 plan, which was developed in the late 1990s and early 2000s and implemented in the fall of 2002, consists of a roadmap for the city of Youngstown and its residents well into the future.

'The 2010 plan ranges from land development issues to improving the quality of life, safety and education," Kobak said. "It's a comprehensive citywide plan and

a unified vision." As per the 2010 plan Web site, the plan includes four major vision principles. They include accepting that Youngstown is a smaller city, defining Youngstown's role in the new regional economy, improving Youngstown's image and enhancing quality of life and a call to ac-



"Some may feel things aren't complete in 2010, but they were never set up to be that way."

Anthony Kobak, chief city planner

While some specific projects exist, Kobak said a great deal of the 2010 work stems from interpretations of these visions laid out in the plan. Additionally, contrary to common assumptions, this plan has no specific timetable, but is a long-term vision for the city.

"We want a cleaner, greener, better-organized city," Kobak said. "Some may feel things aren't complete in 2010, but they were never set up to be that way.

Phil Kidd, founder of Defend Youngstown, a group committed to the city's development and improvement, noted that the plan was a collaboration of citizens, elected officers and non-profit organization members who traveled neighborhood by neighborhood to identify all possible needs in the city. Kidd also said if the 2010 planning committee could rename the plan and omit the mention of a specific year, they probably would.

The reason for its name, however, is because 2010 is a census year, complete with population numbers and various other statistics. Kobak also said the year would serve as a benchmark for progress that could be revisited periodically.

Ideally, the idea was that the plan would be reviewed and reevaluated every ten years; upon appraisal, changes and amendments could then be applied to the

**REVITALIZATION** page 2

### Strickland steadfast on freezing tuition one more year

Emmalee C. Torisk **NEWS EDITOR** 

In Wednesday's State of the State address, Ohio Governor Ted Strickland announced plans to freeze tuition through 2010 and implement a 3.5 percent tuition increase cap in 2011 for main university campuses, including Youngstown State University.

Additionally, both community colleges and regional campuses will maintain the current tuition freeze for the next two years. According to Strickland's speech, the purpose of these decisions is to maintain "commitment to affordable access to our colleges and universities." Strickland also noted that for the past two years, Ohio was the only state in the U.S. with a tuition freeze at its public institutions.

In Columbus, the general reaction to Strickland's announcement was positive. According to YSU Vice President for University Advancement George McCloud, the governor demonstrated a tremendous amount of bravery in including this tuition freeze in his statewide plan.

'The governor knows that higher education and education in general will drive the future of the state," McCloud said. "It shows courage to do



Strickland

something about it."

However, McCloud said the next few years will not be easy for Youngstown State University or any other colleges and universities in the state. Although many difficult financial choices will have to be made in the near future, McCloud said it is too soon to know what those decisions will be. Regardless, Ohio universities "are going to find a way to make it

McCloud said other universities responded similarly to Strickland's plan, and said most are probably thinking of "the hard choices they will make at home." Despite the governor's announcement of his plan, these proposals still have to endure a "complex political process," according to McCloud. Concrete details are not yet definite or even known.

STRICKLAND page 2

### Some Pa. residents to get break on out-of-state fees

Samantha Cavalier REPORTER

Youngstown State University will decrease tuition by 26 percent for western Pennsylvania students for the 2009-2010 school year.

The tuition cut will include eight counties including Allegheny, Beaver, Butler, Crawford, Erie, Lawrence, Mercer and Venango counties.

The tuition cut will be approximately \$2,500, which will lessen the gap within \$200 of what Ohio residents are paying.

Currently, students from western Pennsylvania are paying \$9,414 for a full year's tuition, which includes a \$2,693 non-resident surcharge. The tuition cut will diminish this additional surcharge, placing YSU tuition equal to or lower than western Pennsylvania universities.

Ron Cole, manager of marketing and communications for YSU, described the tuition cut as an effort to make YSU more accessible to those students in western Pennsylvania counties.

"This fits in well with a movement taking place with Congressmen Tim Ryan and Jason Atmire. They are making an effort to develop a tech belt between Cleveland, Youngstown and Pittsburgh. We really need to look at ourselves as a region instead of Ohio and Pennsylvania," said Cole.



"We really need to look at ourselves as a region instead of Ohio and Pennsylvania."

Ron Cole, manager of news and information services

Saturday Sunday Monday 32° 21° Tuesday 26° 21° 26° 18°

SPORTS A

Women's coach

WEATHER

Today 🥷

Friday

optimistic despite

Men's basketball team

continues home stand

.....6

disappointing season...6

Wednesday Remember to recycle your copy

of The Jambar.

**THURSDAY, JANUARY 29, 2009** 

THEJAMBAR.COM

#### **Police Briefs**

Missing wallet

A green wallet was found and turned in by a citizen. The property was placed in the YSU PD property room.

#### Theft at the Rec Center

On Jan. 26, the police were called to the Andrew's Recreation and Wellness Center, where a student had his wallet stolen from his jacket and placed in an unlocked locker. The wallet held \$45, a couple credit cards, a YSU ID and driver's license.

#### Missing credit Card

A credit card was found and turned in to the Kilcawley Information Desk. Property will be placed on property shelf B7.

#### Damaged Property in Courtyard Apartments

An officer was sent via radio to the University Courtyard Apartments on Jan. 26 regarding damaged property. The mainte-nance stated to the officer that an unknown person damaged the ceiling by mounting a plastic exit sign and a ceiling-mounted light



# Tax refund: Fighting the temptation to buy

Erica Trekur REPORTER

Sophomore Shanae Sisco plans to save her tax refund check to pay for her summer semester. According to the accounting department, Shanae is on the right track. Not only should your tax refund be used for something like paying down debt or educational loans, it should not be used for frivolous spending. Curious about what should or should not be done with your tax refund?

#### Things NOT to do with your refund:

- · Buy a piece of the latest technology [like the 32G lpod touch.] It may be fun now, but it might be outdated in
- · Visit Cancun for spring break. Will the pictures from Cancun pay for a student loan after college? Probably
- · Buy clothes, shoes and similar material items
- · Deposit the money in a checking account for safekeeping. While it may seem like a good practice, the money in there isn't exactly safe, since you might spend the money in any of the aforementioned ways.

#### Things you SHOULD do with your refund

- Put the money toward student loans. If you opted for no payments and a deferment period, this will bring down the balance that is currently accruing interest while you're in school.
- · Place the money in a high interest savings account and promise yourself not to touch the money until you graduate. This will give you a security blanket after graduation.
- · Start an emergency fund. A car repair, medical bill and other emergency situations may arise; having money stashed away can help in a time of need.
- · Perhaps the most logical thing to do with the tax refund check is to pay down debt. Paying off credit cards will not only enhance your credit score, but also means after graduation, you'll only be paying on student loans. Eliminating the small debts with high interest rates is the key.



#### Where to get free help

· Free Tax Preparation through the Williamson College of **Business Administration** 

Feb. 7, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Feb. 12, 3:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. Feb. 14, 10:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Feb. 21, 10:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Feb. 23. 9 a.m. to noon March 7, 10:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. March 11, 3 to 7 p.m. March 21, 10:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. March 28, 10:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. April 4, 10:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.

For appointments, call 330-941-2507

#### Come prepared

- · Valid driver's license/photo identification [for self and spouse, spouse must be present for filing.]
- · Social Security cards for all people listed on the return.
- Dates of birth for all people listed on the return
- · All income statements: Forms W-2, 1099, Social Security, unemployment or other benefits statements, self-employment records and any documents showing taxes withheld
- Dependent child care information: payee's name, address, Social Security number or Taxpayer Identification number.
- · Proof of account at financial institution for direct debit or deposit [i.e. cancelled, voided check or bank statement.]
- · IRS notice about 2008 economic stimulus payment or amount of economic stimulus payment received.
- · Record of property tax paid, regardless of whether or not you itemize.
- · Prior year tax return [if available.]
- · Any other pertinent documents or papers.

SOURCE: UNITED WAY OF YOUNGSTOWN AND MAHONING VALLEY PRESS RELEASE

#### REVITALIZATION page 1

"We can analyze progress and see where we're at in the plan in terms of city development and quality of life," Kobak said.

Prior to the 2010 plan's creation, the city of Youngstown operated under a strategy designed during the 1950s, according to Kobak. The plan, which was updated in the early 1970s, was intended for a city estimated at having a population of between 200,000 and 250,000.

However, during behindthe-scenes preparation for the 2010 plan, planners found Youngstown to have a population of just 80,000 or fewer people. Thus, the main function of the 2010 plan is to create a new vision for a new city of far fewer citizens.

"We need to accept that we're a smaller city," Kobak said. "There are not as many people as we once had. We also have economic difficulties most cities are struggling with."

According Kidd. Youngstown is actually ahead of the curve in this respect, but said a lot of work and difficult decisions were in the future due to such a critical situation. Kidd recommended that specific measures and focused efforts must be taken to "salvage and stabilize the city as a whole.'

One of Kidd's short-term goals is to clearly identify Youngstown neighborhoods to stabilize, improve upon and inject resources into. According to Kidd, these neighborhoods would serve as an example of the positive impact the 2010 plan could have on certain com-

As for a more long-term goal, Kidd said moving citizens who currently live in densely populated areas to more inhabited neighborhoods would be significant. Again, Youngstown has shrunk considerably over the past few decades, and the 2010 plan seeks to reverse its sprawling, spread-out neighborhoods.

"These are very realistic expectations for a small postindustrial city," Kidd said, adding that citizen involvement and participation is critical for successful execution of the 2010

Engaging the public in such a massive fashion is essential; according to Kobak, those in city hall can't do all the work by themselves and citizens need to step up and get involved. Kobak suggests joining existing community groups or even creating organizations. Additionally, it's not too late to join the 2010

"We're not sprinting to the finish line. We're never done. After you make the city more beautiful and safer, you have to maintain that, improve upon it and make it a great place to live," Kobak said.

#### STRICKLAND page 1

Regardless, State Representative Robert Hagan said the tuition freeze is "something we better stick with," mainly since higher education "drives the economic engine." However. he noted there could be a downside, especially when an unwillingness to raise taxes exists. According to Hagan, Republicans

have given away billions of dollars in tax cuts.

"It has done nothing but put us \$7 billion in debt," Hagan

Likewise, Ohio Senator Joseph Schiavoni said Strickland's decision comes at an economically troubling time when many are struggling financially, and

perhaps even reworking their careers. Schiavoni said he would "absolutely support" the tuition freeze and cap.

"I would support any measure that would make education more affordable." Schiavoni said. "I just think the upside outweighs the downside."

### Classifieds

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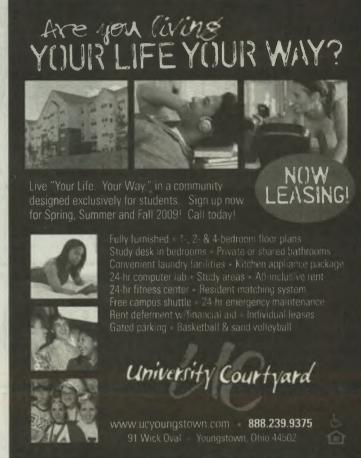
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### Researchers find traces of mercury in high-fructose corn syrup

Michael Hawthorne CHICAGO TRIBUNE

A swig of soda or bite of a candy bar might be sweet, but a new study suggests that food made with corn syrup also could be delivering tiny doses of toxic

For the first time, researchers say they have detected traces of the silvery metal in samples of high-fructose corn syrup, a widely used sweetener that has replaced sugar in many processed foods. The study was published Monday in the peerreviewed journal Environmental Health.

Eating high-mercury fish is the chief source of exposure for most people. The new study raises concerns about a previously unknown dietary source of mercury, which has been linked to learning disabilities in children and heart disease in

The source of the metal appears to be caustic soda and hydrochloric acid, which manufacturers of corn syrup use to help convert corn kernels into the food additive.

A handful of plants across the nation still make the soda and acid by mixing a briny solution in electrified vats of mercury. Some of the toxic metal ends up in the final product, according to industry documents cited in the study.

Corn syrup manufacturers insisted their products are mercury-free. But the study noted that at least one maker of caustic soda that has used the mercurybased technology listed the corn syrup industry as a client.

This seems like an avoidable source of mercury that we didn't know was out there," said David Wallinga, one of the study's co-authors and a

tion. None has responded.

Bradley R. Smith, Founder

has come of that one, and perhaps what is yet to come.

COMMITTEE FOR OPEN DEBATE ON THE HOLOCAUST

HYPERLINK "http://www.codoh.com" www.codoh.com

"It is important that Americans are provided accurate, science-based information."

Audrae Erickson, president of the Corn Refiners Association

researcher at the Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy, a Minnesota-based advocacy

The researchers cautioned that their study was limited. Only 20 samples were analyzed; mercury was detected in nine.

Still, the impact of the findings could be significant. Highfructose corn syrup has become such a staple in processed foods that the average American consumes about 12 teaspoons of it daily, according to federal estimates. Teenagers and young kids tend to eat more of it than

There is no established safe dose for elemental mercury, the type discovered in corn syrup. But the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency says an average-sized woman should limit her exposure to 5.5 micrograms day of methylmercury, the kind found in fish.

If that same woman regularly ate corn syrup contaminated at the highest level detected in the study - 0.57 micrograms per gram — the researchers estimated that she could end up consuming an amount of mercury that is five times higher than the

One former EPA scientist who reviewed the paper said

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A QUESTION FOR THE UNITED STATES

I have asked the Director of the Center for Advanced Holocaust Studies at the U.S. Holocaust Memorial

chamber at Auschwitz." Dr. Shapiro does not respond. I copied my letter to Dr. Shapiro's colleagues at

Following WWII the gas-chamber story was the primary instrument used to morally justify the Jewish

I'm willing to be convinced that I am wrong to ask this question. If you believe I am wrong, or that no

conquest of Arab land in Palestine, and following that to morally justify the ruinous U.S. alliance with Israel

against the Palestinians and whomever. After 9/11, Iraq, Afghanistan, and now Gaza, we can all see what

moral issue is involved, tell me why. I can be reached at HYPERLINK "mailto:bradley1930@yahoo.com"

the Museum. They do not respond. I have asked more than 2,000 American academics the same ques-

Museum, Dr. Paul Shapiro, if he can "provide, with proof, the name of one person who was killed in a gas

**HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL MUSEUM** 

more study is needed to establish the risk, if any, posed by contaminated corn syrup. She urged the Food and Drug Administration to conduct a review of food made with the sweetener.

"For the most part, previous studies haven't found mercury in foods other than fish," said Kathryn Mahaffey, a former EPA scientist who co-wrote a landmark report to Congress on the perils of mercury contamination. "Is this an outlier or something we didn't know about before?"

In response to a 2005 Chicago Tribune series about mercury hazards, then-U.S. Sen. Barack Obama introduced legislation that would force chlorine plants to phase out its use or shut down. One plant in Wisconsin later vowed to switch to a mercury-free process by this year, leaving four others — in Georgia, Ohio, Tennessee and West Virginia — that still use the older technology.

The new study's lead author, Renee Dufault, began her research while investigating the Wisconsin plant for the FDA in the mid-2000s. But her results weren't published until now, a year after she retired from the

An FDA spokesman said he still was waiting for a response to the study. Industry representatives, meanwhile, said the study was outdated.

"It is important that Americans are provided accurate. science-based information,' Audrae Erickson, president of the Corn Refiners Association, said in a statement. "They should know that high fructose com syrup is safe."

In another statement, the Chlorine Institute said: "It is conceivable that measurable mercury content can be found in high fructose corn syrup regardless of how it is processed.

CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION OF YOUNGSTOWN - Assistant Compliance Director - Community Development Agency - Salary \$41,808.00. Qualifications: a 4-year undergraduate degree in public administration, accounting, business, or related field, or five (5) years of experience in social service program development, management, evaluation, and regulation. The ability to interpret federal, state, and local regulations. Knowledge of Microsoft Excel, spreadsheets, and Microsoft Word. Ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships, familiarity with HUD programs. The employee in this position must be able to travel and attend HUD Environmental Assessment training and other HUD program training as necessary. Must be a resident of Youngstown when appointed or must become a resident within 120 days following appointment to the position. Applications accepted at the Youngstown Civil Service Commission Office, 7th floor, City Hall, Youngstown, Ohio, from February 2, 2009 through February 12, 2009. Hours: 8:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. Examination will be given on Saturday, February 14, 2009, starting at 10:00 A.M. at Choffin Career Technical Center. Additional information available at www. cityofyoungstownoh.com.

Youngstown State University







African American History Month Celebration

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

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

Thursday, February 5 7:00 p.m., The McDonough Museum of Art Reception: 5:00 p.m., Bliss Hall Gallery Panel Discussion 6:00 p.m.

Art Exhibition and Panel Discussion "Recreation: Green Art Forms"

Christine Bethea is a nationally renowned artist and arts edcancing bettiers a maniforming reference are a maniforming to describe the commonly refers to herself as "The Accidental Artist," her works have been featured in a national best selling quilt book, A Communion of the Spirits: African-American Quilters, Preservers, and Their Stories, by Roland L. Freeman, Ms. Bethea has received numerous awards as an arts administrator, curator, and supporter of the visual arts. She recently co-founded Passports, an art diversity

project which promotes the work of artists of all backgrounds in southwestern Pennsylvania. Her art will be on display at the Biss Hall Art Gailery, College of Fine and Performing Arts, throughout the month of February. This event is co-sponsored by the College of Fine & Performing Arts.

Saturday, February 7 Noon-6:00 p.m., Chestnut Room, Kilcawley Center The African Marketplace

The Marketplace offers a wide range of fazzling sights and objects to view, sample and purchase, ranging from art objects, jewelry, and Afrocentric writings to creations that are care and hand to find. The variety of goods and products represent the creative genius of Africans and African Americans. Entertainment will be presented by the dynamic Harambee Youth Group.

Tuesday, February 10 6:30 p.m., The Gallery, Kilcawley Center Location of Displays: Maag Library Black Faculty Research Showcase and Panel Discussion

Selected African American faculty will display their publications in Maag Library and participate in a panel discussion on their current and future research projects in the Gallery, Kilcawiey Center.



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

Mr. Browder is a cultural historian on Ancient Egypt, an author, publisher, artist, and educational consultant. He is a graduate of Howard University's College of Fine Arts and has lectured extensively in the United States, the Caribbean, Africa, Japan, and Europe. He is the founder and director of Cultural Resources and has spent 28 years researching ancient Egyptian history, science, philosophy, and culture. He is author of publications that include Nile Valley Contributions to Civilization,

Egypt on the Potomac, and Decoding Egyption Architecture and Symbolism. Mr. Browder's books will be on display and he will be available for book signing after the lecture. Monday, February 23 7:00 p.m., The Gallery Room, Kilcawley Center Lecture: Africanist Value-Centered

**Education in the Global Village** Dr. Yvonne Brown is a Canadian educator who has done extensive research on the link between colonization and extensive research on the unit occurrent colonization and globalization. She has sponsored international service-learning projects in Africa and Canada. In her position as manager of international initiatives for the faculty of education at the University of British Columbia, she has analyzed and interpreted the university's internationalization policy and maintain in inalizations for adversion. Passers and articles the has written weighed its implications for education. Papers and articles she has written include "Green Paper on Internationalization" in the Faculty of Education and "Education's Global Journey in Teacher Education."

KEYNOTE LECTURE: BY THE SKEGGS LECTURER

Thursday, February 26

Dr. Cornel West

Professor of Religion and African American Studies

Dr. Cornel West is one of America's most preeminent and profific public intellectuals. He is a much sought-after speaker in universities across the country addressing a wide variety of topics across disciplines to various audiences. He is the recipient of over 20 honorary degrees and a National Book Award. His numerous books include Prophesy Deliverance And Award, and Hops on a Tightrope. Dr. West is a longtime member of the Democratic Socialists of America.



Friday, February 13 5:45 p.m., Chestnut Room, Kilcawley Center A Play: Boys, Pull Your Pants Up

This theatrical performance is based on a new book by Akron novelist Jewelene Banks. It satirizes the current style among African American youth of wearing their pants below their waists. The impact of negative hip hop styles and videos is closely scrutinized. Banks's message is quite simple: appearances matter, and first impressions mean everything, especially to talented youth.

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

Event parking is available at the Lincoln Deck and lot M24, next to McDonald's on Fifth Avenue.

Co-sponsored by:







# Financial Aid Awareness Week

Stop by one of our tables for information on financial aid for the 2009-2010 academic year. The priority deadline to complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) on the Web and the Institutional Aid Application is February 15, 2009.

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 26, 2009
10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Kilcawley Center - 1st floor across from bank
5 p.m. - 6 p.m. Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships

Tuesday, January 27, 2009 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Kilcawley Center - 1st floor across from bank

Wednesday, January 28, 2009
10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Kilcawley Center - 1st floor across from bank

Thursday, January 29, 2009 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Kilcawley Center - 1st floor across from bank

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### Pirates among the Penguins

- SPORTS FEATURE

Juliana Hall
CONTRIBUTOR

The Pittsburgh Pirates annual Winter Caravan stopped at The Butler Institute for American Art around noon Wednesday to eat and mingle with their fans. Around 100 people showed up to meet the new president of the

team and the three players who chose to come to Youngstown.

Dan Hart,
manager of
media services for the
Pirates, said
the team has
visited YSU
for as far back as he can remem-

"Youngstown's always been a first class place to hold this

event," Hart said.

Hart and team president
Frank Coonelly were more than
eager to talk to fans and give interviews to the local TV stations.
Coonelly, fresh from the Dominican Republic where the Pirates

built an academy and training building for Latin Americans, said Youngstown is one of the premier stops on the caravan.

The members of the team included pitcher Jeff Karstens, infielder Niel Walker and outfielder Nyjer Morgan. All three enjoyed looking at the surrounding art in the sports gallery while they answered questions. Nyjer,

who said he "enjoyed talking to fans," is excited about this year.

After the interviews, participants ate lunch and watched a short film about the Pirates. The three teammates signed

autographs and hung around before their trip to Dick's Sporting Goods in Boardman. Some students filtered in from the gift shop and lounge area at the Butler to meet the team.

Everyone was in good spirits despite the delay due to bad weather, and the Winter Caravan is looking forward to coming back next year.

## Valentine's Day gift ideas

Melissa Mary Smith

Whether or not you're in the know, Valentine's Day is fast approaching. Feb. 14 is the time of year dedicated to Valentines, flowers, and spending time with that special someone. Like any other holiday, it can often be tough deciding what to get your significant other. Here is a list of some gift ideas that can be creative and inexpensive:

1.) Flowers: A bouquet of flowers is a quick, last-minute gift idea. An assorted bouquet or a bunch of roses

Photo courtesy of MCTCampus.com

not only looks beautiful but smells beautiful, too. You can order flower arrangements online at Web sites like www.flowers.com, or go the local route with a local florist like Something New Florist in Boardman. Both www.flowers.com and Something New offer Valentine's Day arrangements that range in price from \$20-\$100.

2.) Romantic dinner at home: If you're celebrating Valentine's Day on a budget, www.FoodNetwork.com offers Valentine's Day dinner for two recipes from the network's popular hosts Paule Deen, Giada De Laurentiis and Rachel Ray.

3.) Good-for-one coupon book:
The good-for-one coupon book is an inexpensive and creative way to impress your significant other. All that is needed is a pastel cardstock in pink or red (priced around \$6) and an imagination. Coupon ideas:

good for one shoulder rub, good for one kiss, etc.

4.) Barnes & Noble: This time of year, Barnes & Noble in Boardman has a small Valentine's Day gift idea table. Paper-weight hearts, books about love stories, love checks (similar to good-for-one coupons), Valentine's Day Scrabble and cookbooks are all possible routes that range in price from \$5-\$35.

5.) Dollar Tree: Any Dollar Tree store stocks Valentine's Day candy and paper valentines, all for only \$1. Dollar Tree's valentines are from popular TV shows as The Simpsons and Family Guy and candy ranges from boxes of chocolates to message hearts.

### Couple welcomes home cloned puppy

Patty Pensa sun sentinel

A 10-week-old cuddly yellow Labrador became the center of attention Tuesday after his whirlwind trip from Seoul, South Korea, to San Francisco to Miami.

Television news crews from around South Florida — including one from the BBC — came to interview Sir Lancelot Encore's owners, Edgar and Nina Otto, who live in a spacious home on 12.5 acres west of Boca Raton. Wednesday morning, they'll be on NBC's Today show.

Why the fuss over what could be

any other too-cute puppy?

Sir Lancelot Encore was cloned from cryogenically frozen DNA of Sir Lancelot, the Ottos' beloved dog who died about a year ago. Not quite reincarnation but a remake for sure. Sir Lancelot Encore, at 17 pounds, is settling into his new-old home nicely though the Ottos aren't sure if he'll have the same behav-

"Lancey, come here," said Nina Otto, 66, as she called her puppy while a news crew filmed. "That face looks familiar to me."

iors as the original.

Before Sir Lancelot became sick with cancer, the couple decided to take a chance with preserving the dog's DNA. At the time, about eight years ago, cloning wasn't even possible for dogs.

"This was just like throwing mud against the wall and seeing what happens," said Edgar Otto, 79, an entrepreneur who heads several companies. "It was a crapshoot."

Most everyone has heard of Dolly the sheep, who in 1996 became the first animal cloned from an adult cell. More than 20 animals have been cloned in recent years, from carp and cats to fruit flies and ferrets. Cloning humans has become taboo science but even cloning animals can raise a few eyebrows.

The Ottos, though, didn't hesitate when the California company BioArts International offered a fiveday auction for the chance to clone a pet. The Ottos were a winner with their \$155,000 bid. Just months after Sir Lancelot died, the Ottos were preparing to bring him back.

"I just thought he was really special," Nina Otto said of Sir Lancelot. "He was very human-like. ... I know there are a lot of people in this world who think this is an unfair thing to do. I don't."

The Ottos always had many pets. Sir Lancelot Encore is the 10th dog in their home, along with birds, cats and sheep. Sir Lancelot was one of their pets who had more life to live, Nina Otto said, and now he's getting the chance. Or is he?

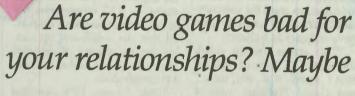
"I think he's Sir Lancelot," she said. "I know he looks just like him. He looks sweet and is assimilating with all the other dogs."

The Ottos say their new puppy, born from a surrogate in South Korea, is the first for-sale cloned dog in the country. They don't plan to clone again because, given the state of the economy, it would seem a frivolous thing, they said. The Ottos made their decision before the economy tanked.

The couple is known to be compassionate and caring toward animals, having donated \$300,000 to the Tri County Humane Society in the past three years, said Jeannette Christos, the Boca Raton shelter's chief executive officer.

With the shelter over capacity by 100 cats and dogs, Christos said she would prefer people adopt a shelter animal instead of cloning. But, she said, so few people have the means to clone

"I would be opposed to it if everyone started to clone animals while millions are dying," she said. "Fortunately, (most) people can't afford to have their animals cloned."



Tim Barker ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH

An interesting study came out of Brigham Young University recently that links video game play to poor relationships with family and friends.

Undergrad Alex Jensen and his faculty mentor, Laura Walker, published the results of their research they collected data from more than 800 college students around the country in the Jan. 23 issue of the Journal of Youth and Adolescence. They found that the quality of relationships declined as game play went up.

One giant question seems to remain, however. If you play lots of games, will your relationships suffer? Or are relationship-challenged people more likely to play video games?

It's a subject the researchers,

themselves, address in the study:
"It may be that young adults

remove themselves from important social settings to play video games, or that people who already struggle with relationships are trying to find other ways to spend their time," Walker said. "My guess is that it's some of both and becomes circular."

Whenever this subject comes up, I always remember this guy I once met playing the online game "EverQuest." He was someone who was part of this group of friends I played with each night. Well one night, this fellow comes on and says he has good news. Getting divorced, he says. And now he'll be able to spend even more time with us in the game.

To this day, I still wonder how much the game contributed to the end of his marriage and how much of it was just him being a bit flaky.



yo\* calendar

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The Jambar

broaden yo\* horizons

Martin Luther King Jr.
Day Celebration

Saturday, Jan. 31, 9 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Youngstown Public Library Poetry Center Reading featuring poet Nancy Krygowski Dorian Books Monday, Feb. 2, 7-9 p.

plan yo\* night

Steve Frazzini
Thursday, Jan. 29, 7-10 p.m.
Rosetta Stone Cafe

Beer Tours and Bratwurst Sunday, Feb. 1, 11 a.m.-midnight The B&O Station

The Receiver with Panzer Talk

Friday, Jan. 30, 11 p.m. Cedar's Lounge and Restaurant **Simply Ed Karacke** Monday, Feb. 2, 10 p.m.-2 a.m. Irish Bob's Pub

Pre-Super Bowl Party Saturday, Jan. 31, 9 p.m.-1 a.m. Tiffany's Banquet Center



# Use texting as reminder

Etan Horowitz orlando sentinel

There are lots of things you hear while you're out that you might want to remember later, such as the name of a movie to rent, restaurants to try or shows

to program on the DVR. A free service called kwiry makes it easy to use text messages to help you remember all of these things later. Standard text messaging rates apply.

Go to kwiry.com and click
 "Sign Up."
 Fill out all the fields and

click "start using kwiry."

3. The next time you have something you want to remember, text it to 59479 (kwiry). You will be sent an e-mail with search results of the term you

texted, and the results also can be accessed when you log into to kwiry.com.

4. You can also use shortcuts when you send text messages to kwiry. For instance, if you see something while you are out shopping and want to search for it later on Amazon.com, type "amazon" before the name of the product (i.e. "amazon Nintendo Wii"). Or if you want to see what kind of reviews a local restaurant is getting, type "Yelp" before the name of a restaurant. If you want to know about a restaurant in a

different town, put a comma after the restaurant's name, and then type the city and state, i.e. "Yelp Dexter's, Orlando, FL." The search results e-mailed to you and saved in your online kwiry account will be from the specific service you indicated, such as Amazon or local business review site Yelp.

5. You can also use kwiry to do more advanced tasks, such as program your TiVo by text message. To set this, log into your kwiry profile and click on the "shortcuts" tab.

**OUR SIDE EDITORIAL** 

### **Cold reality** freeze fails

**RELATED STORY** 

TUITION, page 1

THEJAMBAR EDITORIAL BOARD

As a Youngstown State University faculty member once put it, if you believe your tuition is frozen, you have been hoodwinked.

Governor Ted Strickland, in his State of the State Address, called for extending Ohio's tuition freeze for major universities for another year, and limiting tuition increases after that. His suggestion was met with full-throated approval from members of the Ohio general assembly, including Robert Hagan and Joseph Schiavoni.

There's a problem, though. A tuition freeze, like any other price cap, is based on the notion that budgets shrink. They don't. When a source of revenue is removed from a university or other business, that money must be replaced somehow.

This is why we see other fees go up. The tuition freeze may keep tuition low, but it also may keep the university from hiring faculty, updating technology, or providing other services.

Further, it could lead the university to try to offset the cost through auxiliary fees, such as parking passes and revenue from parking tickets.

On the surface, students may applaud the tuition freeze as means of reducing the financial burden placed on them or their families.

But if you were to ask the average student if college is any more affordable, they would likely have to answer

When the legislature votes next week on the governor's budget proposal, they should

After all, this is supposed to be about what's best for the students and not just an effort to score cheap political points,

Or, maybe we've all been hoodwinked.

#### **OUR SIDE POLICY**

The editorial board that writes Our Side editorials consists of the editorin-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**

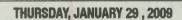
The Jambar encourages letters to the editor. E-mail submissions are welcome at editor@thejambar.com. Letters should concern campus issues, must be typed and must not exceed 400 words. Submissions must include the writer's name and telephone number for verification and the writer's city of residence for 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.

#### **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.





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

### Obama should be aware of myths on Middle East peace

Trudy Rubin PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER

President Obama kept his pledge to take action on the Middle East on "Day One."

He called the leaders of Israel, Egypt, Jordan and the Palestinian Authority, and appointed George Mitchell as special envoy for Middle East affairs. Mitchell then set out for the region on Monday.

Israel's war on Hamas, and the massive civilian destruction it wrought in Gaza, left Obama no choice but to do something quickly. The repercussions of the Gaza violence will affect U.S. policy throughout the region.

But before wading into this morass, he should be aware of some of the myths that have built up around the decades-long peacemaking process. Buying into these myths is a guarantee of failure, before the process even

Myth 1: The process is hopeless. Jews and Arabs have been at odds for a century in historic Palestine, so there's no point in stumbling into this quicksand.

Former Senate Majority Leader Mitchell is an excellent choice of emissary to dispel this hopeless prognosis. He was a

peace broker on Northern Ireland for President Clinton, helping to produce the Good Friday agreement, which ended a conflict that was centuries old. After he was named, Mitchell said: "I don't underestimate the difficulty of this assignment."

But he added that, from his experience in Northern Ireland, "I formed the conviction that there is no such thing as a conflict that can't be ended. Conflicts are created, conducted and sustained by human beings. They can be ended by human beings.

Myth 2: Focus on the diplomatic process or on humanitarian aid to the Palestinians, and kick the can of final status talks down the road.

Of course, with Israeli elections coming up and Palestinian Authority leader Mahmoud Abbas weakened by the Gaza war, it isn't possible to proceed directly to that endgame. So time must be bought, and Israelis and Palestinians must be convinced that two states are still possible.

There is only one way to do this: Halt all Israeli settlement construction, whether in new outposts or old, in return for greater Palestinian efforts to crack down on terror. This key precept of a 2001 Mideast report Mitchell prepared for Bush was never

The continued building of settlement homes convinces Palestinians that a two-state solution is dead, which in turn boosts Hamas. The only way to strengthen the Palestinian Authority to increase its ability to crack down on would-be terrorist attacks and buy time to work out details of a final status accord is to freeze settlement construction. Mitchell must get Obama's full backing to make that clear.

Myth 3: Build up the economies of the West Bank and Gaza, and final status talks can be delayed indefinitely. There is no way to build up those two Palestinian areas so long as there is no clear prospect of a political settlement. While occupation continues, violent resistance will flourish and Israel will then feel the continued need to close West Bank and Gaza borders and divide the West Bank into closely controlled territorial cantons. Under those circumstances, goods cannot move, investment will not occur, businesses die. The Palestinian economy will remain moribund and dependent on international aid.

Myth 4: Solve the Palestinian problem by giving chunks of the West Bank to Jordan and Gaza to Egypt. Forget it. Jordan has long

rejected a "Palestinian solution" that would put disconnected cantons of West Bank land under its control with more than a million Palestinians who wanted their own state, not Jordanian rule. The Jordanian monarchy isn't going to commit suicide. Similarly, Egypt whose own economy isn't doing well is not going to accept more than a million desperate, impoverished Gazan refugees who don't want to be there.

Myth 5: The solution is one "democratic" state containing Israelis and Palestinians. Amazingly, the New York Times ran an op-ed last week by Libyan President Moammar Gadhafi promoting this idea, which he called for

So Obama is smart to assign Mitchell to restart the peace process, but that process will go nowhere unless Obama constructs a clear vision of the end goal and pushes for an Israeli settlement freeze in the meantime. He will also have to think of how the United States or NATO would guarantee Israeli security if two states were established.

We all know Obama will have to think big on the economy. Ditto for the Middle East.

#### LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Editor.

A few things to touch upon here: in reference to your article, "YSU, OU Crime Rater Higher than KSU rates," how do you even compare those campuses with ours? You even stated in that article that we are in the middle of a dangerous city. Kent State University is in the middle of farm country, along with Ohio University.

They don't have to deal with the vagrants that come onto their campus. You put YSU in the middle of a cornfield, and we'll have the safest campus in the country. You cannot compare us to campuses like that. Why don't you look at the crime stats for University of Akron?

That is a campus that we should be compared with. Another thing, is this all you guys write about, crime? After you write a story in your "newspaper," you

should do follow-up stories also. More than half of the stories about crime that you write about are solved. Did you know the man that stole a girl's purse on campus is now serving a 42-year jail sentence?

The Jambar and their writers really need to find something else to write about and not just the bad things on campus. You should also get your stories straight and get your details together before publishing some of these stories.

You are the reason half these kids on campus are scared to

You put fear in the minds of these people that read your stories that you misconstrue into something that you want them to say, when the real facts are right in your face.

Kevin Grischow Student



### Yes, a female condom

Chicago Tribune

Sometime during the next six months, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration will consider approving the FC2, a secondgeneration female condom. That appears likely, since an FDA advisory panel unanimously recommended the product in a Dec. 11

The female condom allows women to take the lead in protecting themselves from HIV infection. In short they don't have to rely on their male partner to take the responsibility. This has the potential to be a lifesaver.

A 2005 study by Dr. David Holtgrave found that distributing 16.6 million female condoms in South Africa could prevent 10,000 HIV infections.

Holtgrave, chairman of the Department of Health, Behavior and Society at Johns Hopkins University's Bloomberg School of Public Health, found that female condoms also would save up to \$35.7 million in health care costs in South Africa.

The FC2 could save lives here. too especially in the African-

American community.
According to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's 2005 HIV/AIDS Surveillance Report, "The rate of AIDS diagnoses for black women was nearly 23 times the rate for white women" High-risk sexual contact was responsible for 74 per-

Despite those terrifying numbers, many women are reluctant to push their partners to wear condoms, for fear of driving them away. Wider availability and affordability of the FC2 could allow women to protect themselves without having to negotiate with

cent of those infections.

their partners.

Like a traditional male condom, it would protect men and women from HIV infection and other sexually transmitted dis-

The FC2 would be roughly 30 percent cheaper than its first generation predecessor, which sells for \$1.15 to \$2.75 in the U.S. and about 80 cents in other parts of the world.

But that might still be a barrier, because male condoms are significantly less expensive. According to a 2007 report by the United Nations Population Fund, the female condom "has not yet achieved its full potential due to inadequate promotional activities, insufficient supply and comparatively higher cost than male condoms.

International aid agencies pay about 3 cents each for male condoms. So it's no surprise that in 2007 donors provided 3.1 billion male condoms around the world but only 16.5 million female con-

But as with all products, female condoms should see a rise in demand as the price drops. So the FC2 will be a benefit to public health here and abroad.

It can save lives.

COMMENTARY

THEJAMBAR.COM

# Next time, they come for you

Rod Dreher DALLAS MORNING NEWS

If you gave money to the successful Proposition 8 campaign to outlaw same-sex marriage in California, you'd better watch out. Anonymous gay-marriage activists have mashed up public data with Google mapping technology to create Eightmaps.com, an online map to your home. And it's perfectly legal.

Alarmed Prop 8 backers recently filed a federal lawsuit seeking an injunction against a state law forcing citizens who give \$100 or more to campaigns to disclose their names and addresses. We had all better hope they prevail.

"I don't get the fear," gaymarriage campaigner Andrew Sullivan disingenuously wrote on his popular blog. "If Prop 8 supporters truly feel that barring equality for gay couples is vital for saving civilization, shouldn't they be proud of their financial support?

Oh, please. This is why people are frightened by Eightmaps:

Margie Christofferson, a manager of a popular Hollywood restaurant, did not talk about her politics or her religion but quietly gave \$100 to the Prop 8 campaign. Activists swarmed the restaurant, with a mob getting so out of hand that riot police had to be called.

A man who wrote a letter to the San Francisco Chronicle supporting Prop 8 soon found that gay activists posted to the Web personal information about him and, as appalled Chronicle columnist John Diaz noted, urged in ugly language, retribution against the author's business and its identified clients."

In Los Angeles and Salt Lake City, someone sent mysterious white powder to Mormon temples, apparently to protest the Latter-day Saints Church's role in passing Prop 8. In Fresno, Calif., police said

the city's mayor and a local pastor received death threats over their support for Prop 8. Vandals pelted the pastor's church with There's more where this came

from. Given what gay-rights fanatics have shown themselves capable of did you see the YouTube footage of a furious gay mob chasing a group of Christians out of the Castro district? Who can blame traditional marriage supporters for being afraid?

In online Eightmaps discussion, gays typically take the line that anyone who would vote to take away their marriage rights deserves what he gets (Sullivan: "Why should you be able to protect yourself from the consequences?"). Extremism in the defense of gay marriage, therefore, is no vice. Let this be a lesson about the tolerance those who do not support same-sex marriage will receive if it becomes legal.

Eightmaps.commies are so caught up in their own revenge drama that they don't understand how this technique can be used against homosexuals. It won't be long before far-right radicals draw on publicly available data to create an online map to gayrights supporters' homes. How safe will gay folks in small towns feel if gay bashers are one click away from a map to their house?

Eightmaps is a vicious cultural bellwether. It rips apart a common understanding that makes it possible for us to live together in a diverse democracy. Today, technology makes a great deal of personal information about each of us publicly available. We therefore depend more than ever on the restraining power of custom - such as the shared sease that people have the right to feel safe in their own home - to keep that information from misuse.

When some techno-savvy barbarians turn this technique against them, remember Sullivan's suide brush-off to Eightmaps' potential victims: "Cry me a river."

He'll regret that one day. We

all will.



After an outstanding victory over Cleveland State, the YSU men stumbled against the University of Akron losing 67-53. The Penguins look to rebound with two more games left in their home stand.

### Men's basketball team continues home stand

Keith Langford Jr.

After an impressive victory over Cleveland State University on ES-PNU, the Youngstown State University men's basketball team encountered a roadblock in a loss to in state rival the University of Akron Zips on Monday night 67-53.

"Offensively, we're as bad as we could possibly be. We had no consistency in our play," head coach Jerry Slocum said after the loss.

The Penguins' leading scorer was

junior DeAndre Mays who scored 18 points and had eight rebounds. The Penguins now are 6-13 overall, and 3-6 in Horizon League play.

Moving forward, the Penguins have two more homes games on this four-game home stand. The Penguins are 1-1 so far and look to improve their record when they play the Wright State Raiders Thursday and the University of Detroit Mercy Titans Saturday.

The Raiders are a formidable opponent for the Penguins. The Raiders are 12-8 overall and 6-3 in the Horizon League, which is good for fourth place. The Penguins have faced off all contribute nine proposed and contribute

against the Raiders on the road earlier this year on Jan. 3. The Raiders escaped with a one-point win, ending the game at 60-59.

The Raiders are stifling on the defensive end as they give up only 54.6 points per game. The 54.6 points per game ranks them behind only Washington State University as the nation's top defense according to points given up. The Raiders counter on offense with a trio of juniors who all contribute nine points per game. Cory Cooperwood, John David Gardner and Todd Brown are juniors on offense that the Penguins should be concerned about

Since they are the worst team in the Horizon League this season, the Titans should be less of a challenge for the Penguins. The Titans come into the contest against the Penguins with a 5-14 record overall and 0-9 in the Horizon League. The Titans won their last game against Chicago State University 68-67, but lost seven games before they got the victory. The Penguins picked up a win against the Titans earlier this month on Jan. 1, narrowly defeating the Titans 80-78. The lack of momentum for the Titans should work in the Penguins' favor in the game.

### Super Sunday prediction: Cardinals need speed to fly

Keith Langford Jr. SPORTS EDITOR

Even if their team didn't make it to the big game, all NFL fans have Super Bowl Sunday circled on their calendars for the game itself, the commercials or this year, maybe even Bruce Springsteen.

This year puts the regional hometown team, the Pittsburgh Steelers, against the underdog Arizona Cardinals. The Steelers come into the game as the AFC Champions as they beat the Chargers in the divisional round and disposed of the Ravens for the third time this season in the conference championship game.

The Cardinals come into the Super Bowl after beating the Falcons in the wild card round, the Panthers on the road, and then the Eagles in the conference championship game to win the NFC Championship.

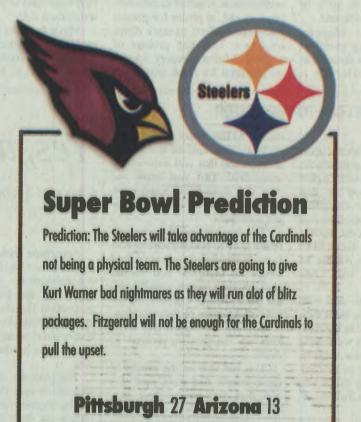
The Steelers are trying to become the first franchise in NFL history to win six Super Bowls. They are currently in a gridlock with the Cowboys and Niners who both have five Super Bowls to boast. The Steelers are also trying to win the second Super Bowl in four years, since winning it in 2005.

The Cardinals are the epidome of an underdog team. Many feel the Cardinals were not a good team and got in solely because they won the horrible NFC West division. Nevertheless, the Cardinals shocked the doubters as they blitzed through the NFC playoffs.

through the NFC playoffs.

The Steelers' keys to victories are defense and establishing the power run game. The Steelers are ranked first overall for the regular season and they have been just as powerful in the playoffs. If the Steelers get fast Willie Parker going in the running game to open up the playaction pass game for Big Ben, the Cardinals could be in for a long night. Even if they do not, Big Ben can carry the load by getting the ball to receivers Santonio Holmes and Hines Ward.

Arizona has to speed the game up and try to make this game into a shootout. The Cardinals' defense has been better in the playoffs but their strength is definitely in the passing attack led by Kurt Warner. Warner will look to get the ball to the talented Larry Fitzgerald. Fitzgerald has been a one-man wrecking crew in the playoffs. The Cardinals need to get the ball in his hands to have a shot in the game. Edgerrin James also has to get the Cardinals' running game going to keep the Steelers' defense guessing.



# Women's coach optimistic despite disappointing season

Josh Stipanovich Sports reporter

After dropping two on the road against Wright State University and Detroit University, the Youngstown State University women's basketball team will be back home to host the first of two meetings this season against a conference opponent, the Flames of the University of Illinois at Chicago.

The Penguins may have lost their last eight games, but they will be hosting a team they have gotten the best of over the past year. Last season, they defeated UIC both times the two teams met. This includes a 71-62 win in Chicago, which clinched the No. 7 seed heading into the Horizon League Tournament.

The Flames — who finished the 2007-2008 season at 11-20 — have improved on many aspects of their game this season, one being their team defense. First-year head coach Cindy Martin and her staff know UIC is not the same team they were a season ago.

"They're playing well right now ... they've got a lineup of predominantly four guards and one post," Martin said. "They're a much different team than what you usually see with a UIC team in the past."

Martin understood that UIC can and will execute the half-court trap and full-court press. Martin said that is what they are preparing for coming into the game.

The Penguins are also improving on areas of their game as the season progresses.

"I think our offensive rebounding has continued to develop over the season," Martin said. "We've got a lot of individual players doing a lot of individual things."

Those players include freshman guard Kenya Middlebrooks who contributes to the defensive end, senior guard Kelsey Gurganus who is playing numerous positions, and junior forward Rachael Manuel who is contributing more minutes for the Penguins.

Martin said she is excited about the individual development, but knows the girls have to learn to play together as a team.

"We've got to get eight to nine girls playing on the same page and the same night," she said.

Despite winning only two games this season, Martin does not feel the team is struggling. Instead, Martin said she is taking the season day by day.

"I don't think we're struggling. I think we approach it the same ways we do from day one," Martin said. "You work hard every day at practice. You work on fundamentals ... we take care of the ball ... we are getting a lot of shots up ... we go hard every single day just like every other team in the country."

If the Penguins can get a win over UIC, it would be their first win since Dec. 20, but getting that important first conference win could be huge.

"Once we get one [win], we're going to go on a roll ... we just have to get that one," Martin said.

The Penguins will be seeking that first conference win for the season as they take the court against UIC. Tip-off is set for 5:15 p.m. at Beeghly Center.



"Once we get one [win], we're going to go on a roll...we just have to get that one."

Cindy Martin, head coach

### Track and Field teams perform well at Robert Morris, prepare for Kent State Triangular

YSU Sports Information

The Youngstown State track team earned first place finishes in 11 events and in addition had 22 top-three finishers on Friday at the Robert Morris Six Way in Moon Township, Pa.

Junior Alisha Anthony led the Penguins on the women's side with three first-place finishes in the 55m dash, the long jump, and the triple jump. Anthony ran a time of 7.48 in the 55m, jumped a distance of 5.69m in the long jump, and 12.02m in the triple jump.

Senior Katie Betts took first place in the 200m dash with a time of 26.80. Betts also finished in second place in the 55m dash with a time of 7.53.

Senior Jen Grayson and sophomore Breanne Romeo also had first-place finishes on the women's side. Grayson won the high jump clearing a mark of 1.66m, while Romeo captured the 400m with a time of 1:00.78.

The Penguins took the topthree spots in the triple jump as freshman Laura Kosiorek and junior Robyn Ray took second and third behind Anthony. Kosiorek had a distance of 10.63m and Ray jumped 10.62m. Kosiorek also finished in second in the 55m hurldes with a time of 8.79.

Other top-three finishers included juniors Jen Roman and Alexis Hall and freshman Nicole Rymer. Roman ran a time of 1:44.84 to take second in the 600. Hall took third in the weight throw with a distance of 15.78m. Rymer finished in third in the

55m hurdles with a time of 8.86. On the men's side, five different Penguins claimed the top spot, along with a first place finish in J.R.Hodge took first in the 55 dash with a time of 6.62. Hodge also finished in second in the 200m with a time of 23.50. Senior Michael Perri finished in first in the 600m after running a

Senior Michael Perri finished in first in the 600m after running a time of 1:24.05. Junior Adam Kagarise ran a time of 51.55 in the 400m to also finish in first.

Sophomores Scott Denham and Jerrill Hall had victories in their events. Denham competed in the 800m and finished with a time of 2:03.84. Hall time of 7.80 was good to win the 55m hurdles. Hall also competed in the high jump and finished in second,

clearing 1.97m.

The men's 4x400m team took first with a time of 3:35.60.

Twins Rick and Jake Lape finished in second and third in the mile with times of 4:34.24 and 4:34.25. In addition; Jake's time of 9:09.80 was good for second in the 3,000m, while Rick took third in the 600m with a time of 1:28.52.

Seniors Clarence Howell and Joe Lahmon also had second place finishes for the Guins. Howell took second in the 55m dash with a time of 6.71, while Lahmon threw a distance of 15.20m

in the shot put.

Senior Marty Vieth and sophomore Jeremiah Folger both had two third-place finishes. Vieth finished in third in the high jump with a height of 1.97m and in the triple-jump with a distance of 11.84m. Folger took third in the shot put with a distance of 14.81m and 15.74m in the weight

The squad will return to action next Friday as they face off against Ohio and Kent State as well as traveling to State College, Pa. to take part in the Penn State National Invitational.