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Enrollment becomes Fahey's primary focus

Jordan D. Uhl
NEWS EDITOR

In a community with one of the worst education gaps and the highest poverty rate in the nation, Youngstown State University's vice president for student affairs has set his sights on boosting enrollment to offset budget strains and the lack of a qualified workforce in the Mahoning Valley.

According to studies released by the Brookings Institution in September and November, the Youngstown-Warren-Boardman area ranked 93rd in education gap in 2009, while Youngstown has a concentrated poverty rate of 49.7 percent, the highest in the nation.

Grappling with an unexpected 4.5 percent enrollment drop, which hemorrhaged YSU's budget deficit to \$7 million, Jack Fahey's primary focus in the past few months has been identifying causes and solutions to YSU's waning enrollment.

Fahey has begun disseminating a series of reports, which will continue through the remainder of the academic year, to provoke thought among the campus community.

"My hope is that these reports will begin discussions that will help us all better understand enrollment issues at YSU," Fahey wrote in the first report.

Fahey said he hopes the reports will raise awareness of the enrollment dilemma and encourage the campus community to foster solutions. He's already received around 15 ideas.

Three groups — an enrollment management team, an improve orientation processes and a strategic marketing campaign — will be established. Their solutions will be reported to Fahey.

The enrollment management team consists of 27 members; the improve orientation processes group is made up of 13 members; and the strategic marketing campaign has 14 members.

"The goal is to put a lot of good minds together and come up with the best practices," said Joseph Mosca, dean of the Bitonte College of Health and Human Services and chairman of the enrollment management team.

Mosca said his team's first meeting is scheduled for Monday. Meetings will likely be held monthly.

On top of the three teams, YSU Provost Ikram Khawaja will direct a team of deans, associate provosts and graduate school staff, which will focus efforts on improving the university's graduate program.

In the first report, Fahey wrote about how YSU has "lagged well, well behind"

ENROLLMENT PAGE 3



Marissa McIntyre
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

Upon returning to college after serving in Vietnam, Ron Shaklee felt like he was way beyond the maturity level of his peers.

At the age of 22, he had survived war and now had to face his instructors from a school desk along with a room of kids fresh out of high school.

When he returned to a civilian lifestyle, there were about 10 veterans in his major, and it helped that they were able to relate with one another.

"It's an odd transition, and it makes you feel that you're not that weird," said Shaklee, now director of the University Scholars and Honors Programs.

He is happy to see that Youngstown State University accommodates the special needs of student veterans.

With the establishment of the Office of Veterans Affairs nearly three years ago, YSU has become one of America's most veteran-friendly campuses as designated by GI Jobs magazine for the third consecutive year.

The military-friendly schools list features the colleges, universities and trade schools that are doing the most to accommodate student veterans and those in active duty.

Jim Olive, program manager of the Office of Veterans Affairs, said the maturity levels of a 22-year-old who entered college directly after high school and a 22-year-old who enters college after serving in the military are

very different.

"Working and going to school is hard," said Olive, a U.S. Army veteran. "But being in the military is a different kind of work. Instead of working in Boardman or Austintown, they've worked in Afghanistan."

For veterans or those who hold current military status, YSU waives certain fees and allows early registration.

Additionally, certain general education courses are only available to veterans.

Olive said veterans often look for a school where they "fit in."

"When they walk into a room they wonder, 'Do I belong?'" Olive asked. "And that is answered right away because they're in a class with fellow veterans, and they share that bond."

He said it's important to accommodate veterans.

"They've written a blank check to America up to and including their life," Olive said. "They have a bond that no others know about."

Olive said a lot of universities don't have a separate office for veterans. For instance, Kent State University, the University of Akron and Cleveland State University all have departments for veterans' affairs, but they are housed within the department of student affairs.

"That really set us apart from the beginning nationally and made us unique," Olive said.

The impetus for the office's establishment came when YSU wanted to be ready for veterans

using the GI Bill to attend college.

Olive said that college-bound veterans often have a lot of questions.

"They know they want to use their GI Bill for college," he said. "They know they're eligible, but which one are they eligible for? We're here to help them with that."

An advisory council also assists the office in accommodating student veterans.

Paul Hageman, senior engineering technology student, is a council representative.

Hageman is also president and founder of Student Veterans of America on campus, which will celebrate its first year at YSU in December.

Hageman said the organization helps veterans make the transition to college.

"It's awesome that YSU stepped up and are willing to help us out," Hageman said.

Hageman, a veteran of the National Guard, will graduate from YSU in December.

"I'd like to leave a legacy and hope that it continues on," Hageman said.



Model UN takes third at LEIMUN conference

Kevin Alquist
NEWS REPORTER

Five Youngstown State University students brought home individual excellence awards from the weekend's Lake Erie International Model United Nations Corporations conference, where the team finished third overall.

Cory Okular, Catie Carney, Melissa Wasser, Justin McIntyre and Drew Webster earned the awards at the 18th annual conference, which took place at the Sheraton Cleveland Airport Hotel.

"Winning that award is very significant to me on a personal level," Webster said. "In the past, I didn't feel I was strong enough of an individual to represent such a powerful position in as strong a country as the United States."

Webster said winning

the award is an indication of his abilities for future positions. This year was his third participating in the event.

At the event, students represented a country and responded to current issues. The goal was for each team to create a solution to a presented problem.

"We attend this conference every year because it is in Cleveland and is more affordable," McIntyre said. "The debate level gives students who are just starting out a chance to get their feet wet."

Webster was chosen to represent the U.S. National Security Council.

Junior integrated social studies major Lily Justice received the individual excellence award in partner-

"In the past, I didn't feel I was strong enough of an individual to represent such a powerful position in as strong a country as the United States."

-Drew Webster

ship with Webster. This was the first year she was involved in the conference.

"It was exciting to win this award out of all of the schools represented at the conference," Justice said.

She added that this win would motivate her to continue participating.

Other schools involved in the competition included Mercyhurst College, Miami University, Baldwin-Wallace College and Case Western Reserve University.

YSU finished ahead of Case, a longtime conference rival.

"For YSU to beat such a prestigious university such as Case Western Reserve, it's a big deal," Webster said.

David Porter, political science professor, said this continues a trend of success for YSU.

"This victory is a real indication of what YSU students can do and is a big step forward for the Model UN," Porter said.

In the spring, Model UN will be traveling to Boston to attend the Harvard National Model United Nations conference. It will be YSU's first appearance at the national conference.

Kent State is urged to fire faculty member who disrupted ex-diplomat's speech

Akron Beacon Journal (MCT)

AKRON, Ohio — Kent State University has received dozens of calls and emails urging it to fire or curb a faculty member who shouted "Death to Israel" at a public meeting last week.

But Julio Pino's views are protected by the First Amendment and are not considered hate speech. Plus he has tenure, a status of employment in higher education that confers virtual lifetime employment.

Pino's view of Israel is "harsh, and I completely disagree with it, but it's not illegal," said Wilson Huhn, a specialist in constitutional law at the University of Akron.

Pino, 50, an associate professor of history, distributed anti-Israel fliers and verbally sparred with a former Israeli diplomat in a question-and-answer session. Pino left the auditorium with the shout about Israel.

It is the most recent public action by the KSU activist.

For example, over the last decade, he has written a column in the KSU student newspaper eulogizing a suicide bomber. He told the KSU administration that he contributed to a jihadist website called Global War. The FBI searched Pino's Kent, Ohio, home in 2009.

Last week, Kent State President Lester Lefton said Pino's words were

"deplorable" and his behavior "deeply troubling" — the university's strongest denouncement of Pino to date.

However, the university apparently is not taking action to censor Pino, according to Kara Robinson, president of the Kent chapter of the American Association of University Professors.

In fact, it is unusual for a tenured faculty member to lose his or her job for any reason.

Some faculty nationwide have been fired for "saying something inappropriate, but that was usually in the classroom," said Sara Kilpatrick, executive director of the Ohio Conference of the American Association of University Professors.

"Outside the classroom, it's a grayer area of whether this was a faculty member acting as a faculty member or a private citizen."

No AAUP faculty member statewide lost a tenured job last year in Ohio, she said. In the last three years, Kent State has fired only one faculty member with tenure, according to the university.

In the case of Pino, students have not complained about his teaching or for "taking his politics into the classroom," said Ken Bindas, chairman of the KSU history department.

Pino also has protections under the First Amendment right to free speech.

In addition, his language would not be considered hate speech, because he did not make a credible threat to the speaker, said Jonathan Entin, a profes-

sor of law and political science at Case Western Reserve University.

"It is a point of view, as controversial as it may be, about policy. That will afford it pretty broad latitude," he said.

Those arguments do not appeal to the Committee for Accuracy in Middle East Reporting in America, or CAMERA, based in Boston. It co-sponsored the KSU speech by former Israeli diplomat Ishmael Khaldi, a Bedouin who rose to the top rank of the Israeli government.

Aviva Slomich, director of student programming for CAMERA, said the organization had not reached out directly to the KSU administration but that many of the organization's 60,000 members had.

She said members shared their responses from Tom Neumann, KSU associate vice president for communications and marketing.

His reply "wasn't substantive but was a clear attempt to gloss over the seriousness of the matter by misrepresenting it as a First Amendment issue," Slomich said. Neumann could not be reached for comment.

KSU spokeswoman Emily Vincent said all communications about Pino are getting "personal attention." She said she didn't know how many communications the university had received.

Pino joined KSU in 1992. The university's website says his specialties are Latin American history, the history of race and the Third World.

Rising college costs, debts, crushing best and brightest

McClatchy-Tribune News Service (MCT)

Not all that long ago in the American experience, a million was a big number. Then it was a billion. Today the word "trillion" is thrown around casually.

The number is so big and so hard to comprehend that it has a certain cachet. Deficits and debts seem to matter when trillions of dollars are at stake. When they were in the billions, not so much. Which was a mistake.

Which brings us to the latest trillion-dollar-baby: America's student loan debt.

The Federal Reserve Bank of New York reported last month that the debt owed by U.S. college students has topped \$1 trillion for the first time. That figure doesn't even take into account the loans owned by parents on behalf of students.

This number is not just the result of inflation or population growth but of a fundamental shift in U.S. policy toward helping our next generation reach for the same dreams the previous generation had the opportunity to achieve.

Students are borrowing twice what they did a decade ago, partly because states have reduced their support for higher education. In the meantime, with ever more kids wanting to get in and willing to borrow to pay for it, colleges keep raising prices.

In 1984, tuition was less than 25 percent of the overall revenue for the nation's colleges and universities, according to association known as the State Higher Education Executive Officers. By 2009, tuition accounted for 37 percent of higher education revenue. The same study found that per-student state appropriations for public colleges and universities was lower in 2009 than at any time since 1984.

America's middle class is being priced out of an opportunity to succeed.

But smart kids know that their lifetime earning potential is significantly increased by obtaining a college degree. So they saddle themselves with debt to keep alive the hope that comes with an education. That hope is being crushed by bills that outpace post-graduation jobs, if the jobs even exist.

So it's not hard to understand why, in many cities, a major source of the anger fueling the Occupy Wall Street movement comes from students seeking student loan relief.

Slowly but surely, the threads of the tapestry of the American dream are being pulled away. First came the homeownership bubble, which in some ways contributed to the original Tea Party anger. Now comes the student loan debt bubble.

About two-thirds of graduates with a bachelor's degree have student loans, according to the College Board, with the average debt about \$24,000. The promise was that you'd get a good job coming out of school, so you could handle that. But not if no one's hiring. Not if you're working at Starbucks.

Congress, President Barack Obama and state legislatures must get beyond the political battles of left and right and see what is happening to the next generation of Americans. Most of them don't yet have any political allegiances, only a desire to start building their own nest egg.

Mr. Obama reached out to the students dragged down by debt last week. For six months, beginning in January, borrowers with both federal loans and federally backed loans can consolidate them at a slightly lower interest rate.

It's a modest start, but far more serious work needs to be done.

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The office of general accounting held its fourth annual chili cook-off on Monday. Six contestants cooked pots of chili that ranged from sweet to spicy and were judged by their co-workers. The participants were Michael Vansach, Gemini McCornick, Esther Stamford, Lisa Reichert, Alisha Yanniello and Mike Hackstedde. A trophy was awarded to the cook of the first-place chili, and medals were given to the second- and third-place cooks. Photo by Dustin Livesay/The Jambar.

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NEWS BRIEFS

Hartzell scholarship reaches milestone

On Monday, YSU and the parents of slain Youngstown police officer Michael T. Hartzell will celebrate the memorial scholarship fund reaching the \$250,000 mark. Hartzell was shot and killed April 23, 2003, as he sat in his police cruiser in downtown Youngstown; he was 26. The luncheon will be held at noon in the Presidential Suites of Kilcawley Center. The scholarship fund, which is supported through proceeds from an annual charity golf outing, has been distributed to 55 children of police officers throughout the Mahoning Valley area. The next golf outing will be held July 29 at Knoll Run Golf Course in Lowellville. For more information, contact Jennifer Gaffney at 330-755-2499 or visit <http://www.mhartzell-charity-golf.org>.

Sculpture dedication scheduled for Thursday

On Thursday at 4 p.m., the Williamson College of Business Administration will host a panel discussion on "Engaging Communities through the Business of Public Art." The dedication of a new sculpture in the atrium of Williamson Hall will immediately follow the discussion at 5:30 p.m. Designed by artists Gregory Gomez and Peter Andruchow, the large sculpture was commissioned as part of the Ohio Percent for Art Program. It is titled "Corpus Mirabile," and the sculpture's open surface and strong inner structure suggest the importance of trust and transparency in business.

POLICE BRIEFS

'Debt collector' harasses student employee

On Wednesday, a student employee in Meshel Hall called YSU Police after he began receiving phone calls — allegedly from a debt collector looking for a YSU employee — on Nov. 1. The calls continued throughout the day and began again the following morning. The caller yelled and screamed, as well as made threats and vulgar statements to the student employee. An administrative assistant contacted the employee that the caller was attempting to reach, and the employee reported also receiving calls from the same people from two phone numbers. Upon further investigation, it was discovered that numerous complaints exist regarding the phone numbers. The callers are trying to collect money from people who have had cash advances, according to the police report. A university police officer called the phone numbers, and the same woman answered both lines. YSU Police told the woman that charges would be filed if the calls continued, and the woman said that no more calls would be made.

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other universities in terms of money allocated for marketing.

YSU spends \$400,000 annually on advertising. Fahey said he thinks an additional \$100,000 will help increase enrollment from western Pennsylvania, branding YSU as a "university of choice."

The possibility of matching the budgets of larger universities dollar for dollar is out of the question, Fahey said. Still, YSU may expand its focus area to West Virginia in the near future.

Fahey's next report, scheduled for release in three to four weeks, will be about the university's marketing efforts in the surrounding areas.

Supreme Court to hear case on downed livestock

McClatchy Newspapers (MCT)

WASHINGTON California's ban on the commercial slaughter of downed livestock will come before the Supreme Court on Wednesday, in a case that pits state against federal power.

Gruesome videos and gory facts drove California lawmakers to impose the ban on downed animal slaughter. Justices, though, will be focused on something a little more antiseptic: whether federal law pre-empts the 2008 state law.

The Obama administration says it does, siding with the National Meat Association in challenging California's prohibition.

"If enforced," Solicitor General Donald Verrilli Jr. argued in a legal brief, the California law "would have a significant potential to create confusion and confrontation between those federal inspectors and state officials."

California lawmakers, allied with Humane Society of the United States activists who exposed the slaughter of downed animals at a San Bernardino County facility, claim that states have the authority to act on their own.

"Cruelty to animals, in particular, has traditionally been regulated by the states, going back nearly 400 years to the Massachusetts Bay Colony," noted J. Scott Ballenger, an attorney for the Humane Society and other groups.

Ballenger, in his legal brief supporting California, cited the 17th-century colony's prohibition, written in the language of the time, against "any Tyranny or Cruelty towards any brute Creature which are

usuallie kept for man's use," as well as less archaically spelled modern state regulations.

The state law in question governs the handling of downed livestock, sometimes called non-ambulatory. These are animals that are so sick or weak that they can't stand on their own. The California law bans their commercial slaughter. Federal law similarly bans the use of downed cattle, but permits the use of downed swine and sheep.

But the case, National Meat Association v. Harris, and the hour-long oral argument Wednesday morning, concerns much more than a turf struggle. The outcome could tilt the balance in a perennial struggle between state and federal authority.

It's for this reason that 13 other states are siding publicly with California, while the U.S. Chamber of Commerce is siding with the meat association and livestock industry.

The states want to be able to pass their own laws on a variety of issues without federal action constantly upstaging them. As protection, they want the court to sustain what they call the "long-held" policy that presumes state laws aren't preempted unless the federal law explicitly says so.

The Chamber of Commerce, a frequent critic of state laws it deems too onerous, argues from the other side for a more limited presumption against pre-emption.

"The chamber ... is keenly interested in ensuring that the regulatory environment in which its members operate is a consistent one," attorney Kenneth Geller, who's representing the business group, argued in a legal brief.

California's Los Angeles-based deputy attorney general,

Susan K. Smith, will represent the state Wednesday, matched up against Minneapolis-based lawyer Steven Wells, who represents the meat association, and an Obama administration lawyer.

Their abstract arguments will have roots in a gritty undercover investigation by the Humane Society of the United States. In January 2008, the organization released a video that depicted brutal treatment of livestock at the Hallmark Meat Packing Co. and the Westland Meat Co. Inc., in Chino, Calif.

The video showed non-ambulatory cows, unable to stand or walk without assistance, being kicked, electrocuted, dragged with chains and rammed with forklifts.

"Footage also showed some workers trying to get ... cows to stand by spraying pressurized water into their noses to simulate drowning," the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals subsequently recounted.

The resulting outcry triggered the largest beef recall in U.S. history, covering more than 143 million pounds of meat.

After the recall, the California Legislature toughened the state's law governing slaughterhouses. The new law prohibited using non-ambulatory pigs, sheep, goats or cattle; the law further required that the downed animals be euthanized.

The National Meat Association successfully argued before Fresno, Calif.-based U.S. District Judge Lawrence J. O'Neill that the Federal Meat Inspection Act pre-empted the state law. The federal law permits the slaughter and sale of downed swine and sheep if they've passed safety inspection.

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Throughout the one-hundred year history of Youngstown State University, six men have served as president. In this role, each was expected to guide the institution through change, and to constantly improve academic opportunities for students. This exhibit examines each man's background and his contributions to the university.

University Presidents: The Men and their Legacies

One woman among a wall of men

Kacy Standohar
FEATURES EDITOR

A fifth-floor wall of Maag Library titled "University Presidents: The Men and their Legacies" commemorates the university's first six presidents. Below the exhibit sits an easel holding a portrait of the seventh — and first female — president: Cynthia Anderson.

Finding a way to incorporate Anderson remains problematic.

Cassandra Nespor, the exhibit's director and main curator, said the word "men" was chosen because it was appropriate for the university's history at the time. The Youngstown State University Department of Archives & Special Collections staff created the exhibit in the

fall of 2009.

"We weren't sure who was going to be the next president, and the candidates had not been announced at that point," she said. "We started working on the exhibit before Dr. [David] Sweet's retirement was formally announced."

Nespor said the exhibit was designed to be temporary, displayed for only one or two years.

"When it was announced that Dr. Anderson had been chosen, we quickly made the poster addition to the exhibit," she said. "We didn't change the vinyl letter title because I didn't expect it to be up this long."

L.J. Tessier, professor of philosophy and religious studies, said it should be obvious that either gender is capable of

holding such a position.

"It's startling," she said. "Sexism isn't something that men do to women. ... It's our culture. They don't assume. It just didn't occur to them."

Tessier said that this oversight is both outstanding and typical.

"It's the kind of sexism that lurks in our society," Tessier said. "Although it has a noble sound to it, the problem is that they made this exhibit and no one thought to say, 'Wait, the next may be a woman.'"

Nespor expects exhibit alterations in the near future.

"The exhibits on the fifth floor rotate on a regular basis," she said. "There have been some departmental issues that have resulted in this particular exhibit staying

up longer than we intended."

Head archivist Sal Barragan unexpectedly left last year, and Ben Blake took his place in September.

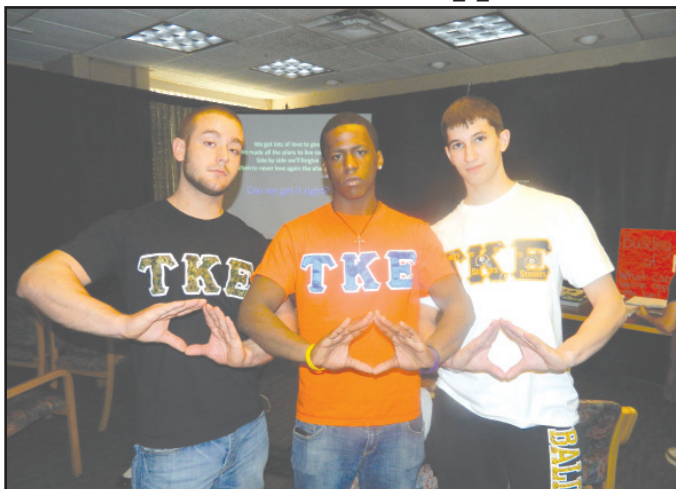
Nespor said development for a new exhibit can take up to nine months. Ideally, exhibits would be changed annually.

In January, Nespor and the archives staff intend to redesign the entire David C. Sweet Exhibit Gallery.

"We have a few ideas about the new exhibit, but most likely it will be several smaller exhibits in that area," Nespor said. "It will be related to university history but probably not anything about the presidents."

Attempts to contact President Cynthia Anderson were unsuccessful.

Students 'get IT right' Tunnel teaches anti-oppression



TKE brothers Mike Libbey, Josh McMillian and Ryan McKeeton visit the Tunnel of Oppression on behalf of their fraternity. Photo by Chelsea Telega/The Jambar.

Chelsea Telega
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT
EDITOR

Tau Kappa Epsilon fraternity members spent part of Monday afternoon opposing discrimination in the Tunnel of Oppression, sponsored by the Youngstown State University Office of Housing & Residence Life.

The fraternity prides itself on having no racial, ethnic or religious requirements for joining.

Junior TKE member Mike Libbey said the fraternity has taught him the importance of acceptance.

"The true brotherhood we have in our frat, and the fraternity itself, opened my mind to social equality," Libbey said.

Libbey and fraternity brothers Ryan McKeeton, Josh McMillian and Timar Majors walked through the tunnel and wrote positive statements to hang at the end of the walk.

In its fifth year at YSU, the Tunnel of Oppression will be open every day from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. until Thursday. The tunnel is located in the Presidential Suites of Kilcawley Center. The hours will be extended on Wednesday until 7 p.m.

"This is something very important, and it's something people should see," McMillian said. "It'll change people's views on things. I've only been here for two minutes, and my views on a couple things have changed."

The tunnel promotes the importance of anti-hate and stress-

es getting rid of -isms. Presentations dealt with classism, racism, heterosexism, sexism, lookism and genocide, among other topics.

Alexis Zaide, residential education assistant, said content within the Tunnel of Oppression continues to expand.

"When people walk through, they come out with a sense of enlightenment," Zaide said. "They want to see this as more of a movement, not just a program."

Students NacDaniel Flanigan and Shantal Edwards said they learned a lot, especially from the ableism section of the display, which had a segment about famous people with disorders.

"Tom Cruise, one of my favorite actors, has a learning disability, and I would've never known," Flanigan said.

Edwards said she has walked through the exhibit every year and views it as a helpful learning experience.

Each person who walks through the tunnel receives a bookmark and a purple wristband inscribed, "Let's get IT right." Students also receive a referral card. If a student returns with the card and a friend, he or she will receive a T-shirt.

On Wednesday, author Denise Pietzsch speak about campus civility at noon in the Jones Room of Kilcawley Center.

Gareth Asher & The Earthlings will perform a concert at The Hub at 7 p.m. on Wednesday in support of "getting IT right."



Leslie Thorndike's installation "Tread Softly" sits on the floor of the Semple Building on Federal Street in downtown Youngstown. Photo by Chris Cotelesse/The Jambar.

Systematic art seen from the street

Chelsea Telega
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT
EDITOR

Visible through a downtown window, a patchwork of art grows unfettered, stretching from floor to ceiling in some places. Sketches and sculptures stand side by side in an exhibit as diverse as each artist's message.

The gallery, created by Youngstown State University art students, is known as a "systems exhibit." Such exhibits are installation-based and intended to utilize the space given to the artist. The artwork branches through the entire room in most cases.

Featured in the Semple Building on Federal Street, the gallery will be open to the public through Monday.

The students' assignment demonstrates the interconnectedness and interdependence of small components that comprise a larger entity.

Senior Lezlie Thorndike contributed a floor structure of layered newspaper. Thorndike cut her piece, titled "Tread Softly," to form a map.

"It's organic, very earthy," she said. "I took some topographical images that I like and went from there."

Thorndike enjoys installations because they go beyond simply hanging a painting.

"I like people to interact with things, or at least have the option to interact," she said. "When art is on the walls, I feel like it is kind of stagnant. I wanted the viewer to have kind of a larger-than-life experience, like you're a giant walking on the Earth."

Students were able to use the exhibit as practice for their senior projects. Although it's on a smaller scale, students learned to adjust spatially to a room.

The students were given the entire semester to assemble their projects and four days to install. Thorndike said the downtown exhibit is a great opportunity for students.

"Mostly just art students see our stuff, and now it can be showcased for other people," she said.

For the past two years, the Youngstown Business Incubator has worked in conjunction with the art department. At the beginning of every semester, the YBI dedicates available space in its three buildings for art.

Some YBI workers even purchased artwork.

Rose Shaffer, project manager of Innovative Research and Communication at the YBI, said the company has received positive feedback about showcasing student talent.

"We've had lots of people [say] that Youngstown needs an art place like this," Shaffer said.

"A lot of these students don't get to experience real-life galleries. The young make up the innovative aspect of our community."

After partnering, Dragana Crnjak, an assistant professor of art, contacted the YBI to inquire about open space for the latest gallery. Crnjak said she was impressed by the professional nature of the workspace.

"Having a chance to do site-specific installations is very limited in this area," she said. "It seems like it really pointed to this need that we all have for something that's not related to class work."

Crnjak said the public and the students responded well to the project. The department was surprised by the large turnout for opening night on Oct. 20.

"I know all of these students, but when the show was up I was just blown away with the talent," she said. "It was an amazing energy that the students shared installing together."

Crnjak said YSU's art department is among the best.

She said she hopes to utilize some of the excessive vacant space in the community to find a permanent place for student art.

The installation is open from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. through Thursday and again on Monday from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Another student installation will open on Nov. 17 from 4 to 6 p.m.

Engineering enrollment

The Jambar
EDITORIAL BOARD

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ENROLLMENT PAGE 1

YSU hopes to bolster enrollment by pumping money into advertising and marketing.

The idea seems to have worked for Kent State University. They've increased advertising over the past three years by more than 60 percent. Enrollment followed suit, leaping from 27,266 in 2008 to 42,235 this fall: a 55 percent increase.

Students are dollar signs in a down economy.

While getting the word out may fill some seats, YSU must examine historical enrollment trends to plan accordingly, something it failed to do this fall as it missed the enrollment mark and left a \$7 million deficit.

Since 1976, state enrollment has climbed 51 percent. In that same time, YSU has witnessed a net loss of roughly 700 students.

The difference is miniscule considering the ups and downs YSU experienced over the past 35 years. However, while the state's enrollment growth paints a steady upward slope, YSU's historical enrollment is marred by drastic drops and unpredictable increases.

There is sense in the roller coaster enrollment trends.

Two years after Black Monday, the day Youngstown's steel industry collapsed, marked a low point in YSU's enrollment. The financial fallout that ravaged the community fed students to YSU.

The university enjoyed a sizable student body, hovering above 15,000 until an eight-month recession ending in 1991.

Numbers sagged, bottoming out at 11,787 in 2000, primed for the first of two recessions that would rejuvenate enrollment at universities across the state and the Mahoning Valley.

Enrollment rose alarmingly fast for the next 10 years: 22 percent at the state level and 29 percent at YSU.

The second recession, an 18-month economic downturn ending in June 2009, allowed YSU's enrollment to plateau at more than 15,000 students for the first time in 20 years.

But sustaining that number, in light of the 4.5 percent enrollment drop over the last year, will not be afforded by stimulus money or rising unemployment.

More students than ever are attending college in Ohio. While jobs may be available for a locally undereducated workforce, enrolling students doesn't necessarily equate to graduating students.

In the past 10 years, the national student loan debt has soared from \$59.6 billion to a whopping \$177.6 billion last year. State funding for YSU folded in half.

We need to get the students here, affordably.

Then, perhaps more important than enrollment, we need to graduate qualified employees while the surrounding community fosters a diversified economy that can meet the needs of tomorrow.

OUR SIDE POLICY

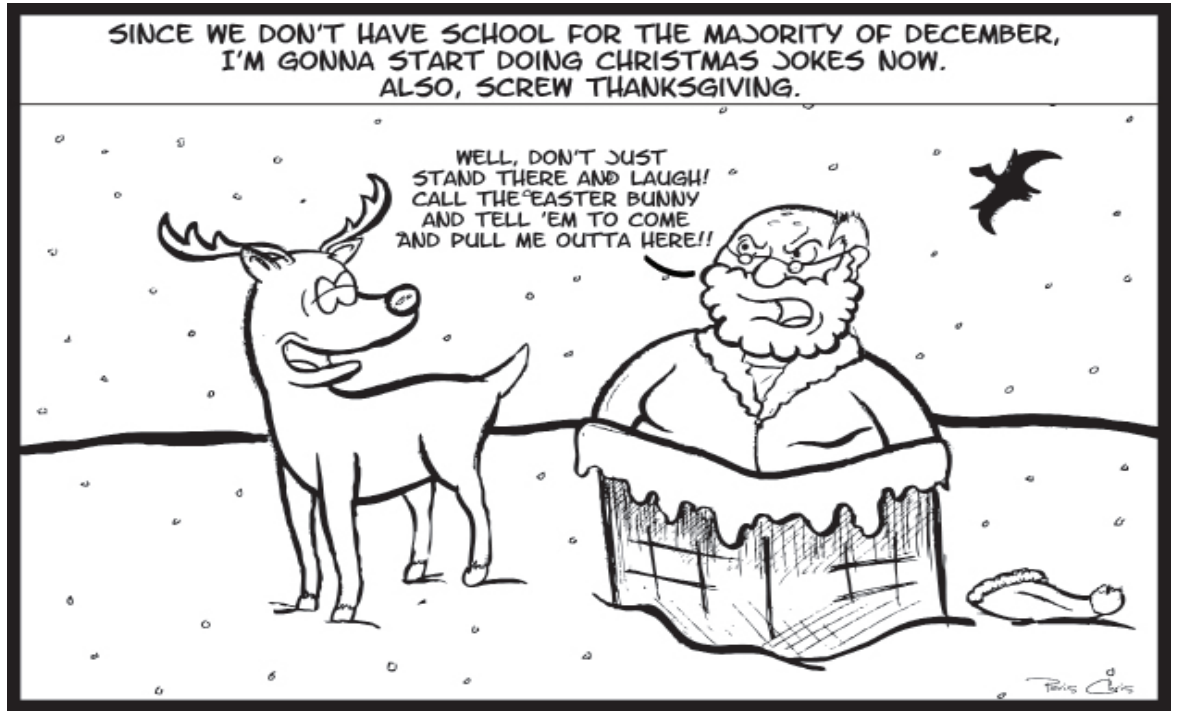
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Cartoon by Paris Chrisopoulos/The Jambar.



The big picture

Dysfunctional: the pariah of the NFL

Jared Buker
COLUMNIST

It seems as though every year the Cleveland Browns are labeled one of the "sexy picks" prior to the start of the NFL season, and anticipation in Cleveland soars higher than the city's crime rate. It also seems like year after year, they fall victim to mediocrity.

Why? If you ask their 2005 quarterback-turned-commentator Trent Dilfer, he'll tell you it's because the organization is "dysfunctional." I heard it said on ESPN several years ago that if Jesus himself came down to play quarterback for the Browns, he would throw one pass and say, "I can't save them."

For a team that has had 16 starting quarterbacks since its return in 1999, I'd say that's about right.

At least ESPN was still talking about them; sports networks now don't even waste their time covering a team with a 60-122 record and little to no potential. For a team with some of the most unforgiving and cynical fans around, why can't anyone seem to pinpoint why the Browns never get any better?

Jeff Tyus, assistant professor of communication, is a diehard Browns fan who believes their problem has always been consistency within the organization.

"I always tell Browns fans to be patient," he said. "Seems like every year, it's new players, new systems, new coaches. It's nice to see that the Browns have some players they can revolve the team around now."

That's a nice thought, but who is he referring to? Colt McCoy? You know how people used to wrongly believe that the sun revolved around the Earth?

Well, I think many Browns fans wrongly believe that their team could revolve around McCoy.

For instance, senior Chris Dozier is one of McCoy's blind followers. He said he feels McCoy is the quarterback of the future, but what he lacks is evidence as to why.

The Bengals have evidence: Their rookie quarterback Andy Dalton hasn't thrown a red-zone interception all season on his way

A supernova of cash has recently exploded over Ohio.

Sadly, this shower of money is not going into the pockets of the poor, the middle class or even the rich. This flash flood instead is being poured into two very specific purposes: the passage of Issues 2 and 3. How sad that the economy of the Buckeye State misses out once again on some financial relief.

Tears aside, the recent surge of campaign funding demands scrutiny since money in the political world buys publicity — and oftentimes the minds of voters. This influx of cash begs for investigation, so allow me to dust off my magnifying glass.

In one corner, we have the coalition known as We Are Ohio that has vowed to repeal Senate Bill 5 by making certain that Issue 2 fails. The main backers of this group are, unsurprisingly, unions and organizations like teachers' associations seeking to protect the process of collective bargaining. This side has disclosed its donors as well as the amount of money it has raised.

As such, there is no mystery

to a 6-2 record that puts them atop the toughest division in football.

Rookie Cam Newton has produced one of the greatest rookie seasons in NFL history with the Panthers, and, even though his team isn't winning, he is still finding ways to shine.

And what can you say about McCoy's sophomore season? His pickup truck commercials are pretty cool? Come on. He is just another Tim Couch, Kelly Holcomb, Charlie Frye, Brady Quinn or Derek Anderson waiting to happen.

Of the six teams with the longest playoff droughts, all of them — the Raiders, the Lions, the Bills, the Texans and the 49ers — are poised for the playoffs this year except the Browns. That means next year, the Browns will officially be a pathetic NFL pariah still waiting to see the postseason.

No thanks to you, Peyton Hillis. For a guy who hobbled off the field at least once in almost every game last year and always came back a few plays later, you wouldn't play because you had strep throat?

You let your manager and your thirst for money take the toughness out of you. I bet if you woke up with the sniffles, you'd skip practice unless Browns owner Randy Lerner personally agreed to wipe your nose with ticket money.

People talk about the Madden curse that predicts a bogus season for whoever is on the cover of the newest NFL Madden video game.

Players like Michael Vick, Donovan McNabb and Shaun Alexander all graced the cover of Madden, and each one missed a big chunk of the subsequent season due to injury.

Interestingly enough, Detroit Lions great Barry Sanders started the curse in 2000 when, after being picked for the Madden cover, he faxed his team a week before training camp to announce his retirement.

Maybe it's a self-fulfilling prophecy, or maybe Hillis is just a typical selfish athlete. But he gave up on a team and a city that just doesn't deserve any more heart-

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

regarding funds to be solved here. Where the uncertainty does reside is with opponents on this matter: the Tea Party and their splinter faction allies.

Now the fun begins.

An expose of the pro-Issue 2 parties allows one to see the vast network of political big shots trying to gut collective bargaining: Make Ohio Great, Building a Better Ohio, FreedomWorks, Americans for Prosperity and Alliance for America's Future, among others.

Don't they all have names that just make you feel warm and fuzzy inside? It's kind of like the feeling you have before you puke, and that's exactly what you'll do when you look at who is actually commanding some of these groups.

FreedomWorks is led by the manical Dick Arney (yes, that is his actual name.), Americans for Prosperity is the beast of the uber-wealthy and slightly mutated Koch brothers, and Alliance For America's Future is overseen by one of Dick Cheney's daughters, Liz Cheney. Alliance for America's Future, by the way, is based out

break. If he's lucky, the Dolphins will pick him up and he can hang out with LeBron James.

As much as I hate the Pittsburgh Steelers, they seem so much more capable than the Browns of recruiting players and developing talent.

They took a failed XFL quarterback named Tommy Maddox and made him a playoff quarterback. They took an undrafted and undersized linebacker named James Harrison and made him 2008 Defensive Player of the Year.

Former Steelers running back Willie Parker was undrafted as well; he broke the Steelers' rushing record for a single game — with 223 yards — against the Browns. They found their superstar quarterback Ben Roethlisberger in Miami, Ohio, for Pete's sake!

The Browns have squandered more young talent than Simon Cowell. They put unbelievable amounts of pressure on high draft picks and young coaches, and it never pans out the way it should.

McCoy has lost more games now than he did in all of high school and college combined; I can only imagine how shaken his pride must be, especially when Cleveland fans are asking him to produce and win games with receivers and running backs around him that wouldn't even start on most other teams in the NFL.

I don't know if he'll cry at a press conference like Couch did, but watch what happens.

Cleveland fans will break McCoy's spirit. We are hungry for a decent season, and when we can't sink our teeth into the playoffs, we eat underachieving quarterbacks instead.

In my past columns, I've talked about faith. The Browns do have a top-10 defense; they just have no offense whatsoever to alleviate some of the pressure.

I guess I can have faith in their performance on one side of the ball, and maybe next year will be the year they turn things around. But it better happen soon before the Browns become the laughing stock of professional football.

of Virginia and is proposing that it will save Ohio. Figure that one out.

What do all of the above-mentioned groups have in common? They flat out refuse to reveal who has donated to them. Some even refuse to reveal how much they raised, opting instead to anonymously pump their funds into television commercials, fliers, town hall meetings and all the publicity that money can buy.

The bottom line is that they want your vote by any means necessary. And though I'm talking in this instance about Issue 2, some of these groups are deploying the exact same tactics for Issue 3, their attempt to gut "Obamacare."

My advice to you, Penguins of YSU: Vote "no" on Issues 2 and 3.

Tell the freakshow shadow groups to go back to their offices and grow some fortitude before they try to sway you into voting their way. Anonymous money has no place in politics, and that is precisely what these Tea Party allies represent.

Robert Helzel
Niles

'Stacking Penguins'



Cup stackers crave recognition

Sophomore Andy Innocenzi, center, helps cup stacking teammates Rachelle Fair, left, and Alysa Nuzzi, right, improve their speed. Innocenzi founded and coaches the team, which has grown to seven members since its inception in March. The first unofficial competition for the Stacking Penguins is Nov. 19. Photo by Dustin Livesay/The Jambar.

Nick Mancini
SPORTS REPORTER

In March, sophomore Andy Innocenzi was stacking cups in a Fedor Hall computer lab. Today, the cup stacking national record holder is one of the seven students who make up the Youngstown State University Stacking Penguins.

Stacking Penguins is a student organization that Innocenzi developed during spring semester. The group practices every day from noon to 2 p.m. at Arby's in Kilcawley Center.

Innocenzi coaches the team, as many of its members have never stacked cups.

Freshman Rachelle Fair said she was added to the team after inadvertently sitting at the designated cup stacking table.

"I have never heard of cup stacking until [I saw] them doing it in Arby's," she said.

Innocenzi said he approached Fair about joining the team.

"I taught Rachelle from scratch," In-

nocenzi said. "She started in the 40-second range, and now she is stacking in the 11-second range in the cycle. It is really her dedication that helped her get better."

Fair said she is looking forward to her first meet, which begins Nov. 19.

"I'm just looking towards the experience of going to a meet for the first time," she said. "I really want to see what it is all about. I just started last semester, so I feel like I have really been doing well."

Innocenzi said he arranged the unofficial meet to prepare the team for other competitions.

Since Innocenzi was unable to find other schools to compete in the meet, he invited family, Team USA Ohio members and high school friends.

"[The unofficial meet] won't get any recognition by the [World Sport Stacking Association], so no records can be set," he said. "But we simulate a real meet pretty well with officials, judges and all the races."

For the upcoming meet, the team will compete in three competitions:

3-3-3, 3-6-3 and the cycle.

The 3-3-3 is where cups are "upstacked" and "downstacked" from left to right in three stacks with three cups in each stack.

The 3-6-3 is where cups are upstacked and downstacked from left to right or vice versa in three stacks made up of three cups on the left, six cups in the center and three cups on the right.

The cycle consists of a sequence of stacks combining a 3-6-3 stack, a 6-6 stack and a 1-10-1 stack, respectively. Stackers conclude the cycle with cups in a 3-6-3 downstacked position.

Freshman Alysa Nuzzi is also a member of the team and has stacked cups for many years. She took a break from it because she was afraid there wasn't a future in the sport.

"I started in about the third grade," she said. "I kind of gave it up for a few years, and then I found out about [what] Andy was doing here at YSU. It gave [me] an itch to get back going."

Innocenzi said he concentrates most on the cycle.

"I have been getting under 9 seconds

at practice, but records can't be broken in practice," he said. His cycle record is 9.69 seconds. "I would really love to get under 9 seconds. If you can do that, you are really in a different league."

Innocenzi said Nuzzi is the best.

"In 2005, she participated in the World Championships," Innocenzi said. "She is still getting back into the swing of things, being away for some time, but she will definitely be one of our best."

Nuzzi said she is excited about competing again.

"I haven't been to a meet in a while, so I am excited," she said. "I hope to be somewhere in the 8-second range for the cycle. That's my goal."

After the unofficial meet, Innocenzi said the team would prepare for the regional meet in Rochester, N.Y., on Jan. 28. Then it is onto the state championships in May.

"We are looking to finish first in the state," Innocenzi said. "I have been so impressed with everyone, most of them only doing this for such a short period of time. Finishing first would be great."

Rugby wraps fall, builds experience

Nick Mancini
SPORTS REPORTER

Although the fall season officially concluded two weeks ago, the Youngstown Steel Valley Rugby Club continues play. The team begins exhibition gameplay Saturday against Cleveland State University.

The Steel Valley team is made up of some players from what was previously known as Youngstown State University's rugby team. The collegiate team recently became a men's team after most players' college eligibility ran out.

The rugby club can now schedule games against university teams now that the season has ended. Most will be exhibition games.

"We had another game set up with a team from Canton, but it fell through," said Brett Grabman, vice president of the rugby club. "But now, with the fall season over, we can really play whoever we want."

Grabman noted that the league generates the fall schedule.

"Cleveland State called us looking for the game," said Shawn McClellan, president of the rugby club. "They have recently re-established their team, so they were looking for opponents. Their situation is almost like a fraternity, where the members pledge and stuff to join the team."

Youngstown previously faced the West Moreland Highlanders Rugby Club, losing 19-14.

Grabman said he notices similarities between the Highlanders and other opponents.

"We have played them before, and we usually have an evenly played match with them," Grabman said. "The Highlanders and the team from Canton are pretty even with us. They are pretty good matches."

Grabman added that uneven experience levels affected his team's success.



The Youngstown Steel Valley Rugby Club ended the fall season two weeks ago and will begin exhibition matches against university teams. The team is also looking to begin workouts at a new facility in Boardman. Photo by Dustin Livesay/The Jambar.

"What we used to do to teams is what teams did to us this season," he said. "Experience will overcome individual talent during games."

McClellan agreed with Grabman. "This season went exactly like we thought it would," McClellan said. "We knew we were going to take our licks, and we just have to learn from them. We can definitely take what we learned and use them going forward."

Forward Matt Ruse also agreed with McClellan and Grabman, but he noticed improvement as the season progressed.

"This season was definitely a learning experience, as they both said," Ruse said. "We just have to take what we learned and build on it. Now, with the offseason coming up, we will start to work on our condition and just get better in practice."

McClellan said the Steel Valley team would begin working out at a gym that will be opening in Boardman. He said the team would benefit

from the workouts.

"We will be working with personal trainers on our strength and conditioning," McClellan said. "We have to get the funding together for that, but hopefully that will work out."

Grabman added that they would resemble "Iron Man" workouts.

"It is going [to] be things like tires and stuff like that," Grabman said. "Those kind of workouts will really help us, especially when we start back into the season."

Additionally, Grabman said the YSU team is in the process of re-starting.

"We will have some of the guys be doing volunteer work with us," he said. "There are definitely guys who want to play, so it's a good start."

McClellan said getting the YSU team started depends on having enough players.

"We need 15 guys to field a team," McClellan said. "We are going to try to have a team ready, but I just am not sure right now."

Hundelt, Egler: Jambar Players of the Week

Joe Catullo Jr.
SPORTS EDITOR

The Youngstown State University volleyball team entered Friday night's game at Beeghly Center with a 17-game home losing streak.

Valparaiso University swept the Penguins to extend the streak to 18 games. The Penguins fought back to break that streak the next day.

YSU hosted the University of Illinois at Chicago on Saturday, and the Penguins ended their streak.

Sophomore Missy Hundelt and freshman Alexis Egler led the Penguins.

Hundelt compiled 21 kills, 56 total attacks, eight digs and 26.5 points.

"Just a win feels awesome, and for it to be [at] home, there's really no words to explain it," she said.

Hundelt, earning her second Jambar Player of the Week honor, finished Friday and Saturday with 59 kills, 94 total attacks, 16 digs and 40.5 points.

"She's been playing well for us," head coach Krista Burrows said. "She's been doing some good things. We're just happy to see her produce."

Right behind Hundelt, Egler also played strong. She amassed 11 kills, 31 total attacks, 10 digs and 15 points on Saturday.

"I know we haven't got a lot of wins, but it's really important that we pulled through," Egler said. "We got down a little bit, but we knew we had to work hard."

Egler completed the weekend series with 13 kills, 46 total attacks, 14 digs and 17 points.

"She can play much older than her years at times, but we still see those freshman mistakes from her," Burrows said. "She played really well on Saturday."

Egler, who is from Clarkston, Mich., was named to the American Volleyball Coaches Association Under Armour All-American Watch List preceding her senior season. She also set school records in assists, sets and serves.

"She's just a better player than some of the other kids coming in," Burrows said. "She has a ton of learning to do, but, at least for where we're at right now, she's been a good addition for us."