



Contract debates continue

By LA'EL HUGHES
Jambar Reporter

As the deadline for contract agreements grows nearer, chief negotiators for faculty and staff called on the community at large for its support in a press conference on Tuesday.

The press conference took place after administrative representatives walked out of a session with YSU's faculty union yesterday. In a press release from Walt Ulbricht, executive director of marketing and communications, the

administration OEA team members used profane and abusive language toward an administrative team member.

Ulbricht said this is the second time this type of behavior took place and the university "cannot

said, "YSU- accept abusive behavior."

"I'm not going to start going out and telling students in my classes everything that's going on. I think it's too premature. wait until Aug. 15."

— DR. JOHN RUSSO
Faculty negotiator

At the press conference, the faculty and staff negotiators said they had support from various unions within and outside the university.

They

ed the United Auto Workers, Struthers and Campbell's Association of Education, and YSU's Association for Professional Administrative Staff, who continuously said, "We will support YSU in any way we are asked to."

Chris Domhoff, president and chief negotiator of classified staff union, added that the needed support also included YSU students and she urged students to begin writing letters to University President

See DEBATES, page 2

Possible strike has students concerned

President Sweet and Vice President Habat will no longer answer questions about the possible strike.

By MELISSA MOSCHELLA
Jambar Reporter

YSU President David Sweet and Vice President John Habat have instructed their secretaries to tell students they will no longer be answering questions regarding a possible strike.

All questions should be directed to Walt Ulbricht, executive director, marketing and communications, said Sweet's secretary.

Students gathered outside of Cushwa Hall Tuesday expressing their concerns regarding the possible YSU faculty and staff strike.

University President Dr. David Sweet stated last week that in the event of a strike, the University will be opened as scheduled on Monday, Aug. 26.

Stacy Sam, sophomore, said, "[President Sweet's statement] infers a certain degree of certainty. What is his assurance that classes will start given the faculty strikes?"

Students said they want to know who will teach their courses in event that there is a strike.

John Evans, sophomore, said, "If I'm paying \$3,000 a semester to go here, I don't want a second-rate instructor teaching my courses."

Michelle Clark, senior, said that not just anyone can be brought in off the street to teach her paramedic courses.

Dr. Salvatore Attardo, professor, linguistics, said it would not be possible to bring in a non-faculty member to teach a socio-linguistics class. "The sad thing is that this is all

See STRIKE, page 2

Sentencing causes mixed reaction

By KRISTIN SERROKA
Jambar Reporter

The sentencing of former Congressman Jim Traficant caused a mixed reaction from YSU voices on Tuesday due to the severity of Traficant's sentence and usual lack of decorum within the courtroom.

Judge Lesley Brooks Wells sentenced Traficant to eight years in prison, \$150,000 in fines, three years of surveillance after incarceration and to pay almost \$19,600 in unpaid taxes. Following the delivery of the sentencing, Wells remanded Traficant to the custody of the U.S. marshals to be sent right to prison.

YSU graduate George Zokle said he felt the sentencing was fair because Traficant had been accusing the government of being corrupt, "but he is the reason" for corruption.

Danielle Barrell, junior, spoke otherwise that the sentence was a bit harsh and Traficant should have used the evidence of constituent support as well as legal guidance.

She said Traficant "has always tried to make things better for the Valley" and people liked and supported him.

Cleveland's Superior Avenue was lined with media vans, cameras and reporters as they awaited Traficant's arrival for his 10 a.m. trial. Zokle attended the trial but did not gain entry into the courtroom.

Zokle said security let people in at 9:40 a.m. but those that entered the courtroom were predetermined by list and only about five others were let in afterward.

The trial began with a 25-minute discussion over whether or not Attorney Mark Colucci would be Traficant's co-counsel, accompanying Attorney Richard Hackerd.



Kristin Serroka/The Jambar

PROSECUTION: Attorney Craig Morford answers questions outside of Cleveland's federal courthouse Tuesday, after former Congressman Jim Traficant received a sentence of eight years in prison, and a \$150,000 fine.

Traficant abruptly asked to withdraw the motion for Colucci to be a co-counsel and asked Colucci to sit with the public in the courtroom.

He did this again about an hour later when he removed Hackerd as his leading defense counsel. Before removing Hackerd, Traficant asked for all favorable comments of his constituents to be removed from any testimony.

The prosecution, lead by Attorney Craig Morford, and Traficant, who defended himself in the end, both had opportunities to give a statement regarding the potential sentencing.

Morford said this was a man who believed he was

above the law, characterized by a particular trait, "arrogance", and has shown lack of remorse and shame.

Traficant held to his claim of innocence and said Americans have lost public trust in the U.S. government through the FBI and the prosecution. He also accused Wells of having a conflict of interest in the case because her husband has done business with J.J. Cafaro.

Following Traficant's 25-minute speech, Wells was ready to give her sentencing and asked Traficant if he was ready, which he replied, yes and was "scared to death."

Wells reminded Traficant that he had held the public

trust of the 17th Congressional District and although he had done "good, commendable work" over the years, he had tried to act as a "folk hero" for shock and entertainment value.

She said Traficant had used the courtroom as his theater and claimed to be the number one victim of the U.S. government. Wells said quickly that America is not perfect, but Traficant is not immune or out of the reach of criminal law.

Wells reflected on Traficant's actions within the courtroom and out, and said, "there is a wide tolerance for style, which was not an issue." Courtroom attendees, like

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Negotiations may cause changes for graduation day

By LA'EL HUGHES
Jambar Reporter

Some YSU staff says summer graduation may be a day filled with frustration instead of joy, as contract negotiations continue to be in gridlock.

Ivan Maldonado, member YSU staff negotiating team and grievance officer, said, "Graduation is suppose to be a day filled with happiness but students may see angry employees rallying outside on that day."

Yet, the YSU police department said if the faculty and staff do decide to go on strike they must notify the police department 10 days before, which would be around Aug. 6.

Maldonado said, "Staff morale around here is very low. We are not advocating a strike. But, our contracts are up Aug. 15 and that is coming up pretty fast, and we have still not reached an agreement and

summer graduation is Aug. 17."

In a university response from Walt Ulbricht, executive director marketing and communications, he said, "Youngstown State University is working hard to seek a positive resolution to the union negotiations. In the remote possibility of a strike, we are taking steps to assure the proper operation of the university."

Ulbricht said that in the case of a staff strike summer commencement would not be affected. "Staff usually does not attend the graduations."

On the contrary, Maldonado said, "We [staff] set up graduation. We also have some promises from faculty saying they will wear their full commencement regalia and stand with us on the line."

Rick Bevely, events preparation, said, "I've heard some possibilities and rumors of a strike. But, personally I've

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Inside

Entertainment

Bluegrass band puts a different spin on hard rock. Page 4

Weather

Mostly sunny. High in the low 90s. Low near 70. Isolated thunderstorms Friday. High near 90. Low near 60.

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Former student brings 9-11 flag to campus

By JAMI BONINSEGNA
Editor In Chief

A tattered American flag with frayed edges and faded colors was displayed proudly at Noodles Restaurant on Monday morning.

Former YSU student Stacy Ebert made the decision to bring the Sept. 11 memorabilia to campus because she said she felt the Youngstown area is detached to the terrorist attacks that took place on the World Trade Center.

Ebert graduated from YSU in 1995 with a double major in Criminal Justice and Sociology. She then went on to work for the FBI in New York City.

Ebert said she worked with the FBI since day one of the Sept. 11 attacks. "I spent a lot of time at Ground Zero but then we moved the crime scene to the Fresh Kills Landfill and I spent a lot of time sifting through the debris there."

"I grew up here and have a close connection to this area and I hope this gives people a connection to what happened."



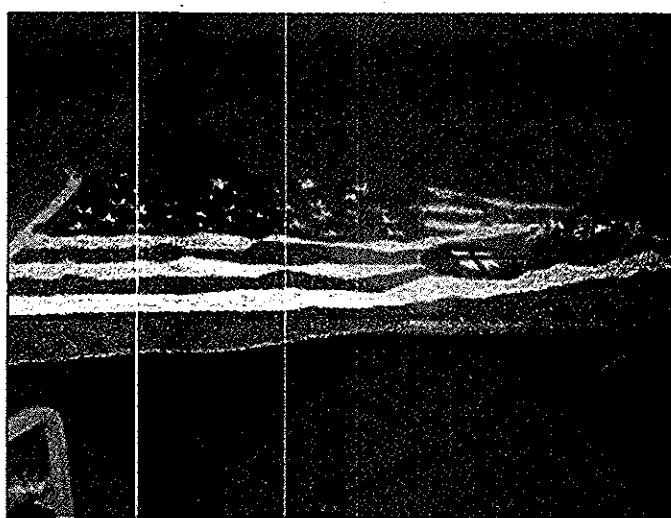
— STACY EBERT
YSU graduate, about bringing 9-11 memorabilia onto campus Monday morning

moving on to something else. "Difficult but rewarding," is the only way Ebert said she could describe her experience of working at the WTC crime scene.

"This area is so far removed from this instance because not many people were directly affected by it or know someone who was," Ebert said. "I grew up here and have a close connection to the area and I hope this gives people a connection to what happened."

Dr. Tammy King, associate professor and chair, criminal justice, said the flag did not fly at the WTC site. "Actually, this was the flag that flew over the debris on Staten Island at the Fresh Kills Landfill where the debris was moved to."

Ebert said Tuesday was officially her last day working at the WTC crime scene and she would now be



Jami Boninsegna/The Jambar

STARS AND STRIPES: Former YSU Student Stacy Ebert brought 9-11 memorabilia to campus on Monday. The memorabilia will be on permanent display in the Criminal Justice Department in Cushwa Hall.

The flag along with other Sept. 11 memorabilia, including small WTC building parts, will be on permanent display in the Criminal Justice Department in Cushwa Hall.

Vacations won't be approved

By LA'EL HUGHES
Jambar Reporter

On July 25, the YSU staff and police department received a directive from Human Resources that said vacations requested between Aug. 12 and Aug. 31 would not be approved. In addition, any requests, which have already been approved, would be terminated in the event of an actual work stoppage.

Sgt. Charles Spencer, YSU police, said, "I did receive information saying that we are not allowed vacations Aug. 12 through Aug. 31 and this just proves that these negotiations are affecting everybody not just the two negotiating teams."

When asked what YSU police would do about the notice by Human Resources, Spencer said, that the YSU Fraternal Order of Police union cannot strike due to a clause in their contracts. However, Spencer said that the university would have to answer to those who have already spent money preparing for their

vacations.

Representatives from YSU's Association of Classified Employees, Ivan Maldonado and Christine Domhoff, agreed. One representative said, "This has adversely affected people. People have bought plane tickets and put money down on hotel rooms. People are wondering how they will be reimbursed. This is an attack on YSU employees."

"Administration is trying to make us use our vacation time before Aug. 12, or we will lose it. . . administration knows making staff take their vacations will stall negotiation until Aug. 6 which is close to deadline for negotiation agreements. In 18 years, this is the first time this has happened."

University representatives responded by saying, "The weeks leading to the start of fall semester are the busiest of the academic year. As a result, vacation time for employees, which has not been previously approved, will not be granted from Aug. 12 through Aug. 31. However, the university will review special requests on a

case-by-case basis."

When members of YSU-ACE were asked why the university would issue this directive, they said, "There are very important dates coming up. Aug. 17 is graduation, late and final registration is Aug. 19 through August 23 and if we [staff] go on strike when our contract is up they want APAS (Association Professional Administrative Staff) to do our jobs. The university is sending a message that they are expecting a strike."

APAS is a union that represents some employees who are not currently a part of negotiations but work in departments such as Payroll, Bursar, Registrar, and Financial Aid.

Spencer added that although YSU police could not strike, they will be affected if there is a strike.

"We will be expected to work long hours if staff and faculty go on strike, with a minimum of 12 hour shifts. This will stretch us out kind of thin."

Commentary

We're on the same team

By DAVE DEVEREUX
Jambar Reporter

In a few weeks, it's back to school again. I'll begin my fifth year at YSU. All right, I confess, it's my sixth year. The fact is I've experienced the scheduling circus at this school for a long time. I've received a bunch of parking tickets just for trying to get to class on time. And, I've battled back from an academic abyss — a year and a half ago I was sick of going to school so I dropped out only to wake up and realize, that attending college and graduating with a meaningful degree still means a heck of a lot to me.

I credit a lifetime involved with sports for giving me the mentality to handle difficult situations like this one. I'm sticking with YSU because I can't walk away labeled a failure, when adversity comes, I was always taught to press on and never give up.

So in honor of the YSU Penguins football team which begins practice next week,

here's some added sports advice for President David Sweet, the classified union and my fellow students.

Instead of allowing the entire area to witness this embarrassing three-way media sparring match, lets respond like champions. When the football team takes the practice field they do it with pride and class because they're representing more than themselves, they understand what it all means to put on the Penguin jersey. They set team goals and work together to achieve them.

I'm not pointing fingers because nobody is really wrong for standing up for what they believe in.

The classified employees' union members deserve more money and better benefits.

Students, however, don't deserve another tuition increase and President Sweet I'm sure would love to flip a switch and make everyone happy if he could.

I'm just one student sick of listening to the whining and complaining and constant neg-

ativity about YSU and the only way to handle a situation like this is to remember what we're all here for and work together to achieve that success.

I experienced a similar struggle back in high school. My school went through numerous levy failures and a pay-to-play sports system. Ultimately it took sports' success and the hard work and support of the entire community to return from the ruins. It also took some unselfishness and compromise.

I'm willing to step forward and ask for a tuition increase because, truthfully, it doesn't even bother me anymore.

So bring it on. I'd sacrifice what little money I have just to put an end to this current crisis, rather than be apart of the media circle that's laughing at all of us.

Let's wipe the slate clean. I'm looking forward to a special football season and the best damn school year of my life. Everyone else is allowed to jump on the bandwagon.

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David Sweet.

"We encourage family, friends, and neighbors to attend and support YSU."

She said, "How many of the administrators children attend YSU?"

However, when Dr. John Russo was asked if the faculty negotiating team has decided to inform YSU students of what is going on in order to get faculty support, he said, "I am not going to play the same games that administration is playing."

"I'm not going to start going out and telling students in my classes everything that's going on," Russo said. "I think it is too premature, wait until Aug. 15."

Ken Carano, state representative also attended the conference to show his support and said that the requests by the university's staff and administration are "not out of line by any stretch of the imagination."

Sallie Kenney, representative of YSU's APAS, said, "I have already informed members of my union not to pick up any extra work. They are not to stay longer hours or take home any work with them because they did not finish it at work."

Dr. Gabriel Palmer-Fernandez, member faculty negotiating team, addressed the ethics of the university and characterized the present administrations bargaining tactics as being "filled with deceit and betrayal."

Fernandez said that the university continues to misrepresent information and deny negotiating teams access to the proper authorities during bargaining sessions.

He said the administration has talked to members of the Vindicator editorial staff, and

have also stalled talks. "This is nothing but deceit and betrayal."

Negotiating teams also wanted to address the attack they said they received by an editorial in the Sunday edition of the Vindicator suggesting an 8.9% tuition increase.

Domhoff said, "A while ago Terry Ondreytka suggested a 20% tuition increase, in a Jambar article, to make up for YSU's deficit, and nobody attacked him but we get attacked."

According to YSU's most recent Fiscal report two of YSU's deficits include housing and athletics. Domhoff said, "The athletics department is \$400,000 in debt and housing is currently in debt \$600,000. The university is not charging the students what it really costs to live in the dorms."

Both negotiating teams blamed mismanagement of funds by the university as part of the problem for not coming to a resolution.

Domhoff said she believes that the university has been preparing for a strike for many months and has no intentions of settling the dispute. "The university has already hired people to replace those in payroll and maintenance."

Russo said he believes the university will try to use part-time faculty to fill their places but he said the union will just invite them to join in on the picket line.

Walt Ulbricht, executive director marketing and communications, disputed the claims by the staff union and said, "YSU has neither hired nor sought replacement of payroll or maintenance workers. However, the university is in the process of preparing contingency plans in the remote

possibility of a strike. The administration remains firmly committed to the contract negotiations."

Another issue discussed at the press conference was the recent appointment of Richard Bretz, who will serve as the third assistant to the provost for YSU.

Domhoff said, "How can the university hire another provost and say we [staff and faculty] don't deserve at least a 3% raise. And, according to documents received by YSU-ACE, Bretz salary is \$62,500."

She added jokingly, "How many provost does it take to screw in a light bulb? This current administration is costing the university \$600,000 more than the Cochran administration."

In a university response to the new position, a statement read, "President Sweet has identified university-community partnerships as a key for Youngstown State University. As part of the strategic initiative funding approved by the Board of Trustees, this new position was created to strengthen school partnerships and developed at the request of several school district superintendents."

Domhoff said, "Right now this university only has one electrician, one plumber, one painter, and one mover. In the 1993 bargaining session we lost one-third of our bargaining members, and the university has not replaced them."

Due to time restraints the university said they were not able to respond to the maintenance employee status, nor were members of the YSU Board of Trustees due to fear of a breach in Unfair Labor Practices.

STRIKE, continued from page 1

being played out on the skin of the students," said Attardo.

Aside from academic concerns, many students said they are worried about the financial aspects of a possible strike.

Nicole Young, senior, said that both her and her husband, Chris Young, senior, have work study jobs and rely on the excess from their student loans to live off of and support their daughter throughout the school year.

Chris said he is worried about whether or not YSU staff is prepared to release financial aid before the strike happens.

When the financial aid department was contacted by the Jambar, they said that they were also instructed to direct all students with questions to Ulbricht.

Jeremy Schneider said he just wants to know what is real and what is rumor regarding the strike. Schneider is among the many students who say they are worried about student employment.

Many students said they are wondering if they should seek employment elsewhere or transfer to another university.

The Youngs said they considered registering at Kent State University as a backup plan.

Kim Capone, junior, said, "I might not go here if we strike. I can't get the classes I need as it is. It is totally ridiculous."

Tina Jurich, junior, said she

also worries that a lot of students would transfer if there were a strike in the fall.

Another concern is YSU football. Chris Rice, sophomore, said he wants to know if he will still be playing football in the fall.

Students say they want answers. Some students spoke of a student protest that they say is in the making. Other students said they wanted to go "beat down Sweet's door."

Sweet was not on campus early this week and John Habat, university vice president, would not respond to a Jambar reporter Tuesday who showed up with 50 questions YSU students had regarding how the strike would affect them.

Habat again told a secretary that students should direct their concerns to Walt Ulbricht in the department of Marketing and Communications.

Ulbricht said that one person dealing with questions would be better than many people giving answers.

When presented with a number of specific questions students have regarding a possible strike, Ulbricht's response was, "Youngstown State University's efforts are focused on the positive resolution of the contract negotiations. However, the University has begun contingency planning in the remote possibility of a strike. It is not appropriate at

this time to discuss specific actions or responses that may be taken in that eventuality."

When asked if work-study students should seek employment elsewhere, Ulbricht said, "I would advise students to let the process work out and be positive that a resolution will work out. I would advise students to wait and be patient. The next two weeks will be important. Let's see where negotiations are at that point."

Ulbricht also said students should know that Sweet has given up a two week vacation he had planned because of the negotiations.

Ulbricht said that both the faculty and administration have until this Friday to get their cases together to present to a "fact finder."

The "fact finder," Robert Stein, then looks very carefully at both cases and chooses one over another, said Ulbricht.

He said the administration will present "what it can offer and why it can only offer X."

Nicole said, "There is a lot of stuff going on that doesn't need to be going on. The [administration] is griping that there is no money, but they just bought brand new grounds' trucks when there was nothing wrong with the old ones. And why are there sprinklers on in the rain? They've chosen fresh paint on the walls over compensating professors for the years they've put in here."

Classified

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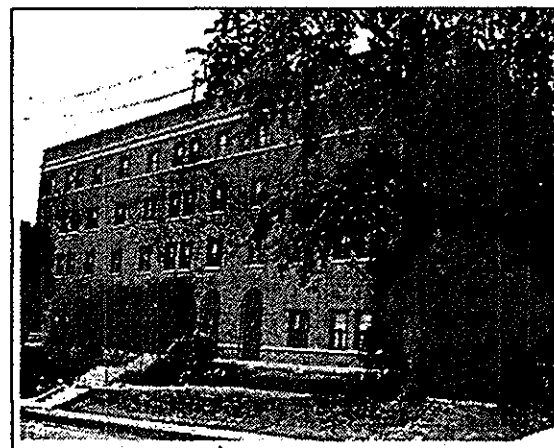
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GRADS, continued from page 1

been trying to stay optimistic." However, Bevely said if staff would strike, he and other people not in the union would have to "kick-in and set-up commencement."

Nazim Wahab, student government chief of staff, said, "A strike will ruin students' summer graduation. But, either way, graduation will

happen. Students look up to faculty and it will hurt students to see them standing out there."

Wahab also said that he believed that if more students become aware of what is going on, students will transfer to other schools.

"Students should not be afraid to voice their opinions, there are a lot of facets available where students can do this; ombudsperson, students government, and administration."

However, Wahab said there is a limit to how much students can say. "We have loyalties to this university and to the students, but with out students there is no university and without faculty there is no university."

REACTION, continued from page 1

Zokle, took notice on the actions of Traficant. Zokle said it was "like watching a sitcom" because Traficant's blatant, sarcasm and intimidation would cause laughter within the courtroom every five minutes.

Zokle said he felt Traficant treated Wells as though she was "inferior and with utter disrespect." He said he thought the prosecution did an excellent job maintaining their composure.

Before sentencing, Traficant was expelled from the House of Representatives July 24 in a 420-1 vote.

He has 10 days to appeal his sentencing and plans on Colucci being his lead appellate counsel.

Write for the Jambar this fall... Call Angela at (330) 742-1989

Editorial & Opinion

What We Think

University should answer questions

On Aug. 26 YSU will open as promised by University President Dr. David Sweet.

Students will be able to get their Snickers, Skittles, and Wrigley's spearmint gum from the newly remodeled candy counter in Kilcawley Center, but will they be able to get the quality education that they deserve from a qualified professor?

Students would rather have their education dollars pay for educators than a shiny new Candyland.

After all, we are not 4-years-olds.

However, President Sweet apparently thinks we are because he seems to be following the "children should be seen and not heard" philosophy when it comes to hearing our concerns regarding the possible strike.

Our university president and his good buddy, John Habat, don't want to talk to us.

They've directed us to Walt Ulbricht, executive director of marketing and communications, where we are told to be positive and patient but have no reason to be.

We don't think the people over in Tod Hall would be sitting too pretty if their futures were possibly at stake.

And why can't President Sweet just do his own job? We hope he's compensating Ulbricht well for doing his "dirty work." Or should we call him President Ulbricht?

YSU needs a president that will speak to the university through words instead of paid advertisements, editorials, and the marketing department.

In his induction speech to the university, Sweet said, "An updated campus master plan and a long term enrollment management plan are under way."

But who knew that his enrollment management plan involved ignoring students' questions even when some of these students are considering transferring to other universities.

Again in his induction speech, Sweet compared YSU's journey to Tennyson's "Ulysses." He said, "We too, are set sail on yet another journey. The seas of our world may be troubled at times, but we have no fear for we shall sail them together..."

It is apparent that "we" and "together" did not include YSU students. Why would Sweet let us on his ship if he won't even talk to students anymore?

We don't feel bad that the president of our university had to cancel a two-week vacation he had planned because some of us didn't even get to go on vacation at all this summer.

Unless, of course, you count the roller coaster ride Sweet has sent us on to find answers to our questions.

And perhaps we don't want to be on Sweet's ship anyway, as it seems to be slowly sinking.

YSU students deserve answers to questions that affect their future. We demand a university president that will do his job.

What You Think

Do you think Traficant's ousting from Congress was fair and why?



Chris Crilley
senior political science

"Yes, it was fair because he makes Youngstown look like a politician's Disneyland.



George Zokle
YSU graduate

"Yes, because he's a son of a truck driver and they just hauled him out of Congress."



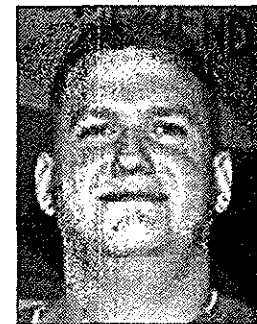
Colin Morse
sophomore, undecided

"I think its fair because not everybody has friends in Congress to give them money for their business."



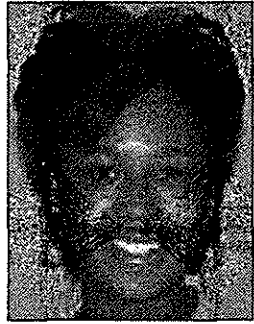
Terry Jones
junior education

"[The expulsion] is a good thing because we can't have a convicted criminal in Congress, but our community will probably elect him again."



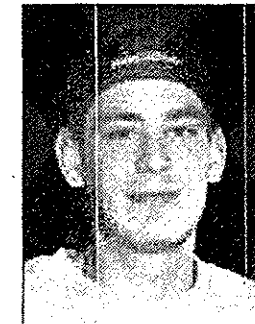
Paul Antochak,
senior education

"Yes, I think it was fair because it was conduct unbecoming of a congressman."



Nikkea Copeland,
senior spanish

"If all of his colleagues agreed to expel him then I think it's fair in order to keep merit in the House."



Jeremy Schneider,
junior computer science

"I don't think he should have been expelled. I think he's done things for improvement in this area."



Laura White,
YSU visitor

"Not being from this area, but from what I have seen on TV, it was indicative that he was guilty."

Letters to the Editor

Student worried about impending strike

Editor:

As a senior, I feel that I have put in my time at YSU. I hear and read rumors of impending strikes and my heart sinks. I have one year left, and I will have finished my Bachelor's degree. It has been a long hard road, but one I am happy I have traveled. Unfortunately, I see my life being totally thrown off track by impending doom. I think what both groups need to do is put the priority back to where it belongs, the students! I don't believe there is any other establishment in the world in which the customer is put last. If students were to go on strike, not pay their tuition, and not be in class, where would this university be?

Well, we could always hire a few more administrators to discover why students are unsatisfied, and by the way all of those

administrators are going to need assistants. President Sweet, you need to sponsor a student. For one year, pay their tuition, buy their books, schedule with them. You need to be there when the class he or she needs is full or closed, when the student can't make ends meet, and tries to juggle work with school and home. You need to know what it's like to be a student on your campus, enrolled in your university, sir. As both sides negotiate, please keep in mind one thing; you have the ability to throw thousands of lives into disorder. Please remember that.

Jessica Pratt
Senior, Respiratory Care

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The Jambar is published twice weekly during fall and spring semesters and weekly during summer sessions. The first copy of The Jambar is free; each additional copy is 5 cents. Mail subscriptions are \$25 per academic year. Since being founded by Burke Lyden in 1931, The Jambar has won nine Associated Collegiate Press All-American honors.

Letter Policy

The Jambar encourages letters. All letters must be typed, no more than 350 words and must list a name and telephone number. Email submissions are welcome. All submissions are subject to editing. Opinion pieces should be no more than 500 words. Items submitted become property of The Jambar and will not be returned. Submissions that ignore policy will not be accepted. The views and opinions expressed herein do not necessarily reflect those of The Jambar staff or YSU faculty, staff or administration. Deadline for submissions is noon Monday for Thursday's paper.

SG Second Vice President sends thanks

Editor:

The student government sponsored blood drive on July 10 and 11 held in the Chestnut Room in Kilcawley Center was a huge success. The American Red Cross coordinator, Nancy Cox, had hopes of 25 total donors for both days. We doubled our goal! Congratulations to all of the contributors. With the help of Krista Natoli, Secretary of Community and Intergovernmental Affairs, and the donors, the drive became one of the best summer drives at Youngstown State University.

The event attracted two well-known political figures. President David Sweet and Senator Tim Ryan donated their blood in this time of a shortage. In addition to their help, the student government members also volunteered their time and effort to assist with this cause. The amount of blood donated totaled 27 pints the first day and 36 pints the following day. Our goal was

achieved above and beyond what was expected. The dedication of the students, faculty, and staff at Youngstown State University truly makes us stand together as leaders in the university community.

I would like to extend my thanks to all of those who were involved and encourage everyone to participate in the fall 2002 blood drive. Dates will be announced in the upcoming months. Students, faculty, and staff should be proud of what they have accomplished by working together to better our community, rise as leaders, and commit ourselves to a common goal. I am looking forward to seeing all of you at the fall blood drive. Thanks again!

Daniel J. Procopio
Second Vice President, Student Government

SG president hopes for fall resolution

Dear Editor:

To members of the YSU Administration and the YSU OEA and AEC Unions:

On behalf of the 12,000+ students of Youngstown State University, I am writing to you today as educators.

Many of us have been following your recent work towards new contract agreements with cautious optimism. It was no surprise to anyone that balancing the needs and limited resources of the University with the needs and deserved compensation of its faculty and staff would prove challenging. Of course, learning how to meet life's challenges is why we come to YSU. The University's Vision Statement illustrates our mutual desire to make Youngstown State "a national model for student-centered...universities, transforming its students into successful professionals, scholars, citizens, and leaders." Through that shared vision, each of you take on the role of educators beyond simply the classroom.

Recently, however, we have begun to question that commitment to education. The negotiations began as a golden opportuni-

ty to model for us the same problem-solving abilities you seek to instill in us. Unfortunately, headlines underscoring the difficulty of this process have replaced those touting the ongoing successes of this institution and its students.

If the negotiating process continues on this negative course, it will ultimately erode YSU's credibility as home for education. Students cannot be asked to respect any group or individual whose decisions obstruct our efforts to build careers of our own.

It is still with optimism that I appeal to you as educators today.

We are hopeful that you will overcome these difficulties, reach an amicable agreement, and demonstrate to the students and the community how the administration, faculty, and staff of YSU can meet even the most difficult of challenges.

We look forward to a great fall semester.
Respectfully,

Jeffrey J. Parks
Student, Student Government President

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU... Write a letter to the editor and give us your opinion.
Keep your letter to 350 words. Be sure to include your name, rank, major, and phone number. We'll try to publish your letter.

Sports & Entertainment

Sports Commentaries

Doss and Gibson are good Heisman candidates

By DAVE DEVEREUX
Jambar Reporter

The Heisman Trophy, given to the nation's top Division 1 college football player, has lost some luster in recent years.

Experts such as Beano Cook criticize the media frenzy and over-hype given too early in the Heisman race because it presents a potential team distraction. This I agree with, those marquee candidates should focus on leading their team and not worry about marketing themselves to the voters.

From an aspiring journalist's point of view, I feel the whole premise should be to communicate to the general public which players figure to be impact players during the upcoming college football season.

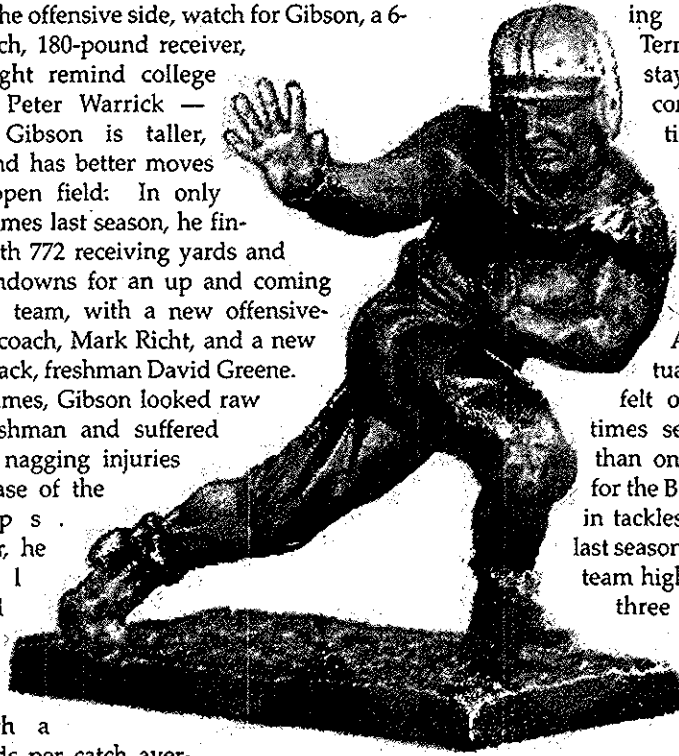
By that rationale, I'm picking Georgia's Fred Gibson and Ohio State's Mike Doss as my pre-season Heisman favorites.

Considering Gibson enters his sophomore season and Doss plays defense, both appear to be long shots, however, my sports vibes tell me these two players possess the greatest amount of game breaking ability on teams which should contend for a BCS bowl game. Or better yet, I'm

guessing.

On the offensive side, watch for Gibson, a 6-foot-4-inch, 180-pound receiver, who might remind college fans of Peter Warrick — except, Gibson is taller, faster, and has better moves in the open field. In only seven games last season, he finished with 772 receiving yards and six touchdowns for an up and coming Bulldogs team, with a new offensive-minded coach, Mark Richt, and a new quarterback, freshman David Greene.

At times, Gibson looked raw as a freshman and suffered through nagging injuries and a case of the drops. However, he still showed big play ability, finishing with a 23.2 yards per catch aver-



age. Gibson benefits from teaming with senior standout Terrance Edwards. If Gibson stays healthy and Edwards continues garnering attention from opposing defensive backs, Gibson should emerge as the premier offensive threat in college football.

Doss, a two-time All-American safety, virtually makes his presence felt on every play. It sometimes seems like there's more than one Doss playing defense for the Buckeyes. He led the team in tackles two straight years and last season finished with 87 stops, a team high ten for losses, and had three interceptions, two blocked punts, and a 30-yard fumble recovery.

In most years, Doss would have been a unanimous

choice for the Thorpe Award, given to the nation's top defensive back, however, last season he lost out in a numbers game with formidable candidates such as Roy Williams, Quentin Jammer, and Edward Reed.

This year, all three of those players will be playing on Sunday, while Doss returned to the Buckeyes to earn a degree and make a run for the Rose Bowl.

Second year coach Jim Tressel proved quickly that he knows defense with the Buckeyes showcasing an almost impenetrable run defense last season.

Doss leads the defensive unit again this season and has even expressed interest in playing on the offensive side of the ball. Expect Doss to perform this season, similar to the way Charles Woodson did when leading Michigan to a National Championship in 1997.

In addition to Gibson and Doss, there should be several quarterbacks worthy of early season Heisman hype. This list includes Tennessee's Casey Clausen, Miami's Ken Dorsey, Florida's Rex Grossman and Texas quarterback Chris Simms.

As legendary football announcer, Keith Jackson would say: "Whoa Nellie, here we go!"

Steelers will roll this football season

The Steelers are still the best all-around team in football.

By DAVE DEVEREUX
Jambar Reporter

Heading into last January's Super Bowl, Pittsburgh Steelers were the best all-around team in football. I believed that then and I still believe that now.

The Steelers dominated the line of scrimmage against every opponent, leading the NFL in total offense and rushing yards. They posted a conference best 13 regular season record giving them home field advantage throughout the playoffs. And they were coming off a divisional playoff demolishing of the Baltimore Ravens.

In the AFC title game, however, against the New England Patriots, with a trip to the Super Bowl on the line, the Steelers seemed like a completely different team.

Their offense looked out of sync, poor special teams play resulted in 14 backbreaking points by the Patriots. The Steelers lost the game 24-17; they deserved exactly the debacle that took place.

Now I'm not taking anything away from the Patriots, never mind, yes I am. I still believe the Steelers were the superior team except on that given Sunday they overlooked the Patriots and looked unprepared the entire afternoon. Therefore the result was an old-fashion upset.

The Patriots continued on with their Cinderella Super Bowl run, while Steelers' fans were left replaying the game over and over in their minds for five long, pride-swallowing months. I guess it's time to put the "what ifs" behind and focus on a new

Steelers' season.

Judging by the media reports from the Steelers' training camp in Latrobe, Penn., the coaches and players have done exactly that. The battle cry ringing throughout the organization is that the Steelers are one "ticked off" football team, looking to avenge last season's unfulfilling finish.

For three straight seasons, an unexpected team has come out of nowhere to win the Super Bowl. The St. Louis Rams, New England Patriots all went from a non-playoff team to World Champions in one season.

This year I don't expect that trend to continue. I'm picking the Steelers to make and win the Super Bowl.

I'm not a rah-rah fan that expects my team to win 45-0 every week. I just to prove my loyalty. Usually I'm pessimistic about my team's chances and spend most of the game disgusted at their inability to convert in the red zone or letting inferior opponents hang around in the second half.

What I've watched, listened, or attended every Steelers game since 1970. I've visited training camp just about every summer. Not once in all those years did I ever truly expect my team to win the Super Bowl. So as a knowledgeable football follower, more so than a die-hard, bias fan, I'm picking my team for once.

What convinced me more than anything was the off-season approach the organization took to keeping a Super Bowl contending team in tact for years to come. The Steelers, with the generated from their new stadium, Heinz Field, resigned marquee players to long term contracts such as line backer Gildon and Joey Porter, guard Alan Faneca, running back James Zereoue, and defensive end Aaron Smith. There appears to be more balance on both sides of the ball than any Steelers team since the glory days of the 1970's when they won four Super Bowl titles.

Still a few question marks remain for the Steelers. Will running back Jerome Bettis be able to stay healthy and effective for an entire season?

Will wide receiver Plaxico Burress stay away from off the field problems and continue to emerge as the Steelers big play offensive threat?

Will tight end Heath Hunsley be able to get on chip shot field goal attempts with Kris Brown?

Will Kordell Stewart pick up where he left off in offensive coordinator Mike Mulick's system and prove once in for all that he's a championship caliber quarterback?

My sports vibes tell me the Steelers have once again rebuilt an impressive nucleus of talent, placing them as one of the prime Super Bowl contenders. Only this time, the organization has taken the necessary steps to make sure the team gets over the hump. Super Bowl prediction: Steelers over Bucs.

Monday, 9/9	1:00 PM ET	at New England
Sunday, 9/16	8:30 PM ET	Oakland
Sunday, 9/23	1:00 PM ET	Cleveland
Sunday, 10/6	1:00 PM ET	at New Orleans
Sunday, 10/13	1:00 PM ET	at Cincinnati
Monday, 10/21	9:00 PM ET	Indianapolis
Sunday, 10/27	1:00 PM ET	at Baltimore
Sunday, 11/3	1:00 PM ET	at Cleveland
Sunday, 11/10	1:00 PM ET	Atlanta
Sunday, 11/17	1:00 PM ET	at Tennessee
Sunday, 11/24	1:00 PM ET	Cincinnati
Sunday, 11/24	1:00 PM ET	at Jacksonville
Sunday, 11/24	1:00 PM ET	Houston
Sunday, 12/15	1:00 PM ET	Carolina
Monday, 12/23	9:00 PM ET	at Tampa Bay
Sunday, 12/29	1:00 PM ET	Baltimore

Music

Tribute album is a hayride to hell

By BJ LISKO
Jambar Editor

When you think of AC/DC, hard driving rock n' roll comes to mind. Two guitars, bass, drums, and ear piercing vocals have become the Australian band's staple. However, on a new tribute album to the thunder from down under, the formula is quite a bit different. Drop the drums, add a banjo, and throw in some fine liquored up bluegrass howls and you've got Hayseed Dixie in their "Hillbilly Tribute to AC/DC."

It's hard even trying to fathom this concoction but what results is some of the catchiest southern fried

this, and Hayseed Dixie provide more than enough humor, changing some of AC/DC's songs around to suit themselves. They replace "oi's" with "oinks" on "T.N.T.," substitute a bicycle bell for "Hell's Bells," and switch "rock n' roll" to "bluegrass" in a verse on "Highway to Hell." Even the band's name itself is a play on words of AC/DC.

Evidence the album has been warmly received is apparent as illustrated by its debut at

number 48 on the Billboard Country charts last fall, and not only has Hayseed Dixie been treated warmly by the record buying public, but by members of AC/DC as well. According to hard rock magazine Metal Maniacs, AC/DC bassist Cliff Williams recently had the band play a party at his mountain retreat to celebrate the conclusion of AC/DC's recent world tour.

AC/DC singer Brian Johnson said, "It's f---ing hilarious," on acdcband.com.

Even though hard liquor substitutes hard rock, overalls substitute schoolboy suits, and fiddles and banjos substitute electric guitars, Hayseed Dixie has turned in the best AC/DC tribute album yet.

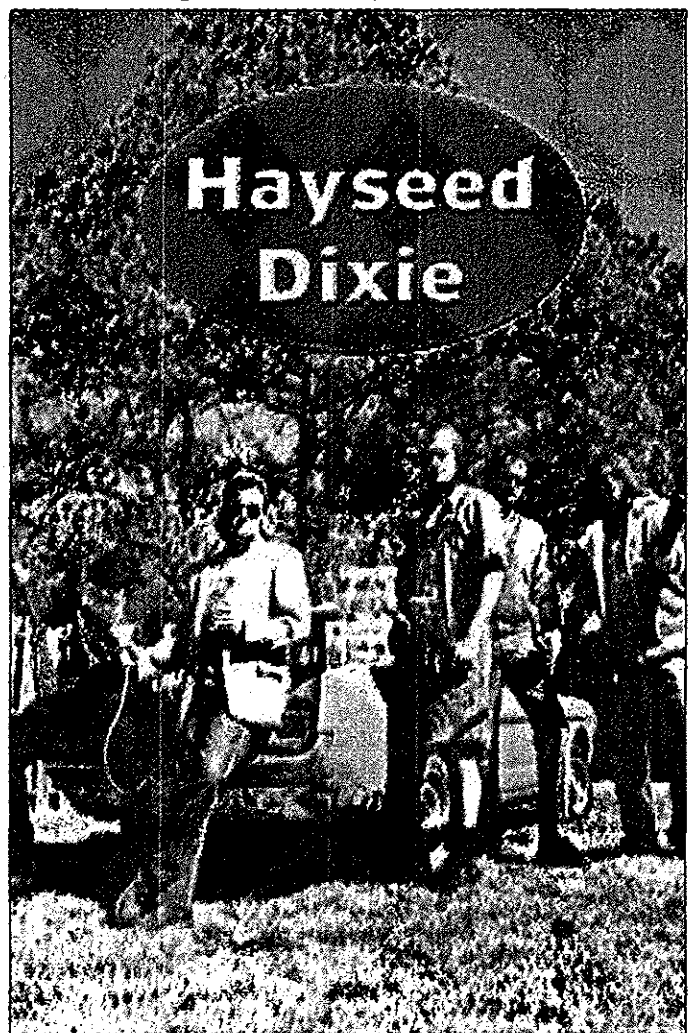


Photo courtesy of hayseed-dixie.com

HAYRIDE TO HELL: Hayseed Dixie put a different twist on hard rock legends AC/DC, with their recent album. The band has received praise from AC/DC themselves, and their bluegrass versions of such hits like, "Back in Black" and "Highway to Hell," have helped them sell over 100,000 copies of the album since it's release late last year.

August Calender

Nyabinghi, Friday 3rd - Rwake, Kitchen Knife Conspiracy, Saturday 4th - Lover, Olneyville Sound System, Sawzall, Thursday 8th - Reynolds, AFO, The Code, Friday 9th - Indifference, Via Sahara, (All Ages, 6pm), Saturday 10th - Big Money Hustlas the movie (All Ages, 6pm), Sunday 11th - Reverend Horton Heat, Honky, Hellvis, Friday 16th - Disengage, Gil Manteras Party Dream, Rebreather, Saturday 17th - Tilt 360, Sunday 18th - Ghoultown, Bobs Country Bunker, Friday 23rd - Armed Battery, The Struggle, Inner Revolution (All Ages, 6pm), Saturday 24th - Motion City Soundtrack

Cedars, Friday 2nd - Fenster, Champions of All Time, Saturday 3rd - My Sister the Sun, The Meat, Friday 9th - Mini Bon Frog arts festival, Saturday 10th - Raul, Friday 16th - Facepunch, Saturday 17th - Camera, Shade, Friday 23rd - November Loop, Stepford Five.

The Cellar, Friday 2nd - Empire, Tempo Tantrum, Saturday 3rd - Jimi Hendrix tribute, Friday 9th - Biastfear, Sindust, Saturday 10th - Edison's Medicine, Tuesday 13th - Clockwise, Friday 16th - Project 9, Saturday 17th - Rage, December Son, Friday 23rd - Coinmonster, Saturday 24th - Disco Explosion

B&B Backstage, Saturday 2nd - Blue Oyster Cult, Foghat, Monday 5th - Bobby Blue Band, Friday 9th - Blackhawk, Thursday 22nd - Pat Benetar

Federal Plaza, Sunday 11th - Vexfest (3 stages 30 bands)