



You had me at 'cello' **6**



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South Dakota Preview **8**



Dunn announces changes to enrollment policy

President Randy Dunn held a press conference Tuesday in Todd Hall where he announced changes to the YSU open enrollment policy. Photo by Liam Bouquet/The Jambar.

FRANK GEORGE
LIAM BOUQUET
The Jambar

As state funding for public universities becomes increasingly tied to graduation rates, Youngstown State University President Randy Dunn, in a press conference on Tuesday, announced more stringent guidelines on the conditional enrollment policy.

Dunn said he has worked with the admissions office to prepare a more selective approach to admitting students conditionally. Conditional enrollment is an educational policy that allows low success students to enroll on a trial basis.

"The way open enrollment, if you will, had been handled at the university was to admit students conditionally and then see how they fared over the course of a period of time and then

make a decision whether to de-admit or allow them to continue as students at the university," Dunn said. "You have again a fairly wide approach through conditional admits to give students that may not be fully college ready, the opportunity to come in and show that they can succeed. The difference here is that we are not going to extend that to every living, breathing human being."

In the past, YSU — at least conditionally — accepted all students with a GED diploma or high school diploma, despite low ACT scores and high school GPAs. Beginning next fall semester, though, YSU will rely on the discretion of admissions professionals to determine students' college readiness, turning away those who are educationally at risk.

Jack Fahey, vice president of Student Affairs, added that there will be no strict criteria

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Holocaust Survivor Speaks at YSU

LIAM BOUQUET
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On Tuesday evening, in front of over 300 people, Gerda Weissmann Klein, a Holocaust survivor and renowned writer and speaker, gave an account of her harrowing survivor's story in the Kilcawley Center's Chestnut Room at Youngstown State University.

Klein was born on May 8, 1924 to a middle class Jewish family in Bielsko, Poland. She led a normal life there until 1939 when the Nazis invaded her city and she was forced into the basement of her home and eventually a Jewish ghetto. Klein saw loved ones and friends disappearing before her eyes.

"So everything I loved, everything I knew was immediately taken away," Klein said. "My beloved brother was taken away almost immediately — he was 19 years old."

Klein's brother was coerced into registering for the German army, and his family never saw him again. Later, Klein's parents were taken away to Auschwitz — where they likely met their untimely death before the war's end — and she was taken as slave labor and moved between five different labor camps before her eventual liberation.

Klein believes her being

moved to labor camps and not death camps — a determination that likely saved her life — was due to a combination of factors.

"Then I was separate from my parents; they were sent to Auschwitz, and I moved to slave labor and concentration camp," Klein said. "One of the reasons [I survived], besides having a good constitution and a good amount of luck, was that I spoke German."

At the end of the war, Klein and around 4,000 other women were forced to march 350 miles through frigid conditions. She was one of only 120 that survived the death march.

During her time at YSU, Klein gave anecdotes and a grim telling of her experiences that highlighted the atrocities of the Nazi regime, the kindness of her fellow prisoners and even some of her captors and the jubilation she felt when she saw the American jeep that contained her future husband drive up to the gates of Volary, Czechoslovakia after the death march.

One of Klein's most prominent memories was that of her closest friend, Ilse Kleinzahler, who she knew her from their time in Poland. They followed each other even throughout World War II. Kleinzahler

HOLOCAUST
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Salisbury and Nagi hung multiple rosaries around their room on the second floor of Kilcawley house to ward off malicious spirits. A Catholic priest also blessed the room. Photo by Kara Pappas/The Jambar.

A HAUNTING IN KILCAWLEY HOUSE

KARA PAPPAS
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Residents of Kilcawley House have been experiencing ghostly happenings recently and blame the janitor that haunts the building for the events that have taken place this semester.

Rumors of hauntings in

Kilcawley House have been around for years. According to ohioexploration.com, a janitor hung himself in the back stairwell on the sixth floor many years ago.

However, no official documentation can be found to support this claim.

Roommates Breanna Nagi and Alexis Salisbury are freshman residents on the second floor of Kilcawley House and have been the targets of recent

paranormal activity.

The girls first noticed their TV and lights turning off. This led them to look into the history of the building.

"We read the story about the janitor and didn't think much of it. Granted, we live in the room at the end of the hall which is closest to the back stairwell, but we figured it was just a coincidence or something," Nagi said.

Salisbury said she thought

it was cool to live in a haunted room. However, as the activity progressed, the girls became weary.

"I was sitting in the room on my laptop and, all of a sudden, I felt somebody's hands on my back. I jumped out of my chair and freaked out. Alexis checked my back and there were scratches all over it," Nagi said.

After that incident, Nagi decided to get rosaries for the

room in order to provide protection.

"I heard that rosaries will prevent any malicious spirits from entering the room, so I got a bunch of them from my mom," she said.

Nagi and Salisbury said that the rosaries seemed to help, until one night when a lamp was knocked over.

"Bre had cleaned the room

HAUNTING
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Northeast Ohio's biggest secret

New management position to improve enrollment

Frank George
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This fall semester, enrollment fell for the third consecutive year. In an attempt to bolster enrollment numbers, Youngstown State University hired Gary Swegan to the new position of associative vice president for enrollment management.

For the past 25 years, Swegan has worked for Bowling Green State University's office of admissions and division of enrollment management as a chief admissions officer and as an assistant vice president for enrollment management.

On November 18, Swegan will begin his new management job at YSU.

"I am delighted to have this opportunity, and look forward to assisting the YSU community in achieving a sustainable enrollment plan," Swegan said. "I was attracted to the position because it was a newly created role ... and I will have the opportunity to shape this role from the ground level."

Both YSU President Randy Dunn and Jack Fahey, vice president of student affairs, said the creation of an enrollment management position was imperative.

"We have got to have one person to just kind of get in, muddle through and then coordinate in a fashion that is going to allow us to grow some bigger classes," Dunn said. "The thing about having Gary Swegan here in that chief enrollment officer capacity is he has the ability as one point of contact to work all of the levers that go into making successful enrollment."

In the past, Fahey conducted enrollment management work on a part-time basis. He said that a tough enrollment climate throughout the state created a need to hire a full-time

enrollment manager.

"If we are going to improve our position and improve our performance, the place to start is with some strong leadership, a proven winner in that field, somebody who has professional experience to do that," Fahey said.

Though Swegan said he plans to improve YSU's enrollment strategy, he did not disclose details regarding these plans.

"I think it is premature ... to offer specific plans before I am on the job, and prior to having the opportunity to widely collaborate with a variety of faculty and staff across campus," Swegan said. "My goals will simply be to accomplish the goals that are set for me by President Dunn and Vice President Fahey."

Fahey and Dunn indicated that YSU is in the midst of launching a new marketing campaign that will aim to attract students from the northeastern and western parts of Ohio.

Dunn said Swegan has the experience to help manage this marketing strategy and improve enrollment numbers.

"The best predictor of future behavior is what has been done in the past," Dunn said. "I'm convinced that [Swegan] has the expertise, the background knowledge, the experiences, the national networking to know some things that will work for us. ... I think he has the tools to be successful."

Fahey added that improving enrollment is everyone's job, not just Swegan's.

"Enrollment management isn't something that one person does, it's all of the faculty, all of the staff, all of the students being ambassadors to the rest of the world helping everyone else understand ... the biggest secret in northeast Ohio: Youngstown State is an incredible place to get an education," he said.

ENROLLMENT
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to this new conditional enrollment policy. Enrollment will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

"We are going to look at the whole package. When we are on the fence with someone, those kind of things, maybe even a reference from a principal or a teacher, we are going to look at the whole individual," Fahey said.

Dunn said limiting admissions during a period of decreasing enrollment will not negatively affect the university's revenue. Instead, Dunn indicated this policy change will bolster graduation rates and will subsequently increase state funding.

"We are also now in a situation, you understand, where our performance as a university in the state of Ohio is being graded, and this is a high stakes measure of our performance because our state funding is tied to it, we are talking of millions of dollars here," Dunn said. "The challenges we have in graduation rates, the challenges we have on loan default, I think are directly attributable to the fact that we have enrolled students again who haven't been college ready."

Dunn also explained that the university has a moral duty to avoid the admission of students likely to drop out.

"If you go back and look at the ACT performance on that [freshmen class of 2012], we had roughly 1 percent, maybe a little more or less...of the students who scored between 6 and 12 on the ACT. Those students are not college ready," Dunn said. "Then you have a situation where a student may be signing up for classes for a year, taking out loans to pay for school and going through the end of the process and not being successful."

Fahey added that the university plans to use this change to produce stronger partnerships with local community colleges, while simultaneously encouraging YSU's research initiatives.

"Part of the strategic plan was to actively partner with Eastern Gateway. The point is to have, for everyone in this region to have an appropriate pathway that they can be successful in terms of increasing their educational attainment. For most of the history of this region, Youngstown State had to be everything to all the students in this region," Fahey said. "Now that we have Eastern Gateway, we have an opportunity to differentiate ourselves some and we are going to do that very gradually so we can make that transition to becoming an urban research institution."

YSU will still accessible education and few students will be impacted by the universities enrollment policy change.

"I think it is very liberal, I think it is very expansive, I think it, in institutions I have been associated with, I think it is one of the widest that you would find in allowing conditional admission to the university. And I am not against that," Dunn said. "We are talking 22 to 25 students. So what I'm hopeful of is the fact, as we become more aggressive in our overall recruitment, we can more than make up for those students who we may well lose."

HOLOCAUST
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Holocaust survivor Gerda Klein speaks with a fan during her book signing after her speech and film screening in YSU's Kilcawley Center on Tuesday evening. Photo by Liam Bouquet/ The Jambar.

died in Klein's arms during the death march.

"When we were together we always had a lovely time. And you know when we were separated from our families, we were close to each other. We became sisters to each other," Klein said. "She gave me the greatest gift of all, the gift of my life. She said that she was angry at no one and she hoped that no one was angry at her. Then she said, 'if my parents and Kitty' — Kitty was her little sister — 'survived, don't tell them how I died.' They didn't survive."

Before Klein took the stage to speak and answer questions, the Academy Award winning documentary about her life, "One Survivor Remembers," was screened. The film highlighted the time from her youth until her liberation. It was juxtaposed with short strips of film that displayed the conditions she lived through and repugnant images that showed the horrors of the Holocaust.

Initially, Klein was hesitant to participate in the film. She worried that they would get details wrong or display the wrong facets of her story, but her youngest daughter convinced her otherwise.

"She said, 'Mom, you have been trying to tell that story wherever you can tell it. Now, you have the opportunity to tell that stories to millions, and now you don't want to do it.'"

Scott Williams, a first-year YSU student, attended the event and appreciated Klein's story.

"I heard about the event because I checked my e-mail from YSU, and it was on the upcoming events e-mail that they always send out. So, I figured I would come out if I wasn't doing anything tonight," Williams said. "I have always been kind of interested in history, and I have always liked hearing different stories from this time period. I have always thought the Holocaust was rather interesting."

Helene Sinnreich, director of the Center for Judaic and Holocaust Studies, said that Klein was brought to YSU, through the efforts of the Center, as the finale for the Center's month long Jewish film festival.

"The Center for Judaic and Holocaust Studies had been discussing the fact that, very shortly, there would no

longer be survivors around to tell their story, and we decided to make it a priority of the center that we try and invite survivors to come speak until that is no longer a possibility," Sinnreich said. "I was able to get in touch with her and her granddaughter and arrange with her to come speak and come visit. We are just really thrilled to have someone of that stature, a presidential medal of freedom winner, you know, the subject of an Oscar winning documentary, to come to YSU."

Sandy Kessler, director of the Jewish Community Center, said that the JCC assisted in arrangement for the film festival and advertising for Klein's event.

"Helene Sinnreich and the YSU Judaic and Holocaust Committee was responsible for arranging to bring Gerdi Klein here and the movie, JCC's involvement was solely marketing and finance," Kessler said. "With the five prior films, the JCC was responsible for arranging for committee review, for finding the venues and marketing it. It has been very, very successful, by the way."

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NEWS BRIEFS

Ben Carson presents first Centofanti Symposium

The first Centofanti Symposium kicks off on November 18 with world-renowned physician Ben Carson. Carson is also a professor of neurosurgery, oncology, plastic surgery and pediatrics at Johns Hopkins School of Medicine and has been recognized by both the Library of Congress and Time magazine. The symposium will be held at Powers Auditorium at 7:30 pm. Tickets are required for admission, but are free and can be picked up at the Information and PC Lab in Kilcawley Center Nov 4, 5 and 6 between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m.

21st annual Dana Flute Festival

On Nov. 9, Youngstown State University's 21st annual Dana School of Music Flute Festival will take place in Bliss Hall from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. The festival will be composed of workshops, exhibits, performances, master classes and a guest artist recital. John Thorne, associate professor of Flute at Northwestern University's Bienen School of Music, will be featured at the festival.



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one night and we went to bed. When we woke up, the lamp that sat on her desk was knocked onto the floor, and was really close to hitting Bre because her bed is next to the desk," Salisbury said.

The girls found a priest — Father Chris who works at the Newman Center — to bless the room.

"Father Chris came in and said some prayers, and sprinkled some holy water to bless our room," Nagi said.

Since the blessing, Salisbury and Nagi have kept the rosaries in the room but say that the activity is no longer malicious.

"Now its just stuff getting moved around, and the TV turning off; just little stuff," Salisbury said.

Salisbury and Nagi have not considered moving to another room and say that now

it's a little like a game.

"I walk in the room and wonder what was moved this time, or if the lights were turned off again," Nagi said.

Christopher Daniels, a senior and former resident of Kilcawley house, said he also experienced paranormal happenings while living in the residence hall.

"I lived on the 6th floor for a while. The toilets would randomly flush by themselves, there were knocks on my door when nobody was actually knocking, my wardrobe doors continuously opened on their own," Daniels said.

Ryan Johnson, a senior at Youngstown State University, has heard about the legend of the ghost janitor and, although he never experienced anything paranormal, he said that he and his friends played

a joke on some of the underclassmen.

"We took an Ouija board and sat in the back stairwell on the 6th floor about two years ago. We told everybody that we were going to try contacting the spirit of the janitor. It definitely freaked some people out," Johnson said.

While no recent attempts have been made to contact the ghostly janitor, Salisbury and Nagi said that after everything they have experienced, they believe that Kilcawley house is haunted.

Salisbury and Nagi plan to continue living on the second floor in that room of Kilcawley House throughout their stay at Youngstown State University.

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Lifting the veil off the true costs of college

McClatchy Washington Bureau
(MCT)

WASHINGTON — A new online app called College Abacus is making it easier for students and their families to get estimates in advance of how much financial aid colleges and universities will give so that they can compare schools for costs.

It comes at an opportune time, since the shutdown of many government programs because of the political standoff over the federal budget has disabled College Navigator, a tool also designed to help families figure out college costs and operated by the Department of Education.

Until about two years ago, financial aid was a mystery until a student got a college acceptance letter and a financial aid package. Change began in 2011, when the federal government required schools to offer online net price calculators, which compute a school's full cost of attendance, minus estimated scholarships, based on family income and other information that individuals enter.

College Abacus is a free, one-stop shop. It taps the net price calculators at three schools a student selects. Then, based on personal information entered once into College Abacus, the site retrieves the estimates. More schools can be entered, three at a time.

The federal government's College Navigator website offers a rougher estimate. For each school, it will give estimated net prices for several income levels.

"Even if the government has stopped working, parents still need to find financial aid for their students to go to college," said College Abacus co-founder Abigail Seldin.

And finding out in advance which schools are likely to be affordable can bring peace to households in the spring, when most full-time students get their college decisions, Seldin said. It also can help reduce student debt.

Referring to a popular travel accommodations search engine, Seldin calls College Abacus the kayak.com of net price calculators. It takes 10 minutes or more to copy financial information from a tax return and answer other questions on many net price calculators. College Abacus lets a user log in via Facebook, Google-plus or Twitter and save the data so that it only has to be done once.

The free service isn't without some glitches.

It requires the patience to wait a few minutes for some estimates. In some cases, as when schools take their calculators down for revisions, College Abacus can't get results. Seldin said her staff of 10

checks the school websites to make sure they're working and that it should take no more than one week before the estimate will be produced on another try.

Another issue with the estimates is the quality of the net price calculators.

Many schools use a simple calculator developed by the Department of Education, rather than ones developed by the College Board and others that ask more detailed financial questions. One important question the Department of Education calculators don't ask is the amount of parents' assets. The FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid), a form required of all students who hope to get financial aid, asks about assets, and schools use FAFSA information when they decide on aid amounts.

College Abacus, in the details section of the estimates report, tells users what type of net price calculator a school offers.

The National College Access Network, a non-profit group that assists schools, mentoring groups and other organizations that help students get into college and do well once there, reviewed College Abacus when it was in a trial period last year and offered suggestions.

College Abacus also won a \$100,000 grant through College Knowledge Challenge, funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

Carrie Warick, director of policy and partnerships at the college access network, said the tool had two big benefits.

"One is that it's a big-time saver for students because it means they don't have to go to every college website and answer the same questions over and over again," she said. "The other is that many colleges don't make the net price calculators readily available on their websites."

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You had me at 'cello'



Pianist Avguste Antonov of the Master's Touch School of Music in Grapevine, Texas, entertains a small audience at the Butler Institute of American Art. This is the first of three performances Mr. Antonov gave while visiting Youngstown. His performance at the Butler is part of the "Music at Noon" program. **Photo by Graig Graziozi/ The Jambar.**

TAYLOR PHILLIPS
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Michael Gelfand, professor emeritus of cello at Youngstown State University's Dana School of Music, has lent his musical abilities to the university for the past 39 years.

Gelfand inherited his passion for music from his father who was an amateur violinist on the side.

"In our area of Queens, there seemed to be a shortage of cellists for his weekly gatherings, and so he decided that two of his five kids would play cello [my brother Peter and I]," Gelfand said. "After years and years of playing music in chamber groups and orchestra, it just seemed natural for me to go into music as a career."

After studying and practicing

cello throughout his teenage years, Gelfand received his Bachelor of Music at Indiana University. Shortly after, he received his Master of Music at Cleveland Institute of Music with a focus on cello and conducting. Gelfand then went on to pursue his doctorate in conducting at the Cincinnati College Conservatory of Music as well as from the Pierre Monteux School for Advanced Conductors. He also has studied cello with instructors from Manhattan School of Music and Juilliard.

Up until last year, Gelfand had taught at YSU for 38 years until retiring. He was rehired as a member of YSU's Extended Teaching Service faculty and teaches chamber music and music appreciation at the university.

Gelfand said that when he looking for teaching job, he wanted a position that offered a variety of things to do.

"Even though I was offered a variety of things to do, and even though I was offered a half dozen university positions, YSU seemed to offer a smorgasbord of things," he said. "I have been fortunate to be able to perform with terrific faculty colleagues in a different variety of settings."

Dean of the College of Creative Arts and Communication, Bryan DePoy, said that he enjoys working with Gelfand.

"He is dedicated not only to music performance but also students," DePoy said. "For the amount of time he has been teaching here, he really does have a strong sense of history and tradition."

Mike Crist, Dana School of Music director and trombone professor, said he has known Gelfand for more than 32 years.

"He is such a great and outstanding musician," Crist

said. "He is always interested in providing great music and performance opportunities for students."

At YSU, Gelfand has served as the music conductor of the Dana Symphony and Chamber orchestras and the music theatre orchestras and has been the coordinator of the Dana Concert Series since 1990. Gelfand has also received the 1995 WYSU-FM Silver Jubilee Award for the Pursuit of Excellence in the Fine Art of Keeping Classical Music Accessible and Alive with the Astabula Area Orchestra. In 1975, Gelfand helped come up with the idea for the "Music at Noon" in the Butler Museum of American Art that has been a tradition ever since.

"It has been going strong for many years and has become a terrific showcase for YSU's spectacular Dana School of Music faculty, students and guest artists," Gelfand said. "We are really proud to have it here."

In the past, Gelfand has served as principal cellist of the New York All City Orchestra, Syracuse Symphony, and the Spoleto Festival Orchestra in Charleston, South Carolina and Spoleto, Italy as well as a member of the Paris Chamber Orchestra and Nice

Philharmonic in France.

Besides teaching at YSU, Gelfand also participates in New Amici Trio at Dana School of Music. He also serves as the principal cellist for the Youngstown Symphony and Warren Philharmonic and will be returning to Bulgaria in November to conduct the Sofia Sinfonette and Vidin Philharmonic.

Crist said he has played under Gelfand when he has conducted before.

"He is very energetic and thorough when he conducts," Crist said. "We also play together quite often and it is always a pleasure to perform with him."

Gelfand said he enjoys making music and working with his colleagues at YSU.

"I am similar to many of my colleagues at the Dana School of Music in that the teaching and performing that I do is not only my profession, but also some of my main hobbies and passions," he said. "It has been and continues to be an honor and privilege to work at YSU's Dana School of Music."



Gelfand's trio, "New Amici Trio," consists of Hristo Popov (left) on violin, Cicilia Yudha (center) on piano and Gelfand (right) on cello. The trio has been making music together since 1979. **Photo courtesy of Michael Gelfand.**

YOUNG CALENDAR

THURSDAY

Ghost Lake
7 p.m., Thursday
Conneaut Lake Park
free

Night of the Living Lubie, Part 2
8 p.m., Thursday
Quaker Steak and Lube – Austintown
costume contest at 9:30 p.m.

Halloween Party with the Barflies
10 pm., Thursday
Tully's Pub & Grille

Halloween Swing Party
10 p.m., Thursday
Cedars West End

FRIDAY

Cosmic Bowling
9 p.m., Friday
Mahoning Valley Lanes & Strikers Lounge

Halloween Party
10 p.m., Friday
Magic Tree
featuring Haymaker

SATURDAY

Hells Hollow Haunt
7 p.m., Saturday
Hells Hollow Farm

Jimmy Buffet night
8 p.m., Saturday
Quaker Steak and Lube – Original

EDITORIAL

Open for business

EDITORIAL STAFF

The general reaction of The Jambar office when we heard that Youngstown State University President Randy Dunn was going to nix the open enrollment policy was a healthy mix between "Holy shit!" and "Finally."

YSU was the last bastion of open enrollment among public universities in the state of Ohio. Under open enrollment, any student from the state with a high school diploma or a GED would be accepted into the university.

For many of us, this policy was an identifying symbol of what YSU was — a place where anyone could come and make something of themselves,

a place that reflected the blue collar ethic of the city itself. Getting rid of open enrollment changes what some may consider part of the identity of YSU, hence the first reaction.

Others, though, felt that the open enrollment policy was holding the university back from its full potential. By accepting anyone and giving them their fair chance at success, YSU was a lesser institution in some people's eyes because of lower graduation rates and an overall lower quality of student — in his announcement, Dunn said that some students had been accepted with ACT scores between 6 and 12.

But that debate is over. From here on out, YSU is no longer open enrollment and that's probably a good thing for the

university in the long run. Sure, the university may lose some enrollment, which is always a hot button topic these days, and Dunn estimates that the university will lose 25 to 50 students per school year with this policy change.

But while a declining enrollment has meant a lower revenue recently, that isn't necessarily the case here; the school will see that lost revenue be made up in money received from a higher graduation rate that comes with students who are better prepared for college.

In recent years, people at YSU have been discussing some sort of partnership with Eastern Gateway Community College. This move makes that partnership more appealing. Students who do not meet YSU's new

requirements, whatever they may be, can and most likely will be referred to EGCC. By going there, they can get an education that will prepare them for YSU or one that will provide them with the skills they need without the four year money drain that they would struggle through at YSU.

Ten years from now, 20 years from now, hell, probably for the rest of YSU's hopefully long and illustrious existence, this will be looked at as a new era for the university and for the Mahoning Valley. With this move, people in the area have two choices on higher education and will have the ability to choose whichever better suits them, and more higher education is rarely a bad thing.

LETTER — to the — EDITOR

White House Trick-or-Treat Yields only Trick

Dear Editor,

The initial opposition to the Affordable Care Act was based on the simple fact that Americans, individuals who pride themselves on being able to choose freely, would be forced to purchase a service regardless of their desire to do so.

As this week has proven though, that point of contention is not the only thing inherently wrong with this "law of the land." Millions — literally millions — of Americans are this week receiving letters from private healthcare providers stating that their policy, with low monthly premiums for basic insurance, will be canceled to make way for more expensive policies that are now required to meet Federal standards for level of coverage.

To examine why this Halloween nightmare for some is such an issue, we must look to the promises that the current administration made to the American people years ago.

Looking back at the 2009 marketing of the push for healthcare reform, Obama ceaselessly beat it into our heads that if we purchased our own insurance, or got it through our employers, we would be able to retain our insurance policies. Period. The President used the word period quite a bit, actually. There are plenty of videos on YouTube displaying these reassuring promises; we encourage you to check them out.

As it turns out though, now that Americans have knocked on the White House door, our Halloween pillow cases are full of apples and razor blades as opposed to the sweet, sweet candy of stability for those that liked their private health insurance plans. There is an incredible article at NBCNews.com outlining the trick that the administration played.

Buried in the 7 foot stack of regulations that the YSU College Republicans figuratively displayed in Kilcawley Center is an estimate that even though some private health insurance plans would be grandfathered into the new regulations, anywhere between 40 to 60 percent of individuals in the private marketplace would see their plans canceled as they would not be deemed appropriate care policies under the law.

Boiling the caldron down to a cold healthcare stew, it can now be seen that the same president that promised us our private plans would be safe, knew that the exact opposite was true when formulating or approving the regulations behind his landmark healthcare reform plan.

Officers of the YSU College Republicans



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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.

OUR SIDE POLICY

The editorial board that writes Our Side editorials consists of the editor-in-chief, the managing editor, the copy editor and the news editor. These opinion pieces are written separately from news articles. They draw on the opinions of the entire writing staff and do not reflect the opinions of any individual staff member. The Jambar's business manager and non-writing staff do not contribute to editorials, and the adviser does not have final approval.

YOUR SIDE POLICY

The Jambar encourages letters to the editor. Submissions are welcome at thejambar@gmail.com or by following the "Submit a Letter" link on thejambar.com. Letters should concern campus issues, must be typed and must not exceed 500 words. Submissions must include the writer's name and telephone number for verification, along with the writer's city of residence for printing. The Jambar does not withhold the names of guest commentators. Letters are subject to editing for spelling, grammar and clarity. Letters will not be rejected based on the views expressed in them. The editorial board reserves the right to reject commentaries and letters if they are not relevant to our readers, seek free publicity, fail to defend opinion with facts from reliable sources or if the editorial staff decides that the subject has been sufficiently aired. The editorial board will request a rewrite from the submitting writer based on these requirements. The Jambar will not print letters that are libelous, threatening, obscene or indecent. The views and opinions expressed in letters and commentaries on the opinion page do not necessarily reflect those of The Jambar staff. Editorials do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the faculty, staff or administration of YSU.

Nov. 22, 1963: 50 years, and still no conspiracy

Richard M. Mosk
Los Angeles Times
(MCT)

As one of the surviving members of the staff of the Warren Commission, which investigated and issued a report on the assassination of President John F. Kennedy, I am not looking forward to the coming weeks: Nov. 22 will mark the 50th anniversary of Kennedy's death, and that means a new round of demonizing the Warren Commission and celebrating fallacious conspiracy theories.

After Chief Justice Earl Warren hired me to work for the commission, he told me that "truth was our only client." Throughout the inquiry, that phrase remained our guiding principle.

The evidence that Lee Harvey Oswald killed the president was overwhelming. We reviewed ballistics analysis, medical records, eyewitness reports, acoustic patterns and a host of other records and investigative reports, all of which demonstrated beyond doubt that Oswald was the assassin. Scientific evidence confirmed that all the shots fired came from the spot where Oswald was perched and from a gun belonging to him. He showed consciousness of guilt by fleeing and killing a policeman. It wasn't the first time Oswald had contemplated assassinating someone. He had tried to kill a former Army general and outspoken arch-conservative prior to shooting the president.

One reason the conspiracies gained such hold was the bizarre second act of the assassination story, in which strip club owner Jack Ruby shot and killed Oswald as he was being moved by police two days after Kennedy's assassination. Another factor that fueled the conspiracies was the odd histories of both men. Oswald had lived for a time in the Soviet Union and attempted to renounce his American citizenship. Ruby had an arrest record but had friendly contacts with the police. But nothing in our extensive investigation of the contacts, finances and activities of Oswald and Ruby, including reviews of information from domestic and foreign intelligence sources, indicated a conspiracy. Nor has anything credible arisen in the 50 years thereafter suggesting a conspiracy.

If Oswald's estranged wife had not, on the night before Kennedy was shot, rejected her husband's offer to reconcile and look for an apartment the next day, there would have been no assassination. And if a last-minute interrogation of Oswald had not delayed his transfer, Ruby would not have been at the jail in time to kill Oswald. These unfortunate coincidences are not, however, consistent with a conspiracy.

Conspiracy theorists have often attempted to latch on to some recollection or statement inconsistent with the commission's findings. But even in the simplest auto accident case, there is often conflicting evidence. One has to view the totality of the evidence in order to draw the most reasonable conclusion.

The Warren Commission staff was

composed primarily of highly regarded lawyers from around the country with an array of political views. I was a young, soon-to-be private-sector attorney. My father, then California's attorney general, was an early supporter and political confidant of President Kennedy. I had the privilege of meeting Kennedy when I was an undergraduate at Stanford, and I had every incentive to find and expose a conspiracy if one existed. With a top-secret security clearance, I had full access to the work of the staff, and I never saw anything untoward.

It's not all that surprising that assassinations and attempted assassinations often give rise to conspiracy theories. The simple explanation that a troubled but powerless person brought down the world's most powerful leader just doesn't seem sufficient.

That's why it was important for the Warren Commission to investigate — and to release its 888-page report with 26 volumes of supporting material. The investigation includes more than 25,000 interview reports and information from many agencies. It may still stand as the most extensive and thorough criminal investigation in history.

Those who, after almost five decades, contend that some information was withheld from the commission, or that it did not follow matters to the point of certainty, even if true, have not been able effectively to show that these alleged deficiencies could have affected the conclusion. The issue should not be whether the commission reached perfection in its methodology — something that is unobtainable — but whether the evidence supports its conclusion. And it does.

For years, polls showed a public that was skeptical of the conclusions of the commission. Such polling results no doubt have been fueled by the multitude of books and films that have sought to profit from advancing a new conspiracy.

But I suspect that most Americans have come to accept the conclusions of the Warren Commission. The history books now seem reconciled to the fact that Oswald, acting alone, assassinated the president. And there have recently been notable works supporting the Warren Commission report, including a massive book by Manson Family prosecutor Vincent Bugliosi, who spent 17 years researching the subject.

The promotion of false conspiracy theories is not harmless. In the past, what one historian dubbed as the "paranoid style of American politics" has led to fear of and antipathy toward certain religions and social and political movements.

Conspiracy theories can be satisfying because they supply a cause more proportional to the effect of a traumatic event, but they foster a damaging distrust of institutions. The distortion of history obscures the lessons to be learned from the past.

I hope on this 50th anniversary, the public will be skeptical of new criticisms of the commission and be more doubtful of the new conspiracy theories than of the Warren Commission.

FINAL FOUR

Penguins prepare for season's toughest stretch

JOE CATULLO JR.
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Youngstown State University senior cornerback Dale Peterman (21) signals to the sidelines during a matchup against Western Illinois University on October 19. The Penguins beat the Leathernecks, 24-14, improving their record to 7-1. They will travel to South Dakota to face the University of South Dakota Coyotes on Saturday. **Photo by Dustin Livesay/ The Jambar.**

Questions surround the Youngstown State University football team after its bye week with a 7-1 start and winning its first four Missouri Valley Football Conference (MVFC) games.

So far, the answers are positive.

For head coach Eric Wolford, he was able to do recruiting work last weekend as well as take time off. He went to a wedding on Saturday, hung out with his children and ate a delicious bowl of chili cooked by his wife Melinda.

"It was Texas style — no beans, all meat," Wolford said.

For the players, it was a time to refresh and look at game film early as they prepare for a road game at the University of South Dakota on Saturday.

"We were able to get ahead on the South Dakota film and game planning a little bit, but also take a look back at ourselves, which I think helped," senior quarterback Kurt Hess said. "Going back to fundamentals, looking at our individual abilities and seeing what we still need to do better be-

cause it is a long season. We got a lot of games ahead of us, and we need to keep improving."

The 10th-ranked Penguins last competed on Oct. 19. They defeated Western Illinois University, 24-14, at Stambaugh Stadium. They head into South Dakota on a five-game winning streak, the last four coming against MVFC opponents.

YSU defeated the Coyotes (4-4, 3-2), 13-10, in the Ice Castle last year. Saturday will mark the second meeting of all time between the clubs and YSU's first trip to the Dakota Dome in school history.

"It is different, and you have to kind of adjust to it," Hess said. "It kind of takes a couple throws, couple of times seeing the ball in the air and getting used to the environment. In the end, you'll find your place and realize that, in between the lines, that it's just football."

The other factor is the Penguins will play in a dome for the first time this year. The Coyotes are 3-0 in their hometown. Their last home game was a 17-14 victory over Indiana State

University on Oct. 12.

Helping prepare for the environment, the Penguins are practicing in the Watson and Tressel Training Site this week.

"When the ball's in the air, you don't have to worry about the wind," senior cornerback Dale Peterman said. "It's more of a controlled climate. I just think the hardest part of going into South Dakota is that we've never been there, but any away game in this conference is going to be tough."

In their last game, the Penguins took a 17-14 lead over Western Illinois on a Joey Cejudo field goal with 11 minutes and 14 seconds remaining in the fourth quarter.

After a missed field goal by WIU, the Penguins took advantage and scored a touchdown to take a 10-point lead. Junior tight end Nate Adams dove and caught the touchdown pass from Hess.

Freshman running back Martin Ruiz ran for 199 yards on 21 carries and one touchdown. Hess threw for 47 yards and two scores, the first to junior Christian Bryan in the second quarter.

The Coyotes are allowing 172.4 rushing yards per game and 125.1 passing yards per game. On offense, they have scored 136 points (72 in the fourth quarter).

"They're going to try to control us, try to keep our big plays down and not give us a lot on the outsides," Hess said. "We're going to have to grind it out and play physical. We're going to have to manage the game and keep the turnovers down."

Kickoff is at 2 p.m. and the game can be seen on WBCB and espn3.com. It can also be heard on 570 WKBN and iHeartRadio.com.

YSU controls its own destiny heading into this season-ending, four-game stretch. Only YSU and North Dakota State University remain unbeaten in the conference. The Coyotes are tied with Illinois State University for third place.

"We like having that control, and that's our mindset right now," Wolford said. "We know we have to get better in all three phases of the game as we continue to progress in order to reach our goals."

Home Course advantage

ALAN RODGES
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The Youngstown State University cross country team is looking forward to performing at its best in front of the home crowd.

The Horizon League Championship is at Boardman High School this year, and the Penguins are looking to place in the top three.

"We have a good shot to go after top two, top three finishes on both sides, which would be pretty neat," Brian Gorby, the team's coach, said.

Brittany Stockmaster, sophomore, and Samantha Hamilton, senior, feel confident going into this weekend's conference championship race. The girls sense the home course advantage they have over the other teams.

"We know the area pretty well," Stockmaster said. "Winning your home meet is very important because it shows we know the area, and we want to make our city proud and our school proud."

Hamilton agrees with Stockmaster's thoughts.

"It's a big deal because it is considered home for us this year," Hamilton said. "It's bittersweet because we all are familiar with it and it brings back those high school memories."

Nicole Strollo, assistant coach, feels anxious and excited to come out and preform in front of the hometown crowd. She said she feels some pressure but feels confident in her

team.

"To have families out there that don't get to usually see their kids run is phenomenal," Strollo said. "The whole package has really come together and we're excited."

Gorby has high expectations for the team going into the race. Juniors Nick Gliha and Eric Rupe and sophomore Austin McLean feel that the ceiling is high for their team at the meet.

"I know that if all of us run how we always run, we can probably take second," Gliha said. "But if all of us have that excellent race and everything goes, well, there is not a doubt in my mind we can win it."

The Penguins have a young roster on the men's side, having no seniors and being made up of mostly underclassmen.

Although the men's team is a young roster, they are a team that has performed well this season. The Penguins went to the Disney World Cross Country Classic, and — against 20 other teams — had a runner place first and number two in the top 15 while placing second in the entire race itself. The Penguins also placed in the top 15 out of 20 in the Pre-Nationals race in Terre Haute, Ind.

"I have a lot of faith in the team," McLean said. "Hopefully, we can place top three as a team; it would be a great goal for a team as young as us."

Rupe said that the team has worked hard to make this goal a possibility.

"We have worked pretty hard for months now and we

expect to do well, and we will do well," Rupe said. "We are in the best shape we have been in all season, and it will end well."

The women have also put themselves in a good position this season to do well at the championship race. At the Disney World Cross Country Classic, the women placed sixth out of 20 teams, and two girls finished in the top 15.

At the Pre-Nationals, the Penguins came in ninth out of 35 teams while having two girls place in the top 10.

Hamilton also had the best placement in school history at the Notre Dame Invitational, finishing in sixth place with a time of 17:12.9.

"This is so far the best team in school history for the women," Gorby said. "The girls have beaten some SEC teams, [the University of] Oklahoma, some Big Ten teams like Indiana [University]. It's really taken the program to another level."

Strollo feels like this team has been working hard and up to high expectations.

The Horizon League Conference Championship is this Saturday. The men start at 11 a.m. and the women start at noon.

"We have tons of experience, and it seems like they have embraced the situation," Gorby said. "We're hoping to get a big crowd out there because not too many times has YSU been after the top one, top two runner-up finishes in the Horizon."



PHOTO COURTESY OF YSU SPORTS INFORMATION