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The student voice of Youngstown State University since 1931

Suspect guilty in Jamail Johnson murder trial

Jordan D. Uhl
MANAGING EDITOR

A year and a half after the death of her son Jamail Johnson at an off-campus party, Shirlene Hill has finally found some closure.

Her son's murderer, Columbus Jones Jr., was found guilty of aggravated murder, and a dozen counts of felonious assault re-

lated to other injured partygoers. "Words can't explain how I feel today," Hill said. "To the [Youngstown State University] community, thank you. I want to stress that because I never have made it without you."



JONES

She specifically thanked YSU President Cynthia Anderson; William Blake, director of Student Diversity Programs; and the justice system.

Hill said she will be in court on Thursday to witness Jones' sentencing, who faces life

imprisonment.

"I hope to hear it's the maximum on all counts," Hill said. "He took my son."

Johnson was said to have lost his life while attempting to break up a fight, which led to Jones discharging a firearm into an Indiana Avenue residence.

"He didn't die in vain. He did what he was supposed to do," Hill said.

Presidential election sparks voting laws debate

Rachel Lundberg
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

Social and economic issues aren't the only subjects up for debate this election season.

Obama for America, President Barack Obama's re-election campaign, filed a lawsuit questioning the legality of a law concerning early voting hours.

House Bill 224 requires Ohio early voting to end at 6 p.m. the Friday before Election Day.

Donald McTigue, the attorney advising Obama's Ohio campaign, said Democrats question the Republican General Assembly's motive in creating the law.

"The Democratic Party position is that [Republicans] did it to make it more difficult to vote," McTigue said.

He added that a disproportionately high number of early voters tend to vote Democrat, including women and lower-income voters.

A study by the University of Akron showed that 62.1

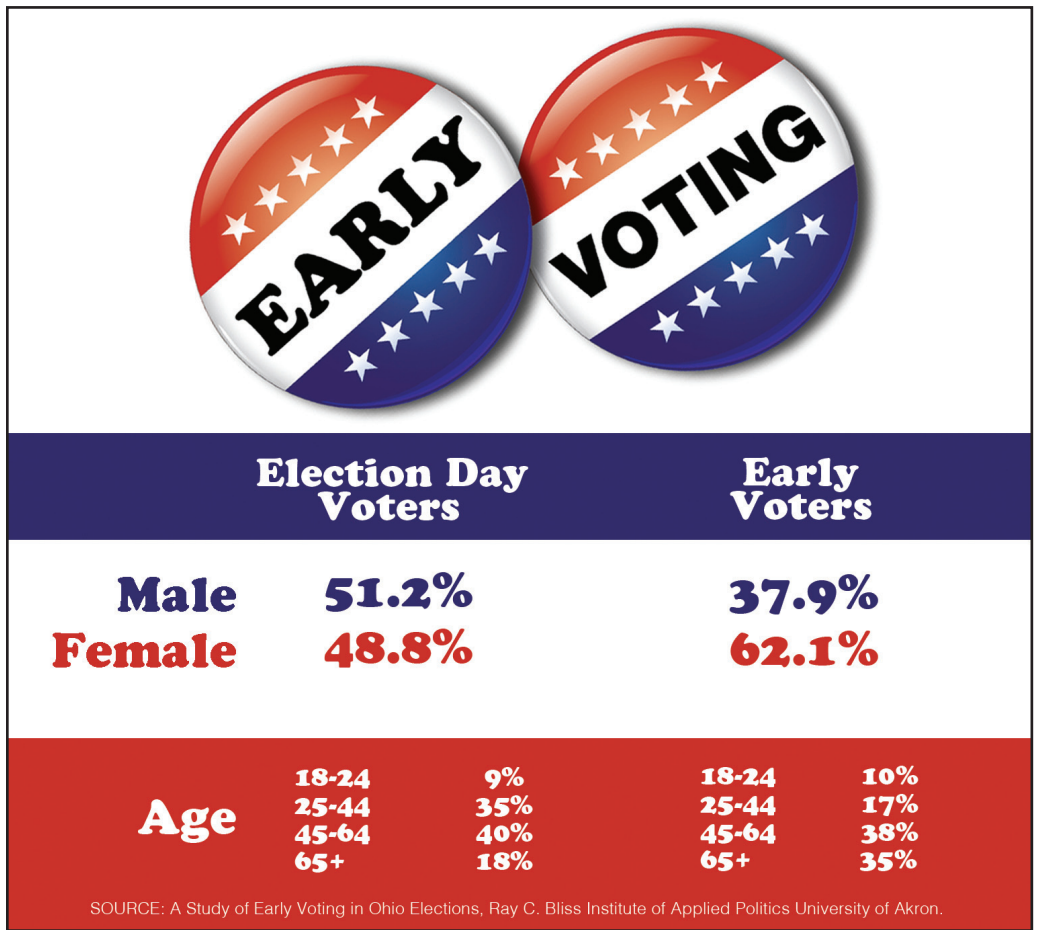
percent of early voters in 2010 were women and 35 percent were more likely to have an annual income of less than \$35,000.

Obama for America, the Democratic National Committee and the Ohio Democratic Party teamed up to press for more early voting opportunities.

"It becomes more meaningful closer to the election in terms of people making up their mind on who they're going to vote for," McTigue said.

Jon Husted, Ohio's secretary of state, gave the Democratic Party more cause for complaint on Aug. 15 when he issued a directive to Ohio's 88 counties requiring uniform early voting hours.

"After talking with elections officials across the state, I have decided to level the playing field on voting days and hours during the absentee voting period in order to ensure that the presidential election in Ohio will be uniform, accessible for all, fair



ELECTION PAGE 4

Graphic by Paris Chrisopoulos/The Jambar.

500-page limit takes over computer labs

Justin Carissimo
REPORTER

A new printing policy will make campus "greener."

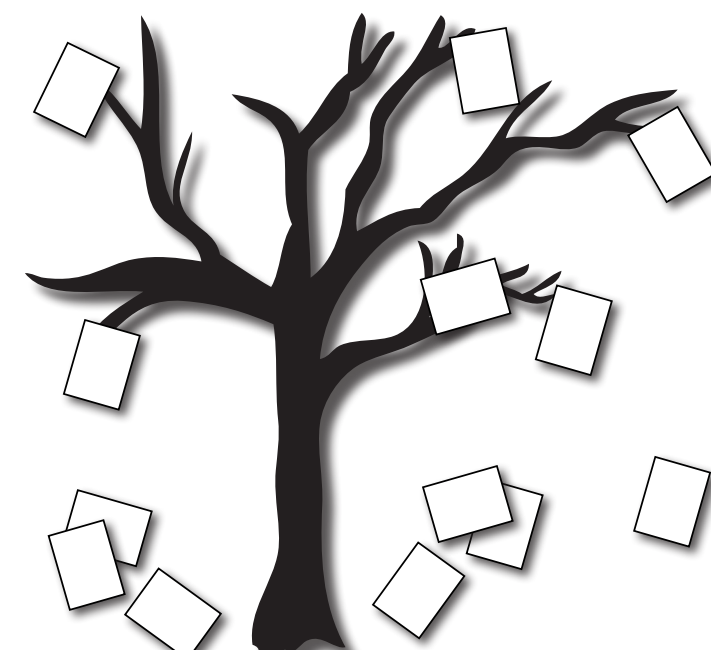
Beginning this semester, every Youngstown State University student will be subject to a printing limit from all campus computer labs. After 500 pages, each student must request more from his or her respective college. Each request must include the student's name, Banner ID and reason for the request.

Randy Ziobert, associate director of Media and Academic Computing, said the limit could save the university up to 40 percent on paper and toner.

"At a minimum, lab fees cover the computers, software, toner, lab assistants and the maintenance of all equipment," Ziobert said.

Most of YSU's colleges already operate under the 500-page limit. The Beeghly College of Education and the College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences were the last holdouts.

Julia Gergits, chairwoman of the English department, said the



Graphic by Keeley Black/The Jambar.

university has wasted thousands of pages of paper.

"This is a good way to slow people down for resource control," Gergits said.

Sheila Maldonado, an English department administrative assistant, said the department spent \$14,000 in paper and toner for two semesters, fall 2011 and spring

2012. The English department could potentially save up to \$5,600 with the new system in effect.

Under this system, a page count will follow students, as well as faculty members, to every lab on campus. When logging on to

LIMIT PAGE 4

\$100,000 in STEM scholarships

Kevin Alquist
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

Students enrolled in the College of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics will benefit from \$100,000 in scholarship money donated earlier this month by McDonald Steel Corporation, a local steel manufacturer.

"Their goal is to really make an impact on the STEM College," said Heather Chunn, senior development officer for university development at Youngstown State University.

Though the money was donated to the YSU Foundation at the beginning of July, it was not announced until mid-August.

The scholarship is available to full-time STEM students. Applicants are required to have at least a 3.0 GPA and must have tested into pre-calculus.

Special consideration will be given to employees of McDonald Steel Corporation, then to their descendants, and then to residents of McDonald, Ohio, and the Mahoning Valley.

SCHOLARSHIP PAGE 4

Changes to graduation requirements begin

James Toliver
REPORTER

Students beginning their first semester at Youngstown State University in the fall 2012 term must meet new requirements in order to graduate. Students enrolled prior to the current term may choose between either the

new degree stipulations or the previous standards.

Voted on and finalized at the April 6, 2011, Academic Senate meeting, the alterations are aimed to provide an updated foundation for the university's bachelor of arts and associate degree programs.

General education requirements are intended to

facilitate a well-rounded college education regardless of choice in major.

The last major change to the general education requirements occurred in 2000 and previously in 1994.

YSU Provost Ikram Khawaja said one goal was to reduce the credit hour demand for general education courses.

"Reducing the number of courses made the number of hours required for general education more similar to the requirements of comparable state universities in Ohio," he said.

YSU had the highest number of hours required in 2010 at 46, not counting capstone courses. The new requirement of 40 hours gives YSU

the second highest number.

The most important and visible alteration is the dropping of two courses, from 11 down to nine, in order to meet graduation requirements.

The secondary change is the reshuffling of courses into different knowledge

REQUIREMENTS PAGE 4

Penguin in politics

Rachael Kerr
REPORTER

While most students at Youngstown State University are getting back to classes, student Melissa Wasser is interning for CNN at the 2012 Republican National Convention in Tampa, Fla.

Wasser's experience is part of a two-week academic seminar offered through the Washington Center, a politically focused internship organization.

Students from all over the U.S. were involved in panel discussions, guest lectures and fieldwork assignments in preparation for the convention.

Some activities were de-

layed or canceled due to the looming Tropical Storm Isaac, but the convention still ran from Monday through Thursday.

Wasser is the only student from YSU currently at this event. To the knowledge of the political science department, she is also the first YSU student to attend a political convention through such a program, despite the department's correlation with the Washington Center in the past.

"I'm really thankful to YSU. I got a very good quality education through the [political science] department," Wasser said. "There's people [at the seminar] from Harvard [University] and Princeton [University], and I'm on the

same playing field."

But the praise, one faculty member said, belongs to Wasser.

"[Melissa] went out of her way to secure this internship. ... She really deserves a lot of credit for this," said Paul Sracic, chairman of the political science department and Rigelhaupt Pre-Law Center.

Besides gaining knowledge of the inner workings of a particular career, opportunities like these also give students a chance to network with other people and possible employers.

"She's able to meet some really powerful and important people. Most of [these] people will be interviewed by CNN," Sracic said.

Aaron Brown, an award-

winning broadcast journalist, guest-lectured the event. Brown is a former reporter for ABC and had hosted his own CNN evening program, "NewsNight with Aaron Brown." He inspired the group by telling about his experience covering the tragedy of 9/11, despite it being only his first day on the air at CNN.

"For us to hear something like that at 20, 21 years old is amazing," Wasser said.

According to the National Association of Colleges and Employers, 60 percent of 2012 graduates that have had an internship have already received at least one job offer despite the decline in the current job market.

Those interested in a po-

litically based experience like Wasser's can find more information on the Washington Center's website, <http://www.twc.edu>, and through the political science department.

"YSU is very good with working with you. ... People just have to go ask," Wasser said. "You have advisers, but at the end of the day, you're your own advocate."

Wasser is a junior and academic scholar who is an active member of Greek Life. She is double majoring in political science and philosophy and plans to go to law school after her time at YSU.

Those interested in learning more about Wasser's experience can follow her blog at <http://lifeofascholar.tumblr.com/tagged/RNC>.

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The duties of the Laborer position include the following: loads and unloads vehicles; operates trucks and fork lifts; cuts grass and shovels snow; performs general cleanup work, including bathrooms. Must be in good physical condition; must be able to operate and use various tools and equipment in schools, shops and warehouses. Applicants must have the ability to work with children and others. Must be neat, clean, and dressed appropriately for working with the public. Before starting work as a Laborer, an applicant will be required to take a drug test and a pre-employment criminal record check all at the applicant's expense (approximately \$84.00). Applications for the civil service examination will be accepted at the Civil Service Commission Office, 7th floor, City Hall, Youngstown, Ohio, from September 4, 2012 through September 13, 2012. Hours: 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. City Hall will be Closed September 3, 2012 for Labor Day. The written exam will be given on Saturday, September 15, 2012, starting at 10:00 a.m., at Choffin Career Center, 200 E. Wood Street. Proof of residency - (submit four (4) different proofs of residency from one (1) year ago and four (4) current proofs of residency – total of 8). If you are a military veteran, submit a copy of your DD-214 when your application is filed.

YSU adds minors to reflect student needs

Rachel Lundberg
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

Student and marketplace demand led Youngstown State University professors to develop new minors.

Minors in fashion, social media campaigns, and natural gas and water resources are among the new programs offered to students this fall.

The undergraduate curriculum committee of the Academic Senate approved new minors for this year in the spring.

Priscilla Gitimu, assistant professor of human ecology, teamed up with fellow assistant professor Tachibat Turel to create the new fashion minor.

"What we really try to do is expose them to the world of fashion," Gitimu said. "It's a big industry."

The minor offers courses that teach about the world of fashion from the psychology of the way people dress to computer application.

Jasmine Brown, a merchandising major, decided to begin the fashion minor this fall.

After taking a clothing and image development class this summer, Brown talked to teachers and found out about the new fashion minor.

"It's going to make me really well-rounded," Brown said. "I've always been interested in fashion and clothing."

She added that her goal is to become a buyer and believes the fashion minor can help her attain that goal by teaching her about the world of fashion.

Gitimu recognizes the value of social media in the professional world and has incorporated Twitter into one of her courses. The course includes an assignment that requires students to use Twitter to follow fashion trends and designers.

Adam Earnhardt, chairman of the communication

department, pioneered a minor that focuses on social media in the professional world.

The social media campaigns minor teaches students how to use Facebook, Twitter and the like to reach large groups of people with messages they need to convey.

Students are challenged to use the platforms to promote events and themselves, as well as give them an edge when applying for jobs.

Earnhardt said businesses are looking for people who can incorporate popular social media into their jobs effectively.

"It's kind of like old school, new school," Earnhardt said.

Students are taught traditional marketing strategies and must use them on the relatively new platforms.

One other minor that caused a buzz at its creation last spring is the natural gas and water resources minor.

Jeffrey Dick, chairman of the geological and environmental sciences department, said the minor is available but still needs some reworking.

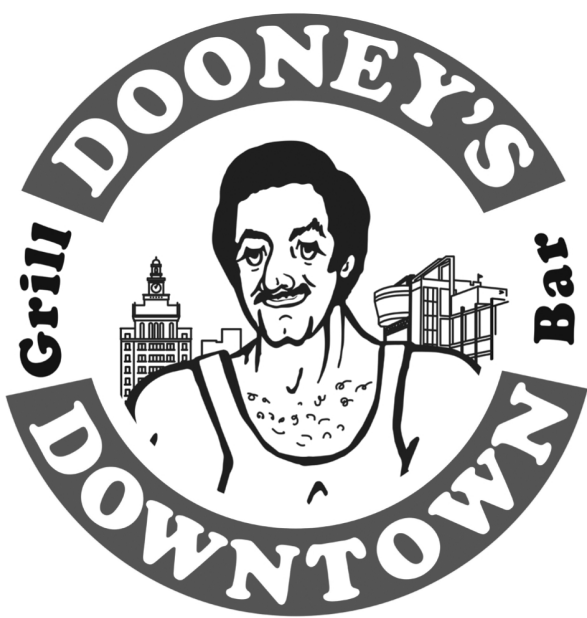
A lot of students can't enroll in the minor this fall because the prerequisites are too extensive. Students must have completed the course equivalent of precalculus and two semesters of chemistry.

"It's no surprise when you take a minor and build it pretty quickly, which we did," Dick said.

He added that the minor would be revised for spring 2013 and will no longer require two semesters of chemistry.

Dick said students who have already graduated from YSU have expressed interest in participating in the minor. Graduated students can't re-enroll at YSU to get a minor, so Dick is working on a graduate certificate in natural gas and water resources.

He is hopeful that the certificate program will be up and running by fall 2013.



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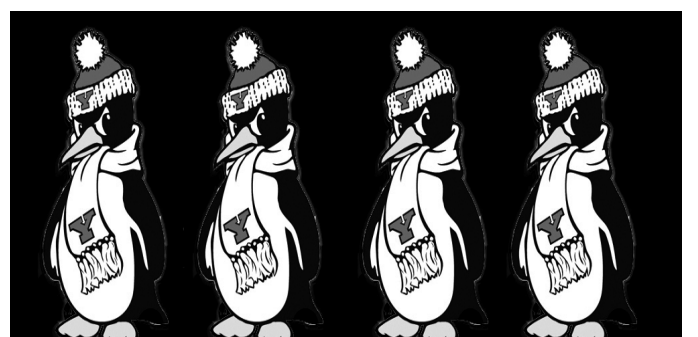
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NEWS BRIEFS

Jewish Film Festival scheduled for next month

The 10th annual Youngstown Area Jewish Film Festival will feature six films from Sept. 6 to Sept. 23. The films will be shown at USA Cinema in Niles, Temple El Emeth in Youngstown, and DeBartolo Hall on the YSU campus. For a full list of films, along with dates and times, visit <http://web.yzu.edu/class/judaic>. Tickets are available for purchase at the door and in advance at the Jewish Community Center on Gypsy Lane. Tickets can also be purchased online.

Events planned for Community Diversity Program Series

The 2012-2013 Community Diversity Program Series, presented by the YSU Diversity Council, will feature events focusing on marriage, nonviolence, community safety and women of color. For a full listing of events, visit http://www.yzu.edu/div_yzu. Events include the second annual nonviolence parade and rally on Oct. 7 and the Hispanic Heritage Celebration on Sept. 13. The Community Diversity Program Series is sponsored by the YSU Office of Equal Opportunity and Diversity.

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POLICE BRIEFS

Campus visitors pioneer urban camping

While on patrol shortly after midnight on Aug. 22, a YSU police officer found a rented RV parked in the R-1 lot on Elm Street. There was music coming from the vehicle and the license plates were mismatched — one from California and one from Florida. After knocking on the door, a man answered and said he and three others had dropped off a student at Cafaro House a few hours prior and were waiting to pick him up for lunch the following day. The officer ran the plates and contacted the rental agency. The plates came back current, and the rental agency said the mismatched plates were an error. The officer then ran the identities of the four men for warrants, and one of the men was wanted in Cuyahoga County. The officer detained the wanted man and released the other three, advising them they could not camp out on campus.

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Property Manager:

The Property Manager is responsible for the day-to-day operations of residential and commercial facilities with a focus on resident retention, increasing occupancy and superior resident relations near the University and Youngstown Central Business District. Build a strong team with common goals and objectives. Primary focus on the following activities: budgeting, leasing, risk management, financial reporting and tracking, marketing, operations and providing leadership and development to staff. Successful execution of the property's financial plan and operating budget. 30-40K/year + Bonus Potential

Primary Responsibilities:
 Manage day-to-day marketing, sales and customer service efforts to meet and exceed performance targets.
 Inspect property based on predetermined schedule. Maintain records of inspections, action items and repairs, follow up with maintenance and purchasing on outstanding items.

Ensure all vacated apartments or offices are properly inspected, follow-up on status of notice to vacate units and assess repairs/maintenance needed on turnovers and monitor work accordingly.

Ensure all lease agreements are properly executed according to company policy and procedure and are forwarded to corporate office as per schedule.

Conduct weekly meetings with all staff members to communicate pricing updates, company news, review status of move-ins, move-outs, evictions, work orders, turnovers and rent-readies.

Requirements:
 4 year degree in Business Management or Marketing is preferred.

Goal-oriented, organized and focused.
 Superior verbal and written communication and presentation skills.

Proficiency with Microsoft Office Suite (Word, Excel, Outlook).

Proficiency with property software preferred.

All candidates will be required to successfully pass a background screen including driver record, credit, criminal, and maintain a record that satisfies these requirements.

Send resume to: nyopropertrygroup@gmail.com



LIMIT PAGE 1

university computers, a window showing the page balance and energy cost of those they've already printed will appear in the corner.

The YSU Student Government Association decided to require the restriction before the start of the fall semester to become more mindful of the way the university uses its resources.

SGA President Cory Okular said he believes the limit is justified.

"I don't know anyone personally that's reached the limit, and no one has come to complain about it yet," Okular said. "If people know they have a limit, they may not print things that are unnecessary and unrelated to academics."

The Media and Aca-

dem Computing staff sought to create the best system possible, and staff members are willing to fix any glitches that may be present.

"At first, I thought it was inconvenient, but then I realized how many trees are going to be saved in the process," said sophomore Mary Brigid Quinn.

SCHOLARSHIP PAGE 1

"The scholarship amount will vary, but it's safe to say it will be around \$4,000 per recipient," Chunn said.

Award amounts depend upon the fund's performance in the stock market, Paul McFadden, president of the YSU Foundation, said.

"We strive for a 5 percent annual payout on scholarships," McFadden said. "This past year, with the challenging market, we awarded 4 percent."

Chunn said she hopes to see the first award given out by this time next year.

Applications are available on YSU's financial aid website. The deadline for submission is April 1. The scholarship committee within the STEM College will make the selection. The scholarship is currently designated for one recipient per school year.

Dan Lump, a senior computer information systems student, said he is glad to see a local business contribute to the education of its supporters.

"Hopefully, the manufacturing industry will get a return on their investment," Lump said.

ELECTION PAGE 1

and secure," Husted said in a prepared statement.

After consulting with elections officials across the state, Husted eliminated weekend voting hours and established 23 days, or 230 hours, of early voting.

Some county boards of elections are less than ecstatic that there will be no weekend voting this election.

The 2008 election allowed early weekend voting and early voting until the day before Election Day.

Husted fired two members of the Montgomery County election board for choosing to maintain weekend voting hours in the face of the directive.

"The Democrats believe that the more people who vote, the better they do," said William Binning, a Youngstown State University professor and chair emeritus of political science. "The Republicans believe the same thing. That is, the more people who vote, the better the Democrats do."

Binning pointed to this belief as the stem of the issue at hand.

Mark Munroe, chairman of the Mahoning County Republican Party, is pleased with Husted's directive.

Mahoning County is split between two congressional districts, which could have caused

issues if voting hours were not uniform.

He said he believes that because of the early and absentee voting options, it's never been easier to vote in Ohio.

"I suppose we could send out limos and taxi cabs, but voter participation hasn't really changed over the years," Munroe said.

Absentee voting remains unaffected by Husted's directive.

Ohio, like 32 other states, offers no-excuse early voting, and is one of the few that mails all registered voters an absentee ballot application.

This is the first year that every registered voter will be mailed an absentee ballot application.

"[It allows] them to vote from their home and turn their kitchen table into their voting booth," said Matt McClellan, Husted's press secretary.

McClellan said Republicans and Husted's office believe there is ample time for voters to participate in the upcoming election.

He said the combination of early voting, the opportunity to vote no-excuse absentee and Election Day itself make voting easy.

"As a result of what we've done in Ohio, every voter will have the same level of access," McClellan said.

REQUIREMENTS PAGE 1

domains, with the Artistic and Literary Perspectives, Societies and Institutions, Personal and Social Responsibility, and the Selected Topics domains receiving an overhaul.

Nearly all courses from the old model are still available under the new one. The only purges are those courses that were irregularly offered, are specific to a particular major or mismatch the new model's requirements.

The 2010-2011 annual report on general education, downloadable from the general education website, further rationalized the revisions by stating that YSU's current general education requirements were too cumbersome for students transferring from other institutions.

During the 2011-2012 academic year, in preparation for the changes — and the eventual measurement of their effectiveness —

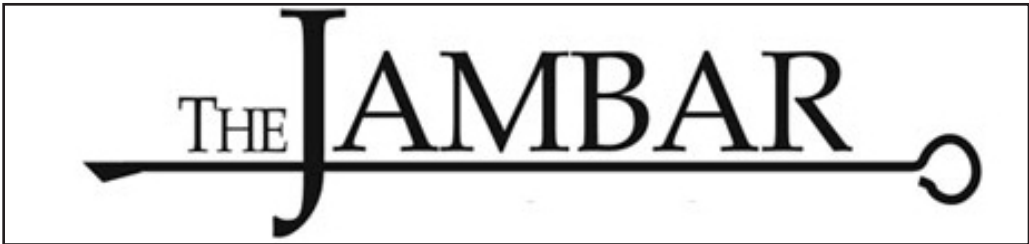
the Repository of Assessment Documents was established. As part of the ROAD, committees combed through learning outcomes from three of the knowledge domains and determined the process by which the new model's results will be evaluated.

The changes to the general education requirements generated a muted response from the student body. When asked, students seemed largely apathetic to the changes. The most common responses were students not caring about the changes or being grateful for the reduction in credit hours demanded.

Rachel Pontis, a senior majoring in social work, is just happy she doesn't have to worry about it.

"I'm finished with [general education], thank God," she said. "It really doesn't affect me."

got an opinion? Send letters to: thejambar@gmail.com



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It's not all about the game

RELATED STORY
PITT, PAGE 8

For the past seven years, the Youngstown State University Athletics Department budget has been cushioned by an average of \$450,000 in exchange for crushing losses.

Head football coach Eric Wolford said the game is about the challenge. Playing such a mismatched game will certainly humble our football team. And the opportunity to play at Heinz Field is something our players may never experience again.

But we can't help but feel sorry for our fellow students who know they're walking into a slaughter.

We get a lot of exposure for YSU, and in troubling financial times, every penny counts. So we can't fault them for selling out.

The coaches can claim there're four quarters, it's an even playing field and it's not over till the fat lady sings, but seven straight losses and an average deficit of 34 points forces us to expect the worst.

Should we question our school spirit?

As journalists, we're trained to be data-driven skeptics. But that doesn't mean we have no heart.

Perhaps this game will turn into the next upset like the 2007 Appalachian State University vs. University of Michigan thriller. Optimism is running high in the gallows of the Ice Castle, and we certainly hope this game has a similar outcome.

We'll be watching with the rest of the Penguin Nation, cheering on our boys like Rudy in the fourth quarter.

But after the music swells and fades, we mourn the likelihood that Wolford and his team will return to 1 University Plaza with only a paper trophy.

That's what it means to be a fan.

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.

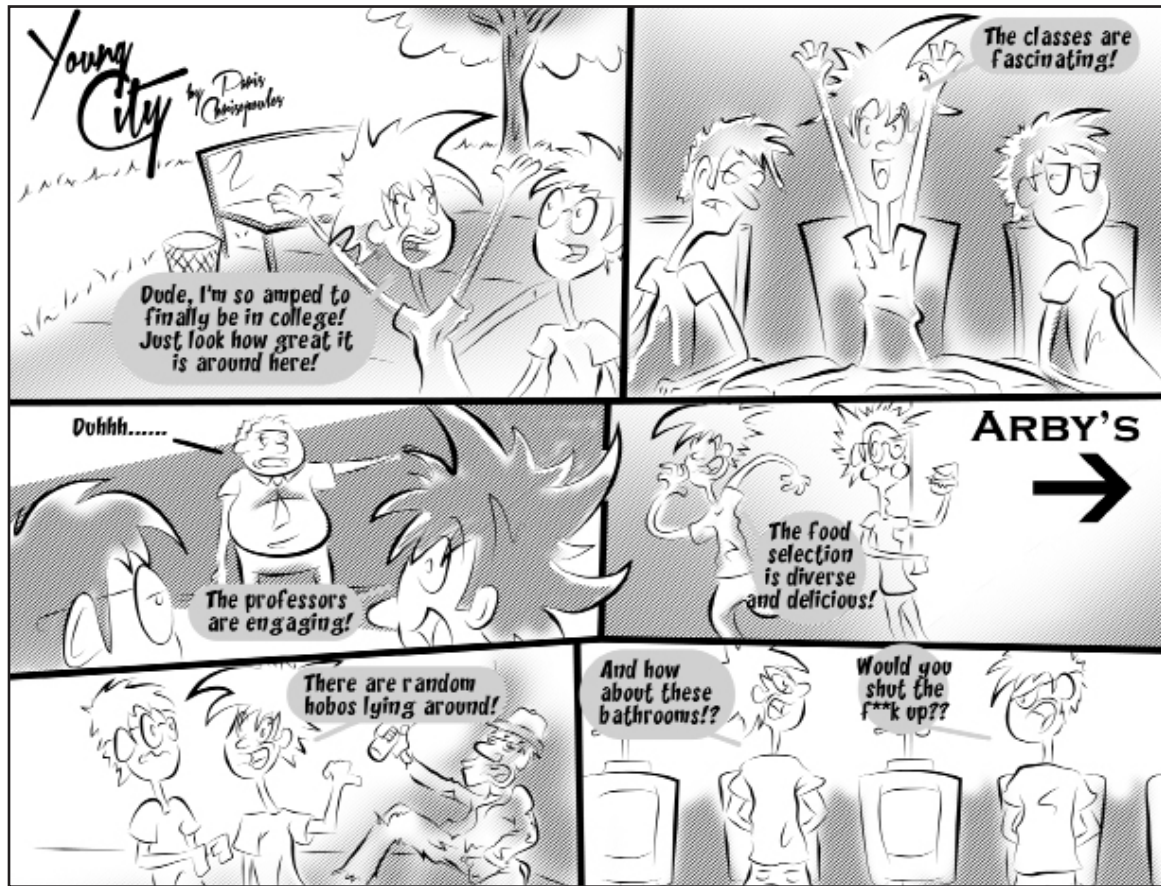
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YOUR SIDE POLICY

The Jambar encourages letters to the editor. Submissions are welcome at thejambar@gmail.com or by following the "Submit a Letter" link on thejambar.com. Letters should concern campus issues, must be typed and must not exceed 400 words. Submissions must include the writer's name and telephone number for verification, along with the writer's city of residence for printing. The Jambar does not withhold the names of guest commentators. Letters are subject to editing for spelling, grammar and clarity. Letters will not be rejected based on the views expressed in them. The editorial board reserves the right to reject commentaries and letters if they are not relevant to our readers, seek free publicity, fail to defend opinion with facts from reliable sources or if the editorial staff decides that the subject has been sufficiently aired. The editorial board will request a rewrite from the submitting writer based on these requirements. The Jambar will not print letters that are libelous, threatening, obscene or indecent. 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 YSU.

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Tax-free Olympic glory?

McClatchy-Tribune News Service (MCT)

Olympic athletes are very special people. But are they more special than, say, Nobel Prize winners, or police officers, or nurses, or spiritual gurus, or brilliant inventors or researchers whose discoveries enhance our lives? If an election year happens to fall in an Olympics year, yes.

Both presidential candidates have embraced an astonishingly silly but highly populist measure in Congress to exempt Olympic medalists from taxes, an idea that, naturally, originated with that bastion of silly but populist tax proposals, Grover Norquist's Americans for Tax Reform. The U.S. Olympic Committee awards honorariums in the amount of \$25,000 for each gold medal, \$15,000 for silver and \$10,000 for bronze, which means, Norquist's

group sputters, that a gold medalist would be on the hook to send up to \$8,986 of his or her winnings to the IRS.

Never mind that the fact-checking organization PolitiFact ruled this claim "Mostly False," because any decent accountant could reduce that tax bite to as little as zero by deducting the expenses paid to win that medal, such as travel, uniforms, classes, payments to coaches, cost of equipment, etc. Republicans, with some Democratic support, quickly sponsored legislation in the House and Senate to make Norquist's notion law, and on Monday the White House weighed in by saying that if Congress approves the bill, President Obama will sign it.

Why? There's no legitimate tax policy reason. Politicians in both parties complain endlessly about the complexity of the U.S. tax code and its many needless loopholes, yet they're only too happy to add to the complexity and drill another loophole in an election season when liberals and conservatives alike are rooting for Team USA in London. If

you're going to make an argument for a tax exemption, the first requirement should be to demonstrate that the tax relief would have a stimulative or otherwise beneficial effect on the economy without significantly worsening the deficit. That clearly doesn't apply here.

Forget about the brain, though; this bill is targeting the heart. Americans' guts tell them that Olympians work very hard, most of them are amateurs, and their accomplishments should be honored rather than snatched by the IRS. Yet if we were to carve out exemptions for all the people who work hard, make sacrifices and sometimes achieve remarkable feats, the government would quickly go broke. Is an Olympian's sacrifice in pursuit of personal glory really more noble (or worthy of a tax exemption) than a firefighter's risk of life and limb in a dangerous rescue operation? Hardly, yet firefighter salaries are taxed at the same rate as everybody else's. This mindless bill should be rejected with the authority of a Kerri Walsh Jennings block.

Curiosity on Mars: Let the science begin

McClatchy-Tribune News Service (MCT)

Like an Olympic gymnast who attempts the riskiest maneuvers to score maximum points, NASA staged a brilliant engineering feat 154 million miles from Earth early Monday. And the space agency definitely stuck the landing — an elaborate seven-minute sequence that slowed the one-ton space lab Curiosity from 13,000 mph to a soft touchdown on Mars.

Most amazing fact: The landing sequence could not be tested from start to finish on this planet because scientists could not simulate all conditions on Mars. So the landing system either had to work the first time, or Curiosity would join the 1999 Mars Polar Lander as an expensive, embarrassing space flop.

Crowds in Times Square, some decked out in tin-foil hats and alien-themed T-shirts, cheered the spacecraft's landing. Scientists at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, Calif., whooped and hugged. NASA's website promptly collapsed as space fans tried to get a peek at new Mars photos.

And John Holdren, the president's science adviser, crowed that "if anybody has been harboring doubts about the status of U.S. lead-

ership in space, well, there's a one-ton automobile-size piece of American ingenuity, and it's sitting on the surface of Mars right now."

Point taken, Mr. Holdren. After the mothballing of the uninspiring space shuttle program and the outsourcing of some spacecraft business to nimbler commercial companies, NASA couldn't afford a Mars fiasco.

The drama of the landing, however, now gives way to the tedium of the science.

Prepare to wait a couple of weeks while scientists check out Curiosity's systems. Then more weeks while the rover drives to its target site, Mount Sharp, a taller peak than any in the continental U.S. Scientists think Mount Sharp's walls were eroded over millions of years by wind or water, and contain the ultimate treasure trove: a record of Mars' ancient geologic history and evolution.

Then ... who knows? Curiosity isn't the first probe to trundle around on Mars hoping to find proof the Red Planet once was warm and wet enough to sustain life. Its predecessors, the rovers Spirit and Opportunity, have sent back evidence strongly suggesting that water once flowed and pooled on the planet's surface.

Curiosity, the largest and most advanced machine ever dispatched

to another planet, takes the next giant leap: It has lasers that can vaporize rock looking for hints of past organic life. And it can drill and scoop soil to test for the presence of minerals and organic chemicals. (And, to dazzle all of us non-scientists, the rover is equipped with cameras to capture sharp, 3-D full-color panoramas and high-def videos of the planet's surface. Can't wait to see those!)

Water alone isn't enough to sustain life. Curiosity will now seek to build a picture of "the overall Mars environment," NASA program executive David Lavery tells us. "It will not be looking directly for signs of life, but will help us put together the pieces of the puzzle to ask, did Mars ever have an environment that is able to support life as we understand it?"

That's a question that intrigues, well, just about everyone.

Remember 1996, when NASA scientists stoked a worldwide hallelujah after they waved photos of a pockmarked, potato-size rock — found on Earth — and declared that they had found circumstantial evidence that life had once existed on Mars?

That claim has largely evaporated upon further investigation.

Was there — is there — life on Mars? Curiosity, the aptly named probe, should bring us closer to answers.

Need Advice?

We've extended the deadline for Counselor's Corner to give more students a chance to submit. Please go to **thejambar.com** and follow the the Counselor's Corner link on the home page.

Bringing hope through effort

Three YSU students rebuild houses of tornado victims

Marissa McIntyre
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT
EDITOR

Alyssa Uhl's entire body ached from hours of building houses in Joplin, Mo. But when she saw hope in the eyes of an old couple she'd met, it was all worth it.

Uhl was one of three Youngstown State University students who took part this summer in TEAMEffort, a youth missions-based organization that brings together students from across the nation to help victims of natural disasters.

TEAMEffort is based in Gainesville, Ga., but has 22 camps throughout the U.S., the Bahamas and Puerto Rico.

Uhl, Andy Weiss and Sam Gindlesberger spent 10 weeks doing missions work. Each student reported to a different camp.

"One thing that the news doesn't highlight anymore is that there's still a lot of devastation over there," Uhl said.

Uhl was assigned to work in Joplin, which was struck by an EF5 tornado — or a tornado with winds above 200 mph — last year.

"That completely devastated that community, so our camp focuses on rebuilding homes and reaching out to the community," Uhl said.

The Joplin team did construction work "to the max," including drywalling, roofing, deck building and completely rebuilding houses.

"There was a garage that was basically about to crumble because the tornado ripped up the structure, and it was caving in," Uhl said. "We had to go in and use jacks to jack up this roof and put in supporting beams up in this roof to reaffirm the foundation."

Uhl said she was most affected by the story of an elderly couple. When the tornado hit their home, they went into a small closet area. Once the tornado passed over, they saw that their house was destroyed — except for the closet area.

"It was the hand of

God protecting them through that," Uhl said. Uhl said the trip gave her a new appreciation for YSU and the education she's receiving.

"I met people my age who lost their jobs, and they don't have money to go back to school," Uhl said. "There are still kids out of school over there because the tornado destroyed their school."

Uhl, Weiss and Gindlesberger were three of 140 young adults in their camp.

Uhl worked on five houses over a 10-week period during summer break. She was inspired to do so because of the teachings of Jesus Christ, especially his commandment to help the needy.

"As Christians, we're called to love and to serve others, and I thought, 'What better way?'" Uhl said.

She was inspired by hope in the eyes of victims, despite the devastation that surrounded them.

While Uhl was in Missouri, her comrade Weiss was in Gatlinburg, Tenn.

This was Weiss' second summer as a TEAMEffort staffer. He worked on 10 sites, while his camp worked on a total of 35.

Weiss was also a camp member during his junior year of high school.

"It really just fell into my interests," Weiss said, adding that he has a background in construction and loves Jesus Christ.

"It's really crazy. Sometimes you'll see a big old mansion, and a mile down, you'll see a shack," Weiss said. "Those are the houses we try to work on and try to better."

A staff member's typical day starts at 5:45 a.m. and doesn't end until 11 p.m. Staffers spend a majority of the day at work sites, and they also have chapel at the end of the day. They have Saturdays off.

Weiss hopes his schedule will allow him to spend another summer with TEAMEffort.

"If it works out to where I



Alyssa Uhl and her group stand by a renovated home in Joplin, Mo. Photo courtesy of Alyssa Uhl.

don't have to do any internships, I will definitely be back next summer," Weiss said.

Spreading the Gospel of Christ is what motivates Weiss to continue working.

"You have to be a spiritual guidance," Weiss said. "People see that you're coming just to help them. They do see that God still works in his own time. They see that we're coming to help them, and they may lose their faith, but they remain hopeful."

This was also Gindlesberger's second summer with TEAMEffort.

He wanted to get involved after hearing stories from other TEAMEffort staff members. There were many challenges and a lot of prayer, he said.

Gindlesberger was co-director at the camp in Conway, S.C., an area close to Myrtle Beach. He worked on three different job sites, one of which his camp spent six

weeks on.

"Everybody goes to Myrtle Beach for vacation, but there is a lot of need in that area," Gindlesberger said.

His camp built a new dining hall for the Waccamaw Youth Center.

"It started off as a concrete slab, and it was our job to put in walls and a roof," Gindlesberger said.

The Waccamaw Youth Center is a boys' home for children who have been abused, abandoned or neglected.

"It's a very good environment, and we saw the opportunity to help," Gindlesberger said. "They are in need of more space."

He said the home has volunteers who want to help and make dinner for the boys, but they didn't necessarily have the room for people to volunteer.

"The mindset is that if we can help this facility, they will have more room for

residence and, now, a dining hall. The facility can also be used for fundraisers for the community," Gindlesberger said.

He also helped renovate an old movie theater and run a Vacation Bible School at a small church in the area.

As co-director of his camp, one of Gindlesberger's responsibilities was making sure projects were completed under the budget. This was his biggest challenge.

"One of the coolest things about TEAMEffort are the variety of talents and abilities the staff members have," Gindlesberger said.

Like Uhl and Weiss, Gindlesberger returned with a renewed appreciation for his opportunities at home.

"TEAMEffort gives you different eyes to see things," Gindlesberger said. "I look around Youngstown now, and I see where there is need, and it makes me want to help."

New shoes fill theater and dance chair position

Marissa McIntyre
and
Rachel Lundberg

Scott Irelan, the new chairman of the Youngstown State University Department of Theater and Dance, was standing in a hotel lobby in Illinois when he received a job offer over the phone.

Irelan is replacing Frank Castronovo, who retired from the position after 41 years in the department.

Irelan brings with him stories of touring as a professional actor, 10 years of teaching experience, a published book and loads of advice for his students at YSU.

He accepted the position because he wanted to be closer to family in Ohio and has held interest in teaching theater for years.

After completing his bachelor's degree in communication and theater at Bowling Green State University in 1998, Irelan spent two years touring as a professional actor in Kentucky.

"A Christmas Carol" and "The Sorcerer's Apprentice" are among the plays in which



Scott Irelan, newly appointed chairman of the theater and dance department, discusses new ideas he hopes to bring to YSU. Photo courtesy of Marissa McIntyre/The Jambar.

he performed during that time.

After two years of acting, he decided that he was done and ready to return to BGSU to obtain his master's degree in theater.

"I have a lot of crazy stories," Irelan said. "I have a lot of crazy experiences."

He added that these experiences will help him better prepare students who are considering

professional acting.

After completing his doctorate in 2006, he began teaching world and U.S. theater history at Illinois State University. He now teaches this course at YSU.

"But with most of the theater arts and arts in general, you just kind of have to blaze your own trail. So, I just put my nose to the grindstone and went," Irelan said.

He said success is fine,

but it doesn't offer as much as new students might think.

"Failure is a good thing. You learn more from failing than you do at succeeding," he said. "So, if you're miserable at something, then figure out why and do better next time."

He also hopes to adjust students' priorities.

"Realize that college isn't about getting a job; it's about developing as a human be-

ing," he said.

Irelan wasn't sure what would come out of his college career as he started his undergraduate education as a microbiology major.

"It wasn't exciting to me. There was one answer and only one answer, and I just found that boring," Irelan said. "I think the most important thing, though, is to have a pretty broad experience."

His favorite part about teaching, he said, is seeing students transform.

"You meet students when they're 18 or 19 in a [general education] course, and then to see them three or four years later, seeing that leap in maturity, is great," Irelan said.

He teaches theater history at YSU and is directing its production of the Broadway musical "Rent."

Nancy Andersen Wolfgang, instructor of theater and dance at YSU, is working on the production of "Rent" as well.

"I think he's a really good leader," Wolfgang said about Irelan. "I think he's the right person at the right time to make changes and move the department in a good direction."

Death of Columbia University freshman investigated as apparent suicide

Meghan E. Murphy and Betty Ming Liu
NEWSDAY
(MCT)

The death of a Columbia University freshman who fell Monday night from a 14th-floor dormitory window is being investigated as an apparent suicide, officials said.

Martha Corey-Ochoa, 18, newly arrived on the Manhattan campus before the start of classes, died in a fall from John Jay Hall at 114th Street and Amsterdam Avenue, a school official said.

The chief medical examiner's office

said an autopsy will be done Wednesday to determine the cause of death.

In a message to "Columbia Families," Columbia's dean of student affairs Kevin G. Shollenberger said Corey-Ochoa "was passionate about mathematics and literature, and recognized as a very talented writer."

Last spring, she was the valedictorian at Dobbs Ferry High School in Westchester County, N.Y.

The night of the fall, Columbia students said they were sitting in the dorm lounge when police started coming into the building.

"We were up in a lounge and then there were a bunch of cops coming

in. I didn't know what was going on," said Greg Cleveland, 18, who moved into the dorm Sunday. Students said they were shocked but appreciated university efforts to provide counseling.

Corey-Ochoa's close friend Rebecca Lowey, a fellow graduate of Dobbs Ferry High, said she was stunned by the news. Just four days ago, she had dinner and ice cream with Corey-Ochoa.

"Martha was brilliant; she was truly an intellectual," Lowey said after visiting Corey-Ochoa's parents at their Dobbs Ferry home.

The parents, Melinda Corey and

George Ochoa, declined to speak with reporters.

Corey-Ochoa attended elementary, middle and high school in the Dobbs Ferry district. She took rigorous courses and worked on independent projects, including a political romance novel set in the 17th century and a sonata for violin, officials said.

In her valedictory speech, Corey-Ochoa talked about love, referencing physics and mathematics principles as well as history and literature.

"May the love that has united us for these four years endure within us and around us for the rest of our lives," she told her classmates.

AUDITION NOTICE YSU DANCE ENSEMBLE FOR THE SPRING 2013 CONCERT



SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2012

10:15 am - 12:00 pm

2:15 pm - 4:00 pm

5:30 pm - 6:45 pm

BEEGLY PE CENTER
ROOM 119

You only need to attend one audition period. Come dressed in appropriate dance attire. A warm-up and several short combinations will be taught. **Open to all interested YSU faculty, staff, and students.**

Any questions? Contact: Dance Faculty Chris Cobb 330.941.1896 ccobb@ysu.edu
YSU Student Katy Moran 330.261.5670 Malloree Miller 330.289.9918

Christian college's lawsuit over contraception is dismissed

Manya A. Brachear
CHICAGO TRIBUNE
(MCT)

A federal judge has dismissed Wheaton College's lawsuit against the Obama administration for requiring the evangelical Christian college to offer health insurance that covers the cost of contraception, including the morning-after pill, for employees.

The judge's decision came two weeks after the college, in the Chicago suburb of Wheaton, was granted an additional year to meet the requirement.

Because the government agreed not to enforce the mandate against Wheaton until August 2013 and promised to revise the mandate before it goes into effect, U.S. District Judge Ellen Segal Huvelle ruled that the lawsuit was premature and Wheaton did not face a foreseeable hardship.

"Wheaton only tilts at windmills when it protests that it will not be satisfied with whatever amendments defendants ultimately make," Huvelle wrote.

"The government argued that Wheaton's case should not

proceed because it is premature — but the court is mistaken in accepting that argument," Kyle Duncan, general counsel for the Becket Fund for Religious Liberty, said in a statement released by Wheaton. "In dismissing this case, the court did not address the substantive merits — Wheaton's argument that being forced to offer drugs that violate its religious beliefs is harmful to its religious freedom."

Previously, Wheaton did not qualify for a one-year "safe harbor" from the mandate because it covered emergency contraceptive drugs in its insurance plans after the Feb. 1 cutoff date. The government changed its guidelines this month, giving Wheaton another year to meet the requirement.

"The dismissal fails to recognize that the new safe harbor still leaves Wheaton in violation of federal law, and therefore vulnerable to lawsuits authorized by the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act to enforce the mandate," Duncan said in the statement. "For that reason, Wheaton is considering its options for an appeal."

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ATM located in the lobby of Beeghly Center

Open your new **Farmers National Bank** checking account on the Pedestrian Bridge Thursday, August 30th or Friday, August 31st between 9 a.m and 3 p.m.

This offer is available to the next 100 Youngstown State University Students to present this certificate and valid student ID when opening a new CareFree Checking account with debit card attached to the checking account. Students will receive a 2 GB USB flash drive lanyard upon account opening. The \$100 cash bonus will be paid after the account has been opened for 120 days. Accounts overdrawn or closed within 30 days of opening are not eligible for cash offer. Offer not available to individuals who have opened a Farmers checking account in the last 12 months. Student purchases checks after mini check pack. Limit one checking account-related reward/premium per customer, per calendar year. Offer is subject to cancellation without notice, cannot be combined with any other offer and expires December 31, 2012. A U.S. mailing address is required. The \$100 deposit and value of the flash drive/lanyard will be reported on form 1099-INT. Bank terms and conditions apply - see Deposit Account Disclosure at account opening. *Available with approved application.



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'Championship effort'



Head football coach Eric Wolford looks on as the Penguins practice at Stambaugh Stadium. Wolford has high expectations for his team as it heads into the 2012 season. Photo by Dustin Livesay/The Jambar.

Steve Wilaj
SPORTS EDITOR

Head football coach Eric Wolford is familiar with the saying, "Some things aren't meant to be."

The Penguins entered last year's season finale in a win-and-make-the-playoffs scenario. Leading Missouri State University, 34-24, in the fourth quarter, the Penguins squandered the lead — and their playoff hopes — when the Bears rallied for a 37-34 victory.

"Things didn't work out, and it wasn't meant to be," Wolford said. "We're taking the approach that we're not going to let it happen again."

The devastating loss, Wolford said, has motivated the 2012 Penguins.

"I think it's made us a lot more hungry," he said. "We've worked a lot harder in the offseason. We're a hungry football team."

Along the same lines, quarterback Kurt Hess said, "We're definitely hungry, and we realize our potential."

Apparently, the critics have noticed this potential as well. Youngstown State University is ranked 18th nationally in the 2012 preseason Football Championship Subdivision coaches poll and 13th in the Sports Network preseason poll. In addition, Phil Steele magazine, an authority on FCS football, ranked the Penguins fourth in their national top 25.

However, Wolford said he wants to make sure his team doesn't get caught up in the hype.

"Really, I view those things as distractions," he said. "I view it as a bunch of noise that, if you allow it, it will affect your focus at the task at hand."

The task at hand, Wolford said, is to get better every day and take the season one game at a time. But the big-picture task for the Penguins is making the play-

offs — and beyond.

"That's always the case here," he said. "The standard has been set, and we expect to [make the playoffs]. That's why you come here."

In his third season at YSU, Wolford has reworked almost the entire roster with his own recruits. Now, the Penguins' inherited motto is, "No excuses."

"For the first time since I've been here, we've got all the pieces in place," Wolford said.

The Penguins boast four preseason first-team All-Missouri Valley Football Conference players in Hess, Jamaime Cook, Mark Pratt and Chris Elkins. Teven Williams is on the All-MVFC list of honorable mentions.

"That's good. It's a compliment to those players and our coaching staff," Wolford said of the accolades. "But I know they'll trade any individual award for a national championship."

In another new tactic this season,

Wolford has challenged his players to put forth "championship effort" each day at practice.

"Championship effort means we just come out here and do the hard things, push through it when we're tired," said defensive tackle Aronde Stanton. "It's just about having enthusiasm all the time and, ultimately, that should get us to our goal."

The Penguins' journey begins at 6 p.m. Saturday when they visit Heinz Field to play the University of Pittsburgh.

"As long as we continue to get better, we should be good," Stanton said. "I'm looking forward to the start of the season."

While Wolford admitted his expectation of making the playoffs, he wouldn't commit to championship expectations — or at least not directly.

"We want to win every game we take the field," Wolford said. "It's not hard to do the math there."

YSU receives payday as Penguins head to Pitt

Steve Wilaj
SPORTS EDITOR

No matter the outcome of the University of Pittsburgh game on Saturday, Youngstown State University stands to make a significant gain.

The Penguins will receive \$400,000 from Pitt just for participating.

Since Division I-AA YSU began playing Division I Football Bowl Subdivision schools in 2005, the results have been underwhelming.

Along with Pitt (2005 and 2009), YSU has played Pennsylvania State University (2006 and 2010), Ohio State University (2007 and 2008), and Michigan State University (2011). Losing all of those games, the Penguins have trailed by an average of 34 points.

Still, YSU has collected a hefty payday for each beat-down. In the first meeting with the Panthers, the Penguins earned \$250,000. The most that the "money games" have brought in was in 2008: \$650,000 from OSU, at an average of \$450,000.

And while Ron Strollo, executive director of athletics, denied that the FBS matchups are strictly about money — which goes toward funding scholarships — he did admit that it plays a role.

"It's been great experiences for our student-athletes,"

Strollo said. "They get to play in venues that are some of the best in the country, against some of the teams that are the best in the country. It's also something our fans look forward to, and it provides the institution with a lot of marketing and promotion."

"And, obviously, it also helps financially with the game guarantees."

However, from a competitive standpoint, the "money games" have been a disaster. In the seven games combined, the Penguins have recorded only two touchdowns. They have failed to top 10 points in six of the seven games.

Even worse, YSU has allowed an average of 38 points per game.

Yet the uncompetitive play has not discouraged the YSU football program, Strollo said.

"I think some people don't like it, and some people have concerns," said head football coach Eric Wolford. "But I embrace it, and I love the opportunity."

YSU will continue to receive the opportunity to pull off an upset — and earn a paycheck. Strollo said the football program is in negotiations to continue playing FBS teams "as far out as 2015 and 2016."

As for Saturday's opener at Heinz Field, the Penguins know they're not expected to win. But they also know that they enter 2012 with their strongest roster in recent years, while the Panthers are

in the midst of change.

"We're a significantly different football team," Wolford said of his roster. "Now, I think we can legitimately expect to go there and compete at a high level."

Paul Chryst, first-year head football coach at Pitt, takes over a Panther team coming off a 6-7 2011 season. Wolford is familiar with Chryst, who assisted at the University of Wisconsin while Wolford assisted at the University of Illinois.

"I used to watch Coach Chryst film even when [Illinois] wasn't playing Wisconsin," Wolford said. "I expect him to do what they did at Wisconsin."

Factors like an upgraded roster and Wolford's familiarity with Chryst have created a quiet confidence among the Penguins.

"We can kind of put together a puzzle of what [Pitt] may show to us," said quarterback Kurt Hess. "If we take care of what we can control and go out there and execute, maybe some things will fall our way and we'll be able to get a win."

Should YSU accept money to play such a mismatched game?

#YSUspeaks

YSU TRACK RECORD FOR "MONEY GAMES"

2011		VS		26-6	L
2010		VS		44-14	L
2009		VS		38-3	L
2008		VS		43-0	L
2007		VS		38-6	L
2006		VS		37-3	L
2005		VS		41-0	L

Graphic by Keeley Black/The Jambar.