

THE JAMBAR

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Goodbye, Lincoln deck

New surface parking recommended by admins

J. Breen Mitchell
NEWS EDITOR

The M-2 parking deck that has been the subject of controversy may be replaced soon, university officials say.

Administrators have recommended that the Youngstown State University board of trustees fund the demolition of the deck and replace it surface lots.

"The decision was made to demolish the deck," said Danny O'Connell, director of support services. O'Connell said they are hoping for the project to begin in the spring of 2010.

He said a plan and a timeline are being prepared in cooperation with Walker Parking, a Michigan-based company that has worked with the university in the past.

One concern they are trying to work out is that the ground is not level from the front of the deck to the back, which would need to be addressed before a surface lot could be paved.

"There's quite an elevation difference," O'Connell said.

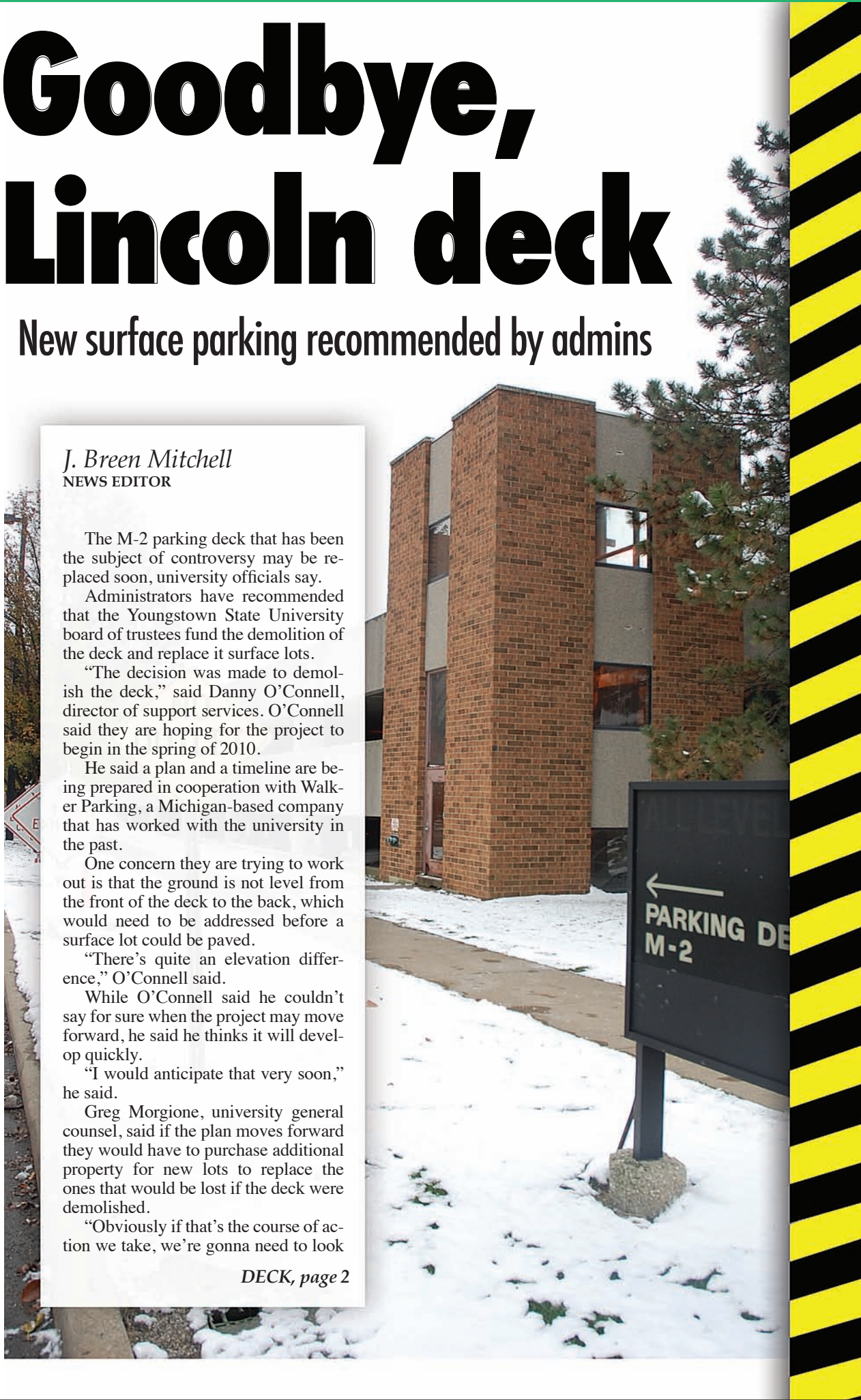
While O'Connell said he couldn't say for sure when the project may move forward, he said he thinks it will develop quickly.

"I would anticipate that very soon," he said.

Greg Morgione, university general counsel, said if the plan moves forward they would have to purchase additional property for new lots to replace the ones that would be lost if the deck were demolished.

"Obviously if that's the course of action we take, we're gonna need to look

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15-minute rule not official YSU policy

Lauren Shaughnessy
REPORTER

For many years at Youngstown State University, rumors have been floating around about class cancellation. Some students at YSU believe that if you sit in class for 15 minutes and the professor doesn't come, then class is canceled.

Ron Cole, manager of news and information services, said the "15-minute rule" is not official policy, but actually just a rumor that has persisted through the years.

"It is kind of an urban legend," Cole said. "There isn't any university policy."

Cole said the Academic Senate and the provost's office both claim there isn't anything in writing that would make the rule an official policy. The office of the provost could not be reached for comment. Some students, however, still believe in and follow the rule.

"I believe in the 15-minute rule," said freshman Mayssa Bitter. "You're 15 minutes into class, so what's the point in waiting if your professor isn't there?"

Freshman Nicole Romeo agreed. "Mine is usually the five minute rule, then I'm gone."

Some students said they will wait for their instructors if they are late to class, but that it can be an inconvenience.

"One class I had a few years ago was with a teacher who never showed up on time," said senior Dana Chauvin. "There was never a day when she was on time the entire semester. One day, she was even 20 minutes late."

Dr. Cary Horvath, chair of the department of communications, said if a professor is planning on canceling class they should not only notify the department, but also send out a mass e-mail to their students telling of the cancellation. "We always hang a note on the door," Horvath said.

"One day we started thinking about leaving and actually talked out loud as a class to decide," said Chauvin.

"[Class cancellation] should be a mutual understanding between the student and the teacher," said senior Joe Mamounis. "We have more means of communication now so miscommunication like [the professor not coming] shouldn't happen."

"It is kind of an urban legend. There isn't any university policy."

Ron Cole,
manager of news
and information
services



Professors collaborate to create better textbooks

Emmalee C. Torisk
REPORTER



Physics can be a difficult subject for many students, but James Andrews, Youngstown State University professor of physics and astronomy, along with Robert Brown of Case Western Reserve University, have a solution: rewriting a traditional introductory text to offer revisitation of key concepts throughout the semester.

This approach, which the professors have collaborated on for three semesters so far, revises and improves some of the limitations of typical textbooks. For instance, while a traditional textbook may devote an entire chapter to a specific concept or aspect of the subject, students

are expected to have learned the material in the chapter after just one week of study, Andrews said.

However, in the three-cycle revisiting approach, topics are first introduced to students in a shorter, simplified way, and then re-examined at least two more times, in much greater detail and complexity, during the remainder of the semester. This is accomplished by taking the customary 15 chapters taught in an introductory physics course and separating each into three sections.

Each segment is more involved, both mathematically and conceptually, than the one prior. These parts are treated in three cycles, and a test at the end of each cycle covers all ma-

TEXTBOOK, page 2

Stress warps brains and behavior, some researchers say

Robert S. Boyd
MCCLATCHY NEWSPAPERS

Scientists have discovered how stress — in the form of emotional, mental or physical tension — physically reshapes the brain and causes long-lasting harm to humans and animals.

"Stress causes neurons (brain cells) to shrink or grow," said Bruce McEwen, a neuroscientist

at Rockefeller University in New York. "The wear and tear on the body from lots of stress changes the nervous system."

He said that stress is "particularly worrying in the developing brain, which appears to be programmed by early stressful experience."

Stress in early life, even in the womb, can later lead to undesirable changes in behavior and the ability to learn and remem-

ber. Other consequences may be substance abuse and psychiatric disorders, researchers said at a conference of neuroscientists in Washington this week.

"Prenatal stress can change the brain forever," said Talie Baram, a neurologist at the University of California, Irvine. "Stress changes how genes are expressed throughout life."

Even short-term stress can be harmful, Baram said. She de-

scribed her work with laboratory mice, which were immobilized for five hours and subjected to loud rock music. The ordeal reduced the number of delicate fibers that carry signals between neurons, an MRI brain scan of the stressed-out mice showed.

The experiment offered "insights into why some people are forgetful or have difficulty retaining information during stressful situations," Baram said. She said

that neuroscientists hope they'll be able to "design drugs to prevent the damage due to stress."

Long-lasting, chronic stress also physically affects the brain, according to Fred Helmstetter, a researcher at the University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee. After laboratory rats were tightly restrained for six hours daily for 21 days, without food or water, the animals' hippocampus — a brain

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Remember to recycle your copy of The Jambar.

News Briefs

Symposium Caps Off Global Entrepreneurship Week

An entrepreneurship symposium, featuring Michael Broderick, founder and chief executive officer of Turning Technologies in Youngstown, will be held at McKay Auditorium Thursday at 12:30 p.m. in Beeghly Hall at Youngstown State University. Sponsored by the Monus Entrepreneurship Center, the event is free and open to the public and is part of YSU's Global Entrepreneurship Week.

Forum to Discuss Impact of Obama's Election

YSU's black faculty and staff association host as "Race and Politics: The Political, Social, and Cultural Impact of Barack Obama's Candidacy" in room 132 of YSU's DeBartolo Hall. Special guest panelists include Youngstown Mayor Jay Williams and moderator Madonna Chism Pinkard of WFMJ's "Community Connection" program. Additional panelists include YSU professors Paul Gordijew of anthropology, Cryshanna Jackson of political science, Victor Wan-Tatah of African Studies and Shareef Ali, president of Youngstown/Warren 100 Black Men of America. The forum will review the social, cultural and political ramifications of Obama's candidacy from race relations, nationally and internationally, to issues of patriotism, religion and the new black identity. The event is free and open to the public and will take place from 6 p.m.-7:30 p.m.

Police Briefs

Activated fire alarm in Courtyard Apartments

On Friday at 6:41 p.m. an officer was dispatched to the Courtyard Apartments in response to an activated fire alarm. Upon arrival, the alarm was found to have been activated by burned popcorn.

Sorority member passes out at ceremony

A member of the Alpha Xi Delta sorority passes out at a ceremony around 6 p.m. on Friday. After the arrival of paramedics, the victim was found to be suffering from low blood sugar. She was given food and beverage.

Man harassing customers at University Foods

An officer was dispatched to University Foods on Friday at 8 p.m. in regard to reports of a man harassing customers. When the officer stopped the subject, it was discovered that the man had two active warrants for failure to appear on theft charges. The man was apprehended and booked without incident.

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Little Women: The Musical
• Friday, Nov. 21, Saturday,
Nov. 22, 7:30 p.m.
• Ford Theatre

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**Buckcherry and
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• Saturday, November 22, 8 p.m.
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Country Night at the Wedge

• Friday, November 21, 8 p.m.
• The Wedge

House Band

• Friday, November 21, 9 p.m.
• Jeremiah Bullfrog Sports
Bar and Grill

DECK, page 1

for property for additional parking," Morgione said.

He said they would likely continue to search for property west of Fifth Avenue.

"We still have to have some additional discussions," he said, adding, "We're looking at options."

Ron Cole, manager of news and information services, said the decision is ultimately up to the board of trustees to make a final decision.

"It seems like that's the direction we're heading," he said.

Student reaction to the proposed plan was generally unfavorable.

Freshman Megan Rossi said it would be a "very bad idea." She said the other lots and deck

would become more crowded.

"It would be impossible to get a spot unless you got here really early," Rossi said.

She said she wants to protest the decision by gathering a crowd of people to circle the deck.

Sophomore Ian Jasil said he usually parks in the M-2 deck, but said he'll have to find another place to park unless he arrives on campus much earlier.

"I thought the deck was fine," Jasil said. "It's going to be a pain in the butt to park now."

Junior Courtney Wolfcale said the demolition would cause "madness," and that there were several things the university should do.

"I think YSU should lower

the cost of parking passes," Wolfcale said, "or they could build a bigger and nicer parking deck in the same spot."

Matt Zeller, instrumentation scientist in the chemistry department, said many people don't think far enough into the future when considering the fate of the M-2 deck. Zeller suggested taking that spot and building other structures, yet building a new and larger parking deck farther out from the center of campus.

"The deck takes up valuable space in the core of the university," he said. "In the long run, we need student housing and a better infrastructure. We need to think of the long run."

jbmitchell@thejambar.com

TEXTBOOK, page 1

major ideas of the course. Essentially, at the end, a student can choose to retain the chapters in their individual cycles or combine the three parts of each chapter into a whole, similar to a traditional textbook.

"The traditional texts, in my opinion, don't give students an adequate early overview of the basic models used in mechanics and don't allow the students second and third chances to understand how to use these models," Andrews said.

Andrews said students have been quite receptive to this approach. As the text is currently structured, practice homework problems are provided at strategic points after key concepts, instead of altogether at the end of the chapter. Also, instructors gain from this method as well; mid-term assessments can be used to guide future coursework and offer additional instruction in deficient areas.

Although a few students may have been concerned about the absence of a traditional textbook, Andrews addressed this issue by distributing the book in class. Even so, very few students reported using the traditional text, and chose to use the manuscript prepared by Brown and Andrews. The photocopied first cycle of the manuscript is available at the YSU Bookstore for a cost, while the later cycles are posted for free on WebCT, along with homework, hints, solutions, class notes, practice questions and various other learning tools.

Some students who prefer paper copies of the text have reported that printing each chapter, which averages around five or six pages, is burdensome. Additionally, although it is possible for some students to experience technical difficulties with WebCT, including slower and less reliable Internet access, many students, according to Andrews, have not complained about problems relating to the new learning method.

"Most students appear supportive of the concept of revisiting. Several express concern with the pace of the course, especially during the first cycle," Andrews said. "Physics can be a difficult subject and this approach does not change that. It is still necessary to read the chapters independently and to work thoughtfully through all of the examples and problems."

At YSU this approach is used only in Andrews' General Physics I class, by a relatively small number of students at the present time. However, in Brown's introductory physics courses at Case Western Reserve University, nearly 200 Case students per semester use this method.

As a result, Brown has reported a consistent and steady increase -- by about 5 percent -- in the final exam scores for the students who have used the three-cycle approach, as well as improved student attitudes toward physics. According to Andrews, students at Case have been enthusiastic about the ap-

proach and prefer it to traditional "one-time-through" instruction.

Andrews said the primary reason for using approach in his class is to "help students learn physics better." Upon completion of the manuscript, the date of which is still unknown, Andrews said he wants to present it for review and comment at meetings and in journals. His hope is that, when there is adequate evidence of the method's merit, it will be adopted more widely and be available for continued improvement by the physics teaching community at large.

"Our hope is that these materials can be made widely available in an electronic format for other instructors to not only use free-of-charge, but to revise and adapt to their own course needs," Andrews said. "I am always open to methods, texts and tools that hold promise for improved student learning."

Some YSU students think this new teaching and learning approach would definitely be beneficial.

Junior Kionte Watkins said discussing one topic three times would help students remember better, and probably improve student test scores.

"This is a good idea," Watkins said. "It will help students understand and even help those who learn in different ways. Plus, you would get the necessary and needed information and not have to buy the book."

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STRESS, page 1

region involved in learning and memory -- shrank by 3 percent.

Another researcher, Lauren Jones of the University of Washington in Seattle, found that rats subjected to 60 minutes of restraint and electric tail shocks lost their ability to decide which path in a maze to take to receive a reward.

"If uncontrollable stress disrupts rats' abilities to adjust their behavior," she said, "how influenced by stress are people's frequent and complex daily decisions?"

Nim Tottenham, a neuroscientist at the Weill Cornell Medical School in New York, studied children adopted from orphanages abroad who suffered from anxiety and had difficulty controlling their emotions.

Brain scans showed that these children's stressful upbringing in-

creased activity in the amygdala, a region involved in emotion.

"Adverse rearing environments can produce long-lasting changes in the ability to regulate emotion," Tottenham said.

Simona Spinelli, a researcher at the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, Md., worked with monkeys who were taken from their mothers the day after they were born, an emotionally stressful experience. Brain scans taken two years later showed that changes in the monkeys' brain regions that handle emotions were enlarged, evidence that stress can change the structure of the brain.

"Exposure to a stressful early-life environment has long-term consequences on brain development," Spinelli said. It's "a structural indicator for an increased risk of developing

stress-related neuropsychiatric disorders in humans."

"Stress begins in the brain -- it's in our heads," McEwen said.

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Minor misstep for Eastwood

Tyler Landis
CONTRIBUTOR

"Changeling"

Starring: Angelina Jolie,
John Malkovich, Amy Ryan



Clint Eastwood's latest film is a dark period piece commentating on the corruption of the FBI in the late 20's in Los Angeles. The film mirrors other good police noir's like "L.A. Confidential," and "Chinatown." The film is also a showcase for Angelina Jolie, in what could land her an Oscar nomination later in the year. Other than Jolie's solid performance, the film relies on hand me down cliches not amounting to the greatness that Eastwood has crafted with his last handful of films.

Jolie plays switchboard supervisor Christine Collins. She lives with her young son Walter in a nice home in Los Angeles. One day Collins is unexpectedly called into work, with no one to look after Walter. She returns home, and Walter's lunch still remains in the fridge. Has the kid been stolen or is he simple lost around town?

Months later, the FBI returns a child that looks very similar to Walter, except it isn't him. Collins struggles to explain that the child isn't Walter, but the FBI won't admit their mistake. Collins is soon admitted to a psychiatric ward where she undergoes bad treatment. A fiery pastor played by John Malkovich seems like one of the only decent and honest men in town as he devotes his radio show towards uncover-

ing the FBI's corruption.

The film tries to portray the corruption as harsh, menacing, and cruel. A standard audience will fail to see that Eastwood gives no character depth to the crooked cops, yet we see them as villains and nothing more.

Around and around we go as Collins struggles and struggles, etc. The film also plays in other scenarios as murder mystery, court-room drama, as well as the previous hospital scenes already mentioned. Eastwood tries too hard to tell this story, the drama is heavy-handed and overbearing. The audience isn't given enough respect or time to breathe.

"Changeling" is a long 140 minutes, but there are some redeeming qualities. Eastwood creates a great looking 1920's darkly lit city, the set design is crucial in creating mood and atmosphere. Jolie and Malkovich in their respective roles. The film just fails to add humanity throughout, creating a less than pleasurable experience.

Tyler Landis contributes to *The Jambar*. His article previously appeared on his blog on Monday.

Young love and vampires saga heads to the big screen

Rick Bentley
MCT

Stephenie Meyer did what many professed to be impossible. She convinced millions of teens and tweens to read something other than a text message or a computer screen. She got them to read her book called "Twilight," which is a novel about star-crossed lovers where one of the high school juniors happens to be a vampire.

Meyer's readers devoured her three other books in the series: "New Moon," "Eclipse," "Breaking Dawn."

Why have her books captured the attention of teen and tweens?

"My books must be accessible somehow. I know I get a lot of new readers, who don't read for pleasure, who read them. And that is cool," Meyer says during an interview less than two weeks before the film version of "Twilight" hits theaters on Nov. 21.

So far, "Twilight" has sold more than 17 million copies in 37 countries. Half of that total has been in the United States.

Those kind of numbers makes it no surprise Hollywood leaped at the chance to bring "Twilight" to the big screen. And promotion for the movie is what has brought Meyer from

her home in Phoenix to Southern California. Advance ticket sales for the movie are high, according to online movie ticket site Fandango.

Meyer is snuggled into a chair near the window of a small room at the Beverly Wilshire Hotel. Between the dark sweater pulled around her shoulders and the bright green strand of oversize beads around her neck, the 34-year-old is fashionably dressed. But not in the sense of the chic shops on Rodeo Drive that can be seen just over her right shoulder.

She has a welcoming smile and a down-to-earth attitude.

Except for a few school papers, Meyer had never written anything before stealing a few hours at night to write "Twilight." Even attempts to tell original stories to her three sons was greeted with little enthusiasm.

"My middle son likes when I make up stories with him as the main character. But the other two boys don't like that. They prefer I just read to them," Meyer says. "I had stories in my head all the time. My whole life I was telling stories. But there was such a difference between what was for me and what anyone else in the world would want to see. That's why I did not write them down for other people."

The idea for "Twilight" came to her in a dream. Meyer woke up and jotted down the details of a scene in a meadow with the book's central characters. But she didn't intend to share the story. It was just for herself. Meyer is convinced if she had suspected during the writing process someone else would read her story, she never would have finished it.

Once she started writing, she could not stop. Meyer had to see where the characters would go.

"I discovered what a rush it was to create something in writing. That wasn't something I expected. And then I was addicted," Meyer says.

She knows the exact day she became a writing junkie. She had the vampire dream on June 2, 2003. Meyer is not certain what sparked her to dream about vampires for the first time in her life.

"I started another diet that day. So I must have eaten really well the night before," Meyer offers as the possible spark for the book series.

The spark started a firestorm. A month after deciding she would share the story with others, Meyer had secured an agent. A month after that, she had a book deal. From dream to bookstores took six months. The author almost apologeti-

cally admits this kind of quick reaction in the book publishing world is as rare as a vampire at a tanning salon.

She has been writing ever since. She's a graduate of Brigham Young University with a bachelor's degree in English and points to a hodgepodge of writers who influenced her from William Shakespeare to "Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy" author Douglas Adams. She says the common thread of her literary influences is how they were able to create memorable characters.

And while her books have been praised for how well Meyer writes dialogue, she has created memorable characters through a redefining of the vampire mythology. Her vampires are a blood-drinking sect who have no fangs and cannot turn into bats. They can even walk around on a cloudy day.

Vampires were the perfect fit for her tale of romance. She points out that most scary creatures aren't that easy on the eyes. In most cases, vampires have been portrayed as rather good looking.

"I don't think vampires started out that way. I think over the years we have softened them up because there were things about them we like. So we give them a good side," Meyer says.

Computer mouse may go extinct

Emi Endo
NEWSDAY

Instead of rolling a mouse around to move a cursor around on the screen, more and more users will gesture with their fingers on touch screens and multi-touch trackpads, analysts say.

Or they will tilt or shake the phones or other handheld devices themselves to manipulate them, said Steve Prentice, vice president and fellow at Gartner, a market-research firm based in Stamford, Conn.

Apple's iPhone, Nokia and other smart phones are already undergoing such a transformation with touch screens, he said in an e-mail, and the switch "will accelerate over the next two to three years."

On an iPhone or iPod touch, a user can scroll through album covers by flicking a finger across the screen, or tilt and turn the device to control actions in a game.

Prentice, based in Egham, England, said users will likely stop connecting a mouse to their laptop computers within the next five years, if they haven't already. And the use of a mouse will diminish on office desktop computers after that. The new trackpads are seen as offering more versatility.

"The demise will be hastened by the move toward 3D environments, which encourage a more complex range of movements to move around, and by the growth of multimedia applications and manipulation, which encourage a more natural user interface," he said.

Already, Hewlett-Packard makes a TouchSmart personal computer with a touch-screen monitor. Apple's new laptop computers have trackpads that support gestures with two, three or four fingers. And the upcoming Microsoft Windows 7 will also support multi-touch.

Not so fast, says Logitech International, the Swiss maker of mice and other peripherals. Touch screens will continue to develop, but, "I don't see a world where it would override the effectiveness of the mouse and keyboard," said Erik Charlton, director of product marketing for Logitech retail pointing devices.

The history of the mouse dates to 1968, originating at what was then known as Stanford Research Institute.

A glimpse of the future can be found at the Microsoft Technology Center in Manhattan, where visitors can get their hands on a Surface table.

The Surface computer, which debuted for commercial use in July, has a 30-inch screen on which users can tap, drag, spin and zoom in and out with their fingers or an object such as a paint brush.

Warmer winter expected through semester's end

Sam Marhulik
REPORTER

As the first snow begins to fall, the idea of winter being right around the corner becomes a reality.

Whether you hate it or love it, it's unavoidable, and it's good to know what can be expected earlier rather than when it's too late.

It's hard to get an accurate outlook on winter this early, but this is what is expected for the season:

- The recent snowfall in Ohio was due to cool air from Canada mixing with the warmth of the Great Lakes.
- As of Nov. 19, the outlook for the winter months is also expected to be warmer than average.
- For levels of precipitation, throughout November and into the winter months they are expected to be average.

- For the end of November, the weather is expected to be warmer than average.

- Weather can be hard to track over monthly periods so it's always best to check your local 3 to 5 day forecast for the most accurate predictions.

Sources: YSU Geography Professor William Buckler, www.ysu.edu/~wbuckler



Sirius, XM hear a lot of static for merging their lineups

Phil Rosenthal
CHICAGO TRIBUNE

A lot of people who subscribe to satellite radio received something of a shock when they tuned in on Wednesday, and not because of faulty wiring.

Sirius and XM Radio, married this summer into Sirius XM Radio, ended the honeymoon for listeners. They did what companies always do in mergers: eliminate duplicate operations to cut costs, this time wreaking havoc on their respective programming lineups. Each service lost channels, and some of the survivors were tweaked, renamed and/or moved.

To hear the most vocal of suddenly dissatisfied customers, it was as if someone had broken in while they slept, made off with some cherished possessions, hauled in inferior replacements and left things in general disarray.

Sirius listeners found such channels as Movin' Easy, Punk, Sirius Disorder, The Strobe, Boombox, Backspin and Universo Latino were gone. XM subscribers were without XM Sports Nation, X-Country, Fungus, Beyond Jazz, Fine Tuning, The System, Chrome, Viva, Aguila and Caricia.

It doesn't matter that those weren't the most popular channels.

For almost every channel out there, there's someone, maybe several someones, for whom it was a favorite, providing the soundtrack to the daily commute, relief from the grind or just a welcome distraction. And, poof, it was gone. Or messed with.

What looked to the corporate types as a redundancy, devoted fans saw as a reason for continuing to shell out \$8 or more per month even as the economy put a hurt on the household budget.

Some of the dissatisfaction probably was unavoidable. Some of the people who went with XM did so because they preferred its service to Sirius, and vice versa, so they weren't going to be happy with any combination.

Compounding the resentment was that the best known channels on each service, such as Oprah Winfrey's Oprah & Friends on XM and Howard Stern on Sirius, are available to subscribers of the opposite service only if they pony up more cash.

Radio listeners are accustomed to abrupt format and personnel changes, though they complain loudly about them. Because people pay for satellite services, they feel a bigger stake and see these kinds of changes as a promise unkept, a broken covenant.

Those listeners say this will spell the beginning of the end for Sirius XM, but that ignores the fact that Sirius or XM had to be in pretty bad shape to get the feds to approve their merger in the first place.

The combined company said

last week that its third-quarter losses totaled \$4.88 billion after recording a sizable charge connected to a decline in its stock.

It expects to have 19.1 million subscribers by year's end and 20.6 million at the end of 2009, but the economic slowdown, especially its effect on sales of autos that will come with satellite radios, can hardly help growth.

That says nothing of potential technological advances that could outstrip what satellite radio can offer.

Many of these problems are not unique to radio. People respond viscerally to changes in the media they rely upon.

In television, where even the least popular programs on the broadcast networks have audiences the size of small cities, viewers get furious when their favorite shows are canceled, moved or adjusted, vowing boycotts and launching generally unsuccessful campaigns calling for decisions to be reversed.

When print publications move, eliminate or change features, comics, columns, even typefaces, readers go through denial, anger and all the other stages of grief Elisabeth Kubler-Ross laid out.

The need to reinvent business models and make do with less in the media industry has brought a lot of abrupt change in a short span, upsetting consumers who inevitably predict that these actions hasten, rather than forestall, demise.

That is the price to be paid for having developed a dedicated customer base in the first place.

The media can't afford to lose them, but it can't afford to please them all either.

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 EDITORIAL

Lincoln deck falling down — now on purpose

RELATED STORY

DECK, page 1

THE JAMBAR EDITORIAL BOARD

Student safety should be a major concern for Youngstown State University. This is why it is important that the board of trustees move forward with the recommendation to tear down the M-2 parking deck and replace it with something considerably less dangerous, such as surface lots. This move would be in the best interest of all parties involved.

For the part of the students, the benefit is obvious. Even the most basic examination of the deck reveals debris falling from the ceiling, clear evidence that it has become structurally unsound. Parking there carries the risk of possible damage to one's car, or worse, one's health. Students who park there are quite possibly taking their lives into their own hands, should one of these pieces of concrete happen to fall where they are standing.

While students are supposed to be adults, and as such they should be expected to be responsible for themselves, there is still a considerable liability for the university.

Even though students are not required to park anywhere they don't feel safe, they could still take legal action against the university for negligence if they were to be harmed due to a problem that could have been addressed. This would likely prove to be much more costly than taking proactive measures to remedy the problem.

Furthermore, even if the university were to win any legal battle over the issue, it would still have to recoup the losses from all of the unflattering notoriety that would accompany it.

While we commend the university for removing a safety hazard that has been present for a considerable amount of time, we urge the administration to address the parking deficiency the demolition will cause. Students should not suffer while the university is cleaning house.

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.

AFTER MUCH DELIBERATION, SONIC THE HEDGEHOG FINALLY DECIDES THAT HE MAY NEED TO SEE THE FOOT DOCTOR.



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

COMMENTARY

Reform can't wait

McClatchy-Tribune MCT

A few days before the historic election that swept him into the presidency, Barack Obama was asked to name his top priorities for 2009. They were, in order, the economy, energy independence and health care reform.

Congressional Democrats have a different list. On Wednesday, two months before a new Congress convenes and Obama is sworn into office, Sen. Max Baucus, D-Mont., released an ambitious outline for health reform.

"I believe that Americans cannot wait any longer," said Baucus, chairman of the Senate Finance Committee. Reforming health care, he said, is "essential to restoring America's overall economy and the financial security of our working families." He's right.

Until now, the Montana senator hasn't been associated with major health reform legislation. That's been the province of Sens. Ted Kennedy of Massachusetts and Hillary Rodham Clinton of New York. But Baucus' status may work to his advantage. He doesn't carry the same negative baggage as either of his better-known Senate colleagues.

His 98-page proposal, which Baucus described as a "work in progress," calls for covering America's 46 million uninsured people and the additional 25 million people with poor insurance coverage. It would do so, in part, by opening up participation in Medicaid to anyone living in poverty. The federal government defines that as an income of about \$17,000 a year for a family of three.

That's very little money for a family to live on for a year, but in many states, it's too much to qualify for Medicaid.

Baucus' plan also would allow people between the ages of 55 and 64 to buy into Medicare. That's crucial. At that age, many Americans have one or more chronic illnesses that make it all but impossible for them to purchase health insurance on their own.

The Montana senator also would allow most people with disabilities to qualify for Medicare immediately. At present, they must wait two years before they become eligible.

Borrowing from a health reform plan in Massachusetts, Baucus calls for eventually requiring all citizens to have health insurance. That so-called insurance mandate has been opposed by many Republicans and some Democrats, including Obama.

During the presidential campaign, both of Obama's major rivals former Sen. John Edwards of North Carolina and Mrs. Clinton proposed insurance mandates. Obama, instead, called for creating a health insurance program similar to Medicare for people without insurance. People don't have to enroll in Medicare when they become eligible, but virtually everyone does because seniors typically can't find affordable private health insurance.

Baucus says that an individual insurance mandate is necessary to end so-called cost-shifting, whereby the expense of treating the uninsured is transferred to those with insurance.

His plan contains another and even more controversial feature that originally was included in the Massachusetts reform. He would offer tax credits to businesses that offer health insurance to their employees. Large corporations that do not provide insurance eventually would have to pay into a fund that would underwrite coverage for the uninsured.

It's unclear whether Baucus' plan, even with solid Democratic majorities in Congress, could succeed or whether it could win the backing of Obama, who generally has favored more incremental changes.

But the consensus on the need for health care reform has never been broader. Baucus' proposal is a good place to start the discussion about fundamental reform of the system that provides health care to all of us.

COMMENTARY

Economy woes bigger than bailout package

McClatchy-Tribune MCT

It is now clear that the administration is groping in semi-darkness for answers to the nation's cascading economic woes. The \$700 billion bailout plan that once was supposed to buy up troubled assets held by Wall Street has instead become a rescue plan for banks and credit markets. With so much government money being doled out, it should come as no surprise that many troubled businesses, including the Big Three U.S. automakers, are lining up to get their share. Who can blame them?

Now is the time, though, for America to take a deep breath, exhale gently and just say No. In-

stead of a bailout, Detroit needs some tough love. Sure, the U.S. auto industry could use some help but so, too, could the rest of America.

A few weeks ago, Treasury Secretary Henry Paulson predicted an economic meltdown if Congress refused to approve a bailout plan. Lawmakers responded with \$700 billion. Now, in hindsight, we know that even with billions flowing to banks and credit markets, the economy has continued to deteriorate. So the administration's pitch now is to ask for patience. Without the cash infusion, the situation would be much worse, Paulson says. And, yes, he says, the money has brought some stability to troubled credit markets. Really?

What is obvious is that the

administration is making up the answers as events unfold. Also obvious is that the U.S. economy is in deeper trouble than anyone could have predicted. Companies everywhere are declaring bankruptcy, eliminating jobs, going into survival mode. Consumers, too, are hunkering down.

In this economic free-fall, the U.S. auto industry is asking the president and Congress to pick favorites.

Yet the economic forces at play are beyond the federal government's ability to control. This is where the administration and Congress must draw a line. GM, Ford and Chrysler have already gotten a \$25 billion loan to convert to the production of "green" vehicles. They should not be given another \$25 billion. U.S. auto-

makers must find ways to rescue themselves.

The bill that Congress will consider this week to help the industry has some impressively stringent requirements in return for giving the industry money. These include a thorough restructuring, placing limits on executive pay and banning "golden parachutes" for top executives. But why should the taxpayer be left on the hook when the Big Three ignored years actually, decades of warnings that they were headed for ruin? Bankruptcy laws are made for cases like these. Congress must tell the automakers to look elsewhere for answers. The federal government can't print enough money to save every troubled company nor should it try.

COMMENTARY

Releasing criminal immigrants

McClatchy-Tribune MCT

Local authorities around the country are taking the lead to tackle illegal immigration because our leaders in Washington have failed to devise a workable enforcement system. Federal deficiencies are so severe that public safety is being compromised, as a Houston Chronicle report showed this week.

Regardless of where you stand on comprehensive immigration reform, it's hard not to be outraged by the failures the Chronicle exposed in Harris County's jail system. Hundreds of illegal immigrant inmates charged with felony crimes murder, rape, drug dealing and child molestation were set free because Immigration and Customs Enforcement authorities didn't complete the paperwork to hold them for deportation.

ICE, part of the Homeland Security Department, failed to process detention orders for 2,600 jail inmates who admitted they were illegal immigrants.

In 177 cases, inmates committed additional crimes after being released. Hundreds had three or more prior convictions.

ICE officials say they're doing their best with limited resources, but we've heard that excuse be-

fore. A year ago, ICE officials were forced to curtail temporarily the Criminal Alien Program in Irving, Texas, because their staff and facilities couldn't cope with the number of illegal immigrants Irving police were detaining.

Dallas County announced last week that it would participate in a new federal database project that is even more comprehensive than Irving's.

With growing participation by local governments, the pressure on ICE is going to grow. But ICE says it would take years and up to \$1 billion to bring a new screening system up to speed and ensure the most serious offenders are deported — not released.

The heated debate in Washington over comprehensive immigration reform no doubt will resume after the incoming Obama administration addresses other pressing issues such as the economy and wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Ridding our cities of these most undesirable immigrants deserves top priority attention, too. Failing that, the Department of Homeland Security should consider a name change, because the criminals it is releasing onto our streets have no justification to be in this "homeland."

And when they roam free, the notion of security for Americans becomes laughable.

THE JAMBAR ASKS What's on your mind?



"Work."

Mark Mellott



"Arby's.
Pepperbacon."

D.J. Rocci



"Just school right now ... trying to get done."

Tyler Bacon

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BACK TO THE LINEUP — Senior running back Jabari Scott returns to the Penguins this week after missing nearly a month with an injured sustained Oct. 27.

PHOTO BY ANDREW BERRY/THE JAMBAR

Penguins set to close out season with Leathernecks

Andrew Berry
SPORTS EDITOR

Heading into the final week-end of the season the Youngstown State University football team is looking to play the role of spoiler.

The Penguins will march back out on the road Saturday for a conference clash with No. 25 Western Illinois University.

The Leathernecks are coming off a dramatic 48-45 overtime against Illinois State University while the Penguins enjoyed a bye week of rest and have had extra time to prepare for the season finale.

Head coach Jon Heacock said the bye week helped his team regain energy following a schedule that features 11 tough opponents. Heacock said it was a good opportunity to give his players a break from the routine before resuming practice following the university reopening after Veteran's Day.

While the Penguins have been the victim of a slew of injuries this year, Heacock said his team

Missouri Valley Conference Standings

Team	Record
Northern Iowa	9-2 (7-1)
Southern Illinois	8-2 (6-1)
South Dakota	6-5 (5-2)
North Dakota	6-4 (4-3)
Western Illinois	6-4 (4-3)
Illinois State	3-7 (2-5)
Missouri State	3-7 (2-5)
Youngstown St	3-8 (2-5)
Indiana State	0-11 (0-7)

Penguin Stat Leaders

Passing
 Brandon Summers: 110 of 176 for 1,332 yards, 16 TDs

Rushing
 Kamryn Keys: 136 carries for 804 yards, 5.9 ypc, 5 TDs

Receiving
 Dominique Barnes: 36 catches for 362 yards, 3 TDs

is not fully recovered despite being idle the previous week.

"We're fresher but I don't think we're healthier. We're banged up at a lot of positions," Heacock said.

The Penguins look to be without freshman sensation Kamryn Keys at running back for the contest with the Leathernecks. Keys has been a big surprise for YSU this season setting a freshman re-

cord for rushing yards in a season with 840 on the ground.

The good news for the Penguins is the team will welcome back senior running back Jabari Scott and senior wide receiver Ferlando Williams this week. Both players have missed significant time this season and figure to be a factor in the Penguins running game with Keys out.

On the other side of the ball,

the Penguin defense will have to deal with Herb Donaldson, one of the top running backs in the nation.

Donaldson is a frontrunner for the Walter Payton Award which is annually handed out to the top offensive players in the Football Championship Subdivision. The exceptional back is averaging 155 rushing yards a game and has netted 1,549 yards this season with 20 touchdowns.

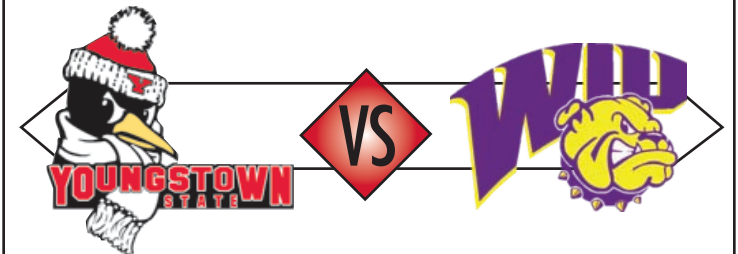
Heacock stressed that shutting down Donaldson is a key for the Penguins. Heacock said Donaldson is a smart runner with strength and has superb ability to find seams with his tremendous lateral movement.

Despite having already faced several solid running backs, the Penguins greatest challenge will be keeping Donaldson in check.

"We're going to have to slow him down somehow because if you don't it's going to be a long day," Heacock said. "It's going to be a great challenge for our young defense."

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IMPACT MATCHUPS



HB No. 3 Herb Donaldson — LB No. 44 Mike Barlak

Leatherneck Offense vs Penguin Defense

Last season saw Herb Donaldson slowed by an ankle injury late in the year that forced him to watch his team lose to the Penguins from the sideline in the 2007 season finale. Now healthy and ripping defenses apart, Donaldson is the game-breaking type of athlete that has the ability to change the game on one play. The Penguin defense must gameplan carefully for Donaldson.



DB No. 6 Jason Williams — WR No. 1 Ferlando Williams

Leatherneck Defense vs Penguin Offense

Senior Ferlando Williams returns to the offense after missing two games with a staph infection that originally had him projected to miss the rest of the season. The timing couldn't have been better as the Penguins will be without running back Kamryn Keys for the season finale. Head coach Jon Heacock said Williams is likely to see several snaps from the running back position as the Penguins will go by committee at tailback with Keys out for the game.

Gameday ChatterBox

The Penguins take the field Saturday for the last time in 2008. Once the dust has settled and a winner is crowned, the senior class will hang up the cleats for good. Playing for Youngstown State University has been a privilege for several seniors that will be saying good-bye after the season finale at Western Illinois University Saturday.

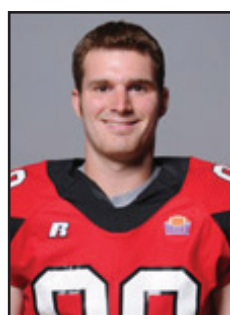


"It was a great experience for me being so close and having friends and family come watch. It was definitely an honor to come play here and I really enjoyed all the experiences."

Brad Samsa, offensive lineman

"Being a kicker you have so many other people you follow such as Jeff Wilkins and Paul McFadden. Being able to play here in the same position is an honor."

Brian Palmer, kicker



"Fun place to play in. Met a lot of good friends and great people. It's a different atmosphere and family environment and more welcoming to be here. It's been a great experience for me."

De'Angelo Wilson, defensive back

Volleyball tournament kicks off with Penguins, Flames rematch

Keith Langford Jr.
SPORTS REPORTER

It's tournament time for the Youngstown State women's volleyball team as they square off against the University of Illinois-Chicago this Thursday in the Horizon League Championships in Cleveland.

YSU comes into the contest as the ninth seed with a record of 11-16 while the Flames of Illinois-Chicago are the eighth seed with a record of 13-17 with the Flames winning both regular season contests this season. The first contest was held at the Beeghly Center on Sept. 19 where the Flames were too hot to handle and burned the Penguins out for a 3-1 victory. YSU was unable to get revenge in the rematch in Chicago and the result was a 3-0 sweep by the Flames.

The season got off to a promising start for YSU in the non-con-

ference portion of their schedule as the Penguins began the season 7-3. The key wins early in the season included a tournament victory in Charlotte, North Carolina as the Penguins claimed the Comfort Suites 49er Tournament. Other key victories included wins against the University of Toledo, West Virginia University, Norfolk State University, and the University of Charlotte.

When the Penguins reached the Horizon League portion of their schedule the team started to struggle as they faced familiar conference foes. The Penguins lost six out of their first seven matches in conference play with the sole victory in the stretch being a home sweep of Loyola University. The Penguins attempted to right the ship winning two out of their next three games. Their loss in the stretch was to out-of-conference opponent the University of Pittsburgh. The Penguins would win back-to-back conference games for the only time the entire season as they won games against the University of Green Bay and Loyola University. The Penguins ended the regular season with another streak of six out seven losses with their lone victory coming on Nov. 7th at Green Bay.

Tournament time ensures the extension of the season for all teams in the Horizon League conference, but the Penguins and Flames will hold no surprises for each other having already battled twice this season.

In the Penguins two matches against the Flames, the Penguins held tough at home but faltered on the road. In the game on Sept. 19th at the Beeghly Center, the Penguins lost the first set aided by a Flames 12-1 run that result-



HITTING BACK — Junior Ruth Boscaljon returns to the ball back over the net. The Penguins will face the UIC Flames in the opening round of the tournament.

ed in a 25-15 defeat for YSU. In the second set, the Penguins put a solid performance together as they hit .271 as a team and registered 14 kills to win the second set 25-22. The third and fourth sets were tightly contested but the Flames would prevail in both sets. The match held on Oct. 18th in Chicago was a 3-0 sweep by the Flames. The Penguins hit a gashly .117 in the loss for the season sweep by the Flames.

The key players for the Flames that Youngstown State has to watch out for once again

are junior Katerina Hanackova and senior Katarin Nedelskovic. Hanackova accumulated 26 kills and 26 digs in the two games against the Penguins. Nedelskovic put up impressive numbers as well against the Penguins as she posted 20 kills and 26 digs in the two matchups. Knowing where those two players are on the court is going to be essential if the Penguins want to continue on with their season.

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