

# **Monus becomes Chairman**

**By PAUL CURL**  
**News Editor**

Michael I. Monus, president of Phar-Mor Incorporated, will chair the YSU Board of Trustees after being selected at a meeting last week.

According to *The Youngstown Vindicator*, opposition was raised to the selection of Monus due to his poor attendance at past Board meetings, a result of the amount of traveling he had to do in the administration of his nationwide department store chain.

According to Monus, building Phar-Mor to its current level was his main priority and that demanded he travel extensively; however, he said he was always available by phone and his input was made known to the Board when necessary.

"I will arrange my schedule accordingly to fulfill the responsibilities that are necessary to be chairman of YSU," said Monus. "If in fact I do not fulfill these responsibilities I myself will personally resign from that position."

Student Government President Bill Burley, who is not pleased with Monus' selection, said he hopes Monus keeps his word.

"I'm sure there will be many people watching to make sure he fulfills his responsibilities," said Burley, who expected Monus to be selected as the new chairman, since a precedent has been set that the vice-chairman of the previous year will automatically become the chairman the next.

Monus said the quality of academics is the most important aspect to be protected from the impending budget cuts.

"The stronger we make Youngstown State academically, the better it is for everyone in the community," said Monus.

Burley believes both Monus and Mark Lyden, who was selected as vice-chairman, have an agenda.

"I believe they are both not in the University's best interest but in their own personal best interest," said Burley, who would like to find out what those agendas are.

"I do not have my own agenda," said Monus, who stated the combined membership of the

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Board determines policy. "My agenda is exactly what Dr. Cochran's agenda is."

As for the selection of Cochran as the new University president, Monus said "I'm very confident that we have a great choice in Dr. Cochran. He's exactly what this University needs."

Monus feels his management knowledge will be helpful to the new president, especially in the current budget crunch faced by higher education.

Burley said he feels the adversarial relationship between the students, faculty and the Board will increase with the selections of Monus and Lyden to their positions.

"I look for little cooperation from him (Monus) or Mark Lyden," said Burley. "I believe that they have little concern for the student body as a whole."

Monus feels the animosity

which exists can be corrected through communication.

"I think we're all on the same page in terms of what we want the University to be," said Monus, "and it's just a function of communication."

Monus, who bases his national Phar-Mor headquarters in Youngstown and who is one of the largest contributors to the University, said "There's no one more supportive of what goes on at Youngstown State University than me and my family."

Concerned about past Board decisions which were considered unfair and with Monus and Lyden's past records, Burley said "We'll be making any moves we have to to insure that the University and the students are treated as fairly as possible."

Burley is asking all representatives of Student Government and as many students as possible to attend the Board of Trustees' meeting at 3 p.m. Friday in the Board room of Tod Hall since the budget cuts will be decided at the meeting.