

Presidential candidate withdraws from race



PAUL DUTTON

By **FRANK MELILLO**
Jambar News Editor

Youngstown Attorney Paul Dutton, one of the six finalists for the YSU presidency, withdrew from the running this past Friday morning.

Dutton, who went through the first day of interviewing the day before his withdrawal, was scheduled to meet with Alumni at 8 a.m. on Friday for breakfast, as well as with Student Government at 10 a.m., but failed to attend either meeting, said Student Government President Brian Fry.

According to *Vindicator* reports, on Thursday, Dutton had meetings with the screening committee, the YSU Foundation, a faculty group and the Board of Trustees.

Fry noted that apparently, Dutton had been talking about withdrawing the night before at a dinner with the Trustees, and certain members were trying to talk him out of the idea. Apparently though, Dutton reached a decision overnight and informed Emily Mackall,

Trustee chairwoman, at about 7:30 a.m. Friday that he was going to withdraw, said Fry. He added that Mackall informed Student Government a short time later.

According to Fry, Dutton, upon going through the process, may have found out that perhaps he was not as qualified as the other candidates specifically in the academic areas, and that is what Student Government has been saying all along.

"I think he made the right decision," said Fry. "Not only for himself but for the University as well."

He added that the University will benefit in the long run from this situation by bringing someone with more academic credentials into the presidential chair.

Fry continued that it is important in

the wake of this to realize that we (the University) are still in a search process. He added that there are five candidates left, and that they will be seriously evaluated as well in hopes that a decision is reached that is best for the University.

In *Jambar* reports last week, Dutton's candidacy was being criticized by YSU's Student Government for his affiliations with Michael I. Monus, area businessman and Trustee member, and Dr. John F. Geletka, Trustees' vice-chairman and screening committee member.

Dr. Geletka responded to Dutton's decision in a Saturday *Vindicator* article by saying that the driving force for Dutton's decision was the criticism by politicians and possibly others within the University.

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