

Double Header

Back Page, Men's and women's basketball teams play host at Beeghly Center

27 DRESSES

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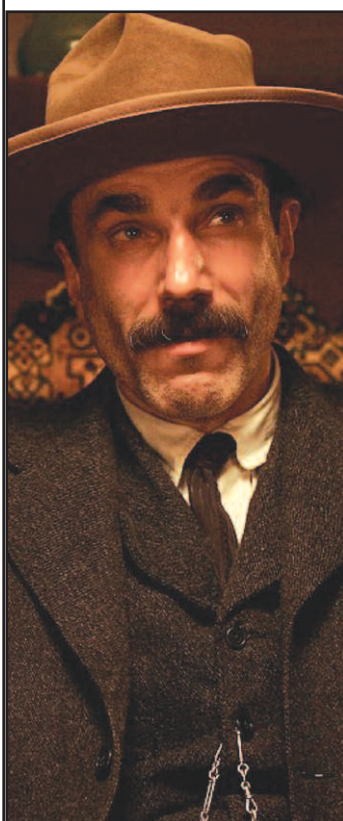
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Byron Velichko, a sophomore, checks his YSU e-mail in the computer lab in Kilcawley Center. While student use of the university's e-mail varies, YSU's e-mail is the only service Velichko uses. Photo by Sarah Sole, The Jambar.

YOU'VE GOT MAIL

YSU stays off the Google e-mail bandwagon

Sarah Sole News Editor

In considering an e-mail provider, many higher education institutions are now looking to outsource to third party e-mail services from companies like Microsoft and Google. Colleges worldwide from Arizona State University to Columbia's Politecnico Grancolombiano already use Google Apps Education Edition Gmail. While larger institutions such as The Ohio State University are now considering Microsoft Live Mail or Gmail, Youngstown State University has decided that its current system, Banner, provides sufficient service for now. However, Rick Marsico, director of computer services, acknowledged that technology is always changing, and said YSU would evaluate whatever options become available. "We're not a static environment," he said. "I wouldn't rule out anything." Analysis would have to be done to see if a third party provider would be a proper fit, Marsico said. YSU has been using the Banner System for e-mail since 2004, when it upgraded from Common University e-mail, or CUE-mail, introduced in 2001.

In addition to being an e-mail service, Banner also provides the campus with The Luminis Portal, or https://my.ysu.edu/, which lets individuals and departments at the university form online groups. By March, students will use Banner for registering and for viewing grades. Marsico said Banner has been an acceptable choice for YSU. "It's provided the service that it's intended to," he said. SunGard, the company that makes Banner, has listened to the opinions and needs of many universities and colleges, Marsico said. "It's a community of users that can significantly influence the way the product is evolved," he said. This feedback is an asset for the university. "Overall, the university benefits from the experience and contribution of other schools," Marsico said. The university purchased SunGard Luminis, which included the groups function, calendars, e-mail and single sign-on access for a one-time license fee of \$192,000. Additionally, it pays \$38,000 annually for subsequent years' maintenance, which provides system upgrades. Major version upgrades have typically been on a two-year cycle, Marsico said.

"Overall, the university benefits from the experience and contribution of other schools."

Rick Marsico, director of Computer Services

While YSU is currently sticking with Banner, OSU, has at student leadership's request, considered a third party e-mail provider for students. OSU will request proposals from Microsoft and Gmail, and bidding will occur in 90 days, said John Ellinger, senior director for UNITS, networking and operations at Ohio State. The new system will be for students, while the old system from SunGard will still serve faculty, staff and student employees, Ellinger said. "This is not necessarily a money issue," he said, citing that the new service will be free. Ellinger said OSU considered a third party e-mail provider after student leadership said that about 25 to 30 percent of students use popular e-mail providers like Yahoo! and Gmail. Features on these popular providers, such as mailbox size, were greater than the central e-mail system provided, he said. Ellinger said there are many

similarities between a new provider and the current system. The new provider, for example, will keep the naming architecture in addresses that's currently used. A committee of graduate and undergraduate students will review the proposals from Microsoft and Gmail, he said. YSU students differ in their opinions regarding Banner. Byron Velichko, a sophomore, uses his YSU e-mail for school and jobs, since he said it is professional. Though he has another e-mail address from signing up his laptop, Velichko said he never uses it. By comparison, YSU e-mail is easy to access, he said. "I think it's pretty sufficient," he said. Others agreed. Senior Kristin Gilida chooses Banner for organizing school items, applying for research opportunities and applying for graduate school. Campus familiarity with the e-mail is also a plus.

E-MAIL, page 3

MONEY

Tuition freeze spikes room and board fee

J. Breen Mitchel Reporter

Tuition at Youngstown State University is stable, but thanks to the freeze, other university fees such as campus housing and parking are going up. On-campus housing fees are up 5.19 percent for this year. The increase would have been 3.5 percent, but it is larger due to an increase in administrative overhead fees. Room and board will now cost \$7,090, up from its previous cost of \$6,740 annually. The new rate was arrived at by taking into account the administrative overhead fee, which applies to auxiliary services. These are independent businesses, such as housing and parking, which use some university services. This administrative overhead fee that must be passed on to residents is up 1.6 percent, an \$84,000 increase over two years. This amounts to an increase of \$350 per person for each of the 775 campus residents in Kilcawley, Lyden and Cafaro dormitories.

TUITION, page 3

YSU

Spring enrollment increase builds on strong fall numbers

Sarah Sole News Editor

With 12,381 students, enrollment at Youngstown State University on the first day of Spring 2008 classes was up 2.5 percent from the first day of spring semester last year. Sue Davis, director of undergraduate and international admissions, said many students have been registering for classes at the last minute. "It's been extremely busy around here in the past couple of weeks," she said. Often, spring semester brings an enrollment increase for several reasons, Davis said. Adults sometimes decide to attend school to start fresh with the new year. New students sometimes decide to take a semester off after high school graduation. Finally, it's not unusual for students to transfer back home after a semester away, she said. Many factors affect enrollment numbers. "You can't always point to one particular thing," she said. Davis said academic programs and advertisements help

ENROLLMENT, page 3

NURSING

The i>clicker: Press A to participate in class, B to take a nap

Jeanette DiRubba Reporter

While holding a small, handheld device in packaging, junior nursing major Glenda Hugley looked agitated standing in the Youngstown State University Bookstore.



"This extra buying for classes is getting really, really expensive for us college students who have no money," Hugley said. The device Hugley was reluctantly holding is known as the i>clicker, and nursing majors are now asked to buy this additional item to help with their learning experiences in the classroom. Hugley said the small tool is going to be used to answer questions in the classroom. She also said she

hopes to use this clicker for her entire time at YSU because it's an additional expense on top of her tuition. "I really don't even know how to use this thing," said Hugley. "I'm not even really sure what it's for. I was just told to get it," she said. Senior nursing major Ashley Winner was also angry about the new purchase she had to make. Pointing at the list in her hand, Winner exclaimed, "Look at all this other stuff we have to buy! It's annoying that we have to buy more!" Hugley nodded her head in agreement with Winner. "Yeah, we're in the same class, and we're perturbed," Hugley said. According to the i>clicker Web

site, a group of physicists from the University of Illinois created this tool to be a "reliable classroom response system." The i>clicker is a technologically advanced tool that can be used in the classroom and is compatible with the Internet. The Web site states that it is "a hassle-free solution created for educators by educators." The Web site also has a link students must follow to register their device if they wish to use it online. Lenny Sefcik, the YSU Bookstore sales manager, said that a similar i>clicker already was available for physics majors, but there is another new i>clicker for nursing majors. "The i>clicker for the physics majors runs about \$20.00, but the

new clickers for the nursing majors are \$34.45," Sefcik said. Alan Dooley, junior nursing major, said the i>clicker is going to be used for in-class review sessions. Dooley said the nursing program's faculty and staff learned about the i>clicker from a nursing textbook publishing company. The textbooks required go hand-in-hand with the i>clicker, Dooley said. "The questions will be on the board and students choose the answer with the buttons on their i>clicker. At the end of the review session, there is a graph shown so teachers can see how everyone did," Dooley said.

I>CLICKER, page 3

TO THE POINT

Playhouse holds auditions for Titanic

The Youngstown Playhouse will hold audition for the musical "Titanic" at 6 p.m. Feb. 18-20 in the Main Lobby. Actors are asked to prepare a one to two minute song for the audition.

STEM College to hold manufacturing meeting

Martin Abraham, dean of the College of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics, will talk about how the STEM College can help manufacturers in the Mahoning County in the Winter Meeting of the Advanced Manufacturing Initiative from 7:30 to 9 a.m. Feb. 5.

Chinese New Year festival to be held at YSU

A Chinese New Year festival will feature the Lion Dance, a Chinese Kung Fu Show, Chinese songs, ballroom dancing and Erhu performance when The Chinese Association of the Greater Youngstown Area holds the celebration in the Chestnut Room Feb. 3. YSU Executive Chef Clint Kifolo has designed a banquet menu for the dinner that is scheduled for 5:30 p.m. Events will start at 7 p.m.

Local celebrities take part in charity event

Youngstown Mayor Jay Williams, YSU Athletic Director Ron Strollo and Ohio Attorney General Marc Dann, among others, will be participating in The Game of Hope Charity Classic at YSU's Beeghly Center at 4 p.m. Jan. 26. The event also includes raffles, giveaways and performances by local recording artist Sara Michelle and the dance teams from the Mahoning Valley Thunder and the Youngstown SteelHounds. YSU mascots Pete and Penny and other local sports mascots will also attend.

Diversity Breakfast to feature former senator

The YSU Office of Student Diversity is sponsoring the Annual Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Diversity Breakfast to be held in Kilcawley Center's Chestnut Room at 8 a.m. Thursday. C.J. Prentiss, a former state senator, will give the keynote address. Student tickets are \$10 and regular tickets are \$15.

Salvation Army to hold College Summit

The Salvation Army College Summit will be held from 6 to 8 p.m. Jan. 24 at the Salvation Army on Glenwood Avenue in Youngstown to educate students, parents and guardians about the benefits of obtaining a college education. The event, titled "Let's Shape the Future Today," is presented by the Salvation Army, Educators and Community Helping Hispanics Onward Inc., Youngstown State University's Undergraduate Admission's Office, and One Hundred Black Men.

NATIONAL

Penn sued in student's death

Will Bunch
Philadelphia Daily News

The death of a 19-year-old University of Pennsylvania sophomore from bacterial meningitis in early September has prompted a lawsuit and a war of words between the family's lawyer and the university hospital where she died.

The suit filed Friday by the family of Anne Ryan, a promising student from near Erie, Pa., accuses the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania of ignoring clear signs of the deadly bacterial illness when it failed to admit her after an emergency-room visit on Sept. 6 of last year. It seeks unspecified damages.

The family's attorney, widely known trial lawyer Tom Kline, leveled a new allegation Friday — that doctors at HUP performed an unnecessary procedure that contributed to her death on Sept. 9, after she returned to the ER the night before.

"This was a young lady who had a life of promise ahead of her, and she ended up tragically dying after two visits to the Penn emergency room," Kline said Friday.

University as well as hospital officials said Friday that they were limited in discussing all of the specifics of Ryan's death, but insisted that the care she received during her emergency-room trips was appropriate.

Dr. P.J. Brennan, chief medical officer for the Penn Health System

"This was a young lady who had a life of promise ahead of her, and she ended up tragically dying after two visits to the Penn emergency room."

— Tom Kline, attorney

and a specialist in treating infectious diseases, did say without details that the allegations by attorney Kline "are shamefully inaccurate."

The one thing that both sides seemed to agree on Friday was that the sudden death of the vivacious Ivy Leaguer with a passion for modeling, music and exotic languages, was an unthinkable tragedy for her parents, her brother — a Penn grad living in Philadelphia — and her three sisters from Northwestern

Pennsylvania.

Kline said that when Ryan went to the emergency room at the Penn hospital on the second day of classes in September, she reported classic meningitis symptoms including neck pain and a fever of 103 degrees. What's more, he said, blood tests showed two signs of a bacterial infection.

However, Ryan was sent home and told she had a less serious viral infection after a test of fluid from a spinal tap; Kline insisted that a negative result on this test — a Gram stain — does not conclusively prove that meningitis is not present.

Also, Kline alleged that a second spinal tap performed when a more severely ill Ryan returned to the ER two days later was unnecessary and, because of brain swelling from the bacteria, caused her brain to shift and led to a hernia that along with the advanced meningitis led to her death.

The university issued a statement after the suit was filed defending its actions and contradicting some of Kline's allegations.

"Although Ms. Ryan's symptoms were not classic for meningitis, she underwent a thorough evaluation and testing which included receiving the recognized test for detecting meningitis — a lumbar puncture — and the results were negative and remained negative," the Penn statement said. "She unquestionably did not have meningitis when she was tested in the Emergency Department."

HEALTH

Colleges take hard line on psychological problems

Bonnie Miller Rubin & Megan Twohey

Chicago Tribune

Jill Manges was in her French history class at Eastern Illinois University, when she felt the symptoms — the waves of nausea, the tightness in the throat — that signaled an impending flashback.

Threading her way through the row of desks that September afternoon, Manges — who suffers from post-traumatic stress disorder — willed herself to the door, blacking out just outside her classroom.

Twelve days later, the school gave her two options: Take a medical leave or we'll kick you out.

That same month, Michelle Pomerleau, a student at St. Norbert College in Wisconsin, faced a similar fate when she overdosed on prescription drugs.

"I am concerned for your well-being, Michelle, but your behavior is impacting other students in a negative manner," wrote a school vice president in a letter delivered while Pomerleau was still in the hospital.

From large public institutions to small, private colleges, a growing number of schools are taking punitive action against students who display mental illness, ranging from bipolar disorder to eating disorders, experts say.

With better mental health services in younger grades, more youth with mental illness are arriving on college campuses than ever before. At the same time, courts have indicated that schools can be held legally responsible if students harm themselves or others.

Administrators, mindful of the safety of the larger community, say they need to be proactive.

But critics call it overreactive. They say schools are discriminating against those who have a medical condition, deterring students from seeking help and driving dangerous behavior underground.

"The message is that we only want people here who don't have physical or mental impairments," said Karen Bower, an attorney with the Bazelon Center for Mental Health Law. "And if you have one, you'd better have it under control at all times."

The Washington-based organization represents students who were removed from campus. Bower used to get one call a month; now, she says, she's getting one a week.

A turning point was 2002, when a state court held that officials at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology could be sued for failing to prevent the suicide of a student. Then came the Virginia Tech

shootings last April, a wake-up call that today's counseling centers are dealing with much more than angst over failing grades or bad break-ups. Administrators say it doesn't take a violent episode to disrupt a campus.

St. Norbert would not take action against students who quietly battle their own demons, said Jay Fostner, a vice president at the school. But it would move against students who repeatedly pull classmates or faculty into their suffering.

"It is not about suicide attempts or mental health issues," said Fostner, who, like all administrators in this story, cited privacy laws in declining to comment on specific cases such as Pomerleau's. "It's about behavior."

Pomerleau said she displayed a suicidal gesture last year — taking nearly 20 painkillers, anti-anxiety pills and muscle relaxers one night in an attempt to self-medicate manic symptoms — before she was diagnosed with bipolar disorder and placed on medication. Months later, she took a medical leave when her best friend committed suicide.

There were times, she acknowledges, when she was crying loudly in her room and leaning on classmates for support. After swallowing dozens of pills in September, she called a friend and paramedics had to carry her out of the dorm on a stretcher.

But Pomerleau said her grades were good and she had been commended by the college for performing community service. Her suicide attempt in September followed a change in medication, which, according to her doctor, has since been corrected.

"It felt like they were dismissing me strictly for my mental health," said Pomerleau, who opted for a medical leave because it allowed her to get a tuition refund.

Manges believes she was on Eastern Illinois University's radar — even though her behavior was not life-threatening.

After her episode, which, according to the university, included screams and "sobbing uncontrollably," two classes were canceled and one was moved. She said she was told the behavior was "traumatic" to others who witnessed it. She had not kept her disorder a secret. On her residence hall application, for example, she wrote: "Diagnosed with severe PTSD and would strongly prefer a suite rather than a communal bathroom."

"It doesn't happen that often," she said of the flashbacks, "but when they do come, I just deal with it. ... It's just part of me," she explained in a restaurant off campus, because she is prohibited from

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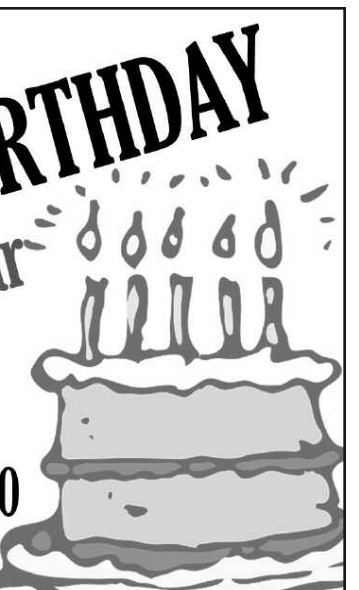
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From **I>CLICKER**, page 1

The graph helps educators differentiate between the content that students are comfortable with and the content that students are not very familiar with.

"The end graph is basically just an estimate of whether you understand a concept or not by the majority of right and wrong answers made by the students in the class with their clickers," Dooley said.

Dooley doubts the graphs to be accurate because "most people will goof around with the clickers. The results won't always be accurate unless students take this seriously," he said.

Patricia Hoyson, chair of the

nursing department, said she believes the students in the nursing program are serious about their schooling and will greatly benefit from the new i>clickers.

"We rely and are counting on the nursing students to be active in their learning experiences. We can't control any students who won't take the i>clickers seriously, but I believe our students are motivated enough to want this and appreciate and value their education," Hoyson said.

Hoyson said that the i>clickers were first introduced to the YSU nursing department at various educational workshops. These workshops had other teachers present-

ing the i>clickers because they had experience using them within their classrooms.

"Students need to know that the nursing faculty did meet as a group and discuss this addition," Hoyson said. "We believe that the i>clickers will help us do better in the classroom because the styles of learners have changed. Because we don't all learn best by reading a textbook, the i>clickers will allow a more interactive experience for students in the classroom," she said.

Hoyson also sympathized with the cost of the i>clicker. She said that students should realize this tool will benefit them for their edu-

ational experience at YSU, and they will not just use the i>clickers for one class. The entire nursing program is adopting this new tool.

The i>clickers prepare the nursing students for their state board exams, Hoyson said.

"The state board tests all require high level thinking questions that are primarily application based. The in-class review sessions that use the clicker will mostly include these high level thinking questions, and the faculty will be able to see what content they need to cover again in order for these students to understand the material and pass their future exams," Hoyson said.

From **E-MAIL**, page 1

"All of your professors already have it," she said.

Even if YSU were to switch to another e-mail service, Gilida said she would prefer Banner, since she has been using it for four years.

Jolanta Carkido, a freshman, uses her YSU e-mail for school and her AOL account for personal use.

Carkido said she likes the groups feature on Banner, and also uses her YSU e-mail to communicate with teachers.

"Then they know who I am," she said.

She saves her AOL account, she said, for MySpace and Facebook.

Conversely, some students would enjoy using an alternative e-mail provider.

Senior John Brkic gets his YSU e-mail forwarded to his regular e-mail address for stability, since his YSU address will disappear with his student status after he graduates.

If not for the forwarding ability, Brkic said, he would probably never check his YSU e-mail, unless he was required to for class. He likes Yahoo!'s e-mail service because it works well and it has unlimited storage.

Brkic cites speed as a reason why he would enjoy a university switch to a third party e-mail service.

"Sometimes it might take me a half an hour to get an e-mail that someone sent me," he said, referring to e-mail sent with Banner.

Banner's slow service caused problems last semester in Brkic's computer science class, when the teacher sent out assignments via YSU e-mail.

"Half the class wouldn't have it, because he had just sent it that morning," Brkic said.

Sophomore Corey McGee said he would probably use YSU e-mail if the university switched to a third party e-mail service.

For now, McGee doesn't touch it.

"I don't think I've checked my student e-mail in two years," he said.

McGee said his Gmail is superior to Banner because of greater capacity.

Gmail offers 8 gigabytes of e-mail storage, while YSU e-mail has a 50 megabyte limit per account.

"It feels kind of clumsy using the student e-mail," he said.

NEWS

Scientists get the whole picture of Mercury

James Janega

Chicago Tribune
(MCT)

After 32 years and two space probe missions, mankind finally knows what the back side of the planet Mercury looks like.

About the same as the front.

But pictures of the planet, pockmarked by craters, baked by the sun — and gratefully received by scientists on Earth overnight Tuesday — have finally filled massive holes in the map of Mercury that persisted since the last space probe visited the sun-blasted planet in the early 1970s.

"We're looking at the last terra incognita in the inner solar system," said Ralph L. McNutt, Jr. of the Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory, the project scientist for the mission. "And it is beautiful."

The first picture — of a gray, stark, never-before-seen landscape emerging from shadow — reached Earth Tuesday evening. It includes a good view of the 800-mile-wide Caloris basin that had been only partially visible in the past. It was formed by the impact of a large asteroid or comet, and is one of the biggest and possibly youngest such basins known to exist in the solar system.

More images and data followed throughout the night.

Further images, as well as some analysis, may be available later Wednesday, McNutt said.

"Everybody is drooling over it," he said Wednesday morning.

Scientists from NASA and physics laboratory were gathered in meetings to consider their astronomical windfall. The images came from a close pass of Mercury; the real meat of the mission is not scheduled until the probe actually orbits the planet in 2011.

To the untrained eye, the planet looks like Earth's moon — heavily cratered, compact, and without significant atmosphere. But among the goals of the MESSENGER space probe is to determine what its unmapped surface is made of, why it has such a comparatively plump iron core, why it has a magnetic field when Mars and Venus don't, and what lurks in its shaded polar regions.

(The probe's name stands for MErcury Surface, Space ENvironment, GEochemistry and Ranging, an awkward acronym that lets it play off the mythical Mercury's role as messenger to the Roman gods.)

Disregarding Pluto, Mercury is the smallest planet in the solar system and orbits so near the Sun that it completes a circuit once every 88 days. That's so close that it can be seen from Earth only at dawn and dusk, a

brilliant but brief show. The rest of the time, the Sun's light gets in the way.

With Earth, Mars and Venus, Mercury also rounds out the solar system's inner, rocky planets, and is a place of extremes. It is the solar system's densest planet, but also the one with the oldest surface, and the one that is the least explored. Though it gets cold sometimes, it is mostly, as one would expect, very, very hot. (Temperatures during the noon hour: 800 degrees Fahrenheit. And because Mercury rotates on its axis so slowly, that "noon hour" lasts seven Earth days.) Knowing its structure and life cycle is considered key to full understanding of how the solar system formed.

Despite interest in the tiny planet 29 million miles from the Sun, little has been known about Mercury, even after the Mariner 10 mission swung by three times during the Nixon and Ford administrations. After going all that way, Mariner only managed to map 45 percent of its surface. Earthbound telescopes have shed little more light on the planet since.

Astronomers think much of that gap in human knowledge was captured in 1,200 photographs during a 16,000 mph, 125-mile-high flyby on Monday.

The information was sent back to Earth in coded signals on

Tuesday, as the probe moves onward in its 4.5-billion-mile journey to stable orbit around Mercury — a bit more than three years and another 2.6 billion miles from now.

Thanks to the need for gravity slingshots from other planets, MESSENGER already has taken a long and photo-happy trip through the inner solar system.

It thundered away from Earth atop a Boeing Delta II rocket in August 2004, and during a planetary flyby a year later took a haunting farewell video of Earth's spinning clouds and sun-glittered oceans. It swung past Venus in October 2006, and shot video of the retreating planet's yellow crescent on a second flyby last June.

The mission is being tracked and controlled by the Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory in Laurel, Md.

Monday's swift transit of Mercury's darkened equator will be only the first of three passes by the planet, NASA says, as the probe slows itself for a dainty orbit insertion three years from now.

Still, hints about some of Mercury's most vexing questions may already have been revealed, scientists say.

"There's some very interesting things in the geology — or in the topography," said McNutt. "Everything is spectacular."

From **TUITION**, page 1

"Obviously, I can't feel good about this increase," said Jack Fahey, director of auxiliary services.

He said that there have only been two or three times when he's ever had to ask for an increase this large.

However, there are still opportunities for student savings.

Students can take advantage of a \$2,000 housing scholarship, as well as an added value of \$200 to their Pete's Points for meals, Fahey said.

In a dormitory where the Leslie H. Cochran University Scholarship covers many residents' room and board, freshman Scholar and Cafaro House resident Christa Parks is unaffected by the 5.19 percent housing increase, but freshman honors student and Cafaro resident Adam Hinerman relies on other scholarships to help pay for room and board.

"I have some other scholarships — Trustees' and some outside scholarships," Hinerman said. "I didn't even notice they increased the rate. I'm sure it was on my bill, but I still got money from my scholarships."

Fellow Cafaro House resident and junior Sean Welton, a former University Scholar who is paying room and board for the first time this year, also didn't notice the \$350 room and board increase.

"I don't very often look at that,"

Welton said of his housing bill. "I just kind of take it and pay it. Rate increases are to be expected maybe year to year."

Welton considers this semester's \$350 room and board increase reasonable.

"Inflation is to be expected," he said. "It doesn't really seem that bad if it's only happened a few times. I can see how it going up \$300 a year or semester would be a little excessive."

Even with the increase, housing at YSU remains more affordable than most other universities, Fahey said.

"I don't think it will be a deterrent to incoming freshmen because, to a freshman, we're competing against other schools," he said, adding that the impact will be most evident to current residents, who may be more likely to move off campus.

In addition to room and board, security deposits have doubled from \$100 to \$200. According to a memo from November, this increase occurred because the implementation of the Banner system for improving YSU's accounting procedures may not allow for room reservation fees. The higher security deposits are to account for the loss of these fees.

Additional reporting by Cristina Cala.

From **ENROLLMENT**, page 1

put YSU in a positive light. The Centennial Celebration also exhibits the university's history. "A lot more people are seeing YSU as viable," she said.

Tom Marafa, special assistant to the president, agreed with Davis about the various factors that affect student enrollment.

"Everything on campus affects enrollment in some way," he said.

Marafa said spring enrollment is typically 95 percent of fall enrollment.

Fall enrollment also increased, since Fall 2007 enrollment was 13,497 and Fall 2006 enrollment was 13,183.

"It's kind of a carry-over effect from the fall," Marafa

said. Recruitment and student retention are two things that immediately impact enrollment, Marafa said.

Though it is hard to measure whether or not the tuition freeze affected enrollment, the fact that prospective students knew what their tuition was going to be may have affected their decision-making, he said.

Additionally, Davis said there has been an increase for fall applications for next year. However, students who turn in the applications earlier could be causing the increase.

"It's hard to tell how that will bottom out," she said.

www.thejambar.com

thejambar@gmail.com

2008-2009

Financial Aid Awareness Week

Stop by one of our tables for information on financial aid for the 2008-2009 academic year. The priority deadline to complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) on the Web and the YSU Institutional Aid Application is February 15, 2008.

The following is a list of places, dates and times when staff from the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships will be available to distribute fonnns and answer questions:

Monday, January 28, 2008 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. *Kilcawley Center - 1 st floor across from bank

Tuesday, January 29, 2008 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. *Kilcawley Center - 1 st floor across from bank

Wednesday, January 30, 2008 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. *Kilcawley Center - 1 st floor across from bank

Thursday, January 31, 2008 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. *Kilcawley Center - 1 st floor across from bank

Kilcawley Center
Software SALE

YSU INFO
[Formerly Bytes 'n Pieces]

The following software products are offered at student affordable prices due to a special license agreement with Microsoft. Software offered to current YSU students, faculty, and staff:

- Office 2007 Professional Plus
- Office Mac 2004
- Windows Vista Business Upgrade

Priced Under \$75

A valid YSU ID must be presented. Only CASH or CHECK accepted. No Credit Cards. Note: Quantities of some software may be limited at times due to shipments. For further details and/or to purchase your software visit YSU Info Center (formerly Bytes 'n Pieces), located on the upper level of Kilcawley Center.

www.kc.ysu.edu

visit us online
thejambar.com

RENT A LOCKER

\$20 (one time) rental fee.
A lock is included.

- Lockers available in many buildings on campus.
- Locker rentals expire mid-May.
- Sign up at the YSU Info Counter, Kilcawley Center.

BEST restaurant, pizza
BEST restaurant, wings
BEST restaurant, coffee
BEST restaurant, prices
BEST restaurant, period

BEST local concert venue
BEST bar for drinks
BEST bar for food
BEST bar for dancing
BEST bar, period

Campus
BEST place to park
BEST spot to nap
BEST study lounge
BEST bathroom

E-MAIL YOUR PICKS TO
THEJAMBAR@GMAIL.COM,
SUBJECT "BEST OF THE BEST"

REVIEW

'Atonement' tells the tragedy of one life-changing lie

Tyler Landis
Jambar Contributor

"Atonement" is the lush and intimate period piece of three lives destroyed by a simple lie told at a dinner party.

Directed by Joe Wright and based on the novel of Ian McEwan, this epic set in England in 1935. Keira Knightley's Cecilia Tallis is the oldest daughter of a wealthy family, and her lover, Robbie Turner, is the educated son of the family housekeeper.

Cecilia's 13-year-old sister Briony has a teenage crush on older Robbie, and her jealousy grows as she watches the couple's flirtation. Three actresses play

Briony as she ages through the film. She emerges as a writer, and the harsh pounding of her typewriter builds suspense in many scenes.

When Briony walks in on Cecilia and Robbie making love, her jealousy overwhelms her and she goes on a rant about how Robbie is deceiving and sexually aggressive.

Briony tells a lie to get rid of Robbie. He ends up in prison, and Cecilia is left alone.

The film jumps four years ahead to find each character in a new setting. After choosing duty instead of prison, Robbie is now a soldier who sees the world broken by WWII. Cecilia is a nurse who consistently writes Robbie, await-

ing his freedom. Briony has grown too, and while training to be a nurse, she feels the weight of her guilt for the lie she told.

The truth remains evident to all that Briony's lie has changed everything. As the film moves on, the story builds to a shattering conclusion due to the one lie.

"Atonement" is more of a technical achievement than anything. The directing is crisp and vivid and the music is epic. This is a great and involving film with breathtaking visuals. The acting of Knightley and McAvoy is nomination worthy, and Briony is dynamic because of the multiple actresses playing the role. This story of deceit, love and war is definitely a must-see.



LIKE 'LIAR, LIAR' BUT WITHOUT THE LAUGHS — Keira Knightley, foreground, and James McAvoy star in the period drama, "Atonement." Photo from MCT Campus.



HAUNTING DRAMA — Daniel Day-Lewis, right, as "Daniel Plainview" and Dillion Freasier as "H.W." star in "There Will Be Blood." Photo from MCT Campus.

REVIEW

'There Will Be (Academy Awards for) Blood'

Tyler Landis
Jambar Contributor

Director Paul Thomas Anderson's "There Will Be Blood" is a poetic and haunting portrayal of what greed and power can do to a human being.

Even with works such as "Boogie Nights" and "Magnolia" behind him, this is Anderson's most mature and ambitious film to date.

Based on Upton Sinclair's novel, "There Will Be Blood" tells of the earliest days of the oil business from 1898 to 1927 as seen through the eyes of a heartless oil man named Daniel

Plainview. The extraordinary Daniel Day-Lewis, still memorable from "Gangs of New York," plays Plainview.

While "Blood" is a character study of Plainview as a ruthless, profit-driven monster, it's also a film of gigantic scope and big on themes of capitalism, religion and greed.

He and his 9-year old adopted son, H.W., played by Dillon Freasier, get word of a part of California called Little Boston where oil is flowing and where big money can be made. Plainview promises the townspeople riches and soon brings in men to erect machines and start drilling.

Throughout the film, Plainview is at odds with a local preacher named Eli Sunday, played by Paul Dano, the son who never speaks from "Little Miss Sunshine." Sunday thinks he's a prophet and a healer, and he wants money from Plainview to build a church.

Their greedy ambitions collide in scene after scene, leaving the audience uncomfortable and unsettled. Another subplot arises with a half brother that comes to the town, seeking a relationship with Plainview, escalating the film's theme of family.

This is the kind of movie that isn't made anymore, an

intelligent and enthralling epic of a character that nobody would ever want to come into contact with. With Plainview's laugh and stare, Day Lewis gives chills to rival those any horror movie could give you.

Guitarist Johnny Greenwood from Radiohead contributes a haunting and mysterious score.

Although "Blood" is in limited release for now, Daniel Day-Lewis is a lock for best actor at the Oscars, and this movie is set for a best picture nomination.

If you're in the mood for a deep, deranged and oddly satisfying masterpiece, please seek this great film out.

COMMENTARY

Low light and cold weather cause cabin fever for students

Chelsea Pflugh
Features Reporter

The sun never shines in Youngstown.

With the hype of the holidays over and winter break in the past, that overused, false statement has never felt more true as the cabin fever of spring semester sets in.

Spending more of our free time indoors might be the cause a lot of irritation, shortened tempers and stony faces around campus.

By definition, cabin fever is "a condition that produces restlessness and irritability caused from being in a confined space."

If you think that the blustering wind and the icy roads are terrible now, just wait for the weeks to come when one day you'll wake up to sunny 50 degree weather, and the next you'll wake up to four inches of snow on the ground.

Some rooms in Williamson, Cushman, Meshel and other buildings on campus have no windows, reinforcing the cabin fever feeling. The simple ability to look out a window during class could ease the pain of being confined to a small space with 20 other students.

In between classes, or just during a study session, try to find a study lounge with windows.

Although we may not think about it much, the amount of light we get can affect how we feel. High intensity desk lamps are recommended for the best lighting for tasks

that require focus. At YSU, most classrooms use fluorescent bulbs.

While fluorescent bulbs last longer and emit less heat, the quality of light is different.

Perhaps better lit classrooms would cause more stir in students and a desire to participate?

It can't be proven, and it's almost certain that even the brightest of bulbs won't make your dull class the most exciting one. Still, a brighter classroom environment could rid students of this cabin fever epidemic.

Another part of the winter dreariness is the routine of the semester. We know it well: wake up, sit in class, walk to another class, sit in class, go to work, do homework, go to bed, and then press repeat for 15 weeks until the semester is over.

Changing up your routine can help fight the monotony of winter. Don't repeat your own footsteps day after day. Take a different path to YSU or across campus, park somewhere else or eat somewhere new.

Be able to see the outside as much as possible so it doesn't feel like you're in a box on campus or in a classroom.

Make spring break plans, possibly somewhere warm, just to break away from Northeast Ohio weather in the next four months. If you do go somewhere warm, though, just come to the harsh realization that you'll be returning to the blustering winds and the same classrooms with no windows.

And do us all a favor. Bring some sunshine back to Youngstown.

REVIEW

Heigl is America's new sweetheart in predictable '27 Dresses'

Roger Moore

The Orlando Sentinel

Is the long search for the new Meg Ryan over?

That years-long quest to find a leading lady who could make her romantic hurt feel funny is a big reason romantic comedies have struggled in recent years. But could the new Meg be Katherine Heigl?

In "27 Dresses," the "Grey's Anatomy" ensemble member reveals that she was unjustly kept in the comic shadows of last summer's "Knocked Up."

Heigl stands front and center in "27 Dresses" and makes this effortlessly adorable if over-predictable and overlong romance the first pleasant surprise of 2008.

In the best Meg Ryan tradition, when she pines, we pine. When she hurts, we hurt. And laugh.

Heigl stars as not-so-plain Jane, the dependable friend that every bride leans on when that special day comes along. Jane is the ultimate bridesmaid, help-

ing with the planning, the organizing, the cake-arranging, even the holding-that-big-gown-when-the-bride-must-go-potty.

She is engagingly selfless on other women's "big day."

"It's their day, not mine." James Marsden ("Hairspray," "Enchanted") finally earns a straight romantic lead role as Kevin, a slightly snarky newspaper reporter who covers weddings, writes warm and witty accounts of them, and longs for "my ticket out of the taffeta ghetto."

They meet cute. She's injured at her umpteenth bouquet toss.

She's idealistic, lovesick for her boss (Edward Burns) and a true romantic.

He's cynical and not above using her lost Filofax to stalk her and figure out that she has a thing for weddings, and those often hideous "You can always shorten it and wear it again" bridesmaid dresses. Could she be a big story? Would such a newspaper account be a violation, to her?

That "big story" presents itself when Jane's dishy model sister (Malin Akerman, the only funny thing in "The Heartbreak Kid") comes home and proceeds to sweep boss Burns off his feet.

Will Jane be able to stay selfless, or will her heartbreak trump her concern for everybody else's happiness?

The screenwriter who adapted "The Devil Wears Prada" (Aline Brosh McKenna) doesn't surprise us with her destination here. We

know where this fight-fight-fight-fall in love comedy is going. Choreographer-turned-director Anne Fletcher ("Step Up") serves up tried and trite musical montages of wedding organizing, wedding line-dancing, even wedding toilet trips.

The drunken karaoke moment is too "My Best Friend's Wedding." She also lets the movie go flat-footed at about the 90-minute mark and overstays its welcome.

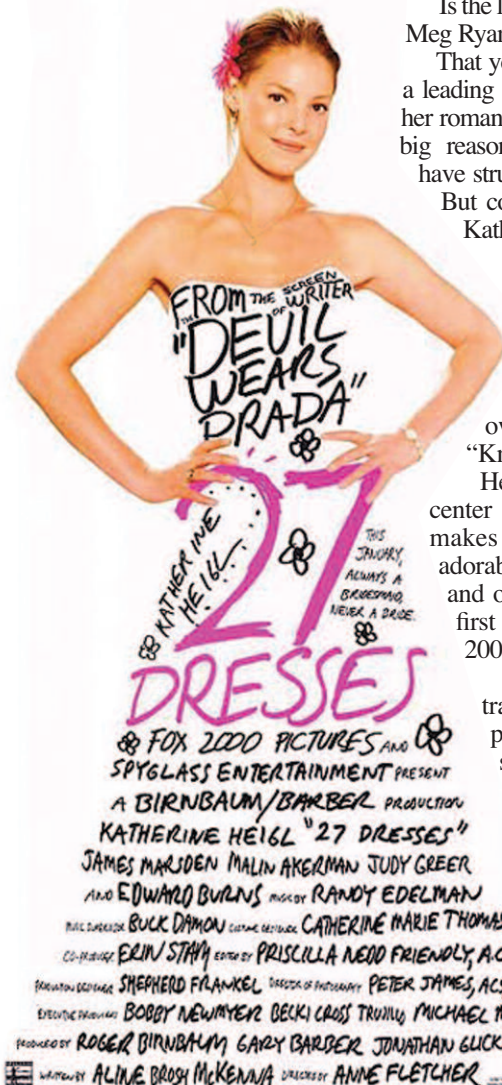
But there's wit in this script, and Heigl makes the laughs land. That whole selfless thing prompts a "What about you? You don't have any needs?" question.

"No, I don't. I'm Jesus." Jane discovers that the guy who writes those sentimental wedding "commitment" stories for The New York Journal is her cynical nemesis. "I feel like I just found out my favorite love song was about a sandwich."

Heigl and Marsden are well-matched. To paraphrase what they used to say about Astaire and Rogers, he gives her charm, she gives him edge.

He may be a bit too sweet, but we can believe Heigl would occasionally flip out and cuss a blue streak, thanks to "Knocked Up."

It's not one for the ages, but this comedy about the "perpetual bridesmaid" suggests a romantic marriage between star and audience that could last and last. Meg would be proud.



upcoming events

Today
• Swing Night Cedar's Latin Night
The Core, 9 p.m.

• YSU Men's Basketball
Beeghly Center at YSU,
7:35 p.m.

Friday
• Youngstown SteelHounds Hockey
Chevrolet Centre, 229 East Front St., Youngstown, 7:05 p.m.

• Braille, Melva, Captain Kneele
Barley's



OUR SIDE

Renting text books: what a concept

To quote the popular Broadway musical "Rent," when it comes to textbooks, we're not gonna pay! Well, at least we're not gonna pay full price, if we can rent.

Whether you are the type to show up on the first day of class with the textbook, before ever receiving a syllabus, or the type to frantically run out and buy the book an hour before homework is due, buying a textbook is unavoidable.

Prices can get out of hand, and even with the option to buy books online, it's still pricey. And when the time comes to sell back the books, students barely make enough to cover half of what it cost to buy those books.

At the end of Fall 2007, some books sold for as little as \$3 in the Youngstown State University Bookstore's textbook buyback. Students might as well keep every book of their college career on the shelf ...

... Unless YSU follows the example of Bowling Green State University, Bowling Green's campus bookstore is offering another alternative to shelling out the big bucks for textbooks. To combat the ever-increasing prices of books, the bookstore is offering the option to rent textbooks.

While this method doesn't promote the idea that students will keep the books once the semester is over, who really keeps all their books?

By the end of the semester we are itching to get rid of those books and make some money.

The renting fee at Bowling Green is 35 percent of the book's latest edition price. If a new book costs \$100, it would cost \$35 to rent it for the semester.

Bowling Green's bookstore is offering this new policy for mathematics, geology and some public relations courses.

While it's the first time a university is trying anything like this, any pennywise student can appreciate the new method.

While the New York City musical characters struggle to pay their "Rent" on Broadway, this is one type of rent broke college students are happy to pay.

POLICIES

The Jambar editorials reflect the opinions of The Jambar's editorial staff, which includes 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. All letters 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. For Tuesday's edition, letters are accepted until noon on the previous Friday. For Thursday's edition, letters are accepted until noon Tuesday.

The Jambar will not print letters that libel others or threaten harm. The Editor in Chief reserves the right to reject letters that do not follow policy.

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

ABOUT THE JAMBAR

The Jambar is published twice weekly during the fall and spring semesters and weekly during the summer sessions. Since being founded by Burke Lyden in 1931, The Jambar has won nine Associated Collegiate Press Honors.

Mail subscriptions are \$25 per academic year. Additional copies of The Jambar are \$1 each.



COMMENTARY

U.S. needs the Real ID

Michael Chertoff
 Secretary of Homeland Security (MCT)

Should banks cash checks from people who cannot prove who they are? Should parents hire babysitters they know nothing about? Should airlines let passengers on board without validating their identity?

For most Americans, these questions answer themselves. Our citizens depend on different forms of government-issued identification, such as driver's licenses, every day.

But are these documents necessarily reliable? Consider these facts:

-All but one of the 9/11 hijackers carried government IDs that helped them board planes and remain in the country illegally.

-Last year, our immigration and customs agents charged hundreds of illegal workers with crimes relating to state and federal document fraud.

-In 2005 alone, identity theft cost American households \$64 billion, and 28 percent of these incidents likely required a driver's license to perpetrate.

These examples highlight America's need for more secure forms of identification. That is a core 9/11 Commission recommendation, a key congressional mandate and something that the American people overwhelmingly support.

In 2005, Congress passed the REAL ID Act precisely for this purpose and on Friday, our Department of Homeland Security unveiled uniform standards to help the states advance this vital imperative.

Under these new standards, individuals seeking driver's licenses must provide their state Department of Motor Vehicles office with documents proving who they are and that they're here legally. States must verify that the documents presented are legitimate. DMV offices will be required to protect their own operations from identity theft and other nefarious activities. States must issue new, REAL ID licenses that will be tougher to counterfeit or tamper with. They must work together to prevent individuals from receiving driver's licenses from multiple states.

Many states are already taking steps to secure identification and we will grant extensions for REAL ID implementation to those that need them and are making genuine progress.

We are making \$360 million available to help defray the

costs of implementation - \$80 million in dedicated REAL ID grants and \$280 million in general homeland security funding. We've cut these costs by 73 percent by giving states greater flexibility in issuing licenses to Americans who will be 50 years of age and older as of Dec. 1, 2014. We will extend their enrollment deadline to Dec. 1, 2017.

As a result, the average cost increase for issuing a REAL ID license will only be about \$8 per person. For states issuing five-year licenses, that is an increase of just \$1.60 per year.

For most people, that's clearly a price worth paying to prevent others from stealing their identity and committing crimes with fraudulent identification.

But that's not the case for a small but vocal minority who oppose REAL ID.

Some of their objections are based on misinformation. A good example is the spurious claim that we're ushering in a national identity card. What we are actually doing is setting standards that will let the states keep issuing their own ID cards.

Other critics seem to think that it is a privacy violation simply to create secure identification.

But remember what I said about checks, babysitters and planes. Almost no one - including privacy advocates - denies that sometimes we need to know who we're dealing with. We need a document that reveals their identity. So why would anyone oppose efforts to secure identity documents from fraud and falsification?

Put another way, what good is having identification if it cannot be relied upon? Why check someone's ID if we can't tell if it's genuine?

Your privacy truly is at stake in the REAL ID debate. But in my view, it's the opponents of secure identification who pose the greatest risk. Without REAL ID, you are far more likely to endure one of the worst privacy violations having your identity stolen.

In the end, by embracing REAL ID, we can indeed cash a check, hire a baby sitter, board a plane or engage in countless other activities with confidence. By issuing this rule, we've moved decisively to secure our nation and its people in the coming years. I truly believe that one day our children will look back at this day and wonder how we could have lived without these common-sense protections.

COMMENTARY

There's little faith in presidents behaving badly

Ellis Henican
 Newsday (MCT)

Religious interference? Actually, John Kennedy probably could have used a little more religious interference. If he'd only listened to Pope John XXIII, the famously libidinous married Catholic president might have kept his distance from the likes of Marilyn Monroe.

"Happy birthday, Mr. President," Marilyn sang in that breathless voice of hers, adding whole new levels of meaning to the simple words of the song.

"Cold shower!" should have been the president's immediate response. And it would have been had Kennedy been half the puppet of Rome that Southern Baptists were making him out to be.

But no. He believed his own flowery rhetoric about the separation of church and state. America was a nation "where no Catholic prelate would tell the president, should he be a Catholic, how to act," he told the Greater Houston Ministerial Association on Sept. 12, 1960.

What a wasted opportunity that turned out to be! In the absence of political guidance from Rome, Kennedy got all entangled in female trouble. Marilyn. Judith Exner. God only knows who else.

And he missed the papal guidance that might have saved him from that other dangerous

entanglement, the almost never-ending one in Vietnam.

This all comes up, of course, because of Mitt Romney and his big speech Thursday, wherein the former Massachusetts governor tried to calm Republican fears of nominating a Mormon for president.

"Let me assure you that no authorities of my church, or of any other church for that matter, will ever exert influence on presidential decisions," Romney said at the George Bush Presidential Library on the campus of Texas A&M University, barely a 90-minute drive from Kennedy's Houston podium. "Their authority is theirs, within the province of church affairs, and it ends where the affairs of the nation begin."

Very Kennedy-esque. "I believe in my Mormon faith and I endeavor to live by it," Romney went on. "My faith is the faith of my fathers. I will be true to them and to my beliefs." But "if I am fortunate to become your president, I will serve no one religion, no one group, no one cause and no one interest. A president must serve only the common cause of the people of the United States."

It all sounds sensible enough, laid out in a stump speech.

But here's the twist in the story. Lots of recent presidents could have been saved from their worst instincts by their faiths, had they only followed them more religiously.

Bill Clinton's Southern Baptist elders surely could have warned him about the dangers of affairs with interns.

Quaker Richard Nixon clearly should have given more heed to his faith's strong message of peace.

Ronald Reagan talked a lot about his Christianity. What would have happened if he'd regularly attended the Presbyterian church he belonged to? Would that have changed how he handled Central America and the Iran-Contra Affair?

And then there's George W. Bush.

For several years now, he's gotten steady grief from his United Methodist bishops over the war in Iraq. Imagine how much better his presidency would have gone if he'd stopped and listened to them.

You had to feel for Romney on Thursday and feel for the rest of them as they tried to navigate between politics and faith.

In America, we demand that our leaders have religious faith. No atheists or agnostics need apply. And we demand they speak publicly about their beliefs.

At the same time, we aren't especially insistent that they practice what they preach. Hello, Rudy!

It's been 47 years since Kennedy's speech about the Catholics.

Who said the issue is resolved in America?



WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Back to Beeghly

Action returns to the Beeghly Center tonight as the first double-header of the spring semester features the Lady Penguins looking to set their league record straight against an aggressive Wright State team.

Andrew Berry
Sports Editor

Following a typically tough road trip through Wisconsin, the Youngstown State University women's basketball team returns to the Beeghly Center tonight for a pivotal Horizon League match-up with Wright State University.

The Lady Penguins enter the contest with a 2-2 record in the Horizon League after dropping two straight league contests to Milwaukee-Wisconsin and Green Bay-Wisconsin. A win tonight against the Raiders will put the Lady Penguins back above .500 since the team started league play 2-0 over winter break.

The YSU squad nearly pulled out a remarkable come-from-behind victory Saturday against the powerhouse Green Bay Phoenix, but was unable to get over the hump and fell by the final score of 85-80 for its second straight defeat.

Head coach Tisha Hill said going on the Wisconsin road trip is always a difficult challenge. The Phoenix currently lead the league with a 12-3 overall mark and a 4-0 conference record while the Milwaukee Panthers are 3-1 in the league with an 8-7 overall record.

"Wisconsin is just one of those tough road swings for us to hit Milwaukee and then Green Bay — two of the top teams in our league year in and year out," Hill said.

The Penguin coach said she saw great things offensively from her squad in the loss to the Phoenix. Hill said taking what they were able to accomplish during the Wisconsin road trip and learning from themselves will guide the team throughout the season.

While the Lady Penguins have multiple wins and losses in spurts this season, Hill stressed the importance of winning at home and making full use of the home court advantage.

"You definitely need to protect your home court," Hill said. "You have to prepare to go out on the road and steal some, but it's a dif-

Youngstown State vs. Wright State

Tip Time: 5:15 p.m.

YSU: 7-8 (2-2)
WSU: 5-9 (2-1)

ferent atmosphere coming back home."

At Green Bay, Hill said her team felt energized playing in front of an electrified crowd on the road and fed off crowd's emotion. Hill described the Green Bay crowd as very knowledgeable about the game and said they "knew how to rally their troops when we went on a run."

Hill said her team loves playing in that atmosphere and knows it can bring that same type of excitement back to Beeghly.

With the first double-header of the season on tap tonight at the Beeghly Center, the Lady Penguins are primed to take on Wright State and get back to a winning record in the Horizon League.

"It's going to be great. To do it on your home court for your home fans is so much more enjoyable," Hill said. "We're fired up that this is a double-header game and great competition is being played at Beeghly."

Playing in front of the home crowd will give the Penguins an edge against the Raiders, but playing hard from tip-off to the final buzzer will be the difference between a win and a loss against Wright State.

The team cannot afford to play a similar first half of basketball as it did against Green Bay. Attempting second-half comebacks every night is not a good formula for winning league games.

"Certainly some players for us need to show some more consistency throughout an entire game and not just show up for us in the sec-

ond half," Hill said.

What has been encouraging for coach Hill this season is players stepping up when their teammates have a bad night shooting or cannot get into a rhythm.

Senior guard Heather Karner, typically the team's leading scorer, was unable to put together her usual dose of points against Milwaukee. Karner was 0-11 shooting and managed just three points total, all from the charity stripe, in the Penguins' 76-66 loss to the Panthers.

Hill said her team is learning to fill the void when someone has an off night.

Junior guard Velissa Vaughn has seen her role increased as the season has progressed. Although she struggled early in the year, Vaughn has improved her game and is seeing regular playing time.

While she hasn't changed her approach, Vaughn said it was important that she didn't let her struggles get her down.

"I didn't let it affect me mentally," Vaughn said. "When I get the chance I go in there and do the best that I can."

With a big weekend of basketball ahead for the Lady Penguins, the Beeghly crowd is in for a real showcase of Horizon League basketball.

"There's nothing like coming home and playing in front of your own fans," Vaughn said. "On the road you hear chants and slurs from fans, so there's nothing like playing at home."



TO THE BOARD — Senior guard Heather Karner muscled through the interior defense for a lay-up in the paint. Karner struggled in the first game of the team's recent road trip to Wisconsin putting up just three points against the Panthers. Shaking off the cobwebs, Karner regrouped in the second Wisconsin game and scored 20 points against the league's top team, the Green Bay Phoenix. Photo courtesy of Ron Stevens.

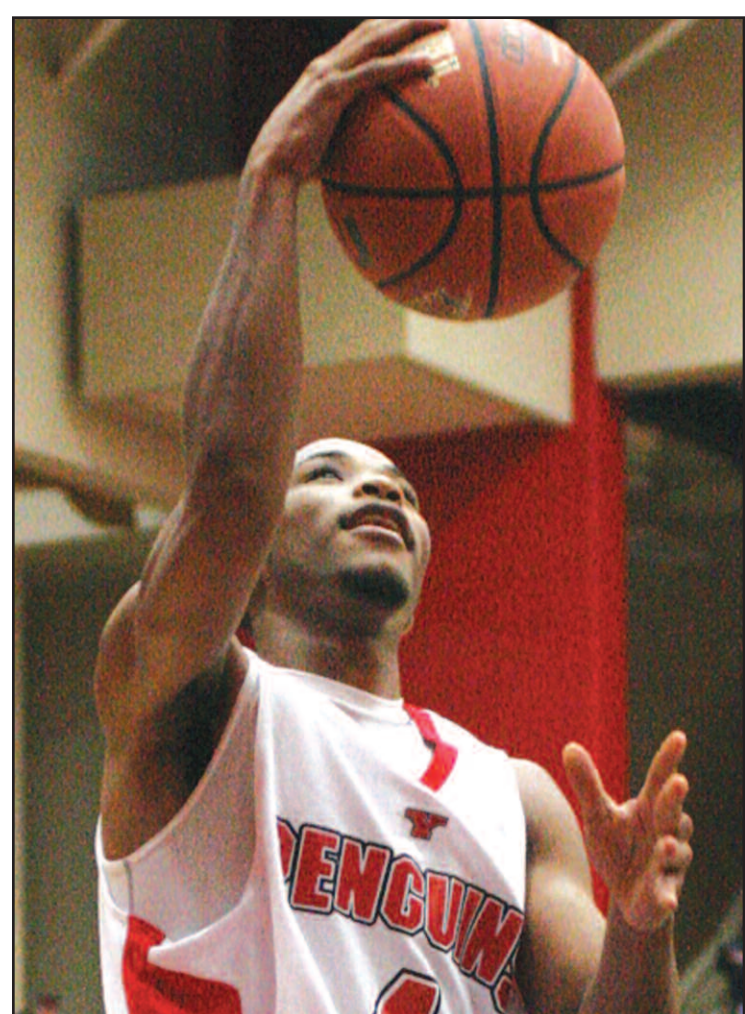
Impact Match-up: Raiders vs. Penguins



Sheylani Peddy
Freshman - Guard, No. 11
177 points scored
14.8 points per game
48 rebounds
38 assists



Tiara Scott
Junior - Forward, No. 21
182 points scored
12.1 points per game
99 rebounds
8 assists



UP AND AWAY — Freshman Vance Cooksey goes for a wide open bucket for the Penguins. Youngstown State will face a big test tonight in Horizon League newcomer Valparaiso University. The Crusaders and Penguins were heated rivals back when both schools were members of the Mid-Continental Conference. Photo courtesy of Ron Stevens.

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Penguins ready for first conference match-up with Valparaiso Crusaders

Aaron Blatch
Sports Reporter

With momentum after picking up their third Horizon League win against Detroit Saturday, the Youngstown State University men's basketball team will look to push their league record over .500 tonight when hosting Valparaiso.

The contest will be the first conference match-up between the Penguins (7-9; 3-3 in-conference) and Crusaders (12-5; 3-2) since Valparaiso joined the Horizon League this season. The Crusaders played in the Mid-Continent Conference last season.

Valparaiso associate head coach Bryce Drew said his team has adjusted well to the new league and describes it as being "balanced" and "physical." YSU assistant coach Alvis Rogers said to win on their home court, the Penguins will have to "match the physicality" of

"I think they're better than their 7-9 record. If this game is like the rest of the Horizon League games it will be very competitive and intense."

Bryce Drew, Valparaiso associate head coach

the bigger Crusaders' frontline.

The game will not just be decided in the paint. The Crusaders have attempted 399 3-point field goals already this year, connecting on 162. They usually have a trio of long-range shooters on the floor together led by 6-8 sophomore Samuel Haanpaa, who made 75 treys last season and already has knocked down 44 this year.

Defending the 3-point line has been a strong point for the

Penguins, who have allowed opponents to shoot just 34.6 percent on long-range attempts. Rogers said closing out on the Crusader shooters will be one of the keys to getting a win.

"That's going to be a big point of emphasis for us," Rogers said. "They're a very good 3-point shooting team who can put three guys out there that shoot it well. We need to limit their wide open 3-point looks."

Another X-factor will be the play of the Penguin bench. Valparaiso brings its leading scorer, senior guard Jarryd Loyd, off the bench along with 6-11 freshman Bryan Bouchie, who leads the team with 17 blocked shots. Both coaches agree that when Loyd, who averages 12.2 points and 3.7 assists, enters the game the pace speeds up. "He was a starter his first two years here, but the last two we've used him as our sparkplug to change the pace of the game," Drew said. "He's done a great job in that role. We can go to the bench

and change the tempo of the game." Rogers said his team's bench will have to match the contributions made by its counterpart.

"Valpo plays more up-tempo with Loyd in the game," he said. "Our bench has played well in spurts. Dwight Holmes, Mel Johnson, George Cotal and Mikko Niemi did a great job against Detroit bringing energy and giving us some points."

Aside from 3-point defense and bench play, Rogers wants to see his team play at a faster pace, "getting the ball off the boards and running," to take advantage of Valparaiso's transition defense. He would also like to see more Penguin fans fill the seats of the Beeghly Center, which has averaged just over 2,000 fans per home game.

"We need to get more students coming and cheering for us and getting behind us," Rogers said.

Despite having a better overall record than the Penguins, Drew said that his team is not looking past its first trip to the Beeghly Center.

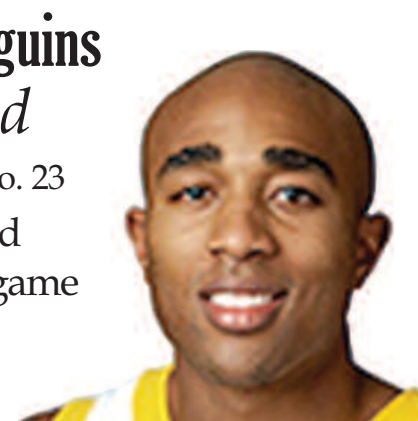
"I think they're better than their 7-9 record," Drew said of the Penguins. "They have some good wins and [John] Barber and [Byron] Davis have been playing very well lately. If this game is like the rest of the Horizon League games it will be very competitive and intense."

Tonight's game will tip off at 7:35.

Impact Match-up: Crusaders vs. Penguins



Byron Davis
Senior - Guard, No. 3
225 points scored
14.1 points per game
38 rebounds
54 assists



Jarryd Loyd
Senior - Guard, No. 23
208 points scored
12.2 points per game
48 rebounds
63 assists