



# THE JAMBAR

The student voice of Youngstown State University since 1931.



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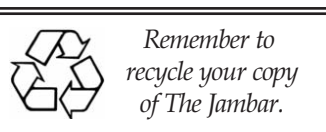


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WEATHER

Today 45° 33°  
 Wednesday 53° 30°  
 Thursday 65° 40°  
 Friday 75° 49°  
 Saturday 69° 52°  
 Sunday 64° 44°  
 Monday 59° 40°



YSU

## Internships vary across campus

Sarah Sole  
News Editor

Students may experience discrepancies in how they obtain internships depending on what college, and in some cases what department, they are enrolled in.

While the Professional Practice Online Database's Electronic Application for

Students and Employees is available for business, engineering, engineering tech, information technology, computer science and information systems, and computer information science majors, Cary Horvath, chair of the communication department at Youngstown State University, said communication studies majors largely generate their own internships. Though the faculty

assists students, they "don't have the pipeline" in place to find internships for students, she said.

The Professional Practice Program contacts 35 to 60 employers during two main events held on campus in the spring and fall, said Gwenn Clark, Professional Practice program coordinator in the Williamson College of Business Administration. Students can sub-

mit their resume and GPA information in the PPODEASE database, and WCBA submits the resumes to employers. The employers will then send a list of students back to the college, and the college will notify the selected students, who can then use PPODEASE to schedule an appointment during the interview day on campus. Students whose

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HEALTH

## Cheesecake, McDonalds, Marlboro Man hurt your heart

Alice DeBonis  
Reporter

Youngstown State University freshman Janetta Patterson faced heart disease at an early age. At twenty-three, Patterson was diagnosed with hypertension. Her doctor warned her that if she didn't exercise and eat healthier, there would be serious consequences.

"My doctor told me I wouldn't live to be twenty-nine," Patterson said.

Patterson listened to her doctor and lost 120 pounds. Today, she is constantly aware of making healthy choices.

"I really have to be disciplined," she said.

According to the YSU department of health and human services, heart disease is the leading cause of death for both men and women in the United States, and coronary heart disease kills more than 7 million people worldwide.

Yet many college students are unaware of the risks of heart disease. A study published in the Journal of Community Health found that college students may be putting themselves at risk by ignoring the threat of heart disease.

More than 1,400 students at Arizona State University were surveyed in the study that found that most were not well-informed about heart disease. Also, many students were not aware that combining risk factors such as oral contraceptives and cigarettes causes a greater chance in developing heart disease.

Dr. Richard Josephson, a cardiologist at the Cleveland Heart and Vascular Center of Case Western Reserve, said that family history, age and gender play a large role in developing heart disease, but there are some behaviors young adults engage in that will increase their risk.

"You can't change age, family history, or gender, but you can take some control," he said.

Josephson said that excessive drinking of alcohol and smoking are among these risk factors.

Even secondhand smoke is a risk. According to Josephson, dramatic decreases in cardiovascular disease are seen in places that have banned smoking.

In addition, a poor diet and lack of physical activity increases the risk of heart disease Josephson said.

"Most educated people should already know this," he said.

Even so, Josephson noted that is hard to follow these practices when dealing with real-life temptations.

"Factors such as cheesecake, McDonalds, and the Marlboro Man are out there," Josephson said.

The American Heart Association corroborated with Josephson's statement. According to studies, in industrialized countries such as the United States, people are more likely to be inactive and to

HEART page 2

YSU

# More time to get tax rebates

## IRS extends rebate deadline to Oct. 15

Harriet Johnson Brackey  
South Florida Sun-Sentinel

Tax season's over, but the Internal Revenue Service says it will accept late returns until Oct. 15 from anyone who qualifies for an economic stimulus rebate check and doesn't owe the federal government money.

"Don't worry if you did not file a return by April 15," IRS Commissioner Doug Shulman said in a statement. "If you meet the criteria, you are still eligible for a stimulus payment."

The IRS is trying to reach millions of people, including many retirees who don't have taxable income, who normally aren't required to file tax returns because their incomes are too low or not taxable. Those people won't get rebate checks unless they file returns.

It's likely that some people didn't realize that, couldn't find a form or didn't know where to turn for help.

The IRS says its doors are still open for those who could not get the job done by April 15.

"We have received millions of stimulus payment returns and we expect millions more," IRS Spokesman Michael Dobzinski said.

If you file by Oct. 15, the IRS says it can process stimulus payments by the end of the year.

The rebates range from \$300 to \$600 per person, including a payment for each child under age 17 who qualifies.

Those who didn't need to file a return should not worry about facing a penalty for filing after the April 15 deadline, the IRS spokesman said.

You qualify for an economic stimulus payment if you have a Social Security number, are not claimed or eligible to be claimed as a dependent on someone else's return and you have "qualifying income" of at least \$3,000. Your spouse and children must also have Social Security numbers. Children

REBATE page 2

"Don't worry if you did not file a return by April 15. If you meet the criteria, you are still eligible for a stimulus payment."

Doug Shulman, IRS Commissioner

CAMPUS

## Bookstore makes textbook buyback quotes available to students online

Amy Brown  
Reporter

A familiar text book buyback week ritual may be coming to an end as the YSU Bookstore is set to provide online quotes for returning books starting May 4. Students will no longer have to crowd into the hallway that leads to the buyback counters at the bookstore, wondering if making the return is worth their time.

While students spend hundreds to get them, some textbooks pay

mere dollars upon return. These are the books that become expensive souvenirs of the semester.

Students have found additional uses for the new service. Freshman Amanda Fraser plans to use the quote system to price a book she's selling to a friend.

Chuck Sabatino, the director of the YSU Bookstore, said that new service is designed to help students. "Anything we can do to make things more convenient for the students, we will do," he said.

Susan Fox is the assistant director and wants to make sure students

get all their money back that they can.

"I encourage students to bring all of their books, because even though a price might not show up on the buyback list, we still may buy them back," she said, explaining that bundled CDs and booklets throw off the numbering system.

To get a quote, students enter the book's condition and its ISBN, the 10 or 13 digit International Standard Book Number found on the back cover or front pages of a book.

WHERE AND WHEN

**YSU Bookstore  
Kilawley Center**  
April 28 to May 10  
Monday to Thursday 8:00 to 7:00 p.m.  
Friday 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.  
Saturday 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

**Wick Skywalk Bridge**

May 5 to May 9  
Monday to Thursday 8:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.  
Friday 8:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

BUYBACK GUIDELINES

The bookstore will give back half of what the new price was of the book was, and 67% if the book was used if:

- 1) The faculty is going to use the book the next semester.
- 2) If YSU Bookstore is not overstocked with the title.
- 3) If the book is resalable, intact and reusable.
- 4) It is the current edition.
- 5) Students must present YSU Student I.D.



**TO THE POINT**

**YSU/Tri-County Journalism Press to be held in Kilcawley Center**

Kilcawley Center will host the annual YSU/Tri-County Journalism Press. The event will be held Tuesday from 8:15 a.m. to 3 p.m., and will feature keynote speakers John and Heather Seibel of ESPN.

**Poetry reading in Kilcawley Gallery Tuesday**

A poetry reading by David Lloyd and William Greenway will be held in Kilcawley Center's Gallery Tuesday. Greenway is a YSU professor, and will be celebrating "The Other Land: Poems of Wales and the Welsh American Experience", which he and Lloyd both worked on.

**Electrical and Electronics Engineers Professional Awareness Conference**

The Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers Student Branch will host a Student Professional Awareness Conference. Being held May 1 in the Stadium Club at 6 p.m., this \$10 event will be appropriate for all students.

**SMARTS students to present operas**

Area SMARTS students will present two original operas Thursday night, downtown at the DeYor Performing Arts Center. The event begins at 6 p.m., and general admission is \$1

**Department of Nursing reception planned for alumni**

The Department of Nursing will honor YSU's Centennial with a reception for all nursing alumni. Starting at 5 p.m. and ending at 8 p.m., the event will be held May 8 in the Cushman Hall Atrium. Reservations are \$12 and can be made through April 30.

**Dana International New Music Festival**

The Dana School of Music will hold its International New Music Festival all this week. The festival will include three lectures and five performances, held at Bliss Hall and the DeYor Performing Arts Center. This year's guest composer is John Terry Plumeri.

**Theater Department to announce upcoming schedule**

YSU's Theater Department will hold a press conference Wednesday morning to announce the 2008-2009 University Theater Season. The conference will be at 9 a.m. in the Ford Theater Lobby, Bliss Hall.

**Open forum with New York artist**

McDonough Museum will host an open discussion with New York based artist and Skeggs Lecturer Fred Wilson. The forum, "What is the Role of Art in Contemporary Culture?" will be held Friday from 2 to 4 p.m.

**EXAM JAM**

# YSU celebrates Cinco de Mayo

**Brandon Judeh**  
Reporter

With a Cinco de Mayo theme, Monday's Exam Jam will soften the blow of finals week with free prizes, drink specials and stress-free activities.

Sponsored by Youngstown State University's Campus Recreation and Student Programming, the event is free admission with a student ID upon entrance to Andrews Student Recreation and Wellness Center.



"We will be giving away Mexican restaurant gift certificates and many other free gifts that tie into the Cinco de Mayo theme," said Eric Wegendt, Student Programming intern. Wegendt also mentioned that there would be other activities such as free tango lessons, massages,

psychic readings, manicures and free food. There will also be happy hour specials from 4 to 6 p.m.

"We also will have a rock climbing wall competition, and there will be gaming systems set up so that students can play 'Halo,' 'Madden' and 'Guitar Hero,'" said Wegendt.

Arby's will be hosting an eating contest where the first person to eat 10 jalapeño poppers wins prizes.

"We are expecting around 300 students to attend, but it would be great if even more showed up," said Wegendt.

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minors are covered in the database are also permitted to use it.

Additionally, the business college posts job listings and holds workshops including one on business and dining etiquette, which offers a luncheon where students can network with professionals.

Despite the aid WCBA offers students, Clark said she tries to make students be independent.

"I don't get the positions for them, I just give them the tools," Clark said.

While it is not mandatory for students to graduate with an internship, over the past eight years 38 to 45 percent of business graduates have completed internships, Clark said. Since students who take a second or third internship don't register for a class, the numbers really aren't reflective of the total amount of students taking internships, she said.

"We do everything that we possibly can to get them that internship," Clark said.

A Perkins Grant made PPODEASE available to students, and it specified which majors it would make the database available to. Though PPODEASE is only available to students in three main areas, others still have another database to use.

Career and Counseling Services offers EASE, which students in all majors can use, Clark said.

The WBCA is not the only college to provide a great deal of help in the search for an internship.

Philip Ginnetti, dean of the Beeghly College of Education, said students don't need to put any effort into searching for a student teaching experience.

The 16-week student teaching experience can be considered a type of unpaid internship, Ginnetti said. While an internship is required for licensure, students can graduate without a licensure.

Approximately 300 students per year do student teaching, Ginnetti said, though there are always a handful of students that opt out of student teaching. The college works with people in different school districts to place students in schools.

"We always have our students placed," he said.

Joseph Mosca, associate dean for Bitonte College of Health and Human Services, said the ways students obtain internships vary across departments. Generally though, a student isn't expected to identify an internship site. Students can work through faculty or internship coordinators to get internships. Most majors require clinical hours to graduate, he said.

While some colleges have set standards for how to provide student internships, sometimes differ-

ent departments within colleges have varying practices.

Horvath said telecommunication majors have an internship program where they can apply for placement at local networks. The Communication Studies Program, however, has mostly student-generated internships.

Craig Campbell, chair of the geography department, said that students don't have to search much to find internships.

"We've kind of got them lined up," he said of the internships.

It is rare for students to find something on their own, he said.

Shearle Furnish, dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences, said that all colleges are being required to take an inventory of their internships, paid and unpaid.

Martin Abraham, dean of the College of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics, said students can find their own internships, and there are also "students for whom we do the bulk of the work."

Abraham also said that the engineering students work with WCBA in the PPODEASE database to find internships.

Abraham said there are distinctions between different departments in STEM for two main reasons. Firstly, different job opportunities in the tri-county area will transfer to internship opportunities. For example, in this area, there is more opportunity for mechanical engineers than there is for mathematicians, he said.

Secondly, the engineering program historically has had a structure for finding internships, while the programs from the former College of Liberal Arts and Sciences did not have a structure for finding internships, he said.

STEM has made it a goal to enhance opportunities for science and math majors, Abraham said.

A \$108,000 grant is now available to support 36 interns at \$3,000 apiece, Abraham said. The Ohio companies have to match the grant with another \$3,000 for each student. The grant will eventually support a total of 72 interns.

Susan Russo, professor in graphic design, said area businesses call her seeking students for internships. Graphic design internships are the most popular, though the department also offers urban art, photography, art and technology, and museum internships.

While students can find their own internships, "they prefer me to find one for them," Russo said. Students who want to find internships out of state, however, have to find their own.

Joe Zappa, a senior majoring in graphic design, said he had the option to either take an internship

or work on his portfolio with a professor. Though he opted for improving his portfolio, Zappa said he also had a chance for professional experience, since he was recruited for designing a poster for an automobile symposium held Friday and Saturday.

Amanda Vislosky, another senior graphic design major, said her professor set up students with freelance work. For example, Vislosky's professor thought she would be a good candidate to design a logo for the Sisters of Serenity.

Though she took part in the freelance work, Vislosky has ideas for how to improve her and other students' professional experience.

The freelance process should start earlier, so that students can have more work to put in their portfolios, she said.

Another student is involved in a more regimented internship program.

Junior Amanda Thompson, a food and nutrition major, said students in her major can either complete an internship in an undergraduate or master's program that is incorporated in classroom labs, or they can complete internships after graduation. These internships, however, must be on an approved list on the American Dietetic Association's Web Site.

Thompson said she thinks students would have some difficulty finding internships on their own, though if they were willing to move out of the area they would be fine. Students would probably have an easier time completing internship hours while they are obtaining their undergraduate degrees, she said.

To be a registered dietician, one needs to have completed internship hours, Thompson said. So for her part, Thompson said she chose to complete an internship in her master's program, since she would prolong her undergraduate career if she completed an internship now.

Junior Kelsey Rupert, communication studies major, said she thinks finding an internship should be up to the college students.

Though faculty members in her major will assist a student who wants an internship, "They're just kind of guiding you," she said.

Rupert got an internship at the Rec Center after it merged with Student Programming.

Students rely too heavily on faculty facilitating internships for them, Rupert said.

Additionally, Rupert said finding an internship prepares students for the job search after graduation.

"At some point, you've gotta take the reins and be more proactive," she said.

**REBATE page 1**

must have been under age 17 as of last Dec. 31.

Qualifying income, for this purpose, is money you earned, Social Security retirement, survivor or disability benefits, Veterans Administration pension, survivor or disability benefits and certain railroad retirement benefits.

You can't use interest, dividends or capital gains or Supplemental Security Income to qualify.

If you need the tax form to file, go to www.irs.gov to download one and get instructions.

If you need more help, you can drop into local IRS offices for assistance.

You should get a full payment if you are single and your adjusted gross income was less than \$75,000 and if married filing a joint return, less than \$150,000. The rebate begins to phase out at higher incomes.

**HEART page 1**

take in more calories than needed. As a result, there are increased amounts of people who are obese or very fat and there are people who are developing diabetes at younger ages.

If these circumstances begin during childhood, they are more than likely to carry on into the adult years. A small increase in blood pressure can raise the risk

of developing heart disease even when young.

Senior Brian Montgomery wasn't aware that heart disease is the leading cause of death in the United States, and admitted that he never thought about it. Even so, he feels that young adults should be aware of risks.

"As you get older, your body changes," Montgomery said.



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## Alicia Keys

### From near-breakdown to breakthrough with 'Yes I Am'

Jon Bream

Star Tribune (Minneapolis)  
(MCT)

When Alanis Morissette needed to clear her head, she went to India. When Mariah Carey couldn't handle the pressure anymore, she went to a sanitarium. When Alicia Keys faced a near-breakdown, she went to Egypt. By herself. For three weeks.

"That trip was definitely the most crucial thing I've ever done for myself in my life to date," said the Grammy-winning superstar, 27. "It was a very difficult time that I was dealing with, and it just came to the point where I really needed to \_ basically, I just needed to run away, honestly. And I needed to get as far away as possible."

About a year and a half ago, the pace and pressure of her workaholic lifestyle were mounting. She was having trouble sleeping. She wasn't happy with the new music she was making. Then her much-loved grandmother died, and her family leaned heavily on her. She had to get out of New York. Fast.

Keys didn't know why she chose Egypt. The destination "just came out of nowhere" when she was on the phone with her travel agent. Said Keys: "I was like, 'I want to sail down the Nile, I want to see the temples, the tombs and the pyramids. I want to be moved, I want to see something I've never seen before.' And it turned out to be the best choice that I've ever made."

She also traveled to Tuscany in Italy as part of what she called a "personal pilgrimage" because "I'm half black, and much of my mother's heritage is Italian."

These three weeks of "self-discovery" in late 2006 were the longest break she'd taken since rising to the top with her debut album, "Songs in A Minor," in 2001. Confronting the history, timelessness, strength, fortitude and longevity of the pyramids and temples "gave me a whole new perspective" on possibilities for her life and music.

"It did make me a better artist, because I came back and I was just freer," said the singer-pianist. "I just took all these restrictions off myself and all of these kind of rules and regulations and ways that I was used to creating and all this crap, and threw it out the window. I just allowed myself to be vulnerable and free and open. And it created some of the best music I've ever created."

She started anew on material for "As I Am," which soared to No. 1 in November. It has sold more than 3 million copies, making it the runaway best-seller of the past six months.

The new album is stripped-down and vulnerable. But, for someone known for turning her diaries into hits, her songs are still short on details though long on emotion.

She was similarly circumspect in an interview. Long the subject of romantic rumors — ranging from: she's a lesbian to she's involved with her musical collaborator Kerry (Krucial) Brothers — Keys declined to comment about anything personal. That makes her a rarity in the tell-all culture of celebrity journalism.

"I will never come clean on my private life," she

said in a recent hourlong conference call from Paris. "I don't think anybody deserves to know, except myself and the person that I love and the people that I love. I think one of the most important things that Oprah ever told me was that if she could, she would take it back. So I think that it just becomes messy. I would prefer people to speculate and get it right or get it wrong, that's fine. But I would rather not make it an issue."

She even declined to specify the person in her life who died. However, she'd mentioned in a February interview with the Sunday Times of London that it was her paternal grandmother.

Keys didn't hesitate to talk about two Minnesota men in her life. Bob Dylan enigmatically mentioned her in "Thunder on the Mountain," the opening song on his 2006 "Modern Times" album: "I was thinkin' 'bout Alicia Keys, I couldn't keep from crying/While she was born in Hell's Kitchen I was living down the line/I'm wondering where in the world Alicia Keys could be/I been looking for her even clear through Tennessee."

Being name-checked in a Dylan ditty was "definitely a bit of a shock," she said. "I didn't quite believe it, honestly. My friend John Mayer was the first person that told me about it. And I was like, 'Stop it, John. Why?' I didn't understand why. And so obviously after I found it was definitely the truth, it was just a great honor. For me to live in his songbook is pretty damn cool."

While she doesn't know Dylan, Keys does know Prince, whom she inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 2004.

"When they asked me to do that, of course I was like, 'Absolutely. When and where do I have to be?'" she said. "And they were like, 'Do you want us to write something for you?' And I was like, 'Absolutely not, I have to say what I feel about him.' I just wrote from my heart, just like I do with my songs and anything else that I write. Honestly, I wrote that probably in just one sitting, like just writing what I felt and then I went back and edited it to keep it tight, because I probably went on and on too much."

Keys grew up in New York's Hell's Kitchen, on the west side of midtown Manhattan, raised by her mother Terri Augello, an actress and legal secretary. Her father, Craig Cook, then a flight attendant, left the picture when his daughter was 2.

At 4, Alicia acted on "The Cosby Show" and three years later began studying classical piano. At 16, she graduated as valedictorian of her class at the Professional Performing Arts School. Set to attend Columbia University, she instead signed a demo deal and landed a song on the "Men in Black" soundtrack. Her debut album, "Songs in A Minor," sold more



than 10 million copies and led to five Grammys. The ensuing Grammy-winning "Diary of Alicia Keys" and "Unplugged" both went to No. 1.

After acting cameos on a few TV programs, Keys appeared in the 2007 films "Smokin' Aces" and "The Nanny Diaries." She has shot "The Secret Life of Bees," a girlfriend movie with Jennifer Hudson, Queen Latifah and Dakota Fanning, due later this year. Her next project could be a bio-pic about Lena Home, the singer, actress and civil-rights activist, to whom Keys bears a striking resemblance.

"I'm not officially supposed to confirm anything at

this present moment, but things have been confirmed by other people," she said. "So I will answer that by saying that that would be one of my dream projects. I think that in many ways I was born to play Lena Home; I would be so honored to be able to represent her life."

"It is a very interesting, complex, diverse, historic life, legendary life. And I think that it's such a wonderful story to learn about, because you realize how far we've come and how far we haven't come. And you realize the boldness and the vulnerability and the bravery of people that maybe they don't even realize."

Sounds a bit like her life story as well.

INTERNET

## Hot or Not

### Remembering early Internet superficiality

Adam Bickel

Jambar Reporter

While MySpace and Facebook have become popular in part because they allow users to upload personal photos to share with friends, strangers and potential employers, they aren't the first Web sites to let users post pictures of themselves. Before these social networking sites there was Hot or Not.

Hot or Not online allows users to rate each other based on their most attractive picture. When an image is uploaded onto the site, a panel of volunteer moderators view the picture before it is approved. Then the other Hot or Not-ers rate the picture's attractiveness on a scale of 1 to 10.

"I can agree with that," said sophomore Bethanie Loftus.

"I know when I was in high school I put a picture of myself on Hot or Not just to see what people would rate me. I think last time I checked I was an 8.5 or something," she said jokingly.

"At that time in my life I guess I just needed to be told I was pretty, even if it was by strangers," Loftus said.

"But come on — who doesn't like that little boost in your day from time to time?" she said.

Freshman Anthony Fuller, for one.



Adam Bickel was rated a nine out of ten by other Hot or Noters. Photo courtesy www.hotornot.com.

"I have heard of the site, but I would never put a picture on it," he said. "Who cares of some loser rating pictures online thinks I am hot or not?"

The site Hot or Not was founded in October 2000 and within months was NetNielsen Rating's Top 25 advertising domains. It was not long before sites like Rate My

Face and Because I'm Hot jumped on the bandwagon.

The founders of YouTube even told Time Magazine that their original plan was to be a video version of Hot or Not called FaseMash. It has also been rumored that recently the creators of Hot or Not sold the site for \$20 million.

When asked why people, more specifically students, would want to put themselves through possible harsh scrutiny, Steve Ellyson, psychology professor said, "I am surprised people would want to be judged, but I do find it interesting when someone who isn't a 10 — not you or I because we clearly are — puts their picture up."

In all seriousness, Ellyson described the site's popularity in larger terms.

"We are a culture that values what people look like and we all want to be paid attention to or have some kind of validation. It is just human nature," he said.

He added that some people may achieve a feeling of affiliation by putting pictures of themselves on these sites, not because they are pretty or handsome, but rather they then feel like they are a member of something by putting themselves out there.

GAMING

## Release of "Grand Theft Auto IV" could be biggest ever

James A. Fussell

McClatchy Newspapers  
(MCT)

Hold on to your Glock, another violent video game is poised to blast its way into the record books.

In fact, some analysts are predicting that Tuesday's debut of "Grand Theft Auto IV" for Xbox 360 and Playstation 3 could be the most lucrative launch in entertainment history.

As in bigger than "Spider-Man 3." Bigger than Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows. Bigger, even, than the ballyhooed launch of "Halo 3" last fall.

Some believe that by year's end, the Mature-rated "GTA IV" will gross nearly \$800 million — almost twice the amount of last year's highest grossing movie, the third "Pirates of the Caribbean."

Depending on your point of view, those figures are either impressive or depressing. The infamous series has a devoted fanbase, but the games themselves are hedonistic and almost unabashedly violent. If previous versions of Grand Theft Auto are any indication, "GTA IV," should be packed with more immorality and blood-soaked carnage than you can shake a joystick at.

In "Grand Theft Auto: Vice City," for example, players could pay a prostitute for sex, then kick her to death. You could kill policemen, distribute porn, mule cocaine for the mob and chuck Molotov cocktails into the street. You could murder characters with Gatling guns, chain saws, meat cleavers and screw drivers.

It's enough to send the Mario Brothers running to the confes-

sional.

Peter Larkin, store manager of Game Stop at Oak Park Mall in Overland Park, Kan., is expecting big things for "GTA IV." Before the game went on sale, Larkin had — through pre-orders — sold out all of his store's copies of the limited-edition version of the game.

But Larkin says he's not sure if "GTA IV" will outsell "Halo 3," the previous high-water mark in video game sales.

"They're clearly not advertising like they did with Halo 3," Larkin said. "But you have to keep in mind the GTA franchise is older than Halo, and has a larger fanbase. And where 'Halo 3' was just sold for Xbox 360, 'GTA IV' is sold for both Xbox 360 and Playstation 3, so there are many more potential customers."

There's also more controversy. Because of the game's graphic content, Larkin cards every buyer where there is a question to make sure they're older than 17. If a teen comes in with a parent, he will read line by line a description of why the game is rated M.

"Often times the parent turns to the kid and says, 'Oh, I don't think so,'" he said. "This game is as graphic as an R-rated film."

Craig Anderson, distinguished professor of psychology at Iowa State University and an expert in violent video games, has not seen the new version of "GTA," but if it holds true to form, he's sure it has content many parents will find objectionable.

"Every month new studies come out on the violent video game effects on children," he said. "The research base just gets stronger and stronger. In general violent video games have been shown to increase

the likelihood of aggressive behavior and aggressive thinking."

Meanwhile, all fans care about is getting their hands on a copy. To them the GTA franchise is one of the most brilliant ever created, a lush, wild and adrenaline-fueled fantasy world where their wildest dreams and naughtiest fantasies are fulfilled.

"I just love to go around and do everything I could never do in real life," said Josh Miller, a 20-year-old Kansas City man who planned to stay up all night playing the game. "It doesn't mean I'd ever really want to do that stuff. But if I can do it in a game in my apartment, and nobody gets hurt, you know, why not? It's just a different kind of escape, like TV shows or movies or books. They can be pretty violent, too. I don't know why everybody's always focusing on the video games."

For Gene Nutt, owner of Game Nut Entertainment in Lawrence, Kan., it's all about fun. Nutt rents out the space out above his Lawrence store to gamers who want to get together to play the hottest games. He has a LAN center upstairs with console systems and big-screen TVs, comfy chairs and a variety of multiplayer games going on.

"It's definitely going to be a big day for us with the 'Grand Theft Auto' release," he said. "I'm sure everything is going to have GTA on the screen."

In the newest GTA you can stay good or go bad. You can drive around, explore, play pool, patronize businesses and listen to music. You also can drive drunk and beat up elderly people.

Beware, say the critics. Bring it on, say the gamers.



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## OUR SIDE

### YSU must do more for student internships

#### RELATED STORY

INTERNSHIP, page 1

Career builder. Professional development. Resume enhancer. No matter what name you give it, obtaining an internship while in college is beneficial. Not only will it provide you with experiences you can never learn in the classroom, it also makes you competitive compared to job seekers with no practical experience.

It's the university's job to prepare us for that world. Why is it that by now there is no uniform process throughout all of the colleges at Youngstown State University to set up student internships fairly?

We understand that different industries have different demands, but the university should work harder to put us out into the workforce.

The opportunities for internships provided vary greatly depending by major and college. We should all be given the opportunity to excel. While going out and finding our own internship would be rewarding, the services in place should be equal across the disciplines.

The services offered for business, engineering and computer science majors are beyond what other majors receive. And some departments have student-generated internships, where they set out to develop their own internship. And while it is beneficial to tailor your internship to your goals after graduation, there needs to be uniformity across campus in linking students to businesses.

Internships shouldn't be a last minute scramble in the final two years of college to hurry up and fill the three-hour credit. It should be a well planned and thought out internship that would truly benefit the student. And an easy process should be provided to all students.

And even some of the blame can rest on us. The eternal procrastinator, who waits until the last minute to fill the internship credit, can only blame him or herself for a lackluster internship.

## 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.

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## ABOUT THE JAMBAR

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## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Editor,

This letter is in response to the articles covering the controversy surrounding the Michigan and Florida Democratic primaries.

Michigan and Florida defied the Democratic Party's rules by moving their primaries to January in an attempt to leap frog other states' primaries. As a result, the Democratic National Committee is planning to deny seats to the delegates from these two states at the Democratic National Convention.

In spite of all this, a legally binding primary was held in these two states. It is only a matter of time before someone who voted in these primaries will file a lawsuit because their vote must be honored.

Nobody in this country can be told that their legally cast vote does not count because leaders of a state and national party made a mistake.

Before those primaries were held, the DNC and the Michigan/Florida Democratic Committees should have realized that you cannot simply disregard a vote (once it is cast) just because they could not come to an agreement.

And you cannot just "redo" an election to fix a mistake. If anything the DNC and the Michigan/Florida Democratic Committees should have learned this from the 2000 presidential election.

You must count every vote that is cast on the day, place and time that it is legally cast. Otherwise we run the risk of putting the very foundation of our nation in jeopardy.

Unfortunately, this issue will once again have to be resolved by the courts because the so-called party leaders tried to get cute with the process.

Joe Bialek

Send your letters to the the editor to thejambar@gmail.com

## COMMENTARY

### Really Big Bang

McClatchy-Tribune News Service (MCT)

There's a chance that the world, maybe even the universe, could be swallowed by a black hole this summer.

Maybe you didn't notice this bulletin from the outer limits of particle physics and a federal court in Hawaii. Maybe you get protons and neutrons mixed up. Maybe you still don't get how in quantum physics a particle can exist in two different places, billions of miles apart.

Let us explain not the quantum part, but the federal court/end of universe stuff.

Scientists plan to fire up the Large Hadron Collider near Geneva, Switzerland, later this summer. As its name suggests, the collider is a big machine that flings protons around to collide and recreate conditions last seen a trillionth of a second after the Big Bang. This is supposed to give us new insights into nature. Or, according to a federal lawsuit, it could doom not just the planet, but the entire universe. But, we hasten to add, that's only if the collider misfires and disgorges something called a "strangelet" that could transform this planet into a giant lump of what physicists call "strange matter."

Don't ask. We're not expecting the world to end this summer, and neither is California Institute of Technology theoretical physicist Sean Carroll. He's very excited about the new collider and advises us not to worry about the potential for global catastrophe. "We are on the threshold of something big, of (discovering) new symmetries of nature, new dimensions of space and time, or the forces that hold us together. The reality is much more interesting than the possibility of the end of universe."

He's right about that. Armageddon makes a good movie, but ... then what?

The Earth's atmosphere is bombarded by high energy rays at velocities much faster than what the collider could muster. If catastrophe were going to happen, Carroll says, it would have happened already. But while highly unlikely, there's no scientist who will say with 100 percent certainty that it won't happen. Science doesn't deal in those kinds of absolutes. And some decorated scientists have suggested that the real risks of such experiments have been underestimated. Gulp.

Contemplating the instant extinguishment of the Earth, and possibly the universe, is an awesome thing. So how should the world await the Hadron's inaugural fling? Celebrate? Pray? Have a good meal, just in case it's the last?

How about a moment or two of silent contemplation? This would give everyone time to remember about how puny and inconsequential many worries and fears are, at least compared with vast stretches of geologic time. (The last time we tried that, we resolved to eat more corn dogs and key lime pie. Because you never know.)

The way we see it, we're already living on borrowed time. The latest estimate of the Earth's demise: 7.59 billion years. That's when Earth will be yanked from its orbit by a red Sun, scientists now predict. Of course, Doomsday could come sooner. There are asteroids out there that could collide with Earth. And, of course, science could inadvertently play a role. Some scientists worried that the first atomic bomb explosion could "ignite" the atmosphere and incinerate it like a giant barbecue. Those fears proved overblown, just as we're sure the Hadron fears will be.

And if we're wrong? Just look for the correction, the day after never.



## COMMENTARY

### Same-sex marriages face a religious obstacle

Harold Jackson

The Philadelphia Inquirer (MCT)

It seems like a more recent event, but it was 12 years ago that I received the phone call.

I was at work in Baltimore. Suddenly, on the line was a voice I didn't know telling me something I didn't want to hear. He explained that he was a friend of my brother's who lived in San Francisco. He said Calvin was dying of AIDS and didn't want his family to know.

It had been an easy secret to keep. Calvin had moved to the other side of the continent after graduating from a Midwestern university. We typically saw him once a year, at Christmas.

By the time I received the phone call, Calvin was bedridden, in the last stages of the disease. Of course, I kicked myself for not picking up any signs. But sometimes you see only what you want to see. I never questioned it whenever Calvin would shake off not feeling well as the onset of the flu or a cold.

That last Christmas, I did notice his somberness (we usually kidded each other unmercifully), but attributed it to the emphasis on faith he said he had added to his life. I remember his trying to teach my children a Gospel song he said he had made up himself.

When the phone caller told me Calvin was sick, I immediately made plans to go see him. There, I met the "roommate" who I then knew was Calvin's partner — the man who made sure he received the best home hospice care available. Only months later, Calvin died. I was glad he had someone who loved him with him during the ordeal. No one should be alone knowing death is so near.

I think of Calvin often. But he's come to mind a lot more in recent weeks, amid news that a bill to ban gay marriage in Pennsylvania is advancing in the legislature.

It would take a change in the

state constitution to make same-sex marriage illegal, an arduous process that may not be achieved. The bill's sponsors don't seem to care. They want to discourage any counter attempt to legalize gay marriage in Pennsylvania.

Only Massachusetts has legalized gay marriage, but several states, including New Jersey a year ago, have granted same-sex couples civil-union rights.

Civil union, though, often is no substitute for marriage. That was the finding in February of a New Jersey commission that conducted three public hearings to find out how the more than 2,000 couples who had received civil-union licenses have fared. Their anecdotes revealed common problems. For example, same-sex couples are often denied health benefits because of a provision in the federal Defense of Marriage Act. In numerous situations, hospital or social-services personnel either don't know that they should or simply refuse to provide important information or assistance to a spouse in a civil union.

Perhaps, over time and with enough public education, some of these problems would go away. But homosexual couples who don't want to wait say the real answer is marriage.

And they want it now. Based on the way I read the Bible — which may not be the way other Christians read it — I could not accept a same-sex couple as being married in the eyes of God. But the Bible also tells me not to mix religion and government. Matthew 22:21 says: "Render therefore unto Caesar the things which are Caesar's; and unto God the things that are God's."

For government, marriage represents a contract between two adults who have agreed to share a household and attendant responsibilities. There's nothing particularly holy about having a justice of the peace in a courthouse tie the knot. It's a legal proceeding that's called

marriage.

A religious ceremony conducted by a member of the clergy under the authority of God is more than a legal proceeding. But it's called a marriage, too.

My church would not marry same-sex couples, and should not be forced to by government edict. But, to me, that doesn't mean gay couples should be denied a nonreligious marriage.

Neither I nor my church would recognize them as married under God, but they don't care about us. They care about getting the taxation, insurance and government-services benefits of being a legal pair.

Some would argue that to condone same-sex marriage in any form is to condone sin. I am no theologian, no preacher, but I do believe that we all sin and that all who don't repent and put their faith in Christ for salvation will face the same fate. That's gospel.

That our government gives us the freedom to sin does not absolve us from responsibility for our actions.

Even in those countries we look down on for mixing government and religion, there are sinners. Governments try, but they really can't legislate what they believe to be moral behavior. Each person will decide what is right, what is wrong, and which path he or she prefers. No government edict will make homosexuality go away. Neither will it be discouraged by ineffective "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" rules.

I didn't think of Calvin and his partner as married, but I never questioned that his partner should be bequeathed whatever Calvin wanted him to have. They had an understanding that was clear to me. I would never use marriage to describe their relationship, but if that's the word needed for government to recognize a same-sex couple as a legal pair, then let it be. But leave the churches that don't recognize those "marriages" alone.

## COMMENTARY

### Danica's racing dream

McClatchy-Tribune News Service (MCT)

If you're an American girl growing up today, you may not want to be a professional race car driver but it probably would never occur to you that anyone would stop you just because you were born with two X chromosomes.

Thanks to Danica Patrick, a few more girls are probably entertaining that particular career path right now. Over the weekend, the 26-year-old product of Roscoe, Ill., sped to victory in the Japan 300. With that triumph she becomes the first woman ever to win a major IndyCar race.

Patrick has been a household name since her first appearance in the Indianapolis 500 in 2005, when she led for part of the race and finished fourth. She has done photo shoots in various magazines, filmed commercials for Honda and GoDaddy.com, and appeared in a music video. Her merchandise sales

vastly surpassed those of any other IndyCar driver.

But her failure to win any races in her first three seasons raised the question of whether there was more sizzle than steak. It also confirmed the prejudices of some like NASCAR legend Richard Petty, who said, "I just don't think it's a sport for women, and so far, it's proved out."

Sunday's victory should end that sort of speculation, which never had much to back it up. Last year, after all, Patrick finished No. 7 in the IndyCar standings. Sooner or later, she was bound to reach the winner's circle.

It's easy to forget what a tough route she had to get there. During one period of her youth, reports the Chicago Tribune's Melissa Isaacson, Patrick's father, a former driver himself, "couldn't find a team to so much as test his talented daughter, and more than once he had to break it to her that they sim-

ply did not have the money for her to race." At 16, she moved to Europe, by herself, to drive.

When the young prodigy returned, she had to forge her way into a sport where women were once about as welcome as broken glass. A generation ago, they simply weren't allowed. Janet Guthrie, the first woman to qualify for the Indy 500 back in 1977, wrote, "A woman might be a reporter, a photographer, a timer/scorer, she might own the race car but she couldn't get near it at any time for any reason."

Rather than be daunted by such obstacles, Patrick elected to pursue her dream with all she had. In her experience lies a lesson that doesn't apply only to females. As she put it Sunday: "This reaches outside racing. This is about finding something you love to do and following through with it."

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**LEAGUE ATHLETE OF THE WEEK - MCKENZIE BEDRA**  
Youngstown State University senior McKenzie Bedra was named the league softball player of the week Monday. Bedra recorded a 1.143 slugging percentage and became YSU's all-time leader in RBIs last week with 117. She also tied the school's single-season home run record with 10 bombs.

## BASEBALL

# Penguins avoid series sweep

Unable to out slug the Vikings, the Penguins dropped into a tie with Cleveland State for second place in the Horizon League.

**Eric Barone**  
Reporter

Youngstown State University's baseball team opened up a three game series this weekend against Horizon League rival Cleveland State at The Pipe Yard in Cleveland with hopes of putting some distance between them and the Vikings in the Horizon League standings.

Heading into the series, the Penguins held a slim two-game advantage over Cleveland State in the division ranks.

In the first of the three games the Penguins could not quiet the Vikings bats as the Vikings were out hit by the Vikings 16-15. Despite putting up big numbers offensively, the defense for the Penguins was porous as the team committed five costly errors that allowed the Vikings to score 10 unearned runs.

Senior starting pitcher Chuck Schiffhauer, who has been strong on the mound for the Penguins this season, struggled with the absence of solid defensive play behind him to take the loss on the mound for the Penguins. Schiffhauer was tagged early and often by the Cleveland State lineup and the senior pitcher lasted just three innings while surrendering eight runs on eight hits.

For the Vikings, starting pitcher Josh Hungerman was awarded the win but was roughed up in his outing against the Penguins. Hungerman allowed seven runs on

13 hits, but pitched effectively enough to keep his team in the lead when the ball was handed over to the Cleveland State bullpen midway through the fifth inning.

The Penguins could not find any offense after Hungerman exited and the Cleveland State bullpen took over. Three Viking relievers combined to throw 3.2 scoreless innings and surrendered just two hits the rest of the way. Unfortunately, the same couldn't be said for the Penguins bullpen as the Vikings belted two home runs in the fourth and blew the game open after scoring seven to take an insurmountable 13-4 lead. The Penguins didn't go quietly as the team was able to muster a run in the fifth and three more in the sixth, but the Vikings scored six runs in the bottom of the eighth to seal the deal and take the win over the Penguins. Looking for better results Saturday, the Penguins and Vikings played a doubleheader to wrap up the three game series. The offensive success continued for the Penguins, but the YSU pitching staff had a hard time finding the answer the Cleveland State batting order that slugged them around all weekend.

In game one the Penguins battled back from an early five run deficit after the Vikings exploded for six runs in the fourth and fifth innings. Trailing 8-3 heading into the eighth frame, the penguins turned to small ball as Eric Marzec scored on an infield error and Tom Clayton crossed the plate on a sacrifice by senior Josh Page.

Page stepped up to the plate again in the top of the ninth with a chance to get the lead for the Penguins, but he would never get to swing the bat. Just as it appeared the Vikings were about to let one slip away, Cleveland State pulled off a hidden



SENIOR JOHN KOEHNLEN,  
PHOTO COURTESY OF RON STEVENS

## Series MVP vs. Cleveland State

**Aaron Swenson**  
Pitcher  
No. 26

9 innings pitched  
12 hits  
7 runs  
10 strikeouts  
1 walk  
39 batters faced



## SOFTBALL

## Home runs not enough to clip Crusaders

**Andrew Berry**  
Sports Editor

Four players of the Youngstown State University softball team blasted home runs Sunday against the Crusaders, but it wasn't enough as Valparaiso took home the 13-5 win.

Senior McKenzie Bedra and freshman Rochelle Vanyi each went yard to tie the YSU single-season home run mark at 10. The Penguins also set the team season record with 36 home runs and tied the single-game home run record with four longballs in the team's loss to the Crusaders. Junior Kristen McDonnell and freshman Katy Potokar joined in on the home run derby with a home run coming from both players' bats.

The Penguins kicked off the contest with Valparaiso with a bang as Bedra and McDonnell hit back-to-back home runs with two outs in the first inning to take a quick 3-0 lead.

The lead was short lived however as the Crusaders put together a three run first inning of their own to tie the game after one frame.

Potokar's blast came in the third and put the Penguins back on top with a 4-3 lead that was also held for a brief moment.

In the bottom of the third, the Crusaders rallied for four runs and jumped ahead 8-4. Vanyi led off the fifth inning with her 10th home run of the year, but it would be the last spark of offense the Penguins would produce for the remainder of the contest. Valparaiso scored scored twice in the fifth and three times in the sixth to win by the mercy rule. The Penguins record dropped to 11-31, 5-14 in the league with the loss.

## SPORTS FEATURE

# Penguin athletes share stories of strange habits, superstitions

**Aaron Blatch**  
Sports Reporter

Even if they often don't think about them, athletes are some of the most superstitious people around. Sports-related superstitions can be explained simply as being part of an athlete's routine, as a way to avoid bad luck or as a quirky habit that goes largely unnoticed, even by the individual athlete. Superstitions range from the basic to the strange to the ridiculous.

According to reference site <http://www.factmonster.com>, Michael Jordan always wore his University of North Carolina shorts underneath his Bulls uniform, baseball pitcher Turk Wendell brushed his teeth and chewed licorice between every inning, and baseball Hall of Famer Wade Boggs only ate chicken on gamedays and drew a symbol that means "to life" in the dirt before every at-bat.

Youngstown State University student athletes prove to be no different, as many perform their own superstitions relating to their respective sports.

Senior basketball player Dwight Holmes said he listens to music to relax before every game, something that he has done since high school. This year Holmes picked up a new pregame habit — showering before

his games. His jersey must always be organized neatly and he always puts his socks on first, dressing "toe to head," before games. The senior said he doesn't know why he believes these superstitions will help but he does them anyway.

Penguin tennis player Ryan Trapp has some stranger habits before matches.

"Before every match I turn my doorknob twice to nine o'clock and once to twelve o'clock," Trapp said.

**"Before every match I turn my doorknob twice to nine o'clock and once to twelve o'clock. It's something that I just started two years ago."**

*Ryan Trapp, senior tennis player*

"It's something that I just started two years ago."

Trapp said he also keeps his tennis racket at the right corner edge of his bed when not being used and that his team gets together before matches to play a competitive game of tennis on Nintendo Wii.

High jumper Jen Grayson said that dating back to high school she has never looked at the high-jump bar while it is being raised. Grayson

is also one for sentimental superstitions. She plays on her boyfriend's last name, Wajda, to help her relax before her jumps, and unlike the others, she has a reason for this superstition.

"I always write 'Wajda Boy' on my mark that I start off on before jumps," she said. "It helps to calm me down."

Among common sports-related superstitions listed on Fact Monster's Web site, some, such as a basketball player wiping the soles of his sneakers for good luck, are likely to be habitual. Others, such as baseball players never speaking to a pitcher who is throwing a perfect game or a no-hitter, have been unwritten rules in their sport for years. Some, however, border on ridiculous. Some fishermen fear that fish won't bite if a bare-foot woman passes on the way to the dock. Some professional football players avoid taking a new number when traded to another team.

No matter how strange, sports superstitions often do provide something important to athletes: comfort. Doing the same thing over and over again, even if it isn't based in logic, can help a player relax and feel comfortable. So in a way, sports superstitions could potentially help an athlete's performance. If this is the case, what Penguin athletes do with their doorknobs before games could be more important than we thought.

## PENGUIN SPORTS

## TO THE POINT

*Basketball squad signs three JUCO players*

Youngstown State men's basketball coach Jerry Slocum announced on Friday the National Letter of Intent signing of junior college players Dallas Blocker, Kelvin Bright and DeAndre Mays.

All three players will enter the program as juniors this fall after previously competing at the junior college level. Blocker is a 6-9, 225 pound forward from Cloud County Community College, Bright is a 6-3, 180 pound guard from Hagerstown Community College and Mays is a 6-1, 185 pound guard from Hill College.

Blocker averaged seven points and five rebounds a game last season at Cloud County. As a sophomore he averaged 5.9 points and 3.9 rebounds per game as the T-Birds finished 21-12. In those 33 games he also had 46 steals, 45 assists and 28 blocks.

A native of Topeka, Kan., he was a third-team Class 5A selection at Seaman High School as a senior. He was a first-team All-Centennial League pick while earning second-team all-city honors.

Bright, earned Honorable-Mention NJCAA All-America honors last year at Hagerstown. He ranked sixth in the nation averaging 24.2 points per contest. Bright scored more than 20 points on 21 occasions and had six 30-point performances for the Hawks.

A native of Silver Spring, Md., he helped lead Blake High School to the Maryland Class 4A State Championship Game his senior year. As a senior, he averaged 16.2 points, 4.1 rebounds and 2.6 steals per game.

Mays was a second-team All-North Texas Conference pick last year at Hill College. He averaged 13.1 points and 4.5 assists per game for the Rebels. Included in his total was a triple-double performance against SWCC.

*Source: Sports Information*

## WOMEN'S GOLF



**NEW HARDWARE** — The golf team poses with their newly won Horizon League trophy. Photo courtesy of Sports Information.

## Team takes second at Horizon League Golf Championships

**Andrew Berry**  
Sports Editor

At the conclusion of the Horizon League Championships on Sunday, it was freshman Katie Wogner that stole the spotlight as the Penguins clinched second place at the Plum Creek Golf Club in Carmel, Ind.

Rogner, a native of Warren, Ohio, shot an even par-72 for her final round Sunday to overtake Lauren Showers of Butler University and win medalist honors. Rogner started the final round two strokes behind

Showers. Rogner is the first Penguin to win the Horizon League Championship since it was done by Lori Hatcher in 2003.

With the win, Rogner becomes the first golfer in YSU history to be named Player of the Year and Newcomer of the Year in the same season.

Led by Rogner, the squad finished seven strokes behind Butler to take second place overall.

Also taking home season honors was head coach Roseann Schwartz who was named the Horizon League Coach of the Year for 2008.

## League Championship Results

## TEAM SCORES

Butler - 326-316-312 (954)  
YSU - 324-324-313 (961)  
Detroit - 330-334-323 (987)  
CSU - 347-334-318 (999)  
Loyola - 353-333-321 (1,007)  
Green Bay - 382-381-374 (1,137)

## INDIVIDUAL SCORES

Katie Rogner -- 78-80-72 (230)  
Mollie Boney -- 83-80-82 (245)  
Adrianna DiLionardo -- 79-83-83 (245)  
Felicia Ciotola -- 84-85-78 (247)  
Brittany Jones -- 87-81-81 (249)