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The student voice of Youngstown State University since 1931



President Barack Obama and Vice President Joe Biden celebrate their decisive victory over Republican challengers Mitt Romney and Paul Ryan early Wednesday morning. The Obama/Biden ticket snagged 303 out of 538 electoral college votes, and could earn 29 more once Florida's votes are calculated. Photo courtesy of MCT Campus.

Barack Obama wins re-election

James Toliver
REPORTER

President Barack Obama has won the 2012 presidential election.

At roughly 11 p.m. on Tuesday, projections indicated that Obama would retain the presidency after capturing 18 additional electoral votes in Ohio. This ends a long and dramatic campaign between the president and Republican challenger Mitt Romney.

The race for the White House was one of the closest in U.S. history. On Election Day, both candidates were locked in a statistical dead heat with 48 percent of voters supporting either Obama or Romney.

Gallup and Washington Post-ABC News polls from Monday showed that the economy remained the top issue for voters. This reflected the viewpoint found on Youngstown State University's campus the morning after the election.

Drew Webster, a self-described conservative Democrat, was not persuaded by Obama's appeals to students during the campaign.

"I'm disappointed with his victory Tuesday night," Webster said. "His education policies won't affect me, but the economic policies will."

Specifically, Webster said he was critical of the expected increase in taxation that his family will face.

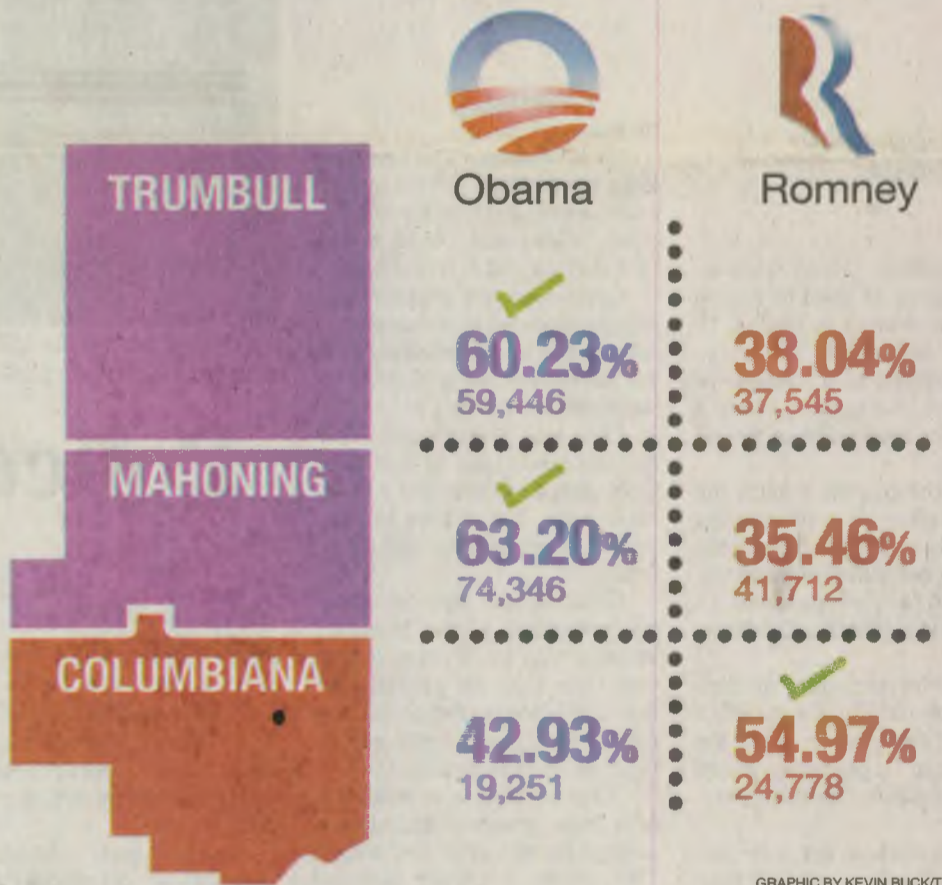
General student opinion toward the election was positive, with many students expressing relief.

"I'm glad it's all over," sophomore Chelsey Hammond said. "I just didn't like Romney. I didn't like him as a candidate and none of his policies."

The enthusiasm wasn't unanimous throughout campus, though.

"I'm a little disappointed in the result, but I hope we move forward," Don Rogers said.

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GRAPHIC BY KEVIN BUCK/THE JAMBAR.

'It's a sign of the times'

Colorado, Washington legalize marijuana



Kevin Alquist
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

Washington and Colorado both passed bills Tuesday that legalized recreational consumption of marijuana statewide.

Though marijuana is still an illegal drug under federal law, the milestone law allows its citizens to grow, buy and sell marijuana under Amendment 64.

Keith Lepak, an associate professor of political science at Youngstown State University,

said he is interested to see how the courts will react to the bills.

"If it were to go to the Supreme Court, federal law would probably veto state law, but it's an open question as to how the courts will react to this," Lepak said.

Lepak said the amendment reflects the character of the voters and the culture of the states.

The bills may not affect YSU students, but the news has stirred up a reaction from many of them.

"It's a sign of the times," said Jacob Cvetich, a graduate student studying engineering. "It's being compared to things like alcohol and hard drugs and is being viewed as more acceptable."

Music education major Tyler Matthews supports the bills.

"It's cool that it is being legalized for social use," Matthews said. "It's one more thing that can be taxed to reduce [the states'] deficits and less people getting arrested for possession of it."

Junior geology major Ron Forte, an advocate for marijuana legalization, said he was

MARIJUANA PAGE 3

ILLUSTRATION BY PARIS CHRISOPOULOS/THE JAMBAR.

Gala at Dana

Bliss faculty and students organize opera



Rachel Lundberg
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

Bliss Recital Hall will host family members and opera fans on Nov. 17 at 8 p.m. for the second annual Opera Gala.

Allan Mosher, the event's master of ceremonies and a professor of voice at Youngstown State University, said the Dana School of Music's voice department has invited some of its best students, both past and present, to perform at the gala.

"This is the way the voice department can showcase our best singers to the community," Mosher said.

Eight current and past singers will perform at the hourlong concert.

Max Pivik, a graduate of the voice department, is among the three alumni returning for this year's gala.

He said the gala and events like it help to supplement funding for the spring opera

produced at YSU.

"With money the way it is, events like these are pivotal to the success or even survival of the opera program at YSU," Pivik said.

Michael Crist, chair of Dana, said the Dana School of Music and the Performing Arts Series funds the spring opera. Opera Western Reserve also often provides aid by lending sets for the stage.

The voice department teamed up with the Youngstown Opera Guild last year to make the first Opera Gala a success, and the two groups will work together again this year.

The Youngstown Opera Guild, which raises money to fund scholarships for voice students, will serve refreshments at the gala.

Carla Infante, president of the guild, said a 50/50 raffle will likely be held. Half of the money will go to the winner, and the other half will go toward the voice department.

"It's always the greatest joy to hear them sing and follow

them throughout their time at YSU and hear them blossoming," Infante said.

Pivik said he looks forward to returning and contributing to the opera program from which he graduated.

"Opera as an art form is so beautiful, yet its popularity is dwindling," Pivik said. "So, anytime you can put on a show for an excited audience, it's a real treat."

Allyson Pollice, a senior vocal education major, said turnout at the first Opera Gala was lower than expected. She added that audience members usually consist of friends, family, faculty and fellow students, but very few community members.

Pollice said she hopes attendance will be higher this year. The Dana Vocal Society will advertise the event at their bake sale on Tuesday.

"Hopefully, I'm looking forward to getting a lot of people to come and see us," Pollice said. "And I think that's really important, especially because opera is really important to us."

YSU Phi Kappa Phi chapter deemed excellent

Kacy Standohar
NEWS EDITOR

Youngstown State University's chapter of the Phi Kappa Phi honor society is one of 19 chapters nationwide to be recently honored as a Chapter of Excellence, the highest award a chapter can receive from the association.

By receiving the award, the YSU chapter is commended as one that meets frequently, holds annual initiations and applies often for the organization's scholarships, grants and fellowships.

Traci Navarre, chief marketing officer for Phi Kappa Phi's national headquarters, said the designation is primarily based on the chapter's "level of activity."

"They work to get their students involved and provide benefits for their students," she said.

Phi Kappa Phi is open to any students who achieve in the top 10 percent of their senior class. Membership is not specific to one particular discipline.

As a result of the designation, YSU will receive a \$500 award, a commendation letter from the society, special recognition on the society's website and in its publications, advertisements in local media and educational journals, and a logo for use in chapter communications.

Former Phi Kappa Phi President Becky Geltz said the honor is a reflection of efforts

by many people.

"It is mandatory to keep by-laws up to date, invite juniors and seniors, and [hold] meetings often," Geltz said. "It all makes us a striving and active chapter."

Geltz said the chapter usually participates in training at an off-campus cluster meeting with the national office and other institutions similar to YSU.

She said the chapter, under the leadership of Christine Cobb, has a website and a Facebook page, and it tries to keep up with fliers, posters and newsletters.

Geltz added that the criteria pertaining to the honorary statuses may be revamped next year. She said the national office is making a change to have more bearing and emphasis on types of local activities.

"Our success is a reflection of a large group of individuals doing a lot of work," Geltz said. "We invite a couple hundred students every year. And we have between 100 to 200 students every year that decide to become members."

YSU's chapter of Phi Kappa Phi boasts more than 4,500 members, some dating back to its inaugural year of 1972.

"It is all volunteer work, and YSU is very fortunate to have the group of responsible people that it does," Geltz said.

Geltz said she is proud to be a part of Phi Kappa Phi as a both a member and a leader.

"I was able to work with many good people," she said. "It is a point of pride for me."



William Mays of the YSU Police Department presents a seminar on Wednesday in Kilcawley Center. The training is required by the Clery Act. Photo by Ashley Morris/The Jambar.

Police train responders

Ashley Morris
REPORTER

In accordance with the Clery Act, Shawn Varso and William Mays of the Youngstown State University Police Department conducted training for faculty members in Kilcawley Center on Wednesday.

Varso and Mays guided attendees through a detailed PowerPoint presentation that included information about how to report on-campus crimes through an online submission process.

"The forms must be as detailed as possible," Varso said. "We want to know so we can take care of it. If it's a serious offense, call us so we can push it to the top. We'll do the analyzing."

Faculty members were chosen for training based on whether their titles met the requirements for a campus security authority, also known as a CSA.

Varso said a CSA is any faculty member that interacts with students on a daily basis, such as employees of Student Life, the Andrews Student Recreation and Wellness Center, the YSU Student Judicial Board, Housing and Residence Life, YSU athletics and anyone responsible for entry to the campus. The only ex-

ceptions to CSA's requirements are professors and police officers.

Victims of crime are also given the opportunity to remain anonymous if they do not want to provide their names.

"If a victim's name can be provided, it should," Varso said.

However, even if a student doesn't want a crime to be reported, it is obligatory for CSAs to report it.

"If a student without car insurance tells you that their car was broken into, but doesn't want to tell the police, report it anyway," Mays told attendees.

If a crime is not reported, it could cost the university up to \$35,000 per offense and monetary losses to financial aid, Varso said.

Brandy Schumaker, the assistant director for fitness and facility operations, said the training was helpful.

"I think it was definitely informative and necessary," Schumaker said. "Especially because students come to us who are afraid to report it themselves."

Ryan McNicholas, the coordinator of fitness and wellness programs, said the same.

"I never knew the difference between being a third-party reporter and being a part of the accident," McNicholas said.

Healthy living, Penguin-style

James Toliver
REPORTER

Human ecology students in the Bitonte College of Health and Human Services will be selling cookbooks to promote more healthful eating and to raise funds for the college.

Titled "Food and Nutrition Students' Cookbook 2012-2013," the culinary tome contains 80 recipes covering a broad range of meal preferences, including vegetarian and gluten free. Following each en-

try is a nutritional breakdown of the dish.

In addition, the recipe guide includes personal contributions and dietary anecdotes from faculty members, such as a vegetarian dish from Youngstown State University President Cynthia Anderson.

Anderson's recipe is for "crunch bars" that she and her family would enjoy during her childhood.

"My mom and I made these crunch bars together, often-times in large quantity, so that we could donate them to bake sales," she said. "We would

taste every batch, laugh about it and be very full after we were finished baking."

The human ecology department's efforts come on the heels of refocused effort to combat obesity and other poor eating habits in the U.S.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's website, one-third of American adults are obese, and the effects of being overweight — stroke, certain types of cancer and type 2 diabetes — cost the nation around \$147 billion in 2008.

Zara Rowlands, an associ-

ate professor of human ecology, said healthful eating is important at all stages of life.

"Higher intake of some foods, nutrients like saturated fat and simple sugars can create problems like obesity, high blood pressure or cancer, while adequate intake of others, like vitamins and minerals, can protect the body from conditions like osteoporosis, anemia and loss of eyesight," Rowlands said.

She said the scientific evidence available suggests that the consequences of obesity are increasingly being passed on as

a genetic trait.

"Family choices to be sedentary, develop poor food preferences and eat excessive portions are the choices that express this genetic predisposition," Rowlands said.

The cookbook is available through the department of human ecology. Ordering information will be made available in a forthcoming YSU announcement. Orders will be collected through Nov. 16, and all books will be printed and delivered by Dec. 1. Checks can be made out to "Students in Dietetics."

POLICE BRIEFS

Mysterious man drops by Lyden, told to leave

A man entered the front desk area of Lyden House on Sunday, wearing his hoodie drawn so tightly that only a few square inches of his face were visible. The desk attendant identified the man and determined he did not live in the residence hall. The man said he had borrowed a key from his friend who later admitted that he let the man use his key. The resident was informed that he was not allowed to lend his key, and his friend was issued a warning and told he is no longer permitted on YSU property.

Lyden resident vomits on himself, requests arrest

A Lyden House resident vomited on himself in a coordinator's office on Sunday. When a university police officer questioned him, the man said he had been drinking at various locations and should be arrested. The man continued to vomit during the interview and was taken to the hospital by an ambulance.

NEWS BRIEFS

Reunion for veterans, ROTC planned for next weekend

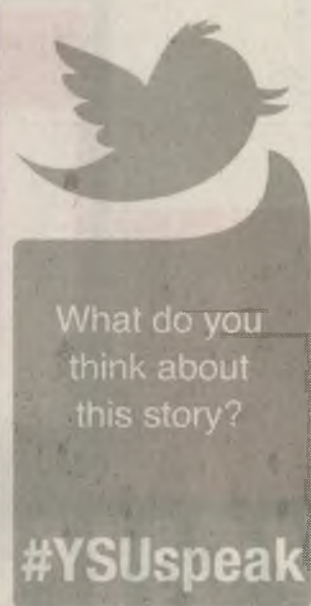
The YSU Veterans and ROTC Alumni Reunion is scheduled for Nov. 16 and 17. A reunion dinner will be held at 6 p.m. on Nov. 16 at the Williamson College of Business Administration. At the dinner, former state Sen. Harry Meshel, who now serves on the YSU Board of Trustees, will receive the Cincinnatus Award for his contributions to both the community and the U.S. military. The event will also include updates from the ROTC, the Office of Veterans Affairs and the YSU Alumni Society, and the YSU Jazz Ensemble will perform. Attendees are also invited to the Terrace Dinner, which will begin at 12:30 p.m. on Nov. 17; it will include a full buffet and reserved seating. Alumni and local veterans, as well as members of the YSU community, are welcome to attend. Contact Heather Belgin in the YSU Office of Alumni and Events Management at habelgin@ysu.edu for information.

OBAMA PAGE 1

Like Webster, Rogers was less concerned with education proposals. "I don't know if it affects me as a student, but his other policies are going to have a larger impact on my life," Rogers said. Overall, Obama pulled a 2 percent margin of victory in the popular vote over Romney, 50 percent to 48 percent. Obama capitalized on the momentum gained following the second and final presidential debates, winning Ohio and Virginia, which gave him 18 and 13 electoral votes, respectively. These prizes add 31 electoral votes to his cache, pushing him comfortably and indisputably past the 270 mark needed for election. Results from the remaining swing state, Florida, weren't clear late Tuesday night, but they weren't necessary. After refuting initial election results, Romney eventually con-

ceded at 12:55 a.m. "I wish all of them well, particularly the president, the first lady and their daughters," Romney said. "I ran for office because I am concerned for America." Romney indicated this will be his last foray into national politics as a candidate, ending a nearly two-decade-long career in electoral contests, which began with a 1994 Senate race in his home state of Massachusetts. Obama took the stage roughly 30 minutes later in Chicago and delivered the concluding speech of the campaign. "Tonight, in this election, you, the American people, reminded us that while our road has been hard, while our journey has been long, we have picked ourselves up, we have fought our way back and we know in our hearts that for the United States of America the best is yet to come," Obama said.

Obama will be inaugurated for a second term on Jan. 20, when he and Vice President Joe Biden will take the oath of office for the second time.



MARIJUANA PAGE 1

excited to hear about the passing of Amendment 64. "I think it's a sign that our nation is progressing and at a very fast rate," Forte said. "Our nation is finally starting to come to the realization that marijuana has its place in our society and that it's going to be around forever." Lee Beitzel, a dance management student, said she has been considering moving to Colorado after graduation. "It was an idea before, and this makes it even more of a possibility," Beitzel said.

Beitzel said she thinks if Ohio passed a similar law that more young people would stay in the state instead of relocating. Joan Boyd, a professor of health science, said questions still remain about the safety of marijuana, regardless of its legal status. "I'm not convinced the drug is safe enough for that kind of consumption," Boyd said. "Inhaling any foreign substance into the lungs is harmful, and there are so many unknowns yet to be answered." Boyd said she supports the use of marijuana for medical purposes.

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RENT

YSU's own season of love



YSU students perform during dress rehearsal on Tuesday in preparation for the opening weekend of "RENT." The musical opens Thursday at 7:30 p.m. in Bliss Hall's Ford Theater. Photos by Marissa McIntyre, graphic by Keeley Black/The Jambar.

Marissa McIntyre
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT
EDITOR

Beginning Friday, students at Youngstown State University will sing in protest against a money-hungry philanthropist and not pay their rent. They'll also address HIV/AIDS and drug addiction, among other serious subjects.

And it's all happening on stage at Bliss Hall's Ford Theater during University Theater's performance of the popular rock-musical "RENT."

Eric Shonk, a musical theater major at YSU, is playing the role of Benjamin "Benny" Coffin III, the play's antagonist who used to be friends with the other characters, but sold out and married a millionaire's daughter.

Shonk said when he found out that the department would be doing "RENT" as the fall musical, he cut himself off from all other versions. Although it's one of his favorite musicals, he hasn't listened to

any soundtracks or watched the movie version since May.

"My goal was to get in 'RENT.' I didn't care what character I was," he said.

Shonk said he wanted to approach the role of Benny in a different way. He questions if Benny's motivation for evacuating the residents was money, or if it was a desire to make their dreams a reality before they die.

"Essentially, in this play, your friends are dying," Shonk said. "I see he's trying to get that dream alive. He's doing what he and his friends always dreamed of."

Kylie Davis and Carly Magnuson are sharing the role of Mimi Marquez, a firecracker stripper who struggles to make ends meet in New York City while battling disease and addiction.

Davis said she has a close connection with "RENT" and has wanted to play Mimi since she first saw the musical.

"From the second that I saw 'RENT,' it has changed my life in so many ways," Davis said.

Davis, a freshman theater

major, said she and her co-stars were ecstatic when they found out they were cast, jumping and hugging one other in excitement.

Davis said performing the role is a fun challenge — "especially at the end where she is basically dying."

Students are also working to pull the audience into the performance with behind-the-scenes work.

Zach Cummins, a junior theater major, is the musical's light designer.

"We have cool special effects to help the audience feel what the characters are feeling. It's also a rock-musical, so the lights have more of a rock feel," Cummins said.

Cummins is controlling 280 lights on the stage. He said he's been interested in light design since he was 13 years old, and he jumped onto the opportunity to do lights for "RENT."

Scott Irelan, director of "RENT" and chair of the theater and dance department, said he grew up with the musical and has seen how it's developed

from workshoping to Broadway.

Irelan has been following "RENT" since its breakout in 1996. He said the stage setup was inspired by the old-school version instead of the modernized version depicted in the 2008 movie.

The stage setup has a desk at center stage, along with piping the characters dance around, a pay phone and an answering machine. No set changes occur throughout the performance.

Irelan also helped students develop their own versions of the characters by discussing the issues in the musical.

"We had a lot of discussion about what it meant to be alive with these struggles," Irelan said.

Since the play has characters living with HIV/AIDS, Irelan said he wanted the students to grasp the severity of the disease.

"Bringing that gravity was enough to get them into character," Irelan said.

He gave the song "I'll Cover You," which is sung between the characters Collins and An-

gel, as an example.

"It's about two people who are connected. They both have AIDS and know they're both going to die, but they've made a commitment to be with each other knowing this," Irelan said.

Shonk said those interested in attending the performances shouldn't anticipate a replication of the movie version; YSU is doing things a bit differently.

"Everyone is expecting the movie. Everyone is expecting the Broadway version. If you want to see something different, come see this show," Shonk said.

He said the play is about celebrating life, and that's the theme YSU tried to bring out.

"Like the song 'Seasons of Love' says, how do you measure a year? Go for the meaning behind this play, which is a celebration of life," Shonk said.

"RENT" will run Thursday through Sunday, as well as Nov. 16, 17 and 18. Thursday through Saturday performances begin at 7:30 p.m., while Sunday matinees begin at 3 p.m.

Concert jazzes up Chestnut

Liam Bouquet
REPORTER

The Dana Concert Series presented the Youngstown State University Jazz Ensemble's annual fall concert on Monday in the Chestnut Room of Kilcawley Center.

The concert was composed of six traditional and contemporary jazz pieces. It featured the premiere of "Suite for Large Ensemble and Voice" by Paul Louth, an assistant professor of music

at YSU; student Katelyn DeLadurantey performed the vocals. The piece was multifaceted with five sections consisting of light rock, waltz, ballad, samba and reprise.

Also on display were two pieces created by Dave Morgan, an associate professor within the Dana School of Music, titled "Jungian Slip" and "Like Mike." The former was created purposefully for the ensemble and was based off of the Swedish psychologist Carl Jung's studies of dreams.

The ensemble played "Say It (Over and Over Again)" by Frank Loesser and

Jimmy McHugh, "In a Mellow Tone" by Duke Ellington and "Boogie Stop Shuffle" by Charles Mingus, as well.

"These guys always play with a lot of energy, a lot of creativity. It is always really fun," Morgan said.

Many of the ensemble's 19 students were on display during the concert with a plethora of trumpet, saxophone, trombones, bass, drum, guitar and vocal solos throughout.

"I think we kind of elevated ourselves during our performance. I think whenever there is a performance, we kind of get into a zone," said J.T.

Goss, a junior music education major and trumpet player.

As a three-credit hour class, Jazz Ensemble 1 required the students — many of whom were required to take it for their major — to meet three times a week since the start of the semester in preparation for the concert.

"Jazz band has been a lot of fun this semester. You know, every time, it is a very relaxed environment," said Lauren Eisenreich, a sophomore jazz studies major and trombone player. "It's all about getting better together, and if you have a bad solo, it's OK."

Trailblazin'

On Tuesday, American voters supported progressive legislation at polling places across the country.

Same-sex marriage is now legal in Maine, Maryland and Washington, which along with Colorado, legalized recreational marijuana use. And Wisconsin elected the U.S. Senate's first openly gay member.

That's a lot of tree-huggin' hippie nonsense for one election night.

And at the time of this writing, America had not been destroyed by any of the 10 plagues or other acts of God — Hurricane Sandy was last week.

The Mayan apocalypse is next month. So, if we get through that, we should be in the clear.

That is, until Harold Camping predicts the next rapture.

From slavery to women's suffrage to abortion, the American people have demonstrated gradual cerebral development when coming to grips with new norms.

In the meantime, fickle voters deceived by hateful rhetoric have marginalized societal groups.

Even excluding the presidential race, Tuesday's election was momentous.

Landmark ballot initiatives exhibited a political awakening. No longer will homosexuals need to be fearful of being themselves when they want to serve the general public. Stoners won't need to quiver when passing a cop en route to the nearest Taco Bell.

But we're not there yet.

The remaining states need to wake up as well. Human rights shouldn't be subject to moral approval by people they never have met, and never will meet, hundreds of miles away.

Individual choices should be just that: individually made.

JAMBAR POLICY

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

OUR SIDE POLICY

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TheJambar.com



SHENEMAN THROUGH MEDIA SERVICES



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

Obama's victory wasn't easy, but the task of governing the divided country will be even harder

Los Angeles Times (MCT)

President Obama accomplished something remarkable Tuesday: He won a second term despite stubbornly high unemployment, painfully slow economic growth and widespread unease about the country's future. It's tempting to say that his Republican rival, Mitt Romney, was a weak candidate whose positions on important issues were either too vague or too changeable to persuade voters. But Obama was more than just the better campaigner. He earned reelection by keeping the country from falling into a depression and persuading Congress to enact vital reforms to healthcare and the financial industry. And the path forward he laid out was far more reasonable than Romney's too-good-to-be-true promise to shrink the deficit while cutting tax rates and pumping more dollars into the Pentagon.

As hard fought as the campaign was, the task of governing this divided country will be even more difficult. The immediate challenge facing Obama is to help defuse a fiscal time bomb that's set to go off at the end of the year, before the next presidential term begins. That's when more than \$570 billion worth of tax increases and spending cuts are scheduled to kick in automatically, potentially sending the economy back into recession. This "fiscal cliff" is the product of Washington's repeated failure to come up with a credible long-term plan for closing the enormous federal budget gap caused by the recession, two wars and the Bush tax cuts. Avoiding disaster will require Republicans and Democrats to compromise over issues that have tied this Congress in knots.

The longer-term problem for the president will be coping with the dueling pressures of an economy that's growing too slowly and a federal debt that's growing too fast, largely because of the rising cost of Medicare

and Medicaid. The economy-spurring solutions traditionally favored by each party—Democrats want to spend more on jobs programs, Republicans favor cutting taxes to put more money back into private hands—exacerbate the deficit. Meanwhile, the parties are at loggerheads over how to put Washington's fiscal house in order.

Had the election produced a sweeping victory for one side as in 2008 or 2010, the winner might have claimed a mandate for his party's approach to these issues. It didn't; in fact, Obama became the first president reelected with fewer electoral votes than he won the first time.

Not that Republicans would have recognized any mandate for Obama, any more than Democrats would have for Romney. That's because too many lawmakers seem to be focused less on governing than on avoiding primary challenges. Such challenges have culled the already small herd of moderate lawmakers, yielding a Congress heavy at the extremes and light in the middle. There are still occasional displays of bipartisan comity, but they don't translate into sustainable working relationships. The House Republican rank and file has proved particularly difficult to corral, with dozens of members aligned with the "tea party" refusing to be bound by the deals their leaders strike. The result has been a breathtakingly inept Congress, one that flirted repeatedly with shutting down the government and even with stiffing the country's creditors.

Rep. Adam Schiff, D-Burbank, said recently that the disinterest in compromise reflects a hardening of wills at the grass roots. Yes, people say they are eager for the parties to work together—that's why Obama ran in 2008 as a "post-partisan" candidate, and why Romney touted his ability as a Republican governor to work with a predominantly Democratic legislature. But as much as people embrace the idea of compromise, Schiff said, "they want the other side to do the compromising."

The current paralysis in Washington demands the kind of leader-

ship that brings lawmakers out of their foxholes. Obama needs to find a way to convince highly polarized lawmakers that both sides can and should shape major pieces of legislation. That would be a departure from the last four years, when Republicans felt they had no stake in the 2009 economic stimulus package, the healthcare reform legislation or the new financial industry regulations—even when their ideas were incorporated into the bills, as was the case in healthcare.

The task is complicated by the distance between the two sides on so many crucial issues. On immigration, there's a seemingly unbridgeable divide over what to do about the millions of people who live here illegally. On climate change, there's no agreement on the existence of a problem, let alone how to solve it. On Social Security, there's a bitter split over whether workers should invest all or part of their contributions privately. On environmental regulation, the parties disagree over how to weigh the costs against the benefits. The list goes on and on.

These divisions reflect a fundamental disagreement over what's holding back the country: Is it government spending and regulation, or is it just the lingering effects of the 2008-09 recession combined with the continuing economic problems around the globe? But there's also the tension caused by demographic changes. Republicans want to cap federal spending at a "traditional" percentage of the economy, despite the fact that retirees collecting government benefits are making up a steadily growing share of the population. And Democrats are adamant that the government maintain its promise of healthcare and Social Security benefits for those retirees.

Pulling the factions together is a daunting task, but Obama has no alternative. The relentlessly negative campaign, conducted at shocking expense, won't make that job easier. But even a narrow win gives Obama some political capital; he should spend it now building bridges to the other side.

Obama wins: Now let's try this again

San Jose Mercury News (MCT)

Barack Obama accepted victory Tuesday night with the same stirring rhetoric that made America's hopes soar four years ago.

"We are an American family and we rise and fall together as one nation," he told supporters—and opponents. "We are greater than the sum of our individual ambitions."

It was the Obama who raised our hopes for a better America and a better world. He has won the right to continue leading a divided country with a Republican-controlled House of Representatives and a Senate still short of the Democratic numbers needed to defeat a filibuster. This could be the start of another four years of partisan gridlock—but he seems to hope for better, and we do, too.

Mitt Romney, in a gracious concession speech, fed those hopes. He said it was time to put aside partisan bickering and political posturing—to "reach across the aisle to do the

people's work." Perhaps the party that chose him to carry its banner will listen. America would benefit politically, economically and emotionally if that were to happen.

Talk of mandates is silly. George W. Bush didn't have one; he lost the popular vote in his first election. Obama doesn't have one either. But when America elects a man president for the second time, it has to mean something. If nothing else, it denies the opposition party the ability to claim a mandate to block him.

The president began his first term seeking collaboration and compromise. He needs to do that again. And the test will come soon: A new fiscal crisis is at hand, with draconian budget cuts to programs valued by both parties set to automatically kick in unless Congress and the president can agree on a more sensible approach to the budget. We know these alternatives exist.

But even if there's more of the same, Americans have reason to celebrate Obama's victory.

Health care reform will proceed, offering insurance to millions of Americans now at risk of losing ev-

erything if they fall ill.

Women's rights will be more secure because Obama will be nominating Supreme Court justices and controlling the veto pen.

Silicon Valley's burgeoning clean tech industry will continue to grow because Obama will not roll back the progress America has made toward clean energy. And more Americans will find work and improve their lives because the president understands the importance of middle class buying power, which fuels this consumer economy.

Romney's words were inspiring, but Republicans may have additional incentives to compromise as they analyze this election. Demography is destiny. The party can't hope to win a national majority while committed to policies that insult large portions of the electorate.

So we hope Obama will find new avenues to compromise for the good of all Americans. And we hope the GOP will moderate the extreme positions it has grasped in the past few years, returning more toward mainstream America. If they do, everybody wins.

Fueling the fire



Josh Fenderson (99) and Aronde Stanton (52) team up to sack University of South Dakota quarterback Josh Vander Maten (16) to seal the Penguins' 13-10 victory on Saturday. Photo by Dustin Livesay/The Jambar.

Steve Wilaj
SPORTS EDITOR

Usually, Youngstown State University head football coach Eric Wolford makes sure not to reveal any team secrets at the weekly Tuesday press conference.

But when pressed to answer the key to success for a resurging defensive line that accumulated 11 sacks in the past three games, the third-year coach caved.

"They've been eating glass, and we've been giving them raw meat," Wolford said. "All the usual things to do to get guys to play with fire."

Jokes and sarcasm aside, the YSU defensive line found a way to improve its performance.

In their first six games, the Penguins registered only seven sacks.

However, in the past three contests, Aronde Stanton, Nick DeKraker, Kyle Sirl and Josh Fenderson have combined for 47 tackles in addition to the 11 sacks.

"Everybody's getting in, watching extra film," said Stanton, a defensive captain. "Just seeing what we can do to beat our man that's across the line."

In particular, Stanton has been a force to be reckoned with. Over the past three games, he's had 17 total tackles, 11 solo stops, seven tackles for loss and four sacks.

DeKraker has been almost as efficient, racking up 14 tackles and four sacks.

When asked the key to his unit's success, Stanton gave a response a bit more logical than Wolford's.

"When you get the one-on-one chances, you [need to] work your move to get that win on that play," Stanton said.

One of those plays sealed Saturday's 13-10 victory against the University of South Dakota.

On 4th-and-11 from the Coyotes' 41-yard line, Stanton and Fenderson teamed up to sack USD quarterback Josh Vander Maten with only 1:16 left in the game.

"I've always said, it all starts up front," Wolford said. "When you're able to control both sides of the line of scrimmage like we did last Saturday, I think you increase your chances for success."

Along with the defensive line, the Penguins' offensive line was prominent in helping snap a four-game losing streak. Running back Jamaine Cook was able to

run for 208 yards on 42 carries behind his blockers.

YSU guard Lamar Mady — Missouri Valley Football Conference Offensive Lineman of the Week — said the team needed to get back to the ground game.

"We never ran the ball that much, but I liked it," he said. "I think we're going to open the playbook back up and get the confidence to be able to run what we used to run."

They'll look to carry that positive momentum into Saturday's matchup at Western Illinois University at 2 p.m. The Leathernecks are 3-6 (1-5 in the MVFC).

"Everybody's pretty level-headed right now," Mady said. "Everybody's trying to take it from game to game and not think playoffs."

With a 5-4 record, including 2-4 in the MVFC, the Penguins' playoff hopes — though still alive — are not favorable.

However, Stanton said the team would just try to control what it can.

"Last year, we had a chance if we would have been 7-4," he said. "We're kind of holding our hats on that. But, like I said, we [need to] take it week by week and focus on Western Illinois this week."

SPORTS BRIEFS

Myriad ways to follow YSU basketball

This weekend, both the men's and women's basketball teams will begin the 2012-2013 season, and YSU fans can follow the teams in various ways. Once again, NewsTalk 570 WKBN will serve as the radio home of the men's games — with the exception of Saturday's season opener at George Washington University, which will be carried on "The Sports Animal" 1390 WNIO. The women's basketball game broadcasts will be carried on 570 WKBN, 1390 WNIO or 570wkbn.com. Each broadcast will begin 20 minutes prior to the game's start with a pregame show; in addition, each game will conclude with a postgame report. Note that the broadcast schedule and station assignments are subject to change. All YSU basketball games will be replayed at 10 p.m. on MyYTV. Beginning Nov. 26, "Penguin Playbook" will air from 7 to 8 p.m. on 570 WKBN, while "Penguin Gameday" will return to its 6:30 p.m. Wednesday slot on WCBW come January. "Penguin Playbook" will feature a review of the previous week's games, as well as a scouting report on upcoming opponents; "Penguin Gameday" includes game highlights and player appearances, and it will also be available at <http://wfmj.com>. Finally, YSU fans can follow the Penguins on <http://ysusports.com> or through various social media platforms.

Egler picked as HL Defensive Player of the Week

Sophomore Alexis Egler was recently named as the Horizon League Defensive Player of the Week for Oct. 29-Nov. 4. Egler is a native of Clarkston, Mich., and she averaged 4.71 digs and 0.71 blocks per set over the weekend. On Friday, she accumulated 19 digs and three blocks against Valparaiso University, and on Saturday, she contributed 14 digs and two blocks against Wright State University. She added 17 kills, two aces and four assists over the weekend, and she was a perfect 46-for-46 on serve receive chances. Egler is the second Penguin to earn the HL's weekly honor for defense this season.

'I've been waiting all year for this'

Cory Bartek
SPORTS REPORTER

Liz Hornberger, starting guard for the women's basketball team, said she is anxious to hit the Petersen Events Center hardwood, home of the University of Pittsburgh women's basketball team.

"Yeah, I've been waiting all year for this, ever since March ended last year and I found out we were playing Pitt first," Hornberger said. "They have a huge venue, and it's really exciting to start the season off again."

The Youngstown State University women's basketball team opens its season on Friday at 11 a.m. against the Panthers.

Head women's basketball coach Bob Boldon said he knows that opening up on the road against a Big East opponent will not be easy, though he is excited for the opportunity.

"We're going to have our hands full this weekend," Boldon said. "But it's exciting to get to go play at a place like that and get to play a Big East team on the road and see what you can do with it."

The Penguins, who finished with a 10-20 overall record and went 4-14 in the Horizon League conference last season, are optimistic about improving those numbers this season.

"I think every one of our returners are better players, and I think we've added some valu-

able depth," Boldon said.

YSU has six returning letter winners, three returning starters and nine newcomers. But with so many newcomers, it may take the Penguins some time to become acquainted.

"It's kind of hard to let the mistakes come and go because you want to be perfect every day," Hornberger said. "But I think our newcomers have really caught on pretty fast."

Boldon admitted that his team isn't the most gifted, but said he feels the players can overcome their deficiencies.

"We're not very tall, we're not very fast and we're not incredibly athletic, which isn't a good combination," he said. "But we try to overcome that by working together and working hard."

The Penguins were picked to finish eighth in the Horizon League in the preseason poll. Unconcerned with the rankings, Boldon just wants his team to take steps in the right direction.

"I thought we were better last Saturday than we were the first Saturday, and hopefully we can be better Friday than we were just last Saturday," Boldon said.

YSU's schedule is a difficult one, as the Penguins will face three Big East opponents and have nine games against teams that won at least 20 games last season.

For the tough road ahead, the Penguins are hoping that senior Brandi Brown can help YSU along the way.

Brown, who averaged 15.9



Liz Hornberger (21) drives for a layup against the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee last season. The Penguins open their 2012-2013 season on Friday at 11 a.m. at the University of Pittsburgh. Photo by Dustin Livesay/The Jambar.

points and 9.3 rebounds last year, was named to the preseason All-Horizon League First-Team.

"I think she's good enough to be one of the best players in our conference, and that's her challenge — to be consistently good night after night," Boldon said.

To complement Brown, the Penguins will surround her with an array of shooters.

"We've got the best group of shooters we've ever had here from top to bottom, and hopefully they can make some shots," Boldon said.

With those feelings, consider YSU a team ready to start the season.

"I think everybody's probably excited this time of year, and we're no exception," he said. "The kids are ready to play."

PENGUIN SPOTLIGHT



Lamar Mady

Year: Senior
Height: 6'3"
Hometown: Topeka, Kan.
Position: Guard

Penguins guard Lamar Mady was named the Missouri Valley Football Conference Offensive Lineman of the Week for his performance in YSU's 13-10 victory against the University of South Dakota on Saturday. Mady played all 72 snaps against the Coyotes, recording a season-high seven knockdown blocks as the offensive line paved the way for Jamaine Cook's 208 rushing yards. A starter in every game this season, the sociology major is the recipient of the 2012-2013 Sloko Gill Scholarship.