

THE JAMBAR

The student voice of
Youngstown State University
since 1931.

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Preserving Pollock

University advances revitalization plan for historic structure

Emmalee C. Torisk
NEWS EDITOR

ervation, prepared the plans. Additionally, all restoration must follow established historic preservation standards, Morrison said.

Morrison said the scenarios differ in terms of how much of the 1980s addition is to retain. Regardless, the university made sure to choose the best, most experienced team for the building's restoration.

The Wick Pollock Inn, which was built in the 1890s, originally functioned as a private residence until it was given to YSU in the 1970s. A private company leased the structure from the 1980s until 1998. The Wick Avenue building has sat unoccupied since and is now in a state of deterioration, Morrison said. Morrison also said the building is in "good overall condition," but that there are several areas of leakage, air infiltration through windows and decay of outside siding.

"The building does not get any better by sitting idle. It can't sit idle forever," Morrison said. "There is a strong interest in seeing the building preserved and brought back to use. It's a university and community treasure."

Although plans have not yet been finalized, Morrison said he is hopeful that the restoration process will begin "expeditiously." In the perspective of both Youngstown and YSU, the Wick Pollock Inn is a "unique historical re-

"There is a strong interest in seeing the building preserved and brought back to use. It's a university and community treasure."

Hunter Morrison, Director of Campus Planning and Community Development

POLLOCK page 2

With bids for the new Williamson College of Business Administration far below the projected cost, Youngstown State University now has adequate funds to bump up the Wick Pollock Inn restoration to its current construction list.

Although originally included in the second phase of the YSU master plan, the Wick Pollock Inn restoration has been moved to the \$21 million first phase, alongside the new business college.

Director of Campus Planning and Community Development Hunter Morrison said the decision to restore the Wick Pollock Inn was "timely," and that it was benefited by "some very good construction prices on the business school," especially because of the economy. Morrison also attributed this decision to the "phenomenal job" that YSU's Student Government Association has done in restoring the Inn's gardens, leading to current restoration efforts.

Approximately \$3.9 million is allotted for the Inn's restoration, but this does not include funding required for demolition costs. Presently, there are three possible restoration scenarios for the mansion and its property; Faniro Architects of Youngstown, a firm that specializes in historic pres-

Community college launch assisted by federal grant

Emmalee C. Torisk
NEWS EDITOR

With the assistance of a \$1.9 million federal grant, the region's proposed community college, tentatively named the Eastern Gateway Community College, will start offering classes this fall.

The grant, known as the U.S. Department of Labor Community-Based Job Training Grant, supports efforts to develop community college education in the Eastern Ohio region.

Overall, the community college will assist people in developing skills, preparing for jobs and ultimately getting jobs, said Nathan Ritchey, Youngstown State University's link for the Eastern Gateway Community College endeavor. The community college could also open "pipelines" to YSU; students could begin their education at the community college, but eventually further it at YSU.

"It's a broad-based approach for creating jobs in the future," Ritchey said of the community college.

Encompassing Mahoning, Trumbull, Columbiana and Jefferson counties, the community college will initially offer classes for licensed practical nurses to earn associate degrees in registered nursing. In order to "jump-start" the community college's programs, the idea at first is to borrow existing programs from local community colleges, Ritchey said. For instance, the LPN-to-RN program will be "borrowed" almost exactly from the Lorain County Community College. Ritchey said borrowing would only occur until "the commu-

nity college is able to build its own programs."

Although several possible locations for the community college have been suggested, Ritchey said it is likely many different sites will host classes.

Additionally, planning for the community college began on YSU's part about three years ago, Ritchey said. At that time, benefits and risks of the community college were evaluated. For the Eastern Gateway Community College, YSU functions as a "partner

COLLEGE page 2

New funding formula may increase unfair grading

Emery Boyle-Scott
REPORTER

While the proposed change to the funding formula focuses on student retention, some faculty thinks the change could in fact promote grade inflation.

In a non-scientific Jambar survey of 50 faculty members, 70 percent of faculty said the new funding formula may increase unfair grading.

Assistant professor Tomi Ovaska feels similarly, saying the new funding formula "will cause grade inflation." "It is the unintended result," Ovaska said.

The new funding formula will facilitate an increase in completion percentage to procure funds. This is a problem that will befall professors campus-wide as their teaching success is now quantitatively translated into funding. Instructor Guy Shebat of the English department says, "they might feel pressure to make sure that some students get credit for a course that they may not have passed before."

Professor James Schramer admitted if some students who are more susceptible to failing due to attendance are provided special attention to attain retention, then he says, "Student's sense of fair play is violated."

Still, Provost Ikram Khawaja said

FUNDING page 2

Attendance plays big role in future aid

Darlene Wagner
REPORTER

A new funding formula has been proposed to take effect beginning July 2009.

The proposal will rely on student success, retention and graduation rather than the current 14-day full-time student enrollment count. Open enrollment will also be phased out. Potential students will have to apply and be accepted to the university depending on certain criteria.

Funding will no longer be tied to student enrollment; it will depend on class completion, as well as the number of baccalaureate, master and doctoral degrees awarded by the university.

Attendance will play a big role in whether or not students will be eligible to receive financial aid.

For students like senior Ben Lane, attendance may not be an issue. "I go to class 87 percent of the time," Lane said. "If I'm sick I don't go."

Others may give themselves more leeway.

Senior Chris Meeker said the class itself plays a role in his attendance. "If it's something I like, or a professor I like, I'm far more likely to go. If I see it as a waste of time for my career [general education classes,] I probably go enough to get by," he said.

Once the proposed changes take place, skipping class may be an option students will not be able to afford. Students who fail a class due to lack of attendance will have will not be eligible for financial aid until they pay to retake the class. Students that attend class but fail may be eligible for future financial aid.

President David Sweet said the ATTENDANCE page 2



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WEATHER

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Wednesday	☁️	53° 42°
Thursday	☁️	57° 37°
Friday	☀️	56° 41°
Saturday	☁️	53° 41°
Sunday	☁️	48° 34°
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Remember to recycle your copy of The Jambar.

News Briefs

YSU welcomes its own award-winning journalist

Craig Duff, director of multimedia for <http://www.time.com>, who is also a YSU alum, will be giving a presentation of his accomplishments at 7:30 p.m. March 26, in McKay Auditorium in the Beeghly College of Education on the campus of YSU. Duff is currently in charge of podcasts and all multimedia reports for time.com. He has previously been a professor at Princeton University and has worked in Egypt pioneering multimedia journalism.

Dana flute festival welcomes Texan flutists

The 16th annual Dana flute festival will be 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Saturday, April 4. The festival will welcome flutist Mariann Gedigian as their special guest artist. Gedigian is a professor of flute at the University of Texas at Austin. The event will be held in Bliss hall and will cost pre-registered guests \$16 and \$20 at the door. Registration information is available on the Dana School of Music Web site.

Fashion show showcases business attire

Students looking for some fashion advice can stop at the Youngstown State University office of career and counseling services noon to 1:30 p.m. March 25 in the Ohio Room of Kilcawley Center. The "What Not To Wear And What To Wear to Interviews and Beyond: Fashion and Feedback" will be held there to assist students in picking out clothes appropriate for interviews.

Police Briefs

Man urinates on Smith Hall

On Friday at 8:14 a.m. a YSUD officer went to the sidewalk on Fifth Avenue East of Smith Hall to help a Youngstown Police officer with an arrest. The YPD officer had stopped a male who was urinating on the East wall of Smith Hall. The suspect told the police that he wasn't taking his prescription medication. After he grew argumentative, Rural Metro Ambulance transported the suspect to St. Elizabeth's Hospital.

Man drives through red light with unregistered vehicle

A YSUD officer saw a man drive a red Chevy Caprice through a red light on Thursday at 9:39 p.m. After checking the registration, police found that the car was registered to the previous owner instead of the suspect. The suspect was issued summons.

Man steals cell phone

On Thursday at 7:52 p.m., a YSUD officer responded to a call regarding a stolen cell phone. A woman told the officer that at 7:45 p.m. she put her cell phone on the front desk behind the counter top. Five minutes later, she found it was missing, and told the officer that around this time she noticed a man asking about guest passes. After spotting the man who asked about guest passes at the Rec Center, the officer began to follow him. As he followed him, the officer said he noticed the victim's phone vibrating in the suspect's pocket. Eventually, the suspect returned the victim's phone. There was no damage to the phone.

Bookbag found downtown

An Ampco Parking employee told a YSUD officer that he noticed a black bookbag in a wooded area near steps off Wood Street near downtown Commerce Street. The employee said he opened the book bag and found college books. The property was tagged and put on the property shelf. Since computers were down at the time of the report, the officer was unable to find student information.

COMM C.O.A.C.H. hosts movie night at Maag

Emmalee C. Torisk
NEWS EDITOR

To raise money for local families with terminally or chronically ill children, a new campus organization will host a three-movie night in the Maag Library basement on Wednesday.

Organized by Youngstown State University COMM C.O.A.C.H. [Charitable Organization Assisting Children and Hospitals,] the event will begin at 6 p.m., and "My Best Friend's Girl," "Twilight" and "Eagle Eye" will be shown. Admission is \$2; pop and water will be available for \$0.50 and popcorn will be \$0.25.

As the second fundraiser for this semester-old organization, COMM C.O.A.C.H. President Katie Keene said she has high hopes for the movie night's success.

"There's not much activity on campus during the week for students who live on campus," Keene said. "This movie night is a great homework break and a chance to interact with other students."

Overall, Keene said she is hopeful that this movie night will be more successful than the group's last, which was held in February. Not including volunteers, about four students attended the event. However, Keene is optimistic, and attrib-

"This movie night is a great homework break and a chance to interact with other students."

Katie Keene, President COMM C.O.A.C.H.

uted it to "a rocky first semester" for the group.

"I just want for us to do better than what we did with the first fundraiser," Keene said. "I want a lot of people to show up. We just want to show we can be successful and that we are willing to stick around YSU for a long time."

Some other fundraisers under consideration include basket raffles, softball games, bike-athons and tagging, where volunteers stand outside of businesses and ask for donations. Keene said she wants to hold approximately 10 fundraisers each semester.

All of the money earned by

COMM C.O.A.C.H.'s fundraisers goes directly to the families of terminally or critically ill children at Akron Children's Hospital. Instead of being used for research purposes, the proceeds assist the patients' families, and one of COMM C.O.A.C.H.'s goals is to help ease the burden on these families, both monetarily and emotionally. Thus, the money could go toward gas money or hotel stays, Keene said.

"We want to help the families out," Keene said.

Keene also said one of her goals for the group is to eventually become "tight knit with the hospital," and actually interact with the children. However, a select few of the group's members must go through an orientation process first.

Keene said the organization got its start in a communications course as a group project last semester. Since then, that original group of four, consisting of YSU communications and medical students, has blossomed into an organization of 24, a number which Keene said is continuously growing. Keene said the group wants to become strong enough to help many families in the best possible way, and also to bring together the entire Youngstown community for a positive cause.

"We constantly want new members," Keene said. "With more members, we can do more. Anyone can join."

POLLOCK page 1

source," and should be adaptively reused, Morrison said. For instance, the alumni house is a good example of adaptive reuse. Its restoration, Morrison said, is "not too pretty."

"You can tell it was once a house, but it's an office building now," Morrison said of the alumni house. "It's not just about what it once was, but you can see what it once was. It's about continuity with the past and future, and about meeting future needs while preserving the past."

Morrison also emphasized the strong sentiments of the YSU Board of Trustees. Although disputes may have risen about the order of the planned construction projects, Morrison said the Wick Pollock Inn's restoration decision was in response to comments from several board members over a long period of time.

"People remember the inn. It should be brought back to life," Morrison said. "It's a unique property that needs to be preserved and put to good use."

COLLEGE page 1

institution," and participates in programs as it sees fit.

Other community college partner institutions include Kent State University campuses in Trumbull, Salem and East Liverpool, adult education divisions of local career centers, including the Trumbull Career and Technical Center, the Mahoning County Career and Technical Center, the Columbiana Career and Technical Center and the Choffin Career and Technical Center.

FUNDING page 1

a reason that the new funding formula probably won't cause more grade inflation is state funding isn't earmarked by the state for specific programs or departments.

"The funding comes in a non-descript way to the university as a whole," he said.

In the 2002 American Academy of Arts and Sciences report, "Evaluation and the Academy: Are we doing the right thing?" researchers suggested grade inflation began in the 1960s when sympathetic faculty helped students avoid the draft by assigning them higher scores, assuring them their place in the university.

More modern reasons for grade inflation as cited in the report include an increased student and parent expectation for higher grades as a result of continuously increasing tuition and the very competitive job market.

Khawaja said he thinks the funding formula changes are a state response to encourage uni-

versities to develop more programs and tools to help students achieve success in college.

Because the new funding formula is based in part on the number of students who pass a class, the new funding formula may be linked to an increase in grade inflation.

University officials also have confidence in the faculty's grading systems. "Professional pride and calling is always there. I think the faculty holds those standards very sacred and that would be the assurance that grade inflation won't happen," Khawaja said.

"I have a firm belief and confidence that the grades are determined by the faculty and there are serious professional reasons why the faculty wouldn't inflate the grades they give," Khawaja added.

Professional pride, however, may not always apply. According to the survey, 38 percent of faculty said they had given a student an unfair grade

ATTENDANCE page 1

proposed changes are a two-pronged attack on retention and remediation. "It is particularly important [attendance] when part of our funding is tied to the success of the student[s]," he said. A one percent loss of state support is equivalent to lost funding for 62 full-time enrolled students, which adds up to \$500,000. Youngstown State University receives 34 percent of its fiscal year budget for 2009 from the state of Ohio.

Just as important as the funding is student success, Sweet said. "The hope is that all students will be college ready under the proposed model.

YSU will work in conjunction with elementary and secondary schools to prepare traditional and non-traditional students for college in an effort to maintain and improve retention.

Under this plan, YSU will also work in conjunction with the community college slated to begin in the area some time next year. Sweet said as the community college is implemented, those students who need to expand their academic background would be referred to community college to get the remedial course work necessary for them to succeed when they enter the university.

Under the proposed 2+2

program, students would attend the community college for two years plus attend YSU for two years. "It could vary from one semester at the community college, and continued higher education here (depending on the student's needs)," Sweet said.

Still it is most important to ensure students are college ready when they arrive at YSU and to keep students on track they get here, Sweet said. "It's a win-win situation for the university and the student[s]."

Additional reporting by Erica Trekur

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FEATURES

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TUESDAY, MARCH 24, 2009

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TOO HOT TO HANDLE

Cleveland's HotChaCha blazes into Y-Town

Gary S. Angelo
REPORTER

Since April 2007, Cleveland's female noise rock act, HotChaCha has been giving club-goers the ultimate post-punk charismatic stage show.

On Friday at Cedars, HotChaCha will play their first show in Youngstown, performing alongside Panzer Talk and Rocket Radio.

"We are really stoked about Cedars, it will be a great night, and we always guarantee energy and 'clean' good fun," said vocalist Jovanna Batkovic.

HotChaCha draws critically acclaimed art punk influences from Sonic Youth to The Yeah Yeah Yeah's, integrating the dance punk overtones of Siouxsie and The Banshees and Three Imaginary Boys-era Cure. HotChaCha includes Jovanna Batkovic on vocals, Mandy Aramouni on guitar, Heather Gmucs on bass and Lisa Paulovcin on drums.

HotChaCha began as a riff-

laden "Stoner Rock" trio, but then evolved into dance punk, adding Heather Gmucs on bass. "We all came from different music backgrounds, but listen to the same music," Batkovic said. Still, Batkovic said she feels the band sounds nothing like what they listen to.

The Band's EP, on Cleveland's indie label Exit Stencil Records, "Rifle I knew you when you were just a pistol," was No. 20 on the College Music Journal Top 200 charts. The band has shared the stage with up-and-coming indie acts such as The Black Lips, Caribou and Sunset Rubdown.

They are also in the process of recording their first full-length CD on Exit Stencil Records, which will be out in June. Batkovic credits Exit Stencil Record's founder Ryan Weitzel as being instrumental in promoting HotChaCha.

"If it wasn't for Exit Stencil promoting, our EP would not have gotten as much attention as it did," she said. Exit Stencil got the band airplay on CMJ radio and stays in touch with the band.

The band has matured into the art punk outfit they are achieving to be, and has grown tremendously since their early days.

"Everyone is comfortable with their instruments, manipulating it to 'our thing,' which is driving, dancey, never-a-dull-moment-pop rock," Batkovic said. The band is adding keyboards to the mix and are more focused. A crowd favorite of theirs is a cover of The

Cure's 1979 single, "Boys Don't Cry."

Batkovic is confident in the band's new sound. "We are more focused now and the songs seem to flow together," she said.

As far as future plans go, HotChaCha plans on touring extensively during the summer months. Their tour will begin in June in New York City, and will extend all the way down south for two weeks in Atlanta.



'Knowing' tops weekend box office

William Spain
MARKETWATCH

The debut of the Nicholas Cage science-fiction thriller "Knowing" took top honors at the weekend box office, raking in some \$24.8 million through Sunday morning, according to studio estimates.

The picture, released by privately held Summit Entertainment, knocked "Race to Witch Mountain" out of the top spot,

with the Disney film falling to fourth place with \$13 million in ticket sales.

Two other new films — Viacom's "I Love You, Man" and "Duplicity" from General Electric's Universal Pictures — were in the second and third spots for the week, with totals of \$18 million and \$14.4 million, respectively.

Time Warner's "Watchmen" came in fifth at \$6.7 million followed by "The Last House on the Left" — a gore-

fest from Universal — with \$5.9 million.

Rounding out the top 10 were "Taken" and "Slumdog Millionaire" both from News Corp's Fox; "Madea Goes to Jail" from Lionsgate; and "Coraline" from Focus Features, a unit of Universal.

"Slumdog" is still tops to date, though, with a total of \$137.2 million while "Taken" holds the runner-up spot at \$133.1 million.

Students to bike cross-country for Akron Children's Hospital



Scott Finamore and Sam Malaska prepare to bike from Youngstown to San Francisco to help raise money for the Akron Children's Hospital.

Alicia Pattillo
REPORTER

On May 9, ambitious Youngstown State University junior Scott Finamore and long-time friend Sam Malaska will embark on the biggest journey of their lives thus far. In an effort to raise money for the Akron Children's Hospital of the Mahoning Valley, Finamore and Malaska will bicycle from Youngstown to San Francisco in 50 days.

Faced with the prospect of 50 days full of endless nights and hours upon hours of biking, Finamore and Malaska couldn't be more excited about their cross-country expedition. Finamore, who describes himself as "a very adventurous person," has spent most of his life in Youngstown. Although he said it's a great place, he is looking forward to experiencing something new.

"I will especially enjoy my time off from work. I will see the world firsthand," Finamore said. "We were going to bicycle to California anyway, so why not do it for a good cause?"

Though Finamore is overwhelmed with excitement, he can't help but to be a little nervous about making it to San Francisco in 50 days. This is an absolute necessity because he plans to go to the second half of summer school at YSU, which begins June 29. This gives Finamore and Malaska approximately 50 days to make it to their destination.

Once they arrive in San Francisco, Malaska and Finamore will return to Youngstown by plane on June 28.

In preparation for the trip, Finamore has been thinking hard about the reality of making it to California in the allotted time. In a well-planned strategy, Finamore and Malaska plan to bicycle about 100 miles a day for 30 days and rest for 20 nights.

"We plan to save money by camping in tents, buying food and water on the way and very

"We were going to bicycle to California anyway, so why not do it for a good cause?"

Scott Finamore

occasionally staying in hotels to bathe and wash our sleeping bags," Finamore said.

Using publicity of the event to raise money for the hospital, Finamore and Malaska created a Web site called www.califorkids.com. As their journey progresses, their Web site will be updated frequently with blogs, audio, video and photos from their 3,000-mile adventure.

Additionally, Finamore and Malaska have gained help from The Vindicator, WKBN, Clear Channel, Channel 33 and radio personality Louie Free on station 1500.

Donations for the event will be taken per day, per mile. Per-day sponsorships entail a \$100 minimum donation. Per-mile sponsorships exist on a 1-cent, 2-cent and 3-cent scale.

Corporate sponsorships will be taken at a \$500 minimum. All other donations are welcomed.

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ABOUT THE JAMBAR

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.

OUR SIDE EDITORIAL

Preserving history

RELATED STORY

WICK POLLOCK, page 1

Although the Wick Pollock Inn has been left to deteriorate for more than a decade on Youngstown State University's Wick Avenue campus gateway, YSU has recently, and commendably, announced its intentions to restore the 1890s mansion to its former glory.

Even though this restoration decision should have come earlier, YSU's interest in preserving and adaptively reusing the Inn before it's too late is inspiring. For too long, especially in Youngstown, structures have sat neglected until their conditions have deteriorated beyond the point of repair.

Tearing down buildings like this is regrettable, yet sometimes permissible. However, we should fight to save our historic structures while there is still hope; often there is a strong push to tear down otherwise usable buildings, even when other uses still exist. There is no reason why YSU should be held to different standards.

A prime example is Pilgrim Collegiate Church. Located at the corner of Lincoln Avenue and historic Wick Avenue, the structurally-sound 1921 structure possesses architectural and cultural significance, like the Wick Pollock Inn.

When YSU purchased the church two years ago, it intended to continue renting the sanctuary, while renovating the classroom wing for university purposes. However, when the tenant vacated late last year, YSU found no use for the sanctuary, and is reportedly not seeking a new tenant.

Early this year, YSU announced plans to demolish the church and construct a parking lot in its place. It's deplorable that YSU is so selective in its preservation efforts.

In Youngstown, we've already lost far too much of our collectively built history. YSU should strive to preserve what still remains, and find other solutions for this historic building.

ARTIFICIAL LIFE COULD BE CREATED WITHIN FIVE YEARS



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

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Editor,
This letter is in response to the numerous articles covering the controversy surrounding the issue of stem cell research.

As someone who has been pro-life all their life, I believe life begins at the point of conception and that those conceived under the laws of the United States are protected by the Constitution and therefore are entitled to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. Now has come the day where science has made it possible to freeze an embryo outside the body of a human female. The embryo's natural development into a fully functioning human being is then blocked by being frozen until the time arrives when it will eventually be transferred back to a woman in order to have a baby. The natural progression begins again and results in the birth of a child no different than any other human being.

The controversy surrounding stem cell research concerns the idea of using "left over" embryos as a means of repairing or replacing damaged tissues or or-

gans of those who suffer daily. It has been said there is no greater sacrifice than to lay down one's life for the life of another. As much as I am pro-life, I am also pro-quality-of-life and see this as an opportunity for one life that may be discarded as "left over" to serve to improve another's life, and hence allow that healed person to not only continue living, but live their lives to also help life to continue.

I know that if I was to be discarded as "left over" rather than be given the chance to help my fellow human being then all would have been in vain. Many of us are called to perform extraordinary feats as we experience this existence called the human race. I can think of no greater feat than to go from being a "left over" to someone who was able to lighten the burden of another person and perhaps extend their life, liberty and pursuit of happiness.

Joe Bialek
Cleveland

Editor,

In response to the March 17 article regarding the letter of Agreement, you do not have the completed story. It is part of a pending grievance with multiple signed documents — only one was referenced. The administration asked YSU-ACE to give it an opportunity to resolve outstanding issues, including the classified employee selection process. They also wanted to restructure Human Resources staffing. Three documents were signed between the parties on Nov. 28, 2007 that resolved potential grievances over posting requirements and selection. Focusing on only one of the agreements, your article implies that I was to improperly receive a pay increase. You fail to mention that under the three agreements, I gave up the grievance that I could have filed, and I believe won, over the denial of my application for a position. The agreement that you reference gave the university the option of placing me in an AA4 position that was to become vacant in Human Resources if I was selected by the search committee or to increase my pay in my current position through a reclassification. The university has now opted to do neither, and this is the subject of a pending grievance.

The proposal to shred the document came from the university's representatives, and was not the first time YSU had made such a

request. YSU proposed that the agreement be destroyed only after compliance with it, so YSU-ACE had no objection. Since the university did not comply, YSU-ACE had no hesitation in bringing this document forward in the grievance.

As to the comments in the article about Ivan Maldonado, the university has released information to the media and to YSU employees through a university-wide e-mail accusing Ivan of somehow threatening a co-worker. Your article states that his comments were in relation to the agreement over my classification. Interestingly, YSU has released details of only that isolated agreement and none of the companion agreements. And, YSU has only generally and vaguely referenced the allegations against Ivan. Despite the Association's request for details on what Mr. Maldonado supposedly said that the alleged victim considers to have been threatening, the University's legal counsel has refused to provide them. Apparently the university is satisfied with publicly skewering Ivan and me through innuendo, and The Jambar is, once again, more than willing to oblige.

Christine Domhoff
YSU-ACE Grievance Chair

Frank Betsa
YSU-ACE Vice President

COLUMN

Dierkes deliberated



AIG vs. Pitchfork-Wielding Mob

Doug Dierkes
COLUMNIST

As the news broke about the hundred millions in bonus payments AIG paid out to its employees who are at the very least partially responsible for the current mess of an economy we have, the public outcry reached ever more deafening levels. But can a company survive such dramatic outpourings of bile from the current crop of television pundits? That depends on who you talk to.

If you speak to the former leaders of Enron and Phar-Mor, then the answer will probably be no.

Talk to the figureheads of Citibank and JP Morgan Chase, and you'll get an entirely different story. Especially when you get your information from those who were in charge of these banks back in the 1930s, when they were suspected of helping cause the Great Depression.

Your average corporation can put up with more crap than you think: a rebranding effort, a couple firings of any executives who have a hard time convincing the public they had absolutely nothing to do with the offenses their employees committed, a public benefit, and five years later the public will forget about any misgivings you've committed in the past. It's not a cheap process, but then again, this isn't exactly a small company we're talking about here.

Then who will we have left to get mad at? The SEC? Congress? Obama? All viable options, but I'd say there are more important targets. Like business magazines, for starters. I have a hard time believing that America can continue to fool itself into thinking that being a nation of suppliers rather than a country of producers. I want us to find an industry outside of credit cards and repo trucks.

Even if that means every family has to create its own reality show, that's a risk I'm willing to take.

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

OUR SIDE POLICY

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

The Jambar encourages letters to the editor. E-mail submissions are welcome at editor@thejambar.com. Letters should concern campus issues, must be typed and must not exceed 400 words. Submissions must include the writer's name and telephone number for verification and the writer's city of residence for printing. Letters are subject to editing for spelling, grammar and clarity. The editorial board reserves the right to reject commentaries that are libelous or that don't defend opinion with facts from reliable sources. The editorial board will request a rewrite from the submitting writer based on these requirements.

Letters will not be rejected based on the view expressed in them. Letters may be rejected if they are not relevant to Jambar readers, seek free publicity or if the editorial staff decides the subject has been sufficiently aired. The Jambar will not print letters that libelous, threatening, obscene or indecent. The Jambar does not withhold the names of writers of letters or guest commentaries.

The views and opinions expressed in letters and commentaries on the opinion page do not necessarily reflect those of The Jambar staff. Editorials do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the faculty, staff or administration of Youngstown State University.

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THE JAMBAR ASKS What's on your mind?



"I wish the weather wasn't cold."

Chris Brady, freshman



"Pretty much work and school."

Nathan Romeo, freshman



"Lab reports for human physiology."

Christen Ripoli, senior



"Getting this day over with."

Raed Esmail, sophomore



Wake Forest gets upset by Cleveland State in the first round of the NCAA men's tournament. PHOTO COURTESY OF MCT CAMPUS

YEAR OF THE UPSET: Bracket Busters

Josh Stipanovich
SPORTS REPORTER

With the first two rounds of the NCAA men's basketball tournament out of the way, there have been many upsets, which means that your Cinderella story might still be producing pages.

Here's a quick breakdown of the Midwest and East regions, starting in the Midwest.

The Midwest region saw its share of upsets this year, including one that most likely no one saw coming.

The Cleveland State University Vikings found themselves back in the tournament with a huge task ahead of them against the Demon Deacons of Wake Forest.

Wake Forest came in as the No. 4 seed in the Midwest region, and were picked to make it to the Elite Eight by myself and my colleague Keith Langford.

After finding myself ignoring my own advice, I picked Wake Forest to make it all the way to the Final Four, and because of the decision, my bracket has gone to shambles.

The Vikings went on an unbelievable run to start the game and headed into the locker room with a 39-30 edge.

As if sweat was not already falling from the many across the country who did not even think of picking CSU, the Vikings went on to dominate the second half, thus handing Wake Forest their worst loss of the season, 84-69.

Staying in the Midwest region, I turn my focus to the No. 11 seeded Flyers of Dayton University.

Dayton, another Ohio school, had to take on a powerhouse team in West Virginia University coming out of arguably the best conference in Division I men's basketball, the Big East.

The end result was another mid-major school defeating one of the top 25 ranked teams in the nation, 68-60.

With two major upsets already, who would have thought of two more?

That is what took place as the slumping No. 10 seeded University of Southern California defeated a team on the rise, the ACC's Boston College.

The Arizona University Wildcats, who were once a powerhouse in Division I, took care of business against the No.

5 seeded Utes of the University of Utah, 84-71.

With wins by both Cleveland State and Arizona, the second round matchup of a No. 12 seed and a No. 13 seed was set.

Arizona prevailed as they took the horns right out of the Vikings' helmets, winning in an almost mythological fashion, 71-57.

Moving east, the No. 12 seeded University of Wisconsin Badgers, coming out of the Big Ten conference, matched up against the No. 5 Florida State Seminoles out of the ACC conference in the first round.

After being down by 12 at halftime, the Badgers made a comeback for the ages, outscoring FSU by 12, and took the game into overtime.

With a bid to the second round of the tournament on the line, Wisconsin never gave up as they won by two, despite being outshot by Florida State throughout the game.

The final upset in the early going of this year's madness also came out of the East region as the No. 12 seeded Hilltoppers defeated the No. 6 seeded Illinois fighting Illini.

Illinois came into the tournament losing four of their last five games, and could not complete the comeback losing to a Western Kentucky University team who, a year ago, made it to the Sweet 16, 76-72.

After all of the upsets taking place in first and second round action, many of us "bracketeers" find our brackets hanging by a string, hoping that our picks make it to the Elite Eight and Final Four.

Keith Langford Jr., sports editor at the Jambar, still has hope as seven of his eight picks remain for the Elite Eight.

Despite losses from Wake Forest and Marquette, my bracket still has six of the eight teams alive heading into the Sweet 16.

As for our faculty picks, English professor Dr. Steven Reese has only one of his four teams remaining for his projected Final Four.

YSU Intramurals Coordinator, Joe Conroy, has only suffered from the Wake Forest upset. Three of his Final Four picks are still in the race.

Mathematics professor Dr. Gary Stanek, and Akron Beacon Journal sports writer, David Lee Morgan Jr., both have hope for all four of their teams in which they projected to make the Final Four.



Women's tennis team looks to stop losing streak

Keith Langford Jr.
SPORTS EDITOR

The Youngstown State University women's tennis team is looking to bounce back from three straight defeats.

The Penguins have won four games in the spring portion of their schedule. Their last victory came on Feb. 22 at home against St. Bonaventure University.

In the game, the Penguins thoroughly dominated St. Bonaventure, winning the match 7-0. The Penguins won all of their singles matches — including the fifth and sixth seeded match ups — due to the lack of players on the St. Bonaventure side. The Penguins dominated the Bonnies with all of their wins coming by way of straight set victories.

The Penguins are in the midst of a long home stint. After the home match against the Dukes Tuesday, the Penguins will host four straight games against Horizon League opponents. The Penguins are looking to improve heading toward the Horizon League championships, where they finished seventh in last year's Horizon League Championships.

Head coach Michele Grim feels the home court advantage will definitely help her team out.

"This is the first time in the Horizon League that we have had four

straight Horizon League games. With the support of the friends and families of the players, it should be an advantage to us," Grim said.

Two Penguins who have been playing well despite three straight defeats are juniors Anna Volkova and Tanisha Welch.

Volkova, who played as the No. 3 player against the Detroit Titans, won her match against the Titans' Aneta Maricevic, 6-2, 6-1. She also picked up a point for the Penguins against the Pittsburgh Panthers. Volkova took the Panthers' Minh Evan to three sets. Volkova won the first set 6-3, lost the second set 0-6 and won the third set 11-9.

Welch, who plays as a No. 3 or 4 seed, defeated the Panthers' Christie D'Achille, 6-1, 6-1. Welch played well in the match against the Titans as well. She defeated the Titans' Svetlana Flankova in three sets. Welch lost the first set 2-6. She bounced back and won the second and third sets 7-6 (7-2), 10-5.

Grim does not point to one player to get the team on the winning track but looks to every single player on her team to step up and perform.

"It's just matter of the team playing together and we have a chance to finish in the top half of the Horizon League if we do that," she said.

YSU hosts Duquesne University at noon at the Boardman Tennis Center.

Junior Anna Volkova steadies herself for an important serve. PHOTO COURTESY OF YSU SPORTS INFORMATION

Youngstown's own March Madness

Intramural basketball playoffs send two teams to Dayton for ACIS Extramural Tournament

Keith Langford Jr.
SPORTS EDITOR

The intramural program at Youngstown State University had its own version of March Madness as the playoffs got underway this Sunday at the Andrews Student Recreation and Wellness Center.

Though their version of the madness was on a smaller scale, the intensity was there just like it is with the tournament.

A total of eight teams reached the golden plateau of the intramural playoffs this year.

The action got underway at 10:30 a.m. Four hours later, the final two teams were decided.

In the open round games, team BYOB handled Boats N Hoes, team Fish Mittens beat The Take Over, team Nasty Boyz took care of the Bears, and team Token Titans got beat by Basketball.

The best game of the opening round was Fish Mittens versus The Take Over.

The game went into two overtimes before the game was decided. The Take Over was down three points and hit a 3-point shot at the buzzer to force the first overtime. The game was tied at 55-55 with the Fish Mittens in

possession of the ball. They could not convert on their final possession and the game went into a second overtime. In the final minute of overtime, Fish Mittens scored the final four points to squeak out the win 63-59 to advance to the semifinals.

In the semifinals round, the Nasty Boyz took on Basketball and BYOB squared off against Fish Mittens.

The Nasty Boys got nasty on Basketball earning a quick 11-0 lead. They didn't trail the entire game. The game was 51-31 at the first half and did not get any better for team Basketball in the second. The Nasty Boyz won the game easily, 104-76. They earned a berth to the intramural finals.

"The Nasty Boyz dominated the tournament and we are on our way to Dayton," junior Kyle Muir said about his team.

The other semifinal was a little bit more competitive.

BYOB took on Fish Mittens in a rough and tough matchup. BYOB took the lead after ending the first half on a hot run, leading 36-30. The team took control of the game late and won the game 71-59. Freshman Braylon Peete was proud of his team performance.

"We did great. We struggled at the beginning, but BYOB played as a team and got the win," Peete said.

"We struggled at the beginning but BYOB played as a team and got the win."

Braylon Peete, freshman

What's next for the two championship teams is a trip to Dayton and afterward, a title date with each other.

BYOB and The Nasty Boyz will travel to Dayton to compete in a tournament because of their championship game berths. "We leave on the 27th to go to Dayton to play in the 2009 ACIS Extra-

mural Tournament," student intern Ben Dooley said.

After the two teams get back from Dayton, they will duke it out to determine who is the best YSU basketball team. They will play on April 5 at 11:30 a.m. at Beeghly Center.

YOUNGSTOWN STATE UNIVERSITY INTRAMURAL BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT

FINAL FOUR

BYOB

VS.

FISH MITTENS

CHAMPIONSHIP GAME

BYOB vs. THE NASTY BOYZ

April 5 at 11:30 a.m. at Beeghly Center

FINAL FOUR

BASKETBALL

VS.

THE NASTY BOYZ