

The Jambar

The student voice of Youngstown State University since 1931

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Mock YSU website creates confusion

Lamar Salter
MANAGING EDITOR

Network Services sent a potential security threat warning to the Youngstown State University community about a website posing as the official YSU homepage on April 14.

The "mock" site, located at www.yso.com, uses a commercial domain. YSU's official website address ends with .edu, which is licensed to all post-secondary higher education facilities.

The website listed general information about the university including academics, the YSU football team and statistics. Much of the information was copied from a Wikipedia page about YSU.

The website also included a terms of use description, privacy policy and links to the

official homepage when referring to admissions or specific information about the different colleges.

What specifically concerned Network Security was a login option on the site.

YSU tech desk worker Paul Carrier first reported the mock website a couple of weeks ago after trying to help a student log into the MyYSU portal. The student was accidentally trying to log into the mock site.

"The student kept telling me that their logon credentials were incorrect even after I reset everything," Carrier said.

Eventually Carrier realized the student was going to www.yso.com, and he sent a report to YSU Network Security.

After researching the site, Director of Network Telecommunications Jason Rakers sent an email out that informed the

campus community about the confusion.

Rakers suspected www.yso.com to be a "phishing site," a domain address that fronts as an official website with means to have users reveal sensitive information.

"In this case, it specifically targeted YSU for some reason," Rakers said.

Rakers said that having access to YSU login credentials could affect users in a variety of ways.

"For students, that could be registering for classes," Rakers said. "For faculty members, it could be access to grade books."

Rakers also worried that users who use their YSU email accounts as a contact for credit card and banking accounts could become victims of identity theft.

Carrier, however, suspected

the creator of the site to have a quicker payout in mind by "squatting" the fake website to the university. Squatting involves forcing an original domain holder to purchase the similar site by emulating the valid domain.

"The guy could have created the website to purposefully confuse users, forcing YSU to buy the domain," Carrier said.

The administrator had the domain up for sale on www.sedo.com, a domain marketplace website, with a listing price of \$25,000.

While the website could not be forced to quit operations based on the similar address, Director of Marketing and Communications Ron Cole said the university would take legal action toward the site's use of an old YSU watermark logo as copyright infringement.

"We will be contacting the person or persons and demand they remove the YSU watermark from their site," Cole said adding that there would be additional meetings to discuss other possible methods.

The single contact for the site's supposed administrator was rbryn@cfwebmasters.com. This is the email address of Robert Bryn, a webmaster for the Web hosting company Cape Fear Webmasters in North Carolina.

When asked about the website's existence, Robyn said that he "had no idea" about the content on the page, that the site's new design was "relatively new" to him and that his role as webmaster was purely technical.

Bryn said the domain origi

YSU.COM PAGE 7

Budget blueprint cuts Pell funding

Joe Giesy
NEWS EDITOR

The federal Pell Grant faces a significant cut after a budget proposal that would reduce the grant by 60 percent was passed by the U.S. House of Representatives on Friday.

In a conference call open to all Ohio university newspapers,

U.S. Rep. Tim Ryan (D-Ohio) said the Pell

Grant would be cut down to a maximum \$2,100 award from \$5,550 under the proposed legislation, and they have a lot of work to do to keep that number up.

In 2010, more than \$32 billion was awarded to an anticipated 8 million Pell Grant recipients with new awards that ranged from \$555 to \$5,550. The Pell Grant is awarded to students who, without additional funding, may otherwise not be able to attend college.

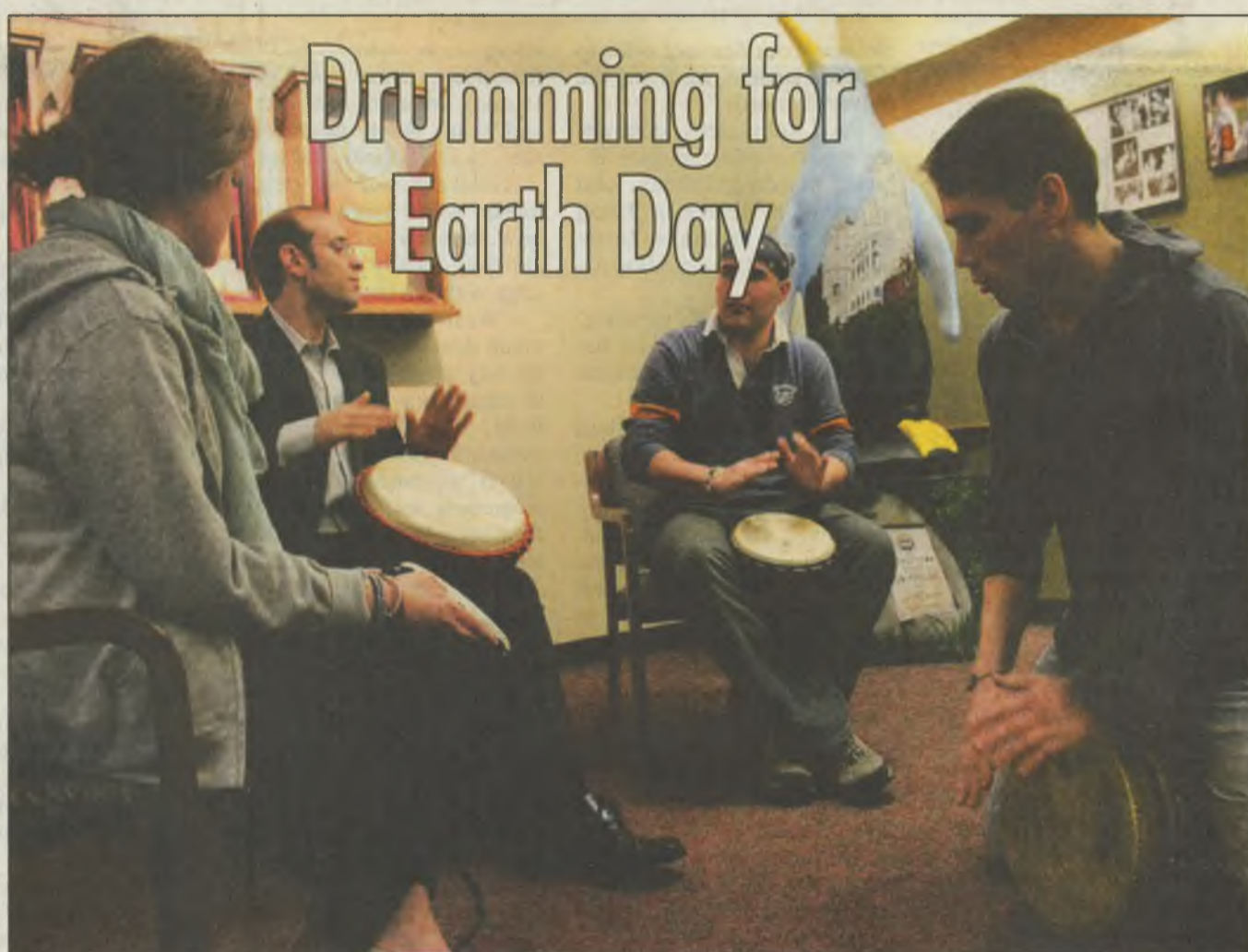
Tim Ryan said the legislation comes from a Republican proposal.

"Their reason is to balance the budget," he said.



RYAN

PELL PAGE 4



Students gather in Kilcawley Center on Wednesday to drum in celebration of Earth Day, which is observed on Friday. The all-day drum circle featured instruments that were made from recycled materials. Photo by Joe Giesy/The Jambar.

STEM proposes new admissions criteria to judge student readiness

Caitlin Fitch
REPORTER

In March, the YSU Academic Senate passed a proposal that would allow the College of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics to use new admissions criteria for students pursuing a STEM major.

The admissions proposal would determine students' readiness for the coursework their potential major would require.

Admission requirements for different degree programs vary.

For direct entry into a Bachelor of Science or Bachelor of Engineering degree program, students must place into at least Math 1571, or Calculus I. They must also have completed three natural science courses in high

school.

For direct entry into a Bachelor of Science in Applied Science or an Associate in Applied Science degree program, students must place into at least Math 1513, or Algebraic and Transcendental Functions. Students must also have completed two science courses in high school.

Students who may not meet all the requirements for direct entry into one of the STEM majors may be classified as first-year students, while students who do not meet any of the criteria can enroll in a pre-STEM program that will prepare them for a future STEM major.

Martin Abraham, dean of the STEM, said the new admissions requirements are important.

"Our primary function as faculty is to help students who can succeed,

to succeed," Abraham said. "The new requirements will help the students potentially be more successful because the new criteria gives students who are better suited to the major the best chance of success and others who are not well suited, the best chance of success at another major."

Abraham said the admissions requirements won't be implemented until the fall of 2012 and that students already in STEM majors would not be affected by the changes.

Abraham said mixed emotions are running through STEM's faculty offices.

"The reality is that some faculty were happy and some were not probably. I personally think it is a good move for us," Abraham said. "The goal is to have as much success as we can, and if a student is not good

or prepared enough in math, not so much English, than they are not going to succeed. And putting students in classes in which they cannot succeed is bad on all accounts and it wastes time."

Abraham added that the new criteria would allow faculty to determine if students would succeed in a STEM major. If not, faculty members could recommend a major where students might fare better.

Brenda Crouse, senior academic adviser for the STEM, said there is no way to predict the future of advising for STEM with the new admissions requirements because it's still early.

"We don't know how advising will be because it won't take effect next fall but the fall after that," Crouse said.

Delta Zeta brings the noise for the hearing impaired

Joe Giesy
NEWS EDITOR

On Saturday, Delta Zeta's Kappa Chi chapter will host a 5K run to raise money for the Youngstown Hearing and Speech Center, located on Southern Boulevard.

The fundraiser is the second annual 5K run/walk for noise. It began last year, raising thousands of dollars used to purchase two digital hearing aids.

The hearing aids went to a young girl who lost her hearing as a side effect of chemotherapy treatments. She received treatment after being diagnosed with leukemia, but her parents were later unable to afford any type of hearing aid.

"It was really special to know where our money goes and that we're helping out families like that," said Cecilia Haren, a DZ member at YSU.

Haren said the two digital hearing aids almost fully restored the girl's hearing.

Mikenzie Clark, DZ philanthropy chairwoman, said the sorority hosted the 5K run last year because not a lot of people host similar events on campus. Members decided to do it again this year because it had been so successful.

The run starts at the tennis courts behind Fedor Hall and goes all around campus. Participants will receive maps, and members of the sorority

will hold signs along the path to direct runners and walkers in the right direction.

"It's nice because it's spring and the weather's getting better and people want to get out and get active," Haren said.

She said Saturday's weather may be rainy but warm.

Participants who preregistered for the event got a free T-shirt, and Clark said they are extending free T-shirts to anyone who registers the day of the race. Those T-shirts will not be given out until later so that the correct sizes can be ordered.

Registration, which begins at 9 a.m., is \$20 for all runners and walkers. Runners will go out at 9:30 a.m., and walkers will start a half hour later.

Clark and Haren said they cannot reveal exactly what the prizes are, but first-, second- and third-place winners will receive prizes donated from local companies.

"[DZ's] interest in philanthropy and helping young children is amazing," said Chrissy Jenkins, YHSC director of development.

Jenkins said she will be helping at the fundraiser and that the money raised by this year's run would be earmarked for the Community Center for the Deaf. The YSU chapter of DZ's primary philanthropy is focused toward helping people who cannot hear.

"I just can't tell you the impact their help has had on our services," Jenkins said.

The YHSC focuses on help-



Delta Zeta members Kayla Schindler and Dina Pelly register runners and sell bracelets for the sorority's fundraiser that will benefit the hearing impaired. Photo by Joe Giesy/The Jambar.

ing, through speech pathology and audiology services, all individuals who have trouble with communication.

The DZ sorority at YSU raises money and donates supplies to the YHSC as their primary philanthropy projects, and members spend time volunteering at the center.

"Their contributions make a significant difference," Jenkins said. She has been working with the sorority for several years.

Clark said the sorority is always trying to improve upon their fundraisers.

"We decided not to do

teams this year. Next year we're hoping to expand that," she said.

Next fall, the DZ chapter at YSU will host two fundraisers to benefit some of the national DZ philanthropies, Clark said.

The national organization's philanthropy is speech and hearing. DZ has national partnerships with the Starkey Hearing Foundation, Gallaudet University and the House Ear Institute. The Painted Turtle Camp, a year-round camp for children with chronic illness, is another organization the national DZ sorority supports through philanthropy.

The local DZ chapter will donate money raised from 50/50 raffles, basket raffles and the sale of green rubber bracelets to the national philanthropies. The bracelets read "DELTA ZETA [heart symbol] HEARING AND SPEECH."

The sorority sold raffle tickets throughout the week and will continue to sell them until the winners are drawn at Saturday's event. The rubber bracelets will continue to be sold for \$2 after the day of the event. The sorority plans to set up a table in the lower arcade of Kilcawley Center on April 27 and 28 to sell the bracelets.

Committee wants to increase students' information literacy

Andrea Demart
NEWS EDITOR

More than half of Youngstown State University's undergraduate students have never checked out materials from Maag Library — and 22 percent of students don't even have a library barcode affixed to their student IDs.

The Senate Library Committee has taken these numbers and created a proposal to change the methods students use to access information.

Due to an extended discussion on revisions to the general education requirements at the last YSU Academic Senate meeting, the committee did not get a chance to present its proposal on information literacy skills.

Randall Goldberg, chairman of the committee and an instructor of music history, defined information literacy as "a set of tools by which one can access information, evaluate information and be able to use that information appropriately and ethically."

"The usual duties of the committee is to allocate the budget for acquisitions to the various colleges," Goldberg said. "When we started working this year, we started thinking about — in addition to that — how to best configure the library's services and the

electronic services we offer to best suit student needs and the university needs."

Paul Kobulnicky, committee member and executive director of Maag Library, said information literacy is "being able to seek, obtain, evaluate and effectively use information."

He said the topic of information literacy has arisen because of the decreasing literacy of incoming students.

"Things become important when you see that incoming students are less successful than previous incoming students," Kobulnicky said. "Most students coming in do not have effective library and information experiences in grades nine [through] 12, and that's different than 10 years ago, 15 years ago."

Goldberg said the increased use of the Internet has increased the likelihood of a student accessing inaccurate information.

"It's very easy to find information. It's much easier to find information which makes it much more difficult to evaluate information," he said. "The availability of information is so great now that it's much more important to fine tune the scales in evaluating and using it."

Kobulnicky said students need to carefully select online sources.

"You as a student need to know upfront what is good

information, what's bad information, what are good sources, what are bad sources and that's what information literacy is all about," he said.

Goldberg said all departments were surveyed about how students use the library and how faculty members engage with the library.

"We found that each department does teach information literacy, but it's done in a kind of unique way in each department. There's no university standard," Goldberg said. "We felt if we could ... increase awareness and interest in information literacy skills we would have that much more direct connection between students and the library, which would help us deal with how to configure the library."

Goldberg said that although students are taught some information literacy in freshman-year English composition courses, "those skills don't always translate back to the department to the extent that they should."

Kobulnicky said many campuses across the country have a systemized way of teaching students to be information literate.

"Courses in this sense are usually just lectures, so a one-hour lecture may be once a year that you get and it's appropriate to the level at which you're working academically," he said.

Goldberg said the Senate

Library Committee has two main goals: to increase face-to-face communication between students, faculty and librarians, and to create learning outcomes to make information literacy a standard part of university education.

"It's something important, not just to get through their classes but for them to decide who to vote for, to decide where to live," Goldberg said. "You have to be able to find information, find out what information is good and then be able to use it."

Goldberg said Maag Library would hold classes, when requested, on how to use the tools necessary for projects. The library offers information on its website about how to use tools within the library.

Kobulnicky said many instructors of 1500-level courses bring students to the library for an introductory session on accessing information, but it is not required.

"There's no real university mandate for [literacy courses] so that's what we're looking at is trying to get that installed as part of, making it a bigger part of the university's mission especially as far as student success," Goldberg said.

He said increasing information literacy on campus is not only good for students but also for the future of the library.

"If students are using the library, and we can show that the

tools they're using are helping them achieve their academic goals, it's much easier to justify the cost of these tools that we pay for," Goldberg said.

Kobulnicky said requiring students to take information literacy courses would help them better use the library's tools.

"Enlightened students use the library better," he said. "They use [the library] more, they use [the library] better. [Students] justify the cost of running a library. Secondly ... we want to put out effective graduates."

Another benefit of adding these courses is to get students to ask questions.

"We're creating curiosity," Goldberg said. "We're getting students to ask questions and to not just accept information unfiltered. We want to get them to really think about it, which is something you have to use every day."

Goldberg said the committee will present the proposal at the May 4 YSU Academic Senate meeting.

"All we're going to ask is really an endorsement from the Senate for our committee to continue work on this," Goldberg said. "We haven't given them real specific things."

Goldberg said if the Senate approves the proposal, the committee would begin working with the library to achieve the two goals identified.

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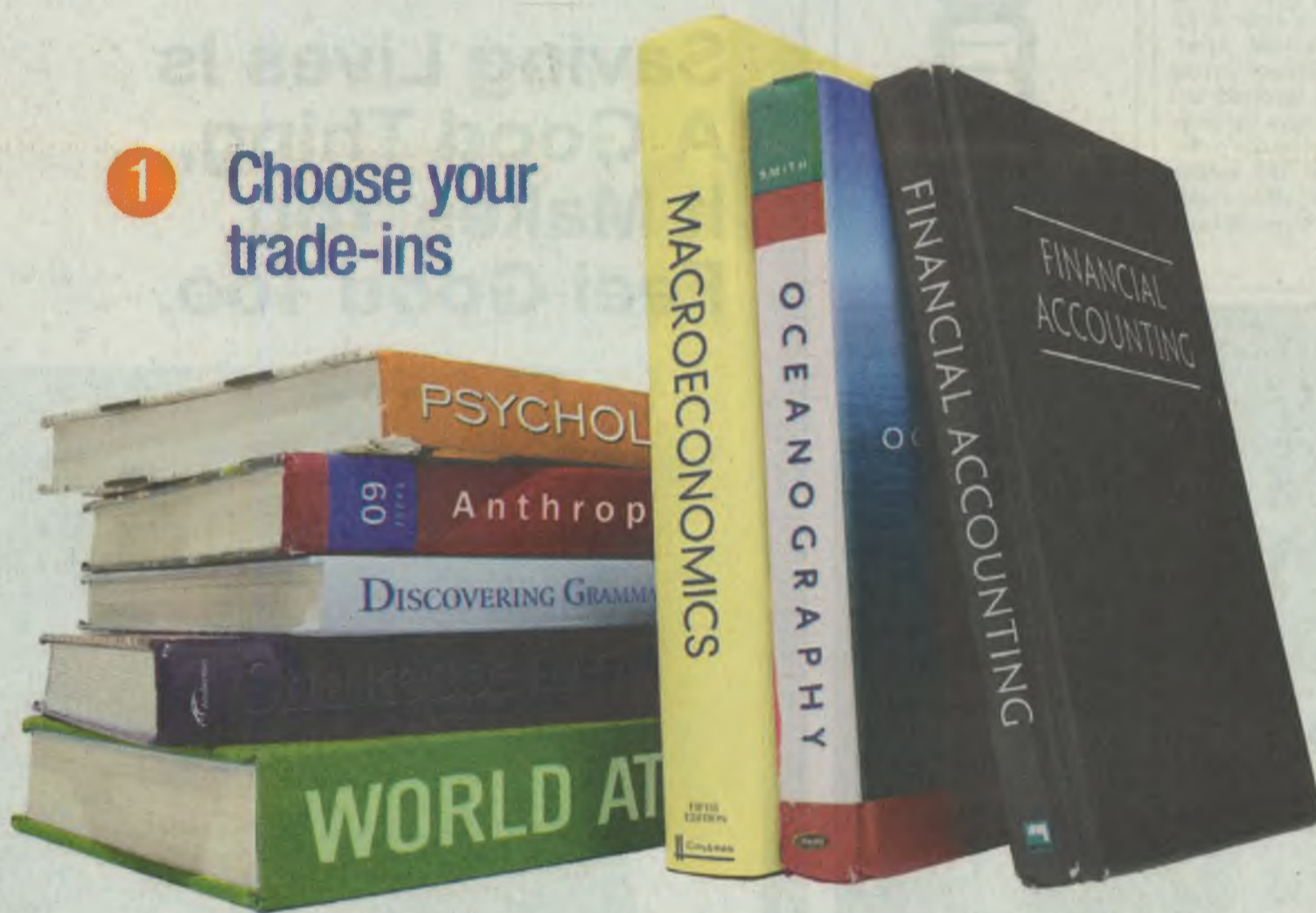
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NEWS BRIEFS

Homecoming chair and co-chair positions available

Nominations are being accepted for next year's Homecoming chair and co-chair positions. Those interested must send a cover letter to Greg Gulas, assistant director of Student Programming, in Kilcawley Center, room 2100, or email him at gmgulas@ysu.edu. The deadline for all applications is April 29 at 5 p.m.

YSU ombudsperson presents 'Last Lecture' on Thursday

Jack Fahey, YSU interim vice president for Student Affairs and ombudsperson, will speak on Thursday as part of the YSU Student Government Association's "Last Lecture" series. The lecture, which will be held in Kilcawley Center's Ohio Room, requires Fahey to answer the following question: "If you could give one final lecture, what would you tell your students?"

POLICE BRIEFS

Student seizes in campus building

On Monday, YSU Police received a call regarding a male student having a seizure. He and another student were working in Ward Beecher Hall when the student fell from his chair, striking his head on a file cabinet before hitting the floor. The victim was able to speak when an officer arrived, and he was transported to St. Elizabeth Health Center.

Altercation breaks out at Courtyard Apartments

On Sunday, YSU Police were alerted to a fight at the University Courtyard Apartments. Three officers arrived to question all involved and check the apartment for property damage. University police determined that the mother was upset and a yelling match ensued, but no physical harm was done.

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PELL PAGE 1

According to the website for the House of Representatives Committee on the Budget, "The House Budget Committee's FY2012 Budget Resolution helps spur job creation today, stops spending money the government doesn't have and lifts the crushing burden of debt. This plan puts the budget on the path to balance, and the economy on the path to prosperity."

U.S. Rep. Paul Ryan (R-WI) chairs the Committee on the Budget.

Debbie Setliff, press secretary for U.S. Rep. Steven LaTourette, said LaTourette did vote for the proposal even though it would cut Pell Grant funding. He wanted to see some sort of legislation that would move a 2012 budget blueprint along after a lack of budget for fiscal year 2011.

"The budget is a blueprint or wish list of spending and policy priorities, and I can't recall one instance in all my

years in the House where a budget proposal from the House or a president became law, and that applies to budget plans submitted by both parties," LaTourette said. "This is just a starting point for debate, and these initial plans are not set in stone."

Tim Ryan represents the 17th District of Ohio, the district that encompasses Youngstown State University, and LaTourette represents the 14th District, which is located in the northeast corner of Ohio. A spokesman for U.S. Rep. Bill Johnson (R-Ohio), who represents the 6th District that covers part of Mahoning County, could not be reached at this time.

A spending plan for the remainder of 2011 revealed in early April cut nearly \$40 billion to avoid a government shutdown.

The president's budget proposal for fiscal year 2012 maintained the \$5,550 Pell Grant award amount and did away with a 2010 program

that allowed some students to receive two Pell Grants in one award year.

"[Democrats] proposed something similar to the president's plan," Tim Ryan said.

Tim Ryan said in the face of a 3.5 percent increase to tuition at Ohio universities next year, college needs to become more affordable for students who may not have the money to pay tuition on their own.

"College could become out of reach," he noted as one possible implication of cutting Pell funding.

Cuts have to be made but you get there by everyone sharing in the sacrifice, Tim Ryan said.

He said all programs are facing cuts but the richer 1 percent of America would remain largely untouched. Portions of the budget proposed by the House Committee on the Budget and Paul Ryan would give tax breaks for the rich.


Send letters to: thejambar@gmail.com

got an opinion?



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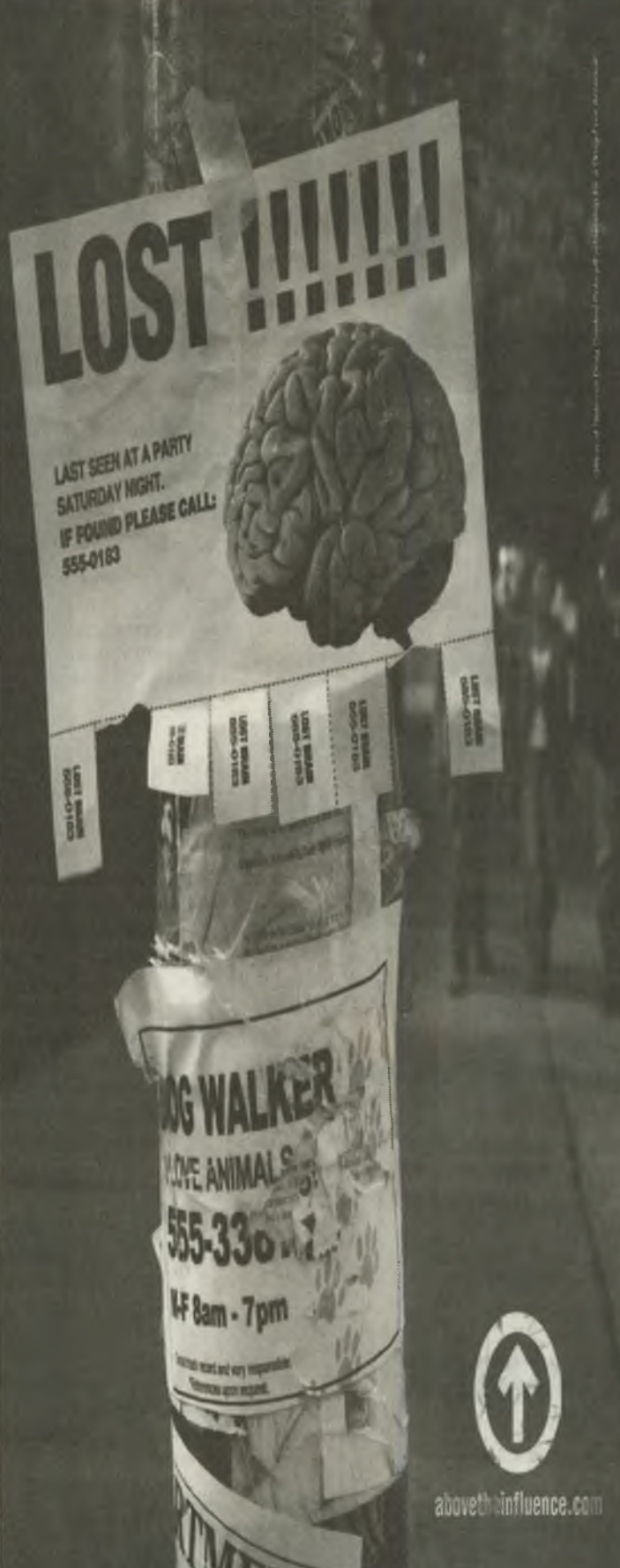
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RELATED STORY

YSU.com, page 1

This is what business in America has come to.

When York Simpson Underwood went under, they liquidated assets that didn't even exist.

Their Web domain, YSU.com, was paraded as a possible home for Youngstown State University, which hosts its site under an .edu extension.

Instead, a third-party purchased the domain, asking YSU to purchase the .com domain.

The audacity of a Web host dangling a \$25,000 Internet carrot in front of a publicly funded institution like YSU is an extreme case of cyber arm-twisting.

We're glad YSU didn't bite.

Furthermore, we'd feel even better if YSU did file suit against the malevolent Web host who misappropriated a university logo.

They have defaced the university and, more importantly, have undermined legitimate business practice.

It's this kind of malfeasance that is belittling our economy.

When a steel mill or manufacturing plant closed in Youngstown, the proprietor liquidated all assets and the revenue supplemented shareholders' losses. Blast furnaces were sold, smelters scrapped — even the steel sheeting covering the building could have been salvaged or recouped at a scrap yard.

It took years to accept speculation as a viable means of revenue, but did anyone really expect us to be bullied into making a Web domain purchase on the notion that people are confused by the site's veracity?

The site was bunk, and the person, whoever he or she may be, redesigned the website to emulate YSU and should be ashamed and persecuted to the full extent of the law.

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. Email 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.

WE'VE REVISED YOUR LONG-TERM OUTLOOK FROM "STABLE" TO "CHARLIE SHEEN."



By Bill Miller
The Mill-Miller Editorial
Columbus, Ohio

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



Colleges price out middle class: Even best and brightest can afford it

Barbara Shelly
MCT NEWSPAPERS

The wildest college admissions story of the year involves a 4-year-old.

The tyke's mother sued a New York City preschool, claiming it hadn't lived up to advertising claims that the \$19,000-a-year tuition would set her child on the path to the promised land.

Instead of drilling for the intelligence test needed for admittance to a prestigious elementary school, it seems the girl spent most of her time, believe it, folks, playing.

"It is no secret that getting a child into the Ivy League starts in nursery school," the mom said in a legal brief.

Well, Harvard admitted only 6.2 percent of its applicants this year, so perhaps this mother is on to something.

In other news, waiting lists for selective schools are at an all-time high. And being raised by a tiger mother paid off. The daughter of Amy Chua, the Chinese mom who recounted her stern childrearing methods in a controversial book, was accepted by Harvard and Yale.

These are the stories we hear this time of year, as the acceptance and rejection notices from top-flight colleges roll in.

It's an entertaining exercise to watch. But from a public policy perspective, it's almost irrelevant.

Dips in endowments aside, the Ivies and their students will be fine. Even their rejects will get by. Kids who aspire to the Ivy League usually have plenty of other choices.

Here are some more meaningful higher education stories to keep an eye on:

Students at all four campuses of the University of Missouri system will pay higher tuition next year. Increases also may be in store at some Kansas universities. A report last year by the American Council of Trustees and Alumni warned that if tuition at Big 12 universities continues to increase at the rate seen in the last five years, the average family with a middle school student can expect to spend a quarter of its annual household income on that child's college tuition.

In a milestone moment last year, the total amount of debt owed on student loans moved ahead of the nation's collective credit card debt. Students who borrowed money left college last year with an average debt of \$24,000. And many are asking whether a college degree still carries enough weight in the job market to make the cost worthwhile.

Every autumn, on community college campuses, students and teachers alike weep over test results that show too many high school graduates lack the reading and math skills to enroll in college courses. These students are channeled into remedial classes an expense they hadn't budgeted for. Lack of preparedness is a big reason that less than a third of the students who enroll in a community college with the goal of attaining a two-year degree ever receive one.

Four-year colleges also struggle with completion rates. Four of 10 students who enroll at a college or university don't earn a bachelor's degree within six years.

For too long, we've been focused on the campus entrance. "Go to college," we've told our young men and women, holding out a degree as the key to the American dream. We've offered them scholarships and grants and loans and applauded them as they've walked through the front gate. But no one pays much attention when they slip quietly out the back door with no degree and tons of debt.

That's starting to change. The Obama administration has asked states to come up with new approaches for improving college completion rates. The Gates Foundation is offering incentives to community colleges to work on the problem.

Those are good moves, but they confine themselves to the conventional wisdom that at least some college is good for everyone. A growing number of counselors, economists and, yes, academics, are questioning that wisdom, and instead recommending more apprenticeships and vocational training to prepare students for middle-skills jobs.

The solution isn't one approach or another. Students need options other than college and those who opt for college need support once they get there.

College admissions dramas make for good reading. Jobs and financial security make for happier endings.

YSU SPEAK

YSU Speak is a collaborative project by students in the 2011 Editorial and Opinion Writing class. This section serves as a medium to share students' views, and we invite you to do the same. Entries are written by individuals and are reviewed by the Jambar Editorial Board.

'Talkin' 'bout our generation'

Adrienne Bish
Andrew Caldwell
Doug Livingston
Jason Horkey
Kaitlin Glenn

A college environment engages students and challenges their beliefs. It provides opportunity and discourse that enlightens and educates.

So when a student organization from Rutgers University decided to use fellow students' tuition to hire "Jersey Shore" star Nicole "Snooki" Polizzi, our collective jaw dropped to the floor.

Snooki earned \$16,000 hourly to "educate" students on fist-pumping, partying, public intoxication and how dedicating more time to your hair than your brain can get you laid.

After our jaws returned to their upright positions, a headache ensued. How could students stand for this? How could the university sit back idly as its prestigious name waned under Snooki's idiotic comments? What has happened to our generation?

"Until students get involved, how can they complain about what's going on?" Mark Castel, president of the AEI Speakers Bureau in Boston, said. "I don't know what goes on in college students' heads right now; I just book the speakers."

Castel, a 30-year veteran of the public speaking business, attended college when speakers mattered — when edification outweighed entertainment, when campus involvement meant challenging the "establishment," challenging controversy and challenging one another.

Castel didn't book Snooki, but he has booked some controversial figures like Alveda King and Ralph Nader.

At least King and Nader stimulate conversation. We'd love to question King's pro-life stance after her three abortions. We'd love to ask Nader how his policies on the auto industry turned out.

We also wish we were there to ask Snooki if she had a clue.

Unfortunately, nobody asked her. And with the unlikely chance of Snooki picking up a newspaper, we may never get through that impermeable layer of hairspray that shields her from indignation.

Youngstown State University political science chairman and Rutgers alumnus Paul Sracic wishes his alma mater had defended his reputation and the university's legacy.

"For a university to use fees to pay someone like this to come in and speak, who has nothing of intellectual value to offer to a university, is kind of horrifying," Sracic said. "I think it's gonna be very difficult for Rutgers to overcome this."

Sracic proudly admits never watching "Jersey Shore." He's too busy contributing to society — authoring books, writing op-ed columns for the Washington Post and USA Today, publishing articles in academic journals and teaching.

He's contributing to a society with an insatiable hunger for the bizarre — a society that celebrates intellectual inadequacy and applauds questionable behavior.

Shows like "Jersey Shore" garner 8 million viewers per episode and capitalize on society's obsession with grotesque lifestyles.

Our generation watches them practice stupidity. We watch to feel better about ourselves.

But there was a time when people watched for more noble reasons.

Past generations adored movie stars like Charlie Chaplin and musicians like the Andrews Sisters for their talent. Our generation drools over Snooki and Charlie Sheen for their antics.

Even in higher learning, our generation languishes.

And so Rutgers students paid \$2,000 more for an uneducated 23-year-old drunk from the New Jersey suburbs than they will pay Nobel laureate and Pulitzer Prize-winning author Toni Morrison, scheduled to commemorate 13,000 graduates at this year's commencement.

Sorry, Toni.



TheJambar.com

From geek to chic: YSU grad student to publish debut novel

Chelsea Miller
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT
EDITOR

Colleen Clayton-Dippolito has stacks of rejection letters at home. An aspiring author, she received more than 50 rejection letters from her new novel alone.

"Every trip to the mailbox is pretty soul crushing," she said.

Her persistence paid off, though. After three years of clearing literary agents, Poppy Books, an imprint of Little, Brown and Company's Hachette Book Group that specializes in teenage literature, picked up "Erasing Sid Murphy."

The novel is expected to be released fall 2012 in hardback under Clayton-Dippolito's maiden name, Colleen Clayton. She said the novel's title might change before publication.

Set in Lakewood, Ohio, the story centers around a 16-year-old girl who experiences a life-altering incident on a school ski trip and the unlikely slacker who teaches her to trust again.

The main character, Cassidy "Sid" Murphy, is unpopular and picked on by her classmates. She is full-figured, with red hair and fair skin, which spawns her nickname, "The Amazon Leprechaun." Clayton-Dippolito wanted to focus on the themes of bullying and body image, something she had struggled with in high school.

"I was born with cataracts, so I grew up with these really thick pop bottle glasses, like thicker than any old people glasses you've ever seen. They looked like snow globes," she said reflecting on her experience in school. "Until I got contacts, you know, kids are a--h---. Kids are cruel."

Clayton-Dippolito used these experiences to shape her character but, as Clayton-Dippolito was "runty and small," she wanted Sid to be physically different.

"I wanted to write a character that was totally different from the way I was or am physically, and Sid just came to me one day," she said. "I just pictured this tall, big-boned, curvy and terribly insecure red-haired teenager sitting on a ski lift with a mysterious stranger, an older guy



Colleen Clayton-Dippolito poses for a picture at the National Zoo in Washington, D.C., in February during the Association of Writers and Writing Programs conference. Clayton-Dippolito earned an honorable mention in the AWP Intro-Journals contest and is working on a novel that was picked up by Poppy Books. Photos courtesy of Colleen Clayton-Dippolito.

"I can relate to teens well. I think I'm probably like really immature."

-Colleen Clayton-Dippolito

who appreciates the way she looks. The story grew from there."

Clayton-Dippolito's story took six months to write and another six months to reshape the manuscript.

"Erasing Sid Murphy" is Clayton-Dippolito's first published novel, but she has been writing for much longer.

Clayton-Dippolito, a Youngstown State University graduate student, is enrolled in the Northeast Ohio Master of Fine Arts program. Her fiction and poetry have appeared in "Jenny," "The Road Not Taken," "Gloom Cupboard," "Scifaikuest," "The Penguin

Review" and "Ruminant." She also earned honorable mention in the Association of Writers and Writing Programs Intro-Journals contest in 2010 for her creative nonfiction.

Chris Barzak, one of Clayton-Dippolito's English instructors at YSU, praised her writing. Barzak, who taught Clayton-Dippolito in two graduate-level fiction workshop classes and another concerning the craft and theory of fiction writing, is looking forward to her debut novel.

"Her characters practically leap off the page, and her prose style is stylish and graceful. I always feel like I'm in the hands of a writer who knows what she's doing and understands the way people think and feel ... she has a deep capability to arouse emotion in her readers," he said. "She's going to make a fantastic debut, and I feel fortunate to have had her as a student and to know her as a friend now."

Before enrolling at YSU, Clayton-Dippolito worked as a social worker and was the program director of Big Brothers and Big Sisters of the

Mahoning Valley. She said her experiences as a social worker have helped with her fiction writing.

"I can relate to teens well. I think I'm probably like really immature," she said, laughing.

After working as a social worker, she began experimenting with writing at the age of 35 and fell in love with it. Clayton-Dippolito cites Jean Shepherd, Sarah Dessen, Sherman Alexie and Jennifer Weiner as her writing influences.

"My niche is humor. What I do in my novel is take very serious things and make them funny, but without losing the poignancy of the themes. I would compare it to like that 'Juno'-type humor, kind of smart teen humor," she said.

She is now balancing her time among her two children, attending school and working part time at YSU coordinating the Mahoning Valley Outreach Program to bring YSU Poetry Center writers to local high schools and community venues. She is also working on a young adult sci-fi novel titled "Amalgamating Marisol." Her goal after "Erasing Sid Mur-



Colleen Clayton-Dippolito as a child wearing her signature "snow globe" goggles.

phy" is published is to write full time.

She offered advice for other aspiring novelists.

"Don't give up because it's very easy to give up. You just have to keep plugging along ... and if they give you some useful feedback even though they rejected you, maybe take a look at your stuff again and make adjustments," she said. "It takes half talent and half persistence."

Grounds crew maintains campus despite sinking budget, short staff

John Cutlip
REPORTER

The maintenance and grounds crew continues its daily duties on campus despite a gradual slide in the department's budget.

"Today, you can find the students and the regulars working down at the library and working with brick on Lincoln Avenue," said Edwin Taylor, supervisor of the YSU Grounds Department, on the morning of April 13.

When asked how to find a groundskeeper, he said to look for the trademark green pants. They also wear special jackets and hooded sweatshirts.

When warm weather hits Youngstown, large potted plants surround the main entrance of Moser Hall, big green leaves

drape the fountain outside Kilcawley Center, and spans of bushes and ivy grace the walkways near DeBartolo Hall.

This, plus mowing the vacant lots on campus property once a month, constitutes just some of the department's summer tasks.

In the winter, the crew takes care of snow shoveling, de-icing and making sure students get on and off campus safely.

As expected, this maintenance work can easily fill the schedules of a team of full-time employees, but the amount of workers allotted to the grounds department has been steadily decreasing over the years, said David Ewing, associate director of the department.

"We're at a bare minimum now," Ewing said of the 10 regular workers and six students employed. In the past, Ewing

recalled 17 regular workers and up to 36 students at a time.

The rationale for the lack of staff is a shrinking budget, meaning the cracks and chunks in the pathways around campus might linger for longer than expected.

Eight of the regulars work from 6 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. on weekdays, while two work the evening shift until 10:30 p.m. The students assist the regulars and take care of litter, trash and entranceways. Students typically don't handle the motorized equipment, which includes riding mowers and skid steers.

"We probably won't be doing concrete repairs at all [this year]," Ewing said.

The grounds department has just one mechanic on call for various equipment problems.

It will also soon be losing one of its most recognizable

faces. Ray Cruickshank, known to some students as "ZZ Top" because of his extraordinary beard, is retiring July 31.

"I'm sad to see him go," Ewing said. "He's really a nice guy."

Despite the loss of money and a veteran mower, groundskeepers will still be busy with their regular tasks: maintaining the fountain, edging and mulching, weed killing, shoveling and plowing snow, leaf removal, disposing of trash and dead animals, and generally making sure that YSU's property looks taken care of year-round.

And, of course, Ewing said, the department members provide service with a smile.

"They're a great group of guys," Ewing said of the staff. "They do everything outside that you can think of. They don't complain."

YSU.COM PAGE 1

nated when his company was contacted by York Simpson Underwood, a realty company that has since become a part of Prudential, in 2000.

When the company went under, an employee of the realty company still maintained the hosting rights to the domain for the website, which essentially became nothing more than an "ad portal" before the YSU mockup.

Bryn, who would not reveal the name of the employee because of a client privacy agreement, said he was not aware of the website's recent layout.

"I just handled all of the technical aspects of the website," Bryn said. "I created a content management tool that the administrator could customize, which is why my contact email was still on the site."

When asked about the client's intentions, Bryn leaned toward the possibility of squatting, adding that

the login option, which he said, "should not have been there," posed no security threat toward the YSU community.

"That login is nothing more than a way for the administrator to get access inside the site," Bryn said. "None of the information anyone entered would be stored unless it was the correct administrator login."

Bryn said he heard no contact from the university about shutting down the site but said that would be an issue to be resolved between the client and YSU.

"We have no real control over what's on the website," Bryn said. "We just handled the hosting duties."

After The Jambar contacted Bryn, the website was essentially shut down, with dialogue listed on the page reading, "This website is currently offline for violation of CFWebmasters.com's Acceptable Use Policy."

Roommate of gay student who killed himself charged with bias crime

George Anastasia
THE PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER

NEW BRUNSWICK, N.J. A former Rutgers University student was indicted Wednesday on charges of bias intimidation and invasion of privacy for secretly recording and webcam-streaming his roommate's having a sexual encounter with another man.

The incident attracted national attention and became a cause celebre in gay rights circles and beyond after the roommate, Tyler Clementi, 18, committed suicide by jumping off the George Washington Bridge days after the secret taping.

Dharun Ravi, 19, of Plainsboro, N.J., was charged in a 15-count indictment handed up by a Middlesex County grand jury and could be sentenced to five to 10 years in jail if convicted of the most serious bias-crime offenses.

Middlesex County Prosecutor Bruce Kaplan said the grand jury found that the taping on Sept. 19 and a second attempted taping on Sept. 21 were "intended to intimidate" Clementi because he was gay.

In a statement issued after the indictment was announced, Clementi's family said the charges were "important for our criminal justice system to establish clear accountability under the law. ... We are eager to have the process move forward for justice in this case and to reinforce the standards of acceptable conduct in our society."

Jane and Joseph Clementi have declined numerous

requests for interviews, but have said through their lawyer that they hope to establish a foundation in their son's name aimed at raising awareness about bullying, privacy rights and the Internet.

In the aftermath of Tyler Clementi's suicide, the incident became the focal point for national discussions about gay-bashing, cyber-bullying, intimidation and privacy rights in the age of social networking.

Clementi, described as a promising violinist, was a freshman at Rutgers, as was Ravi. The alleged tapings occurred shortly after the start of the new school year in a dorm room he shared with Ravi on the college's Piscataway campus.

Ravi, according to authorities, hid a camera in the room and sent a webcam stream out while Clementi had a sexual encounter with another man. Authorities alleged that Ravi was in the room of another freshman, Molly Wei, and that they used her laptop to complete the transmission.

Wei, 19, was arrested with Ravi on invasion of privacy charges, but the case against her has not been submitted to a grand jury, according to a statement released by the Prosecutor's Office Wednesday.

Her lawyer has argued that she did nothing wrong or improper.

Both Ravi and Wei, of Princeton, N.J., withdrew from Rutgers after the incident. Lawyers for the two former students could not be reached for comment

Wednesday.

Ravi has been free on \$25,000 bail since his arrest in October.

The grand jury indictment charged him with invasion of privacy, bias intimidation and attempted invasion of privacy.

He was also charged with attempting to hinder the investigation and prosecution by changing and erasing Twitter messages and other transmissions.

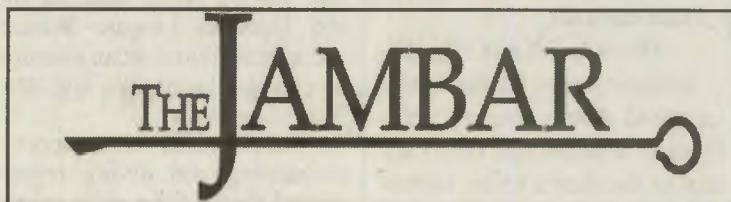
Specific details about what was recorded during the taping have never been made public.

In an interview with the Newark Star-Ledger in November, lawyers for Ravi and Wei said the webcam stream had not shown Clementi and the other man having sex.

But the indictment, in the invasion of privacy charge, alleges that Ravi "disclosed a photograph, film, videotape, recording or other reproduction of the image of (Clementi and the man he was meeting with) whose intimate parts were exposed or who were engaged in an act of sexual penetration or sexual contact without" their consent.

Clementi was identified in the indictment by his initials, T.C. The individual he was with was identified only as M.B.

The indictment also alleged that Ravi made the tape "with the purpose to intimidate" Clementi and the other man because of their "sexual orientation."



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Rebecca Maddocks, left, is tackled by a teammate during a drill while some team members from both the men's and women's teams watch. Photo by Chris Cotelesse/The Jambar.

Rugby club 'empowers women'

Jordan D. Uhl
SPORTS EDITOR

One of the fastest growing sports in the world is women's rugby, and just less than a year ago the sport was brought to Youngstown.

Australia native Rebecca Maddocks came to the U.S. two years ago, following her parents who moved for business. What she brought was her love for the game, which led to the formation of the Youngstown women's rugby club.

When she arrived, she began playing for a women's team in Pittsburgh. The distance turned out to be

too much, so she laid the groundwork for a team in Youngstown.

This is not a club sport, although she plans on also starting one at Youngstown State University.

"[I want to] have that as a feeder team so when people graduate from YSU, they can come play for Youngstown women's rugby club," she said.

In its early stages, the team is struggling to gain and maintain players.

"It's really hard to get girls that are going to want to play a full contact sport, but we're doing our best," Maddocks said of the roster, which has just 12 players.

"Hopefully, we'll [get]

15, which is what we need to be recognized as an official [team] and get registered and be able to play against the big universities," junior Timaira Gandy said.

Gandy, a forensic science major, enjoys playing because it helps keep her in shape. She loves the physical aspect of the game.

"I'm very aggressive, I used to play football when I was younger," Gandy said. "[This is] better than football to me."

Given its nature, rugby is a perfect alternative for Gandy.

"I love hitting people. I mean, I'll help you back up afterward, but if you're coming at me, I'm going to smack you," Gandy said.

The team found support in another developing squad, the YSU men's rugby club.

"They're like our brother team," Maddocks said. "The captain of the men's team, Shawn McClellan, is our coach. They helped [me] get it off the ground."

In the form of recruiting assistance, coaching tips and even joining schedules, the men's team has been there every step of the way for the women.

One of the men's team members who helps his sister team is senior Lee Hartman.

"We're promoting the sport of rugby. [We're] letting the women [know], not just at Youngstown State but all around Youngstown, that there's a women's club," Hartman said.

There aren't any rule differences between the women's and men's games. John Hooker, a junior and field captain of the men's team, identified long hair as the only difference between the two.

The style of play is similar too, but not identical.

"Our girls' team goes just as hard as us, but most of the girls' teams don't go quite as hard," Hooker said.

"It's different for females than [it is for] males. A lot of women are intimidated by it, but it's not all that bad," Gandy said.

Maddocks sees something much deeper.

"It empowers women a lot," she said. "They're all my sisters, and you become part of something. You become part of a community that you'll never be pushed out of. You'll always be welcome no matter who you are."

Eight winter Penguins honored in Horizon League

Joe Catullo Jr.
SPORTS REPORTER

Youngstown State University placed eight students on the Horizon League Winter Academic Teams in an attempt to continue academic and athletic excellence.

Out of the six winter sports, swimming and diving represented three of the eight selections. Second-selected senior diver Amanda Carpin, sophomore diver Casey Hill and senior swimmer Alana Kane were the athletes chosen.

Carpin was one of three captains on the squad. In her final season, she placed 10th in the 1-meter and 3-meter dives at the Horizon League tournament. She also finished fourth at Niagara University (1-meter) and fifth at the Highlander Invitational (3-meter). She participated in track and field in her freshman and sophomore years.

"Being a student athlete is the most important to me," Carpin said on her selection. "It's a goal of being an athlete. I got the email [Wednesday] morning. My parents were proud."

Carpin also described her satisfaction with Hill and Kane.

"Kane is my roommate, and it has been a goal of ours. We wanted to set the standard [for the other swimmers and divers.] For Casey, I couldn't be happier," Carpin said.

Carpin referred to herself as a "mom" figure to her younger teammates.

"I strive to be a role model in the pool and out of the pool. I hope Casey steps up next year. It's her time to take over the role," Carpin said.

One basketball player made the team: sophomore Brandi Brown. She is only one of two players who rank in the top five in rebounds and points per game (9.2 and 19.2). Brown has already surpassed 600 career points and 400 rebounds in her young career.

Track and field led all winter sports with four student-athlete selections. Third-selected Adam Kagarise, senior, and first-selected Jeff Hanselman, sophomore, were chosen for the men's team. Third-selected Alisha Anthony, senior, and first-selected Samantha Hamilton, sophomore, represented the women.

Kagarise was redshirted in his freshman year for outdoor competition. This past season, he was redshirted as a senior for indoor. In the outdoor competition this year, Kagarise finished third in the 400-meter and seventh in the 200-meter dash at the Horizon League Championships.

Reminiscent of Kagarise, Anthony was redshirted for indoor competition this season. The senior jumper ranks first in YSU history with a 6.02-meter leap. Along with the school record, the jump placed her third at the Sea Ray Relays, which resulted in an NCAA East Regional qualifier.

The NFL lockout: What does it mean to you?

A.J. Ondrey
REPORTER

In an uncertain world, sports create a scheduled atmosphere for fans. As a NFL fan, you can expect to sit down on a Sunday afternoon and watch your favorite team play.

However, things might be different this fall, as the 2011-2012 NFL isn't a sure thing. With the threat of a lockout looming, there may not be football on Sundays this season.

Although it's not for certain, many wonder "what if?" Even more are ready to weigh in on the situation.

Eric Grischow, a junior at Youngstown State University, said the dispute is dumb.

"Players are paid too much money, [and] owners are making a lot of money off of the players. I don't really have a side I agree with. I just want a solution," Grischow said. "But in the meantime, I know I'd be a great replacement player."

Senior Tony Sferra had a similar opinion.

"It doesn't matter to me, as long as it is resolved. If there is a lockout, though, Sundays will probably be a lot less stressful as a Browns fan," Sferra said.

With the upcoming NFL

season in limbo, the rumor of college football games being played on Sundays have surfaced.

"I wouldn't want college football moved to Sunday. I like sitting in my pajamas from nine in the morning until five in the afternoon watching college games on Saturdays," said sophomore Josh Prest. "I'd be pretty upset if a lockout did happen. The NFL season is a big part of half of my year, and I really look forward to it every year."

Freshman Peter Katsaras has a different view on the lockout since he's not a huge college football fan, but he loves the NFL.

"I'm definitely not a big fan of college football, but I might need to become one. If college games were played on Sundays, I'd have to start watching just so I don't kill my wife," Katsaras said.

The average NFL fan doesn't really know the extent of what is going on with this labor dispute.

The main issues for the owners' side consists of wanting an 18-game season, a new rookie pay scale which would reallocate more than \$300 million per draft class to fund current and retired players, and the debate of how revenue profit should be split.

The players have many more issues.

Mainly, players are against the 18-game season, particularly without a change in health and insurance plans. The players are also fighting for the split of the revenue share.

In the most general explanation, owners are trying to protect their investment of paying players' salaries, for the stadium and fan accommodations. The players want their fair share of the revenue, as well as better health and insurance plans for current and retired players.

Paul McFadden, YSU chief development officer for University Development, gave some input. McFadden, a former YSU football player, played in the NFL for six years as a kicker and went through a similar situation.

"I picketed during the 1987 strike. Back then, we only had one issue we were fighting for, and that was free agency. It was an impossible situation where nobody won. Just like in '87, both sides have a lot to lose here," McFadden said. "I hope that they get it solved. The NFL is such a successful and popular industry. Let's not damage it and get a deal done."

McFadden said owners try

to "make it as safe as possible. It's not a safe place once they walk on that field, so safety shouldn't really be an issue."

Another former NFL player on campus is the football team's defensive line and assistant head coach Tom Sims. He, too, weighed in on the lockout.

"It's about business, and each side is trying to protect their interests. Both sides are playing their strongest cards right now, but I think there's enough money in question for both sides to come to a solution," Sims said.

Andre Coleman, wide receivers coach at YSU and former NFL player, also gave his thoughts on the lockout.

"People really don't understand that the NFL is first and foremost a business," Coleman said. "When I came into the league, Gene Upshaw explained the collective bargaining agreement to us, and that in a business everyone honors the agreement. I am glad to see the players' union holding their ground. They are the ones who made the industry great, so they deserve to get paid. I'm definitely on the players' side because it directly affects me as a retired player. I can without a doubt say that if there is no NFL season this year, I'd be shocked."

Volleyball adds depth with recruits

Joe Catullo Jr.
SPORTS REPORTER

On Wednesday, Youngstown State University's head volleyball coach Krista Burrows announced that three new players had committed to be Penguins for the 2011 season.

The players are Brianna Bartlett, Sa-

mantha Diebold and Rachel Gambow. Burrows said she likes how the players have the "will to win and work hard" mindset.

"I'm really excited adding these players," Burrows said. "I expect all three to contribute immediately."

Diebold and Gambow are from Ohio. Diebold is from Deer Park, while Gambow is from Hartsville. Bartlett is a native of Bloomington, Ind.

In her senior year, Bartlett posted 724 assists, 216 digs and 51 aces. She led her team to the conference title.

Defensive-minded Diebold took her team to two consecutive sectional titles.

Gambow transferred from Towson University to suit up for the Penguins. In her career there, she accumulated four aces, three block assists and three total blocks. She also recorded 143 total digs.

SCHEDULES

TRACK & FIELD	BASEBALL	SOFTBALL	RUGBY
April 23- @ P.S.A. Invit.	April 22- CLE ST.	April 22- @ Butler	April 30- @ Ohio Cla.
April 28- @ Penn Relays	April 23- CLE ST.	April 23- @ Butler	May 7- Teapot Tourney
April 29- @ Penn Relays	April 26- @ Ohio	April 29- @ Cle. St.	

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