

The Jambar

The student voice of Youngstown State University since 1931

PAGE 6

HOCKEY HOPES TO SNAP LOSING STREAK

TTYL OR BRB WINTER?

Groundhog texts results this year

Juliana Hull
REPORTER



MCTCAMPUS PHOTO

Today at 7:25 a.m., Punxsutawney Phil popped his head out of his burrow at Gobbler's Knob and bent down to see if he could see his shadow. In an attempt to keep up with technology, the groundhog also texted his weather prediction to those who previously signed up for the alert.

Pennsylvania's deputy tourism secretary Mickey Rowley said in a statement, "[Since] not everyone can come to Punxsutawney for Groundhog Day," texting the results would be a "good way to get the word out" to the masses.

Every year Punxsutawney Phil is transported from his climate-controlled environment in the town's library where he is fed ice cream and dog food to a heated burrow at Gobbler's Knob.

When he emerges from his burrow, a tuxedo-clad man will announce his results to the news media and more than half the town

If Punxsutawney Phil sees his shadow, then winter will continue for another six weeks and he will go back in his burrow; if he fails to see his shadow, then spring should be coming soon and he will leave his burrow altogether.

Pennsylvania isn't the only place that celebrates Groundhog Day. Ontario has Warton Willie and Nova Scotia's groundhog is called Shubenacadie Sam. In 2007, Phil, Willie and Sam all predicted an early spring even though there was a wide

GROUNDHOG page 3

◀ Punxsutawney Phil, held by Bill Cooper, during a press conference.

Faculty, trustees define urban research designation

Dan Pompili
ASSIST. NEWS EDITOR

All four candidates for the presidency of Youngstown State University have addressed the need for YSU to establish its identity as an urban research university. The candidates agreed that the university must be a pioneer in research in order to use the designation as a recruiting tool, yet the definition of such a designation remains in question.

Since the chancellor of the Ohio Board of Regents, Eric Fingerhut, reclassified YSU, the term has been the subject of much speculation and confusion.

Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences, Shearle Furnish, suggested that some of the confusion lies in where the "accent is."

Do we put the accent on "urban" or on "research?" Furnish asked.

Furnish elaborated, asking whether the designation requires YSU to focus its research on urban issues or whether YSU is a research facility, which simply "happens to be located in an urban area."

The Presidential Search Advisory Committee elected to advertise YSU as a "research university," omitting the word "urban" since the board of trustees has not agreed on a meaning associated with the identity.

In a recent poll of high school students conducted by YSU marketing consultant SimpsonScarborough, the urban research university classification ranked lowest on the list of identifying factors which increased interest in the university among applicants.

Dr. William Binning, chair of the political science department, said at an open forum with presidential search consultants in September, "I don't know what an urban research university is ... I don't know why we use the term urban."

Furnish implied that YSU does not meet the traditional image of other urban research universities. He said that among the universities reclassified under Fingerhut's plan, YSU was the only one to face a significant burden in changing to meet that identity.

Furnish said one difference between current practices and those that more closely meet the definition of an urban research university is that the faculty would have a much different workload.

"Nobody at those facilities would teach as much as most faculty here do," he said.

Furnish explained that for every instructor at YSU who teaches eight classes, a professor at the University of Cincinnati would teach between four and six and a professor at Johns Hopkins University would teach only two or three.

He also said many distinguished research universities have more graduate students than undergraduates. If YSU were to truly meet the qualifications to identify as a research university, the large number of undergraduate students would place a heavier workload on adjunct faculty.

"It's a huge cost item to make the change to resemble traditional urban research universities, and that funding must come from external sources," Furnish said. "Right now, the chancellor has nothing to give." Furnish was referring to various cuts in the state budget which have affected educational funding.

Dr. Tammy King, associate dean of the Bitonte College of Health and Human Services, said while she cannot speak for the chancellor, she believes he left the term ambiguous so that universities could define it for themselves.

Both Furnish and board of trustees chairman Scott Schlick asserted that common misconceptions about the term include a notion that YSU would be engaging in new research that is not currently being conducted. Both Schlick and Furnish said that the designation frees YSU from previous restraints that prevented the university from expanding its research and graduate programs.

URBAN RESEARCH page 3

ESPN makes new home for Horizon League

Josh Stipanovich
NEWS EDITOR

The worldwide leader in sports and the Horizon League announced Friday they would be partnering in an effort to televise league basketball games on several ESPN platforms over the next three years.

Senior vice president of college sports programming for ESPN Burke Magnus and Horizon League Commissioner Jonathan B. LeCrone made the announcement, which would guarantee national coverage of the Youngstown State University men's basketball team along with the other nine teams in the Horizon League.

HORIZON LEAGUE page 3



Senior guard DeAndre Mays calls a play during the ESPN telecast at home against the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.

County Commissioner urges voters to pass tax renewal

Andrea DeMart
REPORTER

The Mahoning County Board of Commissioners is placing a renewal on the May 4 ballot that would renew the half percent sales tax for five years. This renewal was originally placed on the November ballot as a continuous measure, but was defeated by voters.

Mahoning County Board of Commissioners President Anthony Traficanti explained that the sales tax is "used to fund over 32 departments in Mahoning County, including all local and county courts, elected offices such as the auditor, treasurer

and clerk of courts and runs the jail."

"Mahoning County keeps only 1 percent [of the 6.75 percent] of the tax for county operations," Traficanti said. ".25 percent is a transportation tax for WRTA, which is now county-wide, not just Youngstown anymore, as passed by voters. The remaining percentage goes to Columbus to the governor for state operations."

Traficanti ardently expressed the need for the county voters to pass this five-year renewal.

"Mahoning County cannot operate all services it provides to the community with less than 1 percent sales tax. It is a reality that jails would close and that inmates would

be let out," he said. "The county is currently getting concessions in every department, but the jails and court systems would take the biggest hit because it costs the most to operate."

Commissioner Traficanti explained that a "ripple effect" would be felt through the entire county and would affect its future.

"Businesses wouldn't want to come here if the county is in fiscal emergency," he stated.

He also mentioned that this tax is a consumption tax, not an income tax. This means that taxpayers will only be affected by this tax when

TAX page 3

IN THIS ISSUE



A NEW REASON TO 'LOVE' DOWNTOWN page 4

SENIOR SHINES 'RAY' OF LIGHT FOR TRACK TEAM page 6

WEATHER	
TODAY	
34 26	
WED	THURS
34 23	33 24

NEWS BRIEFS

Legislative breakfast set for Chestnut Room

On Friday, the Youngstown/Warren Regional Chamber's Government Affairs Council and YSU will host a legislative breakfast featuring Ohio Speaker of the House Armond Budish. This is an annual event that invites state legislators from Mahoning, Trumbull and Columbiana Counties. The event, which is open to the public, will take place in Kilcawley Center's Chestnut Room.

Darwin Day includes NEOUCOM faculty discussion

Faculty members of the department of anatomy and neurobiology at NEOUCOM will speak at this year's Darwin Day. They will present in Kilcawley Center's Jones Room on Feb. 8. This is the third year YSU's chapter of Sigma Xi has hosted Darwin Day.

POLICE BRIEFS

Student reports uncomfortable tutoring experience

On Jan. 22, a YSU police officer reported to Cushwa Hall to meet with a graduate student wanting to file a report. The student said she had to tutor another student for a grade in one of her classes last semester. The student said she felt uncomfortable because the other student spoke of hearing voices and admitted that he had been accused of stalking in the past. The suspect also told the student that she was next to be stalked, claiming his psychic friends predicted that he would marry her in the future. Recently, the suspect appeared at the student's job and requested information about her schedule; the student does not want any contact with the suspect.

Cell phone found at Rec Center

On Jan. 26, a YSU police officer was sent to the Andrews Student Recreation and Wellness Center in response to a report of found property. An employee stated that a blue cell phone was discovered; the phone was logged and placed on a shelf in the police department for safekeeping.

JAMBAR STAFF

- EDITOR-IN-CHIEF:**
Chelsea Pflugh.....330-941-1991
- MANAGING EDITOR:**
Adam Rogers.....330-941-1807
- NEWS EDITOR:**
Josh Stipanovich330-941-1989
- COPY EDITOR:**
Emmalee C. Torisk330-941-3758
- A&E EDITOR:**
Lamar Salter330-941-1913
- SPORTS EDITOR:**
Keith Langford Jr330-941-1913
- WEB SITE EDITOR:**
Adam Planty330-941-1913
- DESIGN EDITOR:**
Brian Cetina.....330-941-1807
Nick Young330-941-1807
- ASSIST. NEWS EDITOR:**
Dan Pompili330-941-1913
- ASSIST. COPY EDITOR:**
Aaron Workman330-941-1913
- ASSIST. DESIGN EDITOR:**
Sam Marhulik.....330-941-1807
- A&E REPORTER:**
Gary Angelo.....330-941-1913
- COLUMNIST:**
Melissa Mary Smith...330-941-1913
- SPORTS REPORTER:**
Chelsea Miller.....330-941-1913
- REPORTER:**
Alicia Pattillo330-941-1913
Juliana Hull330-941-1913
- SALES MANAGER:**
Jonathon Fauvie330-941-1990
- RECEPTIONIST:**
Teresa Soos330-941-3095
- BUSINESS MANAGER:**
Olga Ziobert.....330-941-3094
- ADVISER:**
Mary Beth Earnhardt330-941-3095

CONTACT THE JAMBAR

E-MAIL..... editor@thejambar.com
FAX..... 330-941-2322



How do you feel about the demolition of the M-2 parking deck? Do you think the deck is safe?



"I get lost in that deck."

Stacey Fauvie, freshman



"As long as they build another parking deck because parking is needed around here."

Tyler Anendola, sophomore



"It's going to suck to park when they tear it down"

Nick Mientkiewicz, freshman

SGA plans for upcoming semester

Andrea DeMart
REPORTER

On Monday, the Youngstown State University Student Government Association's University Affairs Committee discussed members' work with Facilities to ensure all YSU buildings meet the code set by the Americans with Disabilities Act.

The committee has been working with Facilities to make sure that all buildings at YSU are up to code for disabled students according to the Americans with Disabilities Act. The committee plans to compile a report and present it to the department for any needed changes.

Mid-April, the committee plans to hold their annual clean up day at the Wick-Pollock Gardens, next to the Wick-Pollock Inn. The members will beautify the grounds by planting flowers and eliminating trash. The University Affairs Committee plans to extend this opportunity to all students who wish to volunteer.

The comparison is still under way regarding the new e-mail system for YSU students. Now in consideration is Live@edu, powered by Microsoft. The committee is weighing all options offered by both Gmail and Live@edu to determine which provides accessibility and overall sustainability as students move into the workplace. The committee is working on a way to get students involved in the decision making process.

The ad hoc committee created to handle Haiti relief met immediately following the committee meetings. The fundraising turned from raising money at an athletic event to hosting a banquet dinner with a raffle and possibly a silent auction. Members of the Haiti relief committee will be contacting local businesses and officials to see if they intend to donate to this event.

Smile...



Saving lives is not only a good thing, it makes you feel good too.

Plasma Donors Needed Now

Please help us help those coping with rare, chronic, genetic diseases.

New donors can receive \$25 today and \$75 this week!

Ask about our Specialty Programs!

Must be 18 years or older, have valid I.D. along with proof of SS# and local residency.

Walk-ins Welcome.



444 Martin Luther King Blvd.
Youngstown, OH 44502
330-743-1317



VISIT US ONLINE
WWW.THEJAMBAR.COM

GROUNDHOG page 1

agreement among computer models and weather forecasters that there would be winter for another six weeks. Last year Punxsutawney Phil saw his shadow, predicting another six weeks of winter. He was correct.

The holiday began as a Pennsylvania German custom in the 18th and 19th centuries. The first recorded Groundhog Day celebration was Feb. 4, 1841, with a diary entry from Pennsylvania storekeeper James Morris.

"Last Tuesday, the 2nd, was Candlemas Day; the day on which, according to the Germans, the Groundhog peeps out of his winter quarters and if he sees his shadow he pops back for another six weeks' nap, but if the day be cloudy he remains out, as weather is to be moderate," Morris wrote.

Punxsutawney, Pa., is home to the largest Groundhog Day celebration, with up to 40,000 people in attendance each year, according to an article by David Park, Ph.D on <http://www.americandaily.org>.

TAX page 1

they purchase, and not on the income they earn. "Thirty-three percent of money collected on sales tax comes from out-of-state, out-of-county shoppers," Traficanti said. "People who come and shop here from Columbiana are helping to fund our government."

The county commissioners understand that people are financially hurting but want residents to know that things would be worse without the tax renewal. Security services such as 911 services and the Mahoning County sheriff's department would have to endure harsh layoffs.

"This tax helps put the county where it needs to be for families," Traficanti said.

HORIZON LEAGUE page 3

Executive Director of Athletics Ron Strollo said it's an honor the Horizon League was considered.

"I think it says a lot about the Horizon League and the value that a major network like ESPN has placed on our league," Strollo said.

That value, Strollo said, is because teams in the Horizon League have been able to prove they are worthy of national attention.

As the men's basketball team nears the end of another season, one of the most important tools to rebuilding toward the next chapter is recruiting.

"Anytime you have the visibility of being part of [a] league that is finding its way onto national TV and making it's way far into the tournament. Those things help not only our coaches but our institution," Strollo said.

But with winning and representing an entire institution comes an added pressure, especially under the national spotlight when millions of viewers are watching.

Assistant Sports Information Director Jamie Hall said the added pressure is always there regardless of the national exposure.

URBAN RESEARCH page 1

"Now YSU can expand its master's and research programs to fuel economic growth and jobs," Schulick said. "We're not moving away from the core values of the university but expanding upon them."

"I am partial to the definition that emphasizes our setting," Furnish said. "I would like to see a YSU that is very much involved with the city, understanding its problems and being part of the solution to those problems."

Schulick also said that when given the opportunities, YSU does need to expand existing research programs and identify new ones.

YSU trustee and former state senator Harry Meshel suggested that the university has neglected to adequately expand upon computer technology programs. Such programs were the intended use for Meshel Hall when it was originally designed.

Meshel said YSU needs to continue programs like nursing and education, but should also find out where the jobs in computer technology exist and focus programs to meet those needs.

King's assessment seems to round out the consensus. She said that the goals of YSU's faculty have always included the seeking of additional research dollars, and she believes the intent of the urban research university designation was intended to aid those efforts.

"Anytime you bring in more research, it enhances the educational environment for the students," King said.

She did add, however, that finances should not be allowed to set the university's research agendas.

"Obviously, you want to play well on national TV, but if you try and put more pressure on yourself because it's a TV game, it could hurt you instead of help you," Hall said.

This season, the men's basketball team was featured twice on ESPN, once on Fox Sports Ohio and once on Fox Sports Pittsburgh, but this new contract will allow for much more.

The Horizon League now owns distribution rights for Horizon League programming on any of the ESPN family including <http://www.ESPN.com>, <http://www.ESPN360.com>, ESPN Pay-Per-View, ESPN Video-on-Demand, ESPN HD and ESPN Deportes.

Beginning next season, at least 60 events, including regular season games and select championship games will be broadcast on ESPN, ESPN2, ESPN and <http://www.ESPN.com>.

Along with the TV allotment, <http://www.HorizonLeagueNetwork.tv>, which provides free, live streaming video of more than 400 events, will also air its newly comprised eight-game Horizon League network Game of the Week.

As for recruitment practices, King stated that recruitment should continue to focus on the core goals of the university, which are to focus on the best interests of the students.

"Students have always been our focus and always will be," she said. King added that she does not believe the university's urban research designation will detract from its student-focused research goals.

While Schulick has said that there is "no step-by-step process" for YSU establishing its identity as an urban research university, Furnish asserts that a first step is "broad campus discussions about our new definition and our approach to the designation." King suggests that such a step is already underway, alluding to a forum held by the University Assessment Committee under Dr. Sharon Stringer.

Stringer could not be reached for comment in time for publication.

Furnish agreed that the "instability" of the term is a problem, but said it's not an important one.

"I agree that it is a good thing for the university to define it for our self and our own interests," Furnish said.

He added that the definition could take shape either by YSU arriving at it and impressing that definition on the state, or that "the chancellor will have a pocketbook again and tell us what he wants."

Right now, Furnish said, Fingerhut does not have what he needs to actively turn YSU into an urban research facility of his own design.

twitter
BREAKING NEWS
BLOGS
VIDEO
twitter.com/TheJambar
FOLLOW THE JAMBAR

YOUNGSTOWN STATE UNIVERSITY

2010

HISTORY MONTH CELEBRATION

Proverb of the Month:
"The way a donkey expresses gratitude is by giving someone a bunch of kicks."
- From the Swahili

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 6
THE AFRICAN MARKETPLACE
Noon-6:00 p.m., Chestnut Room, Kilcawley Center
The African Marketplace offers a wide range of dazzling sights, sounds, and objects to view, appreciate, and purchase, including art objects, jewelry, Afrocentric writings and literature that are scarce and hard to find in regular stores. The entire inventory of goods, products and people represent the creative genius of people of African descent. Dance and musical entertainment will be presented by the dynamic and multi-talented Harambee Youth Group.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 9
DIVERSITY ROUNDTABLE
8:00 p.m., The Ohio Room, Kilcawley Center
A discussion and evaluation of diversity initiatives and progress at the University, involving administrators staff, faculty and major stakeholders and constituents, including the Office of Equal Opportunity and Diversity, the University Diversity Council, the Africana Studies Program, Black Faculty and Staff Association (BFSA), Office of Student Diversity, and others. Panelists will include deans, department chairs, and other administrators.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 11
PANEL DISCUSSION ON AFRICAN AMERICAN CONTEMPORARY ART: "TRUTH AND FEAR"
7:00 p.m., The McDonough Museum of Art Auditorium
A panel discussion on contemporary African Art featuring Ronald D. Clayton and Julius Lyles. Through their art, Clayton and Lyles provoke the critical dialogue and mental transformation toward social reconstruction and a new approach to cultural diversity.

Ronald Clayton is a mixed-media artist and painter from Cleveland Heights, Ohio. He was accepted into the Art Students League of New York in 1962. Clayton's experience in the Vietnam War has shaped his ideology and understanding of humane practice. Julius M. Lyles III, a curator and artist from Richmond Heights, Ohio, began studying art at the age of eleven at the Cleveland Institute of Art summer workshops and later studied graphic design at Kent State University, and photography at Cleveland State University. His innovative work has been featured in several galleries throughout the East and Midwest.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 12
LECTURE BY DARYL DAVIS: "KLANDESTINE RELATIONSHIPS"
7:30 p.m., Presidential Suites, Kilcawley Center
A lecture by Daryl Davis on the activities and the inner workings of the Ku-Klux Klan and how best to disabuse it. Davis gained insight into the KKK through rare contact with members in a courageous attempt to unmask its dangerous myths, assumptions, and strategies. His lecture is based on his book on the subject, which has been featured on major media outlets CNN, CNBC, Good Morning America, and National Public Radio.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 18
LECTURE: "MIRACLE INVENTIONS BY MIRACLE PEOPLE"
7:30 p.m., The Ohio Room, Kilcawley Center
Greg Mills, writer, comedian, poet and former news reporter, presents a multi-media program about known and not-so-well-known African American inventors and scientists throughout the history of the United States.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 24
BLACK HISTORY STUDENT ESSAY CONTEST FINALS AND COMMUNITY POETRY COMPETITION
7:30 p.m., The Gallery, Kilcawley Center
African American students at Youngstown State University are invited to submit essays related to the African American experience. The deadline for submission of five-page essays that follow appropriate guidelines and documentation, is Friday, Feb. 19.

Faculty and staff at YSU and the community at large are invited to submit original poems on subject matter or themes related to the African American life, including slavery, the Civil Rights Movement, religion, politics and leading African American figures in the shaping of American democracy. Deadline for submissions is February 19. Prizes will be awarded the three top winners of both competitions. Co-sponsored by the Black Faculty Staff Association (BFSA).

FRIDAY FEBRUARY 26
THE BLACKACADEMIC CHALLENGE
6:00-9:00 p.m. The Chestnut Room, Kilcawley Center
The Blackacademic Challenge is trivia contest aimed at challenging students' knowledge of Black history. Throughout the month of February, teams of four YSU students will represent their class, student club, or organization in answering a series of questions related to African American history. The championship round will take place on February 26. Categories to be covered include Black Firsts, Inventors/Science, Authors/Literature, Ohio Black History, Sports, Youngstown Black History, Art, and Politics. Co-sponsored by the Black Faculty and Staff Association (BFSA) and the College of Fine and Performing Arts.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 27
COMMUNITY OUTREACH: CLOTHING AND FOOD ASSISTANCE DRIVE
12 noon - 3:00 p.m., The Chestnut Room, Kilcawley Center
Throughout the month of February, beginning with the African Marketplace on February 6, citizens in the African American community and the community at large are invited to bring gently worn clothes and canned foods to designated locations in each of the colleges to assist those who need help during these hard times. At the end of the drive, the clothing and food will be distributed to community organizations that serve the neediest among us. All donations will be brought together in the Chestnut Room from different locations for distribution. Major participants include members of the Black Faculty and Staff Association (BFSA) and faculty members of the Advisory Committee of the Africana Studies Program.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 27
MOVIE: "CONTRADICTIONS OF THE HEART" BY WALTER ALLEN BENNETT, JR.
8:00 p.m., Chestnut Room, Kilcawley Center
The movie presents subtle and least-understood aspects of loving relationships in the African American community. Starring Clifton Powell, Venessa Williams, and Christopher B. Duncan, the highly acclaimed film invites the audience to go beyond frequently exaggerated stereotypes. After the preview, the audience will be able to interact with the film's creator and director, Walter Allen Bennett, Jr.

Bennett has written and or produced more than 200 episodes of series television, beginning with the Bill Cosby Show and Norman Lear's 704 Hauser Street. He went on to produce the hit comedy In the House was executive producer of The Steve Harvey Show.

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.

Events co-sponsored by:
FOX 17 62, 270, 33, my YTV, WTMJ, CW, TheVindicator | Wxyz.com, Youngstown STATE UNIVERSITY

CLASSIFIEDS

HOUSING

GOT HOUSE?
Chris has nice 4-5 bedroom homes available for your group. All utilities, appliances, ADT, plus cable & internet. From \$385.00 per person. Call Chris to arrange your tour 330-743-7368.

6 Month Leases Available
12 Month lease- 1 free month, 18 month lease-2 free months. 2-4 Bedroom townhomes from \$595/month. 1-bedroom apartments from \$425/month. Monticello-apartments.net 330-759-9478

For Rent Near YSU
1 bedroom apartment \$200.00 plus utilities available now. Also taking applications for rental come June for 1-3 bedroom apartments or houses. Information call 330-743-3887.

HELP WANTED

BAR HELP NEEDED
Apply in person between 2:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. at Giacchetta's, 3310 Mahoning Avenue. Westside - Youngstown

OTHER

Quiet 1-BR apartment next to YSU. All-student complex. LV Rm, kitchen with refrigerator and stove. BR with large walk-in closet and full bath. MOVE-IN SPECIAL available now! Call 330-506-0104.

Textbooks bought and sold, new and used, online buybacks. Buy, sell, rent at cheapbooks.com 260-399-6111, espanol 212-380-1763, urdu/hindi/punjabi 713-429-4981, see site for other support lines.

The U.S. Census Bureau is RECRUITING FOR:
Crew Leader
Assistant Crew Leader
Enumerator
Office Clerk

Call TOLL FREE
to be scheduled for a basic skills test:
1-866-861-2010

QUEST 2010
A FORUM FOR STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP IS
TUESDAY, APRIL 6th
DEADLINE TO REGISTER IS
MARCH 19th
LOGON TO:
www.ysu.edu/quest

A month of celebration

Christina Keeling
REPORTER

Imagine life without pencil sharpeners, electric lamps, refrigerators and traffic signals. It would be dull, dark, hot, congested and a potential reality without the ingenious inventions of some African-Americans.

February marks the 84th year since the creation of Black History Month, and organizations at Youngstown State University will offer education and celebration.

The Office of Housing and Residence Life and the Office of Student Diversity Programs kicked off its 40th year of Black Heritage Week on Monday with "How Well Do You Know Your Black History?" The overall theme for the week will be "The Skin I'm In."

"The celebration is important," said William Blake, director of Student Diversity Programs, which highlights different cultures throughout the year. "It's a means to reach out to students and teach them about other cultures and religions."

This year's African Studies' annual African-American History Month Celebration is guided by the Swahili proverb, "The way a donkey expresses gratitude is by giving someone a bunch of kicks." The event dates to the origination of the Black Studies Program in 1972, and is used to educate people on the contributions and traditions of the culture.

Dr. Victor Wan-Tatah, professor of philosophy and religious studies, said the event is important because people are not aware of the African-American culture on campus or in the surrounding area.

"The event has grown and matured with a great variety of diversity in the people that participate," Wan-Tatah said. "I am proud to say we have done very well."

The African Marketplace has taken part in the campus celebration every year and will kick off the month-long event on Saturday from noon to 6 p.m. in Kilcawley Center's Chestnut Room.

Black History Month began in 1962 as Negro History Week, which was started by Carter G. Woodson. Woodson was born in Kentucky to parents who were former slaves. He earned his doctorate from Harvard University.

Upset that most history books ignored the black American population, Woodson launched the weekly recognition as a way to bring national attention to the contributions of African-Americans. Woodson chose the second week of February to celebrate in honor of Frederick Douglass' and Abraham Lincoln's birthdays.

"The celebration is important. It's a means to reach out to students and teach them about other cultures and religions."

William Blake, Director of Student Diversity Programs

Black History Month

Feb. 6 The African Marketplace

Noon - 6 p.m.
Chestnut Room, Kilcawley Center

Feb. 9 Diversity roundtable

8 p.m.
The Ohio Room, Kilcawley Center

Feb. 11 Panel discussion on contemporary art: "Truth and Fear"

7 p.m.
The McDonough Museum of Art

Feb. 12 Guest Speaker: Daryl Davis: "Klandestine Relationships"

7:30 p.m.
Presidential Suites, Kilcawley Center

Feb. 18 Miracle inventions by miracle people

7:30 p.m.
The Ohio Room, Kilcawley Center

Feb. 20 "Contradictions of The Heart" (Movie)

7:30 p.m.
Chestnut Room, Kilcawley Center

Feb. 24 Black History student poetry competition

7:30 p.m.
The Gallery, Kilcawley Center

Feb. 26 The Blackacademic Challenge

6-9 p.m.
The Chestnut Room, Kilcawley Center

Feb. 27 Clothing and food drive

Noon-3 p.m.
Kilcawley Center

Big city feel, big city heart: The Love Lounge

Gary S. Angelo
FEATURES REPORTER

Walking into the Love Lounge, housed in the former location of Skeeter's Jazz Bar and Grill at 15 W. Federal St., one can encounter a vintage Youngstown vibe along with a shiny wink of hope.

Cameron Penny, also known as local hip-hop artist and Jamz 101.9-FM radio host Lucky Penny, decided to open the club on New Year's Eve.

"I am trying to create a premium spot for urbanites to hang out and party," Penny said. Penny is a part of the entertainment group Corporate.

When the upstairs portion of the club is finished, Penny plans on having entertainers and reality stars host parties inside the venue. He wants to create the ideal promotional haven for Youngstown's grow-

ing hip-hop scene, as well as a classy urban club. There will also be a dress code and fresh code at the Love Lounge.

Penny was inspired by the Youngstown 2010 Plan to create the ultimate party haven that evokes a positive and festive image of Youngstown. Penny, a Youngstown native, said the club was inspired by time spent living and promoting clubs in Atlanta.

He discovered that there weren't clubs in Atlanta that catered to celebrity parties. Penny wanted to bring this urban party atmosphere to Youngstown through extensive promotion with his radio show. Penny's mission is to attract suburbanites to Youngstown by giving them a premier and polished party atmosphere.

Penny said he wants to cater to the college crowd because Youngstown State University is an influential part of the

present state of the club scene.

"On Thursday nights we have the event 'We Love College Thursdays,' where ladies with college IDs get free admission," Penny said.

A "hip-hop 4 Haiti" benefit will be held at the Love Lounge on Wednesday from 8 p.m. to midnight. Donations will be taken at the door; they will go directly to the American Red Cross' Haiti relief effort.

Performers include Young Black Mob, Da Kreek, We Famous, 400 Block Ent, Steve the Recruit, Derry Primitime, True 2 Life Fam, Young Trajik, Blackface, Flyboi Jay, Grizz, Jay Howell, C.T., Next Level, Aleah Karon, Yung Monsta, Jay Five, Kenny Ali and B.O.F.

With clubs such as Barley's Bar and Grill, the Lemon Grove, Downtown 36, the Rosetta Stone and Cedars



Bartender Norman Macias Jr. stands in front of the bar at The Love Lounge. Photo by Gary S. Angelo/The Jambar

Lounge, Penny longs to share his creativity and gusto with Youngstown's entertainment district.

"I want to help downtown Youngstown grow into a strip where people could park their

cars and walk from bar to bar. I want to bring the big city feel to a small city," he said, expressing his desire to make the Love Lounge into the ultimate venue for people of all musical and cultural backgrounds.

OUR SIDE

What's in a name?

RELATED STORY

Urban research, page 1

The Jambar
EDITORIAL BOARD

At President Sweet's State of the University in August, he spent a great deal of time explaining what lies ahead for YSU under the label of an urban research university, but not everyone agrees on what it is or how to get there.

Sweet said that within a five-year transition period at the university, YSU could transform into an urban research university, which he said would be helped along by funding the Centers of Excellence, which are Materials Science and Engineering, Applied Chemical Biology, International Business and the Rich Center for Autism. The question still hasn't been answered yet about the Centers; are they more important than all the other departments on campus? To our administration, no, but to Chancellor Fingerhut, yes.

YSU is not the only college to have the label. Other Ohio universities include Cincinnati, Cleveland State, Wright State, Toledo, Akron and Shawnee State. Regardless of size or funds, one staggering statistic remains: YSU has the lowest percentage of graduate students. The transition to an urban research university will hopefully bridge that gap, but no one knows how yet.

In her open forum for presidency, Dr. Cynthia Anderson said it best: When she was in a meeting with 45 people, almost every person had a different definition of what the phrase urban research university meant. Even better, all four presidential candidates had different ways of transitioning the university to become one.

Are we following another Ohio university's lead for an example, or are we making one of our own?

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

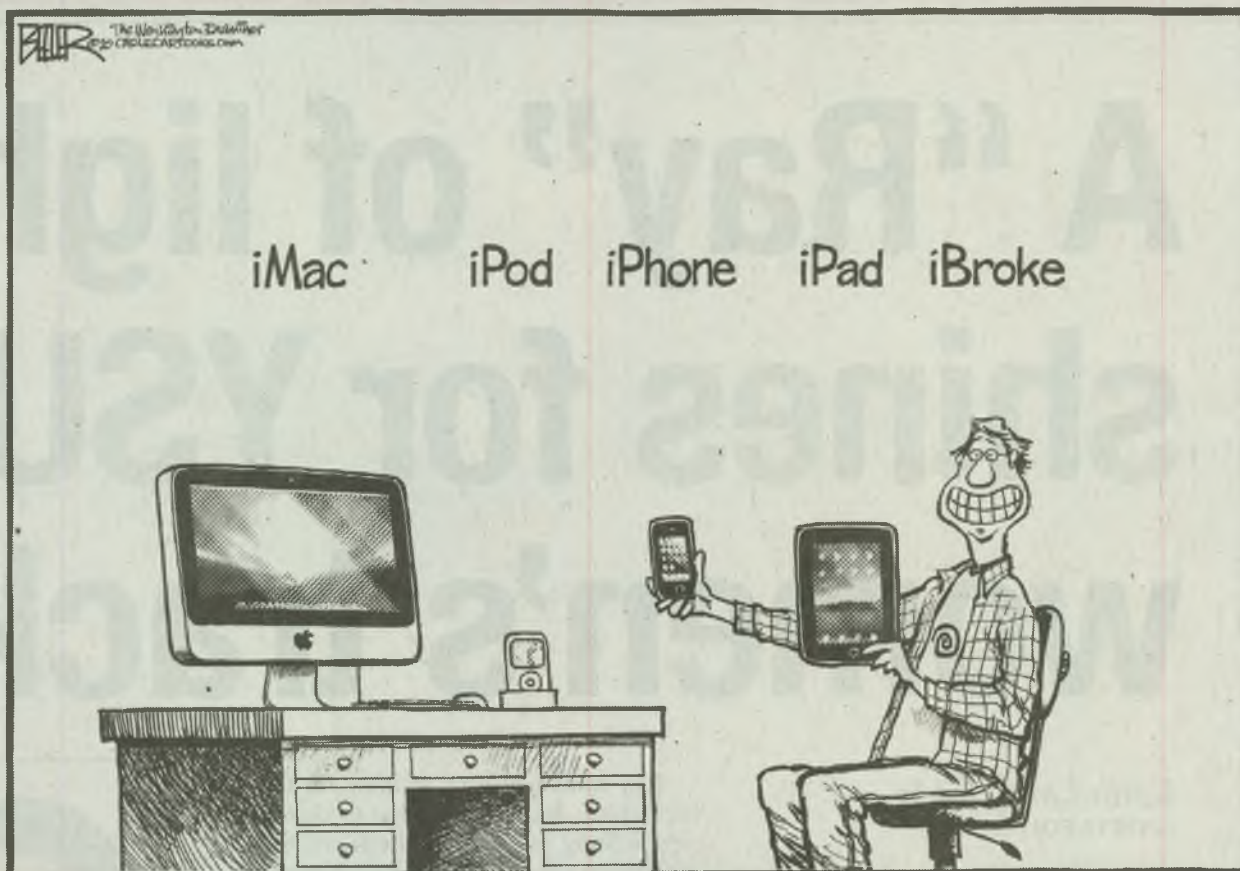
The editorial board that writes Our Side editorials consists of the editor-in-chief, managing editor and news editor. These opinion pieces are written separately from news articles and draw on the opinions of the entire writing staff. The Jambar's business manager and non-writing staff do not contribute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

A smaller, bipartisan health-care bill: Where to start?

Robert Laszewski
MCT

I've heard many people say it won't be possible to pass a bipartisan health-care bill in today's poisoned environment. But we will ultimately have real health care reform in this country for a very simple reason: We have no choice and both Democrats and Republicans understand that. More important, the American people know it.

If there is one common lesson in the collapse of the Democratic health care efforts in 1994 and 2010, it's that something as big, complex and controversial as reform has to be done in a bipartisan way.

Was the recent debate hyperpartisan? Were the Democrats arrogant in thinking they could ram through their liberal health-care agenda? Did lots of Republicans demagogue the Democratic efforts as soon as the debate clearly turned partisan? Isn't it true the Republicans haven't had a serious health plan of their own? Yes to all of the above.

But if the Democrats and Republicans are serious about being bipartisan, there are opportunities. There are at least 10 Republican senators who have a track record of good faith on health-care issues.

They include the Senate Finance Committee Republicans who worked hard to get a deal last summer; Orrin Hatch, who co-wrote the children's health plan; John McCain, who co-sponsored the patients' bill of rights with Ted Kennedy; and the Republicans who support the Wyden-Bennett bill.

Can we achieve something bipartisan and modest in this election year? It isn't likely but it is not impossible. True, the Republican base isn't going to support any efforts to reach out to Democrats who are dangling on a political meat hook.

And liberals are going to have to swallow a lot of the hubris that is at the root of Democrats' current political fix.

Republicans also need to understand that voter anger at the Democrats is not the same as support for Republicans. In 1994, Newt Gingrich and his team had new and fresh ideas. In 2010, these Republicans are the guys we threw out in 2006 and 2008 and they certainly haven't offered any new and intriguing ideas lately to fix the health-care system.

Both sides could benefit from behaving themselves and actually accomplishing something tangible. A few modest first steps could do a lot to begin to

build some bipartisan trust and actually help some Americans who need it.

Calls to deal with insurance reform eliminating pre-existing conditions and medical underwriting limits would not likely be part of these first steps. To make those changes, we would have to get both the sick and the healthy into the health-insurance risk pool. And that means mandates and hundreds of billions of dollars in subsidies; those provisions aren't possible without reconstructing the same big bills now on the table.

In fact, President Barack Obama and Congress have already taken some important steps on health care. They have, for example, expanded and extended the Children's Health Insurance Program, and promoted health-information technology and comparative effectiveness as part of the stimulus bill.

Now they should take some other good bipartisan steps: Approve lesser health-insurance reforms that are in the Democratic bills. Bar policy rescissions for immaterial and inadvertent consumer mistakes and provide federal funding for state-based high-risk pools serving the uninsured.

Create subsidies for small businesses to buy health insurance. The number of small businesses that provide coverage is melting in the face of the high cost of insurance. The small group market would be a good place to begin to spend subsidy dollars; it already has less-restrictive underwriting rules because it is generally a guaranteed-issue market. Most of the working uninsured don't have coverage because their small employers can't offer it. This would be a very efficient way of making progress toward covering people.

Expand Medicaid in a modest way. The House bill would expand Medicaid coverage to people with incomes up to 150 percent of the federal poverty level; the Senate bill, 133 percent. What can we afford now? From the existing state average of 65 percent of the poverty level, there might be enough money available to fully fund an expansion of Medicaid to 80 percent or 90 percent.

A huge bipartisan step would be to grant the Republicans some common-sense tort reform.

Would enacting this list constitute health-care reform? No.

But it could be the beginning of a process to rebuild bipartisan effectiveness, trust between the parties, voter confidence and actually help millions of people.



Love, not actually

Melissa Mary Smith
COLUMNIST

I can't think of any other holiday during tax season more stupid than Valentine's Day.

Don't get me wrong; I take great pride in handing out my really cool Dora the Explorer and Crocodile Hunter valentines to all of my friends.

I also enjoy it when I receive a Hallmark Valentine's Day greeting card from my adoring parents. Every. Single. Year.

Smarminess aside, Valentine's Day is simply a holiday where you're unfortunately subjected to friends obnoxiously boasting about all of the nice crap their significant others bought them.

Because true love is when people buy you things or do things for you (things that directly/indirectly involve the exchange of money for services, of course).

What made-up holidays like Sweetest Day and Valentine's Day have taught us is that nothing says "I love you" more appropriately than buying the one you love bouquets of flowers that will wilt and die within a week or the cliché box of chocolates, which may or may not cause indigestion and gagging.

Another thing I can't stand about holidays like these is that they seem to be marketed entirely toward women. Women almost squeal with joy like pigs when their boyfriends and fiances buy them completely useless things like giant stuffed animal bears or the equally as useless diamond ring. Unless the stuffed bear is capable of talking and offering me counseling services, it's just going to sit in my basement.

If the diamond ring is magically not a blood diamond and I'm capable of fighting crime with it, it's going to make an incredibly fun trip to the pawn shop.

So, if you're a single cynic like me and feeling left out on Valentine's Day, you should at least keep in mind all of the money you're saving.

Money that can be spent on more meaningful things like a student loan payment. Or a 40-ounce bottle of Steel Reserve.

twitter

BREAKING NEWS
BLOGS
VIDEO

twitter.com/TheJambar

FOLLOW
THE JAMBAR

thejambar.com

LOG ON FOR THE LATEST...

A "Ray" of light shines for YSU women's track

Keith Langford Jr.
SPORTS EDITOR

Senior Robyn Ray has had two consistent things in her life since she's been in the second grade: track and field and her role model in life, her mom.

"She has always been there for me, cheering me on and pushing me to keep going and encouraging me when I get discouraged," Ray said.

Before Ray stepped on the track as a Penguin, she was a part of the track and field program at Beaumont High School in Cleveland.

Ray picked Youngstown State University as her college because it was close to home, but at the same time she wanted to get out of the Cleveland area. She had been to YSU for summer meets and had talked to some of the coaches.

The jump from high school to college for Ray was "pretty much a smooth one," she said. She explained since her high school was one of the top programs in Cleveland and also in the state of Ohio, there wasn't much of a difference from one to the other competition-wise.

Ray's biggest obstacle was competing in the multiple events in college. In high school, Ray competed in all of the events separately for the heptathlon but never competed in the event itself. Ray said her first experience training for the event was "physically and emotionally draining." It was something her body had to get used to and she has now learned to recuperate better from training.

Ray splits her week training for the heptathlon. Ray says she has to do the jumps (long jump, high jump) and the 800-meter run on separate days because those events drain so much energy out of her. After she does the jumps and the 800, Rays said she usually throws shot put and javelin because it's not as physically demanding. Ray said she works the two other events, the 100-meter hurdles and the 200-meter sprint into the rest of the week.

"My coach [Marcella Bohla] does a good job of making sure I get the practice I need for each individual event and holding me accountable," Ray said.

Ray said her biggest achievement as a Penguin is progressively getting better in the multi-events. She says knowing all the hard work she's put into the events and seeing the results are her proudest moments.

As hard and tough as Ray competes, she is humble and a bit naive. When she heard the news she was named Horizon Field Athlete of the Week she was surprised and shocked. She said she wasn't even paying attention when head coach Brian Gorby announced it at a team meeting before a meet. Everyone was clapping for her but she didn't know why. She asked a teammate what the coach said and her teammate said she was named Horizon Athlete of the Week, thus the surprised and shocked reaction from Ray.

In her spare time, the psychology major loves to hang out with friends, watch movies, and listen to music. She also enjoys spending time with her aunt because it gets her away from the stresses of track and school.



Robyn Ray

"My coach [Marcella Bohla] does a good job of making sure I get the practice I need for each individual event and holding me accountable."

FAVORITE TEAMS:

Cavs and Browns

FAVORITE TV SHOWS:

"Heroes," "Private Practice," "Make it or Break It"

Favorite Food: Pasta

HORIZON LEAGUE

- 1 #23 BUTLER
- 2 WRIGHT STATE
- 3 DETROIT
- 4 CLEVELAND STATE
- 5 GREEN BAY
- 6 VALPARAISO
- 7 MILWAUKEE
- 8 LOYOLA (IL)
- 9 YOUNGSTOWN STATE
- 10 UIC

NCAA TOP 25

- 1 KANSAS
- 2 VILLANOVA
- 3 SYRACUSE
- 4 KENTUCKY
- 5 MICHIGAN STATE
- 6 WEST VIRGINIA
- 7 GEORGETOWN
- 8 PURDUE
- 9 TEXAS
- 10 KANSAS STATE
- 10 DUKE
- 12 BRIGHAM YOUNG
- 13 OHIO STATE
- 14 TENNESSEE
- 15 NEW MEXICO
- 16 WISCONSIN
- 17 GONZAGA
- 18 VANDERBILT
- 19 TEMPLE
- 20 BAYLOR
- 21 GEORGIA TECH
- 22 PITTSBURGH
- 23 BUTLER
- 24 NORTHERN IOWA
- 25 MISSISSIPPI

PENGUIN SPOTLIGHT



MARYUM JENKINS

POSITION: Guard
YEAR: Freshman
HOMETOWN: Duarte, Calif.
PPG: 4.2
RPG: 2.8
APG: 1.1
FG%: .275

SCHEDULES

MEN'S BASKETBALL

- Feb. 4 @ Loyola
- Feb. 6 @ UIC
- Feb. 11 BUTLER
- Feb. 13 VALPARAISO
- Feb. 15 @ Milwaukee
- Feb. 20 @ ESPN
BracketBuster
- Feb. 25 WRIGHT STATE
- Feb. 27 DETROIT
- Mar. 2 Horizon League
Tournament
First Round
- Mar. 5 Horizon League
Tournament
Quarterfinals

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

- Feb. 4 LOYOLA
- Feb. 6 UIC
- Feb. 11 @ Butler
- Feb. 13 @ Valparaiso
- Feb. 20 CLEVELAND STATE
- Feb. 25 WRIGHT STATE
- Feb. 27 DETROIT
- Mar. 4 @ Green Bay
- Mar. 6 @ Milwaukee
- Mar. 8 Horizon League
Tournament

SWIMMING & DIVING

- Feb. 6 @ Cleveland State/
UIC
- Feb. 7 YOUNGSTOWN
DIVING INVITE
- Feb. 24-27 Horizon League
Championships

INDOOR TRACK & FIELD

- 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
- Feb. 27-28 @ Horizon League
Championships
- Mar. 5-6 @ Alex Wilson
Invitational
- Mar. 13-14 NCAA Track and
Field Championships

INTRAMURAL PLAYER OF THE WEEK



Maurice Keyes

Maurice Keyes, freshman biology major, was nominated as intramural player of the week for men's basketball by intramural sports director, Joe Conroy. Conroy said that Keyes scored 28 points in the first game, making four 3-point shots in a row, and said that he is a "good player who didn't miss a lot of shots."

Hockey club looks to snap long losing streak on senior night at Ice Zone

Chelsea Miller
SPORTS REPORTER

The Youngstown State University men's hockey club continued their longest losing streak of the season by adding another two losses to their record. After coming up short to the University of Michigan-Dearborn and Adrian College on Friday and Sunday, the team hopes to pull out a few wins this weekend against John Carroll University, Mercyhurst College, and the University of Pittsburgh.

Friday's game against University of Michigan-Dearborn, No. 16 in the current American Collegiate Hockey Association Men's Div. 1 ranking, ended with a score of 5-2. Scoring for the Penguins were forwards Zak Kusek and Dan Jech.

The Penguins also fell short Sunday with their 7-2 loss to Adrian College, ranked No. 12 in the ACHA ranking. Forwards Mike Barker and Michael Stokar scored a goal each for YSU.

The two losses put the Penguins at a 10-game losing streak and an overall season record of 9-21. Although their

chance at a national appearance is gone, the team hopes to make it to the conference championship in March. In order to play in the CHMA, a team must be ranked sixth. YSU currently sits seventh, so a win this week is crucial. According to coach Brad Patterson, to make it to the championships, YSU will have to win both Friday and Sunday's league matches.

Patterson believes that the team still has a shot, however, and contributes the recent losses to a series of injuries and ineligibilities that have hurt the team.

"We had a couple of games we didn't play well, but a couple of games we played well and didn't get the results," Patterson said, adding that bad bounces have also contributed to some of their losses.

Patterson said the team remains upbeat despite their record.

"There's no reason why we can't win [the two league games]," he said.

Saturday's game, a non-league home match, will be senior night for the Penguins. It will be held at the Ice Zone in Boardman and senior players will be honored before the start of the game.