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60%
Democrat

Historical minimum Mahoning County vote needed for presidential win.

34%
Republican

Historical minimum Mahoning County vote needed for presidential win.



GRAPHIC BY PARIS CHRISOPOULOS/THE JAMBAR.

James Toliver
REPORTER

Youngstown sees its share of politicians during the election cycle, and a review of election data reveals that Mahoning County holds a wider importance.

A county-by-county elec-

tion results map reveals that since 1960, with the exception of 1992 where independent Ross Perot had an unusually strong run, no Democratic nominee for president has won Ohio, and ultimately the presidency, without pulling at least 60 percent of the vote in Mahoning County and 58 percent in Trumbull County.

In contrast, during the same period, Republicans have carried the state to a presidential victory with as little as 34 percent of the vote in Mahoning County and 36 percent in Trumbull County.

Since 1896, the winner of Ohio's electoral votes has also won general election with only two exceptions. And no

Republican candidate has won the general election without also winning Ohio.

The strategy for the White House functions out to an equation of electoral votes in a few key states and a few select areas within those states. In this calculus, the weight of Youngstown and its surrounding area could tip Ohio for or

against a candidate.

"Outside of Youngstown, Columbus and the area around Cincinnati, the state is mostly red," said Paul Sracic, chairman of Youngstown State University's political science department.

By the numbers, Ohio is

BATTLEGROUND PAGE 2

'Reaching' for enrollment despite decline

Kacy Standohar
NEWS EDITOR

Youngstown State University's enrollment may have crashed 4.3 percent, but without a combination of marketing and public relations efforts, the decline could have been worse.

A media blitz of television ads and YSU's first Crash Day — a daylong event that gives high school juniors and seniors the college experience — broke the fall of the full-time equivalent enrollment, which cost the university \$3.7 million.

Crash Day hosted 225 prospective students, 102 of whom were planning to attend college this fall. Of those, 82 were registered at YSU through the 14th day of classes.

Tysa Egleton, associate registrar and director of Crash Day, said the goal was to reinvent YSU in the eyes of potential students.

"We really wanted to turn the negative connotations with YSU into positives," Egleton said. "We tried to showcase the university and wanted people to try us on for size."

Because of the event's success, Crash Day will replace the quarterly

open houses.

Spending, on average, \$450,000 a year, Mark Van Tilburg, executive director of marketing and communications, said he wants to maintain the emphasis on academic rigor and student-faculty relationships that YSU has to offer.

During fiscal year 2013, Kent State University will spend \$1.5 million on marketing initiatives.

Emily Vincent, director of university media relations at KSU, said the university will reap the benefits and is expected to announce an enrollment increase.

"Spending this money on marketing helps to create an awareness for prospective students and reminds parents to inquire, schedule a visit or visit our university website," Vincent said. "We try to make our ads very attractive and really try to connect emotionally to stand out from other universities and institutions."

Jack Fahey, vice president for student affairs, said marketing efforts typically take several years to bear significant fruit, though.

While the majority of YSU students

MARKETING PAGE 3

Crepe cravings

YSU grad opens second off-campus restaurant



Andrea Verde working the counter of her new restaurant, Soleil Cafe, located on Hazel behind Jimmy John's. Photo by Rachel Lundberg/The Jambar.

Rachel Lundberg
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

Recent Youngstown State University graduate Andrea Verde wanted to give students a fast, inexpensive way to eat healthy. In August, she opened Soleil Cafe, a crepe restaurant, with the hopes of serving alternative food using alternative energy.

"I wanted to be able to provide portable foods that are made fresh as an alternative to fast food," Verde said.

Her landlord approved the installation of solar panels on the roof to power her two

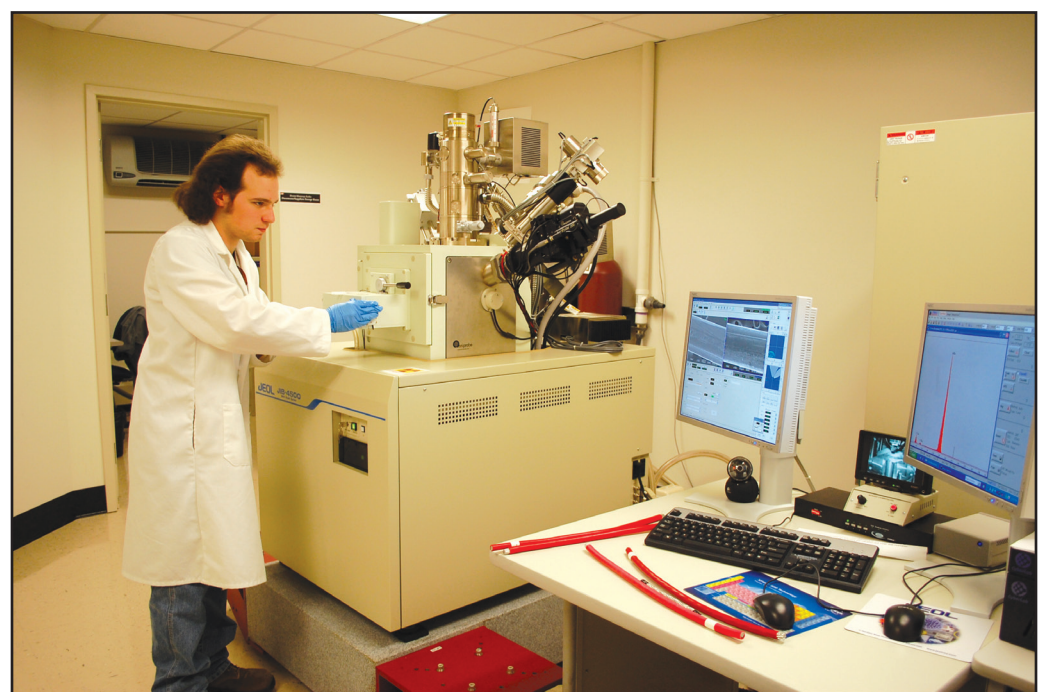
restaurants. Verde is now applying for a grant to fund the installation and is hoping that the new roof being installed on Wednesday will not derail her plans.

In five months, Soleil Cafe went from a dream to a reality for Verde, who also owns Coyoacan.

The 35-year-old signed the lease for the space behind Jimmy John's five months before Soleil's grand opening.

In 2007, Verde began classes at YSU, and she graduated just a few weeks ago.

CREPES PAGE 3



Graduate student Brandon Hart works with a computer-aided microscope to analyze the properties of aluminum cable in YSU's Ward Beecher Hall. Photo by Kevin Alquist/The Jambar.

Battery cable project keeps going and going

Kevin Alquist
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

Youngstown State University graduate student Brandon Hart is working close to the edge of science with Delphi, a Warren-based automotivesystems company.

Since July, he has been doing hands-on research to replace the copper wires in car batteries with aluminum, but the collaboration between YSU and Delphi has been going on for approximately two years.

Hart, who studied physics at Clarion University of Pennsylvania, said the project is like nothing he has ever worked on before. He said he's OK with

the extra workload, though, because he enjoys what he's doing.

"It sounds cliché, but I'm honored to be the one working on this project, as opposed to the others that wanted the position," Hart said.

Hart is working closely with Virgil Solomon, assistant professor of mechanical engineering and lead researcher on the project.

Hart's lab work includes powder X-ray diffraction, electron microscopy and Auger spectroscopy, an analytical technique used in the study of surfaces.

"When I worked on a research project as an undergrad, I'd spend a few hours in the lab,"

BATTERY PAGE 3

'The magnitude of the issue is manageable'

Chris Cotelesse
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Another year of enrollment decline has left a hole in Youngstown State University's budget that is millions of dollars deep.

Full-time equivalent enrollment — a number based on the credit hours produced each fall semester — is down by 4.3 percent from 2011 and 7.6 percent from 2010.

Budget Director Neal McNally said the university will bring in \$4.5 million less in tuition revenue than it had projected in the annual budget.

A contingency fund of \$1 million was set aside last spring to offset a modest enrollment decline, and some unexpected increases in student demographics buffered the bank account further.

YSU enrolled 3.7 percent more graduate students and 2.8 percent out-of-state students than last year. Because of higher tuition and nonresident fees, McNally expects \$600,000 and \$250,000, respectively, from those students if the trend continues in the spring.

So, the actual deficit is closer to \$2.7 million.

"It sounds like a big number, and it is, but the figure is less than 2 percent of the university's general fund," McNally said. "The magnitude of the issue is manageable."

Ron Cole, director of university communications, said projections made as early as spring indicated that enrollment would take a substan-

tial fall, and the administration took steps to brace for the impact.

"There were times over the summer where it looked like it was going to be in the 7, 8, maybe 9 percent range. And there was a lot of effort put in over the summer to do as much recruiting as we could," he said.

He initiated a public relations and publicity campaign to shore up attendance.

The plan included more television advertising and programs like the first-ever Crash Day in June, which gave high school juniors and seniors a day to experience life as a YSU student. Eighty percent of eligible high school students who attended this event are now YSU students.

These efforts haven't closed the gap, but Cole said they are a good place to start.

"Even though we still lag considerably behind our competitors, we are stepping up and doing a lot more advertising and marketing and repositioning YSU in the minds of the public as a destination of choice," he said.

Cole echoed President Cynthia Anderson's State of the University address, emphasizing the ever-increasing importance of tuition dollars to higher education funding, and the need to be flexible around the numbers.

"Enrollment is extremely cyclical. In the 1990s, we saw enrollment drop significantly over the entire decade. In the first decade of the 2000s, we saw enrollment increase significantly," he said.

BATTLEGROUND PAGE 1

a critical swing state with 18 Electoral College votes, the second largest amount after Florida. Because of the area's population and the way electoral votes are awarded, both Barack Obama and Mitt Romney must perform well in the Youngstown-Warren area.

"The Democrats need Ohio to win and need to perform very well in this area to do so," Sracic said.

Sracic revealed that each party's candidate has strengths and weaknesses that may or may not provide victory in the Mahoning Valley.

"What's more important: social issues or economic issues?" Sracic said.

These two categories of voter interests place each party in a position of relative weakness and strength.

For the most part, Democrats will be leaning on their rescue of the auto industry and, ultimately, Lordstown.

To bolster this, autoworkers and other union-involved industries will rally behind the Democrats not only for traditional historical reasons, but also because of the Republican-led attempt to end collective bargaining for public sector union works.

Conversely, the GOP will look to promote its shale and natural gas initiatives, as well as the Democratic opposition to these plans. Moreover, the Republicans will portray the Democratic Party's insistence on regulation and the president's inability to secure free trade agreements at an international competitive rate.

"Ohio is doing better than the country, and this area is doing better than the rest of the state," Sracic said. "The task in November will be to convince the Youngstown area that Valley residents have Republicans or Democrats to thank for this outcome."

Students intern with political professionals

Rachael Kerr
REPORTER

Youngstown State University students are infiltrating the Ohio General Assembly.

The Columbus Program in Intergovernmental Issues, also known as CPII, is a 15-week program headed by Kent State University and directed by Vernon Sykes, an assistant professor of political science at KSU.

Open to juniors and seniors of any accredited college and major, CPII gives students the opportunity to work alongside politicians and those associated with public policy at the state level through a combination of coursework and internships.

Levant Miller, a YSU senior from the Bahamas, is spending 15 weeks with state Sen. Charleta Tavares of the Ohio Senate's 15th District, learning the ropes of public policy at the state level.

"I realized that this opportunity was much bigger than me," Miller said. "I became intimidated by what it meant to be an international YSU student working in the Statehouse of Ohio, but I refused to let my fears get the best of me."

Miller wishes to be a politician as well as a filmmaker, and also plans to pursue a graduate degree in media communication. Internships are a critical step in achieving professional goals, Miller said.

"I strongly urge YSU students to pursue internships — regardless of their endeavors," Miller said. "Internships give the opportunity to put into practice the theoretical knowledge we are acquiring from our professors."

CPII students receive 15 credit hours for the program, which is equivalent to a full schedule of political science courses for that semester. Majors of every discipline are welcome, but a 2.5 GPA is required. Fees for the program include the cost of YSU tuition, housing and an

administrative fee.

Cryshanna Jackson, an assistant professor of political science, has offered a solution to students who are unable to leave the area due to their personal obligations, but who would still like to experience an internship like CPII: YSU's Urban Intern Program.

YSU student Bianca Koups began interning through the program on May 15 at U.S. Rep. Bill Johnson's Salem office. She did so at a time when she was having doubts about pursuing a degree in law.

Koups performed basic secretarial work and attended events, such as ribbon-cutting ceremonies and the Eastern Ohio Job Fair, on Johnson's behalf. She has since been asked to remain as a paid member of the congressman's staff.

"The urban internship program has opened a gate to the rest of my life. I absolutely love my job," Koups said.

The Urban Intern Seminar (Political Science 5800) counts as three credit hours and involves students working in an approved local agency for 15 hours a week. Through this program, students are able to receive the same experience of working with political professionals — but without leaving their backyards.

"I would recommend anyone who is considering the program to just do it," Koups said. "It is well worth it, and if you do not get a job out of it, you will make contacts, learn to network and eventually have connections that can help throughout your professional life."

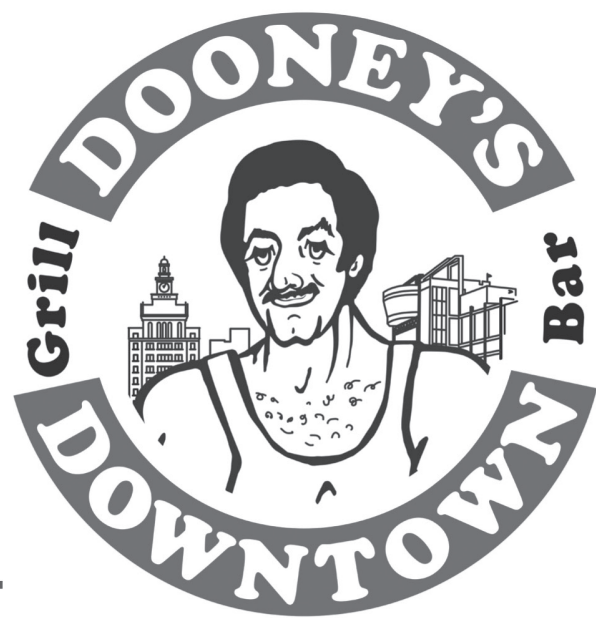
The Youngstown Foundation provides scholarships for the program. Given that students have completed the program to their agency's satisfaction, sponsors of the agency also provide a \$400 stipend for the intern at the end of the semester.

Jackson encourages students of all majors who are interested to visit the political science department's website for more information.

"Don't be afraid to try new things," Jackson said. "The opportunities are endless."

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POLICE BRIEFS

Tina Turner stuck in a fire hydrant?

On Sept. 4, a YSU police officer found a 54-year-old woman sitting next to a fire hydrant on Fifth Avenue. When he approached the woman to ask if she was OK, she began to yell that Tina Turner was inside the hydrant, which had its large cap removed. The woman "continued to ramble on about needing to help get Tina out of the hydrant," according to the report. Two more officers arrived on the scene shortly afterward to provide assistance, but the woman still insisted that Tina was in the hydrant and that she was poisoned by coffee. Police determined that the woman needed medical attention, and she was transported to a hospital for evaluation.

Student witnesses assault

On Thursday, a female student told YSU Police that she saw a couple exchanging words in the basement of Kilcawley House. The woman slapped the man across the face, and the man put his arm around the woman's neck and dragged her across the floor. The woman told the man to stop, adding that "no man should treat a woman like that," according to the report. The woman told YSU Police that she did not want to file any type of charges.

NEWS BRIEFS

Nonprofit summit includes speakers, workshops

The sixth annual nonprofit summit, titled "Raising Up Our Work: Equity and Capacity-Building for Greater Impact," will be held in Kicawley Center on Sept. 19; it is sponsored by the Raymond John Wean Foundation. The event features keynote addresses by Rha Goddess, an artist and activist, and Manuel Pastor, founding director of the Center for Justice Tolerance and Community at University of Southern California, Santa Cruz. The summit will also feature several workshops including "Shale in the Valley: Game Changer for Nonprofits" and "New Approaches to Fundraising."

WYSU sponsors trip to ancient Peru

Those interested in WYSU-FM 88.5's 11-day tour of Lima, Peru, colonial Cuzco, the Andes and Machu Picchu should be prepared for some high-altitude travel, which may make walking more difficult. The trip, which runs from May 14 to 24, costs \$3,369 per person; the price includes round-trip air transportation with a major airline and airport transfers, eight nights of hotel accommodations, tour guides and more. Travelers should be comfortable with climbing steps and small hills. For more information, call 330-941-3363 or visit <http://www.wysu.org>.

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MARKETING PAGE 1

come from Mahoning and Trumbull counties, Van Tilburg said annual market research shows that YSU's best competitive advantage lies in western Pennsylvania.

"It's a lot about awareness and perception," Van Tilburg said. "But we're frontloading and spending a lot more money in the fall, a time where higher achieving high school students are making the early decision."

Students enrolled from western Pennsylvania receive a price advantage, paying only \$105 more than Ohio residents.

"We've been tracking this for three years," Van Tilburg said. "We found it beneficial to put more emphasis on advertising YSU in western Pennsylvania and de-emphasize spending in Cleveland and Akron, where competition is heavier."

He mentioned that the sweet spot for adults and non-traditional students, however, still remains in Youngstown. Marketing the university to adults has been more difficult lately because many are going back to work.

YSU's department of marketing and communications works on creative aspects such as the website, social media and television ads.

Van Tilburg said the department just started a major collaboration with KDKA, a broadcast media company in Pittsburgh. Along with running advertisements on KDKA, ads are placed on Comcast through mid-December.

"For one day a month, YSU advertisements take over the Infiniti Pittsburgh website also. Within the ads are links to admissions and the YSU homepage," Van Tilburg said.

He said continuous video production is underway. Two telecommunication interns are working on video production



This banner, funded by the YSU Foundation, hangs next to a similar banner on Stambaugh Stadium. Photo by Kacy Standohar/The Jambar.

for the YSU football games and other campus activities. A photographer and an associate editor for new social media are working to enhance efforts through Facebook and Twitter.

Other efforts include banners in the Pittsburgh Airport and a recent partnership with the Covelli Centre, where YSU logos are painted on the walls.

Additional ads can be found downtown all the way up to Hazel Street near the Williamson College of Business Administration. The banners hanging on the walls of Stambaugh Stadium were funded through the YSU Foundation.

"We also have to sell the

city and engage with the city," Van Tilburg said. "It's just a matter of getting the word out. We really transformed our operation here. We needed to evolve in that way. We want to continue and accelerate all of our paid and unpaid marketing efforts without abandoning the primary local market."

Van Tilburg added that the advertising theme at YSU is important and intentional.

"The 'great university within reach' campaign is a triple entendre because YSU is geographically reachable, financially reachable and it offers so many programs," he said. "We wanted to pivot on the word 'reach.'"

CREPES PAGE 1

While she planned and prepared her new restaurant, Verde also switched from being a part-time to a full-time student. Friends took over running Coyoacan to help.

Verde realized she wanted a crepe place in Youngstown after various visits to other cities with French cuisine.

Verde used Facebook to choose the final name and crepe recipes. She provided the options and let popular vote do the rest.

"There wasn't even any strong attachment," Nathan Stauffer, manager and long-time friend of Verde's, said about the final name.

Stauffer is one of Verde's many friends who were recruited in preparing the new restaurant. He quit his previous factory job to work with Verde full time to renovate the building three weeks before its opening.

"It was just a cement box pretty much," Verde said about the building's previous condition.

Students are still discovering Soleil Cafe, despite the posters hanging around campus.

Alexis Millerleile, a junior accounting major, visited Soleil for the first time on Wednesday with her friends.

"It's a very warming atmosphere," Millerleile said. "Feels like we're at home."

BATTERY PAGE 1

Hart said. "Working on this project, I'm in the lab or in class from 9 to 5 every day. The work went from a side project to a full-time job."

Hart said the skills he learned in his coursework makes him better understand his research.

"Each piece of cable requires multiple, hourlong sample surveys of different sections of wire," Solomon said. "This is not work that can be completed in one, two or three weeks."

Solomon also stressed the

importance of communication and teamwork in such a lengthy process.

For Hart, the real-life experience has been a learning process. Before he could begin research, he had to learn sample preparation and instrumentation in order to get accurate results and conclusions.

Solomon and Hart will be meeting in late September with their completed results for presentation on Friday.

Solomon said their research is right on schedule with what Delphi expects.

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Flat out wrong

RELATED STORY
ENROLLMENT, PAGE 2

This fall, similar to last, YSU copes with another 4 percent enrollment decline. As a result, millions in projected revenue vanishes.

After crunching some numbers, Neal McNally, budget director, estimates that the operating deficit will wind up being around \$2.7 million, due to an influx of out-of-state students and higher tuition costs.

Still, department budgets will be skimmed and vacancies will remain. Perhaps we'll even see another request for voluntary concessions.

Let's flash back to summer, when the board of trustees reviewed McNally's fiscal year 2013 budget proposal. Enrollment was projected to remain stagnant. However, \$1 million was reallocated to a contingency fund to compensate for a loss of students not exceeding 1 percent of enrollment.

Scott Schulick, a trustee, raised concerns over whether the amount would be sufficient, to which McNally replied with a "we'll-cross-that-bridge-when-we-get-to-it" response.

Jack Fahey, vice president for student affairs, admitted at that point in the summer, enrollment numbers were down from the same time the year prior.

Yet, the budget passed unanimously. Eastern Gateway Community College has been growing steadily over the past few years, and its largest area of growth has been the Youngstown-Warren area.

The cheap, local alternative has been siphoning students since 2009.

Admittedly, new marketing initiatives and proactive financial measures have softened the blow compared to years past, but retroactive cuts inhibit academic and intellectual progress on campus.

As gallant as it was to be optimistic about enrollment, stubbornness and an unwillingness to accept reality prevailed this summer.

JAMBAR POLICY

Since being founded by Burke Lyden in 1931, The Jambar has won nine Associated Collegiate Press honors. The Jambar is published twice weekly during the fall and spring semesters and weekly during the first summer session. Mail subscriptions are \$25 per academic year. The first copy of The Jambar is free. Additional copies of The Jambar are \$1 each.

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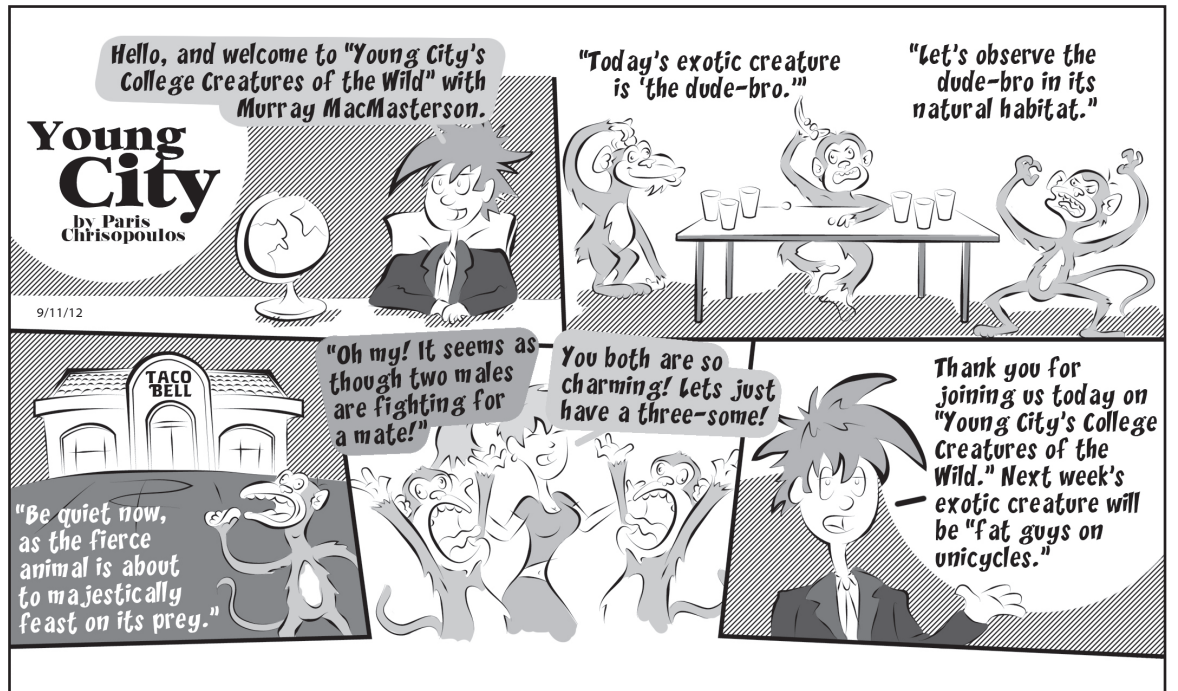


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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Jambar Editor:

I know I wasn't the only woman who was upset by the photo you chose to use to illustrate the front-page article of today's Jambar (Sept. 6).

It is offensive in the extreme, and just one more reminder — as if we needed any — of the

violence done to women. Yes, it's a crime scene, and we know these crimes happen. But to use this manikin, in this position, with jeans pulled down is just too close for comfort. You could have staged a simple shooting for the photo, but, as often with The Jambar, you seem more focused

on shock value than on news.

Well, you got our attention, but it's the kind of attention that doesn't serve the paper well.

Jean Engle
Assistant Director,
YSU Office of Marketing
and Communications

Education reform



David Roberts
COLUMNIST

In the "Harry Potter" series, the young witches and wizards attend school for seven years on their way to careers in the magic world.

Now, wouldn't that be amazing if we could do the same in our muggle world?

Unfortunately, in the real world, we are tasked with the long path of education that takes us through roughly 16 years to get the coveted college degree. Although I'm well aware that the series is a piece of fiction, the education system that is in use at Hogwarts, the school of witchcraft and wizardry, is actually based on the real education system in use in England.

The education system in England is broken down into two levels of schooling. First is primary school, which students attend from ages 5 to 10. This is followed by secondary school, which students generally start at the age of 11 and carry on through until graduation.

The English government requires compulsory education for students from the ages of 5 to 16. But this requirement will be expanded to the age of 18.

Students in the English education system sort through 13 years of school; each is referred to as Year 1 and so on. Once they enter their eighth or ninth year at the age of 12 or 13, a majority of their subjects become optional. They then choose a series of classes to continue advanced studies in preparation for their General Certificate

of Secondary Language, usually taken at the end of their 11th year.

Depending on their test scores, they are allowed to continue studying the subject for their final two years of school in preparation for admittance into university.

As a result of giving students the ability to choose their own course curriculum, English universities have fewer college applicants and smaller student populations, allowing their students to have more affordable education. The most a student at an English university is expected to pay is £3,290 per year, which equates to roughly \$5,194, a ticket price that many an American student would no doubt be happy with.

Meanwhile, taking a look at the education system in the U.S., I think it's a commendable effort with the No Child Left Behind Act and other measures to ensure kids stay in school and learn in an attempt to gain admission into a college and with that a brighter future.

However, I cannot help but notice as a product of public school education myself that I think it does more a disservice to far more students and teachers than it does to help. In an attempt to push these kids through all the college prep courses they need for college admission, teachers have to virtually dumb down their curriculum to allow all students to receive passing grades. It just does not make sense to continue to spend all the time, money and resources of our education system on students that care

little about a college career.

Caitlin Day, a junior education major at YSU, shared the same sentiment when looking at the education system she is preparing to enter as a career.

"College isn't for every kid. If a student does not enjoy school and does not wish to further their education, then, no, we shouldn't force them to go to college because then we are setting them up for failure," Day said. "We can't force a student to want to further their education. We can encourage them to do so, but if they don't want to, then that's their own choice, and we have to accept that."

Now, by no means does this mean we should leave these students in the dark.

I think more schools that operate curriculums built for teaching students trades could be established to give students more options than just the college route — something we desperately need in an attempt to rebound the economy.

So many problems have arisen out of our education system since it has started to break down, and for a nation that prides itself on the opportunities it presents for its youth, one would think that education would be a number one priority.

With all this in mind, the English education model becomes so much more attractive than our own at all levels of the education system and presents our nation with the opportunity to provide bright futures to all.

Campus Connection

Do you feel represented by the politicians who come to Youngstown?



"I think it depends on the candidate because everyone's different. I think it's good they come down here and talk to us, instead of us going to them or having to look up info on their websites."

- Andrew Baker,
sophomore



"To certain stuff, I feel represented. I heard they're trying to take away student loans, and I don't think anyone's representing us for that."

- Kayla Williams,
junior

Need Advice?

We've extended the deadline for Counselor's Corner to give more students a chance to submit. Please go to thejambar.com and follow the the Counselor's Corner link on the home page.



'Everyone is welcome' CRU organizes first concert



Members of CRU, a YSU Christian organization, are excited to start the semester with their first major event, a worship concert. Co-leaders Nikki Alles and Cory Vaughn hope to host a major event every semester, as well as boost their presence on campus. Photo courtesy of Cory Vaughn.

Marissa McIntyre
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

The Campus Crusade for Christ is taking a leap of faith.

CRU is hosting its first concert for worship at 7 p.m. Friday in Kilcawley Center's Chestnut Room.

Nikki Alles, one of the leaders of CRU, said group members have been brainstorming an event for a year, and plans for a worship concert fell into place in June. She said it's been a whirlwind ever since. Alles planned the event with Cory Vaughn, another of CRU's leaders.

"We really feel like we want to get the whole campus together. Just everyone together to sing and praise," Alles said.

Vaughn said they got the idea while

attending the Alive Festival, a Christian music festival, over the summer.

"We talked with some of the bands who seemed interested, so we thought, 'Why not? Let's put something together,'" Vaughn said.

Two musical acts will perform at the free event: Jordan Biel and Circle of One.

Biel is a classic rock worship artist from Cortland, while Circle of One is an indie rock worship band currently on tour and making a stop at YSU just for the CRU worship concert.

Alles said the concert is a way to let students know that CRU exists.

"Almost everyone we talk to has no idea that we have Christian organizations on campus," Alles said. "So, it's a way for us to get our name out and let students know we're available."

She said CRU's previous lack of ac-

cessibility prevented them from hosting events.

"We've been under the radar. So, because we're so under the radar, we haven't done big things like this. So, this is a step of faith for us to say, 'We're here and we're willing to do crazy things,'" Alles said.

The event is being funded primarily by CRU members and through the organization's fundraisers. Alles said members wanted to make the event free so nothing will stand in the way of someone attending.

"[It] doesn't matter if you're Christian. It doesn't matter what you believe. Just come listen to music and have a good time," Alles said. "Just because it's a Christian concert doesn't mean if you're Buddhist, you can't go."

She encourages everyone to attend who may want questions answered

about Christ.

"[It's] nice to have that way to connect and come and talk and get your questions answered through an organization that's not going to judge you," Alles said. "I think it's so important that students know they have that opportunity to get to know Jesus instead of the rumors."

The organization would like to host one concert each semester, as well as monthly events.

Vaughn said it's been a learning experience, as he's never planned or promoted a concert before.

"It's really cool to look back and see what we've done so far. It has really come together," he said. "I'm hoping it'll be a slam dunk, so we can host more events like this."

Glee Club comes to YSU

Justin Carissimo
REPORTER

Matt Malloy, a freshman majoring in musical theater, was watching clips of "The Sing-Off" on YouTube when he was inspired to begin the Youngstown State University Glee Club.

To generate a buzz and see if anyone was interested in joining, Malloy created a Facebook page for the YSU Glee Club.

The Facebook page received positive feedback and plenty of comments from its 62 members.

"People kept expressing how much they wanted the club to happen, and it's always something that I've wanted. I decided to take the initiative to just start it up," Malloy said.

Group officers consist of Malloy, the club's president, and Allyson Pollice and Crystal Galliford, its executive vice presidents. The three are trying to secure the recital hall in Bliss Hall or one of the larger classrooms for practices.

"I'm super excited about the new Glee Club. To be honest, I'm a huge Gleek," said sophomore Edward Lammerding, who saw the Glee Club site on his Facebook early in the week.

Malloy completed the usual paperwork at the university to make Glee Club an official organization at YSU, though the group was created for recreation rather than competition.

"Competing is something that would be great to work toward in the future," Malloy



said.

The club's performances will be focused mainly around contemporary music.

"Expect songs from artists like Jason Mraz, Kanye West and Lady Gaga," Malloy said.

Dana School of Music students have already begun making arrangements for Glee Club.

"It's going to be mainly a cappella. Students have already helped me create musical arrangements," Malloy said.

Kathie Steeb, a sophomore member of Glee Club, expects more than musical theater majors to join the club.

"It's going to combine the different worlds of students.

The talent pool is large and should be pretty diverse. There are even non-music majors that are joining," Steeb said.

The club will give students who have a passion for performing a new outlet in which to exercise their talents.

"It's a great place for students to get into singing and performing. It's opportunity

that they hadn't had available beforehand," Pollice said.

"This is something where students are going to have a lot of fun and be able to get into singing. With all the stress that comes with school, this is a great opportunity to relax and have fun."

GRAPHIC BY KEELEY BLACK/THE JAMBAR

Not to be overlooked

Steve Wilaj
SPORTS EDITOR

Standing just 5 feet 6 inches tall, Youngstown State University wide receiver Andre Stubbs is used to short jokes.

"Every day, I hear a small or short joke from my teammates," Stubbs said, laughing, two days after his breakout game against the University of Pittsburgh. "It doesn't really bother me, though."

And why should it? Although he's small in stature, Stubbs is large in talent.

On Sept. 1 at Heinz Field against the Panthers, Stubbs' skills were displayed on the biggest of stages. During a prime-time game televised on ESPN, the smallest player on the field stole the show.

Showing off his blazing speed, surprising power and cat-like quickness, the redshirt freshman collected 71 rushing yards, 61 receiving yards, two touchdowns and the respect of all who witnessed the Stubbs-led YSU upset.

"Stubbs is awesome," said quarterback Kurt Hess during the postgame press conference. "He plays really hard, and he's one of the fastest guys I've ever seen. Sometimes, when we get an empty [formation], it's hard to see him, but he's so fast he gets open."

Although Hess still managed to sneak in a short joke, it's safe to say Stubbs had the last laugh that memorable Saturday night.

Overlooked

Todd Filtz, Stubbs' high school coach at Maple Heights, said it matter of factly: "Andre's talent is some of the best I've ever seen play high school football."

In 2009 and 2010, Filtz guided Maple Heights to consecutive Division II Ohio state championship appearances. One of the main reasons was Stubbs.

"He was extremely important to our success," said Filtz, now the head football coach at Canton McKinley High

School. "He touched the ball as much as we could get it to him. He played some defense. He was our return man. He had a big part in every victory."

As a senior, Stubbs caught 61 passes for 1,083 yards and 13 touchdowns en route to a first-team Division II All-Ohio selection as a wide receiver. The Mustangs won the championship that year, defeating Trotwood-Madison High School, 45-33, in a game where Stubbs had seven catches for 170 yards and two touchdowns.

But even with all the accolades, Stubbs received little attention from Division I recruiters. Filtz said he realized Stubbs was overlooked throughout the recruiting process.

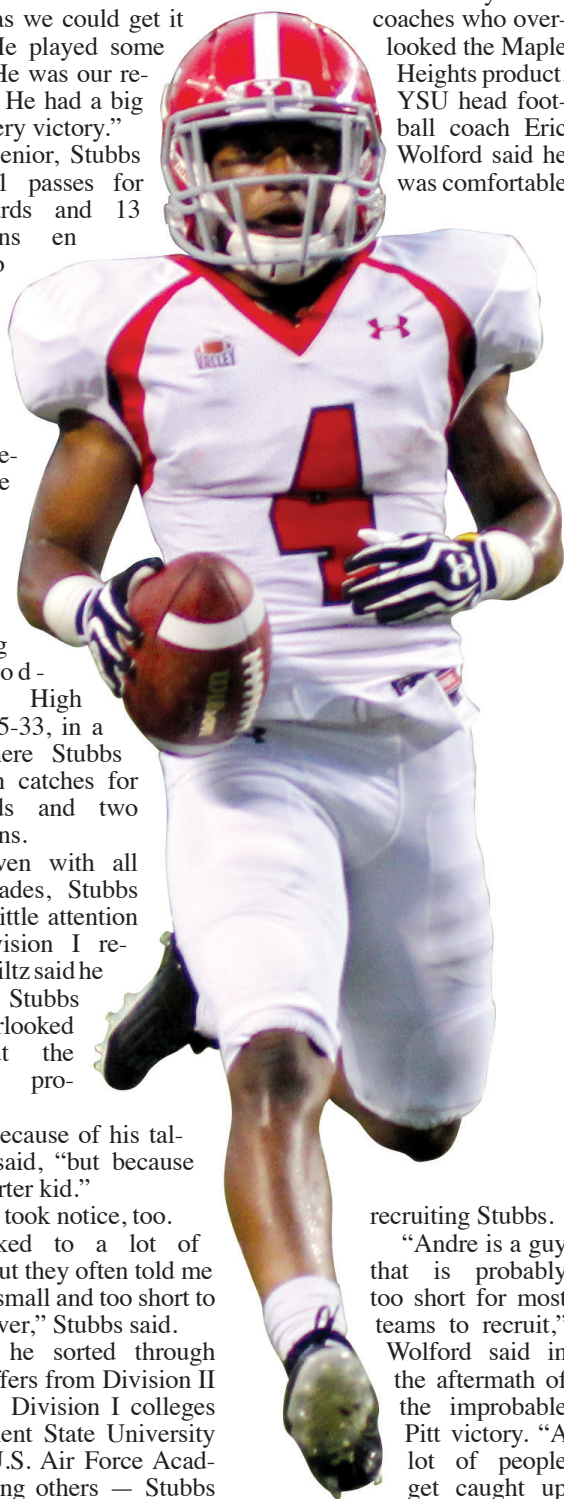
"Not because of his talent," he said, "but because he's a shorter kid."

Stubbs took notice, too. "I talked to a lot of schools, but they often told me I was too small and too short to play receiver," Stubbs said.

While he sorted through various offers from Division II and small Division I colleges — like Kent State University and the U.S. Air Force Academy, among others — Stubbs eventually chose YSU.

"They showed a lot of interest and called me more often than the other schools," Stubbs said of YSU, where he's now an engineering technology major. "I just felt comfortable with the coaches."

And contrary to the coaches who overlooked the Maple Heights product, YSU head football coach Eric Wolford said he was comfortable



recruiting Stubbs. "Andre is a guy that is probably too short for most teams to recruit,"

Wolford said in the aftermath of the improbable Pitt victory. "A lot of people get caught up in measurements, but we don't do that. He's an explosive football player."

Setback
As Stubbs stepped to the podium to begin his postgame press conference inside Heinz

Field, Trevor Parks, YSU's sports information director, joked: "It's the hardest thing he's had to do all day."

While Stubbs is expressive with his feet, he's not as animated with his words. Friendly but soft-spoken, the wideout never has much to say to the media.

"He's not going to brag about his play. He's just going to go out and do it the next game," Filtz said. "I think that says a lot about who he is."

So, when Stubbs tore his ACL last season in week three against Illinois State University, causing him to miss the rest of the season, he said it was a difficult experience — but he didn't mope.

"Just being on the sidelines watching these guys give their hearts out, knowing I can't compete, it's tough," Stubbs said. "But I watched film. I watched how I could get better, seeing what I did and what I missed."

Playing with an edge
Less than a year after his devastating injury, and less than an hour after his dazzling performance, Stubbs — true to form — performed his postgame press conference with few words.

However, when asked how it felt to torture a big-time school — the type of school that overlooked him — he responded quickly.

"That's the edge I play with every game and practice," Stubbs said. "I just wanted to show I can do it at a D1 level."

The "edge," Stubbs said, stems from his past experiences.

"[It comes from] just not being heavily recruited and things like that," he said. "But I just put it all in God's hands. He'll make a way."

Meanwhile, expect the Penguins to continue to put the ball in the hands of Stubbs.

"It may not be easy to see him over some of our taller linemen," Hess said, always ready with a short joke. "But we'll find him. ... We'll find him."

SPORTS BRIEFS

Football starts off season 2-0

On Sunday, the YSU football team marked the 30th anniversary of Stambaugh Stadium with its 17th straight home-opener win. The Penguins beat Valparaiso University, 59-0, and start off the season with a 2-0 record for the first time since 2006. Junior quarterback Kurt Hess earned a third-place spot in YSU's history chart with 42 career touchdown passes, and junior Torrian Pace reached a career-high 146 rushing yards on 14 carries and two touchdowns.

Women's soccer canceled due to inclement weather

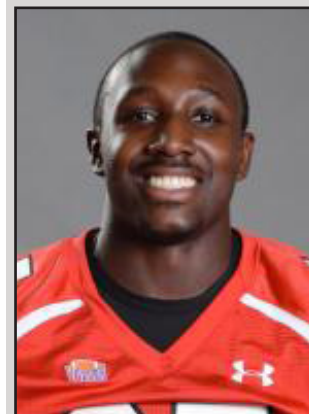
The YSU women's soccer team did not play its match against Kent State University on Friday due to lightning and thunderstorms in the area. The Penguins' next game will be at home against Niagara University on Sunday at 4 p.m.

Cavanaugh named HL Defensive Player of the Week

Junior Jenna Cavanaugh, middle blocker for YSU's volleyball team, was named Horizon League Defensive Player of the Week after leading the team in wins against four opponents last week. At the Coppin State Invitational, she averaged 1.33 blocks over 12 sets. She leads in the Horizon League with 1.47 blocks per set.

PENGUIN SPOTLIGHT

Torrian Pace



Year: Junior
Height: 5'10"
Hometown: Chantilly, Va.
Position: Running back

In YSU's 59-0 victory against Valparaiso University on Saturday, Torrian Pace rushed for a career-high 146 yards on 14 carries. He also scored two touchdowns as the Penguins improved to 2-0 on the season. Pace, who shares running back duties with Jamaine Cook, is a criminal justice major.

Will you go to a volleyball match this year?

#YSUspeak



YSU volleyball sweeps up the competition



The YSU volleyball team celebrates after scoring a point in Saturday's loss against the University of Akron. YSU went 2-1 over the weekend and are 8-3 on the season. Photo by Cory Bartek/The Jambar.

Cory Bartek
SPORTS REPORTER

The Youngstown State University volleyball team caught fire early this season, already acquiring more wins in 11 matches than it did all last season.

The Penguins, 5-24 in 2011, sit at the top of the Horizon League standings. They won eight of their last nine matches, boasting an overall record of 8-3.

After dropping their first two matches to Eastern Kentucky University and Michigan State University, the Penguins were perfect in eight matches before falling to the University of Akron on Saturday.

In the midst of their eight-match winning streak, the Penguins swept four of their eight opponents. Volleyball coach Mark Hardaway credits the team's recent success to the ability to control matches.

"We've been the aggressor, playing hard the whole match and finishing games out," Hardaway said.

Hardaway, who said he is enjoying the moment, wants his team to get

better every day.

"Whether you're 0-10 or 10-0, you're striving to compete for a conference championship," he said.

When Hardaway took the job, he said he expected the team to not be physically gifted. He quickly found out otherwise.

"This team has a lot of athletic talent," he said. "They are willing to work hard, hungry to win and have a great work ethic."

Hardaway admitted he was a bit disappointed with the way the team came into summer.

"Fitness level as a whole was disappointing," Hardaway said. "Some players didn't come in as good of shape as we had hoped, while others came in real good shape."

Junior middle blocker Jenna Cavanaugh agreed with Hardaway about the versatility of the team.

"Our offense is really strong," she said. "You can put any person in any position, and we can compete."

Coming off Horizon League Defensive Player of the Week honors, Cavanaugh said she has high expectations for both herself

and the team.

"I want to stay in the top three in blocking and in hitting percentage in the league," she said.

Cavanaugh said she believes that staying positive and focusing on the little things will continue to bring the team success.

Hardaway said reducing the amount of unforced errors and improving ball control is something the team still needs to work on.

"We don't want to give away points, and against teams like Cleveland State and Milwaukee, we can't," he said.

Junior setter Casey D'Ambrose credits her team for being "hardworking."

"We've come such a long way since last season," D'Ambrose said. "It's all about motivation. We're all pumped and ready to prove that we're a good team."

The Penguins travel to Greensboro, N.C., this weekend to compete in the Spartan Spiketacular. YSU will face Morehead State University on Friday, and play the University of North Carolina at Greensboro and the University of North Carolina Wilmington on Saturday.