The student voice of Youngstown State University since 1931

Penguins prepare for match against IPFW PAGE 8 Ohio declared nerdiest state

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Basketball coaches express continued frustration

ONLINE

posed properties

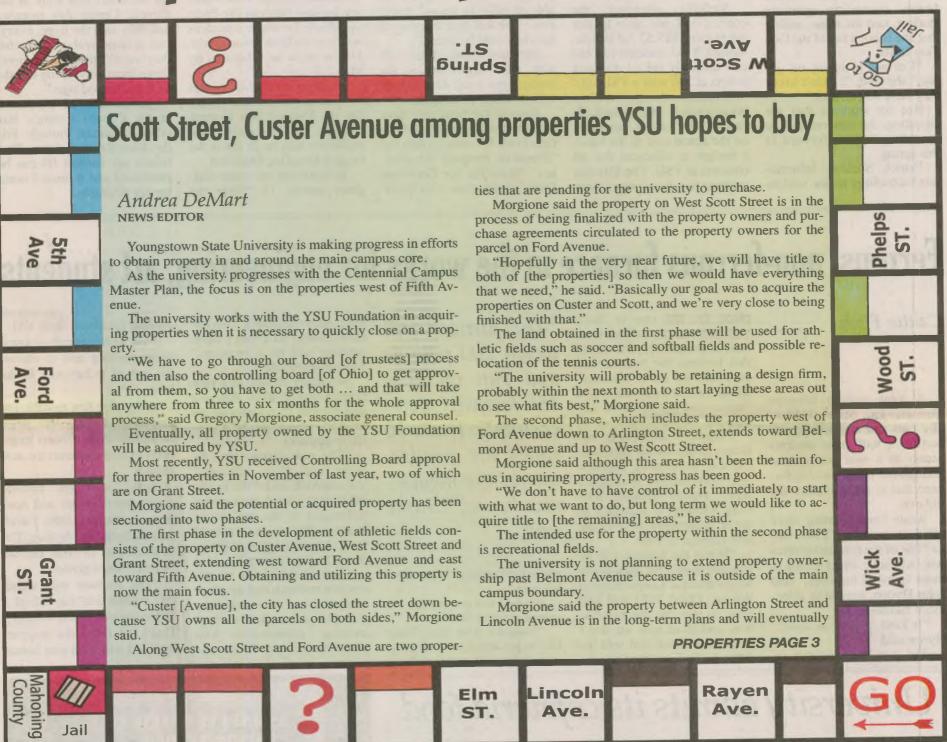


PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY BONNIE SIEMBIEDA

Jail

YSU may enforce summer enrollment for employees

Ienna Medina REPORTER

Youngstown State University student employees may not enjoy the idea of school in the summertime, but a university policy states that they must be enrolled during the semester they're working.

During the first Student Association Government spring meeting on Jan. 24, Judith Gaines proposed a preceding idea, which would force student employees to enroll for summer courses in order to work on campus.

Her job was to receive student feedback, and all of it was negative. Members of SGA were not thrilled to hear about the proposal and knew mostly nothing about its details.

With hopes of reviving the policy, Jack Fahey, interim vice president for Student Affairs and ombudsperson, is requesting student feedback for comments and suggestions. He is prepared with answers and ready for strong opinions that could lead to a solution.

"E-mail, rant, come visit

me," Fahey said.

According to the University Guidebook, "To be eligible for employment under hourly student wages or task-based stipend, students must be currently enrolled for a minimum of one course and no less than three credits and in good academic standing."

Fahey said the university has just "migrated away from

He explained particular reasons as to why the policy should be reinforced.

There is a strategic plan YSU has in order to improve

[the] graduation rate. It is encouraged that students should attend classes throughout the summer, which will help progress towards a degree that more quickly," Fahey said.

The Student Affairs Committee also plans to offer more classes with different varieties during summer semesters than previous years. This will allow students to have more options to choose from.

SUMMER PAGE 3

Campus Connection

Should students have to be enrolled in class to work in the summer?



"It wouldn't bother me. If it's going to increase classes in the summer, then I'm in."

Vincent Wells,

senior



"I probably won't end up working then. I like to have the entire semester to get things done, not a six-week cram session."

Chelsea Buskirk, sophomore

YSU implements Federal Direct Loan Program

Marissa McIntyre REPORTER

Youngstown State University switched to the Federal Direct Loan Program for financial aid at the end of fiscal year 2010 as a preemptive move to a federal mandate that forced all state universities to make the change.

The Reconciliation Act of 2010 abolished the Family Federal Education Loan Program, the second largest U.S. higher education loan program, causing the switch to the Federal Direct Loan Program, the largest U.S. higher education loan program.

Eileen Greaf, executive director of Financial Services, said Youngstown State University prepared to make the

switch and did so in May. "Ultimately, it was going to be mandatory, and we wanted to be ahead of the curve and make the switch under our

time and not the federal government's time," Greaf said. She said the switch was made in time for students registering for the summer 2010 semester, putting the university one semester ahead of the required switch date, which was set for July 1.

"[Under the new program, students] don't need to pick a lender. They're not using a bank. It's straight to the federal government," Greaf said.

Students must complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid and choose whether they wish to accept the loans offered.

"The process to students is blind. Nothing really changed for them," Greaf said.

Elaine Ruse, director of the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships, said she was impressed with how smooth the transition went for both the students and the office.

She said the counselors "took the lead to meet with students to secure their financial aid." Ruse added that late registrations became the only frustrations.

LOAN PAGE 3

Not all students go ga ga for Goo Goo Dolls concert

Chelsea Miller
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT
EDITOR

Tickets for Youngstown State University's Goo Goo Dolls concert went on sale Friday, but many students were unaware of the scheduled show.

"That's my first hearing about it," senior English major Rachel Dicken said on Monday afternoon.

"I'm not planning on going. I didn't know they were still a band."

-Melissa Bach

Melissa Bach, mental health counseling graduate student, said the same, adding that she is not a fan of the Goo Goo Dolls.

"I'm not planning on going," she said. "I didn't know they were still a band."

But for students that are attending, the concert will be something to look forward to this spring.

Patrick Shelton, information technology major, said he



The Goo Goo Dolls will play a concert at the Covelli Centre on April 12. YSU students can get tickets at a discounted rate of \$10. Photo courtesy of Adobe Photoshop Graphic.

is a longtime fan of the Goo Goo Dolls.

"I'm planning on going if I have cash," he said.

Students attending the concert will not have to pay the regular \$29.50 for tickets, though. YSU students can obtain specially priced discount tickets at \$10 with a YSU ID.

Danielle Long, student programming intern, said although she cannot comment on the actual cost of the band, a budget is allocated for all concerts at YSU. The \$10 that students pay is to ensure there

are enough tickets for the student body.

"If we were to do it completely free, we wouldn't be able to offer as many," Long said. "We felt that discounted tickets would be better."

Penguin Productions will also offer opportunities for students to score free tickets with a variety of contests.

Fans of the band will have an opportunity to meet the Goo Goo Dolls by entering into the "Frequent Penguin Pre-Partier," "Gah-Gah for Goo Goo Dolls" or the "Goo Goo Dolls"

Biggest Fan" contests.

Students that regularly attend Penguin Pre-Parties on campus will receive a punch card at each party. Those who have received four out of five punches can be entered into a drawing on March 24 to win two meet-and-greet passes.

Think of yourself as the Goo Goo Dolls' biggest fan? Meet-and-greet passes can also be acquired by proving this statement.

Students submitting a music video of themselves performing or lip-syncing a Goo Goo Dolls song have the opportunity to win. Participants can submit their entries via YSU Penguin Productions' Facebook page or by e-mailing ysu.googoodollscontest@gmail.com.

The top five will be chosen by the Penguin Productions committee and showcased during the last Penguin Pre-Party on March 24 where attendees will vote on their favorite two. Entries must be submitted by March 4.

Students can also submit entries via Facebook or e-mail for the Biggest Fan Contest by Feb. 20. This entry must showcase why he or she is the biggest Goo Goo Dolls fan.

In addition to meet-andgreet passes, 15 "Slide the Line" passes will be distributed throughout the Jan. 20 through March 4 time frame. Concertgoers with a "Slide the Line" pass will be able to enter the arena through the VIP entrance 15 minutes before doors open to the public.

The concert will be held 7 p.m. April 12 at the Covelli Centre

Joy Polkabla-Byers, assistant director of programs and special events, said the concert would be held at the Covelli Centre this year as opposed to on campus because of scheduling conflicts. Polkabla-Byers said around 800 tickets were purchased for students so far, but more will be purchased if they sell out.

"It will depend on if students are interested, which we are hoping," she said. "I talked to a couple committee members that were at the Covelli Centre this morning and they said the hype, everyone seemed real excited, that they've already had students down there purchasing tickets, so that's a good sign."

Tickets can be purchased at the Covelli Centre's box office, Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Two tickets per student ID can be purchased and a limited number are available.

Ferrous, non-ferrous furnace in the works for engineering, art students

Caitlin Fitch

A joint venture between Youngstown State University's art and engineering departments will grant students access to a new ferrous and non-ferrous metal burning furnace that is set to replace the old one.

Aside from creating more efficient projects, YSU will be "one of the few universities who will have direct access to these types of furnaces," said John Hyden, executive director of facilities.

"It kind of sets us apart," Hyden said.

The new furnace will re-

place the old one in Bliss Hall, which is an indirect non-ferrous furnace. Hyden added that because the furnace will only run six times a semester for two or three hours at a time, a cost has yet to be calculated.

Brian Vuksanovich, assistant professor of mechanical and engineering technology, said "nothing is concrete now." He is working with Greg Moring, a professor in the art department, to bring the new furnace to YSU.

"While the furnace will be donated mostly by Ajax Tocco Magnethermic Corporation in Warren, Ohio, YSU will still have to pay for the installation, and as of now we don't know how much that will be. After we find out, then we can

"The furnace will weigh 200 pounds and run off of a 150-kilowatt power supply. That's 10 times the requirements of a modest-size house." Burke said.

apply for funding," Vuksanovich said.

He said this project has received positive feedback.

"Students love this. They like to get hands on with projects, and we've gotten nothing

but positive feedback from administration, so I don't think funding will be a problem," Vuksanovich said.

Vuksanovich said this new furnace would allow different departments to collaborate on projects, which will be a benefit to students.

"The new furnace will be faster and more efficient," Vuksanovich said. "We're trying to apply these engineering techniques to the real world because this is the type of work they could potentially be doing for their career."

Ted Burke, head of operations research and development at Ajax Tocco, said the corporation has had a long-standing relationship with YSU. Many Ajax Tocco em-

ployees graduated from YSU. "We want students to know

about melting and to further the use of induction," Burke said.

In the next few months, en-

gineering students will work alongside Ajax Tocco engineers to help construct the new furnace.

Burke said the furnace would burn ferrous and non-ferrous metals, iron, steel, copper, brass and bronze. The furnace will be 100 percent electrical draw power.

"The furnace will weigh 200 pounds and run off of a 150-kilowatt power supply. That's 10 times the requirements of a modest-size house.

University admits its cafeteria food choice on MLK Day was insensitive

Nate Jackson L.A. TIMES

LOS ANGELES - A lastminute decision to serve fried chicken and waffles in a campus dining hall in honor of Martin Luther King Jr. was a regrettable choice and lacked sensitivity, officials at the University of California, Irvine, acknowledged Wednesday.

The meal was served at Pippin Commons on the first night of UCI's 28th annual Martin Luther King Jr. symposium, a three-day campus event themed "Uniting our Voice for Change." Past speakers have included Dick Gregory, Julian Bond and the late Yolanda King, the civil rights leader's eldest child.

The Jan. 17 menu and a sign in the dining hall reading "MLK Holiday Special: Chicken and Waffles" were pulled together at the last minute by a chef and other staff members at the cafeteria, a culinary choice that was made without any oversight from the university, said UCI spokeswoman Cathy Lawhon.

UCI student Ricardo Sparks, the 20-year-old cochair of the university's Black Student Union, lodged a formal complaint with the administration after seeing the sign and the entree.

Sparks said the insensitivity of the decision has sparked outrage within the student union and other ethnic student organizations on campus.

"It's just another in a long line of small events on our campus that aren't meant to be taken in a certain way, but are at least questionable in their cultural legitimacy," said John Murillo III, 21, director of communications for the Black Student Union.

The fact that the incident occurred during the symposium was especially disappointing, Murillo said.

"It takes all the radicalism and activism that we tried to do with the symposium and then (the cafeteria) serves chicken and waffles and takes away from all the stuff that we did," Murillo said.

Officials at the university agreed Wednesday that serving chicken and waffles at a campus cafeteria on Martin Luther King Jr. Day was not in "good taste."

Lawhon said the intention behind the menu was to offer comforting food for students in conjunction with the MLK Day holiday.

"But it probably wasn't the most sensitive thing," Lawhon said. Thomas Parham, vice chancellor of student affairs, tried without success to schedule a meeting with Sparks and another student who had filed a complaint, Lawhon said. Sparks said he had waited to respond until he rallied other students to attend to meeting.

University officials said they are now trying to set up a meeting with Sparks and others next week.

No disciplinary action has been taken against the chef, and it was unclear if any action would be taken in the future, Lawhon said.

Officials with Aramark Corp., which provides dining services for student housing, said they will conduct cultural sensitivity training for all managers and chefs.

Sparks and other students on campus said that racially inappropriate incidents have been dealt with lightly in the past.

"I understand people have prejudice and ignorance," Sparks said. "But this is out in the community and nobody is saying anything about it."

Last week, the Thalia Surf Shop in nearby Laguna Beach was criticized for offering 20 percent off black-colored items for Martin Luther King Jr. Day. The shop's owner later apologized.





NEWS BRIEFS

Annual art exhibit features work of 60 former students

To help celebrate its 20th anniversary, the John J. Mc-Donough Museum of Art will exhibit the work of former YSU art students from Feb. 19 to March 18. The exhibition is titled REUNION and features 60 artists from across the world. YSU Department of Art faculty members, from both the past and present, submitted names of former students who now work as art professors, painters, animators, sculptors and more. The McDonough is open Tuesdays through Saturdays, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., and admission is free.

Wednesdays in February include free musical performances

At 12:15 p.m. every Wednesday this month, the YSU Dana School of Music and the Butler Institute of American Art will present free Music at Noon performances. The concerts, which are free and open to the public, will take place at the Butler. Tuesday's concert will feature Jazz Combos. Feb. 9 will be a Clarinet Studio, Feb. 16 will be the YSU Tuba/Euphonium Studio Recital and Feb. 23 will be the YSU Percussion Ensemble.

Ethics Week features ethical business practices presentations, discussions

The Williamson College Business Administration's Business Ethics Week 2011 will begin next week. This year's theme is "Why Do Good People Make Bad Choices?" On Feb. 11, keynote speaker Diann Catanni will relate her experiences serving 18 months in federal prison in 2002 for embezzling nearly \$500,000. Check-in and registration is from 8:45 to 9:10 a.m. The ethics conference will take place in the WCBA Conference Center in Williamson Hall. Ethics Week will also feature other presentations and discussions. For more information, contact the Lariccia School of Accounting and Finance.

POLICE BRIEFS

Male student exposes himself to female janitor

While cleaning a men's restroom in Kilcawley House on Thursday, a female janitor encountered a male student who used the restroom and then turned around to face her with his pants still down. The janitor said this wasn't her first encounter with this student. A YSU Police officer later spoke with the student, who claimed that he didn't realize he was exposing himself and that it would not happen again. YSU Police advised the janitor to lock herself in the restroom while cleaning it in the future.

Wanted man identified in Rec Center

On Tuesday, a man attempted to enter the Andrews Student Recreation and Wellness Center without his YSU ID. An officer appeared on the scene and recognized the male, who had a past trespass warning. During questioning, the male said he was a student but could not find his ID. Police later identified the male as having an active warrant for his arrest from the Boardman Police Department for possessing. The male was taken into custody.



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SUMMER PAGE 1

Another factor toward reinforcing the policy is financial aid. Fahey said he wants to change financial aid in order to make it possible for students to afford an extra semester of school.

Student employee Michael Nigro had nothing but constructive comments to add to the table.

"I think it's a good idea. It forces us to get ahead. If not, then you can't work in the summer or make money," Nigro said.

Summer semester requires three credit hours of a student's time if he or she wants to continue being employed during the summer months.

Jocques Spragling, a student employee at the Andrews Student Recreation and Wellness Center, had a different opinion.

"I feel like that's bull. I don't like it. I feel like two semesters are always so hard. I just need a break. It would be cool if I lived on campus, but I commute," Spragling said.

Fahey said he hopes to hear pros and cons toward the idea, and he encourages students to look at it from all sides.

Fahey wants to consult with students before any major decisions are made. This is a request in which he wants to make sure the best choice is made

"Students don't have to sign up for bogus classes just to meet requirements," Fahey



PROPERTIES PAGE 1

be used for additional parking, once it has all been obtained.

"Most of the time we're buying [property] because we have an intended use for the property. However, there are times where the property is in such close proximity or is so integrated within the campus that we would like to control that property and be able to dictate how that property is used or developed," Morgione said.

Standard operation for YSU when obtaining new property is to offer the appraisal value.

"When we acquire a piece of property that is less than \$100,000 we have to have at least one appraisal for ... so we would order an appraisal and whatever that

appraisal is, that's what we would offer to the seller," Morgione said. "If a property's over \$100,000 ... in that regard you would need two appraisals to justify your price."

He said offering appraised value could help those looking to sell because they may not receive full appraisal value in the real estate market.

YSU uses two separate funds to purchase properties. One of the funds, Morgione estimate, has around \$1 million that they have used to acquire a majority of the property. Also, \$1 million was set aside in bond issuance for land acquisition.

Although not at the forefront, the Smoky Hollow area is also in the plans for property acquisition. Morgione said the area is more difficult to obtain property because not all property owners are willing to sell.

"We're exploring, continue to explore development options in that area for the property," Morgione said. "Obviously the economy has had an impact on the initial goal of residential, single-family residential homes, but the university is still interested in developing and utilizing that area."

No completion date has been set for YSU to obtain all property needed as it is an ongoing process, but Morgione said he hopes that the second phase will be completed within the next few years.

LOAN PAGE 1

"We knew that the switch would happen, so we had a plan," Ruse said.

The Federal Direct Loan Program offers different types of loans: the Stafford loan, Parent PLUS loan and the Grad PLUS loan.

She said a smooth transition was vital due to the importance of the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships, which filed more than 11,000 applications for financial aid and paid out \$8,467,382 in loans to students in fiscal year 2011.

"Students need money to make sure their bills are paid and to go to school. So they took the necessary steps along with the financial aid department," Ruse said.

She said in the long run, the program will save the federal government money since lenders and third parties are no longer involved.

Ruse said it's hard to determine if the new program is safer as far as protecting student information, but laws are in place to safeguard student information.

According to the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, schools receiving public funds are prohibited "from using or disclosing the contents of a student's records without the consent of the student or parent of a minor student."

The act also prohibits government access to personal data through educational records, unless for educational purposes, without a court order.

Ruse said she believes the program will last and doesn't see another switch in the fore-seeable future.

Student loans are an "investment to the future," she

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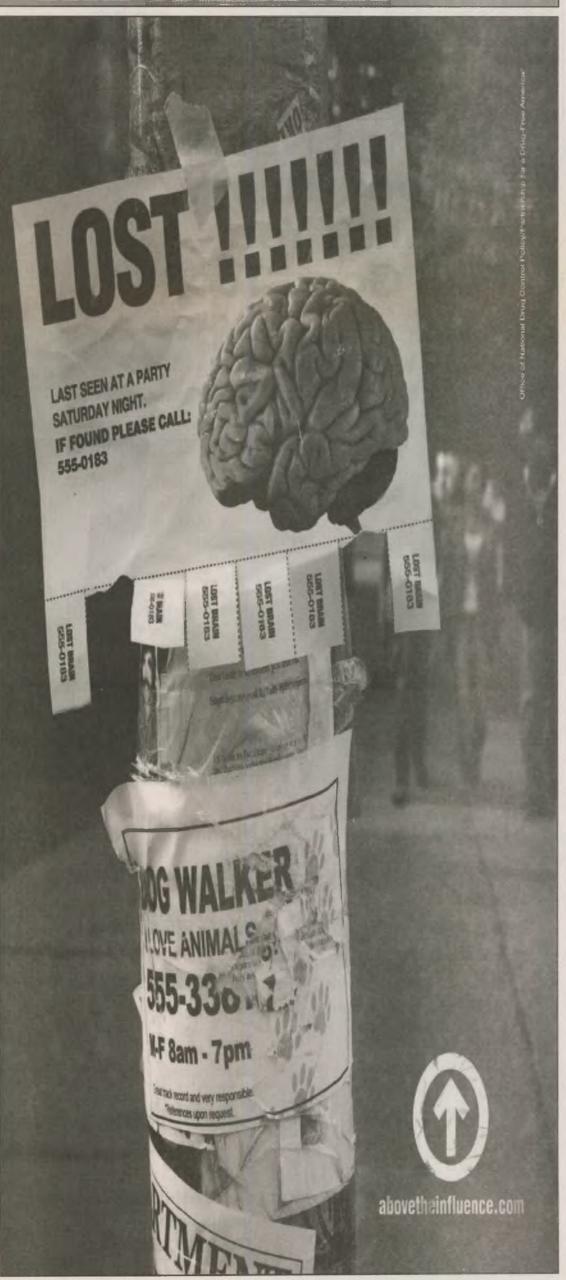


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OUR SIDE

Consider this

The Jambar Editorial Board

RELATED STORY

Summer, page 1

Dear Jack Fahey,

Leave student employees be, Jack. We understand there is a rule at the university requiring all student employees to enroll in at least three credit hours while working a campus job during the summer, but the precedent has been set: Students have not been forced to attend a summer class to seek campus employment.

Rehashing this long-forgotten attendance rule will not ease the problems causing less than desirable graduation rates at YSU.

The second part of the policy states students must be in good academic standing.

Most students work during the summer to afford fall and spring educational expenses. Why force these students to pay nearly \$1,000 in tuition and fees on top of gas and other costs during those summer months?

And if you really do want students to take extra classes to "progress toward a degree ... more quickly," take away the extra tuition costs students face when they enroll in more than 16 credit hours during one semester.

Grades and actual class attendance need to be improved before you worry about how many classes students are taking.

-ABOUT-THE-JAMBAB=

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 summer sessions. Mail subscriptions are \$25 per academic year. Additional copies of The Jambar are \$1 each.

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The editorial board that writes Our Side editorials consists of the editor-in-chief, managing editor and news editor. These opinion pieces are written separately from news articles and draw on the opinions of the entire writing staff. The Jambar's business manager and non-writing staff do not contribute to editorials, and the adviser does not have final approval.

YOUR SIDE POLICY=

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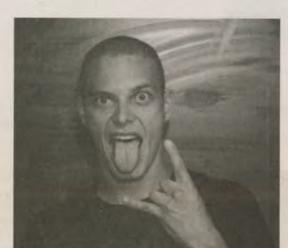






The views of this syndicated artist do not necessarily agree with those of The Jambar.

Tear down your altars and lifeless idols



When in doubt, get drunk

Chris Cotelesse COLUMNIST

I spend most of my weekends getting drunk in Youngstown's bars. I'm not an alcoholic. I just haven't found much else to do.

Occasionally, something big will roll into town. Cirque du Soleil was here last semester. Goo Goo Dolls are coming this spring. But even if your tastes include weird-looking clowns in makeup and tight outfits or Cirque du Soleil, special events are too expensive or rare for regular entertainment.

In my opinion, Youngstown's empty culture is as big of a problem as the disappearing jobs.

I went in search of students who shared my frustration. While many of them said they hope to leave America's armpit, they listed job opportunities as their main reason.

"Sure, there are cooler places to live, but you're going to face the same situation anywhere else," Youngstown State University junior Adam Kajtar said.

Some places have entire districts devoted to entertaining people. Even Pittsburgh has Station Square. Youngstown has Federal Plaza, which is six bars and Powers Auditorium that is booked through summer with operas and classical

Ryan Candella, civil engineering major, said there's plenty to do around here that "someone coming from the outside might not know about."

I asked for examples and he told me about off-roading, hockey games and high school sports.

The message I was getting from the students I interviewed was that yeah, Youngstown isn't so great and they want to leave if they can, but overall they're apathetic about the city's cultural assets.

The only place around that is trying to broaden the cultural opportunities is the Lemon Grove with arts and political stuff. I go there every once in a while, but it's a little too "hip" for a guy like me.

Maybe I'm alone. Maybe you like bowling and trolling the mall. It isn't enough for me, but I'm stuck at least until I graduate.

I'm less worried about employment than I am about my

Either way, I'm facing a bleak job market, so I might as well do it some place that isn't boring.

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CONTACT THE JAMBAR

E-MAIL	editor@thejambar.com
FAX	330-941-2322

Revenge of the nerds

Ohio declared nerdiest state

Chelsea Miller
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT
EDITOR

Self-proclaimed nerds need no longer worry because they're not alone ... at least in Ohio, that is. A recent survey highlighting some of the worst aspects of each state dubbed Ohio as the "nerdiest" state.

The survey, titled "The United States of Shame," used statistical data to show what each state is poorest at, from ugliest residents to dumbest state. Ohio's claim to shame is its highest library attendance per capita, at 6.9. This information was centered on National Center for Education Statistics.

The survey was originally posted on http://www.pleat-ed-jeans.com. The Pleated Jeans website was created two years ago by Jeff Wysaski, who wanted an outlet to post his comedic writing. Wysaski said his idea for "The United States of Shame" spurred from several maps published online that showed the best characteristics of each state.

"There had been a couple U.S. map graphics going around a few weeks before I made the map. These maps all attempted to associate something good with each state," he said. "Always looking for the humor in things, my brain kind of instantly flipped the idea towards the negative. I thought it would be funny to show what each state doesn't want to be associated with."

Wysaski then began researching statistics on websites like the U.S. Census Bureau. He said that although the map is intended as a joke, it also brings to light serious issues in some areas.

"It really easily illustrates Texas' education problems, Alaska's suicide problems and Maryland's AIDS problems ... In that way, the map does educate as well as entertain," he said.

After the map was posted, it went viral, spreading around the Web and to a variety of news syndicates including Time Magazine. Wysaski said

The United States of Shame What is your state the worst at?



The United States of Shame, a survey highlighting the worst aspects of each state, was originally posted on http://www.pleated-jeans.com by online comedian Jeff Wysaski. Ohio was named the nerdiest state for highest library attendance per capita, at 6.9. Images courtesy of Jeff Wysaski/http://www.pleated-jeans.com.



=WYSASKI=

he received positive and negative responses, but he never expected the survey to generate as much buzz as it did.

"The responses have been mostly positive ... except from Maine. As it turns out,

there are a lot of people from there that don't like the idea of Maine being called the dumbest state," he said. "Across the country, plenty of people took issue with some of my statistical rationale. There were also some people who denounced the whole thing as a piece of trash. For the most part, people saw it for what it is ... a humorous map that shouldn't be taken too seriously."

Maria Barefoot, a librarian at Youngstown State University's Maag Library, said that although the map profiles the negatives of each state, she felt that the highest library attendance is a positive.

"If that is the case, then I say go Ohio," Barefoot said.
"We may not have the best education system, we have a high rate of unemployment,

but ... that's something Ohio can boast to, that we're actually using our libraries. They're not going to waste."

Danny Fernback and John Stanko, both YSU students, laughed when they originally saw the survey. Fernback and Stanko both agreed, however, that Ohio's ranking was positive.

"We're winning. We have the only positive thing on here," Fernback, a freshman industrial engineering major, said. "I love my library. We could be, like, 'most likely to sell heroin."

R.J. Ragan, an electrical engineering major, said most of the information on the map seemed accurate.

"Some of them are pretty obvious ... like air pollution in California, and if I lived in

Alaska, I'd commit suicide too," he said.

Some students questioned the accuracy of the survey,

"I would honestly have to say that might be false," Richard Love, an art education major, said. "There's always stories about closing libraries around here."

Wysaski said he hopes the popularity generated to his website will allow him to make enough money to work full time on it, although the Internet comedian said money wasn't a driving factor in creating it.

"I'm just trying to give people a fun daily diversion from work, school and all those other super boring places," Wysaski said.

Chinese student returns to YSU after summer stay

John Cutlip

For Beijing native Jasmine Cheng, living in Youngstown gives her a new sense of hope.

Cheng, 23, was born and raised in China but has lived in the United Kingdom and Texas. Last summer, Cheng stayed in Youngstown along with 10 other Chinese students as part of an international study program between Youngstown State University and the Communication University of China in Nanjing.

versity of China in Nanjing.

According to a letter of intent sent on June 22, 2009, by Lilin Liu, dean of international communication with CUCN, to YSU's Center for International Studies and Programs, CUCN wished to collaborate with YSU for a non-credit "communications summer camp." The program consisted of eight weeks of intensive training in journalism and TV broadcasting.

That two-month taste of American education was a strong factor in prompting her return, Cheng said. Soon after

she returned home, Cheng decided that she would spend the next two years at YSU to get her degree.

"I missed the U.S. terribly," she said. "I have a strong love and appreciation for many things in this country. I appreciated the ways of teaching here," she said, adding that U.S. higher education is "flexible, student-oriented" and "informative."

Tom Pittman, a YSU journalism and developmental writing instructor who helped facilitate the summer program, wasn't surprised that Cheng decided to come back.

"If I had to pick any of the 12 girls who might possibly return to YSU, it would have been Jasmine," he said. "Unlike most students born in the USA, Jasmine sees the things we take for granted and she embraces them and makes them her own. She understands what it means to be free, and she recognizes the importance of our First Amendment."

Life back home

In coming to America, Cheng left behind many things that were familiar and comfortable to her — most importantly, her family, who she said she is close to.

Her mother, Linda, was apprehensive at first about Cheng's decision to return to YSU but eventually saw how much her daughter loved and missed America.

"To be honest, I didn't agree with her decision at the beginning," she said. "Her dad [was] totally against this idea of transferring from her old university in China to YSU."

Linda added that she struggled for weeks to get Cheng's father to agree to the idea, saying it was "one of the hardest" times in her life.

Chens said her parents are looking out for her and mean well

"[My mom] has always offered me emotional support and dealt with my personal needs, while my dad paid close attention to my education and made sure I was safe," she said.

In China, a country known for its traditional ways, things were pretty much "laid out" for her, Cheng said, but she needed to get away from the monotony.

"I've been living there for

two-thirds of my life," Cheng said. "People tend to fall into a certain routine and life just goes by."

In addition to her friends and family, Cheng said she was sad to leave behind her native country's nightlife and cuisine.

"Nothing beats Chinese food," she said. "There's too [many] carbohydrates in the American diet. Chinese cooking tend to have ... less fat and sodium."

Although Cheng said her new life in America has been difficult, she said she believes she can overcome her problems.

"Life in the U.S. is very independent and it can get lonely," she said. "But if you set your goals and know what you want, the feeling of loneliness shouldn't be an issue."

The Future

While Cheng's major is undecided, she has experience in communications and journalism. She said she looks up to her professors and lecturers that she met last summer.

"They offered me wisdom and taught me invaluable les-



-CHENG-

sons that would help me down the road," she said.

Pittman said he believes Cheng has a special affinity for American philosophy, giving her an advantage in her career path.

"Our inalienable rights, the ones we take for granted and would be hard-pressed to define, mean something to Jasmine," he said. "And my hope is that she is afforded the opportunity to exercise each and every one of them while she is here."

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Proverb of the Month:

"He who is bitten by a snake fears a lizard."

- from Uganda

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 2 LECTURE BY DR. GALIA SABAR

"The Africanization of Israel – Ethiopian Jews, African Labor Migrants and Asylum Seekers 12:00 noon, The Ohio Room, Kilcawley Center

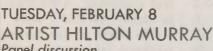
Dr. Galia Sabar is chair of African Studies at Tel Aviv University. For twenty years, she has conducted research on Jews in Ethiopia and the socio-political aspects of HIV-AIDS education in Kenya. Dr. Galia has also studied African migrant laborers who started coming to Israel in the early 1990s and followed them back to West Africa after they were deported. Her academic research and social activism in several Israeli and African NGOs has brought to the forefront complex issues of public discourse in Israeli state and society.

Co-sponsored with the YSU Center for Judaic and Holocaust Studies

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 5 THE AFRICAN MARKETPLACE

Noon-6:00 p.m., The Chestnut Room, Kilcawley Center

The African Marketplace presents an opportunity for the public to sample jewelry, writings, goods and creations by African American and African authors and artists that are rare and hard to find. The marketplace, in the typical African context, is not only a place for the sampling, purchase and appreciation of things Afrocentric, but a meeting place for social interaction and networking as well. Dance and musical entertainment will be presented by the multi-talented Harambee



Youth Group of Youngstown.

Panel discussion 7:00 p.m., The McDonough Museum of Art Exhibit through February, Bliss Hall Gallery

Hilton Murray works in graphic design, television production, advertising, art history, and creates architectural structures reflecting a diversity of cityscapes. His fascinating designs reflect the ruggedness and curvature of the land, sky and water, in recognition of the wonders of nature.

Co-sponsored with the College of Fine and Performing Arts

For further information, call the Africana Studies Program at 330-941-3097. Event parking is available at the Lincoln Deck and lot M24, next to McDonald's on Fifth Avenue.

Events co-sponsored by:

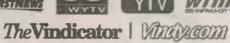












TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 15 IMAGES OF YOUNGSTOWN: LANDSCAPES IN FILM AND LITERATURE Lecture by Derrick Jones 7:30 p.m., The Ohio Room, Kilcawley Center

A filmmaker and instructor at Bowling Green State University, Derrick Jones, received his Bachelor of Arts in communication and theatre and a Master of Arts in theatre from BGSU and a Master of Fine Arts in film from Ohio University. He is a Youngstown native who has been active in the Youngstown Playhouse and the Oakland Center for the Arts. Jones has



made several short films and was a 2008 Princess Grace Award recipient. His documentary short 631, has been screened nationally at several film festivals and was featured at the Short Film Corner at the 2009 Cannes

Co-sponsored with the Center for Working Class Studies

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 22 AFRICAN MOVIE NIGHT

"Where the Water Meets the Sky" "White King, Red Rubber and Black Death" 6:30 p.m., The Gallery, Kilcawley Center

The first film documents the story of remarkable women in a remote region of northern Zambia who are taught how to make a film as a way to speak about their experiences in the AIDS epidemic. The film is narrated by Morgan Freeman. "White King" portrays King Leopold II, the ruthless Belgian colonialist who ruled the Democratic Republic

of Congo as his private property and was responsible for the murder of 20 million Africans. A discussion will follow the showing.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 24 AN EVENING OF JAZZ featuring Jeff Green and his band. 6:30-10:00 p.m., The Youngstown Club

Tickets at \$ 50.00 per person include parking, refreshments and hors d'oeuvres.

Co-sponsored with the YSU Metropolitan College, Southwoods Commons

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 25 BLACKS IN THE **MILITARY**

Lecture by Yvonne Latty 7:00 p.m., The Gallery, Kilcawley Center

Yvonne Latty was born and raised in New York City. She earned a BFA in film /television and later an MA in journalism from New York University. She is the director of the Reporting New York and Reporting the Nation programs at the Arthur L. Carter Journalism Institute at NYU. For 13 years, she worked for

the Philadelphia Daily News, where she was an award-winning reporter specializing in urban issues. Latty's nonfiction short stories have been published in It's A Girl: Women Writers on Raising Daughters. She authored In Conflict: Iraq War Veterans Speak Out on Duty, Loss and the Fight to Stay Alive and the critically acclaimed We Were There: Voices of African American Veterans from World War II to the War in Iraq. Ms. Latty will sign books following her lecture.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 28 I QUESTION AMERICA:

THE LEGACY OF FANNIE LOU HAMER A play by E.P. McKnight

7:00 p.m., The Ohio Room, Kilcawley Center



Ms. McKnight is a graduate of Fordham University, Lincoln Center, New York, NY, where she received her master's degree in educational psychology. A poet, actress, writer and producer, she is a member of Screen Actors Guild, Actors Equity, and the American Federation of Television and Radio Artists and is the founder and

Youngstown



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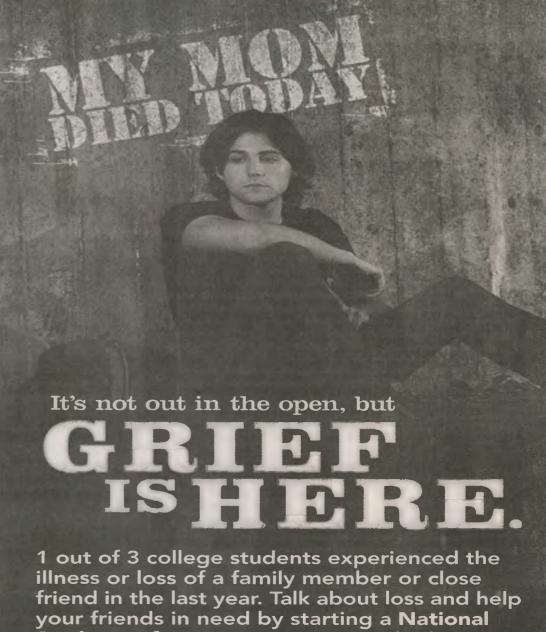
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Penguins prepare for match against IPFW

A.J. Ondrey REPORTER

The Youngstown State University men's tennis team will be on the road at Indiana University-Purdue University Fort Wayne for its next match on Saturday.

After a fall schedule filled with invitational matches, the Penguins are coming off their first loss at Michigan State University in a 0-7 decision.

Head coach Mark Klysner said he knows what kind of work needs to be done to get the team on the right track.

"Coming off the last match we played, it definitely gave me an idea of things we needed to work on leading up to IPFW," Klysner said. "The guys have worked extremely hard this past week, and I saw a huge improvement in their game and most importantly their confidence. They are starting to believe they can play with anyone."

Klysner doesn't plan on making many changes to the lineup for IPFW in the singles

"[It] will be similar to the Michigan State match," he said. "I will spend this week looking at our options for doubles and see what teams work the best."

In the last match against Michigan State, Klysner had Tariq Ismail at the number one spot, Felipe Rosa at number two and Max Schmerin, Zeeshan Ismail and Rodrigo



Taria Ismail, a junior, is 11-5 in singles. Head coach Mark Klysner sees Ismail as the team's leader, due to his experience and devotion. Photo courtesy of Sports Information.

Campos rounding out the final three spots.

Klysner said he believes that the team's confidence level is helping the players improve. It's not only about the team's self-assurance but preparation as well. This is a combination in which Klyser

"We've worked a lot this week on singles play and gaining confidence and get to a point where the guys feel confident leading into the next match. We've worked on a lot specific shots and point situations," he said.

Klysner said he has a special, talented leader in Tariq Ismail.

"Tariq is definitely the leader of the team. A lot of that just comes from sheer experience and being one of the older guys on the team. He is very passionate about this team doing well, and it shows on the court," Klysner said.

As far as the preparation for the matchup at IPFW, Tariq is ready. He has a singles record of 11-5 and is 8-2 in his last 10 matches. He also has plenty of faith in the rest of the team.

"I am confident that we

will get a team win for sure. We have wins against almost all of their players and should win at all spots. They have a new player who transferred from Purdue University who is going to take over at the number one spot for them. I am expecting to have the toughest match of the day against him," he said.

Tarik's younger brother Zeeshan, a freshman, has an idea about what it takes to get a win at IPFW.

"I don't believe we have a magical strategy to help us win, but I believe through our hard work and many efforts we will be able to overcome IPFW," he said.

Not only does Zeeshan have his short-term goal of getting a win at IPFW, but he also has a long-term season

"Coach Klysner is a great coach, and we as a team hope to consolidate this fact with a good season and most of all by giving him his first dual match win against IPFW," he said.

Klysner, not overlooking the match at IPFW, knows that the most important part of the match is to gain experience and confidence, while trying to improve the teams' skills.

"In terms of this coming weekend, it's another match for us to play and figure out our weaknesses and what we need to work on leading into when conference play begins. These matches are simply to prepare us for the start of that. I just look at us to improve one week at a time," Klysner said.

Women's track finishes high in GaREAT Collegiate Open

Four women on the YSU track team - freshman Katrina Rettburg, junior Laura Kosiorek, senior Alexis Hall sophomore Samantha Hamilton - won their respective events, setting school records in the process, at the GaREAT Collegiate Open in Geneva this weekend.

YSU also found success in the 60- and 200-meter races, as the Penguins had seven runners place in the top 10 in these events.

The Penguins will travel to Akron for the Akron Invitational on Feb. 11 and 12.

Men's basketball can't put out Flames, losing 83-61 Sunday

The YSU men's basketball team traveled to the University of Illinois at Chicago Pavilion with hopes of ending its fourgame losing streak.

A strong second half performance by UIC proved to be the dagger in the Penguins' hearts as YSU let a 38-38 tie vanish with 16:57 left in the

UIC went on a 27-10 run, making 13 straight free throws in that span for the 22-point

The Penguins return to Beeghly Center on Thursday to take on Butler University. Tipoff is scheduled for 7:05

YSU baseball team releases 2011 schedule

The YSU baseball team will start the 2011 season on a 17-game road trip.

Eastern Carolina University will be the Penguins' first test, and from there, it won't get any easier. After the ECU game, YSU will be playing nine teams that finished with at least 30 wins last year.

The Penguins will host their first home game against Penn State Erie-Behrend on March 23 at Eastwood Field. First pitch is scheduled for 3

The highlight of the Penguins' season will be a road trip to Miller Park, the home of the MLB Milwaukee Brewers, for a doubleheader against the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.

Women's basketball team heads north

Jordan D. Uhl SPORTS EDITOR

After a rough stretch of three home losses, the Youngstown State University women's basketball team will travel to Wisconsin for a pair of games against two conference opponents: the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay.

On Thursday, YSU will play at Milwaukee, against a team that defeated the Penguins 65-57 at Beeghly Center earlier this year. With a record of 7-13, the Panthers have won only three of their nine conference games.

Senior forward Lindsay Laur leads the Panthers in scoring, averaging 17.4 points per game. In their last meeting, Laur barely missed a double-double, scoring 19 points and snagging nine rebounds.

The Penguins also struggled to contain the Panthers' point guard Angela Rodriguez, a freshman, who netted 13 points while accumulating seven assists.

Head coach Bob Boldon said "being able to find that ball pressure without getting overextended" is the key to the game.

"Sometimes you get too caught up in ball pressure and you get out more than you can guard," he said. "And we aren't athletic enough to really extend too far. It'll be us working on finding that happy medium between pressuring and applying pressure and



Head coach Bob Boldon, right, encourages the Penguins during a timeout. Boldon has frequently pontificated on the team's rocky season, while remaining steadfast in his efforts. Photo by Josh Stipanovich/The Jambar

trying to make them uncomfortable without getting too far away from shooters and being able to recover."

Next, the Penguins will face the Green Bay Phoenix, who are 20-1, 9-0 in the conference, which is first place.

Last time the two met, Green Bay trumped the Penguins, 71-57, despite guards Brandi Brown, a sophomore, and senior Bojana Dimitrov, each netting 15.

Junior forward Julie Wojta led the Phoenix with 24 points, seven rebounds, four assists and two steals. Kayla Tetschlag, a senior forward, had a double-double with 10 points and rebounds, while assisting six others in scoring.

The embattled Penguins, 3-17 overall, are 1-7 in the Horizon League; their only conference win came at Valparaiso University.

Boldon expressed his frustrations over the teams' recent loss to Cleveland State University.

"They didn't try They didn't mentally do what they were supposed to do, and physically they didn't do what they were supposed to do, then consequently they gave up a bunch of points," he said. "These kids have been coddled enough in their lives, which is how they've gotten themselves in this situation they're in. Nobody wants to tell them they're wrong. Well,

they were wrong. Their effort defensively was poor, mentally, physically. I'm sure on some level emotionally it was poor."

Coming off a winless season, even three wins is a big improvement. However, in the Horizon League, it appears as if nothing has changed.

"We're the worst team in the conference, and if we'd like to not be the worst team in the conference, we've got to get better. If we're OK with being the worst team in the conference, then we'll probably play similar defense these last nine games, and we'll finish exactly where we deserve to be, which is where we currently are," Boldon said.

SCHEDULES

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Feb. 3- BUTLER

Feb. 5- VALPO

Feb. 7- @ Wright State

Feb. 12-@ Cleveland St

Feb. 16-@ Detroit

Feb. 19- TBA (on ESPN)

Feb. 24- GREEN BAY Feb. 26- MILWAUKEE

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Feb. 3- @ Milwaukee Feb. 5- @ Green Bay Feb. 10-BUTLER

Feb. 12- VALPO

Feb. 17-@ Detroit

Feb. 19- @ Wright State Feb. 26-@ Cleveland State

March 3- UIC