

The Jambar

The student voice of Youngstown State University since 1931

PAGE 2

WHERE DOES YOUR MONEY GO?

COMMITTEE WILL OVERSEE YEC TRANSITION

Chelsea Pflugh
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Scott Schulick, chairman of the Youngstown State University Board of Trustees, and Anthony Catale, president of the Youngstown Board of Education, will soon appoint a committee to aid and supervise the transition of Youngstown Early College.

The YSU Board of Trustees voted to end the university's ties with YEC due to a lack of financial support on Thursday.

The day after the vote, Schulick made phone calls to hold a special meeting as soon as possible to discuss the transition of YEC into its next phase.

Schulick, Catale, Wendy Webb, superintendent of Youngstown City Schools, and YSU President David C. Sweet met Monday morning to discuss YEC's future, according to a YSU press release.

"We want to ensure YSU will still play a big part in the transition," Schulick said.

According to the press release, the goal of the committee will be to cre-

"We all agree that we want to move on with the early college process. The committee will ensure that YEC remains a priority for the community."

-Scott Schulick

ate a transition plan for YEC so that "it can continue without disruption into the next school year."

The Eastern Gateway Community College has "expressed interest" in being the new partner for YEC, according to the press release. Schulick said there is "clear interest on the part of the com-

munity college," but said it's too early in the process to speak on behalf of that potential partnership.

"We all agree that we want to move on with the Early College process," he said. "The committee will ensure that YEC remains a priority for the community."



PHOTO BY NICK YOUNG / THE JAMBAR

Newly appointed trustee talks YEC and YSU future

Josh Stipanovich
NEWS EDITOR

The Youngstown State University Board of Trustees welcomed its newest member at the Feb. 17 meeting in Kilcawley Center.

Although the essential basis of the meeting was to announce YSU's seventh president, Atty. Leonard Schiavone was sworn in by secretary to the board Franklin Bennett Jr. prior to the announcement.

Gov. Ted Strickland initially an-

nounced Schiavone's appointment.

"As a lifelong resident of Youngstown, Mr. Schiavone has made notable contributions to the Mahoning Valley as a business and community leader," Strickland said. "I am confident that he will work just as hard and exemplify the same dedication to his new role on the board of trustees."

The appointment didn't come as a surprise for Schiavone, and he said it was a desired position because he knows how important of a role YSU plays in the functionality of the Mahoning Valley.

"It was nice to hear, and I really

feel honored that the governor has gotten enough information on me that he thinks I would be someone who could add to YSU," Schiavone said.

Strickland said the choice to appoint Schiavone wasn't easy, and Strickland acknowledged that he and his staff spent a good deal of time choosing the applicant.

"Appointments to boards of trustees require thoughtful consideration by my staff and I regarding who can best serve the particular college or university," Strickland said.

TRUSTEE page 3

Part-time faculty's salary stuck in time

Christine Keelings
REPORTER

In 20 years much has changed. Tuition escalated from \$2,700 a year to \$6,956, stamps increased from 25 cents to 43 and gasoline jumped from \$1.19 a gallon to \$2.66. One thing, though, has stayed the same: Youngstown State University's part-time faculty's salary.

The Ohio legislature is considering a bill to remove the exemption of part-time instructors, part-time lecturers, previously exempted public-employed students and adjunct faculty from the current Public Employee Collective Bargaining Act. This change would allow those employees to collectively bargain and gain greater compensation benefits.

"If they can unionize, it would regulate how much they get paid and offer job stability," said Dr. Scott Leonard, a YSU English professor. "Right now it's term to term for these people; they can be pulled right before a semester starts."

YSU's pay ratio for part-time faculty is based on per semester hour workload and degree held. Faculty members with bachelor's degrees receive \$650 per credit hour, those with master's degrees earn \$800 per semester hour and those holding doctorates get \$1,050 a semester hour. This means that a professor with a master's degree and a three-hour semester class, whether in 1996 or today, would earn \$2,400.

Even with the modest inflation that has occurred over the years, Dr. Tod Porter, chairman of the economics department, said, "If their pay were to keep up with inflation, and they were making \$2,400 in 1996, they should be making \$3,260 today to have the same spending power."

Harry Meshel, member of the YSU Board of Trustees and champion of public employees' right to collectively bargain in Ohio, said the part-time faculty do a good job for the university. He said they fill in when there is a limited amount of time to be covered in certain courses at a lower cost than full-time employees.

"In the earlier years when I taught, it was a good benefit for the university because it was acquiring the level of teacher or instructors at relatively bargain basement prices," Meshel said. "I know our pay wasn't very grandiose at \$3 an hour."

Marilyn Ward, assistant to the provost, said YSU has 448 full-time faculty, including chairpersons, and more than 550 part-time faculty, including advisers, student teachers and faculty teaching one or fewer classes.

FACULTY page 3



Beer back at Peaberry's

Josh Stipanovich
NEWS EDITOR

After resolving a minor administrative issue regarding the sales tax on beer, Peaberry's Cafe in Kilcawley Center is now selling alcohol again.

"We were going through the process of [a] renewal, and when you put the renewal in, [the Division of Ohio Liquor Control] does an audit of your account, and they found an administrative issue with sales tax from a few months ago," said Peaberry's owner Mark Cole.

Mark declined to comment on the specifics of the administrative error, but said the issue was "very minor," and it had to be resolved

before the license could be renewed.

Their current D-1 permit, which allows the business to sell beer in a glass or container on its premises, was not available last week because the beer license is up for renewal soon.

Mark said that process could become complex at times.

"It's just one of those things when wires get crossed, everything comes to a screeching halt," Mark said.

He said it didn't affect business at all.

"It affects us very minimally. We don't sell much down there at all," Mark said.

PEABERRY'S page 3

Symposium spotlights Sweet's accomplishments

Krystle Kimes
REPORTER

Youngstown State University's sixth president, David C. Sweet, was honored at a symposium on Friday to explore how YSU and other urban universities can maximize the impact on metropolitan areas and the efforts that have reshaped the university. The symposium was a celebration to Sweet's decade of service to YSU and the growth of the multiple roles of urban universities and metropolitan regions within which they operate.

The presentation was opened by George McCloud, vice president of University Advancement, who spoke very highly of the president.

"He's always thinking three or four years down the board, like chess," McCloud said.

SWEET page 3



IN THIS ISSUE

FRESHMAN PHENOM HAVING A RECORD-SETTING SEASON page 8



ROCK HARD DURING YOUR 'STAYCATION' page 7

WEATHER TODAY 31 | 25

WED	THU
32 24	33 20

NEWS BRIEFS

Bliss Recital Hall to feature pieces from students and faculty

Bliss Recital Hall will feature the world premieres of seven compositions during the Annual New Music Society Winter Pops Concert at 8 p.m. Wednesday. YSU Dana School of Music faculty member Robert Rollin will showcase two of the featured new works. The concert will also feature pieces from YSU composition majors. The concert is free and open to the public.

Sweets recognized with award

YSU President David C. Sweet and his wife, Pat Sweet, will be recognized with an award from Youngstown City-Scape for their efforts in the beautification of Youngstown. This new designation will be known as the David and Pat Sweet Grass Roots Award. The Sweets have been active in CityScape since the organization's creation in 2004, and were also active in Streetscape since their arrival at YSU in 2000.

POLICE BRIEFS

Book bag found in Stambaugh

A book bag was found in the Arnold D. Stambaugh Sports Complex on Thursday. The bag and its contents were turned into the YSU Police Department, where they are being held.

Disruption reported in Maag Library

YSU police officers were called to Maag Library in response to a student causing a disruption. However, the student had already left the library by the time an officer arrived at the scene.

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
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- BUSINESS MANAGER:**
Olga Ziobert.....330-941-3094
- ADVISER:**
Mary Beth Eamheardt.....330-941-3095

CONTACT THE JAMBAR

E-MAIL..... editor@thejambar.com
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WHERE DOES YOUR \$ GO?

Following Parking Services' profits

Juliana Hull
NEWS REPORTER

Youngstown State University students have probably been wondering about the whereabouts of the \$78 used to pay for a parking permit each semester. Likewise, students who have received (and paid) parking tickets may also be curious about these funds. Daniel O'Connell, director of Parking Services, has the answer.

"Well, it all goes into parking itself. Any money that comes in for parking goes into paying salaries, administrative overhead fees, repair and any balance left goes in a restricted

account," he said.

The restricted account or general funds is any money left over from the year after Parking Services pays its expenses. For example, Youngstown State University Parking Services and the Youngstown Police Department are working together to install new surveillance cameras in parking lots. O'Connell said the money left over each year, around \$100,000, goes toward paying for these cameras.

When students were asked where they think this money goes, nine out of 10 students thought it went back into parking.

"It goes to employ everybody," said Stu Chester, a non-

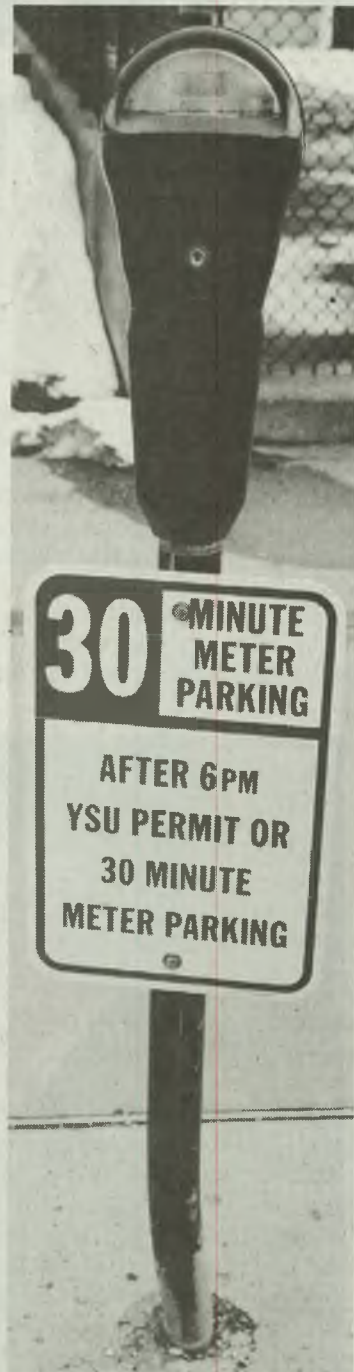
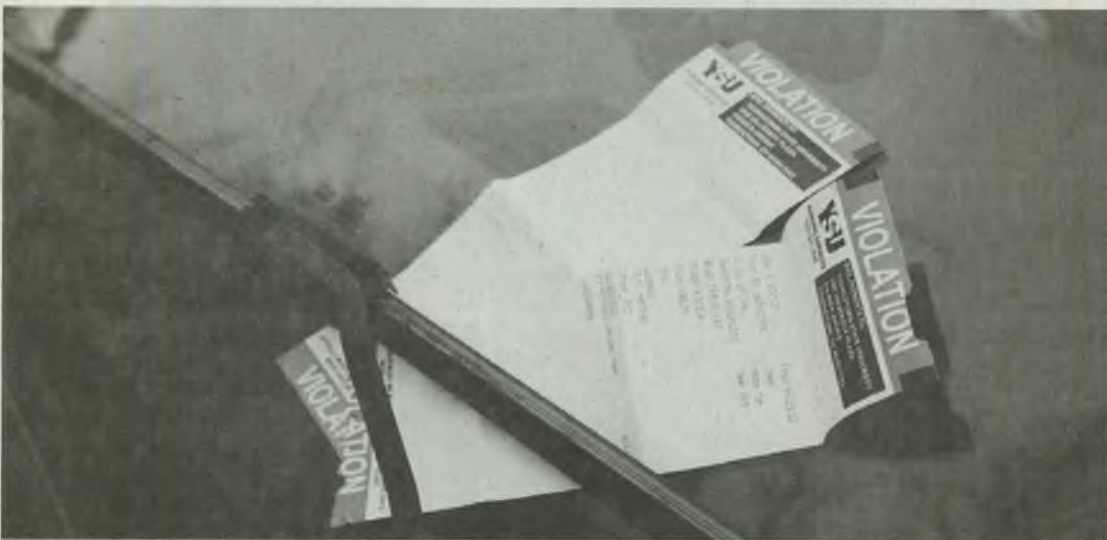
traditional student majoring in engineering.

Nicholas Walter, a freshman engineering major, had a different opinion.

"It probably goes towards the other colleges' maintenance, like to pay for new lights or something," he said.

O'Connell said that ticketing students does not benefit Parking Services. He said that 75 percent of students have parking permits and that it is the duty of Parking Services to provide a spot for everyone.

"In the long run I'd rather everyone have a parking spot than a ticket. You pay for that spot. It's a deterrent to keep unauthorized people out," O'Connell said.



PHOTOS BY NICK YOUNG/THE JAMBAR

University strives to improve on sustainability

George Yanchick
REPORTER

Every year, the Sustainable Endowments Institute, an organization that compiles research on how sustainable colleges and universities are, comes out with its College Sustainability Report Card.

Schools that receive an average of "A-" or better of the subcategories listed qualify as Overall College Sustainability Leaders. This year's report card recognizes 26 of the 322 schools for top honors; Harvard University, the University of Washington and nearby Oberlin College are just a few schools that received an "A."

Youngstown State University did not fare as well this year. However, the university improved slightly with a "D+" on its report card, compared to its "F" from 2009.

"I feel like this is a wake-up call for everyone at the university," said sophomore Cindy Williams. "If everyone takes time to be more green-conscious, then maybe we can get a better letter grade next year."

Among the subcategories, Student Involvement received a "C" for the re:Create

project, an environmental reuse program started by students. Recently the program received funding that would expand service to the rest of Mahoning County.

The Climate Change and Energy Category focuses on specific commitments to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. For that, YSU received a "D." According to the institute, YSU has implemented a \$10 million campus-wide energy efficiently program, focused primarily on electric and steam consumption. In addition, major equipment has been replaced with more energy-efficient models and the lighting has made improvements.

Despite the university having five electric vehicles, transportation received a "D" on the report card. Food and recycling also received a "D," though Dining Services does compost pre- and post-consumer food.

"One thing the university offers is a drink discount to those who bring their own cups," said sophomore nursing major Kyle Guterba, who works at Kilcawley Center. "It is a great incentive to really cut back on all the materials that would end up in a garbage dump."

The news is not all bad for the university, however. In October 2008, ground was broken for the new Williamson College of

Business Administration. Set to open this summer, the 110,000-square-foot building is expected to receive Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design certification, a recognized standard measuring building sustainability conducted by U.S. Green Building Council.

"The new College of Business Administration is key for changing the university," said Dr. Felicia Armstrong, assistant professor of Environmental Science. "This shows that we can move ahead and improve our sustainability."

Armstrong said the impact of last year's report card has yielded changes in several processes at the university.

"Last year, after YSU received an 'F,' the Academic Senate put together an Ad Hoc Sustainability Committee. We are composed of faculty, staff, administration and students. We have been working to try and improve our sustainability on campus both in perception and in action," she said.

The committee will continue to meet and work out ways for changing YSU.

"I like to think some improvements have been made as a result of the committee since this year we received a 'D+,'" Armstrong said.



What have your experiences been with YSU parking?



"Good, except for the fact that I got a ticket."

James Brown, freshman



"It sucked. Basically I get mad because I live on campus and the residence parking was covered in snow."

Rachael Tax, senior



"I get here before 8, so I don't have an issue."

Joshua Oliphant, senior

TRUSTEE page 1

Schiavone has been and is still involved with a variety of organizations including Humility of Mary Health Partners, which owns and operates a majority of local hospitals and health centers in the area.

He is also a partner and treasurer of Friedman & Rummell Co., one of the oldest law firms in Youngstown. He's also a co-owner and president of the Metro Land Title Agency Inc., which deals with real estate and title insurance in downtown Youngstown.

But the list of contributions doesn't stop there. He's also on the board for the Hospice of the Valley, a member of the parish council of St. Columba Cathedral Parish and the Mahoning County Bar Association, just to name a few.

His wife, Gina, is the only reason he said he's able to contribute to so many local organizations.

"I'm fortunate to have a very understanding wife," Schiavone said. "Personally, I feel if you can involve yourself in the community, if you can give back to the community [and] give your time [and] effort ... then you should make the effort."

After Thursday's board of trustee meetings, Schiavone said he was able to see the importance YSU's board holds.

During that meeting, Schiavone was able to play a part in the board's decision to end the operation of the Youngstown Early College effective June 30, the end of this fiscal year.

"It really drives home the responsibility that we have, [and] to be responsible for making that kind of a decision on a program as meritorious as the early college ... at that meeting I felt it's a big responsibility," Schiavone said.

During the meetings, each board member had an opportunity to express his or her feelings about YEC, and when Schiavone's turn drew near, he had to ask questions to YEC officials because he said he was aware of the program's mission, but wasn't very informed of the program's background.

"It was difficult because for one, I didn't have that background information. I didn't have what the other board members have had over the last year, and I don't know how re-

cently it came up," Schiavone said.

In the end, his ability to review minutes from past meetings, ask questions and finally engage and listen to the other board members' thoughts and opinions on the matter was how he said he was able to better educate himself on the issue at hand.

Finding out the board had to take money from the scholarship reserve to help fund YEC this year gave him "pause."

"You start thinking, 'If we have to do that, who are we serving then? What are we doing then?'" Schiavone said. "As good as a program as it is, if the community can't come forward and alleviate some of the stress or some of the financial strain that both the university and the city school system faced to maintain this program ... we're just in a very difficult situation."

As the university moves forward through a drastic period of change, Schiavone said other ideas and initiatives must be on the agenda in the near future.

Those initiatives include the state's strategic plan, which is calling on all state-funded universities to develop into urban research universities.

"That's a real significant direction that all the state universities have been given, and quite obviously that's going to be a focus," Schiavone said.

While YSU is facing many new challenges with a new president and ongoing initiatives with the strategic plan, Schiavone said he knows he can be the "new set of eyes" on the board, which could allow him to add more insight on ongoing issues compared to a board member who has experience and knowledge of the university.

As for the newly selected president, Schiavone said only time would tell whether or not the right selection was made.

"I can't say if a right choice was made," Schiavone said. "We won't be able to say if the right choice was made for the next ten years, or even after Cynthia Anderson is no longer president would we really be able to say whether she was or was not the right choice."

SWEET page 1

"He's a very academic intellectual."

Sweet's accomplishments were stated by McCloud, including the first science, technology, engineering and mathematics college in the state of Ohio, the Williamson College of Business Administration and the Andrews Student Recreation and Wellness Center.

Sweet was honored by the symposium and said, "I'm very proud we're able to gather leading practitioners in the city where we're located." Sweet looked back on the ten years spent at YSU and said, "I'm proud of what we've able to achieve and the goals."

The speakers were introduced by Hunter Morrison, director of Campus Planning and Community Partnerships. Morrison expressed how the speakers would talk about the views of the university. "The speakers will take the diamond of the university to turn it to look at it from other perspectives," Morrison said.

The Symposium Committee noted three speakers who offered views on the roles that urban and metropolitan universities play in the community. Mayor Jay Williams spoke about the symposium.

"This will really put a perspective on the past 30 or so days in terms of economical development projects and community partnerships that have been celebrating. It's a capstone to Dr. Sweet's teachings at the university," Williams said.

Williams spoke of the university engagement in the Mahoning Valley and YSU's involvement in the Youngstown 2010 plan.

On the other side of the spectrum, Williams said there will be a firestorm of outrage on the decision about eliminating Youngstown Early College.

"It's a fundamental shift away from partnering with this community. I feel it's an outrage. This urban research university is sending a signal that if that's not part of the mission to involve themselves in educational affairs of the largest school district in the valley in which they are centered in, then I don't know what the trustees are saying the mission of this university is. This needs to be reconsidered by the university trustees," Williams said.

Eugenie L. Birch, the Nussdorf Professor of Urban Research and Education at the University of Pennsylvania, shared roles of the urban universities. Steven A. Minter, executive in residence at the Levin College of Urban Affairs at Cleveland State University, and David C. Perry, director of the Great Cities Institute at the University of Illinois at Chicago, discussed university roles, philanthropy, economic development and community planning.

Numerous public figures were in attendance including Warren Mayor Michael O'Brien. He expressed the positivity between YSU and the communities.

"I'm very encouraged that the collaboration between Youngstown State and all communities has been important and will continue being important," he said.

Other speakers included Rep. Tim Ryan, who was unable to attend when the speaker of the house called Congress into session; therefore, he sent a video message to Sweet. The closing remarks were made by Ikram Khawaja, provost and vice president of Academic Affairs at YSU.

PEABERRY'S page 1

While beer isn't the hottest selling item, Mark said Peaberry's would continue to sell it. "The university wants us to have it," he said.

He added that the university requests that Peaberry's has a beer license because it's a



PHOTO BY JOSH STIPANOVICH / THE JAMBAR

service he thinks the university wants to have available to students, faculty and staff.

The variety of beer now available consists of Coors Light, Miller Lite, Bud Light, Budweiser, Michelob Light, Amber Rock, George Killian's Irish Red, Heineken Premium Light, Heineken, Sam Adams Light and Guinness.

Peaberry's manager Chris Cole said the selection does change every once in a while, but that the students are the first priority.

"We're happy to provide to our students," Chris said.

He said students were understanding, but was aware that some were most likely upset.

"The students here are very good. I wouldn't say that people were necessarily happy they couldn't get a beer here, but somehow it got resolved so we're back up and running now, and [the students] are happy we have it again," Chris said.

FACULTY page 1

Meshel said he would like to see a study on why the university has so many part-time faculty members to determine why it is occurring. He said that if part-time employees have the power to collectively bargain, they could gain higher benefits of all kinds.

"Changing that today may or may not be easy to do because there may not be a strong enough support to do it, particularly in the Senate," Meshel said.

Meshel said passage of the proposed law will open the gate for discussion of part-time employees of all kinds to unionize or collectively bargain at this point, and that universities will immediately be confronted with additional expectations of a need to raise revenue.

"If the state has trouble providing those additional revenues, then [universities] will turn to tuition increases," Meshel said.

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Who should apply?

To apply for a paid position you must:

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- (2) be in good standing.
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Applications Now Being Accepted

Where to pick up an application:

Jambar applications are available from Lynn Haug in the Kilcawley Staff Office located on the upper level of Kilcawley Center. Pick up an application and simply check the positions that most interest you.

Application Deadline: 1pm, Thursday, April 1, 2010

APPLICATION DEADLINE:
1 p.m. Thursday, April 1, 2010.
Interviews will be scheduled for mid-April.

OUR SIDE

Decision spurs transition

RELATED STORY

YEC, page 1

Some may think the impromptu vote by the Youngstown State University Board of Trustees to effectively cut ties with the Youngstown Early College was made in haste, but discussions on the subject have been ongoing for what seems like forever.

After regularly attending trustee meetings over the last year, it became quickly apparent that much time was spent presenting, discussing and debating the financial forecast of the Early College program. Major problems arose when the state of Ohio cut funding for the school in its biennial budget, leaving YSU and Youngstown City Schools with the burden of funding it. YSU tapped unused scholarship funds and YCS pulled together some grant money to cover the costs of the school.

The sentiment of the board became evident during the talks leading up to the vote, and many members expressed that not only the continued financing of the Early College was becoming a burden on the university, but also the amount of meeting time spent discussing the program's viability.

We could not agree more with Scott Schulick, chairman of the board, when he said the lengthy discussions of the program were making other university issues somewhat of a footnote at monthly meetings instead of the forefront.

It's hard, as students of this university, to be understanding of the decision to dip into scholarship reserve to fund YEC, especially after tuition was raised for YSU students.

We believe in the mission of YEC, but at the same time we believe a program like YEC belongs with the partnership of a community college. We urge and expect the Eastern Gateway Community College to step up and make a seamless transition for the students currently enrolled in the Early College.

Often, the board is left with the task of making unpopular decisions, and for YEC students, parents, staff and supporters, this decision has "unpopular" written all over it, but in the end is likely in the best interest in the university.

ABOUT THE JAMBAR

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

OUR SIDE POLICY

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

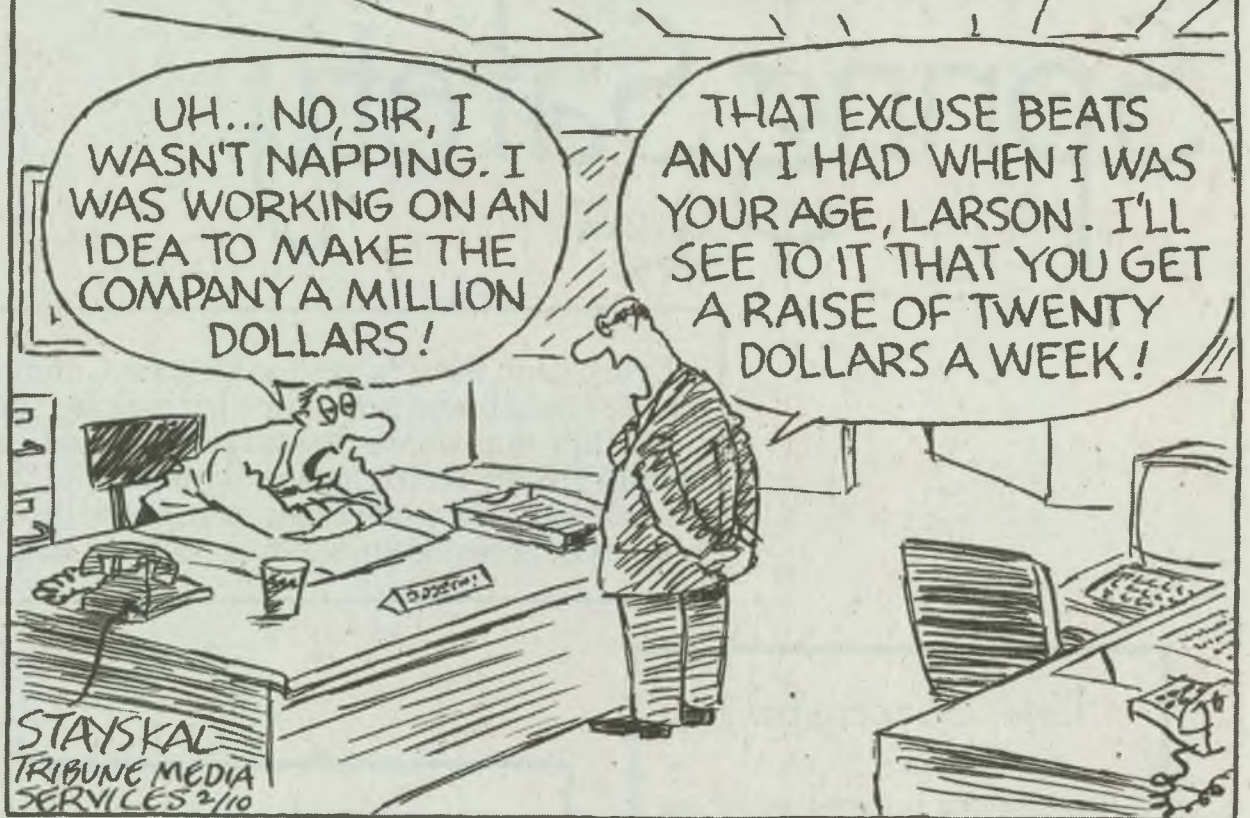
YOUR SIDE POLICY

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

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

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

AFTERNOON NAP MAY MAKE YOU SMARTER



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

Official reports in Britain show that UFO sightings may be as much 'X-Files' as reality

L.A. Times
MCT

It is one of the most memorable opening sequences on film: A small craft is being pursued through outer space by a massive triangular vessel, which passes over viewers' heads with a roar that made audiences at screenings of "Star Wars," in 1977, feel something like dolphins submerged under a passing aircraft carrier. So powerful was the image that it may have haunted some viewers' dreams or waking visions.

We were reminded of this scene recently when the British government released its fifth and largest collection of files about unidentified flying objects, which officials in Britain continued to monitor for years after the U.S. government stopped in 1969 (or claimed to have stopped some conspiracy theorists think there are still men in black keeping tabs on little green men). It's fascinating stuff for lovers of the unexplained, loaded with stories of eerie lights in the sky, descriptions of vessels that defy the laws of physics, and warnings of alien viruses. One of the more compelling reports comes from a man in South Wales, who in January 1997 claimed that his car was enveloped by a beam of light while he was driving home at night. He emerged from the car to total silence, and began to feel ill. When the beam passed, his car was filthy and he developed a skin condition that required treatment.

Maybe it's coincidental that the TV series "The X-Files," which prominently featured alien abductions and viruses from outer space, was then a top-rated show on BBC2. Indeed, the British records, which detail sightings from 1994 to 2000, show that perceptions about UFOs might owe more to Hollywood than previously thought.

David Clarke, author of a book on the British UFO records, notes that the shapes of these objects have changed over time. In the 1940s and 1950s, UFOs were usually described by those who saw them as "flying saucers" round or disk-shaped objects. At the time, movies such as "The Day the Earth Stood Still" (1951) and "Forbidden Planet" (1956) reinforced the idea that futuristic spacecraft would look like Frisbees. Modern sightings, by contrast, involve different shapes, particularly triangles. Which is where that "Star Wars" sequence, and countless other Hollywood depictions of spaceships in all shapes and sizes, come in.

It's worth noting that the most futuristic-looking of military aircraft, the Stealth bomber, is shaped like a triangle, so these perceptions aren't necessarily or solely coming from Hollywood. But it does seem that when we see unusual and unexplainable lights in the sky, our brains leap to interpret them by forming familiar images of the sort we've been conditioned by science-fiction flicks to expect. That doesn't mean people who see such things are crazy or that they're hoaxers, only that they're human.

The tail wagging the hot dog

L.A. Times
MCT

The notion that the hot dog should be redesigned inspires a variation on the mad-scientist-movie line: "Man was not meant to tamper in God's domain." Or, in this case, Oscar Mayer's. Yet the American Academy of Pediatrics is proposing that the wiener (and other products frequently consumed by children) be reshaped as a way of preventing toddlers from choking.

The proposal doesn't sit well with an interest group we didn't even know existed, the National Hot Dog & Sausage Council. But you don't have to be a lobbyist to rebel at this well-intentioned exercise in paternalism.

We accept the academy's assertion that children under the age of 3 shouldn't be given whole hot dogs. We have no problem with its other sug-

gestion: that hot dog and other packages should come with conspicuous warning labels about the danger of choking.

But not everything can be made safe for consumption by the youngest common denominator. Even the academy acknowledges the fact that (short of genetic engineering) it would be impossible to reconfigure some of the other foods it cites as choking hazards, such as popcorn, peanuts and grapes. As with hot dogs, the best remedy may be parental vigilance.

It's hard to believe that the academy seriously proposed a hot dog makeover. Perhaps the doctors knew that the idea, even as it provoked ridicule, would increase public and parental awareness of the dangers of giving hot dogs to toddlers. But if they're serious, they'll find that taking on this tubular treat is no picnic.



On being an Atheist

Melissa Mary Smith
COLUMNIST

I remember the day I told my parents I was an atheist. They had this look of disappointment on their faces as if I told them that I was pregnant and didn't know who the father was.

How did I come to this decision? I can tell you that it wasn't out of spite, like some atheists I know, but adopting a see-it-to-believe-it mentality, based largely on science.

I was raised Lutheran. Every Sunday, we'd wake up and go to church and it was, at one time, something I looked forward to.

I was involved: an acolyte, confirmed and a Sunday School attendant.

My brother was even serious about being a pastor and was a religious studies major.

Over time, though, we began to develop our own ways of thinking and felt that becoming atheists was the best decision for us.

It wasn't met with contentment from our parents, though.

The experience of telling my parents of my atheism was somewhat comparable to those who come out to their families. It was met with disbelief, frustration and sadness.

My parents and the rest of my family sometimes feel as though they need to tiptoe around religious discussion so as not to offend my beliefs (or lack thereof).

I try to tell them that even though I'm no longer religious, I still uphold morals and have personal standards of behavior (i.e., I never have nor ever will murder someone).

Not all atheists are bad people, just like not all Christians, Muslims, Jews and Jehovah's Witnesses are bad people.

We try to find a place of acceptance and happiness in the world, something to get us through our everyday lives.

People might see atheists as very sad and unfortunate individuals, but I can honestly say that I am pretty happy with my life.

I have a wonderful family, friends, my health and a dog who loves me unconditionally.

These aspects of my life are what help me through every day and have become, in a sense, my religion.

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Spring Safety

Joe Giesy
Reporter

Every year, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention out of Atlanta releases health and safety tips for making spring break safe and enjoyable. The tips that were released in April and currently featured on the CDC's Family Health Web page are limit alcohol, be active, plan a successful trip, protect yourself, watch your step, know the ropes, protect yourself from the sun, eat healthy, be smoke-free, and get help.

Plan A Successful Trip

Binge drinking is defined as the consumption of five or more alcoholic drinks by a man or four or more alcoholic drinks by a woman. It is twice as likely to happen among men. The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Center for Nutrition Policy and Promotion suggested two drinks for a man or one for a woman who wants to drink in moderation and is of legal age to do so.

Some of the immediate health risks of alcohol listed by the CDC are unintentional injuries, violent behavior, risky sexual behaviors, birth defects among pregnant women and alcohol poisoning.

Limit Alcohol

Binge drinking is defined as the consumption of five or more alcoholic drinks by a man or four or more alcoholic drinks by a woman. It is twice as likely to happen among men. The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Center for Nutrition Policy and Promotion suggested two drinks for a man or one for a woman who wants to drink in moderation and is of legal age to do so.

Some of the immediate health risks of alcohol listed by the CDC are unintentional injuries, violent behavior, risky sexual behaviors, birth defects among pregnant women and alcohol poisoning.

Protect yourself

Abstinence from sex is the best method in preventing sexually transmitted diseases and unwanted pregnancies, but for those who will be engaging in sexual behavior over spring break, the CDC suggested using latex condoms to lower the associated risks.

Becoming the victim of sexual violence is another risk. The CDC defines sexual violence as "sexual activity where consent is not obtained or freely given." Precautions should be taken to avoid sexual violence. Traveling in well-lit areas with trusted friends, being aware of surroundings and avoiding situations that could pose harm are just a few of the ways to do this.

Watch your step

According to the CDC Web site, unintentional injuries are the number one cause of death for Americans under 30 years old. A suggestion is to use any protective equipment available when engaging in high-risk activities. This includes wearing a seatbelt while driving or riding in a motor vehicle.

Know The Ropes

While swimming and boating, the CDC suggested avoiding alcoholic beverages and wearing a life jacket where needed. Boating education courses and vessel safety check programs are available for those who plan to boat over spring break. While swimming, avoid spreading germs in the pool area by thoroughly showering before and after swimming and not swallowing the water.

Get Help

Many organizations are available to help those in a crisis or having any other kind of trouble, including problems with alcohol or drugs. Spring break is not just a time to get away from school and party, but also a time to take a mental break and relax from the rigors of a busy semester.

IMAGE FROM MGT/CAMPUS

In celebration of YSU's Spring Break the Jambar is sponsoring a contest. Take the Jambar with you on the week of March 5, 2010. Whether you're going to Florida or just taking a trip to the Southern Park Mall we want the Jambar to get off campus.

SHOW US YOUR JAMBAR

Here's how you participate.

1. Get a recent copy of the Jambar (available in many campus locations or in the basement of Fedor Hall).
2. Take the Jambar with you on your Spring break activities.
3. Take a photo of yourself holding the Jambar during your activities.
4. Send us the photo.

Prizes include:

Two \$25 gift certificates for the YSU bookstore.
A \$25 goodie basket from the YSU candy counter.
YSU T-shirts.

This contest is sponsored by: YSU Athletics, YSU Bookstore, YSU Candy Counter, YSU's Office of Student Life, The Jambar and thejambar.com

Entries are limited to one per student. All participants must be YSU students. No one who works for the Jambar (paid or unpaid) or their families are eligible to compete. All entries must be received by March 17, 2010 at midnight. You may provide a print of the photograph by dropping it off at the Jambar office (basement of Fedor Hall) or you may enter electronically by emailing thejambar@gmail.com (in the subject line please type Spring Break contest). All entries must include the name of the student entering the contest and a phone number and email where winners can be reached. Photos will be printed in the Jambar and on thejambar.com. **Jambar Contest Official Rules:** 1. Those who enter this contest agree to the rules presented in this document and to decisions rendered by judges assigned by the Jambar newspaper. Further, those who enter this contest agree to grant permission to the Jambar, thejambar.com, and any other publication associated with the Jambar to use their names and photos for purposes of this contest without compensation. 2. Employees (both paid and unpaid) of the Jambar, thejambar.com, and the yo magazine and their immediate families are not eligible. 3. Those who enter this contest must be at least 18 years of age and a U.S. citizen. 4. All photos entered into the competition must be received on or before the deadline listed in the Jambar. Winners will be selected by the contest judge(s) and notified by phone and/or email. The Jambar will make reasonable attempts to contact all contest winners. 5. No purchase necessary. Photos entered into the contest should include relevant contact information. If you provide a photographic print for consideration, you must write on the back of the image your name, telephone number, and relationship to YSU. If you provide an electronic image for consideration, you must include it as an attachment to an email and in the email you must include your name, telephone number, and class rank. Failure to comply with these rules may result in disqualification from the contest. 6. Prizes will be awarded to contest winners. There will be no transfer or substitution of prizes, except in instances when the sponsor has declared the prize is no longer available. 7. Winners will pick up their prizes at the Jambar office located in the Basement of Fedor Hall. The office is open M-Th. 8 a.m. - 3 p.m. 8. Promotion is subject to federal, state and local regulations and laws, and is void where taxed, restricted or prohibited. All taxes related to the value of the prize are the responsibility of the winners. 9. This promotional event may be extended, cancelled or postponed at the discretion of the Jambar media organization. In the event of an extension, cancellation, or postponement the Jambar will still award all prizes.



PHOTO COURTESY OF ASLEEP

Local band wakes up the masses

Gary S. Angelo
FEATURES REPORTER

With heavy guitars and mystical song craft, Youngstown's own Asleep will play South By Southwest March 17-21. South By Southwest is a music, media and film showcase held in Austin, Texas. The event allows bands and media artists to connect with promoters and labels. For bands, South By Southwest is more of a music conference, where they showcase their music for labels and distributors.

Asleep includes Todd Kaden on lead vocals, John Dean on guitars, Nicholas Kloss on drums and Larry

Serb on bass. The band has released three successful discs. "All These Things We'll Never Need" (2006), "A Mass of Empty Spaces" and "Between Above and Below" (2009).

The band members are currently practicing at their home studio, layering new material. Most importantly, they are trying to construct heavy pop songs that are not commercial by any means.

Dean is well-focused and excited about taking the band's sound and music to the next level. Dean is grateful for networking with concert promoter Dan Cull, who gave the band the South By Southwest

"I think the newer material is more straightforward pop and less noisy. It is still very indie in terms of songwriting,"

-John Dean, Guitarist

gig. Cull is also famous for running Cleveland's legendary club Peabody's Down Under.

"[Cull] has a big booking agency, but he is in touch with the indie mentality," Dean

said.

The band recorded their latest album with Freeport New York producer Mike Watts. Watts is known for working with artists like As Tall As Lions, The Dear Hunter and Adelita's Way.

"I think the newer material is more straightforward pop and less noisy. It is still very indie in terms of songwriting," Dean said.

Kloss felt the band's latest material is more streamlined, but still a montage of heavy experimental pop textures. To him, the new material is noise-induced yet somewhat commercially viable.

"I think with 'Between Above and Below,' this recording was all about condensing the songs to three- or four-minute pieces. This record was about writing as a song writer," he said.

Dean said he is "super-pumped" to play South By Southwest and feels that the music showcase is the ultimate pinnacle of being in a band. Dean hopes to connect with top names in the scene industry, while partying and networking at the same time.

Asleep's future plans include moving forward toward working as a full-fledged touring power outfit.



PHOTO FROM WWW.MYSPACE.COM/THEZOU

Rock hard during your 'Staycation'

Jared Buker
REPORTER

For some, spring break represents a weeklong escape from the pressures of college on a sunny beach far, far away. For many, however, it means yet another week of boredom and snow in a city where the fun can be hard to find.

The discontent is real. Many students at Youngstown State University believe that Youngstown simply doesn't offer anything that could rival the sounds of the ocean.

"We all know the chances of enjoying your spring break in Youngstown are kind of slim," said Rachel Sedlacko, a sophomore who is planning on staying home for the break.

Although the weather may be undesirable, the sounds of the ocean might take a backseat to the great live music available in Youngstown. The music scene is thriving with talented, creative perform-

ers reflecting a wide array of genres. Some of the area's top bands will be playing at Youngstown's favorite venues over the break, and anyone trapped in this ghost town should venture out and help wake the dead.

On Saturday, Youngstown veterans The Zou will be rocking the Lemon Grove Cafe on West Federal Street, starting at 10 p.m. Khaled Tabbara, the band's singer, said that spending spring break in Youngstown isn't all that bad.

"I feel that people who go away to school actually come home to Youngstown and want to catch up with their friends in town," Tabbara said. "They need a place to go out, and live music is always a great choice."

Tabbara said that his band has played on other college campuses during spring break, but that he would rather do a local show because more people seem to stay in town.

The following Saturday,



Bands like Jordan DePaul and The Reputations will be performing downtown during Spring Break. Image from www.myspace.com/jordandepaulmusic.com

March 13, Red Wanting Blue will perform at Cedars Lounge on the corner of Phelps and Hazel streets at 9 p.m., and Jordan DePaul and the Reputations will rock Salty Grog's in Boardman, starting at 8 p.m.

DePaul, frontman for the Reputations, is excited about the gig.

"That show is on St. Patrick's Day. We played that day last year and we had a really

good turnout," DePaul said.

DePaul said that the band will be spending most of the break recording new material in the studio, so it will be nice to get out and play for a home crowd.

If Youngstown will be your home during spring break, take comfort in knowing that the city's venues will be housing some fantastic live acts that promise to please.

What's the Buzz on google

Lindsey Ramdin
REPORTER

Google recently introduced a new social networking platform, Google Buzz, which has many of the same functions as other social networks. However, where Google Buzz differs is that it allows users to check all updates in one centralized location.

Google Buzz syncs information from other personal accounts like Facebook or MySpace with a Gmail account. When registered with Google, the user can select the Google Buzz option, and all networking accounts will be automatically generated and synched.

Once Google Buzz is started, e-mails, photos, messages, links and more can be shared with friends. The friends list is generated from a combination of Facebook and MySpace friends lists, Twitter followers and contacts from the Gmail address book. Some argue that Google Buzz is too much like Facebook, though.

"I love Google and I use it for a lot of things," said Megan Thornton, a senior business major. "But it just seems like they are ripping off Facebook. A lot of the features on Google Buzz are the same as Facebook, like the 'like' buttons and comment functions."

Thornton said that although the programs are similar, it makes sense to use Google Buzz because Google is her e-mail provider, which she checks daily.

"It just makes sense to use this function because instead of having to check a bunch of different Web sites, now I only have to check one," she said.

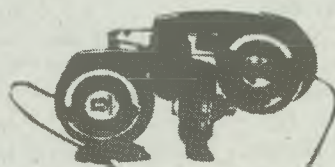
Thornton still spends a regular amount of time on other social networking sites like Facebook and Twitter, but when she just wants to check updates quickly, Google Buzz is most efficient.

TONIGHT

Yoga at Fellows Riverside Gardens
Mar. 2 5:30 p.m.
Fellows Riverside Gardens
\$10
Rockband Tuesdays
Mar. 2, 8 p.m.
Slim's Bar & Grille
Free
Y-Dance Club
Mar. 3, 9 p.m.
Ukrainian Orthodox Church/Pavillion

WEDNESDAY

Dance Lessons
Mar. 3, 7 p.m.
Dusty Armadillo
Theme Night
Mar. 3, 9 p.m.
The Lemon Grove
Local Artist Night
Mar. 3, 9 p.m.
The Somewhere Else
N/A



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The Jambar

Exercise science top major among athletes

Chelsea Miller
SPORTS REPORTER

A recent list of student-athletes' majors posted by YSU'sports reveals no major surprises.

According to a compiled list of 317 student-athletes at Youngstown State University from the YSU'sports Web site, the top majors of these athletes are exercise science, business and criminal justice.

Out of 317 athletes, 33 are exercise science students, 28 are business majors, including business management, business marketing and business finance, and 21 are criminal justice majors. Also at the top of the list were general studies, communications and marketing majors.

Richard Walker, associate professor and chair of the Human Performance and Exercise Science department, said that exercise science is a top choice for athletes because of the physical aspect of the major.

"My guess is that student-athletes find a major that is going to place them in an environment where people are being physically active. They find that attractive," he said. "People come to them with a desire to be physically active and they are trained to help them succeed in that desire."

James Ritter, director of Undergraduate Student Services in the department of Business Administration, said he doesn't know why a business major is popular with student-athletes.

"I'm not sure why [a business is popular for athletes]," Ritter said. "Business has always been a very popular major."

Ann Ciavarella, a senior on the golf team, chose a business major because she wanted to work in sales. She said it is a popular major for athletes because of all the opportunities it presents for students.

"There's a lot of opportunities with business," Ciavarella said. "You can do pretty much anything you want."

Criminal justice is one of the most common majors on campus as well as for athletes, said Patricia Wagner, assistant professor and chairwoman of Criminal Justice and Forensic Sciences.

"I think because it's just a popular major overall," Wagner said. "There are close to 900 majors [in the Criminal Justice department]. It's one of the largest on campus."

Another popular choice for athletes, YSU football players particularly, is communications. Junior strong safety for the team Sir Demarco Bledsoe said that most football players pursue a career in broadcasting because they are social individuals.

"Football players are social-type people, so it's the best major that fits our skills," he said.

For many athletes, it is the sports aspect of the job that draws them to a major. Bledsoe said that his love of football was what compelled him to declare a communications major.

"I'm very interested in broadcasting ... and the NFL network. I'm interested in talking about football," he said.



Freshman Brandi Brown goes up for two against the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.

REBOUND MACHINE

Freshman phenom having a record-setting season

Keith Langford Jr.
SPORTS EDITOR

As the women's basketball season winds down, a star has risen among the freshmen head coach Cindy Martin brought in last season.

Freshman forward Brandi Brown has shown this season she can perform at a high level and shows no signs of slowing down.

Brown holds the all-time freshman rebounding record at Youngstown State University with 292 rebounds to date with two more regular season games to go. Former Penguin Jen Perugini held the previous freshman rebounding record with 239.

Brown leads the Penguins in scoring (11.6) and rebounds (10.8) on the season, which is good for a double-double on average every time she laces up. Her 10.8 rebounds a game rank her 17th in Division I women's basketball.

"She's come in with the most natural talent I've ever coached. I'm excited to see where her journey goes," said Brown's position coach Meredith Baugher. "It's been great watching her grow."

The road to Youngstown for Brown started in her hometown of Ponomo, Calif. Brown said California has a different culture and a greater variety of people than Ohio does. She added there's no snow in California like there is here.

Brown's parents were her role models in childhood and helped mold her into the person she is today. She said her parents encouraged her to play sports but the choice to play basketball was solely hers. After a stellar senior season in high school where Brown averaged 24 points and 19.6 rebounds, she had a tough choice to make about her future.

She chose YSU as her college because she liked the campus and said it wasn't too big or too small. She also thought her teammates would be a good fit for her.

Because of the short rotation of players due to injuries and other factors, Brown has been implemented into the starting lineup and is playing huge minutes as a freshman. Freshman are now counted on to contribute right away instead of being redshirted a season to save them down the road. Brown arguably

has had the best season on the women's basketball team as a freshman.

"I've gotten stronger mentally and physically. Some of my teammates didn't get this opportunity and it's made me want to work harder," Brown said.

Brown prepares for games along with her teammates diving through the different scouting reports from each team and watching game film on her opponents. The night of the game, Brown said she tries "to relax and visualize" what she is going to do on the court.

As far as the impeccable ability Brown possess rebounding the basketball, Brown simply said it's about timing and just going to get the ball. She said she has great timing and that plays a key part in rebounding.

Despite the rough season, Brown said the season has taught her to be stronger in her faith and the season has happened for a reason, she just doesn't know what that reason is quite yet.

"It's [the season] taught me that there is a reason for everything and I'm looking forward in the future to see what that is," Brown said.

HORIZON LEAGUE

- 1 #15 BUTLER
- 2 WRIGHT STATE
- 3 GREEN BAY
- 4 MILWAUKEE
- 5 CLEVELAND STATE
- 6 VALPARAISO
- 7 DETROIT
- 8 LOYOLA (IL)
- 9 UIC
- 10 YOUNGSTOWN STATE

NCAA TOP 25

1. SYRACUSE (59)
2. KANSAS (6)
3. KENTUCKY
4. DUKE
5. KANSAS STATE
6. OHIO STATE
7. PURDUE
8. NEW MEXICO
9. VILLANOVA
10. WEST VIRGINIA
11. MICHIGAN STATE
12. BUTLER
13. VANDERBILT
14. BYU
15. WISCONSIN
16. TENNESSEE
17. PITTSBURGH
18. GONZAGA
19. GEORGETOWN
20. TEMPLE
21. BAYLOR
22. MARYLAND
23. TEXAS A&M
24. UTEP
25. XAVIER

PENGUIN SPOTLIGHT



HALEY THOMAS

POSITION:	Outfield
YEAR:	Sophomore
HOMETOWN:	Simi Valley, Calif.
AVG:	.333
SLG:	.333
OBP:	.429
HIT:	4

SCHEDULES

MEN'S BASKETBALL

- Mar. 2 Horizon League Tournament First Round
- Mar. 5 Horizon League Tournament Quarterfinals

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

- Mar. 4 @ Green Bay
- Mar. 6 @ Milwaukee

BASEBALL

- Mar. 5 @ Cincinnati
- Mar. 6 @ Cincinnati
- Mar. 7 @ Cincinnati
- Mar. 9 @ Lipscomb
- Mar. 10 @ Lipscomb
- Mar. 12 vs. Walsh
- Mar. 13 vs. Walsh
- Mar. 14 vs. Walsh
- Mar. 16 @ Pittsburgh
- Mar. 19 @ La Salle
- Mar. 20 @ Saint Joseph's
- Mar. 21 @ Villanova
- Mar. 24 @ Kent

SOFTBALL

- Mar. 5 @ South Carolina State
- Mar. 7 vs. Indiana State
- Mar. 7 vs. Penn
- Mar. 8 vs. Sacred Heart
- Mar. 8 vs. Fairfield
- Mar. 10 vs. St. Louis
- Mar. 10 vs. South Dakota
- Mar. 11 vs. Bryant
- Mar. 11 vs. Wagner
- Mar. 12 vs. LaSalle
- Mar. 12 vs. Florida A&M
- Mar. 18 SAINT FRANCIS
- Mar. 20 @ Dayton

INDOOR TRACK & FIELD

- Mar. 5-6 @ Alex Wilson Invitational
- Mar. 13-14 NCAA Track and Field Championships