

The Jambar

The student voice of Youngstown State University since 1931

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of the drum

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State funding increase not enough

Joe Giesy
NEWS EDITOR

The future funding for Youngstown State University's 2012 operating budget is still up in the air after Gov. John Kasich released his recommendations for the Ohio state budget last week.

"There's a lot of uncertainty right now, and there's some things we're trying to deal with," said Gene Grilli, vice president for Finance and Administration.

The Ohio Board of Regents, the government agency that allocates money from the state to Ohio universities, will receive an increase in money from Ohio's general revenue fund for fiscal year 2012. The board lost a large portion of funding from the 2010 federal stimulus money that ran out.

The governor's plan allocates about \$24 million more from the state in fiscal year 2012 to the board than in 2011. This will not make up for the loss of more than \$308 million in federal stimulus money the board received in 2010.

The Ohio Board of Regents received an estimated \$2.2 billion from the state in fiscal year 2011 and will receive \$2.3 billion in fiscal year 2013. The \$300 million loss of funds gives the Ohio Board of Regents an 11.4 percent decrease in the fiscal year 2012 budget.

Ohio Board of Regents Chancellor Jim Petro manages and allocates the funds that go to Ohio universities.

BUDGET CUTS PAGE 3



GRILLI

"There's a lot of uncertainty right now, and there's some things we're trying to deal with."

-Gene Grilli, vice president for
Finance and Administration

PHOTO COURTESY OF NCT

SGA readies for first contested presidential election in years

Patrick Donovan
REPORTER

The Youngstown State University Student Government Association is preparing for the first contested presidential election since 2007.

This April, three pairs of presidential and vice presidential candidates will join members of the student Academic Senate and SGA student representatives on the ballot.

All candidates are SGA members and most serve on the SGA executive committee.

SGA President Nick Meditz said he isn't worried about the campaigns interfering with SGA's ability to govern effectively.

"We all have really great synergy, and I have spoken to all the candidates," he said. "I think no matter what the outcome of the election, they should all work together and everyone agrees. I really don't think the competition will break people apart. We all work so well together."

The three pairs of running mates consist of Ryan Meditz, SGA parliamentarian, and Sarah Stafford, chief of staff; Gary Davenport, vice president for University Affairs, and Molly Toth, SGA representative for the College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences; and Elyse Gessler, vice president for Student Life, and Justin McIntyre, vice president for Financial Affairs.



MEDITZ



GESSLER



DAVENPORT

The candidates have identified campus concerns and issues that they hope to address if elected.

"We have three main issues we are concentrating on with our campaign, and they are all centered around inclusivity on campus," McIntyre said. "We really want to make sure that everyone on campus is being represented by SGA."

Davenport and Toth are focusing on student academic success at YSU.

According to their platform, they "are committed to the academic success of all students: achieving it and maintaining it. We want every student enrolled at YSU to be made aware of all the many tools available to them."

Meditz and Stafford plan to jump-start SGA by informing students of the body's events and meetings.

According to their platform, "We want to facilitate greater and more in-depth coverage of Student Government Association meetings and events by working with Rookery Radio, The Jambar and other media sources. The increased access of these events will initiate a more connected student body and campus community."

All pairs have campaign plans for the upcoming weeks and encourage YSU students to get involved by asking questions and seeking out information.

Students can find campaign information on Facebook. Elections will take place April 11 and 12 in Kilcawley Center. Students must have a valid YSU ID to vote.

Pending master's degree programs require board of regents approval

Caitlin Fitch
REPORTER

With approval from the Ohio Board of Regents, Youngstown State University will become one of the only universities in the nation to provide master's degree programs in the fields of respiratory care and school psychology.

The YSU Board of Trustees approved the two programs.

Richard VanVoorhis, assistant professor of counseling and special education, said the psychology master's program would consist of two parts: a master of education in intervention services and an education specialists' degree.

"This degree is in between a master's and a doctorate degree. It will be one of the top degrees offered at YSU and the first education specialist degree on campus," he said.

Audrey Ellenwood, associate professor of counseling and special education, said the new master's programs will be a solution for the psychology recruiting problem that area schools have faced.

"In the late '90s, [the University of Akron] closed their graduate psychology program they offered, and since then there has been a void in schools for psychologists," she said.

Ellenwood said funding for the new master's programs came from a 2005 grant from the School Study Council of Ohio.

Psychologists with this degree will be able to work with the children and students from birth to the age of 21. They will be able to provide assessments and consultation, help educate others on the state law, provide counseling services and work with special

education children.

Peter Kasvinsky, associate provost for research and dean of the School of Graduate Studies and Research, said these programs would be cutting-edge. They stem from a need of what is lacking: more psychologists and effective health care specialists.

"Both of the programs will require applicants to already have a bachelor's degree and have course of study with their profession and will be different from the normal master's program and will be advanced practice," he said.

Ellenwood said the psychology program is rigorous but will provide more school psychologists to fulfill the state requirement of one psychologist per 2,500 students.

VanVoorhis said students can complete the master of education in 45 credit hours and the specialist degree in 54 hours. The program also includes a one-year internship.

The psychology program enrollment limit is 36 students at one time, or 10-12 students per year.

"There's a buzz in the air about the program, and we're all just anxious and excited to get started," VanVoorhis said.

The 39-credit-hour respiratory care program will be one of four graduate programs in the nation offering a master's degree in respiratory care.

"We conducted a survey but won't really know how popular the programs are until we receive applications," he said. "Until the board of regents approves it, we cannot accept applications."

Kasvinsky added that existing faculty would teach courses, eliminating the cost for additional staff members.

"These new programs will be a valuable tool to recruit students to YSU," he said.

Campus walkways pose hazards to students, staff

Marissa McIntyre
REPORTER

Certain areas on campus have attracted attention concerning safety, but the Youngstown State University Grounds Department said these problems are out of the university's control.

The hole that appeared on Elm Street across from the Watson and Tressel Training Site, which has recently been covered by gravel, was a staple on the sidewalk for roughly three weeks.

David Ewing, associated director of grounds, said Hively Construction repaired the hole. The company worked on the WATTS in the same area that the hole formed.

Ryan Hively from Hively Construction said the hole was a result of the plumbing contractor needing to install a new gas line.

Tom Leskovich from Antenucci, a mechanical contracting company that works directly with the university, said the hole was formed in the sidewalk because the gas company had to get in to make the tap.

"Other than calling the gas company, we really had nothing to do with it," Leskovich said. "I believe that they did the best they could to take care of it concerning the weather."

The sidewalk outside of Cushwa Hall has also evoked safety concerns.

Lindsey Batchelder, a senior criminal justice major at YSU, said she walked outside Cushwa Hall after class. She noticed that a woman had fallen and had to be taken to the hospital in an ambulance.

"I heard witness statements saying that she had slipped on the ice," Batchelder said. "She seemed to be in a lot of pain, and I believe that she hit her head."

Ewing said the ice wasn't to blame, but that raised concrete, due to a tree's roots, caused her trip.

"For this problem to be fixed, we would have to take out all of the trees on that sidewalk and replace them with a more suitable tree," he said.

Batchelder said she's more concerned with older students tripping and falling over the concrete.

"If I fall and scrape my knee, it wouldn't really affect my well-being, but we have a wide age range and it does worry me for some of the elderly that make that walk as often as I do," she said.

Batchelder is also concerned with parking her car in the M-2 parking deck.

"I just don't trust that structure. I'm constantly afraid that something is going to fall off onto my car," she said.

Batchelder said that she doesn't believe that overall campus safety is bad, but it could be better.

Ewing said concerning snow removal, there's no law that snow and ice have to be plowed.

"We still try to make an effort. I think that grounds does a good job with the people and the size of the campus," he said.

Ewing said one of his concerns with campus safety is with pedestrians crossing Wick Avenue, especially when walking down the hill located right under the bridge. He said he fears someone could trip and fall into traffic.

"We've tried putting plants there to keep people from cutting through, but they usually just knocked them over," he said.

Stephanie Ruozzo, a senior music major, said she often has to cross Wick Avenue between her classes in Bliss Hall and other buildings.

"Yeah, I've seen people almost get run over before," Ruozzo said. "It's hard to say whose fault it is a lot of the time because some people seem to pop out of nowhere."

Ewing said the grounds department has a wish list concerning safety on campus but understands these requests won't happen all at once.



Damaged problem areas like this sidewalk along Lincoln Avenue have raised concerns among students. In one instance, the raised sidewalk caused a student to fall and be taken to the hospital. Photos by Marissa McIntyre/The Jambar.



Trustees confident in university future following final spring meeting

Andrea DeMart
NEWS EDITOR

The last meeting of spring 2011 for the Youngstown State University Board of Trustees included nominations for a new chair and vice chair.

Nominations were announced Friday for the 2011-2012 term positions. Vice Chair Sudershan Garg was nominated for chair and John Jakubek for vice chair.

Garg's term as a trustee will expire in May 2015 and Jakubek's in June 2014. Elections will be held at the next board of trustees meeting on

June 17.

YSU President Cynthia Anderson presented her report to the board and opened the meeting by mentioning the state budget cuts.

She said the university did not expect the stimulus money received last year to be renewed. She said the budget cut committee is in the process of creating recommendations from the many received.

Anderson said the recent Q-and-A session she hosted was productive and she plans to continue with more forums in the future.

Vice President for Finance and Administration Gene Grilli presented the staff report

for the Finance and Facilities committee by addressing the recent state budget cuts.

Grilli said the university is looking to lose \$6 million or \$7 million from stimulus funds that have not been renewed for fiscal year 2012.

He said the 8.5 percent reductions made across campus will save the university \$1 million and will still align the university with the 2020 strategic plan.

Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs Ikram Khawaja presented the staff report for the Academic and Student Affairs committee by highlighting achievements of the colleges.

"Homework Express," within the College of Fine and Performing Arts, is expanding and attempting to gain more recognition within the community. The homework assistance show is also working with the College of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics and the Choffin Career and Technical Center to expand community outreach.

Khawaja said the graphic design degree program has become the largest degree in the college.

The Beeghly College of Education is working with the STEM and the city of Youngstown on a grant that would enable the colleges to

work with and tutor ninth and 10th grade students at Chaney High School, East High School and the Youngstown Early College.

The News Outlet, within the College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences, announced expansion of the program to Kent State University and the University of Akron. The News Outlet has hired two interns from each school who are partnering with the Akron Beacon Journal.

The meeting concluded with the recognition of trustee Larry DeJane and student trustee Lyndsie Hall. Both have completed their term with the board.

CORRECTION

In the March 10 issue of the Jambar, we reported Mike Hackstedde as a member of YSU President Cynthia Anderson's cabinet. We misspelled Mike's last name. It should have read Hrishenko. We deeply regret the error.

got an opinion?

Send letters to:
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Williamson College of Business Administration Business Career Day & Professional Networking Luncheon

Two Professional Events
In One Day!

Friday, March 25, 2011
Panels 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
Luncheon 12:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Career Day Panel Discussions:

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- Careers in Accounting & Finance
- Careers in Marketing, Advertising & PR
- Careers in Management, HR & MIS
- How to Find a Job or Internship and Job Search Strategies Working the Job Fair
- What Do Employers Want?
- Adjusting to Your First Job-Recent Alumni Panel
- Effective Resumes & Interviewing Tips

50 minute sessions at 9:00, 10:00 & 11:00 a.m.

Pre-registration preferred but not required

All sessions are free and open to all WCBA students

Professional Networking Luncheon

- Network and have lunch with business representatives from a variety of industries
- Registration is required
- \$5.00 commitment fee for lunch
- Participation limited to 100 students
- Professional dress recommended

To register, visit the Office of the Dean on the third floor of Williamson Hall
Registration deadline: March 23, 2011

Youngstown
STATE UNIVERSITY

Questions: Leigh Ann Waring, WCBA Director of Undergraduate Student Services
1115 Williamson Hall • (330)941-1884 • lawaring@ysu.edu

BUDGET CUTS PAGE 1

ages and allocates the funds that go to Ohio universities. YSU receives money from the board for operating costs through the State Share of Instruction program.

In fiscal years 2010 and 2011, YSU received around \$96 million from the SSI formula.

The problem is that \$14 million of that state allocated money was possible because of the federal stimulus money that Grilli said YSU would not have next year. This means that YSU will potentially have \$7 million less to work with in the fiscal year 2012 budget.

The university braced for the loss of the federal stimulus money through a midyear budget reduction in the fiscal year 2011 operational budget.

The 8.5 percent reduction returned about \$1 million to the university from its seven divisions in the spring 2011 semester.

Grilli said the reduced budget would continue into next year's operating budget.

The university made \$103 million in fiscal year 2010

from tuition, fees and other charges and about \$47 million from state appropriations. This is \$10 million more from tuition and \$3 million less from state appropriations than fiscal year 2009.

Good news came to YSU and Ohio higher education institutions in the form of a possible last payment from the federal stimulus money.

Grilli said it is likely the university will receive the lapsed payment, and he is hopeful that it will.

The federal stimulus money was given to the Ohio Board of Regents in installments. Former Gov. Ted Strickland announced that the last payment would be held until the next fiscal year. After he was not re-elected, it was unknown as to whether the Ohio Board of Regents would receive the final payment to allocate it between YSU and other Ohio universities.

The Finance and Administration department is working on a plan for the fiscal year 2012 budget. Grilli said he hopes it will be ready by April or May.

NEWS BRIEFS

Business Career Day and luncheon set for Friday

Business Career Day and Professional Networking Luncheon will be held from 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Friday in Williamson Hall.

The event will feature employer panel discussions designed to provide information relating to different career paths within business and key skills that employers are seeking in college graduates. Business Career Day is free and open to all interested YSU students. Walk-ins are welcome.

The luncheon will be at noon and is open to all WCBA students. Registration and a \$5 commitment fee are required by Wednesday. Professional dress is strongly recommended. For more information or to register, visit the WCBA website or contact Leigh Ann Waring, WCBA director of undergraduate student services.

QUEST planned for April 5

QUEST, an annual forum for YSU students to share achievements with the community, will be held April 5.

In the past, QUEST has provided opportunities for students to hone their presentation skills and receive university recognition for their achievements. For complete program information, visit the YSU website or contact Jeffrey Coldren, director of undergraduate research, in the department of psychology.

Summer Festival of Arts scheduled for July 9 and 10

The 13th annual Summer Festival of the Arts will be held July 9 and 10 on campus.

Artist applications for the juried fine art show are now available. The \$20 jury fee must accompany applications. If accepted, the booth fee is \$100.

Individual music, dance and theater performers as well as performing groups may apply for the openings available at the various performance venues.

Applications for fine artists wishing to sell their artwork in the Artists' Marketplace are available by contacting Lori Factor or by downloading an application on the festival's website. Performing artists or groups should email Factor for availability.

POLICE BRIEFS

More live bullets found on campus

On Thursday, a member of the janitorial staff informed YSU Police that she found a bullet on the floor of the men's locker room inside Kilcawley Center. An officer was sent to talk with the staff member who found the bullet. The bullet, a live .25 mm round, was taken to the YSU Police Department for safekeeping.

Fight disrupts McDonald's

On Wednesday, the Youngstown Police Department received a call regarding a fight outside McDonald's on Fifth Avenue. The fight was between two males, both of whom fled when police arrived on the scene. Diners informed police that one male attempted to rob the other. When both were questioned, they informed police that it was just a verbal altercation.

Car damaged by falling rock

On Tuesday, YSU Police responded to a call regarding a damaged vehicle in the M-2 parking deck. The responding officer spoke with the victim who informed him that the previous week he found his vehicle with a rock sitting on the windshield. A small crack had formed. Since finding the rock, the victim claimed that the crack had spread. Police were unable to find evidence supporting a fallen rock.

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OTHER

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Looking for PT help to cashier, stock products, if interested apply at Partymax 445 Bdmn-Poland Rd Bdmn, Oh 44512. Will work around school schedule.



TheJambar.com

CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION OF YOUNGSTOWN – ELECTRICAL INSTRUMENTATION TECHNICIAN – WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT

– SALARY: \$37,944.40 WITHOUT LICENSE; UP TO \$42,107.94 with Class III Wastewater Works License. Must have at least two (2) years of actual work experience with 480 Volt/3-phase and higher voltages, and experience working with variable frequency drives and process controller systems. Must have knowledge of the standard practices, methods, tools, and materials of electrical and mechanical trades; must have ability to work from sketches and blueprints. All candidates for employment with the City of Youngstown must be a resident of Mahoning County or an Ohio County that is adjacent to Mahoning County at time of hire. Applications accepted at the Youngstown Civil Service Commission Office, 7th Floor, City Hall, Youngstown, Ohio, from March 14, 2011 through March 25, 2011. Hours: 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. The written exam will be given on Saturday, April 2, 2011 at Choffin Career Center, starting at 10:00 a.m. If you are a veteran and wish to claim the military preference credit, bring a XEROX copy of FORM DD-214 showing proof of honorable discharge.

Send letters to: thejambar@gmail.com

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OUR SIDE

Raise tuition, don't lower education

The Jambar
EDITORIAL BOARD

RELATED STORY

Budget, page 1

The stimulus bubble has burst, and it's time to re-evaluate YSU's funding, awash in budget cuts.

Money from stimulus funds dried up, leaving YSU administrators wondering if raising tuition is a viable way to higher, more fiscally secure ground.

The university receives funding from students in the form of rising tuition and fees as well as fleeting allocations from the government.

Despite the state's \$24 million hike to the Ohio Board of Regents, state universities are working with \$300 million less because of federal stimulus money that expired in 2010.

The resulting loss of \$7 million in federal stimulus funds lead to YSU budget cutbacks halfway through 2011.

Tuition was capped by hopeful Gov. Ted Strickland in 2007 until a 3.5 percent increase in 2009. The two-year freeze was short lived, and administrators are faced with a hard sell: raise tuition.

Gov. John Kasich has promised to maintain Strickland's 3.5 percent tuition cap through 2013.

For YSU's tuition, the third lowest in the state, an increase would result in about \$200 per full-time student per year. Even with this increase, YSU would still fall short of the average state tuition by \$1,400, according to the 2011 budget.

The tuition increase will account for lost stimulus revenue. We believe the university should increase tuition and continue moving forward with new programs. Do not stymie education for lack of resources.

Continuing budget reductions into next year could halt repairs and prevent some students from campus employment.

It's a tough sell, telling someone to pay more. But when you think about it, who do you think paid the tax dollars that afforded Strickland's higher education plan in the first place?

We've expanded higher education by incentivizing tuition rates. What we've done is bought ourselves higher enrollment in the heart of a recession.

Increasing operating costs, compounding debt from student loans and an uncertain job market has students and administrators scraping for cash.

Unfortunately, we may have to buy ourselves out of this one.

ABOUT THE JAMBAR

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. 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, managing editor and news editors. These opinion pieces are written separately from news articles and draw on the opinions of the entire writing staff. 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. E-mail submissions are welcome at editor@thejambar.com. Letters should concern campus issues, must be typed and must not exceed 400 words. Submissions must include the writer's name and telephone number for verification and the writer's city of residence for printing. Letters are subject to editing for spelling, grammar and clarity. The editorial board reserves the right to reject commentaries that are libelous or that don't defend opinion with facts from reliable sources. The editorial board will request a rewrite from the submitting writer based on these requirements.

Letters will not be rejected based on the view expressed in them. Letters may be rejected if they are not relevant to Jambar readers, seek free publicity or if the editorial staff decides the subject has been sufficiently aired. The Jambar will not print letters that are libelous, threatening, obscene or indecent. The Jambar does not withhold the names of writers of letters or guest commentaries.

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 Youngstown State University.

SEBAM Film & Television



"PBS ISN'T BIASED. I'M IRRATIONALLY ANGRY. I'M INTOLERANT... I'M OBVIOUSLY A TEA PARTY REPUBLICAN."

The views of this syndicated artist do not necessarily agree with those of The Jambar.

Tear down your altars and lifeless idols



Didn't your mother ever tell you to ignore a bully?

Chris Cotelesse
COLUMNIST

I am contractually obligated to shove my opinion in your face. It's tedious at times. I mean, how many opinions can one guy have?

But sometimes I enjoy it, and sometimes I am guilty of tackling controversial topics in the hopes of earning an angry letter to the editor.

Last week, Rush Limbaugh and Glenn Beck, among others, said some offensive things about the disaster in Japan.

Beck said the earthquake was a message from God telling people to follow the 10 Commandments.

Limbaugh made some unclear statements that offended some.

"It's like Gaia hit the Prius and Leaf place like they were in the crosshairs ... what is Gaia trying to tell us here?" he said.

Even more outrageous was a YouTube user by the name of tamtampamea who praised God Almighty for the catastrophe, which has killed thousands. She said she had been praying for God to reveal himself to atheists and claimed the tragedy as an answer.

"I am just so overjoyed and so encouraged. For the rest of this Lenten season I'm going to be praying even harder than I have ever before," she said. "Just imagine what will happen at the end of the 40 days."

She has since deleted her YouTube account, probably as a result of overwhelming negative feedback.

In her case, she chose to leave the spotlight instead of backing up her statements or saying something even more extreme to earn further attention.

However, the same strategy won't work against people like Beck and Limbaugh. They make money from attention, even if it's negative.

Their ratings go up and the value of their advertising time increases.

If you want these people to go away, then stop responding to what they say. Ignore them and hope enough advertisers pull commercials and they'll get fired.

Don't worry about me. I'll only be a student for so long and then my time at The Jambar will be over. You'll be rid of me eventually.

Better bang for student-aid bucks

Miami Herald
MCT

Throughout the country, for-profit, post-secondary schools represent a fast-growing sector of higher education. These institutions enroll more than 260,000 students across the state. They serve an important purpose, especially during an economic downturn when unemployment is high, by preparing students to enter the job market with new skills that connect with the local economy.

With the growth, however, have come a series of troubling questions. The loan default rates for federal student aid are significantly higher in Florida than the proportion of students in higher education. According to the U.S. Department of Education, for-profit schools around the country account for 26 percent of federal student aid, yet their students make up nearly half of all defaults. The median federal student loan debt for students earning associate degrees at for-profit institutions for 2007-08 was \$14,000, almost double the median for students at non-profit colleges and universities.

These numbers are way out of balance. Last year, the department proposed a series of new rules aimed at providing better accountability and ensuring that students don't wind up worse off by incurring heavy debt yet ending up with a dead-end job, or none at all.

The so-called gainful employment rule would measure the ratio between student debt and income after completion of the program. A second provision would measure the rate at which students make timely repayment of their loans. According to DOE figures, only 55 percent of borrowers attending for-profits were able to pay off more than accrued interest in one recent school year.

The rules would penalize schools whose former students cannot pay down the principal on their federal loans, as well as those whose students have a high debt-to-earnings ratio. The proposed figures are well within reach for schools that are serving their students properly and also ensuring that these taxpayer-backed loans are adequately protected.

A fully eligible program, for example, would require at least 45 percent of former students still less than half to be paying down the principal on their federal loans, or ensure reasonable debt-to-earnings ratios for graduates. At present, no such restrictions are in place. Last year, the General Accountability Office investigators found a series of abuses, including the use of misleading costs, exaggerated earnings prospects and high-pressure tactics by recruiters to entice students to enroll.

Congress should support these rules. Unfortunately, a "rider" attached to a spending bill under debate in the Senate but already passed in the House would keep the rules in limbo. Supporters of delay say going forward would deny hundreds of thousands of students access to the skills training and development they need to secure a job in today's gloomy economy.

We're all for more access and sensible rules that take the economic environment into account. It is unrealistic to expect jobs to materialize immediately when unemployment stands at more than 13 percent. Federal regulators can't ignore these facts, and the rules should reflect that economic reality.

But blocking the rules is inconsistent with the goal of helping students. If all that debt-laden training doesn't pay off and abusive practices are allowed to flourish, what's the point?

Government should assist young people trying to stay out of unemployment lines. Gainful employment rules, properly designed, would actually help students lead productive lives, find good jobs and support their families. That's the ultimate goal.



'Fashion is the mass acceptance of one item'

Fashion forecasting for spring 2011: Where do trends come from?

Kacy Standohar
REPORTER

As the winter season officially ends, the wind tunnel that is Youngstown State University will start to warm up. In preparation, students and staff put their fashion sense forward and predicted this year's fads.

"Trends for this spring will be brighter and more cheerful colors. Also, denim is always in. You cannot go wrong with denim jeans," said Priscilla Gitimu, assistant professor in the department of human ecology.

Gitimu said tech wear is becoming popular, along with fashion that has evolved and trended off of militaristic styles. A lot of bold, broad shouldered and structured outfits with buttons are seen on the runway and can be adapted for public use.

She added that the colors would be brighter and uplifting due to the homecoming of the troops.

"Obviously, lighter fabrics will be worn such as cotton, items that show more skin," Gitimu said. "While fabric is very important, color is the dealbreaker. It is the number one decision that catches a customer's attention to make a purchase."

Gitimu explained how she, other fashion professors and students predict these fashions.

"We use analysis websites that distinguish styles of fabrics between age groups. The sites show company research, consumer research and point

of purchase research," she said.

She applies these lessons in her capstone class as well.

"We do a trend analysis report. My students visit different style websites, and we just so happen to have many students in retail sales that have a lot of knowledge of what customers want," Gitimu said. "Fashion is the mass acceptance of one item. Yet it is very short-lived. It's hit or miss. You must get it right the first time."

She added that trends come from two different forces: conformity and individuality.

"People who are individualists are the trendsetters that want to stand out from the crowd. They are the fashion opinion leaders with a strong personality. The conformists are the people who adapt to this style," Gitimu said.

She also expressed the importance of the two forces working together.

"We need both. The industry needs to have conformists to conform to the trends that the trendsetters set," she said.

Gitimu compared fashion to a cycle.

"Fashion is so perishable. It's a short season and then it's gone. It's just like selling vegetables," she said.

Students involved in fashion merchandising predicted their trend ideas for spring.

"Some of the major trends that we noticed are sort of a '70s look, such as bright colored clothing and wide-leg pants," said fashion merchandising senior Kristine Beauchamp.

JoAnne Tombo, Students in Fashion and Interiors president, said they like to call it hippie chic. It is taking regu-



Kristine Beauchamp sorts through fabrics in the YSU fashion department's textiles room. Beauchamp, a fashion merchandising major, predicts upcoming fashions as part of her coursework at YSU. Photo by Joe Giesy/The Jambar.

lar, relaxed hippie style and making it more glam and put together.

The students also clarified how trends travel.

"Trends that hit Youngstown are somewhat delayed. The trends usually start in Paris, Europe and even out on the West Coast before they get here," Beauchamp said.

Tombo added how quickly these trends travel.

"It is hard to learn trends because they may be out by next week. It depends on whether the items become a classic piece or simply a quick fading fad," Tombo said.

In order to keep up with trend changes, fashion students rely on the media.

"The Women's Wear Daily is the newspaper of the fashion world. It is like the bible of every fashion major. There you

can find trends, up and coming designers, runway shows and buying aspects," Tombo said.

Beauchamp said she reads the Wall Street Journal and the Clothing and Textiles Research Journal for the business and retail aspect of it all.

The fashion students are challenged in their classes here on campus as well.

"We had to take chemistry as a prerequisite class so that we could learn what clothing is made of and what chemical formulas make up fabrics or fibers," Beauchamp said.

Beauchamp added that this helps her with working at the clothing store Justice: Just for Girls.

"If a customer approaches me and asks me if a certain item will shrink, tear or if the embellishments will fall

off, then I am knowledgeable about that. It is also a selling tactic," she said.

Tombo and Beauchamp explained differences between historical fashion and modern day fashion.

"Centuries ago, trends came from pure imagination because they did not have this type of media. Now, we look at different eras and bring fashions back through the cycle," Tombo said.

Tombo added that fashion evolves from the fashion houses. For example, if Chanel thinks something is popular, then it becomes fashion.

Beauchamp said while all trends have their peak and highlight one part of the body, "We're at a point now, I think, where everything goes."

What were you like in college?

Now

Then

Class
of
1974

Kevin Alquist
REPORTER

For 22 years, Walter Mathews has been a communication instructor at Youngstown State University. Like all instructors, Mathews was once in the same shoes as the students he teaches today.

Mathews' college experience started at Oberlin College, located southwest of Cleveland. The school is known for being the first American institution to regularly admit women and black students.

Mathews started as a history major with the hopes of becoming a history teacher, although Oberlin did not have an education program at the time. He then changed his major to English, a desire that was later diminished by tedious courses such as pre-16th century English.

Mathews finally decided on communication and graduated in 1974.

"For me, [majoring in communication] was ideal because there was a balance of creativity and social sci-

ences," Mathews said. "The balance of the two is what kept me interested."

Larry Staton, a friend from college who Mathews has remained close with, described his chosen area of study as "a way for Walter to mix all of his passions, which include politics, history, music, theater and film, into one." He described Mathews as "an intellectual jack-of-all-trades."

"I was always impressed by his keen intellect, and his ability to look at a problem from all sides," Staton said. "I found it interesting that he found a way to mix all these passions into one, by earning a Ph.D. in communications."

Staton said there is one thing Mathews would forever be remembered for.

"One thing that stands out in my mind was a student television production that he did while at Oberlin," Staton said.

Staton added it was about a "little-known fact" of Oberlin College.

The production was about a group of white students in the late-19th century that paid an old African-American man to guard a rock as a prank.

"Well, Professor Mathews did a little bit of an Orson Wells persona for that one. He wrote, directed and played the old man. And, he did a very good job too ... I think he wanted to make a statement about the predominantly black Oberlin College security department, at a mostly white college. He attempted to show how some historical forces skip from one generation to the next," Staton said.

Mathews' degree in communication only added to his remaining desire to be a teacher, something he claims he was naturally pulled toward. In high school he tutored junior high school students, and in college he tutored high school students.

As a college student, he was sent to a local high school to become a tutor for struggling students. However, high school administrators told Mathews they did not want their students to be taught by a college student, so they referred him to a student help group at the YMCA.

"I didn't even know where the YMCA was back then," Mathews said. "I just asked a group of students

standing around if they wanted help [academically] and they agreed."

To get through college, Mathews started by refilling beverage containers in the school cafeteria and delivering the school newspapers to off-campus locations. Over the years, he worked his way to cook's assistant, a job he remembers fondly.

"With most school cafeterias, the main concern is not putting anything in the food that a student may be allergic to," Mathews said. "The cafeteria I worked in was a little different; we could add ingredients and spices to the food and taste it to see if it was just right."

Working in the cafeteria over the years also gave Mathews a sense of confidence because it gave him people to relate to and be relied upon beyond his role as a student.

Mathews' position as a communication instructor does not surprise Staton.

"Walter always wanted to pass on information from the past, to people of the present, and I'm sure he is still doing that today [to his classes] at Youngstown State."

Libya a political challenge for Obama

Paul Richter and
Christi Parsons
TRIBUNE WASHINGTON
BUREAU

WASHINGTON The fierce, American-led air assault on Libya is coming under growing political fire both at home and abroad, throwing the White House on the defensive and raising potential problems for President Barack Obama as he plans his 2012 re-election campaign.

High-altitude bombers from an international coalition pounded Libyan strongman Moammar Gadhafi's air defense and other military facilities for the third night Monday as the White House juggled another foreign policy crisis: the mounting challenge to President Ali Abdullah Saleh's regime in Yemen, which has been a crucial ally in U.S. counterterrorism efforts against al-Qaida.

Several of Yemen's military leaders, and senior members of its diplomatic corps, announced they were siding with protesters seeking to topple Saleh's regime.

Obama, who continued his five-day tour of Latin America, defended his administration's

muscular approach in Libya, saying it was "very easy to square our military actions and our stated policies."

Speaking in Chile, Obama said U.S. military forces will focus narrowly on preventing Gadhafi's army from attacking Libyan civilians, as mandated in the resolution approved last week by the United Nations Security Council. But Obama also acknowledged that "Gadhafi needs to go."

He said the United States also will utilize non-military means, including economic sanctions and an arms embargo, to try to dislodge Gadhafi, who has held power since launching a military coup in 1969.

Earlier Monday, Obama sent a letter to congressional leaders assuring them that the administration is seeking a "rapid, but responsible transition" of military command of the Libyan operation to other members of the U.N.-backed coalition. The letter followed complaints that the president had failed to consult Congress before going to war.

Political analysts say Obama could benefit politically if Gadhafi is quickly ousted, or if the military effort to protect civilians and impose a no-fly zone produces a quick and relatively bloodless resolution. But if Gadhafi clings to power in Tripoli, and the conflict degrades into a brutal stalemate, criticism is likely to mount.

Complaints already have started to escalate. Some early advocates of military intervention, including Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., complained that Obama may have waited too

late to help the opposition in Libya.

A contingent of liberal Democrats, normally allied to the president, condemned the use of military force. Some conservatives, as well as foreign policy experts, argued that Libya is not a vital U.S. strategic interest.

An anti-war group announced plans for protests in Los Angeles, Chicago and nine other cities this week.

"The president seems to have angered almost every major group: He's either done too much, or too little, or he's done it too slowly," said James Lindsay, a former official in the Clinton White House official who is now with the Council on Foreign Relations. "There's a very real political risk for Barack Obama in all of this."

Among the critics Monday was Sen. Richard Lugar, R-Ind., ranking minority member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, who is widely respected for his understanding of foreign policy and has often sided with the administration.

"There needs to be a plan about what happens after Gadhafi," Lugar said. "Who will be in charge then, and who pays for this all? President Obama, so far, has only expressed vague hopes."

Sen. Jim Webb, D-Va., complained that Americans haven't been given "clear statement of foreign policy," an understanding of who the Libyan rebels are, or a proper presentation of the issue to the public.

"This isn't the way our system is supposed to work," he said on MSNBC.

A group of liberal Democrats, including Reps. Jerrold Nadler of New York, Donna Edwards of Maryland, Dennis Kucinich of Ohio, and Maxine Waters and Barbara Lee of California, issued a statement over the weekend saying they "all strongly raised objections to the constitutionality of the president's actions."

Complaints also came from the Arab League, which initially called for imposing a no-fly zone in Libya, a decision that helped persuade the White House to join the fight. Russia's prime minister, Vladimir Putin, lashed out at Washington for launching what he called "a crusade," saying it justified Russia's military buildup.

Putin accused the United States of invading Iraq under "a completely false pretext," and destroying the leadership of that country. "Now it is Libya's turn, under the pretext of protecting the civilian population," he said. "But it is because of bombing strikes on the territory that the civilian population dies. Where is logic and conscience?"

Administration officials acknowledge the political risks of yet another U.S. military engagement in the Muslim world, after Iraq and Afghanistan, at a time when polls show most Americans want the president to focus on the battered economy. But they argue that president's insistence that he won't send ground troops, the involvement of other countries, and the promise to hand off command will help bolster support for Obama.

If this becomes a long-term

military campaign with casualties, that's potentially a big public opinion hit for him," said Bryon Adams, vice president of Wilson Research Strategies, an opinion survey firm. He cited figures from the Pew Research Center showing that less one-third of Americans believe the United States had a responsibility to act in Libya.

Political analysts note abundant signs that even before the Obama administration intervened in Libya, the American public had become weary of war. Polls suggest as many as two out of three Americans no longer believe America's involvement in Afghanistan is worth the cost.

Adding to the administration's woes is widening concern that its strategic plan is only half written, as some officials have acknowledged. It is unclear how the White House and its allies intend to reach their ultimate goal, which is to try to displace Gadhafi, through use of a military no-fly zone.

Robert Danin, a former State Department official who is a Mideast specialist, said he could not imagine how the mission could prove a political winner for Obama.

Americans are likely to worry, he said, that the United States will be stuck with part of the bill for rebuilding Libya, as it has been for Iraq, Afghanistan and to a lesser extent in Pakistan and Egypt. And U.S. officials, he noted, are still unsure if the anti-Gadhafi forces are necessarily pro-America and pro-democracy.

"The politics of this are just bad," Danin said.

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Are 'charter universities' the future of state-funded higher ed?

David Harrison
MCT

WASHINGTON On the face of it, the budget proposal that Ohio Gov. John Kasich released last week looks like terrible news for state universities. Not only would Kasich's plan slash higher education spending by 10.5 percent, but it also would cap tuition increases at 3.5 percent a year.

So it might come as a surprise that some university presidents received the plan warmly. Within hours, Ohio State University President E. Gordon Gee released a statement praising the governor for "understanding that higher education and our state's long-term strength are inextricably linked."

Gee's optimism rests on another aspect of the governor's budget. In exchange for the budget cuts, Kasich would give state universities more autonomy in running their day-to-day affairs. Long-term, that could save schools money.

"We at Ohio State continue to move aggressively in both advocating for regulatory freedom and reconfiguring and re-inventing our institution," Gee said.

With states mired in their fourth straight year of budget shortfalls, many university presidents around the county seem willing to make deals like the one in Ohio. In states such as Oregon, Louisiana and

Wisconsin, flagship universities are inching away from their traditional patrons in the statehouse, accepting lower levels of state funding in exchange for freedom from state regulations.

The result may be a new relationship between states and their public universities. For state leaders, that relationship may wind up being less of a budget drain — but politicians will have less leverage to tell universities what to do and how to do it. For universities, less state funding and oversight is likely to come with higher tuition and more reliance on private-sector funding. At the same time, it will raise questions about the core mission of state universities whose original purpose was to offer an affordable education.

"The holy grail for a lot of flagship institutions is full tuition autonomy," says Rich Novak, of the Association of Governing Boards, which represents university boards. "When you strip everything away from it, that is basically what these institutions want. And full admission autonomy which means that they can admit more out of state students and get out-of-state tuition."

This is not the first time Ohio has sought to change how it pays for higher education institutions. In 2009, the state overhauled its funding formula to reward schools for keeping students through to completion. Instead of receiving money for every matriculating student, funding is now

weighted towards universities that keep students through to graduation.

Now, Kasich, a Republican in his first year in office, is calling for turning the state's public universities into "charter universities." That designation would allow them to operate under fewer state regulations. It's still unclear what that freedom would look like, but education officials have given the example of exempting state universities from rules requiring multiple contractors on building projects. That's a regulation that tends to drive up the price of construction on campus.

The plan has a familiar ring to it. In Wisconsin, Republican Gov. Scott Walker has proposed splitting off the state's flagship public university in Madison from the rest of the University of Wisconsin system. The move to set up the school as a separate authority would give the University of Wisconsin-Madison more leeway in spending and setting tuition. Last week, the state's university in Milwaukee said that it, too, wanted to be split off from the larger state system. The UW system faces a \$250 million cut in Walker's proposed budget for the next two years, about half of that coming from the Madison campus.

In Louisiana, lawmakers approved legislation last year allowing higher ed institutions to raise tuition if they met certain requirements, such as higher graduation rates.

Now, Republican Gov. Bobby Jindal wants to combine some administrative functions and give schools more leeway in hiring, setting tuition and purchasing.

And in Oregon, state university officials are pitching a broad plan to finance the University of Oregon through state bonds and private donations. Supporters of the plan say it would protect the school from swings in state budgets and provide a more predictable funding stream.

Critics say the plan could lead to more tuition increases. During a state Senate hearing on the idea last month, students showed up to protest wearing red tags on their shirts that said "Keep UO Public," according to The Oregonian.

While the share of state funding in university budgets has been declining for decades, the drop has become more pronounced during the recession, forcing price increases and intensifying talk of university flexibility. Many university officials, like Gee, have indicated a willingness to exchange reduced state aid for the ability to raise more revenue on their own.

But as long as the state appropriations keep flowing to schools, lawmakers are going to want to have some say in tuition rates, says David Breneman, a professor at the University of Virginia.

"Governors and legislators will put up with a certain amount of tuition increase," he says. "But at some point they

balk."

Proposals to grant more autonomy to state universities are not new. In 2005, Virginia lawmakers granted the University of Virginia, Virginia Tech and the College of William and Mary more autonomy from the state. Routine administrative business such as purchasing or payroll no longer has to go through officials in Richmond. In return, the state required the universities to meet objectives on student access and affordability.

There is a concern, however, that granting state universities too much authority could jeopardize their original mission, to serve the state's students. "There's a sense of a broken contract here," Breneman says. "There's an emotional tide to this sort of thing. It's almost like a divorce."

In Ohio, Sara Kaminski, executive director of the Ohio Conference of the American Association of University Professors, wrote an editorial in The Columbus Dispatch saying Kasich's proposal would renege on the state's commitment to providing an affordable education.

"In Ohio, this would make it even more difficult than it has already become for the average Ohio family to send children to college," Kaminski wrote. "Students will either choose not to attend college or will graduate with an inordinate amount of debt — both of which will equate to less spending potential in our economy."

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Obama quietly enters the war

Bob Drogin
LOS ANGELES TIMES

WASHINGTON This is not the way American presidents go to war. The opening act is supposed to feature the president sitting solemnly in the Oval Office, explaining the reasons, laying out the goals, talking tough.

Barack Obama did not even announce the start to the third U.S. war in the Muslim world in a decade. He left that to his secretary of State who was in Paris, standing alongside a French president who a few months ago wanted to do more business with Libyan strongman Moammar Gadhafi and was now claiming credit for leading airstrikes against him.

When Obama did emerge hours later, he stood at a lectern in the bottom of a convention center in Brasilia, capital of a nation that did not vote for the U.N. Security Council resolution authorizing military force. He went to pains to point out that the U.S. mission will be limited and not include U.S. ground troops. And he emphasized that U.S. forces were acting as part of a coalition that was enforcing international will.

There is an explanation for Obama's reluctance to swagger into war like his predecessor George W. Bush. This is a sensitive undertaking: deploying American military power into an Arab world still raw from the 2003 invasion of Iraq, at a time when its leaders — some of them long-term allies — are facing overthrow by their own people.

But Obama locked himself to the Libyan rebels' cause by declaring that Gadhafi had to go during the heady early days of the uprising when they appeared to be on the march to Tripoli. When they proved unable to topple the dictator, Obama and his allies confronted the prospect of Gadhafi hanging on, slaughtering his opposition, and making the U.S. president vulnerable to allegations he allowed the tide of Arab democracy to be turned back.

Using military force to dislodge Gadhafi required soliciting help and political cover from Gadhafi's Arab neigh-

bors. But even some who back the intervention argue that Obama has failed to clearly explain why he has launched airstrikes against a despot in Libya, but has been unable to restrain American-backed autocrats in Saudi Arabia, Bahrain and Yemen from shooting live rounds at unarmed, pro-democracy protesters swarming in their streets.

That's why Obama went out of his way to show that the U.S. was taking a back seat in the whole affair, even as it clearly directed events and launched fiery salvos of Tomahawk missiles against the North African nation. Aides also made sure to get out the message that Obama is fully engaged in the Libyan crisis, assured of secure communications wherever he goes. They released detailed schedules of his briefings by senior advisers and of his calls with foreign leaders before the Tomahawks flew.

It made for an awkward first day of war.

"What we're seeing is Obama making a clear choice to at least give the perception that others are leading this intervention," said Ash Jain, a former senior State Department official. "That's a real change."

Yet this escalation into the unknown carries risks. U.S. troops are now involved in a third Muslim country, Libya, following on Iraq and Afghanistan. If saving the rebels requires deeper military involvement, the West could be portrayed, as Gadhafi tried to do on Saturday, as 21st century crusaders, chiefly interested in Libya's rich oil fields. Radical Islamists will cite it as evidence of the West's anti-Islamic prejudice.

The Obama administration has faced bad-to-terrible choices since the Arab uprising began in Tunisia three months ago, and spread across North Africa and the Middle East, swallowing enemies and allies alike.

The Saudi monarchy not only keeps a chokehold on the global economy through oil exports (it is America's third-largest oil supplier), but has helped check Iranian ambitions.

In Egypt, Hosni Mubarak, the now-ousted president, kept

the peace with Israel. Bahrain, where the regime is clinging to power with the help of Saudi troops, is home to the U.S. 5th Fleet, a crucial military asset in the Persian Gulf.

And U.S. counter-terrorism officials rely heavily on President Ali Abdullah Saleh's regime in Yemen to help fight one of al-Qaida's most virulent affiliates. The CIA considers al-Qaida in the Arabian Peninsula, as the Yemeni offshoot is known, as a more urgent threat than the core terrorist group based in Pakistan.

But for now, the mission in Libya is clearer than the long-term regional goals. The goal, unspoken but widely agreed, is the old staple of bringing down the government. Whether that will require more than the imposition of a no-fly zone — sustained bombing of military targets or command-and-control facilities, for example, or even ground attacks to support the ragtag rebel army — is anyone's guess.

In the meantime, U.S. intelligence officials worry that the mercurial Libyan leader will revert to his previous incarnation as a state sponsor of terrorism, or even use stocks of mustard gas, a blister agent made infamous in World War I, that remain in his arsenals.

Exile groups have fueled such fears with dire stories of Gadhafi's cruelties.

"No one can be as bad as Gadhafi, whoever comes after him," Akram Ramadan, a Libyan exile leader in London, said by phone Saturday. "The devil himself would be an improvement."

U.S. officials say they are committed to pushing Gadhafi out, but they have mapped military moves that address only short-term tactical aims — halting the regime's air attacks, forcing its military into retreat, and protecting civilians in contested areas.

"The longtime goal hasn't changed," said a senior administration official, who declined to be identified citing the sensitivity of the diplomacy.

Though Obama did not call Saturday for Gadhafi to leave, the White House "view is still that he's lost legitimacy and he can't stay. But that's several chess moves away. No decisions have been made how to get there."

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Sprint facing tougher road in wake of AT&T/T-Mobile deal

Rex Crum
MCT

SAN FRANCISCO Sprint Nextel Corp. shares on Monday were headed for their worst day in two years as Wall Street targeted the company as one of the most to lose from AT&T Inc.'s planned \$39 billion acquisition of Deutsche Telekom's T-Mobile USA business.

Sprint, the third-largest U.S. wireless carrier and previously reported in talks to buy T-Mobile, finds itself in an even more tenuous position, analysts said.

"We were bearish about Sprint's subscriber-growth prospects," said Bernstein Research analyst Craig Moffett. "But the (AT&T/T-Mobile) deal would make those prospects decidedly worse."

Investors drove the company's shares down by 79 cents, or more than 15 percent, to \$4.25 Monday. On a closing basis, that would be the worst one-day performance since December 2008.

If regulators approve the deal between AT&T, the No. 2 wireless carrier in the United States, and T-Mobile, the fourth-largest mobile-phone company, AT&T will surpass Verizon Wireless as the No. 1 wireless carrier in the United States with about 130 million customers.

Sprint, already well behind AT&T and Verizon in terms of customers, will look weaker and have a harder time luring new subscribers away from its larger rivals, analysts said.

AT&T shares rose 1.4 percent, while Verizon gained 1.9 percent Monday.

Sprint was also reportedly

deep into talks of its own to acquire T-Mobile. The surprise announcement of the AT&T deal has sent a signal that Sprint's offer wasn't in the same league as that of AT&T.

"A Sprint deal is now off the table and Sprint is left to go it alone," said Bernstein's Moffett, in a research note.

Moffett cut his rating on Sprint's stock to underperform from market perform, just after raising his rating on Sprint last week. Moffett also cut his price target on Sprint's stock to \$3 a share from \$5, and said his upgrade last week may be "our most ill-timed upgrade ever."

Jonathan Chaplin, of Credit Suisse, said the AT&T/T-Mobile deal basically caught the market by surprise, and said the possibility of an even larger AT&T seems to signal rough times ahead for Sprint.

"We thought Sprint would merge with T-Mobile," Chaplin said, in a research note. "If not, we thought the two would enter into a network-sharing deal. Barring that, we thought Sprint would benefit from a Clearwire/T-Mobile deal. None of these seem likely now."

The connection between Sprint and Clearwire Corp. is seen as a tricky one. Clearwire runs a wireless broadband network and the company is building and managing Sprint's 4G wireless network. Sprint owns a majority stake in Clearwire and resells the company's services.

Sprint is in a dispute with Clearwire over how it prices Clearwire's services, and Clearwire has said it is in financial dire straits. In December, the company raised \$1.3 billion in bonds after earlier said it could run out of cash by the middle of 2011.

Analysts said a deal with T-Mobile would have likely helped Sprint deal with its Clearwire issues.

"Sprint will now be left having to fund Clearwire on its own," said Bernstein's Moffett. "It is still in Sprint's interest to see Clearwire succeed, given the size of its investment. (But) a deal with T-Mobile would clearly have offset this burden, in part."

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Rugby club succeeds without all the pieces



(Left) Frank Yannucci, 14, and Anthony Lagamba embrace after Yannucci scores his first career try. (Right) A frantic scramble for the ball leads players into one of the mud patches that riddled the field on Saturday. Photos by Jordan D. Uhl/The Jambar.

Jordan D. Uhl
SPORTS EDITOR

The Youngstown State University men's rugby club lacks an official coach and roster, but on Saturday it sent a group of young men to a field in Mill Creek Park to face the appreciated, well-organized Robert Morris University team.

The soggy, muddy field posed an interesting setting for the club's first home game of the season.

The Colonials, at first glance, appeared to be a challenging opponent. However, this wasn't the case. The Penguins cruised to a 15-0 victory en route to their second victory of the year in as many

matches. "[It] feels great. Especially since a lot of the guys here are new guys," senior Brett Grabman said.

As vice president of the club, Grabman has a vested interest in the organization's well-being and spent the time he wasn't on the field anxiously pacing the sidelines, barking out instructions.

This behavior, undoubtedly, had something to do with the fact that Shawn McClellan, club president, and James Toliver, treasurer, were not in attendance due to scheduling conflicts.

"Most of us are experienced guys so we came through," Grabman said.

Regardless, the shorthand-

ed squad forged on, punishing everyone in its path.

The match was scoreless for a majority of the first half. After multiple defensive stands by Robert Morris and subsequent scrums, Frank Yannucci punched in a try shortly before halftime. A failed conversion left the score 5-0.

After the intermission, Levi Hively and Timmy Bowser added a try and again the conversions failed resulting in a 15-0 score, which would hold for the duration of the game.

Despite the shutout, Grabman said he sees room for improvement.

"Keeping possession," he said. "[And] getting back into shape, getting back into the flow of things; that will all

come as the season goes on."

Anthony Lagamba gained experience at the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy before playing for YSU. He said he feels the Penguins have the heart, will and determination to succeed, and the possession of these traits will cause everything to fall into place.

Both teams were forced to adapt to the field conditions, something Grabman felt favored the Penguins.

"They probably had more speed than we did, but fortunately our fronts were a little bit bigger and stronger. The muddy conditions kind of helped out our forwards a bit today," he said.

The Penguins will be back to the field on Saturday in the Pittsburgh Classic.

SPORTS BRIEFS

YSU baseball picks up two wins against Toledo

The YSU baseball team picked up its second win of the season against the University of Toledo, 4-3. Behind a strong start by Robert Switka and a career day at the plate by David Leon on Friday, the Penguins came out with the win. Switka pitched seven innings, allowing only two runs, and Leon went five for five. YSU tallied 12 hits and got a game-winning single from Armani Johnson in the top of the eighth inning. YSU finished the Panther Classic and defeated Toledo again, 7-1. Phil Klein allowed one run on three hits through eight innings, giving the Penguins a great start. YSU scored four runs in the first three innings to give Klein some confidence and never looked back. These were the only two wins the Penguins picked up over the weekend at the Panther Classic.

YSU baseball drops two games at Classic

The YSU baseball team continued play at the Panther Classic in Pittsburgh on Saturday, dropping two games. First, the Penguins lost to the University of Pittsburgh 7-0. Both teams struggled to score early, but Pitt blew it open in the seventh inning, scoring four runs to extend the three-run lead to seven. In the second game of the doubleheader, YSU took on Niagara University. In a much more competitive game, the Penguins lost 8-5. Both teams started slow, until Niagara took the sixth inning with seven runs. YSU would make their run too late, scoring four runs in the eighth inning and one run in the ninth. The Penguins had trouble hitting with runners in scoring position and struggled all weekend.

YSU men's tennis loses big to Toledo

The YSU men's tennis team lost its match against the University of Toledo on Friday, 7-0. Though the Penguins didn't get a win, they were quite competitive. In the No. 2 doubles match, Felipe Rosa and Rodrigo Campos took the opposition to the edge and just missed on a victory, losing 8-7. Max Schmerin in the No. 3 singles slot competed well. Schmerin lost 7-5, 6-4. Felipe Rosa in the No. 2 singles slot forced a tie-break round, winning his second set 7-6, but lost the tie-break 10-5. The Penguins will return to action Friday at Chicago State University.

Softball rides three-game winning streak into Illinois

Joe Catullo Jr.
SPORTS REPORTER

The women's softball team is off to one of the best starts in Brian Campbell's coaching career at Youngstown State University. The team looks to add to its three-game winning streak when it plays against Robert Morris University on Wednesday.

The Penguins are 15-7 in the season, which is the best record thus far among Horizon League teams.

"We go in with confidence defensively and offensively," Campbell said. "[They are] working hard together as a team. [Along] with the starters, the bench players have stepped up. It's really a great thing to see them work together."

The Penguins started the season slow, losing three of their first four games at the Phoenix Leadoff Classic in North Carolina. Since then, they had a seven game winning streak, which lasted nearly two weeks.

On March 11, they faced



Junior outfielder Jordan Ingalls was again named Horizon League Softball Player of the Week. Photo courtesy of Sports Information.

Savannah State University twice. The Penguins won the first game to extend their winning streak but lost the second

in a tight 6-5 contest.

Two days later, YSU participated in the Rebel Games, which lasted through Friday. The Penguins played 10 games against teams including Hartford University, Siena University and Bucknell University.

YSU began with a seven-inning, 11-9 loss to South Dakota University. However, the team bounced back, winning seven of the next nine games.

The largest victory came against Lafayette University, with a final score of 14-8.

Junior Haley Thomas recorded two hits and drove in five runs. She also drew two walks and scored three runs in five total at-bats. Thomas leads the team with four home runs and tied with five doubles.

"Players have done a wonderful job playing together," Campbell said. "We have taken notes throughout the entire ballgame."

Junior Jordan Ingalls, who was named the Horizon

League Softball Player of the Week twice from March 7-20, leads the team with a .458 batting average, 33 hits, five doubles [tied with Thomas], four triples, 26 RBIs, 55 total bases and a .764 slugging percentage.

The team has a combined .333 average with 11 home runs, 201 hits and 119 RBIs. YSU has a .974 fielding percentage. The team has committed only 16 errors.

While the offense has been sizzling, pitching has been cooling down the opponents.

Freshman Casey Crozier leads the team with a 2.78 ERA, nine wins, two shutouts, seven complete games, one save and a .247 opposing batting average.

Right behind Crozier is sophomore Hana Somogyi. She's compiled a 5-2 record with a 3.34 ERA and a .290 average against the opposition.

Robert Morris sits at 8-14 and is on a two-game losing streak. The team will face the University of Pittsburgh at home before the Penguins. The Colonials will be playing four games in two days.

Head coach urges women's tennis team to make changes

A.J. Ondrey
REPORTER

After losing Saturday's match against Bowling Green State University 7-0, Youngstown State University women's tennis team's head coach Michele Grim said the Penguins needs to be open to change.

"We're not changing our game. We try to play our own style and when it doesn't work, the girls don't change how they play. When your style isn't working, you've got to make something in your game different to try and get the win," Grim said.

In an all-out effort, the closest YSU came to winning anything was due to sophomore Margarita Sadovnikova.

Sadovnikova dropped her first set against her No.1 singles opponent Christine Chiricosta 6-3, but countered with the lone set win, 6-1, for the Penguins.

The two then battled in a back and forth tiebreaker set, which ended in a Chiricosta taking the win 10-8.

Sadovnikova showed and shared her emotions after the loss.

"I thought I played well. I hit the ball hard, hit spots. I thought I was going to get the win, but it didn't turn out that way," Sadovnikova said.

BGSU's Chiricosta even gave credit where it was due when she said, "[Sadovnikova] was on fire."

"I felt like I was constantly hitting the ball, returning it back at her and she wasn't getting tired at all. She was great,"

Chiricosta added.

Grim was not thrilled with what she saw with her team.

"Margarita played with a lot of heart. The rest of the team needed to fight harder, keep their focus. I didn't feel like we stayed in the points long enough and that is what killed us," she said.

Grim sat and spoke to her team for about 30 minutes after the match. She isn't forgetting about what happened Saturday night, but knows she's got to move on.

"We've got [University of Wisconsin-Green Bay] next weekend opening Horizon League play. We need to work to try and be consistent and just fight for wins."

YSU will be back in action against the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee on Saturday.

SCHEDULES

MEN'S TENNIS
March 25- @ Chicago State
March 27- @ Green Bay
April 2- UIC
April 3- VALPARAISO

WOMEN'S TENNIS
March 26- @ Milwaukee
March 27- @ Green Bay
March 30- @ Pitt
April 2- UIC

BASEBALL
March 25- @ Wright St.
March 26- @ Wright St.
March 26- @ Wright St.
March 29- WALSH

SOFTBALL
March 26- LOYOLA
March 26- LOYOLA
March 27- LOYOLA
March 30- @ Niagara

RUGBY
March 26- @ Pitt Cla.
April 9- LORAIN
April 16- S.R.U. (TBA)
April 30- @ Ohio Cla.