



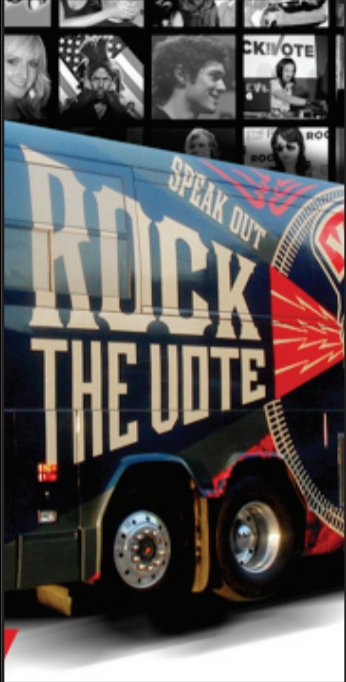
THE JAMBAR

The student voice of
Youngstown State University
since 1931.

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THE SIDEBAR



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WEATHER

Today	☁	37° 32°
Wednesday	☁	42° 30°
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Friday	☁	57° 39°
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Sunday	☀	54° 33°
Monday	☀	56° 39°

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Future Digs

Groundbreaking for business school begins new chapter for university

Todd Mounce
REPORTER



Tony Lariccia, Mayor Jay Williams and others attended the groundbreaking ceremony for the new \$34.3 million Williamson College of Business Administration building. The 111,000 square foot, state-of-the-art facility will serve 1,950 students enrolled in the business college.

The Williamson College of Business Administration started a new chapter in YSU history as the college held their groundbreaking ceremony for their new \$34.3 million dollar state-of-the-art facility that is set to open for the fall semester 2010.

Close to 200 people, including Tony Lariccia, Mayor Jay Williams and members of the Williamson family, attended the ceremony to witness the first dirt being turned on the future site of the new college.

The new building will be located on the corner of Rayen Avenue and Phelps Street. The building will be 111,000 square-foot, and will facilitate the 1,950 students that are enrolled in the Business College.

The college will keep the Williamson name that was originally the Warren P. Williamson, Jr. School of Business Ad-

ministration in honor of the school's benefactor in 1981.

The building will be three stories tall and will feature a 200-seat auditorium, an industrial history gallery, a cafe and different labs for student use.

In 2006, the Williamson family donated \$5 million for the construction of the building, with the rest funded through both private and state funds.

The plan for a new business college has been in the works for five years and the actual groundbreaking construction for the college will take place in January 2009.

The college will represent the largest capital expenditure in the 100-year history of YSU.

Williamson is an AACSB [The Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business] accredited school and less than one-third of U.S. business schools meet the accreditation standards.

editor@thejambar.com

Ohio voter fraud could falsely skew election

Melinda Gray
REPORTER

Mary Poppins, Dick Tracy and Jive Turkey are three people who Cuyahoga County officials don't expect to show up on Nov. 4 to vote.

The Association of Community Organizations for Reform Now, or ACORN, workers have turned in nearly 73,000 registration cards since January, according to reports from The Plain Dealer. Of those, more than 5,000 were missing information and could not be used. Additionally, the board could not verify 3,500 more forms. Therefore, those people will have to vote provisionally if they attend the polls.

Cuyahoga County's ACORN has admitted that a large number of the 1.3 million new voter registration forms it has collected nationwide are indeed fraudulent.

The voter fraud issue in Ohio came to a head on Oct. 17 when the U.S. Supreme Court dismissed the long running voter registration fraud controversy case brought against Ohio Secretary of State Jennifer Brunner by the GOP. She had been ordered to turn over information concerning some 200,000 plus registration forms that did not match information in Ohio databases to the 88 county election boards. The case was overturned on a technicality that stated that the GOP did not have the right to bring this case forth. Later that same day the case was re-filed in the Ohio Supreme Court, where a decision has not yet been reached.

Already there have been several documented cases of voter fraud statewide. In Hamilton County, near Cincinnati, there is overwhelming evidence that fraudulent votes have already been cast during the week when voters could register and cast their ballot on the same day.

Attorney Mike O'Neill has been appointed to investigate 41 percent of the 610 ballots that were subpoenaed by Hamilton County Prosecutor Joseph Deters. Deters stepped down from the case amid controversy over his Republican Party affiliations.

Assistant County Prosecutor for the Board of Elections Dave Stevens said, "We should be able to resolve some of these fraudulent votes before the election, but my guess is there are over 100 illegal votes in the system already and they will not be taken care of until after the election."

When asked if he thought this would affect the election results he said, "Absolutely it will. The information Jennifer Brunner has would have been helpful, but we have other avenues of getting the information; it just may take us longer."

Similar allegations have been
VOTER FRAUD, page 2

Police chief calls for temp employee background checks

Courtney Denen
REPORTER

"It's not foolproof, but at least you know you're not hiring a crook. At least you hope not."

John Gocala, YSU chief of police

The Youngstown State University's police chief believes the university should begin requiring background checks for employees who are contracted out on a temporary basis, and he said several thefts in the past were attributed to some of these temp employees.

"Over the past few years we've arrested employees from cleaning companies," said Chief of Police John Gocala.

University employees undergo a background check before they can be hired, but this does not apply to employees of outside companies who are hired to do certain jobs on campus.

"We now require cleaning companies' employees to have background checks through YSU because nickel, dime stuff was being taken and there was no

forced entry," he said, adding that having a background check is the safest route the university can take.

"It's not foolproof, but at least you know you're not hiring a crook. At least you hope not," he said.

Background checks for contracted out employees are not required, said Craig Bickley, chief human resources officer. "There is no law that requires a background check for employees who are contracted out. That's the decision of the board not to have background checks. There is a cost attached," Bickley said.

However, YSU does require background checks for all university employees, said Ann Fiest, human resources secretary. Anyone who handles money has an extensive credit check as well as a normal background check.

Bickley said he doesn't see a connection between the employees who are not required a background check and the thefts that have taken place on campus. "I would never put two and two together," he said.

Gocala disagreed. "We've had an employee who was contracted out break into a

professor's office and this employee stole a set of keys that opened up several other offices and rooms. We still do not know how many offices were broken into, but we didn't find out about it until people realized stuff was missing," Gocala said.

Gocala said there have been no thefts that have been reported lately that can be connected back to any contracted out employees. However, he advocates checking backgrounds for anyone who works on the YSU campus, whether they are full time employees or just contractors here working for a few days.

"Background checks ought to be required for everyone," Gocala said, adding that since the companies' own background check for their employees haven't worked in the past, YSU now needs to perform its own checks.

editor@thejambar.com

Multimillion-dollar private apartment project in the works for YSU

J. Breen Mitchell
REPORTER

Youngstown State University is working with a private developer on a \$24 million deal to build student apartments on campus.

The plan, proposed by developer Dominic Marchionda, would serve as a response to a controversial proposal by Place Properties, an Atlanta-based firm that was opposed by the university, as well as Stambaugh Auditorium. YSU President David Sweet

said the university is in the process of developing the land and the economic climate has produced additional hurdles to new development.

Hunter Morrison, director of campus planning and university development, said Marchionda is still interested in pursuing the new development in spite of a very difficult credit market.

"There are a few projects moving forward," Morrison said, adding that most of them are around university campuses.

Morrison said the proposed

development would be implemented in phases and would ultimately provide 400 units. The first phase, which Morrison said would probably include the first 100 units or so, should be in place by fall 2010.

"Obviously it's difficult to plan in an unsure economic climate," Morrison said.

University general counsel Greg Morgione said the deal is not finalized yet.

"We're in talks with Dominic," Morgione said.

He said Marchionda owns the

majority of the property around the parking lot across from Lyden and Cafaro House, and that is where the development would be located if a deal can be agreed upon.

"I don't want to get into the particulars of it," Morgione said, adding that when things are being negotiated, details can change.

Phil Kidd, director of events for the city of Youngstown, said the original plan from Place Properties did not meet the plans of YSU, Stambaugh or Park Vista.

Kidd said the opposition

to that proposal represented a change in the considerations that go into new developments.

"If it removes urban blight ... then do we just do it?" Kidd said.

He said the city wants to take into account how neighborhoods will look 10 or 15 years down the road.

"I thought it was a sign that we're starting to turn the corner," Kidd said.

A \$24 million investment is better than a \$17 million invest-

APARTMENTS, page 2

News Briefs

YSU hosts Leadership Day

On Thursday, Oct. 30, Youngstown State University will be hosting the Northeast Ohio Regional Leadership Day. Four hundred members of 13 leadership classes across Northeast Ohio will attend. The day starts at 9 a.m. in the Chestnut Room in Kilcawley Center with speeches by Mayor Jay Williams and YSU President David C. Sweet. It will also include a presentation of the Northeast Ohio Regional Vision Award to last year's winner.

Counseling students launch "Pajama" collection drive

Chi Sigma Iota of Youngstown State University have launched their Pajama Program. It is an effort to collect pajamas and other items that can be donated to a local homeless shelter. The items will be donated to the Beatitude House, which serves hundreds of children every year. For more information, contact Olin at croslin@student.ysu.edu or Barreca at kabarreca@hotmail.com.

Little Rock Nine member speaks in Youngstown

Youngstown's Sojourn to the Past presents "An Evening with Minnijean Brown Trickey" at Ford Family Recital Hall at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 28. The Youngstown State University office of equal opportunity and diversity will sponsor it. The event is free and open to the public.

First fall YSU Press Day set for this week

More than 500 high school journalists from 25 schools around the region will be attending Youngstown State University's annual Press Day on Tuesday, Oct. 28. A variety of workshops will be available for the students to attend. They include online newspapers, broadcast journalism, yearbook, sports journalism, photography and design, specialty reporting and literary journalism. For more information, contact Alyssa Lenhoff at 330-402-1016.

Police Briefs

Students busted for underage drinking in Cafaro House

Three underage YSU residents in Cafaro House were found drinking Colonial Club Vodka on Oct. 23. Two bottles were found in the room, one of them nearly empty. The three students admitted to drinking and were issued citations for underage consumption.

Students quarrel over Myspace, boyfriends

Two students from the Youngstown Early College were involved in a fight on Oct. 23. The fight was over Myspace comments or over a boyfriend. The parents of the students were advised that they would be contacted by the juvenile office referring this fight.

Student finds slashed tire

A YSU student discovered that the passenger side rear tire of her car, which she had parked in M-2 Deck level 2-B, were flat and damaged. The tire appeared to have been slashed.

Student overdoses in Lyden House

A student in Lyden House was reported ill. Rural Metro ambulance had been dispatched to the scene. The student had taken an overdose of prescription medication, consisting of Fluoxetine, Hydromet and Topomax. The student was found in a semi-conscious state. Turning Point Counseling notified that this individual left their care on Oct. 22, but she had left a message on the answering machine saying she was going to "end it all." The student was sent to St. Elizabeth Hospital.

Alaska senator convicted on all counts

Erika Bolstad and Richard Mauer
MCLATCHY NEWSPAPERS

A federal jury on Monday found Republican Sen. Ted Stevens guilty of lying on his financial disclosure forms, ending in disgrace the four-decade Senate career of a man whose imprint on Alaska dates to before statehood.

It's the highest-profile felony conviction in a sweeping four-year federal investigation into corruption in Alaska politics, and an almost-unprecedented conviction by a jury of a sitting U.S. senator.

Jurors found that Stevens, 84, willfully filed false financial-disclosure forms that hid such gifts as renovations that doubled the size of his home. Those gifts, valued at as much as \$250,000 over seven years, came mostly from his former friend Bill Allen, the star prosecution witness in Stevens' trial and the former owner of Veco Corp. The oil field-services company was one of Alaska's largest private employers before Allen, caught up in the federal corruption probe, was forced to sell it last year.

Stevens slumped slightly when he heard that the jury had found him guilty on the first count. When the second count was read, his lawyer Brendan Sullivan reached over and put his arm around Stevens.

As the senator exited the courtroom, his wife, Catherine, kissed him on the cheek.

He told her, "It's not over yet." She responded, "You got that right."

Then he added, "Not over yet." Stevens and his lawyers, who rarely speak to the news media, exited the courthouse without making a statement.

Now, voters will decide whether Stevens, who has represented the state in the Senate since 1968 and before that helped usher in statehood for Alaska, should continue to serve as their senator. For the first time in his career, Stevens faces a competitive re-election fight, against Democratic Anchorage Mayor



Sen. Ted Stevens (R-AK) arrives at the federal court in Washington, DC, with his daughter, Beth Stevens. MCT Campus Photo.

Mark Begich.

Stevens, who was indicted in late July, sought an early trial date, gambling that he would face voters as an innocent man. Even without the conviction, though, in order to re-elect Stevens, voters would have to overlook four weeks of testimony that exposed some of the senator's innermost financial and personal secrets.

The guilty verdict will complicate not only his re-election bid but also the remainder of his term in the Senate. His colleagues have the option _ never exercised _ of voting to expel him before his term ends in January. Four U.S. senators have been convicted of crimes, historians note, but not one has received a presidential pardon.

The corruption trial, which began Sept. 22, featured 24 government witnesses and 28 defense witnesses. Stevens took the stand in his own defense, a tactic that appeared to hurt him after prosecutors painted him as a disagreeable and mean-spirited man who considered himself above the law.

The senator's defense rested on the theory that he and his wife, Catherine, had paid all the bills they had received in connection with the renovations of their home in Girdwood, Alaska.

Catherine Stevens also took the stand, providing contradictory testimony that may have persuaded the jurors that their conflicting

stories meant that they were lying or covering up a crime.

The jurors had to weigh the husband and wife testimony against that of Allen, who pleaded guilty to bribing state lawmakers in Alaska in an unrelated case. Allen agreed to testify in Stevens' trial and two others in exchange for leniency in his own sentencing and the promise that prosecutors wouldn't charge his children in the corruption investigation.

The jury also heard from a parade of tradesmen who had nothing to gain by their testimony.

Almost daily for the first two weeks of the trial, the government introduced evidence showing that Veco employees _ particularly electricians and a plumber _ were on the job daily. Prosecutors also showed that the project's two supervisors, Robert "Rocky" Williams and Dave Anderson, were being paid by Veco and that the company provided much of the materials for the renovation and all the later additions and some repairs and furnishings. There wasn't evidence in the case that Stevens or his wife ever paid Veco a penny for the work.

The Justice Department has charged 11 people in connection with its corruption probe in Alaska, including five former and current state legislators in Alaska. Other than Stevens, five pleaded guilty, three were convicted by juries in Alaska and two await trial.

VOTER FRAUD, page 1

leveled against ACORN elsewhere in the state.

In Cuyahoga County there are at least two people who have admitted to registering illegally in response to persuasion by ACORN workers.

According to the New York Post, Darnell Nash, a voter from Cleveland, has admitted to not only filling out several registration forms with fictitious addresses, but also to voting with one of those registrations.

The Plain Dealer reported that Freddie Johnson, 19, filled out 73 voter registration cards when offered cigarettes and money by ACORN workers. Johnson said he was mostly trying to help the workers out. They allegedly begged him to fill out new cards over and over again so they could keep their jobs.

ACORN has acknowledged that workers were given quotas to fill and were paid per person that they registered.

Cuyahoga County Board of Elections representative Mike West stated, "We have not had any problems with registrations or votes." He refused to answer any other questions about the reported issues in his own district.

Palestra.net, an online college news organization originating in Columbus, has been at the forefront of exposing voter fraud in Franklin County. Over the past two months they have uncovered more than 30 cases of actual voter fraud.

An organization called Vote From Home placed five college student volunteers from Sen. Obama's campaign in a house near The Ohio State University. They subsequently registered, voted and then left the state. On Oct. 24 all five votes were thrown out, but no charges are to be brought against them.

Also on Oct. 24, 13 Obama campaign workers withdrew their votes stating that they did not understand Ohio residency laws. This came after Palestra.net pressured them to do so, and their names were published online.

There are 700 Obama campaign volunteers in Ohio, and according to Palestra.net and statements from the Democratic

National Committee, at least 20 more fraudulent votes in Franklin County have not been withdrawn. Ballots were to be counted on Oct. 25, which was also the deadline for individuals to rescind illegal ballots. Unauthorized voters could still be prosecuted but their fraudulent votes are now intermingled with legitimate ballots, and they have since been counted.

John McCain's camp was given the same warning to withdraw fraudulent votes and was found to have not cast any.

Keith Lepak, professor of political science at Youngstown State University, said political parties like to keep an arms length relationship with these organizations. "That way if something like this happens they can say, 'it has nothing to do with us,'" he said.

Some students had mixed opinions about the possibility of voter fraud.

When asked about the unfolding situation, junior Steve Tripepi said, "I feel very uncomfortable; I think it's just the tip of the iceberg."

Still, Tripepi manages a positive outlook. "I am optimistic that overall the people's voice will be heard," he said.

Junior Ralph Rich is also concerned, and said voter fraud can ruin either candidate's chances of becoming elected.

"The Republican National Committee seems to be desperate in the polls. I've heard stories and seen news about how elections can be ruined by voter fraud," Rich said.

Despite this, some students like junior Nicole Dzenowski say they aren't worried about voter fraud.

"They're recognizing that it's happening and they're doing stuff to prevent it," Dzenowski said of voting officials.

Sophomore Lindsey Swartz said the fraud wouldn't affect the election that much.

"I wasn't aware of it, so maybe others aren't aware," Swartz said of voter fraud. "It never occurred to me that others would do that."

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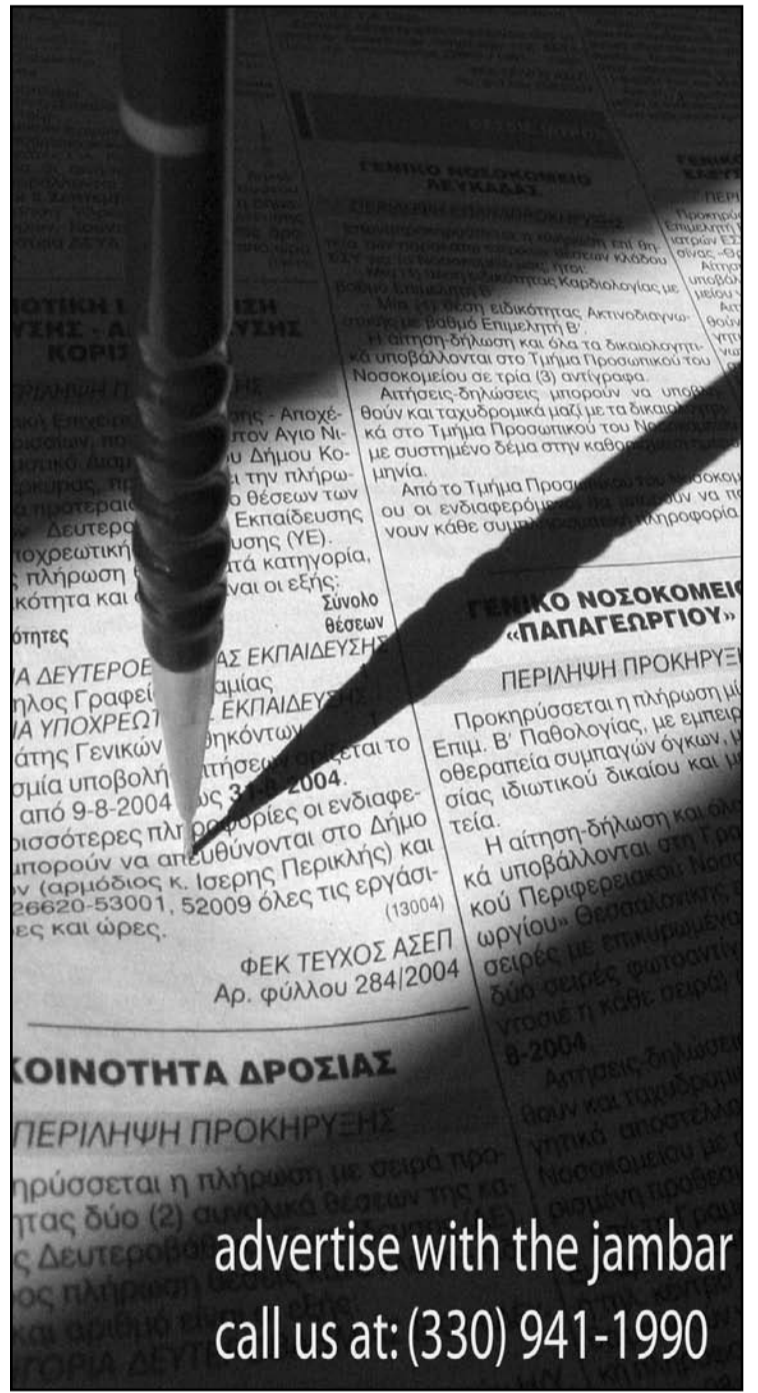
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APARTMENTS, page 1

ment, he said, comparing the original proposal with the one being considered now.

Kidd said the Design Review Committee was extended in response to the Place Properties proposal, so that anything in the Wick area has to meet the design specification. He also said the new development is being proposed by a private developer, which is preferable, "instead of a landlord company from out of state." "You're gonna get just as much bang for your buck," he said.

More than one in ten students on this campus will die early because of me.

-t.

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Ultimate Adventure" Office of Undergraduate Admissions, Sweeney Hall

BEST DESK & WORKSPACE goes to "Spread the Red", Eva Gucwa, YSU Bookstore

2008 RED & WHITE DAY TAILGATING GRAND PRIZE WINNER:

Jason Cicconi, Jr., Nursing, of Canfield, Ohio



Dorm Envy: Do you have it?

Alicia Pattillo
REPORTER

Sophomore Greg Watson just transferred to Youngstown State University and lives in Kilcawley House. Without a doubt, he feels other dorms are better than Kilcawley.

"The size of my room is so small and there's barely room to breathe," he said. "I hate how you can't adjust the furniture; all dorms that are used communally are going to be abused because they are taken for granted, so I feel that all dorms will suffer because of students," Watson said.

Dorm envy may be alive and well at YSU.

In deciding which campus housing was best, some students didn't have much to say about Kilcawley House, and instead talked up places like Cafaro, Lyden and Weller houses.

Similarly, freshman Anthony Moses feels the same about other dorms being better than Kilcawley.

"We have to bunk our beds and other dorms on campus can do what they want with their stuff in their rooms."

Like Watson, Moses feels his "room is too small."

Sophomore Arianne Slegus said she is comfortable at Lyden House.

"Compared to my freshman year in Kilcawley House, Lyden

is more spacious, and you're not shoulder-to-shoulder with your roommate," Slegus said.

Despite this, Slegus wishes she could live in Cafaro House since she said they have the best dorms on campus. Cafaro has a more suite-style home," Slegus added.

While some have dorm-envy, other residents are satisfied.

Cafaro resident Obinna Ekweremuba said he really enjoys dorm living. "I think all dorm living is the same; no other dorm is better than mine, and vice versa. It's all equal," Ekweremuba said.

Senior Allyson Faith resides at Weller House and believes it is better than Kilcawley, Lyden or Cafaro. "Weller House provides an apartment-style living experience," she said, adding that she feels independent and self-regulated in Weller.

Sophomore Dominique Watkins said Lyden House is by far the better dorm. "Compared to Kilcawley, Lyden is golden. The rooms are much bigger," Watkins said.

"Lyden is much more social than Cafaro or Weller dorms. Nobody ever talks about what has happened in those dorms."

Junior Abbie Twysord prefers Cafaro over Lyden. "I feel a sense of community at Cafaro. I like the suite set-up better than the traditional hallways," she said.

Sometimes, off-campus dorms are the better choice for some stu-

dents.

Unlike co-ed dorms that are university owned, Buechner Hall is an all-girl dorm.

Resident Krystale Kimes said she believes Buechner is the best dorm at YSU. "It's cheaper than all the other dorms, plus the food here is really good. They have home-cooked meals, unlike dorm food," Kimes said.

Senior Nichole Mick also believes that Buechner Hall is a great place to reside. Although she has lived in Buechner hall for all four years of college, she is satisfied with what Buechner has to offer.

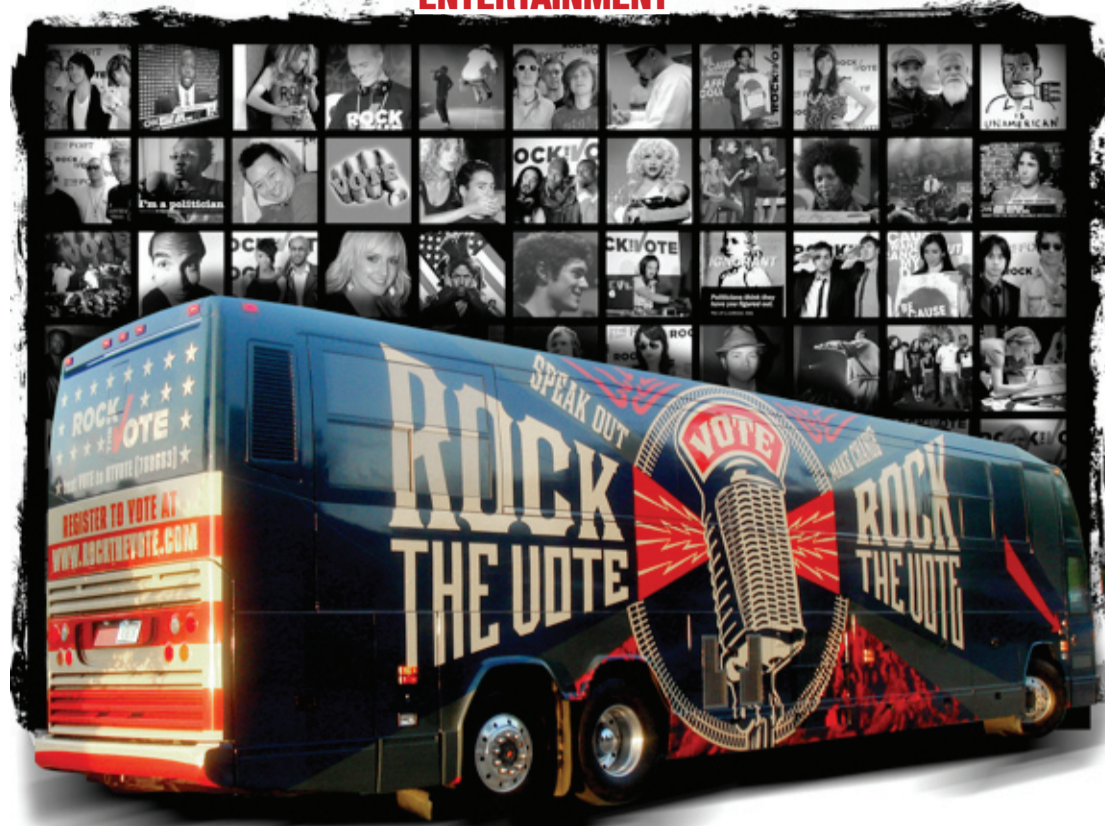
"Buechner is very considerate of quiet hours throughout the hall, providing us with a more suitable environment to get our homework complete. It's right in the middle of campus, which is very convenient," Mick said.

Though most of the dorms have typical stereotypes, YSU graduate assistant Scott Patton of residential education said he has heard very few negative stereotypes about the dorms on campus.

"I have heard Cafaro being labeled as where the smart kids are, but reality is the honor and scholar students do reside there because they have to. Cafaro is made for honor students," Patton said.

The opinions and stereotypes of all the dorms change from year-to-year, he added.

ENTERTAINMENT



Rock the Vote swings students to the polls

Elizabeth Boon

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

The Beastie Boys will be at Youngstown State University to perform and encourage the youth vote from noon to 2 p.m. on Wednesday.

The event is sponsored by Rock the Vote, a nonpartisan and nonprofit organization that registers and encourages 18-to-29-year-olds to vote.

The Rock the Vote bus, which has a stage, sound and electricity, has been traveling around the country to high schools and universities and giving young people the information and resources to vote.

Michelle Mayorca, mobile director of Rock the Vote, said following the concert attendees would be shuttled to the Board of Elections in Youngstown to early vote.

Student Government Association President Mike McGiffin ar-

ranged for the event to be brought to YSU.

McGiffin said SGA has a duty to be active and participate in the election process. Rock the Vote was chosen because of their nonpartisan way and relation to college life, he said.

The event will take place outside of the Andrews Student Recreation and Wellness Center at the corner of Spring Street and Fifth Avenue.

Death Cab for Cutie hits maturity

Sarah Linn

MCCLATCHY NEWSPAPERS

Every band has to grow up sometime. For Death Cab for Cutie, that time is now.

Considered indie rock royalty by some, Death Cab has done a lot in the past decade. They've ruled the Pacific Northwest music scene, conquered the college circuit and battled to the top of the charts - all without the aid of MySpace, Facebook and iTunes, thank you very much.

"We've been able to write music that has really echoed with who we are and what we are throughout our lives," bassist Nick Harmer said. "We're not 33-and 34-year-old musicians still singing about the cops who stole our skateboards ... Our music has grown with us."

Their sound is soulful, what The New York Times described as "misty chords and cold steel hooks." Their focus is life itself, with all its anxiety, insecurity and thrills.

"It's still a continuing effort to figure out how to balance out this life ... (but) it's exciting," Harmer said. "That's the bittersweet quality of life and I wouldn't have it

any other way."

"Narrow Stairs," the title of Death Cab for Cutie's latest album, suggests the uncertainty of modern adulthood.

"There are times when the world feels like a big, wide-open field, and there are times when the world feels more precarious and you have to be more cautious about your next step," Harmer said.

Death Cab for Cutie opted to go outside its comfort zone while recording "Narrow Stairs" at studios owned by drummer Jason McGerr, guitarist Chris Walla and longtime friend John Vander-slice.

Compared to 2005's polished "Plans," which incorporated big-budget digital recording techniques, "Narrow Stairs" feels like "four of us looking at each other in a room," Harmer said. Unintentional flubs and acoustic experimentation recorded on two-inch tape capture the feeling of Death Cab's live shows.

"I like the sort of magic and energy in (the album), and I also like the way it's not perfect," he said. "That was a big struggle for us."

Released earlier this year, "Narrow Stairs" speaks to life's intimate dilemmas, such as grow-

ing older ("The Ice Is Getting Thinner"), falling in love ("I Will Possess Your Heart"), or watching a woman about to make the biggest mistake of her life by marrying the wrong man ("Cath ...").

"I like the way Ben (Gibbard) always introduces 'Cath ...' when we play it," Harmer said of the band's front man. "He says 'Everybody knows someone like that,' and it's absolutely true."

Death Cab for Cutie, which takes its name from an obscure rockabilly spoof, began in 1997 as a solo project for singer and guitarist Gibbard.

After he found success with a cassette titled "You Can Play These Songs with Chords," he recruited other members from the Bellingham, Wash., area: Walla, Harmer and drummer Nathan Good, who has since left the band. (McGerr joined Death Cab in 2003.)

Death Cab released five critically acclaimed studio albums - including "Transatlanticism," which featured songs heard on television's "The O. C.," "Six Feet Under" and "CSI Miami" before making their major-label debut in 2005 with "Plans." That Atlantic Records release went platinum and scored a Grammy



Award nomination.

After touring for "Plans" ended in early 2007, the band took a break. McGerr built his own Seattle recording studio (called, appropriately, Two Sticks Audio), Walla released a solo album and Gibbard embarked on his first solo tour.

Harmer pursued his own side project, filmmaking - an activity that "fills my creative input coffers," he said.

"It all comes back and feeds what we're going to be doing," said Harmer. "That's actually the secret to our longevity as a band."

The musician takes his cues

from veteran acts such as Pearl Jam, The Pixies and Neil Young.

Death Cab opened for the Pixies in 2004 in Bend, Ore., a thrill for longtime Pixies fan Harmer.

"Back in high school ... I used to carry a photo of Frank Black, their singer, in my wallet," admitted Harmer, who counts "Surfer Rosa" and "Come On Pilgrim" among his favorite albums. "He was the coolest guy. I wanted to be him."

Death Cab has about a dozen tour dates this fall with Neil Young. They met the legendary musician via grunge rockers Pearl Jam, their tour mates in 2004.

"They're just a conscientious,

thoughtful and hardworking band," Harmer said of Pearl Jam. "It's great to see a band that has gone through so much that can still be together."

Death Cab for Cutie seems to be heading in the same direction. This spring, the band met the Dalai Lama and stumped for Democratic presidential nominee Barack Obama. It's currently involved in a number of voter registration drives.

"Now there's that realization that we're going to be around for a while," Harmer said with a chuckle. "None of us take it for granted, and we're all striving to figure it out."

Jigsaw returns in Saw V

Rafer Guzman
NEWSDAY

Thank goodness Lionsgate made another "Saw" film! Otherwise, how would we as a country get to feel good about ourselves while watching humans suffer through prolonged torture, degradation and death?

The fifth installment of this dependably successful horror franchise continues the story of John Kramer (Tobin Bell), otherwise known as Jigsaw, a cool-headed serial killer who cuts little puzzle-pieces of skin from his victims. Jigsaw, much like the protagonist of television's "Dexter," prefers to target the guilty (rapists, murderers), though he's more creative. His ritualized killings utilize clever if invariably rusty contraptions made of blades, gears, timers and the like. Wile E. Coyote would be impressed.

But Jigsaw also offers his subjects a chance to live if they make a sacrifice - a limb, perhaps which he calls "rehabilitation." And here is where you, the viewer, get to cash in your free moral-

ity voucher. You can rest easy while enjoying the cheap thrill of watching human slaughter because you know these folks are getting what they deserve.

In turn, though, you must sacrifice the pleasures of a decent script, capable acting and skillful directing. Veteran "Saw" writers Patrick Melton and Marcus Dunstan spend more time thinking up new gizmos and excruciating deaths than stitching together a plot, and director David Hackl (taking over for Darren Lynn Bousman) shoots every scene whether in a dungeon, an office or a parking lot in near-total darkness. (At least "Saw V" is environmentally friendly: Its carbon footprint must be almost zero.)

The only bright spot is Bell, who effortlessly outclasses his castmates (including Scott Patterson and Costas Mandylor, reprising their respective roles as FBI agents Strahm and Hoffman). Bell's Jigsaw comes off as so intelligent and sophisticated especially compared to the brain-dead dopes around him that the scary clown mask he often wears seems rather beneath him.



PHOTO COURTESY OF SAW V

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Get Out and Vote '08

Beastie Boys, Ben Harper, Sheryl Crow and Norah Jones - Wednesday, Oct. 29, 7 p.m. Chevrolet Centre \$36.50

"The Shining"

Wednesday, Oct. 29, 8 p.m. Main Street Theater, Columbiana \$3

plan yo* night

Karaoke at O'Donold's

Tuesday, Oct. 28, 10 p.m.- 2 a.m. O'Donold's Irish Pub & Grill, Austintown

Open Stage at Barley's

Tuesday, Oct. 28, 10 p.m.- 2 a.m. Barleys



OUR SIDE EDITORIAL

Mock the vote

RELATED STORY

VOTER FRAUD, page 1

THE JAMBAR
EDITORIAL BOARD

One of the major differences between the United States and cheap dictatorships is that in the United States, every citizen over the age of 18 has a legitimate voice in the selection of their leaders.

While the U.S. system may not be perfect, it is designed to allow for a market place of ideas, where all voices are heard, and the best of them rise to the top. If they prove not to be the best, the people can correct their mistakes every time they go to the polls and vote.

Criminal enterprises masquerading as grassroots organizations that attempt to subvert this system to skew elections in favor of the candidate they support are not only an assault on the freedom of the majority of the nation, but also an example of cheap cowardice.

By attempting to cheat the system, they make it clear that they don't really believe that their message resonates with most voters, and that the only way they can win is through trickery.

It seems that what all of this amounts to is an attempt to call into question the results of the election before it happens, paving the way to grant partisan authorities the right to interpret how they think each voter intended to vote.

If Barack Obama wins, there will be questions raised about how many of his votes were legitimate.

If John McCain wins, there will be allegations that legitimate votes were labeled fraudulent and discarded.

One is reminded of the 2000 election, when Al Gore wanted many of the votes for Pat Buchanan to be counted as Gore votes, because that is likely what they were intended to be. That may be true, but we'd certainly take exception with government deciding for whom we meant to vote.

All of this could be avoided by restoring a basic faith in our electoral system, which begins with eliminating voter fraud.

After all, as the old saying goes, democracy is the worst system in the world, except for all the other systems.

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 are libelous, threatening, obscene or indecent. The Jambar does not withhold the names of writers of letters or guest commentaries.

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

ABOUT THE JAMBAR

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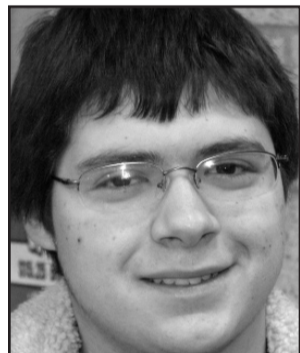


THE PARTY OF FISCAL DISCIPLINE

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



THE JAMBAR ASKS What's on your mind?



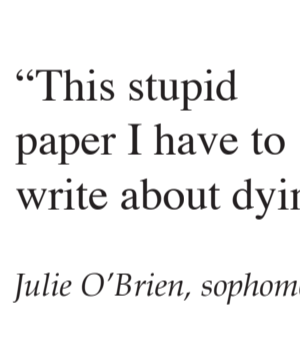
"The Bengals are still winless."

Michael Arnaut, freshman



"The fact that it's freaking snowing outside and that sucks."

Stephanie Vogel, freshman



"This stupid paper I have to write about dying."

Julie O'Brien, sophomore



"Food. I'm thinking about my peanut butter and jelly sandwich and Doritos."

Levi Dixie, junior



LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Editor,

Turning to the "Letters to the Editor" section of The Jambar's Oct.

16 edition, I found myself extremely disappointed in the selection of Mr. Williams' letter to represent a conservative point of view. While Mr. Williams certainly has the right to come to his own conclusion, following whatever process he needs, his arguments, which appear to this reader, as rather extreme at best, do not represent the consensus of average conservatives.

This election season is, contrary to popular belief, not a referendum on the status of racial/social/class issues in America. It

has much less to do with Israel than some would have you believe. For the first time in eight years, this presidential election is about, first and foremost, the people of the United States. Conservatives and liberals quite simply disagree on the solutions to the problems of the day.

We conservatives argue that bigger government proposed by liberals is not the answer. Many of us demand, for the sake of convenience, that the government take charge of too many aspects of our lives, items ranging from a universal health care system to environmental protection. The most successful nonmilitary program run by the government is the United States Post Office,

which operated at a staggering \$5.1 billion dollar deficit in 2007, according to their Web site. Social Security is in shambles. Veterans struggle to receive proper care. Despite government's track record, many of us would still trust them to run our own personal health care, not to mention that of our children.

Concerning issues of the candidates' respective pasts, we all, as voters, have a responsibility to look into these issues. A local union leader recently stated, "Anybody voting for McCain is either racist or not paying attention." I could not disagree more. I consider myself very well informed this election cycle and, as such cannot pull the lever for the

less-than-one-term senator from Illinois.

Granted, Sen. John McCain does not excite me in the least, but Sen. Obama leaves entirely too many questions to be awarded my vote. It comes down to leadership and thus far, McCain's years in office and the military offer far more promise of meaningful bipartisan leadership than Obama's short time in the national picture, during which we've seen an unusual amount of shady characters associated with his campaign, can offer. Hope, while a powerful tool in moving forward, is dangerous when followed blindly.

Brian Blystone

Finally, a welcome break for the record industry

Jeff Vrabel
MCCLATCHY NEWSPAPERS

Sure, you're thinking, things are bad right now.

Your 401(k) will lose several thousand dollars by the time you're done reading this, and America is glued in two dismal wars. Cheap-looking strip-mall developments are reproducing like Spears children, and every time you drive on U.S. 278 there's a delightful new spotlight for your enjoyment. Hurricanes are growing stronger, thousands of sponge-brained jokers still think Obama's a Muslim, "Beverly Hills Chihuahua" is a hit and the general national mood is dour, black and blour, which is a word I just made up because we don't really have many words that can effectively describe how lousy things are.

But amid all this turmoil, there's one group that's having a pretty darned good month: the

record industry.

You may remember The Record Industry as the comical supervillains who charged \$18.99 for Limp Bizkit CDs for about 20 years before people realized you could get music online either by paying more reasonable rates or not at all, which is how many of them started doing it.

Needless to say, that caused the heads of The Record Industry and Don Henley to retreat into their sanctums, which are only accessible by passing through rivers of the undead, to figure out solutions to the problem, which involved suing 11-year-olds, giving hilarious speeches at the Grammys and making everyone hate them more, which they do, in force: The Record Industry currently enjoys the kind of approval ratings you might expect if you stapled Dick Cheney to the reunited New Kids on the Block, duct-taped them all to the Senate and glued them to Lindsay Lohan's dad.

The problem, of course, has

nothing to do with the changing marketplace or the discovery that artists can get music to fans in other avenues besides relying on slimy-haired 24-year-olds named Tork whose main job involves finding 50 people who look and sound like Taylor Swift each year.

No, the problem, of course, is Pirates — nefarious, doughy Pirates who must be stopped so badly that this month President Bush signed into law a bill that created a cabinet-level czar to address piracy issues. It's hard to tell who stands to gain more by this: the still-damp residents of New Orleans or the nine million American children without health care. (Actually, the slot came down to two positions: either a Piracy Czar, or a Czar For Making Sure We Never Have To Bail Out Unrepentant Hope-Sucking Tycoons With \$700 Billion Again. Turns out Piracy won. Go figure.)

The delightfully named Prioritizing Resources and Organiza-

tion for Intellectual Property Act was pushed by your friends in the MPAA and RIAA, the folks responsible for telling you what's good for you (the former) and battling daily with Apple to make you pay their preferred price for a "Womanizer" MP3, which is \$35.99 (the latter). It's especially important for the movie industry, which in recent years has had barely enough money to pay actors to star in massive comic-book films.

Yes, yes, I know, stealing is bad, we all went to third grade, (except the people who still think Obama is a Muslim). Lots of things are bad, but surprisingly few of them have lobbies strong enough to require government intervention. But if you think this is a problem that requires immediate attention today, right now, this month, this year, please put down your stock portfolio, your orders, your tuition statement or your credit card bill and raise your hand. Not you, Britney.

COLUMN
Dierkes **deliberated**



How to make videogames more respectable

Doug Dierkes
COLUMNIST

I've been playing video games for about as long as I've been talking— maybe longer. I'm still amazed at how little more than thirty years has given us a new form of media that's more popular than movies and television combined, if my numbers are right. The rapid advancement of the technology is also worthy of awe, as the graphics and processing power are affording new areas for exploration I would never have dreamed of staring at the brightly colored blobs my old Nintendo spat out.

But despite this hectic growth, one thing hasn't changed. My hobby is still looked upon with scorn and downright hatred. I'm getting sick of people decreeing that my favorite pastime is decaying the moral fabric of society, so I came up with a list of changes that need to happen to make videogames more respectable.

Lesson 1:
Humility

Television news networks love to point out how we're "destroying the lives of children." It's sensationalist and inflammatory drivel spouted by ignorant fear mongers who have too much time on their hands.

But for far too long, any time someone made such outlandish claims about video games, the Internet has responded with even more outlandish, profane, and ignorant remarks. If we are to be accepted by society, we must first learn to play nice with our critics and stop going for the jugular any time someone speaks negatively about us.

Lesson 2:
Wisdom

Writing a script isn't hard— just look at the filmography of Cheech and Chong. Writing an intelligent script that will keep both critics and commoners discussing the experience is hard. Making it interactive? That's downright challenging. We haven't really had any story expand beyond the simplistic "this is why I don't feel bad about killing stuff," and those that have are largely ignored by mainstream society.

Luckily, modern game companies are starting to see plot as an essential component of a great game instead of an accessory. My advice to aspiring game designers: look outside your software collection for inspiration. Watch movies, read novels, listen to poetry slams. Learn what it takes to get an emotional response from your audience, and your works will be more 'Citizen Kane' than 'Clash of the Titans.'

Lesson 3:
Chastity

Please stop making underdressed female characters with breasts larger than their heads. It's getting old now, and if we really wanted to see that, we have the Internet.

Lesson 4:
Compassion

Hollywood's biggest stars are also some of the world's biggest philanthropists, contributing both money and awareness to the problems of our world. The biggest charity in video games? Two webcomic artists give Game Boys to a children's hospital. When games sell for well over \$50, don't you think the big companies should give a little back to the world?

Is it really that hard to donate, say \$5, to food banks across the nation for every copy you sell? There aren't enough random acts of kindness in the multi-billion dollar video game industry. We have the power to change this. What we need is the motivation.

Penguins' valiant effort comes up short

Andrew Berry
SPORTS EDITOR

It didn't end in a victory, but the Youngstown State University football team gave the No. 5 University of Northern Iowa Panthers a run for their money Saturday.

After dropping four straight, the Penguins nearly turned their season around giving the Panthers all they could handle. Despite the gritty effort, the Penguins couldn't finish off Northern Iowa as the Panthers held on for a close 21-20 victory to spoil the Penguins' homecoming night.

Going toe-to-toe with the Panthers in nearly every aspect of the game, the Penguins fate was sealed on a blocked extra point late in the fourth quarter. It appeared the tide had turned after junior quarterback Brandon Summers hit junior wide receiver Donald Jones, who bulldozed his way downfield for a touchdown to cut the Panthers lead 21-20.

But the Penguin special teams couldn't convert the extra point as senior kicker Brian Palmer's attempt was batted away and the Panthers were able to escape Youngstown with the win. The Penguins had an opportunity to get back into field goal range, but time ran out on the team's comeback attempt.

In his first game in over a month, senior defensive lineman Torrance Nicholson said the loss to Northern Iowa was nothing short of heartbreaking.

"It was a real tough loss," Nicholson said. "After last week, we knew our playoff shots were slim and this was our championship game. To lose in that kind of manner, by one point, it's really tough."

Having recovered from a bone fracture, Nicholson rejoined the depleted defensive line to lead the defense with 12 tackles and a sack. Three of Nicholson's tackles resulted in negative yardage for the Panthers as the junior defender caused massive chaos behind the line of scrimmage throughout the night.

Even though his teammates on the defensive line are inexperienced, Nicholson said the playing time the young defenders have seen this season has accelerated their learning curve.

"Those guys have been playing for the last five or six weeks

Panthers 21

Penguins 20

straight, so they're experienced now. They're not freshmen anymore," Nicholson said.

Also returning to the field against the Panthers was Summers at quarterback. The junior's return couldn't have come at a better time as freshman quarterback Daily Campbell was banged up in the team's prior loss to Southern Illinois.

After being knocked out of the game against Southern Utah three weeks ago, the junior quarterback had to shake out the cobwebs before guiding the offense back into the game after Northern Iowa built a 14-0 lead.

Summers would finish the day 15-of-32 for 167 yards and two touchdowns. The Panther defense put Summers and his healed knee to the test, sacking the Penguin quarterback three times and forcing him to run out of the pocket throughout the contest.

"I felt a little rusty, but as the game went on I started to get back into it," Summers said.

Freshman running back Kamryn Keys was able to ease Summers back into his role of signal caller with another solid performance against a top-ranked team. Keys carried the rock only nine times but came away with 101 yards and a touchdown against the Panthers defense.

With the Penguins record now standing at 2-6 on the year and only one conference win to show for, the door has all but slammed shut on the team's chances of playing beyond the regular season finale at Western Illinois University.

Three conference games remain on the schedule for the Penguins, and Nicholson believes the team is more than up to the challenge of closing out the season with three straight victories.

"I'm a very competitive person. I hate losing. I think probably 100 percent of everyone in that locker room hates losing," Nicholson said. "We're not going to lie down and hang up our cleats. We're going to go out and give everyone a game."

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PHOTO BY ANDREW BERRY / THE JAMBAR

JUMP BALL — Sophomore defensive back Andre Elliot goes for the pass break-up as he and senior wide receiver Victor Williams of the Panthers battle for the ball in midair. Elliot has been leading the charge for the Penguins defense this season. In eight games, the sophomore defender is second on the squad with 68 tackles.

FCS Top 25

Teams YSU will face in blue

1. James Madison
2. Appalachian State
3. Wofford
4. Cal Poly
5. Northern Iowa
6. Montana
7. Villanova
8. Richmond
9. New Hampshire
10. Elon
11. Central Arkansas
12. Western Illinois
13. Weber State
14. Southern Illinois
15. Massachusetts
16. William & Mary
17. Liberty
18. Furman
19. Northern Arizona
20. McNeese State
21. Lafayette
22. South Carolina State
23. Harvard
24. Tennessee-Martin
25. Tennessee State

Others receiving votes: Texas State 127, South Dakota State 95, Maine 70, Jacksonville State 67, North Dakota State 66, Prairie View 63, Georgia Southern 60, Hampton 54, Florida A&M 47, Colgate 44, Northwestern State 33, Eastern Washington 32, Grambling 27, Penn 26, Albany 25, UC Davis 25, Eastern Kentucky 24, San Diego 14, Holy Cross 11, Sacred Heart 10, Monmouth 4, North Dakota 4, Morgan State 3, Dayton 2.

Information from the Sports Network.

Volleyball squad swept at home by Raiders

Keith Langford Jr.
SPORTS REPORTER

The Youngstown State University volleyball team continued its downward spiral in the Horizon League portion of their schedule as they fell in quick fashion to the Wright State University Raiders 3-0 on Friday.

The Raiders came into the contest against YSU fourth overall in the conference while the Penguins came in at the bottom of the Horizon League. In the first contest against WSU on Sept. 27, the Penguins put up a much better effort as they lost in heartbreaking fashion in the fifth and decisive set. The Raiders won that fifth set 15-11. Unfortunately for the Penguins this time, the match was over in just over an hour.

The 3-0 sweep by the Raiders was a dominating performance. The Raiders took the first set 25-16, the second set 25-17, and then clinched with the third set winning 25-12. Junior outside hitter Lexi Leonhard for the Raiders paced the Raider attack with a team-leading 13 kills. The Raiders outthit the Penguins 344-113. Junior Ruth Boscaljon led the Penguins in kills with 11.

The Penguins now stand at 10-12 overall and 3-8 in the Horizon League. The Penguins have two home games beginning Friday against two of the top teams in the Horizon League.

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Bracket set for Horizon League soccer tournament

Andrew Berry
SPORTS EDITOR

The regular season is in the book and the race for the Horizon League championship begins Wednesday with the Youngstown State University soccer team's opening-round match with Valparaiso University.

Prior to the final seeding of the tournament bracket, the Penguins closed out the 2008 regular season with a hard loss on the road at the Loyola University.

Sunday's match between the Penguins and the Ramblers marked YSU's last chance to break into the league's win column while Loyola needed a win to secure the top seed in the tournament.

Unfortunately, the Penguins couldn't play the role of spoiler as the Ramblers were able to convincingly dismantle the Penguins 6-1. The win bolstered Loyola's record to 7-1-0 in the league while the Penguins fell to 0-7-1.

With the loss, the Penguins enter the tournament as the No. 9 seed and have drawn the opening round match against the No. 8 seeded Valparaiso Crusaders. Head coach John Marovich of Valparaiso said his team is excited to continue the postseason and they are looking forward to going up against the Penguins.

"I don't think they're under any pressure," Marovich said. "The team is excited about playing another game and excited about the opportunity to play at home."

Valparaiso is also coming off a season-ending loss to the one of

the top squads in the conference, the University of Milwaukee-Wisconsin Panthers. Milwaukee jumped out to a quick 2-0 lead, but the Crusaders avoided the shutout with a goal from Sarah Jewel on Valparaiso's only shot attempt in the first 45 minutes of the contest.

Earlier this season the Crusaders gave the Penguins a hard-fought battle and the contest went down to the wire as the deciding goal was not scored by Valparaiso's Jackie Thomas until the final two minutes of the game. Thomas's late goal lifted the Crusaders to their first Horizon League win of the season.

With the close win, Marovich is expecting a similar contest Wednesday for the tournament opener. While Marovich believes both teams will apply what was learned from the two squads prior meeting, sticking to what works will ultimately decide the outcome.

"We're not going to make any drastic changes," Marovich said. "From half to half, you have to bring your best performance or it isn't going to go your way."

Going up against the Crusaders a second time will give the Penguins the scouting edge they need to advance to the second round of the tournament and avoid the first-round exit the team suffered last year.

Junior goalkeeper Mariah Snyder was able to pick up 10 saves in the team's first meeting and will have to come up with a repeat performance against the Crusaders offense. While Valparaiso's offense is not very explosive, the Penguins have allowed the most

goals out of any team in the conference this season with 20. YSU averaged 2.5 goals per game to opposing teams this season and will have to keep the game close to avoid falling behind early.

The team that scores first will have the upper hand in the match as both offenses have not been efficient this season. With both teams struggling to put points on the board, the game should be a defensive struggle and could come down to the wire.

Despite having won the initial match, Marovich is expecting the Penguins to give his a squad a hard-fought match. Based on what he has seen in conference play this season, Marovich said his team is a firm believer that any team can win this year's championship.

"They understand anyone can come up and bite you," Marovich said. "You've got teams able to beat anybody on a given day. It's been proven throughout the course of the year."

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2008 Horizon League Championship Tournament Seedings

- No. 1 Loyola vs. Winner of YSU/Valpo
- No. 2 Milwaukee vs. No. 7 Green Bay
- No. 3 Wright State vs. No. 6 Cleveland St.
- No. 4 Butler vs. No. 5 Detroit
- No. 8 Valparaiso vs. No. 9 Youngstown St.



Carrie Wack
Senior, Defender

PHOTO COURTESY OF RON STEVENS