



The Jambor

The student voice of Youngstown State University since 1931



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Fire smokes out campus



Just off campus, a house on Lane Avenue caught fire Monday afternoon. A spokesman for Youngstown Fire Department said they were uncertain as to whether that anyone was home at the time of the blaze or how it started. The house could not be salvaged, and the flames were so intense the siding on facing the blaze on both neighboring houses melted. The aftermath of the fire left a temporary smoky smell on campus. Photo by Nick Young/The JAMBAR

Technology creates student interaction in classroom

Andrea DeMart
NEWS EDITOR

Youngstown State University has teamed with local company Turning Technologies to improve the student learning experience.

Classrooms across campus that use multimedia equipment have each installed a student response system. A receiver, which gives students the ability to interact with instructors, has also been installed.

Multimedia equipment in the classrooms consists of a computer, teaching station and LCD projector.

"The students would have to purchase what they call a clicker, and through the clicker, the students can respond to PowerPoint presentations that the faculty member is giving, or they can do quizzes and surveys, and each classroom would be tuned to a different channel," said Denise Donnan, manager of media services.

The channels allow classrooms to work on the system without creating interference in the frequencies.

The responsibility of purchasing the clicker is still a work in progress.

"Initially, we thought we could have some that would be available to rent," Donnan said. "Most institutions require the students to purchase the clicker if it's going to be used in a classroom, much like a textbook that you'd be required to purchase, but it is all based on the preferences of the individual instructors."

The clickers can be purchased at the YSU Bookstore with prices ranging from \$27 to \$51, depending on the clicker and if it's in new or used condition.

Nearly a year ago, the receivers were included as part of the equipment requirements in all multimedia classrooms. The receiver functions with the Turning Technologies software installed on the classroom computers.

Installation of receivers is a collaborative effort between media & academic computing and the Provost's Office.

"The funding for these multimedia classrooms comes in part from the master technology fund and the half is supported by the Provost's Office," Donnan said.

Access to the system and all of the capabilities that come along with it are not limited to certain majors. All instructors and students who use classrooms with the multimedia components can use the interactive system.

Donnan said the system is a great tool for instructors looking to expand the learning experience.

"I think, probably, the best thing would be instant feedback," Donnan said. "The professor may ask a question, and the students could respond, 'Yes, I understand this' or 'No, I don't.' Then that would give instant feedback to the instructor ... I would imagine every

Mid-year budget cuts affect spring, summer semesters

Joe Giesy
NEWS EDITOR

Mid-year budget reductions at Youngstown State University will affect staff, faculty and students campus-wide during the upcoming spring and summer semesters.

"Mid-year budget reductions have become almost routine at most public universities because state funding has become extremely volatile," said YSU budget director Neal McNally.

The reductions are a result of \$3 million that YSU will not see after federal stimulus

funds were cut from this year's fiscal state budget.

"[The reduction] yields about \$1.4 million, which is the amount we need to reduce expenses to keep the [fiscal year] 2011 budget in balance," McNally said. "As for next year, it's too soon to say, but I do expect additional reductions to be necessary."

Along with reductions to operating costs, areas that employ members of the Associated Classified Employees union will be faced with paying enrollment incentive bonuses as promised by a contract agreed between YSU and ACE three years ago.

Unlike last year, ACE en-

rollment incentive bonuses were not budgeted in the general fund expenses, leaving departments with ACE employees to cover the upcoming December bonuses.

Nearly \$2 million was allotted for the bonuses in the FY 2010 budget as part of a mid-year budget modification approved by the board of trustees in December.

Jack Fahey, interim vice president of student affairs, said student affairs would pay the bonuses promised to workers in admissions and Kilcawley Center.

"It is part of our doing business," he said.

Areas that will be affected

most by budget adjustments to cover the enrollment incentive bonuses, which are \$2,625 per ACE employee, are ones that have a higher number of classified employees, McNally said.

"The facilities department, for example, will have to pay out over \$93,000 in enrollment incentive bonuses," McNally said.

Facilities has 36 employees in the ACE union who will receive bonuses.

Other departments that have a large ACE staff are media services with 19 classified full- and part-time employees, computer services with 18 and

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Ohio bans energy beer distribution to retailers

Marissa McIntyre
REPORTER

"Blackout in a can" and "liquid cocaine" are names that have been associated with energy beers such as Four Loko and Joose. The alcoholic energy beverages have recently been under scrutiny, after several consumers were hospitalized after drinking them.

The energy drink Four Loko has an alcohol content of 12 percent in a 23.5-ounce can, which is the equivalent of three beers. Depending on the consumer, this amount would be enough to reach intoxication.

Ohio has now joined the list of states that have taken measures for these drinks to no longer be supplied to retailers.

According to a press release from the Ohio Department of Commerce's Division of Liquor Control, the suppliers of Four Loko and Joose have agreed to cease distribution of their products to Ohio retailers.

"There are health concerns associated with the drinks with people being hospitalized," said Matt Mullins from the Division of Liquor Control.

The press release states that there is no legal authority to ban alcoholic energy drinks. Therefore, the Division of Liquor control reached out to Phusion Projects, the company that produces Four Loko, and United Brands Company, the company that produces Joose, and requested that marketing, promotion and sale of the alcoholic energy drinks terminate in Ohio.

"In recent months, the division has become aware of serious health concerns associated with the use of alcohol energy drinks, and believes that those products pose a significant threat to the safety and health of Ohio consumers," said Ohio Department of Commerce Director Kimberly Zurz in the press release.

Mullins said the products are still registered in Ohio. No authority to de-authorize the product exists, as the suppliers have gone through the registration process.

BANS PAGE 3

Student returns to YSU, fulfills dream

Caitlin Fitch
REPORTER

Rebecca Banks always dreamed of going to college and bettering herself. Now that she's in her 40s, her dream is finally coming true.

Although Banks enrolled at Youngstown State University after graduating from high school several years ago, it wasn't the right time, and it didn't work out.

"I was working a very physical job and would come home, and barely rest or relax before I had to go to my night classes I was taking. Needless to say, my grades were terrible, and I ended up withdrawing from my classes," Banks said.

Banks, a native of Youngstown's North Side, continued to work and started a family. She concentrated on raising her two sons, who are now 16 and 19 years old. After 10 months of training, she received an adult clerical license from Choffin Career and Technical Center in Youngstown.

Even so, for Banks, college

student life isn't easy, and she prefers to not be categorized as a non-traditional student. Banks credits her sons for her success as a student.

"Having two boys, I wanted them to be active and involved in things, so I began to look for inexpensive activities," Banks said. "I would say to my boys, 'I really want to go to school,' and they would say, 'Mom, you always say that,' so one day I actually went and got an application and filled it out."

During the summer of 2008, Banks attended one of the adult open houses YSU held, hoping to be admitted that fall. Due to some difficulties and financial problems, she wasn't.

Banks didn't let that stop her. "The goal of coming to school kept me going," Banks said.

In the spring of 2009, she began school again. Her major is education, and she's working toward a nonprofit major.

Banks said she realizes she needs to make herself more marketable as an employee because she hopes to have a

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NEWS BRIEFS

McDonough Museum of Art holds annual holiday arts, crafts sale

This weekend, the Annual Holiday Fine Arts and Crafts Sale, sponsored by the YSU Student Art Association, will be held at the McDonough Museum of Art on Wick Avenue. It will take place from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday, and from noon to 5 p.m. on Sunday. The sale is open to the public and admission is free. A Chance auction will also take place, and all proceeds will benefit the Student Art Association.

Fall commencement features chancellor

Eric D. Fingerhut, chancellor of the Ohio Board of Regents, will speak at YSU's fall commencement in Beeghly Center on Dec. 12 at 2 p.m. Fingerhut will receive an honorary degree from YSU at the ceremony where about 750 students will receive diplomas. Salvador Bolan is the student speaker, and he will receive a bachelor's degree in education.

POLICE BRIEFS

Student returns to residence with bleeding knuckles

On Nov. 23, a female student entered Kilcawley House with bleeding knuckles. An officer on duty at the front desk asked the student what happened, but she did not answer. The on-duty officer then called the YSU Police Department, and a university police officer was dispatched to Kilcawley Center. The officer again asked the student what had happened; she replied that she became angry and punched a brick. She declined medical assistance.

Hot, smoking grease activates fire alarm

On Nov. 23, a fire alarm went off in the Flats at Wick. A second-floor resident of the facility said he had been cooking when the grease became hot and started to smoke. This activated the fire alarm. YSU Police officers, along with members of the Youngstown Fire Department, noticed smoke in the apartment, although the window was open and the ceiling fan was on. No damage was reported, and the building was not evacuated.

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Project helps LGBTQIA youth who face bullying, harassment

Christine Darin
REPORTER

Celebrities, politicians, media personalities, activists and organizations join the fight against lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender bullying, harassment and discrimination by posting YouTube videos for the It Gets Better Project.

After hearing about the suicides of Justin Aaberg and Billy Lucas, syndicated columnist and author Dan Savage and his partner, Terry, created an inspirational YouTube video in September for LGBTQIA (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender-transsexual, questioning, intersex, ally) teenagers who face bullying and harassment.

Savage started the project to tell LGBTQIA youth that life will get better after high school and to just endure their teen years. On the It Gets Better website Savage says, "I wish I could've talked to that kid for five minutes before he killed himself."

According to the It Gets Better website, nine out of 10 LGBT students have experienced harassment at school. LGBT youth are four times more likely to attempt suicide than straight youth, and those with "highly rejecting" families are eight times more likely to attempt suicide than those whose families accept them.

The It Gets Better Project helps promote the Trevor Project suicide hotline for LGBTQIA youth. Writer James Lecesne, director/producer Peggy Rajski and pro-

ducer Randy Stone, creators of 1994's Academy Award-winning short film "Trevor," began the Trevor Project in 1998.

The film featured a 13-year-old boy who attempts suicide after being rejected by his friends. The filmmakers realized that no lifeline existed for LGBTQIA teens, so they created a 24/7 toll-free number and online support through the website.

According to the It Gets Better website, the launch of their project increased calls to the Trevor Project by 50 percent.

The It Gets Better Project became a worldwide movement after only two months with more than 5,000 user-created videos and more than 15 million views. Joel Madden, Colin Farrell, Anne Hathaway, Facebook, Google, Secretary of State Hillary Clinton and President Barack Obama are a few of the many who posted a YouTube video for the project.

YSUnity Vice President Christina Yovick said she loves the project and that the Youngstown State University organization plans to post a video sometime in the near future.

"Anytime people feel motivated and inspired to publicly share their personal stories to reach out to someone, they encourage hope and possibly save lives," she said. "Kudos to anyone with the courage to stand up and speak out."

Yovick waited to come out until she was 22 years old because she never heard the

positive stories of being openly gay. She only heard horror stories from other LGBTQIA friends about being disowned by their families.

"Because of how immature people were in school, I chose to wait to come out until I was out of high school. I was already a more alternative girl, and people acted as if I were weird because of that," she said. "I didn't want to be criticized more."

Fortunately for Yovick, her mother, sister and brother-in-law were supportive of her sexual orientation. She said that without her sister, she may have become another statistic.

Overall, Yovick's experience at YSU has been great, but she said she takes it personally when someone verbally assaults a LGBTQIA person on campus.

"Sadly, discrimination does happen on this campus by students and faculty; I have witnessed it," she said. "People should think before they speak."

Yovick still doesn't know where she will live after graduation, but said she would gravitate toward a more gay friendly community.

When Daniel Hug, YSU alumnus, came out, his parents thought being gay was a choice and not a part of who he was. They took the attitude of "we love you no matter what."

He supports the It Gets Better Project and the wishes that project had existed a year ago during a bad time in his life. Hug split from his partner of four years because of unfaithfulness. His friends and family

were there to support him and his life improved.

"Even though I was not a high school student being picked on or harassed, the message is still the same," he said. "Focusing on the future and having the optimistic attitude that things will get better can get you through almost anything in life."

Hug's family was supportive, but it was rough for them at first. They eventually became used to his sexuality.

"My family being accepting of who I am did make it easier for me to tune out others who may not have been so accepting," he said. "My family basically told me to be proud of who I am and be proud of what I was doing with my life, and if other people had a problem with it, then don't associate with them."

Hug worked as a resident assistant at YSU and that presented some challenges. Some of the residents he supervised felt that Hug's sexuality was a weakness they could take advantage of. He recalled one occasion when they harassed his boyfriend during a visit. The majority of the other residents were accepting of his sexuality.

Hug supports the It Gets Better Project, and he agrees with its message.

"I believe that life always gets better," he said. "High school is a challenging time for everyone, especially for LGBT students. They not only have all of the normal stresses of school, but also many of them go through constant ridicule."

Colleges raise awareness of, offer support to LGBT students

Brenda Haines
REPORTER

A college student turns his collar to the cold, damp weather and strolls along a sidewalk on the campus of Youngstown State University. He reaches up to adjust his backpack, and as his sleeve rises, his rainbow-colored "pride" bracelet peeks out.

A passing student mutters, "I hate gay people."

Although this comment doesn't shock him, it still hurts. "People shouldn't judge until they really get to know me or any other person," said Nick Iacobucci, YSU sophomore and YSUnity president. "Being a lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender person is such a part of you. It is not the same thing as being made fun of for liking a certain TV show or something trivial."

In the wake of the suicide of Rutgers University freshman Tyler Clementi — who jumped from the George Washington Bridge after a recording of him having a sexual encounter with a man was broadcast online — campuses nationwide, including YSU, are attempting to raise awareness of and offer support for LGBT students.

Iacobucci said YSU has made some small steps toward becoming more "gay friendly."

"Until the students start becoming more gay friendly, I refuse to say YSU has made strides," he said. "I've frequently heard people using the term 'that's so gay,' which is very offensive."

For most students, adjusting to campus life is difficult, but LGBT students have the additional strain of being bullied, ac-

ording to a new study.

"Unequivocally, the 2010 State of Higher Education for LGBT People demonstrates that LGBTQQ [lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer and questioning] students, faculty and staff experience a 'chilly' campus climate of harassment and far less than welcoming campus communities," said Susan Rankin, an associate professor of education at Pennsylvania State University and lead author of the study, in a September press release.

Although the study revealed that more than 25 percent of LGBT students have experienced some form of bullying, YSU students can find a safe haven within YSUnity.

"All YSUnity events are open to all students," Iacobucci said. "We provide social functions, awareness and education and other related activities on and off campus all year."

In addition to YSUnity, YSU hosts the Community Counseling Clinic, which provides counseling services to YSU students at no charge. The clinic's counselors and counselor trainees provide individual, family, couples and group counseling services.

Iacobucci advises students to seek help immediately if they are being bullied.

"Tell school officials so they can deal with it correctly," he said. "I also recommend [they] try to find other like-minded people to be friends with."

It is important for LGBT students to know they are not alone and that things do get better, Iacobucci said.

"There doesn't seem to be any one best thing to do, but just don't quit," he said. "Once you know what you want to do with your life and where you want to go, everything else just seems to fall into place."

Don't ask don't tell policy remains in place during government appeal

Christine Darin
REPORTER

The U.S. military's "don't ask, don't tell" policy, which bans lesbians, gays, bisexuals and transgenders from openly serving in the military, will remain in place while the government appeals the ruling by Judge Virginia Phillips saying the law is unconstitutional.

The 9th Circuit Court of Appeals is reviewing Phillips' decision. The U.S. Supreme Court decided on Friday to maintain the ban until further decisions are made.

Many have come forward to voice their opinions about the ban. Former President Bill Clinton, who was in office when the policy was created, said the ban doesn't work.

President Barack Obama filmed a video for the It Gets Better Project, which helps LGBT youth see a brighter

future. He has supported the ban's repeal.

However, the Obama administration filed an emergency request with the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals to keep people from serving in the military while being openly gay.

Some Youngstown State University students said they believe members of the LGBT community should be able to serve their country through military service.

Sophomore Shanice Duncan said the ban isn't necessary. She said if someone is openly gay while serving, he or she could perform the same jobs as others just as effectively. Duncan said there is no reason for LGBT members of the military to hide their sexuality.

"Just because they are gay doesn't mean they don't want the best outcome for our country," Duncan said.

James Olive, program manager for the YSU Office of

Veterans Affairs, said the ban needs to be repealed and that the ability to serve your country should have nothing to do with your sexuality.

Olive said this generation is more liberal than past generations of military recruits and veterans. He also said he believes our military will be stronger after the ban is repealed.

"Patriotism isn't linked to sexual preferences. It's linked to the love of our country," Olive said.

Nick Iacobucci, YSUnity president, said the "don't ask, don't tell" policy should not be a law, and he wants to see it abolished.

Iacobucci said the military is losing out on 14,000 potential soldiers because of the "don't ask, don't tell" policy. He said the country is losing out on soldiers who love to serve their country, and by doing this we are only hurting ourselves.

"If people are forced to hide their sexuality and lie about their real life, our military is acknowledging that lying is OK," Iacobucci said. "America should be about truth and progression and set an example for other countries in the world, not be falling behind."

Iacobucci said when he was "in the closet," he felt like a walking black lie. He said that hiding who you are breeds depression. Being open about the issue will "raise morale in the military because there will be a more personal connection between the troops," Iacobucci said.

Sophomore Jerry Land agreed with the ban, but said he believes LGBT community members should be able to serve in the military.

Land said no one should talk about his or her personal life at work.

BUDGET PAGE 1

Maag Library with 17.

Classified employees at YSU are typically in support positions on campus such as administrative assistants, technicians and maintenance workers.

Academic affairs will use money from the vacancy pool to cover the enrollment incentive bonuses for ACE employees working in their division, said assistant to the provost Marilyn Ward.

The vacancy pool consists of funds reserved for vacant positions. There was \$849,270 budgeted for academic affairs' vacancy pool in FY 2011, but Ward said this number changes as people resign and positions are filled.

She reported that more than \$270,000 would be paid out for the bonuses in academic affairs.

YSU President Cynthia Anderson asked the six YSU divisions to reduce their budgets by 8.5 percent to yield the aforementioned \$1.4 million.

Several of the people in charge of these divisions said the president has issued a strong edict that any cuts should not affect the experiences of the students.

"There has been very little discussion about raising tuition next year, largely because we don't yet know how the new governor and general assembly will treat higher education in the next state budget bill," McNally said.

He added that student scholarships would not be affected by cuts in any way.

The six divisions Anderson addressed are academic affairs, finance and administration, Office of the President, student affairs, technology and advancement.

"We're trying to do everything we can to minimize the impact to students," Fahey said.

The goal is to make sure students will not feel any cuts in student affairs, he said.

"The last thing we want to do is harm students," Fahey said.

Fahey said the current plan to absorb the impact of cuts is to reduce mailing in some areas and do more communications electronically. Student affairs will experience a budget reduction of more than \$140,000 from their FY 2011 \$16,528,707 budget.

Fahey said the 8.5 percent reduction was taken out of the operating costs after employee salaries were accounted for.

Academic affairs, which receives \$87,954,888, or 55 percent of funds allocated to the six divisions, had to cut \$425,760 for operating costs.

"What we did was to look at what we can do from our office that's manageable that doesn't affect our operations severely," said Ikram Khawaja, provost and vice president for academic affairs.

Academic affairs has reviewed strategic initiative funds and postponed some projects until next fiscal year to absorb some of the reduction, Ward said.

"[The cuts] will not curtail anything we're doing today," Khawaja said.

Ward said the deans of each college were charged with reducing their own budgets. Khawaja said input and proposals from the colleges were received Monday and are being looked at.

"Everything we do [at YSU] affects students," Ward said. "In academic affairs especially."

The cuts in academic affairs

were widespread over 30 areas, which included the colleges and support units like Maag Library, which took a big hit because it has a large budget, she said.

"Overall, we managed the cut," Ward said.

At the beginning of FY 2011, finance and administration was budgeted \$23,164,021; the Office of the President received \$2,254,691; technology received \$12,015,121; and the advancement division received \$4,041,637.

The six divisions were allocated a total of \$145,959,065 in the FY 2011 operating budget. Auxiliaries were reserved \$19,342,000, and \$12,840,935 was used for non-divisional funds.

Despite being an auxiliary in the operating budget, intercollegiate athletics will also be affected by the budget cuts because it receives funding from the general fund.

Auxiliaries are additional areas that generate revenue. There are eight altogether, five of which are self-funded and three of which receive general fund support.

Nearly \$31 million was budgeted for auxiliaries, with \$11.6 million coming from general fund support.

In the 2010 operating budget, \$8,977,129 of the general fund was allocated to athletics, \$1,263,318 to Kilcawley Center and \$1,404,309 to Andrews Student Recreation and Wellness Center.

The cuts to athletics haven't affected students at this point, said Executive Director of athletics Ronald Strollo.

He said they are working on cutting all unnecessary expenses like administrative travel and dealing with welfare of the students first. He wants to "make sure critical things are done" when assessing where money should be sent.

"It's a challenge for everyone, and we have to play our part," Strollo said.

Athletics receives funding from ticket sales, program sales, advertising and other means.

McNally said university departments will need to scale back on nonessential expenses, such as travel, and some may choose to defer filling vacant positions.

Many of the divisions and departments plan to save money by leaving vacant positions open.

There were around 50 vacant positions at the start of FY 2011, according to a salary report obtained from the university.

Ward said there were five vacant positions in the academic affairs division and more have opened up after a couple resignations.

She said a lot of the vacant positions in the academic division were frozen, not filled or trying to be filled, this year. Academic affairs and the president's Cabinet will review the need to fill these vacant positions in FY 2012.

"We have a couple vacancies we're going to delay filling," Fahey said.

There are vacant positions that do not need filled at this time and will be looked at next fiscal year, he added.

There are positions in the Center for Student Progress and Kilcawley Center that will need to be filled, but Fahey said the hiring process would take a couple of months.

BANS PAGE 1

tration process.

He said the state follows federal government guidelines for suppliers to get their alcoholic products register in Ohio. They must be submitted for a federal certificate of label approval, and there is a \$50 registration fee.

Recently Phusion Projects sent out a press release, stating that the company would be changing the Four Loko formula: by taking out the caffeine, guarana and taurine.

As of Nov. 16, Phusion Projects will only produce non-caffeinated versions of the drink. United Brands Company put out a press release the same day, stating that they'd also be looking into the formula and making changes that will not affect the taste.

Mullins said that if Phusion Projects wanted to distribute Four Loko in Ohio after the recipe change, they would have to go through the registration process again, with the new formula presented.

"Manufacturers would have to submit a new application for registration, and it would have to be reviewed," he said.

The division has made it clear that failure to cooper-

ate with the request to ban the alcoholic energy drinks could lead to changes in Ohio law.

Youngstown State University sophomore Faofua Togisala said her sister drinks Four Loko but does so responsibly. She said she could see either argument on the subject.

"On one hand, I don't think that it should be banned because if people are dumb enough to kill

themselves with it, then they should be able to," Togisala said. "On the other hand, people are dumb enough, and it could affect others, so it should be banned."

She said people need to be responsible for how much of the beverage they are consuming.

"It's going to be dangerous because people don't know their limit," Togisala said.

Student Hiring Kilcawley Center

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TECHNOLOGY PAGE 1

instructor has their own use for it."

Martin Abraham, founding dean of the College of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics, said the Turning Technologies system and receivers work well. Using a local company has advantages other companies cannot provide, he said.

"They're here locally, so they provide excellent service for us, and because they're

here locally, and we have a good relationship with them, we get very quick access whenever there's upgrades so there's a value to us in using a Turning Technologies system," he said.

The receivers are only interactive with the PowerPoint software.

Donnan said, in the future, they hope to make the receivers interactive with other software programs.

STUDENT PAGE 1

better job after she graduates.

She works as a tutor in the YSU Reading and Study Skills Center and volunteers every weekend at St. Elizabeth Health Center. She relies on financial aid, but also works hard to provide for herself and her sons.

Banks said she doesn't let

her problems, including financial and school issues, get the best of her. She does the best she can.

Her time at YSU has been pleasant, she said.

"A lot of the professors are very helpful and understanding, and so are the other students," Banks said. "Now I'm living my dream."

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OUR SIDE

The rich get richer

The Jambar
EDITORIAL BOARD

RELATED STORY

Budget, page 1

President Cynthia Anderson demanded cost reductions from the Office of the President. In hard times, it's encouraging to see someone practice what she preaches.

It's nice to see she is not following in the footsteps of General Motors executives, issuing bonuses while begging Congress for a bailout, or hedge fund proprietors at Lehman Brothers, reaping record profits at the expense of middle-class homeowners.

It would also be nice to see other faculty and university officials recognize and address imminent budget constraints. Unfortunately, ACE is not.

It is the responsibility of the union to protect the jobs of its members. By the time its contract with the university, which secures ACE employees' bonuses, has run its course, impracticable labor costs will have driven out the very jobs the union has sworn to protect.

In the meantime, cut student affairs and facilities. Maybe ACE will finally read the writing on the wall when underfunded student organizations no longer need their services. The buildings will fall into further disinvestment to the tune of 8.5 percent. Maybe in four years, the university will have the money to afford the workers needed to fix the issues caused by the years of neglect.

But wait. In four years, the budget office will have another political card to play, once again deferring responsibility.

All must be accountable for their expenses during this recession — every last one of us. Budget cuts and economic woes will undoubtedly inflate tuition, the price of books, parking passes, operating costs, living expenses and on and on.

Unlike ACE's negotiated contract, the students do not have a say in what they will pay next year. It's sad but true.

We are all in this together.

The fiscal drought is draining the pond we live and learn in, but will ACE come off their island and join the rest of us by the time the next contract is signed in 2011?

If ACE members have any respect for the university, its students and the services that are being yielded because of this contract, they will undoubtedly think more about the future when they renegotiate.

For now, enjoy your glorified Christmas bonuses.



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



How do you feel about the alcoholic energy drink Four Loko being banned in Ohio?



"They taste gross, so I don't really care. I don't like them."

Emily Moss, junior



"Personally, I don't want it to be banned, but realistically it probably should be."

Dylan Rose, freshman



"It should be banned. They're a little bit too dangerous."

Scott Sittig, freshman

Tear down your altars and lifeless idols



See you on the other side

Chris Cotelesse
COLUMNIST

Thanksgiving is over, and now we are dragged into finals week and on to Christmas. For better or worse, another semester has passed away.

It's too late to salvage a grade, or to take back all the things you shouldn't have said.

Like my old man says, "You'll never get another chance to do it again."

Sorry, pops, I didn't do so hot this time around. I'll probably take a C in Advanced News Reporting and Feature Writing.

It's not so bad, but I could have done better.

I wasn't lazy. I didn't cheat or skip class often. I'm just not a very good reporter. I do all right sometimes, but I don't always give enough attention to a story or a source.

I do the same with family.

I'll spend the winter break recharging and visiting relatives. Half of my family is Italian. The rest is largely Irish, so I can enjoy the holidays with only a small degree of white guilt. Cotelesse didn't come here until after white people had already freed the slaves and killed most of the natives.

My holiday ordeal will be listening to my mom complain about her husband, the government or the shriveled old hags she deals with. My cousin will preach about the importance of recycling.

I'll probably say something sarcastic and offend my loved ones.

That's how I learn. I make mistakes.

My professors tell me how to investigate and develop a story, but I won't learn until I see the finished product.

My family can tell me I am too abrasive, but it doesn't mean anything until someone cries.

I'll nurse my wounds over the long break. I'll turn my disappointment into drive and come back next semester with renewed purpose.

Or I'll crash and burn miserably, but as long as I'm learning, then I'm making progress.

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.

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WHAT DO YOU THINK?

SEND US AN E-MAIL

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Carols @ Cocoa



Marissa McIntyre
REPORTER

With freezing temperatures looming over the campus of Youngstown State University, the Dana School of Music will be providing cocoa along with a warming holiday concert.

Carols and Cocoa and the Dana Holiday Concert spotlight a variety of student musical acts including the University Chorus, the Dana Guitar Quartet and the YSU jazz ensembles.

Hae-Jong Lee, associate

professor in the Dana School of Music and director of choral activities, will direct several of the concert's performances.

The combination of Christmas carols and a traditional Dana concert will have audiences listening to familiar holiday tunes along with more orchestral pieces.

"Many Moods of Christmas," a piece arranged with full orchestra and singers, will feature five traditional chorals.

"This is a piece that everyone will enjoy," Lee said.

Another piece will be "Gloria," a six-movement score written by famous composer

Francis Poulenc in 1959. It was one of the last pieces Poulenc worked on before his death.

"Like many great composers, he summed up the end of his life with this piece. Composers want to leave a footprint, and this piece was Poulenc's footprint he left with us," Lee said.

The concert has significantly grown since it started 30 years ago. Students would bake cookies and obtain coffee and cocoa donations from local businesses. Small ensembles would perform in the lobby of Bliss Hall.

"At first, the audience count

would be right around 100," Lee said. "We tried to make it bigger, so we used a church hall next."

As the event continued to grow — from the Bliss Hall lobby to St. John's Episcopal Church and now to Stambaugh Auditorium — so did the repertoire.

About seven years ago, Lee and other faculty members had the idea to use the Carols and Cocoa event to draw in a bigger audience for a more formal holiday concert. This would bring bigger audiences and a more sophisticated repertoire.

"We want to educate the

audience as well as entertain them," Lee said.

He also hopes that the audience continues to grow.

"There are 2,600 seats in the concert hall, and eventually I'd like to see all those seats full. Last year, we had just over 1,000 in the audience," Lee said.

Carols and Cocoa and the Dana Holiday Concert will take place at Stambaugh Auditorium on Wednesday at 7 p.m. Adult tickets are \$10; senior citizen and student tickets are \$5. Children under 12 years of age and students with a valid YSU ID get in for free.

Dearly departed

Loved ones say their goodbyes via Facebook

Chelsea Miller
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

Martin Manning, former associate director of student life at Youngstown State University, lost his three-year battle with cancer Oct. 6. Today, his wife Millie Manning has kept his memory alive by commenting on his Facebook page.

"I've just posted messages as if I'm still talking to him," she said. "It's one way for me to feel like I'm still communicating with him."

During his illness, a Facebook page, called "We Heart Marty Manning," was also created in his honor.

The page was set up so friends, students and colleagues could share their memories of Manning. Since its creation, several former students and colleagues have shared stories, and the page was used to keep them updated on his illness.

Several others have used Facebook to cope with a loved one's death or illness. In May 2006, former YSU student Jon Arduis was involved in a fatal traffic accident. Friends still leave comments on his Facebook page.

Jenn Morton met Arduis in a communications class at YSU. She said they instantly became friends. Morton graduated in 2007. Arduis would have too, if not for the accident. As a way to keep in touch with her best friend, Morton writes to Arduis on Facebook, updating him on her life.

"I think when I write on his wall, it's somewhat like closure to me. He was cremated so I can't visit a grave site and talk to him," she said.

Liz Yazbek met Arduis through Morton, her sister. Yazbek said writing on Arduis's Facebook wall is a form of healing for her.

"I just feel like it's respectful to write on his wall so that he isn't forgotten. He was a great friend to our circle of friends, and he had the best personality," she said. "It is therapeutic in a way. It's a reminder of how lucky we

are to still be alive and shows us we can't take life for granted, and Jon was the type of guy who lived life. So we celebrated his life."

YSU alumna Kelin Flis said although she didn't know Arduis well, his death affected her. After meeting him at YSU, Flis said she immediately had a negative opinion of him, and thought he was arrogant and rude. She said her opinion changed when they became better acquainted.

"I got to know him just by having class together, then seeing him at bars while I was out. I found that he was very funny and deep down, a nice guy," she said.

After he died, Flis said she cried and still has dreams about him every now and then. Flis said she thinks Arduis receives the messages she sends to him on his Facebook wall.

"I guess I feel like by writing on his wall, he can read or hear my thoughts ... I guess I just feel so sad that someone so young and full of life is gone," she said. "So I will occasionally write on his wall as if I am showing him, as

well as others, that he is not forgotten. To me, it is similar to praying in the fact that I feel like I am talking to him."

Steve Ellyson, a professor of psychology at YSU, said commenting on Facebook walls is becoming socially acceptable now, and is an immediate way to show sympathy.

"[People see] other people are doing it, so it's OK to do it," he said. "It's very, very hard to deal with the loss of someone that you know because you don't know exactly what to say. You don't want to say the wrong thing ... you don't have to do it face to face through Facebook."

Ellyson added that it might be therapeutic for some.

"It has to do with mortality, and that's something everyone has to deal with. We're probably the only mammals that know we're going to die someday, and when somebody close to us dies, it reminds us that it's not a question of if, it's a question of when," he said.

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Friday, December 3, 2010
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Out-going Superintendent of
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 - Senior (93+ semester hours) = 3.25
 - Graduate Student = 3.5
- Affiliation with organized labor
 - Past or current union membership by applicant [2+ years]
 - or members of applicant's family [5+ years]

Application Procedure

- Complete application form
 - Available from
 - YSU-OEA Office, 562 Wick Avenue, Youngstown, OH 44502,
330-747-1756 or
YSU Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships website
http://cfweb.cc.yosu/finaid/scholar/est_scholar_all.cfm
- File FAFSA and Statement of Disclosure with Office of Financial Aid
- 2 letters of recommendation from YSU faculty
- Letter from YSU Financial Aid Office demonstrating applicant need
- Essay (~ 500 words) discussing
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T1 Cleveland State	0-0 7-0	5 Butler	0-0 3-2	T8 Green Bay	0-0 3-3
3 Youngstown State	0-0 4-1	T6 Detroit	0-0 4-3	T8 Wright State	0-0 3-3
				10 Milwaukee	0-0 3-4

International student-athletes share their stories

'I didn't talk to people... It was pretty tough, to be honest'

Jordan Uhl
SPORTS REPORTER

Adapting to new surroundings can be difficult for anyone, more so if you don't speak the same language as everyone around you. Now imagine confronting that language barrier on the basketball court, at the collegiate level.

That's what seniors Bojana "Boki" Dimitrov and Vytas Sulskis dealt with upon their arrival in the U.S.

Although their respective careers began elsewhere, they both wound up playing for Youngstown State University.

Dimitrov, a native of Paracin, Serbia, was originally recruited by Carl Albert State College in Poteau, Okla., before transferring to YSU.

Serbian is Dimitrov's native tongue. However, the curriculum in her native country is quite different. Students begin a foreign language study in fifth grade. Even with a head start on the language, she still encountered difficulties communicating.

"I didn't talk to people. I didn't have conversations in English. It was pretty tough, to be honest. Some of my teammates didn't take me serious. They would talk loud to me. I would say, 'My IQ is not so low, just my English,'" Dimitrov said.

She found a way to overcome this mere hindrance.

"Basketball was the only way to earn their respect, so I just went on the court and played hard," Dimitrov said.

"Played hard" is an understatement. Dimitrov averaged 5.9 assists per game, 18th best

in Division I in the National Junior Athletic Association.

Even though she'd never been to the United States before attending Carl Albert, Dimitrov said she felt she knew what to expect.

"Some people think that we [foreigners] don't know a lot about America, but I was listening to American music [and] watching American movies. Serbia is westernized, so I think I had a pretty good picture of America before I came here," she said.

For Sulskis, his American playing days began in high school in Gainesville, Fla. Originally from Vilnius, Lithuania, he was recruited by head coach Jerry Slocum, who knew Sulskis' Amateur Athletic Union coach.

He, too, encountered communication difficulties during his first years in the U.S.

"I could barely speak English. I could understand what they were saying, but I couldn't answer. Just being here by myself, I had to learn I didn't have a choice," he said. "In AAU, [my teammates] used to make fun of me a lot when I misspelled words and I just didn't put my sentences [together well]. It didn't bother me while I was playing though."

Both players said they miss their families and traditional meals from their homelands. Sulskis longs for cepelinai, a dumpling filled with potatoes and minced meat. For Dimitrov, it's homemade cornbread and Serbia's version of "pigs in a blanket." Over the summer, she learned how to cook her favorite dishes.

"I've heard bad stories about Youngstown, but I've never experienced it. It's just friendly people, and a good school," Sulskis said.



PHOTO BY JOSH STIPANOVICH/THE JAMBAR



PHOTO BY JORDAN UHL/THE JAMBAR

INTERNATIONAL FLAVOR- Seniors Boki Dimitrov and Vytas Sulskis have made the tough transitions from international students and players to contribute immensely to the women's and men's basketball teams. Dimitrov is second on the women's team in scoring this season while Sulskis leads the men's team in scoring. Sulskis recently became the 32nd player in school history to eclipse the 1,000-point plateau.

BASKETBALL TOP 25

1. DUKE
2. OHIO STATE
3. PITTSBURGH
4. KANSAS
5. KANSAS STATE
6. MICHIGAN STATE
7. CONNECTICUT
8. SYRACUSE
9. MISSOURI
10. KENTUCKY
11. BAYLOR
12. VILLANOVA
13. TENNESSEE
14. MEMPHIS
15. MINNESOTA
16. GEORGETOWN
17. SAN DIEGO STATE
18. FLORIDA
19. TEXAS
20. ILLINOIS
21. BRIGHAM YOUNG
22. PURDUE
23. WASHINGTON
24. UNLV
25. NOTRE DAME

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Basketball was the only way to earn respect, so I just went on the court and played hard."

-Bojana "Boki" Dimitrov

PENGUIN SPOTLIGHT



BOJANA "BOKI" DIMITROV

POSITION: Guard
YEAR: Senior
HOMETOWN: Paracin, Serbia
HIGH SCHOOL: Gimnazija
2010-2011 Stats
(Per game average):
Points: 6.2
Rebounds: 5.6
FT Pct: .875

SCHEDULES

SWIMMING & DIVING
 Jan. 7- @ Ohio
 Jan. 15- AKRON/ST. FRANCIS (Pa.)
 Jan. 22- @ Cleveland State
 Jan. 28- @ UIC
 Jan. 29- @ Cleveland State/Wright State

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Dec. 1- @Kent State
 Dec. 4- @ American
 Dec. 12- @ Western Michigan
 Dec. 16- AKRON
 Dec. 20- @ Stetson-Hatter Holiday Classic

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Dec. 2- @ Milwaukee
 Dec. 4- @ Green Bay
 Dec. 11- @ Robert Morris
 Dec. 13- MALONE
 Dec. 16- @ North Carolina State
 Dec. 21- @ Kent State
 Dec. 30- UIC

Penguins take two-game winning streak to road

Keith Langford Jr.
SPORTS EDITOR

The Youngstown State University women's basketball team looks to extend a two-game winning streak on the road against the Kent State University Golden Flashes on Wednesday.

The Penguins snapped a frustrating 34-game losing streak with two wins over Bucknell University and Ohio University.

The Penguins showed great resiliency in getting their two wins last week on the home court.

"Anytime you can overcome a deficit like that, you build confidence," said head coach Bob Boldon.

In both games, the Penguins were down at halftime. In both games, they fought hard and found a way to win. In the game against Bucknell, they were down three but dominated the second half to claim their first win in 34 games. They were down by 15 points against Ohio before exploding for 41 points in the second half for the win.

"It feels good to get wins at home and getting people knowing that we can win," said Youngstown native and junior guard Tieara Jones. "It hasn't been pretty at home, but we've been able to pull it off."

The confidence the Penguins gained in their two victories at home will be tested against the Golden Flashes, a tough, physical Mid-American Conference foe who boasts size, something the Penguins are short on.

"We [are] going to try to outnumber them in the paint,"



PHOTO BY KEITH LANGFORD JR./THE JAMBAR

SHOOT THE 'J'- Junior guard Tieara Jones squares up to shoot a jumper in a game against IPFW. Jones has averaged six points and four rebounds per game this season.

Boldon said about his defensive strategy against the Golden Flashes.

Boldon emphasized stretching KSU out on offense, possibly to create more driving lanes and kick out opportunities for the outside shot on offense, instead of trying to pound the Golden Flashes inside.

"In their last game against Marshall, they scored 40 in the paint," Boldon said about the dominance KSU provides in the paint.

In earlier games this season, the Penguins' have had

problems with KSU's size. In a game against Indiana University-Purdue University Fort Wayne, 6-foot-2-inch red-shirt junior Stephanie Rosado scored 22 points and grabbed 12 rebounds. In their first game of the season against the University of Pittsburgh, 6-foot-3-inch senior forward Chelsea Cole had 15 points and 13 rebounds.

The Golden Flashes have two players that are 6 feet 3 inches tall and multiple others more than 6 feet tall. The Penguins tallest contributing play-

er is Jones, but her game isn't a bruising style at 6 feet tall. It's more of a finesse game.

The Penguins counter the Golden Flashes' size with speed. Junior Macey Nortey and sophomore Maryum Jenkins are arguably two of the fastest players in the Horizon League. Jenkins leads the team with 13 assists, while Nortey is second with 10 helpers. The Penguins will need to spread the ball around and create movement within their motion offense to combat the size of KSU.