



Board to Begin Narrowing Presidential List



(From left to right) Carole Weimer, John Jakubek and Sudershan Garg at a Board of Trustees meeting on February 17. The Board will meet next week to begin narrowing down the list of presidential candidates.

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The Youngstown State University presidential search committee — comprised entirely of Board of Trustee members — will meet next week to begin narrowing down the list of presidential candidates.

By Monday's deadline, 37 candidates had applied for YSU's top position. Harry Meshel, a member of the Board, positively commented on this list of applicants.

"It's an extensive list," Meshel said. "It's as strong as the ones we've had in the past."

Considering only the application material that the candidates have submitted, the Board will meet next

week to discuss initial cuts that will be made to this list — a process that could take several days.

"I think the Board is interested in dealing with it expeditiously but thoroughly," Meshel said. "So, it's going to take three, or four, or five days before we determine who we are going to interview."

Candidates who make the shortlist will be interviewed by the Board via Skype. After another round of cuts, finalists will be invited to YSU, where they will participate in face-to-face interviews with Board members and in open forum meetings with students and faculty.

No official deadlines have been determined, but the Board hopes to appoint a new president before June, as Ikram Khawaja, current interim provost, is

set to retire June. 30.

While the search committee is comprised entirely of Board members and does not contain a faculty representative, committee members have ensured that they will choose a president capable of leading.

"The Board members will have to either stand or fall on their decision," Meshel said. "We have a pretty good feeling for what the students feel like, but they can't all vote. ... There is nothing new to this. We know we need strong leadership. We know we need somebody who will be dedicated and devoted to the university — someone who has a strong interest and has someone who has served in the capacity that can produce strong leadership."

Student trustees Eric Shehadi and Melissa Wasser have made an effort to stay in tune with the campus community, interacting with students so that they may adequately represent these students on the search committee.

"There are quite a few strong candidates, so without being too specific about any one of them, I'm pretty excited," Shehadi said. "What I've heard from getting out and talking to people, [students] want someone who is ready to commit to YSU, they want someone who wants to be here and that is ready to lead our university to our future and to success. They want someone who is coming here to stay."

Wasser agreed with Shehadi and added that, as a student trustee, she would make an effort to consider both student and faculty opinions.

"I think having two students on [the committee] really helps to represent the student body, and in a way we can also represent other groups on campus such as faculty and staff," Wasser said. "I know that there are no faculty and staff on the current committee. In order to expedite the process, we did agree that it would only be the Board of Trustees. I think Eric and I can really take in the opinions of the YSU community."

Meshel concluded that, while no one is perfect, he will make an effort to choose a candidate who is tried and proven.

"Perfection is an uncertain quality," he said. "You don't usually find that in every person with whom you deal, but you view what successes they've had in the past and how they've dealt with controversy and adversity and what was the ultimate result of their work and their efforts."

YNDC Visits Campus, Discusses Local Issues

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Tom Hetrick, a Youngstown Neighborhood Development Cooperation planner, spoke to a handful of students in Kilcawley Center's Gallery Room on Monday to discuss issues pertinent to the area.

The YNDC is a neighborhood development organization that works to improve Youngstown's quality of life through neighborhood revitalization — rebuilding market confidence, strengthening citywide infrastructure and encouraging investment in the neighborhoods.

Challenges like Youngstown's fading population and volatile housing market were addressed during Monday's event.

According to YNDC's Neighborhood Conditions Report — which utilizes data from the 2010 U.S. Census — Youngstown had a population of over 105,000 in 1990. The population decreased to just 65,000 by 2010.

The report also indicated that, since the recession of 2007, property values within the city have decreased significantly. As of 2013, the average value of a home rests at \$21,000.

Eric Shehadi, a YSU student, said the city's issues often parallel the university's

issues.

"We face a lot of the same challenges," Shehadi said. "YSU has seen enrollment decline. The city — we're seeing a population decline. How can we attract residents to the city? How can we attract students to the university? A lot of these issues go hand-in-hand."

Shehadi, who is also a student trustee, said that vacant properties near campus are a cause for concern, especially as the university continues to make an effort to attract new students.

"You don't want to mislead anyone, but you always want to show off the nicer things about the university. And I think more students want to be involved. We're seeing more students go to YNDC work days," he said. "I was glad to see that [the YNDC] were having [a meeting] at YSU. I think that YSU plays perhaps the most integral role in the future of this city."

Hetrick agreed with Shehadi and added that YSU is regarded as one of the city's top assets and that the areas surrounding campus are worth maintaining.

"We will be identifying where it makes sense to make improvements, and that would be around where the major assets are — to kind of improve the conditions

EMERGENT FUTURES NOW: JUSTSEEDS



Shaun Slifer (left) and Bec Young (right), two artists from the Justseeds Cooperative, spoke in the McDonough Museum of Art's lecture room on Wednesday.

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Youngstown State University's art department invited Shaun Slifer and Bec Young, artists from the Justseeds Artists' Cooperative, to the McDonough Museum of Art to speak to students about their group and provide a function-

ing example of modern artists working cooperatively.

Dana Sperry, professor of digital media, said the speech aimed to provide students with a working model of how artists work together.

"I heard Shaun talk about Justseeds at an apartment talk two years ago," Sperry said. "That talk was really honest

and forthright about artists working together — how that works or doesn't work. It is something that we don't talk about that all of you are going to have to do; all you are going to have to work with people. ... We have this mythology that somehow you will just go off to your study and be all by yourself, and that will be

KIDD STANDS UP FOR YOUNGSTOWN

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The Valley needs some help from the community and Phil Kidd might be just the person Youngstown has been looking for. Kidd is a dedicated citizen who looks to make Youngstown thrive again, or at least get people involved into the community.

"We need more soldiers who are willing to try and get involved," he said.

Kidd started the website Defend Youngstown to get people involved within the community. He got the idea from a sign in New Orleans that read "Defend New Orleans," which started in 2003 trying to get the citizens to preserve the historic landmarks of New Orleans.

"Defend Youngstown gets up in people's faces," he said. "I just wanted to attract people that cared about all the challenges around the city."

Defend Youngstown began in the summer of 2004. Kidd would stand in downtown Youngstown with a sign up that said "Defend Youngstown." He started this at first to just get people to listen and try to understand what he was trying to get to.

"I didn't know what I was doing, but I felt like Defend Youngstown was a message to people that thought like I did," he said.

Kidd isn't even from Youngstown, but he felt a certain connection because it reminded him a bit of his hometown.

"To me — someone who isn't from here — the biggest thing is I just couldn't understand why the community had such a self-deprecating attitude," he said. "It seemed like it [the city] was so down on itself, so I wanted to start Defend Youngstown."

Kidd grew up in a smaller, rustbelt town between Pittsburgh and Weirton, West Virginia. He said he feels that people from around the area have more of a work ethic and appreciate things that most others would take for granted.

"I feel like being from the Rustbelt makes us appreciate people more," Kidd said.

The urge to help his community is not just a recent desire — it is in Kidd's blood.

"My mom and my dad worked in a lot of redevelopment stuff in our community," he said. "I had that DNA in me growing up."



PHOTO BY JOSH MEDORE/THE JAMBAR.

Phil Kidd works at his Defend Youngstown shop downtown. Kidd started Defend Youngstown in 2004 and has worked to improve the Youngstown community.

Kidd knows that for Youngstown to be revitalized everyone in the community is going to have to play a part — or Youngstown could get beyond repair.

"It is a sink-or-swim type of situation," he said. "I feel like Youngstown is at a kind of tipping point, where a lot could happen that could be tremendously good or if we idle on some things it could be irreversible."

Even though he sees that the city could go into a downward spiral, he also sees the change in activity within the community.

"I have seen a contentions amount of people over the last ten years get involved," Kidd said.

With the Youngstown population continuing in

a constant downward motion the past few years, Kidd expresses that the future of the population will be in the hands of the students and how many Youngstown can attract.

"It is their [students'] community," Kidd said. "The whole future of Youngstown is going to be all the young people we can keep or attract."

Kidd said he hopes that he can make an impact in the community and turn the city around. He updates his website every Monday to get people aware of what is going on in the city.

Kidd said he wants what most of Youngstown does: to just see the city thrive again. He alone might not be able to turn the whole city around, but with help, it may be possible.

YNDC PAGE 1



PHOTO BY RICK POLLO/THE JAMBAR.

YNDC Neighborhood Planner Tom Hetrick addresses a group of students and faculty in the Gallery Room in Kilcawley Center.

right around and make them more attractive, make them places where people would like to go and visit," Hetrick said.

The YNDC will not only work to improve the areas surrounding YSU, Hetrick said; they will also continue to develop a partnership with the university by working with interns from YSU.

"YNDC has already benefited from having a few interns from YSU. They've helped us out on a lot of projects, whether it's planning projects or housing projects. Also, healthy food access. So I think there's already a strong partnership," Hetrick said.

Hetrick's presentation on Monday is part of the YN-

DC's attempt to reach community members and discuss issues that are most important to the Youngstown area. The non-profit organization has already held 10 meetings throughout the city's neighborhoods and has hosted a citywide meeting at the Covelli Centre.

JUSTSEEDS PAGE 1

enough to perpetuate yourself. That is not how that works."

The Justseeds Cooperative is a collection of 24 artists from across North America, who use their skills to create print and design work to express and support political, social and environmental beliefs. The group, which lacks any traditional or strict hierarchy, proliferates the idea of collaborative efforts working harmoniously with individual expression.

"We are a worker-owned cooperative — collectively structured group of politically themed print makers. That is kind of my elevator speech of what we do," Slifer said. "I think it has been seven years now that we have properly been a cooperative of people committed to working each other."

Though the cooperative is made of members across the continent, they own a distribution center in Pittsburgh — run by Young and Slifer. This is where they receive members' projects, archive members' work, sell prints and portfolios, and package and ship orders.

"The selling of things, the selling of prints, is a tactic for us to support each other individually and try to create sort of a financial basis to do permanent projects," Slifer said.

Aside from offering support to each other — financially, personally and professionally — and operating the distributive center, the group also produces installations in galleries, produce works together, create portfolios of work for display and sale, place wheatpaste posters on the streets and contribute graphics to grassroots groups they support.

"One of the ways we cooperate is to make portfolios," Young said. "I guess we feel that the portfolios are some of the most successful ways we cooperate."

The group creates portfolios of limited edition set of prints from their artists for collectors, libraries and archives, as well as assisting the movements they support

by offering free downloads of these graphics.

"For us, it is also an exercise in trying to focus and be integrated or in service to a type of movement that we believe in and want to contribute to or want to work within, but maybe aren't otherwise necessarily involved in," Slifer said. "A ton of us got involved in this kind of graphic work because we got tired of seeing the sorts of movements that we felt invested in, representing themselves horribly graphically. . . . These are also efforts at that."

Young said one such portfolio they worked on, dubbed "War is Trauma," involved working with Iraq Veterans Against the War — an organization they continue to collaborate with.

"[The portfolio] also contains work by veterans. So a lot of the Justseeds artists are involved with making artwork, but we also invited a lot of the veterans that were involved with Iraq Veterans Against the War to participate and put work in the portfolio," Young said.

Slifer said he worked with the veterans pasting work around Chicago protesting the redeployment of veterans with PTSD and other mental trauma.

"I was thirty that year, and I was rolling around with a guy who was 18 and had just bailed right after basic training. He was supposed to go to Iraq but had read a couple of books and was like, 'I'm not going,'" he said. "We were rolling around kind of graffitiing Chicago and it was a really powerful experience actually working with them directly."

Sperry said the event at YSU was part of the Emergent Future Now lecture series.

"This is the last installment of a long lecture series called Emergent Futures Now, which is about collaborations and collectives and cooperatives, and how they work and how they function," he said.

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NEWS BRIEFS

'Export to India' Seminar

On Friday, the "Export to India" seminar will be held in Williamson Hall from 9-11 a.m. The seminar is sponsored by the International Trade Assistance Center at Youngstown State University. Deepti Vithal, licensed international trade attorney, will be leading the seminar and will speak about Indian export opportunities for local businesses.

YSU Center for Applied History Wins Award

The Youngstown State University Center for Applied History, in addition to the Friends of the Youngstown Historical Center of Industry and Labor and the Massillon Museum, was presented the Public History Award from the Ohio Academy of History. The center received the award for a project that focused on labor history and the New Deal titled "Celebrating the Legacy of the New Deal."

One of the Most Promising Places to Work

Youngstown State University's Division of Student Affairs has been named one of the 30+ Promising Places to Work in Student Affairs. The recognition comes from the magazine Diverse: Issues In Higher Education and the American College Personnel Association. The list is based on a national study by the Center for Inclusion, Diversity and Academic Success. Ohio Wesleyan University was the only other Ohio school to make the list.

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Alcohol Awareness Month

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According to the National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence, more than 1,700 college students in U.S. die each year — about 4.65 per day — as a result of alcohol-related injuries.

The Youngstown State University program YSU for Recovery is a 12-step based drug and alcohol prevention program, which provides support for YSU students, faculty and staff who are seeking to address and eliminate harmful use of alcohol, tobacco and drugs.

Matthew Glover, student and founder of the program, said the idea of alcohol awareness is very important.

“Educating people on the effects of any addiction is very important because not only does the addiction destroy our lives it destroys the lives of everyone around us,” Glover said. “I think this is especially important to college students.”

Each year, more than 3.3 million college student’s ages 18-24 drive under the influence of alcohol and 599,000 students sustain alcohol-related injuries each year. A 2009 survey by the National Institutes of Health

also reports 40 percent of college student drinkers admitted to binge drinking at least once within two weeks of taking the survey.

On average, students who have been drinking assault approximately 700,000 other students and about 100,000 students are victims of alcohol-related sexual assault or date rape each year.

Glover said that creating a sense of awareness is important not only to those who may be battling a drug or alcohol problem, but to everyone.

“There are many people in this community that simply are not aware of the effects of alcohol and the damage that it causes not only to themselves, but everyone around them — including the people they love the most,” Glover said.

YSU for Recovery holds its meetings every Friday — excluding finals week — from 1-2 p.m. in Kilcawley Center’s Bresnahan Room III.

“The people that attend the YSU for Recovery meetings are like family,” Glover said. “We support each other through the ups and downs of the college experience and I am truly grateful to be part of a great group and great university.”

Binge drinking among young

More than 38 million American adults binge drink about four times a month. Some of the demographics of that activity:

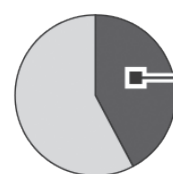
Drinking that brings a person’s blood alcohol concentration to 0.08 percent or higher:

For men  **5 drinks** in about 2 hours

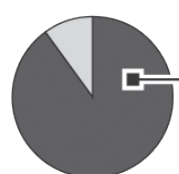
For women  **4 drinks** in about 2 hours

18-34

U.S. age group with the most binge drinkers



42.2% of full-time college students ages 18 to 22 were binge drinkers in 2010



About 90% of the alcohol youth under the age of 21 drink is during binge drinking



35.6% of non-college students in that age group were binge drinkers in 2010

1,700 College students die each year from alcohol-related causes — 1,300 of these from drinking and driving

Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, U.S. Department of Education, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

Graphic: Chicago Tribune

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FASHION WITH A PURPOSE



PHOTO BY CAITLIN SHERIDAN/THE JAMBAR

Students walk the runway during the EveryBODY Fashion Show on Tuesday. The show, now in its third year, was started in the memory of fashion merchandising student Danielle Peters.

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Danielle Peters was a fashion merchandising student at Youngstown State University. At the age of 21, in the summer of 2012, she passed away due to bulimia. In response, YSU fashion students decided to honor her memory and address the underlying issue of eating disorders by organizing the EveryBODY Fashion Show.

Peters' parents attended the 2012 Fashion Show held the fall after her passing. They said they were so touched by the show's message of body acceptance and mission to increase awareness about eating disorders that they decided to start the Danielle L. Peters Endowment to Promote Awareness of Eating Disorders in memory of their daughter.

This semester's show took place in Kilcawley Center's Chestnut Room on Tuesday and was sponsored by the endowment.

Jacqui Sepesy, a YSU fashion student and freelance model who posed in the show, said that the idea of beauty is up to interpretation.

"Beauty is in the eye of the beholder, but your health is in your hands," Sepesy said.

The Fashion Show opened up with a brief presentation on the types and seriousness of the eating disorders anorexia nervosa, bulimia nervosa and binge eating disorder in addition to other eating and feeding

disorders.

Priscilla Gitmu, coordinator of YSU's fashion merchandising program and an associate professor, stressed the importance of seeking help if you suspect you may be suffering from an eating disorder.

"Getting help is a smart and courageous thing to do — for yourself and for those who care for you," Gitmu said.

The evening consisted of three ballet dance performances by Sepesy, Kaitlyn Fabian and Shannon Joy. The themes of the catwalks were Emerging Spring, Sunny Summer, Active Wear, Special Occasion, Bridal and the Finale. There was also an active intermission where the DJ requested the audience members to take a selfie and tweet it to the show's Twitter page, YSU EveryBODY FS.

The merchandise came from retailers and designers, some local and others that originated in the area and made it big elsewhere. The list includes: Angel Rivera Couture, Tre Sorelle Boutique, The Encore Shop, Jesus Speak, E.J. Hannah, Traci Lynn Fashion Jewelry, Evaline's Bridal, Nanette Lepore, Dillard's, Cece Couture, Jacqueline's Bridal and Tome James. Hair and makeup was done by Ulta Beauty.

Students started to prepare for the fashion show in January at the beginning of the semester. Each one was in charge of a particular role.

Cassie Campana, a junior and fashion merchandising major, said the show really inspired her to love the body that she is in and to not be afraid of wear-

ing what she wants. She said the goal of the show was to display awareness about eating disorders and promote that we should all love our bodies, no matter what size they are.

"I think people should definitely get the word out about eating disorders because they aren't something you should take lightly," Campana said. "People could have a fundraiser or even host an event, like tonight, to raise awareness for eating disorders."

At first, Campana was not going to model. She was originally in charge of handling the merchandise, but after one of her classmates asked her to model one of the bridesmaids' dresses, Campana couldn't say no.

"The show came out great! I was very pleased with how everything ran smoothly," she said. "I am so happy that I got to be apart of this show."

Jerrilyn Guy, a psychology major, was in charge of updating the Twitter page during the show. Guy said she believes that bringing members of the community together to educate them on this topic is very wise.

"I think it says a lot about YSU, and it's very sincere coming from the fashion merchandising department," she said. "I feel as if eating disorders is something that doesn't get as much attention as it deserves because eating disorders are more common than people think and usually overlooked."

Additional reporting by Brittany Landsberger

STACY'S SKETCHES

GRAPHIC BY STACY RUBINOWITZ/THE JAMBAR



EDITORIAL

THE APPEAL OF EQUALITY

A federal judge ruled on Monday that Ohio must recognize same-sex marriages performed in other states. While gay couples still can't get married in this state, it's a step in the right direction.

"The record before this court ... is staggeringly devoid of any legitimate justification for the state's ongoing arbitrary discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation," Timothy Black, the judge who presided over the case, said.

He's right.

There's no solid argument for the banning of gay marriage. There's no clear detriment to society, no immediate threat to the fabric of America.

Those who argue for religious reasons forget that the separation of church and state exists to prevent religious law from becoming the law of the land.

Arguing against gay marriage because it could tear apart our society isn't effective either. Seventeen states have already legalized gay marriage, and they aren't falling apart at the seams.

People who argue that it destroys "traditional marriage" seem to ignore the fact that Tiger Woods, Donald Trump and Mel Gibson — all of whom have had traditional marriages end in highly publicized fashions — are more of a threat to that standard than two people who happen to be the same sex who love each other.

At some point, same sex marriage will be legal in all 50 states. Ohio is one step closer with this ruling.

No one can say for sure when the final step will come and gay marriage will be legal, but it's hard to imagine it being that far off.

There's no need to continue to discriminate based on someone's sexual orientation. You can't discriminate based on someone's race or age or gender or ancestry, so why would orientation be any different?

Calling the current ban on gay marriage anything but discrimination is wrong. By banning it, the state is effectively saying that members of the LGBT community have less rights than a straight person.

Hopefully, the appeal falls through and those who have to go elsewhere to have their union recognized will have the same rights as any other married couple in Ohio.

And hopefully, in the near future, those that have to leave the state to get married will no longer have to do so.

CORRECTION

In Tuesday's issue of *The Jambar*, we incorrectly stated that the next university president will be eighth president of Youngstown State University. It should have read that the next president will be the ninth. We deeply regret the error.

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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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LETTER — TO THE — EDITOR

Coach Jim Tressel's application for YSU president is certainly exciting.

But university trustees need to keep their wits about them, and hold him to the same standard of scrutiny as they would any other candidate — if not a tougher standard.

As an alumnus, I want what's best for my alma mater and the city I call home.

Of course Coach Tressel's name brings back memories of YSU's glory days in football, a time that was pivotal in the university's history. His time here put us on the map, and as the university marches into the future, seeking to grow and evolve and form a clear identity, maybe a man like Jim Tressel could bring what we need.

He has proven himself as a leader on the field, showing he can build programs up, like he did with the Penguins and later the Buckeyes. He knows the region well and we could safely assume he would care more about YSU's role in building up Youngstown and Northeast Ohio than other candidates without such close ties.

He knows the collegiate system well enough after 35

years and probably has quite a few good connections across the country that would be good for fundraising.

Assuming the NCAA doesn't hamper his authority over athletics, his presence could also prove to be a jumpstart for athletics at a time when YSU is on the cusp of a return to sports glory.

But Coach Tressel is no saint, nor should he be seen as a panacea for YSU's administrative woes.

He has experience in higher education, but largely on the field of play. Granted, leading a large football program like Ohio State for 10 years is no small undertaking, and his administrative experience in that capacity is worth consideration.

But is he the educator that other candidates are? Does he have the full scope of collegiate administrative experience we need, or something comparable? How do his resume and qualifications measure up with others? The name isn't everything, especially when that name has serious concerns attached to it.

Let us not forget that Coach

Tressel has made some unsound decisions, and his ability to handle difficult situations with the highest standard of integrity remains in question. If he had trouble maintaining a standard of honesty and transparency in a football program at OSU, is he trustworthy when the reputation of the entire university is at stake?

Furthermore, is administration really what he wants? Is the football bug truly gone from his blood or so easily suppressed? What happens in two to three years when the NCAA's show-cause order is up, and a prestigious football program in need of a proven winner starts looking at our prospective president? Could he resist a return to the gridiron and all that comes with it?

Tressel could be a big win for YSU, sure. But he's also a major gamble. Trustees and the campus community need to be certain that Tressel comes with enough advantages to select him over all the questions and all the likely better-qualified candidates.

Dan Pompili
Youngstown

Has GM Pulled a Pinto?

Los Angeles Times
(MCT)

In the late 1960s, a charismatic vice president at Ford Motor Co. decided to bring out a low-priced car that could be produced for little money while bringing in huge profits. The executive's name was Lee Iacocca, and the Ford Pinto he championed became one of the most infamous models in U.S. automotive history. Why? Because to save money, Ford released a car that could explode in even low-speed rear-end collisions.

I still teach the Pinto case to my law students as an example of how profits sometimes overwhelm principle. Even a savings of a couple of bucks per vehicle becomes significant when multiplied over the course of production.

Recently, another Detroit CEO, Mary Barra, sat before a congressional committee answering withering questions about the Cobalt, a low-cost car produced by General Motors with a design flaw that the company acknowledges was responsible for more than a dozen deaths. For those of us who teach the Pinto case, the similarities are unsettling.

As with the Pinto, the problem with GM's Cobalt involved a design flaw — in this case, a faulty ignition switch that could shift, under certain circumstances, from the "run" position to the "accessory" position while the car was being driven. This led to a loss of power and a shutdown of both the power-steering and air-bag

systems. Documents indicate that GM knew of the defect as far back as 2004, but the company did not recall vehicles until February of this year. By that time, the flaw had been implicated in at least 13 deaths and 31 crashes.

So, has GM pulled a Pinto? You be the judge.

The impetus for Ford's making the Pinto came from Iacocca himself, who wanted to achieve a 2,000/2,000 car: a vehicle that would weigh less than 2,000 pounds and could be sold for less than \$2,000. That was the holy grail of the industry, considered a sure bet to make a fortune.

To meet those goals, however, the Pinto was stripped of some basic safety elements. The car was fitted with a flimsy chrome bumper located just inches from the gas tank, which had design flaws of its own. The combination of problems meant that the gas tank was likely to rupture and explode in even low-speed collisions. This risk could have been largely abated by an inexpensive standard gas tank liner and other simple, non-costly fixes, including some costing as little as a couple of dollars per car.

The company's own crash tests before the Pinto's release made clear that the gas tank was subject to rupture in a rear-end crash at relatively low speeds. But a reluctance to add cost to the car — a production-line fix would have added, by Ford's estimate, about \$11 a car — kept the company from addressing the problem in advance. Later, when the scope of the problem was becoming

clear, Ford executives calculated that it would be cheaper to pay out damages than to spend the money to protect drivers and passengers.

By the time the Pintos were coming off the line, its chief champion, Iacocca, had been named president of Ford. Later, he headed Chrysler, where he was credited with bringing the company back from the financial brink and was embraced by presidents and the public as an icon of the industry.

Iacocca fared a lot better than some Pinto owners. One case we study in class is that of Grimshaw v. Ford Motor Co. The case was brought on behalf of Richard Grimshaw, who was 13 and riding in his neighbor's Pinto when it was hit from behind after stalling on a road. The driver suffered severe burns to her entire body, which led to her dying soon thereafter from heart failure. Grimshaw survived but with permanently disfiguring burns to his entire body. The jury appeared as horrified by Ford's disregard of customer safety as it was by the crash itself. It hit Ford with a \$122-million punitive award, which the court later reduced to \$3.5 million.

According to documents, it appears that GM identified the problem with the Cobalt in the early 2000s but rejected a fix due to a "tooling cost" deemed too high. The families and friends of those who died because of the Cobalt's design flaws — like those who lost loved ones in Pintos — would certainly disagree.

Perry in Portsmouth

KP hopes to shine at NBA pre-draft camp

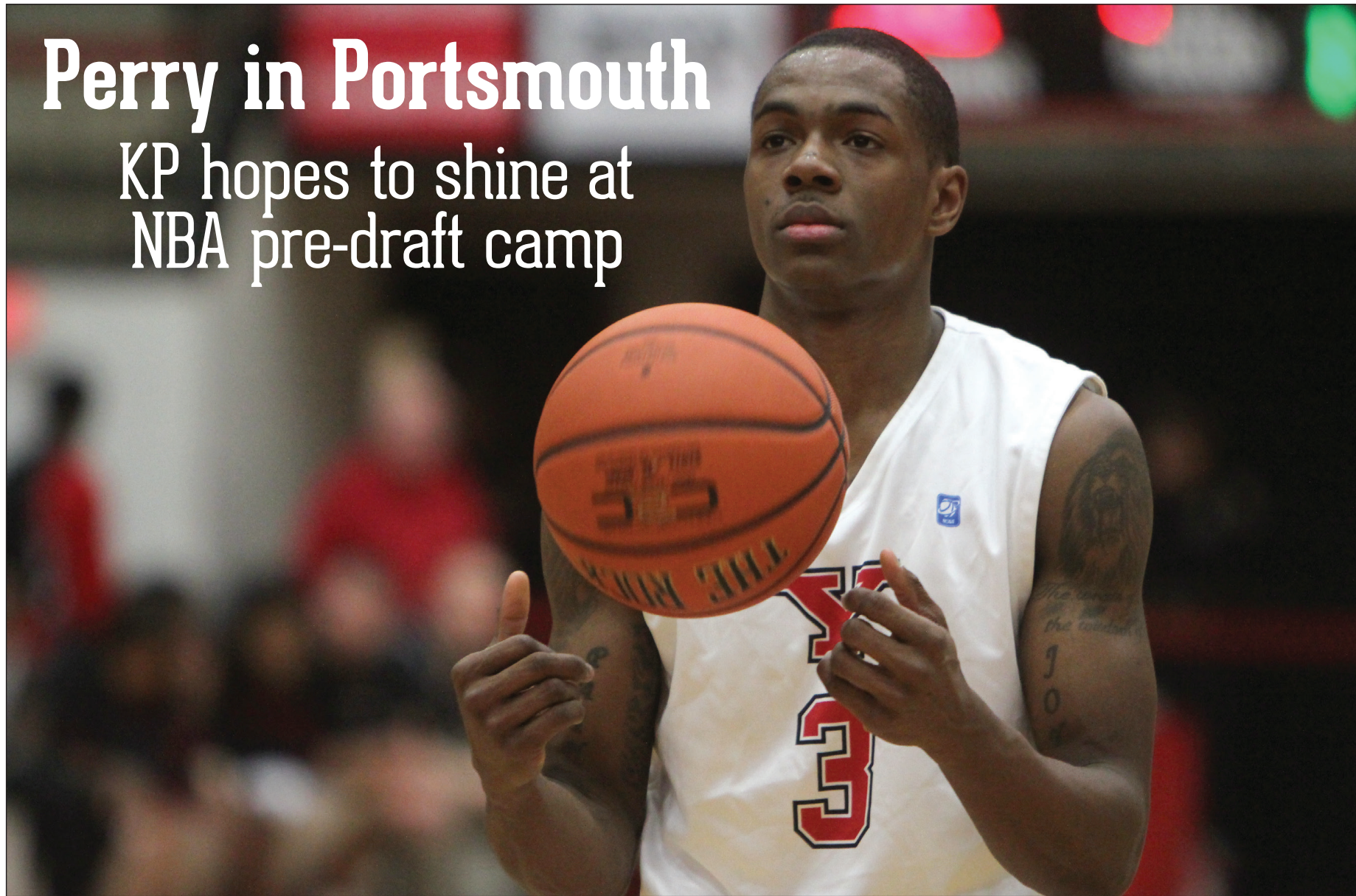


PHOTO BY DUSTIN LIVESAY/THE JAMBAR

Former Youngstown State University basketball player Kendrick Perry prepares to take a free throw against Oakland University on March 1. The Penguins lost 87-81 during senior night and Perry's last home game of his YSU career.

STEVE WILAJ

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Kendrick Perry — having just completed a rich four-year run with the Penguins basketball team — knows it can be easy to get caught up in the moment.

During his four-day stint at the Portsmouth Invitational Tournament, a pre-draft NBA prospect camp that began on Wednesday and wraps up Saturday, that's exactly what he doesn't want to do.

When he performs in front of representatives from each NBA team, as well as international scouts, he simply wants to do what got him national recognition.

"The total mindset is just to be yourself," Perry said prior to the camp. "A lot of times, you see guys try to do stuff that really isn't their character and isn't the reason they got invited to Portsmouth to begin with.

"Obviously, somebody somewhere saw something they liked about me. So I'm just going to keep trying to do what I do, but at the same time get better at what I do."

The P.I.T. invites the top 64 college seniors to

the camp — which is held at the Churchland High School Sports Complex in Virginia — and allows them to display their skills in 12 games over a period of four days.

Perry is the first-ever Youngstown State University player to participate at the P.I.T., which has been going strong since 1953. The tournament is divided between eight teams — Perry will play for the Mike Duman squad.

"I'm not going to try to do anything too crazy or anything that I don't think I'm capable of," he said. "I'm just going to go in there with a positive mindset and do things that I've been doing all of my life and let the results pan out for themselves."

In his four years with the Penguins, Perry earned three All-Horizon League First-Team selections and finished as the school's Division I leading scorer with 1,991 career points. He also set a Horizon League record for career steals and was named to the conference's all-defensive team this past year.

He's hoping the P.I.T. is another step that will help him reach his ultimate dream of playing in the NBA.

"It's a huge opportunity and definitely something that I cherish," he said. "When you're given the opportunity like this you can't really half-do it. You have to take full advantage."

In an effort to do so, Perry left YSU's campus and returned to his hometown of Ocoee, Fla., about a month ago shortly after the Penguins season ended.

While still trying to complete his courses online and graduate in the spring, he began working out with the Orlando Hoops training team. Perry trains five days a week and twice a day at the OHoops facility.

"One day, for the first session, we'll do ball handling and some shooting," he explained. "Then I take a little break and come back and hit the weights and do some agility work. Then the next day it'll be cone drills."

It's a rigorous routine the criminal justice major said he enjoys.

"We just do different stuff and try to mix it up — try not to keep the same routine," he said. "They try to keep me on my toes and it's really fun."

Like he enjoys his workouts, Perry said he's simply trying to "cherish" the entire process of striving to make it in professional basketball.

"I've had people ask me if I'm anxious or nervous, but I don't really see it that way," he said. "I'm just thankful for the position that I'm in because a lot of people don't get these chances."

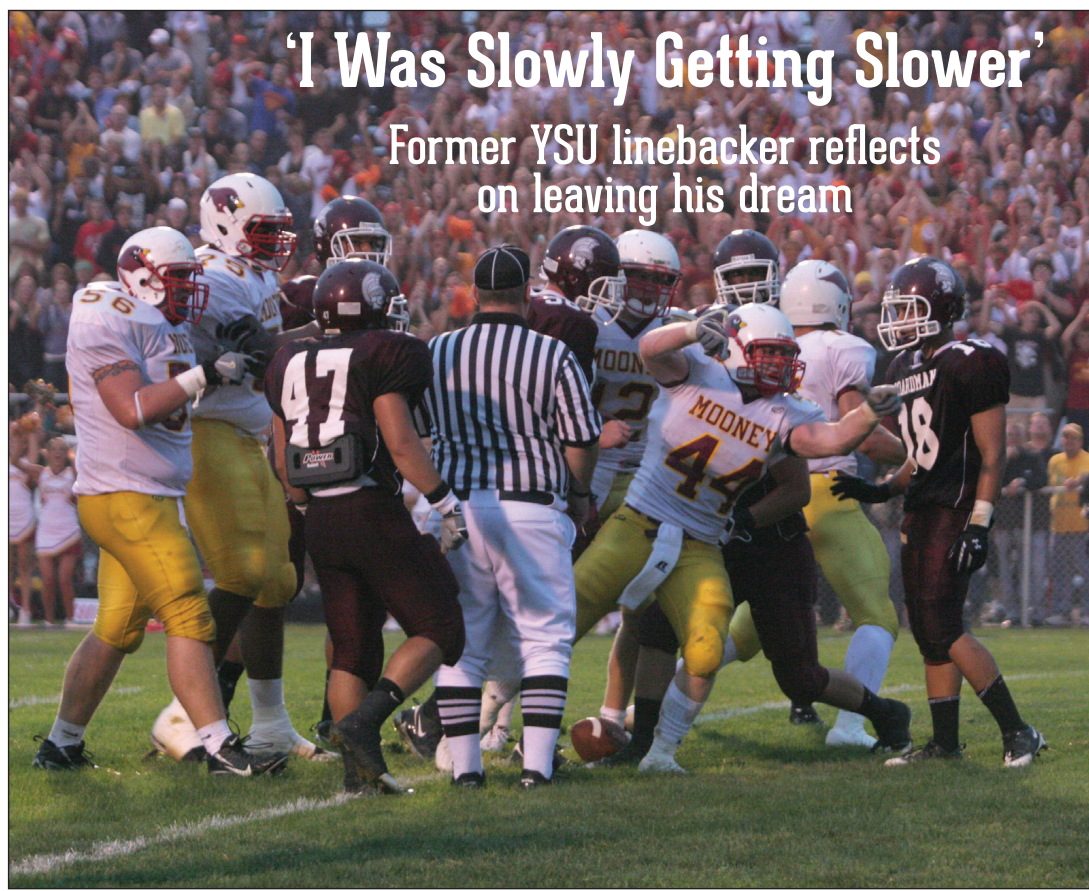


PHOTO COURTESY OF GARY HOUSTEAU

Mark Brandenstein (44) celebrates during a game between Cardinal Mooney and Boardman during his high school playing days. Brandenstein played linebacker and fullback at Mooney along with a brief stint at Youngstown State University.

JOE CATULLO JR.

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After receiving his eighth concussion during spring practice in 2011, and numerous times before, Mark Brandenstein took a good look at himself, questioning his toughness and desire to play football.

It wasn't through a mirror or photos.

"I remember when I had a lot of my concussions [that] I would sit in my room," Brandenstein said. "I felt like I had an out-of-body experience. I'd

lie there, and I felt like I was looking at myself. You realize that that's just not what you want to go through."

It is always a tear-jerking moment when an athlete retires from any sport. It's worse when an athlete is told he or she has to quit.

Brandenstein experienced this — being told by individuals to leave the game he loves so deeply. Nobody probably loves football at Youngstown State University as much as Brandenstein, but he ultimately had no choice.

"I saw three different doc-

tors," he said. "I was in Pittsburgh. The guy that looked at me, who always works for the [Pittsburgh] Steelers, told me that I was slowly getting slower in everyday life. That kind of hit me a little hard and made me realize maybe there is more to life than just the sport."

A concussion is a traumatic brain injury that alters the way one's brain functions, according to Mayo Clinic. Concussions are caused by a blow or jolt to one's head. Concussions also have life-threatening effects, but that didn't stop

Brandenstein after his first seven.

"It's a kid's dream, and I've been playing football my whole life since the first grade," he said. "It's a lifestyle that you do, and I think that just kept me going. You always want to be that star. Especially playing for Youngstown — I grew up here. You want to be the face of what you love."

"You realize, once you're in high school, you just start shaking them [concussions] off. I've become more knowledgeable of what these things could become."

Brandenstein sustained most of his concussions during his high school days at Cardinal Mooney. He was concussed the last two times with YSU.

As a senior in high school, Brandenstein was a first-team All-Ohio Division III linebacker and a first-team Division III Northeast Inland District selection. While also playing fullback, he was credited with 54 tackles during his senior year, including a team-high 36 solo while 7.5 were for losses.

"Being a linebacker, being a guy who has that mentality of winning and hitting hard and running fast and just that attack mentality, it weighs a lot on your brain," said Kurt Hess, former YSU quarterback. "When somebody looks at you and tells you that you can't play the game anymore because you've gotten hit too many times, it really hurts a guy like that. I respect Mark just numerous amounts because he's gone through a lot."

During his freshman year with the Penguins in 2010, Brandenstein played spe-

cial teams, mainly on kickoff coverage. He played in all 11 games and totaled 13 tackles. He also earned his first letter.

"We just decided that it wasn't in his best interest to continue playing football," YSU head coach Eric Wolford said. "He still wanted to and his family did, but I just noticed a difference."

Despite experiencing what no athlete should, Brandenstein encourages younger generations to play football or any sport they desire. The fear of concussions shouldn't stop them.

"Obviously, every parent doesn't want their kid to get hurt, but you can't hide them, too," he said. "They need to be able to be out there and determine for themselves what they want to do."

Brandenstein continues to stick around the Penguins and some of his former teammates that still play. He joined YSU's strength and conditioning staff as a student assistant shortly after his last concussion.

Whether it's attending classes, lifting weights or pretty much anything else, the big question that sticks with Brandenstein is "what if?"

"Especially on game days and things like that, you sit back and are like 'Gosh, could I have done this one more time? Could I have done this one more time? Should I have not said anything?' It boils in you," Brandenstein said. "But, overall, I would have to say that it was the smarter decision on my part. I'm happy with where everything's going, and I have to live with it."