



THE JAMBAR

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Youngstown State University
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WEATHER

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Wednesday ☀️ 65° 31°
Thursday ☀️ 69° 41°
Friday ☀️ 70° 43°
Saturday ☁️ 69° 45°
Sunday ☁️ 67° 44°
Monday ☀️ 66° 45°

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HEALTH

A SHOT FOR WHAT? YSU men say no to male birth control

Amy Brown
Reporter

Over 40 percent of women in America take some form of birth control, but in the near future men may be able to join them.

In a survey of 100 male students at Youngstown State University, 97 said they have never even heard of male birth control research, and the other 3 percent said they know very little about it.

All 100 students surveyed said they would not take any form of male contraceptive. The survey did

“The main reason is I would not want the hassle of going back to a doctor every week for an injection.”

Darian Cole, freshman

not ask about sexual orientation or activity.

Freshman Darian Cole said he would not take a male contraceptive.

“The main reason is I would not want the hassle of going back to a doctor every week for an injection,” he said.

Freshman Jason Weatherly agrees, asking why the method hasn't been tested before.

“Why isn't it out now? I would not trust it,” he said.

Helen Axby works for the British Family Planning center and has

1,044

The number of Mahoning County births in 2006 to women age 12 to 24

worked very closely with the World Health Organization. According to her, “the wait for a male contraceptive will not be as long as the wait for men to take responsibility for their own birth control.”

BIRTH CONTROL page 2

YSU

Administration acknowledges Banner payroll problems

Adrienne Sabo
Editor in Chief

In a memo sent out to all university employees, Vice President for Finance and Administration Eugene Grilli acknowledged some of the glitches with the Banner system and payroll.

The memo refers to a corrective action plan that has been implemented to fields these problems. The university's internal auditor, Packer Thomas, is auditing the system to find any other problems.

Grilli said that Kathy Ferguson, a retiree of Youngstown State University, was asked to come back to field any problems from faculty and staff with payroll.

Ferguson will develop a customer service plan, train payroll staff and work to resolve any employee problems with the system.

Grilli said that the payroll glitches weren't huge, but there were enough to be troubling. He also said that many of the errors came from faculty and did not believe that any student workers were effected by it.

Most of the problems, Grilli said, came at the end of the year. He said the errors were “just based on how the system was set up” and that “it didn't handle it properly.”

While it was the system's first year in processing the payroll system at YSU, Grilli said that some of the problems were inaccurate tax forms and pension contributions.



Despite the errors, Grilli said he is satisfied with the new system.

“I think it's a nice feature, anytime you can go online and increase services,” he said.

“We want to take a good look at it now,” Grilli said of the system and any errors.

He said he thinks that the system is a good one and provides the campus with many more serv-

ices than before.

“The system can do so many more things, especially for students,” he said.

The banner system, launched for payroll more than one year ago, and allows employees to access their payroll information online. Employees were able to access their W2 forms online this year for taxes.

TECHNOLOGY

Internet obsession is a clinical disorder, psychiatrist says

Alice DeBonis
Reporter

With one psychiatrist calling for official recognition of Internet overuse as a mental disorder, the addiction may be more common than it sounds.

“It takes you away from normal life,” said Youngstown State University sophomore Tara Schiller.

She has friends who constantly text, even while they are talking to her. Schiller said she thinks obsession with the Internet is a real problem.

Overuse of online communication, computer games and even text messaging can have negative real-world consequences, like social isolation or losing sense of time.

That's why Dr. Jerald Block of

the Oregon Health and Science University says that American psychiatrists need to learn how to treat the disorder, which he prefers to call Pathological Compulsive Disorder.

“Addiction is a loaded word,” he said.

Block wrote in an editorial to the American Psychiatric Association that excessive computer use is often associated with a loss of sense of time. Withdrawal can occur when a computer is unavailable, with feelings of anger, tension and depression.

Sophomore Graham Parr said he recognized some of these symptoms in himself. Parr said he will often “buy time” on the Internet by giving himself a few more minutes before focusing on other obligations such as home-



work, but these “few more minutes” eventually become longer than he wants them to be.

“I get tired and run out of time to study,” Parr said.

Parr also recalled when his computer was down for a few days. He said he felt anxious, bored and depressed.

“It was horrible. You feel out of touch on everything that's going on,” Parr said.

Block said Internet obsession can also lead to arguments, lying, poor achievement and fatigue.

It is difficult to determine how many people are affected. Block said, because most Americans have computers at home and many won't admit they have a problem and seek help.

Obsessive Internet porn use is typically the only problem that

INTERNET page 2

TAXES

Taxes due by end of today for students, parents who file for them

Melissa Frederick
Reporter

“I have a lot of my own bills and wanted to get back as much money as I could. It didn't have anything to do with the government refund.”

Jeff Serenko, sophomore

Count Solutions in Austintown, said most students won't receive the government refund if they file with their parents because dependents don't qualify.

George Bellish, a certified public accountant at Capital Business Strategies in Warren, said it is more beneficial to a family as a whole if

students file with their parents. In most cases parents are still providing for students and will receive more money back by claiming dependents because they are in a higher tax bracket. Lohr agrees that this is the best route to take when filing even though students don't get their own government refund.

Sophomore Jeff Serenko was eligible to file with his parents but chose to file separately.

“I have a lot of my own bills and wanted to get back as much money as I could. It didn't have anything to do with the government refund. I filed by myself last year, too,” said Serenko.

YSU

Board of Trustees approves changes to student tuition, fees, other charges

Darlene Wagner
Reporter

Beginning Summer 2008, any student who withdraws from the university or reduces his or her academic load will be entitled to a refund as long as it is done within the set time limits.

Youngstown State University's Board of Trustees approved changes to student tuition, fees and other charges during their March 2008 meeting. Included in those changes is the tuition reimbursement schedule for fiscal year 2008 and fiscal 2009.

For courses six weeks or more, the student will be entitled to a 100 percent refund as long as the withdrawal is made through the 18th day of the term. There will be no refund granted for withdrawals or reductions after the 19th day of the term.

For students dropping classes less than six weeks, 15 percent of the course duration will be refunded. Anything exceeding 15 percent of the course duration will not be refunded.

Beginning fall term 2008, the on-campus living experience will cost students more. Housing charges will increase by \$590, from \$6,740 to \$7,090 per academic year. Residence Hall security deposit will double. Instead of paying a \$100 deposit, residents will pay a \$200 security fee.

Students residing at Weller House will see a 5.9 percent increase, with a fee of \$5,780 (up from \$5,500) per academic year.

Danielle Meyer of Housing and Residence Life said changes in residency fees were necessary due to administrative overhead. Jack Fahey, executive director of Student Services, recommends students take advantage of a \$2,000 housing scholarship to defray the cost of room and board.

Parking violation fines were also revised. All minor traffic violations are at \$10 per occurrence, but beginning July 1, minor violations will be categorized into three different classes. A Class I first offense will be \$15, a second offense \$25, and a third offense will cost \$35. Class II is categorized as major violations and will double from \$50 to \$100. A Class III, which is a legal violation, will triple in cost to \$150.

Dan O'Connell, Support Services director, said the need for increased fees is in direct response to repeat offenders.

“We have frequent abusers,” said O'Connell. “As long as you're following the rules, the increases won't affect you.”

O'Connell explained that people park without permits, rack up several tickets, block loading docks and park in handicapped spots without a permit.

“This causes students with valid parking stickers to have to find other parking arrangements,” he said.

O'Connell concluded by saying

TUITION page 2

TAXES page 2

TO THE POINT

Record numbers to attend English Festival

The YSU English Festival will celebrate its 30th anniversary Wednesday through Friday with a variety of authors, contests and a special dinner to commemorate three decades of spreading reading and writing. There will be approximately 3,000 students from a record 175 junior and senior high schools in Northeast Ohio and Western Pennsylvania.

YSU showing national broadcast on global warming

YSU will sponsor Chill Out, a National Wildlife Federation broadcast demonstrating what other campuses are doing to fight global warming April 16 at 7 p.m. in Moser Hall's Schwebel Auditorium. This is the first of several activities the university has planned to lead up to the annual Earth Day Festival April 23.

Learn about national candidates

The Project Vote Smart national bus tour will be at YSU Thursday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. The bus will park between DeBartolo Hall and the Lincoln Avenue deck. Project Vote Smart is a non-profit, non-partisan organization whose goal is to provide accurate information on candidates running for political office.

Education college to hold annual alumni dinner

The Beeghly College of Education will be honoring seven individuals April 24 at its annual alumni dinner at 6:30 p.m. in the Beeghly Hall's McKay Auditorium. Reservations are \$40 per person or \$300 for a table of eight.

BIRTH CONTROL page 1

How male birth control works

The United Nations World Health Organization, the University of California, Los Angeles and the University of Sydney have all conducted trials to study the effects of weekly testosterone injections on sperm production.

The goal of the contraceptive is to alter the male hormonal system to completely stop sperm production while a man is on the shot.

The injection has shown to be 99 percent effective, the same rate-given to the majority of female birth control methods. The injections are completely reversible, taking anywhere from a few months to a year for sperm levels to return to normal.

University of Sydney researcher Peter Lui found that for 67 percent of tested men, sperm count rose to normal within six months. Ninety percent had a normal sperm count by one year and 100 percent had a normal count after two years.

Beyond testosterone

Steroid hormones called androgens that control the development and maintenance of masculine characteristics have also been shown to lower sperm count without any change in libido or potency, the ability to get an erection and achieve orgasm.

With more tests and safety approval still lacking, male contraceptives are not expected for at least five years.

INTERNET page 1

sends people to treatment, since society doesn't look down on excessive gaming and chatting, Block said.

"People get in trouble when it is porn," he said.

Obsessive gaming in South Korea

Block said some of the most interesting research on fixation with the Internet has been published in South Korea, where he says Internet obsession has led to 10 cardiopulmonary deaths in Internet cafes and one game-related murder.

The problem is more public there. Visiting one Internet cafe for research, he saw about 30 kids completely immersed in the virtual world of Internet games.

"Not one person looked up while I was taking photographs," Block said, adding that South Korea considers Internet obsession among its most serious public health issues.

In his editorial, Block said that the South Korean government has estimated that around 210,000 South Korean children are Internet obsessed and require treatment. About 80 percent of those needing treatment may require psychotropic medications, and around 20 percent need hospitalization.

Block also stated that despite cultural differences, American and Korean case descriptions are very similar. He said that as of June 2007, South Korea has trained over a thousand counselors and enlisted over 190 hospitals and treatment centers in order to deal with this disorder.

Learning to see the problem

Block has called for the American Psychiatric Association to officially recognize the disorder so that psychiatrists can learn to treat the problem.

Listing Internet obsession in its official handbook of mental illness, "The Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders," would be a step toward that training.

Block says that people-oriented psychiatrists may be behind on technology, so its hard for them to understand the world of gaming, where a unique set of rules for interaction come into play.

"Game playing may be so foreign to psychiatrists, it is almost like dealing with cross-culture society," Block said.

TUITION page 1

that the change in fines has nothing to do with revenue. It was incorporated strictly as a deterrent to repeat offenders.

Stephen Foley, student trustee, said he favors the changes. The original proposed change only offered refunds to students who withdrew within 10 days after the term started, Foley said.

"I feel it is a definite victory for the students," said Foley. "Instead of getting a partial refund, students are getting a 100 percent refund."

Foley also said he understands that stiffer penalties are needed for people who are not parking appropriately. Of the increase in housing, Foley said, "Increases are natural to keep up with overhead and as cost-of-living expenses rise."

TAXES page 1

like TurboTax and Free File through the IRS more people are filing on their own.

Bellish said he thinks some of the tax packages can be expensive.

"We make sure clients get all the deductions they can claim, such as interest income, dividends, etc., and it

can sometimes get very involved but is still probably cheaper than buying a tax package," Bellish said.

Certified public accountants base their fees on the forms they have to use to file each individual's return. It is illegal for them to charge a percentage of what someone's refund will be.

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Friday, April 18
Renewable Energy-Solar and Wind in Action
Alan Frasz, owner of Dovetail Solar in Chagrin Falls, OH
11 a.m., Schwebel Auditorium, 2000 Moser Hall

Saturday, April 19
THE MAD COWBOY, HOWARD LYMAN
The cattle rancher who won't eat meat talks about factory farming, vegetarianism, health, and the environment.
4 p.m., Kilcawley Center, Gallery

Tuesday, April 22
BBC Planet Earth Series
Truly spectacular footage on the big screen. Don't miss it!
3 p.m. - 5 p.m., YSU Planetarium

Wednesday, April 23
Environmental Organization Fair
All the information and inspiration you need to green up your life!
9 a.m. - 3 p.m., Kilcawley Center (outdoors and first-floor arcade area)

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FASHION

April showers bring green, natural spring fashions

Jeanette DiRubba
Reporter

Low-rise pants are out this spring. "The muffin-top look is out," said Virginia Draa, coordinator of merchandising and interior design at Youngstown State University. Instead, look for pants worn at the waist.

Floral prints, natural fibers and neutral colors are also in, and distressed denim is out. Draa said faded and ripped-jean looks are out. "Green is the new black this spring," Draa said, adding that Kelly green has become the popular shade this year and different greens can be worn together for style.

For the women



Draa said that basic black or white pants are "cute for college-age females." Shiny patent leather and bright-colored accessories compliment any outfit this spring. A bright swing jacket for casual wear and bubble skirts for spring weddings will style many female figures, she said.

Geometric prints on tops can be seen on store racks as well as the V-neck and scoop-neck tops. An empire waistline will still be in season on many tops and jackets, Draa said. "Rain gear is big this season," she added. Raincoats in shiny patent leather and rubber rain boots are now seen everywhere.

For the men



Men should be wearing pants that fit them, Draa said. Khaki colors this spring will be found in stone and smoke shades, and denim should be in purple and brown shades. "The tribal rhythm shirts are in, and this pattern looks like the detail off of a ceremonial tribal mask," Draa said. Other shirt patterns look like leaves or photographic prints as well as hemp-rope patterns. Pink- and rose-colored shirts as well as miniature paisley patterns are the new spring trends for men.

MUSIC

Sophomore country-rock singer aims for Nashville

Brandon Judah & Ashley Fox
The Jambar

Lea Nesbitt first began singing when she was 3 years old, and from there the Youngstown State University sophomore's love of music took off. "I grew up listening to music and loving the beat," said Nesbitt. "The music has always been in me." The rock and country singer is also an aspiring songwriter. She frequently performs at Penguin Pre-Party open mic nights and plans to go to Nashville right after graduation to pursue a music career.

The telecommunications major also dabbles in R&B and pop. She has been inspired by everyone from Celine Dion to Reba McEntire and Fleetwood Mac to Def Leppard. "I have a lot of favorites," said Nesbitt, including anything upbeat, although she enjoys performing ballads, too. "I just really like singing. One that really gets people going is 'Me and Bobby McGee.' It's fun to perform," she said. Even though she has been singing most of her life, she said she still gets nervous before performing. "Someone once told me that if you stop getting nervous, you stop doing a good job," she said.

"Although I disagree, I still get nervous and do a great job." When asked if she has any rituals or if she does anything to preserve her voice, Nesbitt said no. "I just make sure not to eat before performing because I don't like to feel full. I don't do anything to preserve my voice either, though I should probably start," she said. Nesbitt's defining moment, musically, was when she lived in Texas and performed with a well-known local band called The Toman Brothers. "I was singing 'My Heart Will Go On' by Celine Dion and I don't know why, but everyone was impressed," she said. It was a great feeling, and a

week later, she was singing at a jam session with the guitar player. Nesbitt, who is also trying to learn guitar, is open to singing duets, though she said it's hard to find the right person to sing with. In her free time, Nesbitt looks for potential band members and enjoys writing songs. Singing carries through every part of her day, even when she's running errands and doing homework. "It can be hard at times, balancing school, singing and work, but when things start to get a little hectic, I just remember my goals and dreams and find a way to get it all done," she said.

MOVIES

Genuine performances save 'Smart People' from indie cliches

Tyler Landis
Jambar Contributor

Dennis Quaid may be one of the most underappreciated actors today. He's a likeable guy with solid acting chops and plenty of charisma who has played the father figure in many of his films, taking on that same role in "Smart People." Quaid plays Lawrence Weatherhold, a burnt-out English professor disliked by students. He's smart, but may be too self-absorbed, much like the character of Bernard in "The Squid and the Whale." He is also a widower who still keeps the clothes of his former wife stored away in the house. His kids are played by Ashton Holmes, who starred in "A History of Violence," and Ellen Page. She does fine work here, and while

"Smart People" was actually filmed before "Juno," the film that snagged her a 2007 Oscar nomination, "Smart People" will certainly remind viewers of why Page is such a promising young actress. Her character is the quick-witted and uber intelligent Vanessa, a 17-year-old who looks up to her father. His children are busy with their own lives when Weatherhold suf-

fers a concussion and his doctor, Miranda, advises him not to drive for six months. There's an instant attraction between Weatherhold and Miranda, his former student. Still, Miranda doesn't seem like the right girl for him, perhaps due to awkward casting of Sarah Jessica Parker in the role, although it's nice to see her stray from the romantic comedy genre and do something with a little weight. Weatherhold's adopted brother

Chuck soon shows up looking for some quick cash, but he ends up being a chauffeur. Played by the wonderful Thomas Haden Church in a much more toned down version of his "Sideways" character, Chuck is a moocher who loves pot and alcohol. While unemployed, he adds some much needed humor to the Weatherhold home. Church is solid as the supporting comic gem. Pretty soon, all the dysfunctional characters are living under one roof, save for Miranda, and most of the characters learn something about themselves before the film ends. If it sounds like the formula indie script, that's because it is, with great performances and a genuine slice of life. This film's no masterpiece, but the dialogue is clever. If only the script had room to breathe and maneuver, "Smart People" could have earned a higher grade.



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Contest Details:
Complete details and rules available on the Kilcawley Center web site. Kilcawley Center participating areas include KC Food Court, Peaberry's, Bagel Stop, the Candy Counter, YSU Arby's, and the YSU Bookstore C-Store. The Cedar Point Road Trip Contest is sponsored by Coca-Cola Bottling and Kilcawley Center.

www.kc.ysu.edu - CONTEST DETAILS

BIOLOGY DAY 2008

Student and Faculty Research Posters and Presentations

Keynote address:
Dr. Michael Muszynski
"Fleming Moments"
Dean, Florida State University
Medical School, Orlando Campus
12:15 Rm 3022 Ward Beecher

April 17th
9:30 AM - 4:30 PM
Ward Beecher Hall, 3rd floor

OUR SIDE

Admitting you have a problem is step one

RELATED STORY
INTERNET, page 1

It's time to actually sit down and write that paper you've been putting off all semester — the one that counts for roughly half of your grade.

You sit down at the computer and decide first to check your email since there may be something important in there, or at the least a funny joke that you could use to procrastinate for another five to ten minutes.

Suddenly, checking Facebook can't seem to wait. Soon you've caught up with those old friends who left you messages and have successfully stalked several others you'd like as old friends.

Two hours have passed, and your word count is zero.

Internet obsession is a real problem, especially for our demographic. Our cell phones are getting closer to tiny computers and farther from brick phones we saw (and used) growing up. We have an insatiable need to always feel connected.

When was the last time you turned off your cell phone? If you can't remember, you're not alone.

According to a December 2007 survey by the Pew Internet and American Life Project, 62 percent of Americans have some experience gaining mobile access to digital tools and information. Fifty-one percent of Americans said it would be "very hard" to give up their cell phones.

We know we could set aside time without phones or computers, but we don't see the need. Isn't that a sign of addiction?

Text messaging can sometimes be worse than talking. We walk — or worse, drive — around with our noses buried in phones, too busy to realize everything else around us.

We want to be connected, but maybe it's time to detach ourselves a little.

Most of the time, technology serves us well. But we're oversaturated.

So do yourself a favor and next time you sit down to write that term paper, don't let the black hole suck you in.

POLICIES

Editorials in The Jambar reflect the opinions of the editorial staff, including the Editor in Chief, News Editor, Managing Editor and Copy Editor.

The Jambar encourages letters to the editor. E-mail submissions are welcome at thejambar@gmail.com.

Letters should concern campus issues, must be typed and must not exceed 400 words. Submissions must include name and telephone number for verification, and letters are subject to editing for spelling, grammar and clarity. Items submitted become the property of The Jambar and will not be returned.

Letters will not be rejected based on the views expressed in them. Letters may be rejected if they are not relevant to Jambar readers, if they 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.

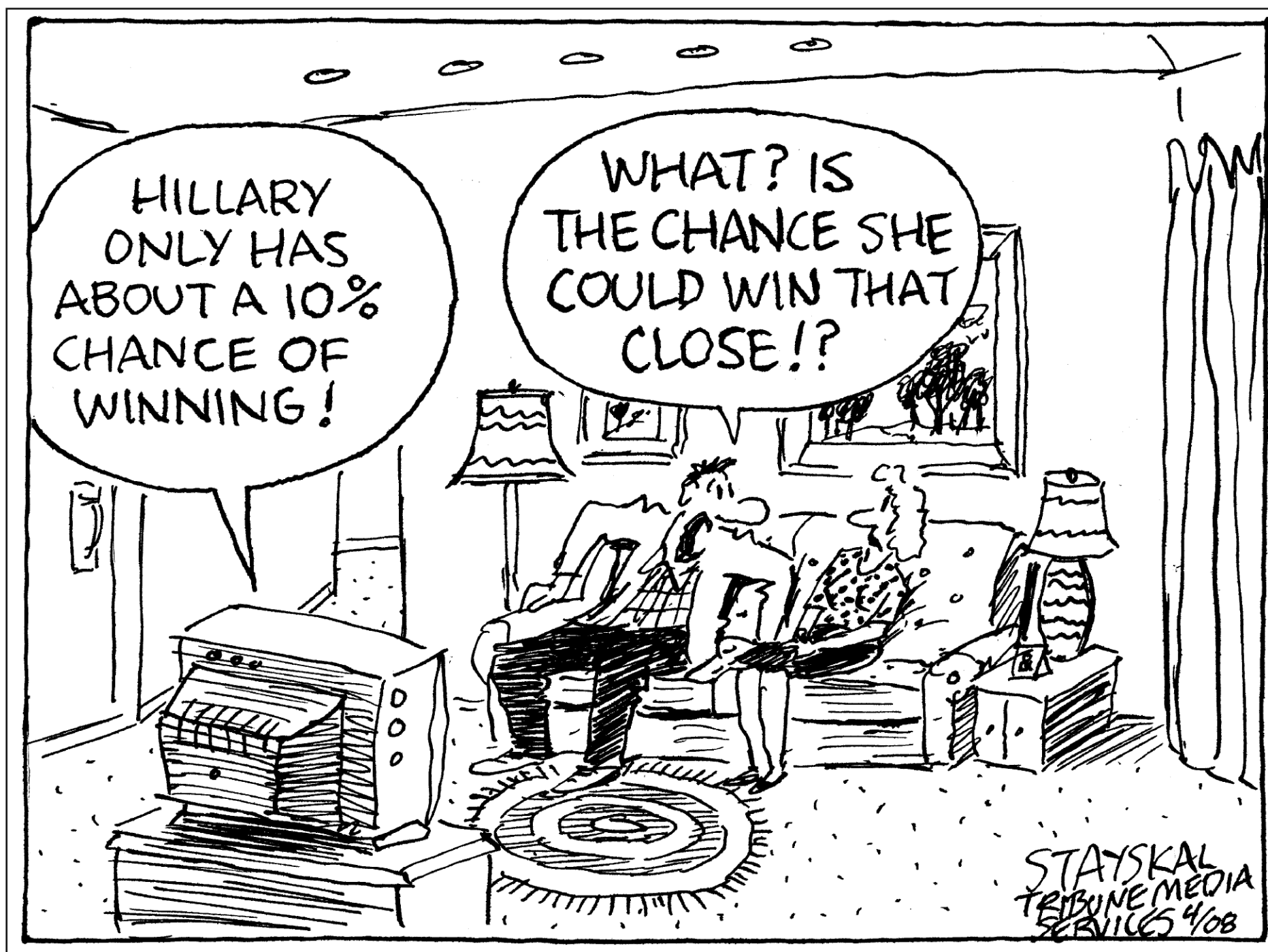
The views and opinions expressed in published letters do not necessarily reflect those of the staff of The Jambar or the faculty, staff or administration of Youngstown State University.

ABOUT THE JAMBAR

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Editor,

When asked as a Presidential Mentor which area of YSU needs the most improvement I could easily say more office space ... increased student services ... but the truth is I must respond with my conscious that an "assembly" (if you could call it that) is the most detrimental to YSU students in comparison to other universities.

We shall call it these words to protect the guilty and the innocent alike ... so please bear with me. Collectively we as "organizations" apart of the "assembly" should seek that every "organization" has the capacity to survive. When an "organization" gets to be small the ability to fundraise diminishes. Do the larger more financially secure "organizations" seek to offer support or suggestions? Is the "assembly" fulfilling its purpose to assist? No! The smallest are left to fend for themselves.

Whereas other universities have "organizations" that thrive on competition, here at YSU we pride ourselves on saying that anything that sets an "organization" apart cannot be capitalized on because it degrades the "system."

In the words of someone wise ... horse s---! Instead of seeking the betterment of the "system" like they preach, they are in fact killing it because of not understanding cooperative "organizational" betterment.

Editor,

This letter is to explain why I am not supporting Senator Barack Obama and am fully supporting Senator Hillary Clinton for president of the United States.

Obama often repeats that he is the candidate for change but what has he done to work for change? Why are most of his political endorsements coming from Washington insiders? This is something to be considered. In addition, he appears to mimic the candidacy of Clinton in spirit but not with substance. Clearly he has not thought the issues through and perhaps (it was thought) given more time and experience, he would emerge as a fine statesperson.

But all that has changed since the recent revelations of his 20-year relationship with Pastor Jeremiah Wright. It is very troubling to realize the influence Wright has had on Obama when it comes to the pastor's anti-American racist beliefs.

Any reasonable person would have discontinued this relationship if they did not concur with these views. Obama will only add to the racial divide in this country. Furthermore, his latest comments about the "bitter small-town Pennsylvanians" are in fact "elitist," "demeaning" and "out of touch."

These are things the Democratic Party I knew never stood for. Consequently, at this most crucial

moment in history, our country cannot afford to gamble again with someone who is simply not prepared to take on the enormous responsibilities of commander in chief.

On the other hand, Clinton has spent her whole life working for change. Change that has improved the quality of life for all Americans by focusing on fairness. She truly cares about our country. Given the current state of our economy, she may very well represent the last chance for this country to avoid social catastrophe. Her lengthy public-service experience has more than prepared her for the presidency. It is the very reason why the greedy powers that be are so opposed to her candidacy. It is why some of her primary opponent's donors are part of this opposition.

Frankly, those supporting the status quo have never felt so threatened. For this election is a clear choice between those who have never had it so good and those of us who know we can do better. Clinton knows we can do better and her track record reflects that. On April 22, Pennsylvania needs support Senator Hillary Clinton for president and help get our country back on track.

Joe Bialek
 Cleveland, Ohio

Joe Iesue
 Presidential Mentor

COMMENTARY

Withdrawal from the Winless War

Emily Thayer

Jambar Contributor

America has stuck our soldiers in a manmade catastrophe; unlike Katrina, we once had control of our own fate. After five years, the Iraq war accounts for nearly 4,000 deaths and more than 60,000 wounded American soldiers. Additionally, the cost of the war is estimated to \$12 billion a month and up to \$500 billion total.

When do we say enough is enough?

America's only chance of ending the war lies with the two Democratic presidential hopefuls, Barack Obama and Hillary Clinton. Their leadership, combined with the backing of Congress, could quite possibly lead the country out of the mess President Bush undeniably put us in.

As we all know, there's no possibility of Republican presidential hopeful John McCain denouncing Bush's mistakes. McCain famously stated that he would stay in Iraq for 100 years if needed. Ultimately, if he wins we'll keep fighting this winless war.

Fortunately, many Americans are realizing the false information sold to them by the Bush administration to enter the war in the first place, including Clinton. Misled by her leader, Clinton says if she knew

then what she knew now she would not have approved the war in Iraq. Clinton and fellow blindsided Senate members are now looking for a solution for an end. The solution is to withdraw the troops.

There are two different options when it comes to withdrawal from Iraq. Obama and Clinton favor opposite stances. Clinton proposes that if she becomes president she will withdraw troops within 60 days. Obama's withdrawal plan calls for 18 months to successfully remove the troops.

What are the main differences?

Firstly, many Americans feel we have a moral obligation to at least stabilize the Iraqi army before we leave. Barack agrees with this idea, while Hillary believes we've already given enough time. In a recent U.S. Senate meeting with Gen. David Petraeus, Clinton said, "Iraqi leaders had consistently failed to deliver on promises of progress."

Secondly, a huge difference lies on how to get the soldiers out in addition to the billions of dollars of equipment sent overseas. The biggest dispute comes down to the value placed on getting the equipment out. There's no question that we could withdraw quickly, but the cost of leaving equipment ranging from tanks to multi-million dollar fitness centers behind is tremendous. So which do we value more,

money or lives?

The American public is not alone in questioning the war's restlessness. Many other senators are questioning the military personnel. According to National Public Radio, Democratic Sen. Joseph Biden, who chairs the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, asked Petraeus to estimate on a scale of one to 10 how close the United States is to being able to significantly reduce forces in Iraq.

Petraeus said, "I think we're in a six or a seven, or somewhere along there."

Biden responded, "I can't think of any circumstance where you fellows are likely to recommend no matter how bad things got where you would withdraw. But I may be mistaken. That's part of everyone's concern."

The best option for Americans is to keep pushing for withdrawal from the war, whether it's with your local official or through your vote this upcoming election. Just realize that putting the wrong person in power could cause substantial consequences.

Ultimately, the longer we stay the more lives we lose. Despite the disagreement over when and how to withdraw our troops, at least we can all agree that we can plan a better disengagement than we planned the entrance into Iraq.

Trying to put the star back in Starbucks

Karen Heller

The Philadelphia Inquirer (MCT)

Starbucks, you may have heard, is rebrewing itself.

In February, the caffeinated leviathan shuttered all 7,100 American outlets for three hours to retrain employees, a gimmick met with equal parts ridicule and suspicion. If customers hadn't gathered something was wrong, they knew now. The stock is down 40 percent from last year.

Today, "Starbucks introduces coffee," the company proclaims, offering free 12-ounce cups of its new Pike Place Roast, every Wednesday through May 28.

When a company has to reintroduce its core business, it's time to question the grounds. Founder Howard Schultz is on his 12th Transformation Agenda Communication, as if he were the Gen. David Petraeus of java.

What's gone wrong with Starbucks indicates a consumer base that doesn't want what it's peddling. In a — dare we say it? — recession, the stores are too expensive, too impersonal, too unrelated to the sense of community that drove sales in the first place. They've become a pricey version of Dunkin' Donuts in muted colors.

Initially, Starbucks only had to do two things right: the coffee and the food, the latter a disaster from the start.

Cases are stocked with stale sweets and pale sandwiches, enticing as paste. Know how little the cafes care about comestibles? When Starbucks arrived here a dozen years ago, an executive phoned a colleague for suggestions on pastry purveyors. That's research.

As fine coffee became more bountiful, consumers noted that Starbucks overroasted the beans, then stopped grinding them altogether. The people behind the counter aren't baristas. They're button pushers.

The brew is served scalding which no decent cafe would ever do, possibly because the big bucks are in the gussied-up beverages loaded with milk, flavoring and whipped cream, the caffeine equivalent of a froufrou drink. You know, coffee for people who don't like coffee.

Consumers don't crave big anymore. They want an intimate connection with the community. As good coffee took over the country, home-brewed cafes increased, owned and operated by area residents, each with a distinct identity, less particleboard, more bulletin

boards supporting local endeavors.

The money stays in the neighborhood, not Seattle. That's why naming the new roast after Pike Place, the first of Starbucks' 16,000 global locations, with a mere 1,175 to open this year, seems a flat note. Or playing the same music everywhere, Sir Paulie or, a "top spin" at this very moment, Kenny G's Rhythm & Romance, which has many painful associations with the dentist.

I tried the coffee, a medium roast, and it's an improvement, but still not as good as what we have here. Philadelphia is home to the exquisite La Colombe, worth every penny of the \$14 pound bag that we've learned to stretch for a couple of weeks or more.

Our neighborhood cafe, possibly like yours, is a caffeinated Cheers. The coffee, from a small Seattle roaster, is ground fresh and always the right temperature. Tables are shared, as well as politics, social issues and recipes. It's the heart of our neighborhood.

The owner treats regulars to a free latte on their birthdays, complete with a song. She sings far better than Kenny G plays. And the pastries, quiche and crepes, I'm happy to report, are fresh and delicious. How, in the world, can Starbucks compete with that?

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

A new chapter for Penguin basketball

Former IUP head coach Cindy Martin will take the reins of the women's basketball program at Youngstown State University as the new head coach.

Andrew Berry

Sports Editor

The women's basketball team got off to a fresh start Friday as President David Sweet was on hand at the Beeghly Center to announce Cindy Martin as the new head coach of the Youngstown State University women's basketball team.

"I want to come in and win right away," said Martin. "I don't like to lose. I'm probably the most competitive person you'll ever meet. I'm not promising a conference championship, but it could happen with a lot of hard work."

After posting an impressive 70-23 record in three seasons with the University of Indiana Pennsylvania, Martin is looking to rebuild the Penguins as a top-notch program in the Horizon League. Last season at IUP, Martin led the Crimson Hawks to a school best 27 wins and a second consecutive conference championship to earn her the accolade of 2007-08 Division II East Region Coach of the Year.

But even with all her accomplishments, Martin is anxious to open the pages of a new career chapter at YSU.

"A dream and goal of mine was to be a Division I coach," Martin said. "I'm really just excited to be here and this is a dream come true."

A 1999 graduate of the University of Florida, Martin is quickly making Youngstown her new home and turning the women's basketball program into a powerhouse her new mission.

"Everything has been first class here and I feel completely welcome and completely at home here at Youngstown," Martin said.

Taking over for the departed Tisha Hill, Martin inherits a team that is coming off of one of its better seasons in recent years. The



READY TO WIN — New women's basketball head coach Cindy Martin addresses the local media after being announced as the new coach at Youngstown State. Martin previously coached the IUP Crimson Hawks and was a top assistant at West Virginia University of the Big East. Photo courtesy of YSU Sports Information.

Penguins won their second most regular season games since 2000 with 14 victories. The team also matched a school best eight wins in the Horizon League and hosting a first-round league playoff game in which the Penguins defeated the Detroit Titans 65-54.

While Martin will not get the

luxury of coaching Heather Karner, Lauren Branson or Jessica Schloemp, three seniors who contributed heavily last season, the new Penguin coach still has a roster with a magnitude of experience.

With six seniors and four juniors on board for next season, Martin believes she is in a similar situation to IUP where all the right pieces are in place to win right away.

Martin also believes that the league is "open" and can be won if the team gets hot at the start of the tournament. While Martin's Crimson Hawks had to finish in the top tier at the end of the season to make the playoffs, all the

Horizon League teams get a seed in the conference tournament. "If you win four games in a row, you're cutting down the nets, it's that simple," Martin said. "It's doable, it's winnable and that's one of the reasons I took this position."

Once a staff is in place, the Penguins will begin recruiting, a process that Martin says they are behind on in 2008. But while she noted that recruiting is very important for the longevity of the program, the new coach believes she has the talent already in place that has the ability to contribute immediately.

Martin will also look to develop her players on the court, in the classroom and in the community; a philosophy the new Penguin coach calls "the three C's".

"I think they're ready to be pushed to the next level," Martin said. "I feel it's very important that I develop them as best as I can. I think we'd all be amiss if we didn't look to these 10 players to contribute right away."

Optimism is high as the Penguins could flourish in the first year of the Martin era. In her inaugural season at IUP, Martin led the Crimson Hawks to a 19-9 record and finished with a second-place conference record of 8-4.

Prior to her stint at IUP, Martin was a top assistant with the West Virginia University Mountaineers. She was a big part of assembling three straight top 20 recruiting classes including the class of 2003 at West Virginia which ranked fourth nationally according to the All-Star Girls Report.

While Martin believes there is a lot of hard work ahead, she is excited to take over the YSU program and is looking forward to fielding a competitive squad in 2008-09 season.

PENGUIN SPORTS TO THE POINT

Penguins break more records at Sea Ray Relays

Junior Joe Lahmon set the Youngstown State hammer record and Aaron Merrill improved on his shot put record at the Sea Ray Relays over the weekend.

Lahmon posted a second-place mark of 193-4 to break Jarrod Davis's previous record by more than two feet. Merrill won the shot put with a heave of 57-11 1/4 to top his record of 55-2 3/4 that he posted last week. Lahmon hit the NCAA Midwest Regional qualifying distance for the first time in his career while Merrill surpassed the standard for the second straight week.

Shayne York highlighted YSU's performances at the Northeast Ohio Quad at the University of Akron. The junior posted personal-best marks of 46-2 1/2 in the triple jump and 22-11 3/4 in the long jump to finish second and third, respectively. Those distances also rank York second in YSU history in the triple jump and fourth in the long jump.

Freshman Jerill Hall also moved into second-place in the 110-meter hurdles in the all-time list, clocking in with a time of 14.87 at the Sea Ray Relays.

Also at the University of Tennessee, Katie Betts ran a personal-best time of 12.01 in the 100m, and Katy Wells finished with a personal-best 14.70 in the 100m hurdles. Breanne Romeo's 57.14 in the 400m was a personal best time, and Bethany Anderson finished 10th in the hammer (164-4).

In Akron, Yandeh Joh finished third in the 100m hurdles with a personal-best time of 14.59, and Emily Dumitru added a fourth-place effort in the 400m hurdles (1:08.82).

Source: Sports Information

MEN'S BASKETBALL



TOP GUN — Senior guard Byron Davis led the team in scoring and points per game in 2007-08. Photo courtesy of Ron Stevens.

Team honored at banquet, Davis named Most Valuable Player

Andrew Berry

Sports Editor

Senior guard Byron Davis was named the Youngstown State University men's basketball team's 2007-08 Dom Rosselli Most Valuable Player Sunday at the Chestnut Room in the Kilcawley Center.

Four other Penguins earned honors for their performances during the season at the program's annual awards banquet.

Senior forward John Barber was named the 2007-08 Four

Square Club Scholar-Athlete and earned the Leo Mogus Leading Rebounder Award.

Senior forward Dwight Holmes was the recipient of the Tony Vivo Hustle Award after turning in the best season of his career with 140 points, 74 rebounds and 18 assists.

Freshman guard Vytas Sulskis was selected as the Penguin Club Most Improved Player and freshman Vance Cooksey earned the Assist Leader Award and the Free-Throw Percentage Award for his efforts in his freshman year.

2008 Season Stats — Byron Davis

Points Scored	465
Rebounds	90
Points Per Game	15.5
Steals	33
Blocked Shots	6



SOFTBALL

Penguins blasted by Wright State, look for better results against league rival Vikings

Aaron Blatch

Sports Reporter

Before last weekend's series with Wright State, Youngstown State head softball coach Christy Cameron said her team would have to take advantage of all opportunities on offense and get an improved effort on the mound to get a series win. The Penguins (6-22, 2-9 in the Horizon League) were able to get neither, and the result was a three-game sweep at the hands of the Raiders at McCune Park.

The Penguins' offense only had four runners cross home plate in the series, and the team's pitchers were battered by a high-powered Wright State offense that blasted six home runs in the three games.

The teams played a doubleheader on Saturday, beginning their only head-to-head series of the season. In game one the Raiders scored an unearned run off a Penguin error in the top of the first inning, and they would hold the lead all game. Starter Danielle Chase pitched well for three innings for YSU, keeping the deficit at 1-0 but she was knocked out of the game after surrendering two runs in the fourth inning and four more in the fifth. The Penguins scored their only run in the sixth inning, when Kim Klonowski singled Katy Potokar. YSU could not score again and the result was a 10-1 loss.

Game two was more of the same for the home team. The Wright State offense exploded for six runs in the seventh inning, and YSU could only connect for one base hit, a Kristin Bair single in the third inning. Chase relieved starter Erin Schindler in the third inning and pitched three scoreless frames, but the team dropped an 8-0 decision.

Sunday brought the series finale, and for the first time in the



LONG TOSS — Senior infielder McKenzie Bedra fields the hit at third base and launches the ball across the diamond to get the runner out at first. The Penguins will play a doubleheader against Cleveland State today at McCune Park with a start time of 3 p.m. Photo courtesy of Ron Stevens.

weekend the Penguin bats showed some signs of life early in the game. After a scoreless first inning each team scored twice in the second frame. YSU got their first run on when Rochelle Vanyi drew a bases-loaded walk. Bair followed with an RBI groundout to tie the game at two.

In the third inning, the Raiders answered with a three-run home run to take a 5-2 lead. The Penguins were able to get one run back when

McKenzie Bedra scored on a wild pitch, but that would be the last run to cross the plate for the home team. Wright State continued to put runs on the board and finished with a 13-3 win.

The Penguins will try to turn their season around in a hurry, as it hosts league rival Cleveland State in a doubleheader today. The team still has 19 games remaining on the schedule, including 11 contests within the Horizon League.

BASEBALL

Penguins douse Flames to win weekend series

Eric Barone

Reporter

Youngstown State University's baseball team opened up a three-game series with University of Illinois-Chicago this weekend at Eastwood Field.

Friday's contest ended in dramatic fashion when sophomore Eric Marzec ended the contest in the 10th inning with a walk-off home run. The blast that won the game for the Penguins was the first home run of the season for the sophomore. UIC took a two-run lead in the top of the ninth. Senior Josh Page tied the game with a two-run home run, setting the stage for Marzec to be the hero for the Penguins in the 10th. Sophomore Anthony Munoz led the Penguins at the plate with three hits, and senior pitcher Adam Kalafos, regularly used in the starting role, came on in relief and picked up the win for the Penguins on the mound.

The Penguins and the Flames split Saturday's doubleheader with YSU winning game one. Redshirt freshman Joe Iacobucci helped the Penguins jump out to an early three-run lead with a two-run home run. Iacobucci was 2-2 at the plate with two RBIs and two runs scored. Starting pitcher Cory Vukovic retired the first eight batters he faced and went six innings allowing five hits and two earned runs for his second win of the season. Marzec came out of the bullpen to pick up his second save of the season in relief.

In the second game of the doubleheader the Penguins couldn't hold onto a 4-2. After enjoying an errorless first game, the Penguin defense suffered several miscues as the Flames scored an unearned in the sixth. UIC never looked back, adding another run in the eighth to take the victory 9-5.