

YSU deemed 'military friendly' school

YSU has been named a Military Friendly School by *G.I. Jobs* magazine, a national publication for individuals transitioning from military to civilian life.

The magazine's 2010 list of Military Friendly Schools honors the top 15 percent of colleges, universities and trade schools that are doing the most to embrace America's veterans as students.

"The common bond is their shared priority of recruiting students with military experience," said a news release from *G.I. Jobs*.

"When men and women are planning their lives after the military, many of them are looking for universities that are sensitive to the special needs of veterans

transitioning out of the military and into civilian life, and people on campus who can answer their unique questions," said Jim Olive, coordinator of YSU's new Office of Veterans Affairs. "Our inclusion on this list tells veterans that they can come here and receive the kind of services they need to make that transition successful."

YSU launched the new Office of Veterans Affairs in May to help veterans with the transition from military life to college life, including assistance with admissions, financial aid, registration, academic advising and tutoring.

"The office is designed to help make their time at YSU – both in and out of the classroom – a fulfilling, successful experi-

ence," Olive said.

Cynthia Anderson, vice president for student affairs, said the office has been received quite favorably by individuals across campus who are dedicated to providing service to students.

"Additionally, we have received many positive comments from the Mahoning Valley community thanking us for providing these services to our very deserving veterans," she added.

Olive credited the YSU administration, including Anderson and President David C. Sweet, and the work of several people on campus – from academic advisors and faculty to admissions and student accounts – for the early success of the office.

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The 'other rock' marks 50th year on campus

Just about everyone on YSU's campus knows about the painted rock that famously – or infamously, depending on your point of view – rests next to Kilcawley Center.

But, in the world of rocks at YSU, there is actually another that came first.

This year marks the 50th anniversary of the University Marker – a 10-ton granite boulder that sits in front of Jones Hall on the corner of Lincoln and Wick avenues. The boulder was given to what was then Youngstown College by the class of 1949, which received it as a gift from Youngstown Sheet and Tube Co. The class paid \$500 to transport and place the boulder and to purchase and install a bronze marker tablet.

"It was a big thing because we never before had a marker of any kind on campus," said Harry Meshel, who was president of student council and vice president of the class of 1949.

Before the boulder's placement, the small campus core was not exactly a bragging point, "and everything just looked very bland," said Meshel, who went

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In this photo taken in 1949, workers place a 10-ton granite boulder in front of Jones Hall. This year marks the 50th anniversary of what is known as the University Marker.

eUpdate exclusives

For more news about YSU, read these and other stories in eUpdate at <http://cfweb.cc.yosu.edu/marketcomm/index.cfm>.

- **YSU's Hispanic Heritage Celebration is 5:30 p.m. Friday, Sept. 25, in the Chestnut Room of Kilcawley Center, featuring dances, music, student recognition, art exhibits and a flag ceremony. The event is part of several activities planned for Hispanic Heritage Month, Sept. 15 to Oct. 15.**
- **U.S. Sen. Sherrod Brown visits campus to promote President Obama's healthcare plan.**
- **YSU athletics extends its current radio broadcast rights agreement with Clear Channel Radio through June 2013.**
- **University Diversity Council announces the 2009-10 Community Diversity Program Series, featuring programs on the history of the LGBT community in the Mahoning Valley and on the contemporary Pow Wow through the eyes of a Native American.**
- **Alumni, fans turn out for floating tailgate party in Pittsburgh. Photos.**

New director of Marching Pride sets priorities: fun and quality

The YSU band is marching to the beat of a new conductor this year as Don Linn has taken over as the Marching Pride's new director.

Despite the administrative challenges of stepping into the position relatively late in the summer, Linn says he is enthused about the product the students are putting out.

"The students are working hard," Linn said. "I'm pretty excited."

A native of Centreville, Va., near the Washington D.C. area, Linn graduated with a bachelor of arts degree in music education from Virginia Tech University in 2005.

He also earned a master's degree from Ball State University in 2008, where he served as assistant director of the more than 200-member Pride of Mid-America marching band. He also founded the university campus band, a sit-down concert band made up of non-music majors in an attempt to give the entire campus community an opportunity to participate in a musical group. In addition, Linn conducted both the university's concert and basketball bands, and served as

an instructor for undergraduate conducting music major courses.

In April of this year, Linn attended a band director's conference in Austin, Texas, where he met YSU Music Professor and Director of Bands Stephen Gage, who encouraged him to apply for the band director position at YSU.

Linn's hire on July 24 left him limited time to establish a schedule, gather the band and organize band camp. "The biggest challenge so far was having to do a month's worth of preparation in only about a week and a half to two weeks," he said.

Now with the fall semester in full swing and the football schedule underway, Linn says he is satisfied with the 110-member band under his wing.

"My goals for the band this year are to make sure that the students have fun; that's the first priority," he said. "I also want us to put on a good quality, entertaining show where the marching is precise and a quality musical product is put out on the field."

Story by Melissa Sullivan



Don Linn, new director of the YSU Marching Pride, inspects the line during practice at Stambaugh Stadium.

Youngstown STATE UNIVERSITY

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Jonelle Beatrice, associate executive director of Student Life and director of the Center for Student Progress, and **Becky Varian**, coordinator of the Center for Student Progress Intervention Services, made presentations at the annual Ohio College Access and Success conference in Columbus Aug. 11 through 13. Beatrice gave a presentation titled "Creating an Environment for Student Success," and Varian presented a session titled "Academic Interventions for At-Risk Students."

Sue Davis, director, Undergraduate Admissions, and **Monica Mastran-Czopor**, associate director, presented at the 24th Annual Enrollment Planners Conference in Chicago in July. Their presentation, titled "Can You Hear Me Now?" focused on utilizing effective telephone counseling techniques in student recruitment.

Jim Andrews, professor, Physics and Astronomy, presented the talk "Is the Third Time the Charm? Teaching by Cycling" at the 2009 summer meeting of the American Association of Physics Teachers in Ann Arbor, Mich. Andrews also co-authored a paper, titled "Layered Polymeric Optical Systems Using Continuous Coextrusion," which was the subject of the keynote address by co-author Ken Singer of Case Western Reserve University. The paper was presented at the 2009 SPIE Optics & Photonics Conference on Nanophotonics and Macrophotonics for Space Environments in San Diego, Calif.

G. Andy Chang, professor, **G. Jay Kerns**, associate professor, and **Gary L. Stanek**, professor, all of Mathematics and Statistics, co-authored a paper entitled "Calibration Experiments for a Computer Vision Oyster Volume Estimation System" that was published in the *Journal of Statistics Education*. D. J. Lee, a professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering at Brigham Young University, was also a co-author.

Zbigniew Piotrowski and **Eric Winger**, professors, Mathematics and Statistics, published an article, titled "On Separately Open Topology," in the *Tatra Mountains Mathematical Publications*. R.W. Vallin of Slippery Rock University was a co-author. Piotrowski also gave a presentation, titled "M. Kopernik, Madame M. Sklodowska-Curie, S. Banach and Other Luminaries of Polish Science," at a Polish Day celebration in Youngstown.

Eleanor Congdon, assistant professor, History, attended the Mellon Foundation Summer Institute on Italian Vernacular Paleography this summer at the Getty Research Institute in Los Angeles. The three-week residential course offered intensive training in the accurate reading and transcription of handwritten Italian vernacular texts from the late medieval through the early modern periods.

Paul R. Carr, assistant professor, Educational Foundations, Research, Technology and Leadership, had two articles and a book chapter published recently. An article titled "The 2008 U.S. Presidential Campaign, Democracy and Media Literacy" was published in the *International Journal of Critical Pedagogy*; "Computers, the Media and Multicultural Education: Seeking Engagement and Political Literacy" was published in the *Journal of Intercultural Studies*; and "The Critical Pedagogy of Understanding How Educators Relate to Democracy" was published in *Learning Democracy by Doing: Alternative Practices in Citizenship Learning and Participatory Democracy*, edited by D. Schugereinsky, K. Daly and K. Lopes.

Fred Viehe, professor, History, will have his article, "Atavistic Culture: The Bête Noire of Social Change," published in *Forum on Public Policy*. Viehe has also been named assistant editor of the *International Journal of the Humanities*.

Karin A. Petruska, assistant professor, Accounting and Finance, presented

two papers, titled "Conservative Accounting Disclosure, Litigation Risk and Cost of Equity" and "Why Do Firms Hold Excess Cash?" at the American Accounting Association Ohio Regional Meeting Conference in Geneva-on-the-Lake, Ohio. She also presented a paper in August titled "Accounting Conservatism and Fraudulent Financial Reporting" at the American Accounting Association Annual Meeting Conference in New York.

Kin P. Moy, assistant professor, Electrical Engineering Technology, and principal investigator for the research project titled "EMC Assurance of Automotive Signal/Data Transmission System for Vehicle Transportation Systems" in YSU's Center for Transportation and Materials Engineering, received a donation of communication laboratory equipment from Delphi Corp. in Warren. The equipment will be used to train students as part of the center's work force development initiative. Moy also conducted a technical seminar in May for the Automotive Research and Testing Center's Electromagnetic Compatibility laboratory in Lugang, Taiwan, and has been awarded a \$10,000 research grant from ARTC to develop an electromagnetic compatibility test strategy and methodology for electric vehicle and automotive data transmission systems.

Steven Brown, professor, English, published a new edition of his four-volume *English as a Second Language* textbook series, with co-authors Marc Helgesen and John Wiltshier of Miyagi Women's College in Sendai, Japan. The books were published by Pearson/Longman.

Deborah Mower, assistant professor in the Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies, presented a paper titled "A Double-Barreled Defense of Confucian Rituals: Revise and Restore" at the American Philosophical Association. She also presented an invited paper titled "Teaching Ethics Via Sympathy" as part of the Hale Ethics Series at the Rochester Institute of Technology in Rochester, New York. ■

Out of gas? Dead battery? Call MAP

It's 5 o'clock on a Friday afternoon.

After a long week of meetings, answering phones and averting crises, it's now time to leave work and start your weekend. You trudge to the parking lot, get in your car and turn the key.

"Click. Click."

Dead battery.

!*\$!!!*%#!!!

Now what are you going to do?

Well, if you have a current campus parking permit, you can simply call 330-941-3546, and the Motorist Assistance Program at YSU Parking Services will come to the rescue.

MAP provides assistance to motorists for a variety of problems, including dead batteries, keys locked in the car and running out of gas.

"We have been providing these services for quite awhile now," said Danny O'Connell, director of Support Services. "The only thing we have changed is how we have been promoting them."

This year Parking Services sent out pamphlets publicizing MAP in an attempt to further communicate the value of obtaining a YSU parking pass.

Students and employees with a current

permit are eligible to receive assistance not just within the campus parking lots and decks, but throughout the entire police-patrolled university vicinity.

O'Connell said his office is kept quite busy with MAP, responding to at least one assistance call each four-hour shift throughout the day.

"The most common situations involve lock-outs and battery jumps, especially the first week of the semester," he said. "The winter is also a busy time for us. Our trucks run constantly with the lights on so we can be

easily identified and more able to help."

For a complete list of rules, regulations and services provided by MAP, visit www.ysu.edu/parking. ■



Aaron Swickard, a student working in YSU Parking Services, jumps the battery for a stranded motorist in a campus parking lot. The service is part of the Motorist Assistance Program.

Rock

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Military friendly

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G.I. Jobs magazine said that the tens of billions of dollars in tuition money, now available with the recent enactment of the Post-9/11 GI Bill, has intensified an already strong desire by colleges to court veterans into their classrooms.

"This list is especially important now because the GI Bill has given veterans virtually unlimited financial means to go to school," said Rich McCormack, *G.I. Jobs* publisher. "Veterans can now enroll in any school, provided they are academically qualified. So schools are clamoring for them like never before. Veterans need a trusted friend to help them decide where to get educated. The Military Friendly Schools list is that trusted friend."

The full 2010 Military Friendly School List can be found at www.militaryfriendly-schools.com/mfspr ■

on to a successful political career, including state senator and head of the Ohio Democratic Party. He is now a member of the YSU Board of Trustees.

Brian Brennan, certified archivist at Maag Library, said the rock played a big role in creating an identity for the college. "It was the first thing you would see driving up Wick to the college," Brennan said. "When you spotted it, you knew you'd arrived."

At the time, Youngstown Sheet and Tube Co., along with many other Youngstown businesses, played a huge role in shaping the college, Brennan said. With the boulder came a visible connection between the Youngstown community and the university, and the students recognized that important connection.

"No one would dare vandalize *this* rock," Brennan stressed, smiling.

"Everyone has respected that rock for obvious reasons," Meshel added. "The

name and the history of the college are displayed on that rock. Students know the difference."

The boulder bears two new inscriptions. It was originally dedicated as: "Youngstown College—1908. Presented by the class of 1949." Over the years, the plaque has been changed to follow the name changes of the college to Youngstown University in 1955 and, finally, to Youngstown State University in 1967. The new names appear above the older titles on the plaque.

Even today, half a century later, the boulder still remains a steady marker for the university and a valued symbol of tradition and welcome.

"Some of us viewed it as an ideal monument because it showed the strength of the college and how it was growing," Meshel said. "It was our mark. We planted a stone." ■

Story by Andrea Armeni