

The Jambar

The student voice of Youngstown State University since 1931

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Thursday, April 19, 2012

Shopping around for college becomes easier with new tool

Jordan D. Uhl
NEWS EDITOR

It was the only mention of high college costs during Mitt Romney's visit to the Mahoning Valley in March.

"Shop around. Find the one with the lowest price," Romney said about looking for the right college.

His comment caught the attention of local, regional and even national media outlets, just as the cumulative student loan debt approaches the \$1 trillion mark.

For the first time, student loan debt has surpassed credit card debt.

FinAid.org's Student Loan Debt Clock estimates the total to be around \$995 billion.

To help students avoid, or at least alleviate, college expenses, the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau debuted its Financial Aid Comparison Shopper last week.

"The [FACS] helps families make smarter choices by allowing parents and students to take the information they already have, along with data compiled by the federal government, and leverage it," Rich Cordray, director of CFPB, said in an issued statement.

The tool allows users to compare tuition and other expenses at up to three universities. The program factors in the average amount of grants and scholarships, then calculates the total cost per year for attending that school. It also calculates monthly payments for the 10 years following graduation by considering varying interest rates for subsidized and unsubsidized loans.

For example, Youngstown State University's total cost for a freshman is \$19,923. Subtract \$7,779 in average grants and scholarships, and the student is left borrowing or paying \$12,144.

YSU grads who finish in four years would owe \$719 per month for 10 years to pay off their bill. This is considering that students deferred all of their payments until after graduation.

Kent State University graduates would tentatively owe \$977 a month for 10 years. Graduates of the University of Akron would see bills for \$810 a month in the same time frame.

"One of the goals of the [CFPB] is to ensure that consumers get clear, easy-to-understand information so they can make an informed decision about what is best for them," Rohit Chopra, CFPB's student loan ombudsman, said in an email.

The calculation doesn't factor in future income, something that YSU officials say should be a part of any decision to take out a loan.

Elaine Ruse, director of the YSU Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships, said some students don't consider their starting salary after graduation when taking out loans to pay for college.

"It's important to look at your major and try to find out what's the starting salary for someone in your field," Ruse said.

Unprepared debtors run the risk of damaging their credit scores, which can lead to bigger problems.

"This can make it harder to get a job, rent an apartment or

FINANCIAL AID PAGE 4



Dan McCormick (left) and Bob Ault discuss the "Ash and Smoke: The Holocaust in Salonika" display on the first floor of Maag Library. Photo by Sarah Perrine/The Jambar.

Faculty help to complete Friedman's documentary

Sarah Perrine
NEWS REPORTER

"Ash and Smoke: The Holocaust in Salonika" is more than a documentary seven years in the making. It kept Saul Friedman, its writer and creator, fighting through his battle with Parkinson's disease.

Friedman, a retired Youngstown State University history professor, has written 11 books, mainly focusing on

the Holocaust. He also has written and produced 13 documentaries and has received five regional Emmy awards.

"Ash and Smoke" focuses on the Greek Jews and their experiences in the Holocaust.

Bob Ault, serials and microforms librarian at YSU, worked with Friedman on the documentary.

Ault said he felt passionate about the documentary and shares it with his fellow colleagues.

"I showed it to everyone in

the library. I say, 'You think you had a bad day? Look at this.'"

The documentary first aired April 12 and will air again Thursday on PBS at 8 p.m.

In 2006, after his retirement, Friedman said he felt the Greek story of the Holocaust was understudied and wanted to do something about it.

That's when he decided that he wanted to produce another documentary. With

DOCUMENTARY PAGE 4

Faculty, staff voice concerns to 'Dr. A'



Youngstown State University President Cynthia Anderson spoke to and fielded questions from several concerned YSU faculty and staff members Wednesday afternoon in the Ohio Room of Kilcawley Center.

Around 75 faculty and staff members attended the event and asked questions

ranging from hydraulic fracturing and the new shale minor to graduation and retention rates.

"People had very good concerns and issues, and we have challenges, and we've gotten through all of our other issues and challenges together, and I think we'll do the same with these," Anderson said after

the forum.

The employee forum concluded a two-session "Q&A with Dr. A" hosted by Anderson. The first session was held on Monday and allowed students to share their concerns with Anderson.

Photo by Josh Stipanovich/The Jambar. For more, see page 2.

University preps for changes in Pell Grant funding

Marissa McIntyre
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

An adjustment in federal financial aid regulations has reduced the maximum Pell Grant offering over the course of a student's college career from \$49,500 to \$33,000.

During the 2011-2012 academic year, 8,189 Youngstown State University students received nearly \$30 million in Pell Grant funding, said Elaine

Ruse, director of the YSU Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships.

She said the figure and the policy change concern her.

"It definitely has the potential to affect a lot of our students, or at least enough to be of concern. Any student effect in funding near graduation is a concern not only for my office but for the university," Ruse said.

Originally awarded for 18 semesters, the regulation change decreases award offerings by

one-third. The Pell Grant is awarded for spring and fall semesters, totaling \$5,500 yearly.

The measure, which goes into effect in July, was implemented to cut federal spending.

Ruse said that while Pell Grant reductions may affect some students' ability to afford college, other forms of financial aid, such as scholarships, have never been more important.

Ruse said the financial aid office has worked to notify YSU students that their Pell Grant funding may be running out.

She also cautions that transferring schools does not reset a student's Pell Grant. The money used and semesters enrolled follow a student throughout his or her college career.

Sophomore Angela Stana is a transfer student from Walsh University. She receives Pell Grant funding, but doesn't plan to exceed the maximum of 12 semesters.

"I'm on track [to graduate], and I won't go past six years,"

PELL GRANT PAGE 7

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Dropping gypsy knowledge



FEATURES 6

Tresey's home



SPORTS 8

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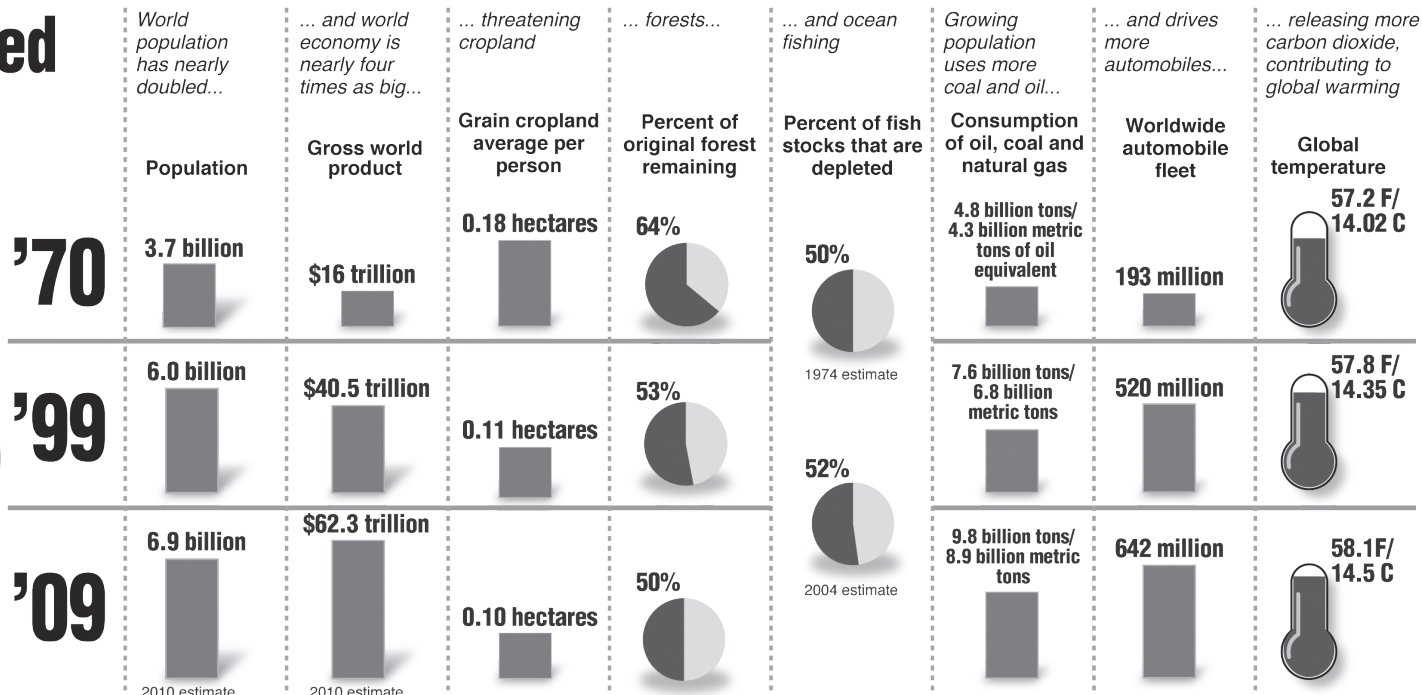
YSU celebrates Earth Day campuswide

Our imperiled planet

Forty-one years after the first Earth Day, the Earth is still being dangerously destabilized by human industry. Some key indicators:



© 2011 MCT
Source: Worldwatch Institute, U.N. Population Information Network, CIA World Factbook, NOAA
Graphic: Pat Carr



Illustrated charts showing some of the harmful effects of human population growth and industry on the planet. Graphic courtesy of MCT.

Shannon Watson REPORTER

Earth Day is officially celebrated on Sunday, but Youngstown State University plans to honor the environmental day throughout the week with several events.

Christman Dining Commons will host the "Lights Out At Lunch" event on Wednesday, as a part of YSU's "Every Day is Earth Day" celebration.

The dining hall's lights will be turned off during the lunch hour — from 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. — to demonstrate energy savings.

"Each bulb burns 60 watts," said Kim Bacchetti, who is in charge of marketing for YSU's dining services. "For every hour the light is turned off, we save 22,000 watts."

Bacchetti and Edward Krol, dining services' executive chef, planned "Lights Out At Lunch."

"We came up with 'Lights Out' as far as to conserve en-

ergy and reduce our carbon footprint," Krol said.

Christman Dining Commons will also feature a vegan meal from 4 to 8 p.m.

"We are trying to get more people into vegan dining," Krol said. "It's a healthier alternative to other dining options."

Pete's Place plans to observe Earth Day with the "Weigh the Waste" event. The restaurant will display the amount of waste produced after one day of operation.

Freshman August Jarvis said she likes the idea of YSU's Earth Day celebrations.

"It's good to know the campus is being more concerned about the world and the environment," Jarvis said.

Jarvis said she always tries to recycle as much as possible while at her home in Cleveland.

"I would try to keep the lights turned out as long as possible," Jarvis said. "It conserves energy and money."

Dan Kuzma, manager of YSU's recycling program, said the program works year-round to make campus more Earth-friendly.

Additionally, Kuzma said he plans to make information accessible to students on Earth Day by setting up tables in Kilcawley Center in conjunction with the Youngstown Environmental Sustainability Society.

"I enjoy the grassroots aspect of Earth Day and the fact that many different organizations set up informational tables and displays," Kuzma said. "It covers a wide range of topics related to the environment and society."

According to Earthday.org, Earth Day marks the anniversary of the birth of the modern environmental movement in 1970.

It was the idea of then U.S. Sen. Gaylord Nelson of Wisconsin to create Earth Day in order to force environmental protection onto the national political agenda. On April 22,

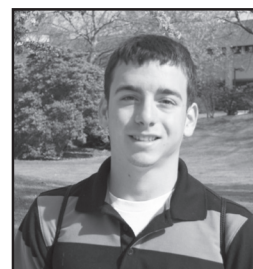
Campus Connection

What does Earth Day mean to you?



"It's about conserving and giving the Earth a rest."

- Amber Bullock, senior



"It's about going outside and enjoying the Earth."

- Kyle Farr, freshman

1970, 20 million Americans demonstrated in streets and parks for a healthy, sustainable environment.

"Earth Day celebration will certainly leave an imprint on most of the students who stop to take information or ask

questions," Kuzma said. "It may lead to more involvement with the student environmental groups on campus and with the citywide environmental groups that are currently active, not just around Earth Day."



From Page 1: Paul Paolich, a 12-year intermittent staff member, voiced his opinion about the rights of intermittents in previous contracts during the employee forum. Photo by Josh Stipanovich/The Jambar.

Claremont McKenna VP acted alone in inflating test scores, report finds

Los Angeles Times MCT

LOS ANGELES — An investigation has found that Claremont McKenna College's former vice president for admission and financial aid acted alone in exaggerating freshmen SAT scores and other admissions statistics in an attempt to boost the school's national rankings, according to a report released Tuesday.

The probe, which was conducted by the O'Melveny & Myers law firm, also reported that no individual student's record was altered and that only aggregate scores and other data were changed.

But the report also showed that not just test scores were manipulated, as was previously announced, but that class-ranking statistics and selectivity information appeared to be hyped or assembled in ways to make the college look better than it was.

The former vice president,

Richard Vos, contended he acted in response to intense pressure from Claremont McKenna's president, Pamela Gann, to become an ever more selective college, the report said. But the law firm investigators said Gann did not direct Vos into any unethical action and that the pressure she exerted did not exceed "the norm for an executive-level employee."

Vos was able to keep up such actions since 2005 since he was "a longtime and trusted executive who closely controlled and exercised ultimate authority over the reporting of admission statistics at the college," the investigators wrote. "The absence of a process to independently verify the reports the VP generated, reinforced his control over the admission statistics reporting function."

Vos resigned in January, just before Gann announced that the liberal arts college had discovered the data hyping.

The scandal was a blow to the school's reputation and

also raised questions about the accuracy and fairness of such national rankings as the popular one compiled by U.S. News & World Report.

SAT or ACT scores account for about 7.5 percent of the overall calculation that made Claremont McKenna the ninth-best national liberal arts college in the U.S. News ranking, officials at the magazine have said. With the revised information, the school is likely to have dropped at least one rung or more, they said.

In a statement released Tuesday, Harry McMahon, Claremont McKenna's board of trustees chairman, said he deeply regretted the episode and that the school is taking steps to prevent any repetition.

"Throughout its history, the college has been defined by its core values of honesty and responsible leadership. While these events do not reflect our values, our response does. Our president and her staff have addressed this matter promptly, thoroughly and with complete integrity," he said.

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NEWS BRIEFS

Student work to be displayed in STEM showcase

YSU's College of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics will host a showcase from 2 to 5 p.m. on Sunday at Moser Hall. Work from students' senior capstone and undergraduate research projects — including a concrete canoe, steel bridge and moon rover — will be on display. STEM faculty will answer questions and give lab tours. For more information and/or to register, contact Dan Suchora at 330-941-3015 or dhsuchora@ysu.edu.

POLICE BRIEFS

Man trips, falls in parking lot

While on patrol Saturday evening, YSU Police saw a man lying on the ground in the corner lot located at the intersection of Madison Avenue and Elm Street. The officer announced his presence and tried to speak to the man, but he did not respond. The man finally responded to the officer and was able to get up by himself. He said that he tripped and fell on the uneven pavement and continued to lay there. The man told YSU Police he wasn't hurt, but that he did have medical issues after a brain aneurysm a while back. An ambulance was called, and paramedics told the man that he had high blood pressure and should get further medical assistance. He refused, and paramedics suggested that he go home and rest.

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FINANCIAL AID PAGE 1

funding borrow money to start a business," Chopra said in an email.

YSU oversees 482 scholarships and provides students with assistance to receive grant funding.

Senior Rebecca Soldan, 31, and her husband have paid for college mostly through grants and loans.

Soldan, a nontraditional student, said she is thankful that scholarships will cover her remaining time at YSU.

"I don't have to pay any more," Soldan said.

Still, Soldan estimates that she and her husband will owe a combined \$30,000 after graduation.

"It's critical to consider free money first," Ruse said. "Don't take on loans until you've explored scholarships and grants."

Junior Alexa Koutsourais and sophomore Jeana McEvey both said they feel fortunate that their schooling is entirely paid for through scholarships and their parents' contributions.

A stipulation exists for McEvey, however.

"They agreed to cover the first four years," McEvey said. This serves as a motivating factor for her to graduate on time.

Chopra said the comparison tool is still in its beta stage, and public feedback will be used to make improvements as it develops.

Additional reporting by Marissa McIntyre.

CORRECTION

In "Remembering Malcolm X," which appeared in the April 10 edition of The Jambar, we incorrectly reported that YSU's Diversity Council was a host of the Malcolm X diversity dinner. However, it was actually the Student Diversity Group. We regret the error.



DOCUMENTARY PAGE 1

from the Center for Judaic and Holocaust Studies, Friedman took a group of YSU students to Salonika and Auschwitz in 2007.

During the trip, they collected research, which appears in the documentary.

After traveling with students to collect data, Friedman was able to create an outline for the documentary.

Friedman tried to fight through the illness to complete his documentary, but his disease significantly slowed its progress.

In 2010, Friedman knew he would not be able to complete the project on his own and turned to Ault for help.

"It was liberating. [Friedman] wanted to finish, and he stuck it through until the end," Ault said. "[Friedman] came to me and said, 'I need you to help me get this done,' and I said, 'Sure.'"

Ault gladly accepted the challenge, but he was unaware of how much work still needed to be done.

"It was interesting because I knew I was the puzzle piece that was missing, and he was so frustrated because he would have good days and bad," Ault said.

Friedman left Ault with six different versions of the documentary's potential script. Ault started by assigning three students at the Maag Library's Microform Center to combine the six different versions into one script.

The students turned in a 20-page script to Ault.

Ault added to the script, using research he completed through resources at YSU. He said a heavy amount of the contributions came from Maag Library, the history department and the Center for Media and Academic Computing.

In addition to working with just the scripts, Ault had to find the tapes of the trip for the photos. Locating the tapes was a daunting task on its own, Ault said.

Ault also regularly met with Friedman to go

over his work and the script he was creating.

"[Friedman] started, and he would come in with a cane, and we could get maybe 40 minutes and the shakes would come, and we would have to stop," Ault said.

Ault said it was difficult trying to write the script in the way Friedman intended to because of the limited amount of time he had with him. When Ault went off track, he often turned to Friedman's "A History of the Holocaust" and reread the chapter on Greece.

"The chapter of the book helped me because, when I couldn't talk to him, I could use his book and his words and get the focus," Ault said.

After nearly a year of work and research, the 20-page script transformed into a 55-page script, and Ault officially took on the titles of co-writer, co-producer and director of Friedman's documentary.

With the heavy workload of such a large documentary, Ault reached out to other faculty members.

Dan McCormick, a network administrator, helped with the editing and visuals. Brian Bonhomme, an assistant history professor, was asked to narrate.


Ault, Bonhomme and McCormick worked for a year to complete the documentary.

McCormick said he enjoyed working with a faculty member he hadn't met before.

"Working with Bob was really easy. He did his homework, and more or less left all the technical stuff to me. He made my job easier by having his facts straight and doing all his research," McCormick said.

As the group finished the documentary at the beginning of this year, Friedman's condition continued to worsen. Ault said he believes the documentary is what gave Friedman hope.

"He has battled his illness to complete this project. These episodes happened after the show aired. A lot of people hang on until they get what they want," Ault said.




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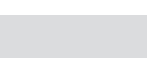
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PELL GRANT PAGE 1

Federal money is running out, and we can't stress the importance of making the most of our time at YSU.

According to YSU's enrollment statistics, 5 percent of students are unclassified, meaning they have yet to declare a major. More than 10 percent of graduates have not declared a field of study.

As the financial aid clock winds down, dwindling federal resources are pressing students to graduate on time.

We're not saying it's fair.

But it has become evident by systematic federal cutbacks that students can no longer hide in academia. We have to graduate and get jobs.

And now we have to do that faster than ever.

It's always alarming to consider that it took students an average of 5.87 years to earn a two-year associate degree in 2010. That year, it took an average of 6.28 years for the average YSU student to earn a four-year bachelor's degree.

Now, let's consider the fiscal impact of the revamped Pell Grant, which has been reduced twice in the past four years.

First cut in half in 2008, the Pell Grant award amount will be slashed by an additional 33 percent in July. This means that students taking full advantage of the Pell Grant and still seeking a bachelor's degree after six years will not receive another Pell Grant.

As grants and scholarships fade away, the burden of affording college falls on personal income and student loans. Loans and grants wouldn't exist if we could afford college, and we now know that student loan debt has exceeded credit card debt.

Either way, the fed is making it nearly impossible to get a degree after six years without adding long-term debt to your resume.

So, declare your major soon. Know how much grant money you have accepted and how much is still available.

And, lastly, don't waste time.

After all, this latest Pell Grant revision, unfortunately, won't be the last cutback.



JAMBAR POLICY

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

OUR SIDE POLICY

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

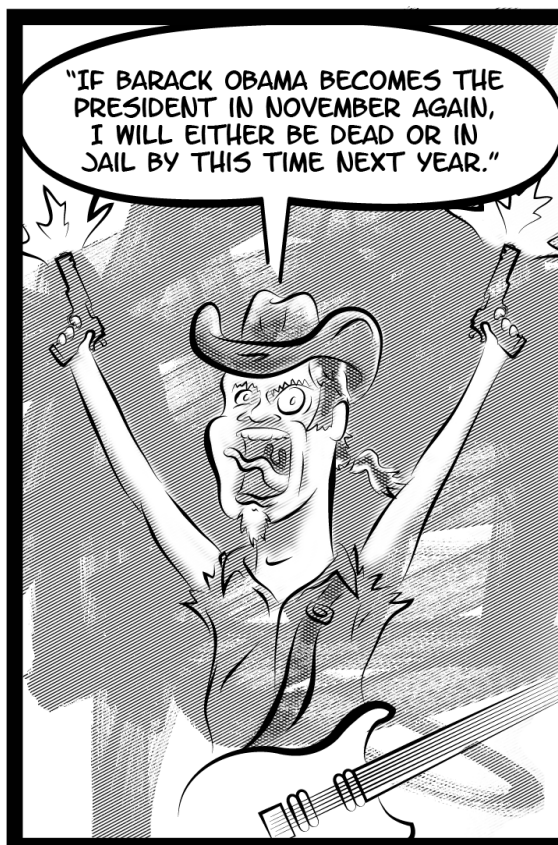
YOUR SIDE POLICY

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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.

THE Jambar cartoon



Cartoon by Paris Chrisopoulos/The Jambar.

Do not be fooled

In Tuesday's edition of The Jambar, columnist Jared Buker used his weekly editorial to attack the presumptive Republican presidential nominee Mitt Romney. For whatever reason, Mr. Buker and supporters of President Obama believe they can make this election about Mitt Romney, but I beg to differ.

The campaign this summer and fall will be about President Obama and his record as president the past four years. When one examines his record, it should be of no surprise that his supporters are trying to turn the focus toward Gov. Romney and the Republican Party. With that being said, I urge all voters to take a close look at the record of our president and to ask themselves if he is truly deserving of a second term as president.

In February 2009, President Obama urged Congress to pass the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. The \$787 billion stimulus package was projected by two Obama advisers to prevent unemployment from rising above 8 percent. However, the unemployment rate under President Obama reached

a high of 10.2 percent in October 2009 and currently stands at 8.2 percent.

Also, in February 2009, President Obama said the following: "Today I am pledging to cut the deficit we inherited by half by the end of my first term in office." In 2008, the budget deficit under President George W. Bush stood at \$459 billion. In 2012, the budget deficit stands at \$1.33 trillion, nearly three times larger than the budget deficit he inherited in his first year in office.

Throughout the 2008 campaign, President Obama vowed to roll back the Bush tax cuts on the wealthiest Americans. However, in December 2010, President Obama signed a two-year extension of those very tax cuts.

Finally, in March 2010, President Obama signed into law the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, otherwise known as Obamacare. When it was signed into law, the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office projected the bill would cost \$940 billion over a decade. However, in March of this year, the CBO revised its estimates upward to a cost of \$1.76 trillion over a

decade. The bill remains widely unpopular with Americans, as an average of three polls out this month show Americans oppose the bill by a 54 to 39 percent margin. Finally, the U.S. Supreme Court will rule this June as to whether the bill's individual mandate is constitutional. Many legal observers believe the law is doomed.

In conclusion, the time is now for President Obama to take responsibility for his record. There is no doubt in my mind that the president's campaign will continue to blame the previous administration for the mess we are in, but I do not think that will fly with the American people. We need a president that is not looking in the rearview mirror and blaming others, but one that is looking to the future and can promise the American people they can still strive to achieve the American dream. In my eyes, the choice is quite clear. Mitt Romney is more than capable of getting the United States back on track economically and fiscally in the years to come.

Michael Metzinger
Austintown

Earth Day's environmental 'religion'

Robert H. Nelson
(MCT)

With Earth Day fast approaching (April 22), Americans might want to consider how environmentalism is becoming a new form of religion. They also might want to ask: Why is it OK to teach environmental religion in public schools, while the teaching of Judaism, Christianity and other traditional religions is not constitutionally permitted?

Environmentalism has, indeed, become an article of religious faith. As Joel Garreau, a former Washington Post editor, wrote in 2010, "faith-based environmentalism increasingly sports saints, sins, prophets, predictions, heretics, sacraments and rituals."

Some argue that a religion must have a God, disqualifying environmentalism. Yet, as the great American psychologist and philosopher William James observed in his 1902 classic, "The Varieties of Religious Experience," it is not necessary to "positively assume a God" in order to have a religion. James insisted that "godless or quasi-godless creeds" also can qualify as religions, which — given its devout belief system and the fervor of its adherents — clearly would include today's environmentalism.

Paul Tillich, the greatest American theologian of the 20th century, similarly defined religion as a comprehensive belief system

that seeks to answer questions of "ultimate concern" to human existence. For Tillich, it was characteristic of our time that "the most important religious movements are developing outside of (official) religion."

The U.S. Supreme Court endorsed such an understanding of religion in the 1960s. In a 1965 decision in the case known as *United States v. Seeger*, involving the requirements for a conscientious objector exemption from the military draft, the Court ruled that the exemption should be applied equally to those who believe in a Supreme Being and those "with a sincere and meaningful belief which occupies in the life of its possessor a place parallel to that filled by the God" of religious believers.

Even as it adopts secular forms, environmentalism borrows to a surprising degree from Jewish and Christian history.

For example, it says in Deuteronomy that, for those who worship false idols, God "will send disease among you ... fever, infections, plague and war.... (and) will blight your crops." In 2010, Al Gore similarly foresaw environmental sinners headed toward calamity on a biblical scale, facing rising seas, "stronger and more destructive" hurricanes and droughts "getting longer and deeper."

In contemporary environmentalism, the largest religious debts are owed to Calvinism. It was

John Calvin who wrote that God has "revealed himself and daily discloses himself in the whole workmanship of the universe." For both Calvin and environmentalism, the natural world is the artwork of God, the Creation.

Man's role is to conserve God's work. Thus, the rituals of environmentalism celebrate reduced consumption — lowering the heat, driving fewer miles, using less water, living in smaller houses, having fewer children. Limiting human appetites, rather than satisfying ever-growing demands, is the environmental command.

As prominent an environmentalist as David Brower, who served as executive director of the Sierra Club for 18 years, has described human existence as a terrible "cancer" destroying God's good Creation. Being environmentally "born again" was for Brower — and many other environmentalists — the only good answer to modern man's environmental corruption and sinfulness.

The issue posed by environmentalism today for those who believe in the separation of church and state is the following: Does it make sense constitutionally to prohibit the teaching and embrace of Judaism and Protestantism in official public settings, while permitting the government establishment — as taught in the public schools — of this new secularized Protestantism: the religion of green, the religion of Earth Day.

Dropping gypsy knowledge

Chelsea Telega

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

In the 1930s, French musicians Django Reinhardt and Stephane Grappelli introduced a new wave of music known as gypsy jazz that combined an upbeat swing style and intricate guitar playing.

Youngstown State University students Tom Smith, Max Doyle, Joe Garwig, Chris Mrofchak and Mitch Lawrence form Knowledge Dropout, a contemporary jazz group whose mission is to bring it back.

"The idea of the group is that we play kind of like a Dixie jazz swing. Mostly it's acoustic music," Smith said. "We have a violin, a clarinet, an upright bass and two guitars. It's a really intimate acoustic live setting."

Smith, a guitarist in the group, said the most important part of playing gypsy jazz music is utilizing live performances. Most of the music that Knowledge Dropout plays is "dance themed," he said.

"This style of music really grasps people's interest. It has really catchy melodies, and it's really upbeat music, so it's really fun to play, fun to listen to and fun to dance to," Smith said.

Doyle, who is studying jazz, said he is most attracted to the gypsy style because it fits well with the instrumentation available to the group through the Dana School of Music.

He said the way the style combines musical roots from France with new forms of music intrigues him.

The band often incorporates popular music into the gypsy style. Doing so, Garwig said, attracts a younger audience.

"We've reworked a few pop tunes into the gypsy style, like Beatles songs and then pop standard hits," Garwig said. "If you catch those melodies, you know them."

While the band primarily covers popular songs, each member is also fluent in writing his own music. Doyle said it's imperative to play original songs during lengthier shows.



(Left to right) Tom Smith, Joe Garwig, Chris Mrofchak, Mitch Lawrence and Max Doyle make up Knowledge Dropout, a gypsy acoustic jazz band at Youngstown State University. Photo courtesy of Bruce Palmer.

Knowledge Dropout prides itself on being the only band at YSU, and one of the only bands in the area, that plays this style of music.

Francois Fowler, an associate professor in the Dana School of Music, said he has worked individually with each member of the band at some point.

He said Knowledge Dropout's style sets the group apart.

"I think that the work that the gypsy jazz ensemble is doing is really exciting and that they are creating a niche for themselves," Fowler said. "I think that they will make that style of music popular again."

Randy Goldberg, faculty adviser for Knowledge Dropout, said he remembers when the group came to him with the idea.

Since the start of the project, it has been rewarding to see the men "learn the nuances" of the music style and take a new, contemporary approach to an older style of music, Goldberg said.

The group members, he said, have learned to work together despite their different musical backgrounds.

"It takes a lot of dedication because you have to get in the mind of the musicians that made this 50 or 60 years ago, but put your own style of music with it," Goldberg said.

Knowledge Dropout will perform 11 a.m. Friday in Bliss Recital Hall and again at 8 p.m. April 27 in Bliss Hall, Room 2326.

Doyle said although band members get nervous in certain settings, they feed off adrenaline created by the audience.

"We just hope that we can reach out to as many people as possible and it will give us an opportunity to make more fans and invest more time in to playing live," he said. "Our goal is to just play as much as possible and spread the word of good, joyful music."

Ending the 'silence'

Kacy Standohar

FEATURES EDITOR

Youngstown State University sophomore Tim Bortner admits that he was bullied throughout high school; the experience was a silent struggle.

The silence stops here for YSUnity. The organization is preparing for its fourth annual Day of Silence on Friday.

The Day of Silence is a national youth movement to bring awareness to the silence that the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community members face each day.

At YSU, participants will paint The Rock at 8 a.m. YSUnity will also have an information table set up from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. A candlelight vigil will take place at 3:30 p.m.

"I hope that we come across as groups of individuals trying to peacefully protest the bullying so many kids nationwide are struggling with," said Lisa Ronquillo, YSUnity's president-elect.

According to the 2009 Gay, Lesbian and Straight Education Network National School Climate Survey, 84.6 percent of LGBT students were verbally harassed, while 40.1 percent had been physically harassed.

More than 70 percent of students said they heard homophobic remarks, such as "faggot" or "dyke," according to the 2009 GLSEN survey.

"We can't have this anymore," Ronquillo said. "No one should ever feel that tortured and that bullied that there is no light at the end of the tunnel and no way to go on with life."

Ronquillo, a nontraditional student and lesbian, said she moved to the area from New Jersey, looking for an active and open group to join.



Senior Lisa Ronquillo and sophomore Tim Bortner discuss plans for YSUnity's Day of Silence on Friday. They hope to silently bring awareness to LGBT discrimination. Photo by Kacy Standohar/The Jambar.

She said she's dated boys, but was confused emotionally.

"I tried to date the gay out. I went to 15 years of Catholic school, and I didn't want it. But I never got to that level where I fell in love. I didn't feel butterflies with a boy like other girls around me did," Ronquillo said. "When I finally started to just accept myself, that's when I started to feel the butterflies, and that was the best feeling in the world."

"I met [members of] YSUnity, and they were there waving their rainbow flags. It was like a beacon of light," she said.

Ronquillo said she hopes to end the nonsense and ignorance at YSU.

"I want people to realize it's time that we start looking at each other as people and not just, 'You're gay, you're weird, you're emo' ... whatever," she said. "Underneath it all, you're a person."

Bortner said it's frustrating

when people try to get the silenced members to talk during the silent protest.

"You deal with a lot of ignorance with it," he said.

Ronquillo said she is conservative about public displays of affection with her girlfriend. She said the judgment she feels from the student body causes her to feel more reserved.

"A lot of us haven't evolved yet from the stereotypes, and I've noticed a chance with myself," she said. "I feel a lot more clammed up here."

Not every member is like this, though. Current YSUnity President Ken Holt and his boyfriend, Tom, hold hands publicly.

In one instance, Holt said he was criticized on campus for his public affection. He now feels that he has to look over his shoulder when he and his boyfriend are together on campus.

When incidents like Holt's

transpire, Bortner and Ronquillo agree the Day of Silence has yet to accomplish its goal of ridding ignorance.

"I don't think everyone cares, but that doesn't mean we should stop doing it, Bortner said. "Eventually, someday, it may catch on."

Bortner said that even though he told students and his professors, he decided to be silent last year because they still looked at him differently. He said it often feels like he's still in high school.

YSU student Kevin Grischow said he would agree if LGBT members said he was judgmental.

"It is different than high school. I try not to judge them, but I do," he said.

Senior Shamara Martin said she is more tolerant.

"I mean, to each their own," she said. "Whatever makes them happy."

However, junior Sam Hogan said it is presumptuous to

assume that everyone is judging them.

"I wish that we would just get along," Hogan said. "Why do we have to keep labeling our differences?"

Student Chris Nutter said a way should exist to integrate different orientations to be tolerant of one other.

"Maybe some straight people want to be tolerant but don't know how to and are afraid of socially offending a person," Nutter said.

Ronquillo said she remains motivated throughout the adversity.

"I am all about being the change you want to see. You can't shove it in people's faces and force them to understand, but you can have people adapt to knowing we're just like you," she said. "We're normal. I hate the word 'normal,' but we love just the way you guys love. We're not here to hurt anyone."

YSUnity adviser Brian Wells said he could relate to the members' concerns. He was the president of YSUnity when he was an undergraduate student and said he came out to himself but waited another three years before he could summon the courage to come out publicly.

Wells said that while he would like to participate in the Day of Silence, he has classes to teach. He encourages non-participants to at least honor the day.

Bortner and Ronquillo said it's sad that members of the LGBT community still have to fight for human rights.

"Oh, because we're only half human? I laugh about it because it's so ignorant, and it makes me tired," Ronquillo said.

Wells said that although LGBT culture is now integrated into society, people forget that it is still a problem.

PELL GRANT PAGE 1

Stana said.

Along with graduating on time, Stana said she thinks that students who deplete their Pell Grant awards will have to rely solely on personal income, making it difficult to graduate after financial aid runs out.

Junior Warren Felton may be one of those students who runs out of resources before he receives a degree.

"Money runs out quickly," Felton said about his Pell Grant.

He is worried that he could exceed the 12-semester limit.

"I'm trying to take my time and not rush my education," Felton said.

But rushing to finish school may be an outcome of the regulation change.

While the federal government is trying to reel in spending, Ruse said the guidelines were changed to push degree completion.

Jack Fahey, vice president for student affairs, said he's concerned about students who are close to graduation and running low on their Pell Grant funding.

"Because of the federal government's financial problems, they're taking major steps to tighten funding," Fahey said. "I'm worried this will have a negative impact on our students."

Freshman Charesse Hagan said she receives \$200 per semester in Pell Grant funding. When she first applied, she didn't receive anything because the government combined her income and her mother's income.

Hagan plans to graduate in four years with a degree in finance, but said the new regulations could affect her if she goes beyond.

"For those students who receive the full amount, it's going to affect them," Hagan said.

Hagan uses private loans and scholarships to pay for the remainder of her tuition.

Fahey said that YSU intends to apply ideas discussed in the strategic plan — such as the first-year experience and the new retention management software — to ensure that students are completing their degree requirements in a timely manner, which would avoid depleting grant funding.

"We're going to do everything we can to help students," Fahey said.

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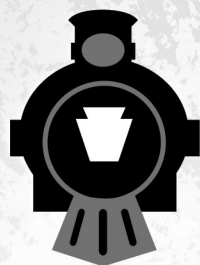


"I'm so excited for this place to open in June!" - YSU Student

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Tresey comes home

Nick Mancini
SPORTS REPORTER

When newly hired Youngstown State University defensive coordinator Joe Tresey visited head coach Eric Wolford's home in February, he had an unexpected duty: aid Wolford's sick daughter.

Marlee, Wolford's daughter, had the flu and began throwing up. Wolford's wife, Melinda, noticed how Tresey helped clean up the mess. Most guys, she said, would flee the scene.

But now, his main duty is to turn around the Penguins' defense.

In four of the last five seasons, Tresey coached at the University of California, Los Angeles; the University of South Florida; and the University of Cincinnati. He has also made stops at Georgia Southern University, the Virginia Military Institute, Central Michigan University and the University of Akron.

The Warren native is back in the Mahoning Valley.

"Well, we are undefeated, so it has been outstanding," Tresey said. "It's been great to reconnect with family and being around the people I grew up with. It's been really good."

Tresey spends spring practice sessions implementing his new defense, and Wolford said the team is still getting used to Tresey.

"I think, at first, the defense was in a little bit of shock with the coaching change and the personality change," Wolford said. "I think they have a better understanding of what is expected. Hopefully it will rub off, and they will play that way, too."

Tresey's last stop was at UCLA, where the numbers weren't the greatest. Tresey's defense allowed 312 first downs, 5,840 yards and 439 points in 14 games.

But Wolford said he doesn't always look at numbers.



Newly hired defensive coordinator Joe Tresey coaches the defense during practice on Monday. Tresey will attempt to turn around the Penguins' defense. Photo by Joe Catullo Jr./The Jambar.

"I don't hire a guy necessarily on statistics," Wolford said. "I hire more of what kind of teacher I think they are and what kind of leadership I think they have. Are they going to make the players accountable, do they have a passion for football and are they going to be a good fit?"

Tresey replaces former defensive coordinator Rick Kravitz. Senior defensive lineman Aronde Stanton said Tresey has a different coaching style.

"He is going to be on you no matter what you do, regardless if you make a stop," Stanton said. "You still have to run off the field, opposed to last year when he was happy we got the stop, but he wasn't really paying attention to anyone going off the field. Coach Tresey comes to me and says after every play to make sure everyone runs off the fields."

Tresey said since he has been able to evaluate his team on the field, he has a better un-

derstanding of who can contribute for the Penguins.

"We expect Aronde Stanton, [senior defensive lineman] Nick DeKraker and [senior defensive end] Josh Fenderson to be pretty solid players," Tresey said. "We got a couple young kids, [redshirt freshmen defensive linemen] Steve Zaborsky and Emmanuel Kromah — kids that we redshirted last year that can be good football players for us down the road and give us some good depth."

Stanton said the defense is getting better, but still has a lot to learn.

"We learn what we learn that day, but we are learning new stuff every single day," Stanton said. "The days that we don't have practice, we are still meeting and learning new stuff. We just have to pick up on everything."

On the field, Tresey has a very fiery and intense personality, much like Wolford.

"I don't yell nearly as

much as he does, but when I first got here, I probably did," Wolford said. "He has just got an intensity and a passion to him, and an attention to detail. I need someone on that side of the ball that has some energy and some juice, kind of like myself. I think we have that."

With years of coaching experience at Bowl Championship Series schools, Tresey said he has learned a thing or two during his career and is excited to put this knowledge to use with the Penguins.

The BCS is the college football system that matches up the top 10 ranked teams in the NCAA Division I Football Subdivision in bowl games.

"You have to practice and operate yourself mentally and physically at a very high level," Tresey said. "You have to know how to live off the field, as well as on the field, so that you fuel your body so it can perform at its optimal level. When you hit that field, you hit it at 100 miles an hour."

Sports Briefs

Baseball falls to Bobcats

After tying the game, 3-3, in the sixth inning, the Penguins allowed the Ohio University Bobcats to score five runs in the final three innings at Eastwood Field on Tuesday. The Penguins scored one run in the fourth, fifth and sixth innings, and they left eight men on base in the same span. The loss drops the Penguins to 4-31 on the season. The Penguins' next series begins Friday against the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.

Eargle named to all-defensive team

Junior Damian Eargle was named to the CollegeInsider.com Mid-Major All-Defensive Team on Monday. Eargle set the Horizon League record for blocks in a season and blocks in conference play, with 116 and 65, respectively. Eargle also recorded blocks in 30 of 31 games last season and had 26 multi-block games, including 12 five-block games.

Softball hosts Wright State in weekend series

The YSU softball team is gearing up to play the University of Detroit Mercy and Wright State University this week. The Penguins matched up against the Titans in Detroit for a doubleheader on Wednesday at 3 p.m. and will play them in a single game on Thursday at 3 p.m. The doubleheader against Wright State begins at home on Saturday at 1 p.m., while the single game comes on Sunday at noon. The Penguins are tied for sixth place with Wright State and Cleveland State University.

Home cooking

Softball preps for home series after nine-game road stretch

Joe Catullo Jr.
SPORTS EDITOR

Even after winning five of its first six Horizon League games at home and sitting in second place, the Youngstown State University softball team struggled on the road in a nine-game stretch against conference opponents.

The Penguins dropped the first six games against Loyola University Chicago and Valparaiso University. The Penguins were outscored, 49-19, during the stretch.

"I don't think we really strung our runs together," said Caroline Krombach, junior outfielder. "That was mostly the big problem. We had some solid hits and everything. I just think we couldn't pull it through."

Sophomore Sarah Ingalls, first baseman, said the Penguins put runners on base, but couldn't drive them in.

"I don't think it's the number one problem, but clutch hitting does make the runs more," Ingalls said. "I believe in the team, and that's what we're working on."

The Penguins went 44 for 162 at the plate for a .271 team batting average.

Krombach said it was more than just runs and clutch hit-



Junior Sarah Gabel attempts to rock a pitch during a game at home this season. The Penguins return home on Saturday, where they are 9-1. Photo by Dustin Livesay/The Jambar.

ting. It was the emotional and mental aspects, especially against Valpo on Saturday.

The Penguins led, 11-0, before the Crusaders batted, but Valpo scored 13 of the next 14 runs to steal the victory.

"I think the emotional aspect is one of the more important things," Krombach said. "I think that if we can keep our attitude up, we'll be great. That was one of the downfalls this past weekend."

Freshman Kayla Haslett, pitcher and infielder, said the team must pick up the opposing pitchers' styles.

"I think we can improve by adjusting better to the pitchers that come up with different

speeds and the way that they pitch," Haslett said.

Haslett started three of the first six games and lost all three, dropping to 5-5 on the season. Overall, she pitched nine innings, allowed 19 hits, 16 runs (15 earned) and 10 walks.

The Penguins won 9-0 and 10-1 in a doubleheader against the University of Detroit Mercy on Wednesday. They will face the Titans in the finale on Thursday before heading home.

"It's nice ... to get on the road and bond — come together as a team — but it will be nice to have a little [home] stretch," said YSU head soft-

ball coach Brian Campbell.

Ingalls said she is also happy to return home, and that the team feels more comfortable on its grass.

"We're used to the fields and the bounces," Ingalls said. "Playing at home, I think we'll have the confidence back that we left there. We love playing at home, so we're excited to get business done at Detroit."

Before the recent road skid, the Penguins were 21-9-1 and 9-1 at home. To help snap their recent skid, Ingalls said the Penguins must attack early and often.

"If we get it on the board in the first couple of innings, we have the game," Ingalls said.

Although the Penguins went from second to a tie for sixth place in six games, Campbell said they are not far off the pace.

They are one game behind third place, three games out of second and seven games behind first-place Valpo, who is 12-0 in conference play.

"In reality, we're really only one game out of that third spot," Campbell said.

The Penguins will face Wright State University in a doubleheader at McCune Park on Saturday and Sunday.

Penguin Spotlight



Jeremy Banks

Year:	Senior
Weight:	200 pounds
Height:	6'1"
Hometown:	Steubenville, Ohio
High School:	Steubenville
Position:	1B

Senior first baseman Jeremy Banks returned to the lineup on Friday against Valparaiso University at Eastwood Field. Banks missed 14 games due to an AC joint separation in the shoulder. In three games against Valpo and Ohio University on Tuesday, Banks collected four hits in 16 at-bats with two RBIs and one double. He also struck out twice and left six runners on base. The Penguins lost all four games, have a 10-game losing streak and are 4-31 on the season.