



THE JAMBAR

The student voice of Youngstown State University since 1931.



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yo* calendar

Brought to you by [the yo* magazine] a special twice-a-year publication of The Jambar

broaden yo* horizons

Treez Please Meeting
• Monday, June 30, 6 p.m.

plan yo* night

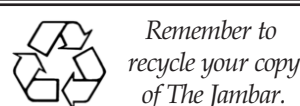
2008 Mahoning Valley Rib Burnoff
• Thursday, June 26 to Sunday, June 29
• Eastwood Mall
• Music
Thursday: Homegrown Battle of the Bands
Friday, 5 p.m.: Acoustic Juggernaut, TEEZ, Joe Grushacky and The Houserockers, Donnie Iris and The Cruisers
Saturday, 5:30 p.m.: No Excuse, Smack Alice, Blue Oyster Cult
Sunday, 8 p.m.: The EarthQuakers

Mahoning Valley Scrappers vs. Batavia Muckdogs
• Thursday, June 26, 7:05 p.m.
• Eastwood Field
• \$7-\$9

28th Annual Small Ships Revue
• Get your ship together for the 28th annual Small Ships Revue in Downtown Sharon, Pa. Parade, live entertainment on three stages, games and concessions.
• Friday, June 27, 6 p.m.
• Quaker Steak and Lube
• Free

WEATHER

Today 80° 66°
Friday 80° 67°
Saturday 79° 65°
Sunday 81° 62°
Monday 82° 61°
Tuesday 87° 66°
Wednesday 86° 68°



YSU

YSU may get \$2 million for research

Sarah Sole
Editor-in-Chief

Students would have a central role in energy research at Youngstown State University if \$2 million in alternative energy funding goes through. The U.S. House of Representatives may award money to YSU to study wind energy and fuel cells.

With the money from an appropriations bill, students and faculty would look at three different areas

to conduct an analysis of the energy conversion system, said Martin Abraham, dean of The College of Science, Technology, Math and Engineering. Two windmills would also be built on campus to conduct research.

Students will be heavily involved with the university in creating the tools and conducting analyses, and in the future, student course material will be built around the research, Abraham said.

Between 10 to 20 students are involved with the project, and other

interested STEM students could talk to faculty to get involved, Abraham said.

The first of the three areas would be a study on wind energy.

Abraham said there is an energy efficiency in converting wind energy to electricity. Not all the wind energy is converted into electricity, which he compared to shampoo left in the bottom of the bottle. How efficient the conversion is depends on the construction of the turbine blade and other facets of the conversion, as wind is converted first

into mechanical energy, then into electricity, then transferred into the electrical grid.

The second area would focus on fuel cells, which Abraham described as a hydrogen chemical reaction which produces water and electricity. Like the first area, students and faculty would research the efficiency of this process.

A third area of research would focus on energy utilization, specifically to efficient energy utilization in industrial processes, Abraham said.

FUNDING page 2

YSU

Khawaja made official provost

J. Breen Mitchell
News Editor

Dr. Ikram Khawaja has been selected the new provost of Youngstown State University. Khawaja had served as interim provost since the death of Robert Herbert in July 2007.

A committee charged with finding a replacement provost interviewed three finalists for the position.

President David Sweet and the committee decided that none of the candidates exceeded the qualifications of Khawaja, said Ron Cole, director of marketing and communications.

"I think that this is in the best interest of the university," Cole said, adding that Khawaja has been with the University for 40 years.

Khawaja said that he is honored to be asked to stay on, although he had no part in the decision.

"I was hoping for a successful conclusion to the search process," said Khawaja.

When the committee was divided on replacement candidates, he said that he felt obligated by loyalty to keep the position.

"I hold YSU in the highest regard, in terms of loyalty," Khawaja said.

YSU

FIXING THE PIPES

Community college plans to increase flow of students into college

Kelli Phillips
Jambar Contributor

Youngstown State University is moving forward with plans for a joint community college that would open its doors fall of 2009. Kent State University and the career and technical centers in the Mahoning Valley are working with YSU to develop courses and tuition rates.

"YSU is ready. We're excited to work with the partners and move forward with this," said Nathan Ritchey, who's been spearheading the planning for YSU. He formerly served as provost and is now chair of the mathematics and statistics department. "We're excited to be a leader."

According to Ritchey, the goal of the community college is to "provide another entrance, a bridge, into higher education."

As part of Ohio Chancellor of the Ohio Board of Regents Eric Fingerhut's 10-year strategic plan for higher education, which has goals of graduating more students, keeping more graduates in Ohio and attracting more out-of-state degree holders, a community college in the Mahoning Valley would bridge the educational gap between a non-traditional high school education and a four-year degree.

"If you fix the pipelines, you will have a great system that will permit the residents of Ohio to a great higher education," Ritchey adds.

After the May 6 press conference in which Fingerhut released details pertaining to the development of a community college.

The partner schools in the program will house the new classes, using the area's existing resources and buildings, creating an area-wide campus.

A 40-member committee with members from all the schools involved will assemble throughout the remainder of the year to develop courses, programs and tuition rates.

Although a tuition rate is yet to be determined, it will most likely remain competitive with costs at other community colleges in the region, said Ritchey. The cost should average around \$90 per credit hour if it's comparable to rates from Lorain County Community College, the Jefferson Community College and the Lakeland Community College.

Junior Derek DeMaiolo expects the community college to have a big effect in the area. "The Mahoning Valley will experience quite a drastic change if this plan follows through," he said.

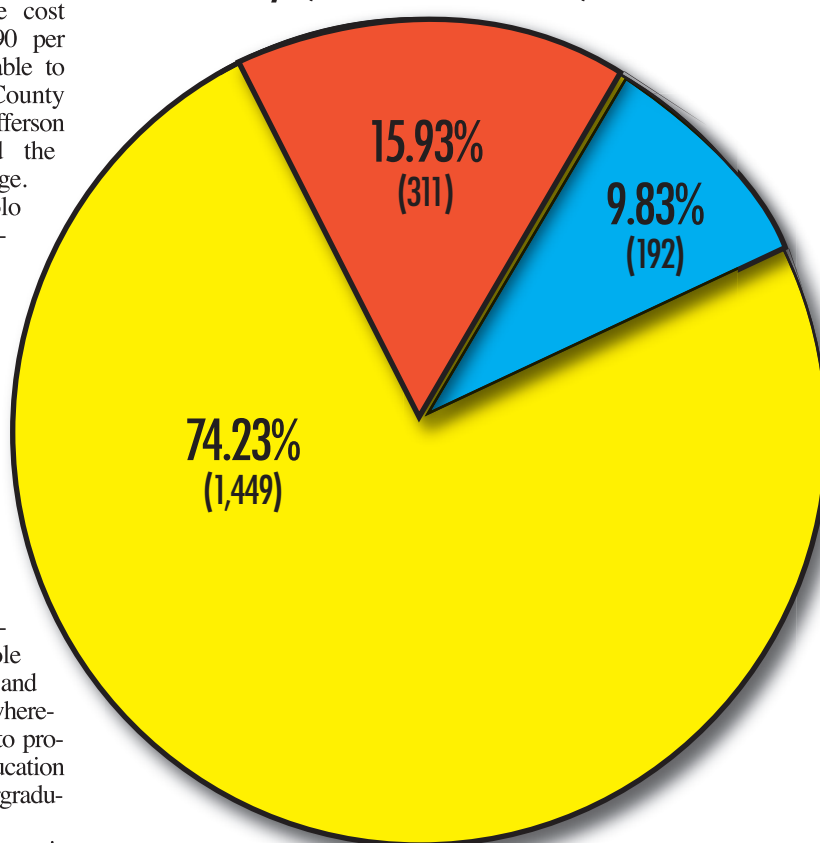
DeMaiolo foresees a short-term drop in enrollment at YSU, but said he thinks it might benefit YSU's enrollment and promote higher education in general in the long run.

As Ritchey said, the community college's main role would be to provide applied and skilled training to students, whereas YSU's new role will be to provide a more traditional education for students to achieve undergraduate and graduate degrees.

Although the number of associate degrees awarded has steadily increased over the past five years, it only accounts for approximately 10 percent of the total number awarded at YSU during the same time period. Of the 1,952 degrees awarded between July 1, 2006 and June 30, 2007, only 192 were associate degrees, according to YSU's office of institutional research. The five most popular two-year degrees among new students are electrical utility technology-power plant option, electrical utility technology, criminal justice, associates in arts and electrical engineering technology.

Just 306 master's degrees and 5 doctorate degrees, or approximately 15 percent of the total degrees in 2006-2007, amounts to a 23 percent drop from the previous aca-

Degrees awarded July 1, 2006 and June 30, 2007



Legend:
■ Bachelor Degrees
■ Graduate Degrees
■ Associate Degrees

ademic year. The bachelor's degree programs have also seen a 5.7 percent decrease from 2005-2007.

According to the Mahoning Valley Community College Needs Assessment, 75 percent of business leaders say they have positions where a two-year degree is appropriate. Therefore, if the community college were to instruct several of YSU's two-year programs, YSU could adapt by focusing its courses on higher level programs.

Losing associate programs

could affect university enrollment.

"I believe enrollment at YSU would almost certainly drop initially in the short term, but eventually increase over a period of time," DeMaiolo said.

Ritchey said that help from the state and changes to the Ohio budget will protect universities from losing enrollment to community colleges. He said another goal of the community college is to eventually add more programs and students to YSU.

YSU

Sweet, admins celebrate university accomplishments at trustee meeting

J. Breen Mitchell
News Editor

Fall enrollment will increase by two percent, and minority enrollment is at a historic high, said Youngstown State University president David Sweet.

Sweet cited many reasons he is proud of the past year and optimistic about the upcoming one at a meeting of the university trustees.

The increase in enrollment this fall should take YSU to its highest enrollment in 13 years, he said.

Sweet also said minority enrollment has gone from 11 percent to 17 percent.

Sweet talked about the Higher Learning Commission's recommendation that the University keep its accreditation.

"I'm not going to prejudge what the committee will do, but we are planning a party come June 23."

David Sweet, YSU president, on university's reaccreditation

"I'm not going to prejudge what the committee will do, but we are planning a party come June 23," Sweet said.

Among the other accomplishments Sweet cited were the Centennial Campaign, Youngstown Early College, and Monday's visit by the director of the National Science Foundation.

On university finances, he commended Rep. Tim Ryan for his

efforts to bring money into the university, including funding for a Center for Renewable Energy.

Sweet said YSU has received over \$10 million in federal funds and is on track to receive \$5 million in state funds next year.

Another accomplishment was the contract resolution with YSU's faculty union, and Sweet said he hopes to reach a similar agreement with the classified staff union.

The budget for fiscal year 2009 will include a continuation of the state mandated tuition freeze, an increase in state funding and implementation of the community college.

Sweet also announced next year's goals of redefining the university's mission to fit the plan laid out by the university and the state and identifying centers of excellence.

Sweet ended his address with a reference to the upcoming football

game between YSU and Ohio State University on August 30.

"All I'm saying to Coach Tressel and Gordon Gee is that we all better fear the penguins," he said.

Sweet was followed by Provost Ikram Khawaja, who delivered the staff report.

Khawaja said YSU has been challenged by the state to re-evaluate its strategic plan.

There is a task group charged with examining both the state and university plans to determine how best to accomplish this task, since the university plan was written before the state plan, he said.

"A very important part of the upcoming year will be our undivided attention to assessment," said Khawaja, adding that the university

TRUSTEE page 2

News Briefs

YSU student leads Ohio Historical Marker

The life of renowned philosopher William Van Orman Quine is celebrated this week, thanks to the senior capstone project of YSU graduate student Chad Miller. The marker to celebrate Quine's life was placed at Oberlin College in the King Building on Wednesday, which was the centennial of his birth. The Ohio Historical Society approved the marker.

Assistant professor receives award

Kin P. Moy, assistant professor of Electrical Engineering Technology, received a \$10,000 research grant from the Automotive Research and Technical Center in Taiwan.

Police Briefs

Reckless driving reported at Wick deck

YSU Police were called to the Wick Avenue parking deck June 17 when a booth worker reported a person squealing his tires and driving recklessly while in the deck. The car was found parked with the driver inside on the fourth level of the parking deck. The case is still under investigation.

Key to room in Williamson missing

A faculty member reported a missing key June 18. The faculty member left a key to a room in Williamson on her desk and when she returned from vacation, she discovered the key missing, despite there being no forced entry.

Argument at Cafaro House leads to arrest

YSU police were called to the Cafaro House on June 23 due to an argument between two men occurring in front of the building. A routine check of both subjects revealed that one of the men had a warrant in Youngstown for failure to appear for theft charges. The suspect was handcuffed and transported to the county jail for booking. The other suspect was issued a trespass warning and released at the scene.

YSU

Endowment remains safe during tough times

J. Breen Mitchell

News Editor

Youngstown State University's endowment remains stable, even when economic times are not.

The endowment, money the university invests, is \$12 million for fiscal year 2008. The money returned from the investments is used by the university, primarily for students.

"Eighty percent of our budget is scholarships, so we don't want to take too many chances," said C. Reid Schmutz, president of the YSU Foundation.

Schmutz said that, unlike many other universities, YSU is not an asset-based spender. This means that, rather than the endowment depending on assets the university has performing well in the market, it is based on the income received from the portfolio.

He said that this way, when the market is down, the value of the

endowment is not affected in the short term, although it still may be in the long term, because if the market were to remain slow for an extended period of time, there would be less income to draw from.

Schmutz said that about 70 percent of university endowments are asset based, and that YSU is in the minority, falling within the 30 percent of universities who are income based.

"In these kinds of times, our method shines a little bit brighter," Schmutz said.

He said the way YSU handles its endowment is designed for stability, so that it will be in the same shape today as it was 20 years ago, and that it will be in 20 years from now.

Schmutz said this is not always a popular way to handle university business, because when the market is up, it isn't necessarily reflected by the endowment.

"It doesn't make us every-

body's friend," he said, but it is the most prudent way to deal with foundation funds.

He said that he is still working out the new budget, but that the endowment for the upcoming fiscal year will not have lost any value, and may be up slightly.

Schmutz said that YSU's method is particularly valuable now, when the value of the endowment is down.

"It doesn't affect the payoff," he said.

Since 2000, he said, the market has been down a lot.

Still, he said when the market is up, some within the university get anxious because they're not bringing in as much money immediately as they would if the endowment were asset based.

They are thankful for the way they do things when the market is down, though, because they are not losing money as an asset based endowment would.

FUNDING page 1

Though the bill is scheduled for a vote by Oct. 1, Abraham said the decision will likely come later.

The funding would definitely benefit students and the university, said Geoffrey Trees, a senior majoring in civil engineering.

"To do this type of research really requires money," he said.

He's working on undergrad research that involves trying to harvest

energy from elements that are in an excited state, a process he compares to letting the air out of a balloon.

Many of the projects that he and other students take on require costly special materials, and campus has equipment that's valued at hundreds of thousands of dollars, Trees said.

Douglas Price, associate professor of civil and environmental engi-

neering, said the bill would mean an opportunity for more research.

"We're just at the beginning stages," Price said.

Price is working with students on producing butanol instead of the more traditional alternative fuel source, ethanol. Instead of using corn to produce the fuel, they are growing their own algae to produce it.

TRUSTEE page 1

has joined the state's voluntary assessment initiative.

Paul McFadden, chief of university development, said every constituent of the university's centennial campaign is either on or ahead of schedule.

One area McFadden highlighted was the \$13.2 million raised for scholarships. The original goal was \$7 million.

"I'm at a loss for words at such generosity," he said.

McFadden thanked the board for their role in the campaign.

"You are responsible for over \$3 million," he said.

Eugene Grilli, vice president for finance and administration, report-

ed on the budget process and said the university expects an increase in utility expenses in the coming year.

Other resolutions that got a vote include the appointment of a vice president for academic affairs and a vice president for university advancement. Both of these carried, although not unanimously.

Finally, the board elected officers for the coming year.

Larry DeJane was elected vice-chairman, Franklin S. Bennett was elected secretary, and Scott Schulick was elected chairman.

Schulick thanked outgoing chairman John Pogue for his service.

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OUR SIDE

Stronger focus at YSU could come from new community college

RELATED STORY

COMMUNITY, page 1

Despite worries that a community college could negatively impact enrollment at Youngstown State University, the new college could give YSU a chance to focus on quality higher education.

It could certainly use the attention. The number of degrees being awarded by the university is falling.

In trying to balance being both a community college offering associate degree and a higher education facility offering bachelor's, master's and doctorate degrees, YSU hasn't had the chance to hone an identity. A community college could allow YSU to stop spreading itself so thin, a chance for it to become the "center of excellence" it strives to be.

As it stands, some students and others think of YSU as a last resort school. The old joke about YSU standing for You Screwed Up is based on a false perception, but one that continues to stand in the eyes of many. It's part of a larger mentality that nothing good comes out of Youngstown.

This is largely due to the fact that many students come to college before they're ready. They have just graduated high school and pressures, both societal and family-based, drive them to enroll. They take time to find their niche. There's nothing wrong with this, but it may not be the best use of university resources. There are also students who aren't ready for the rigors of college courses. These are the types of needs that could be addressed by a community college.

With such a college existing to deal with these students, YSU is free to focus on specific areas of expertise. Each college will have students who are committed to their particular discipline, without being held back by students who are still trying to decide what they want to do with their future or those that are on a different academic track.

Even if enrollment falls in the immediate future, the quality of the education YSU provides will rise.

In the long term, enrollment will likely go up, as the university gains a reputation as a quality institution of higher learning.

POLICIES

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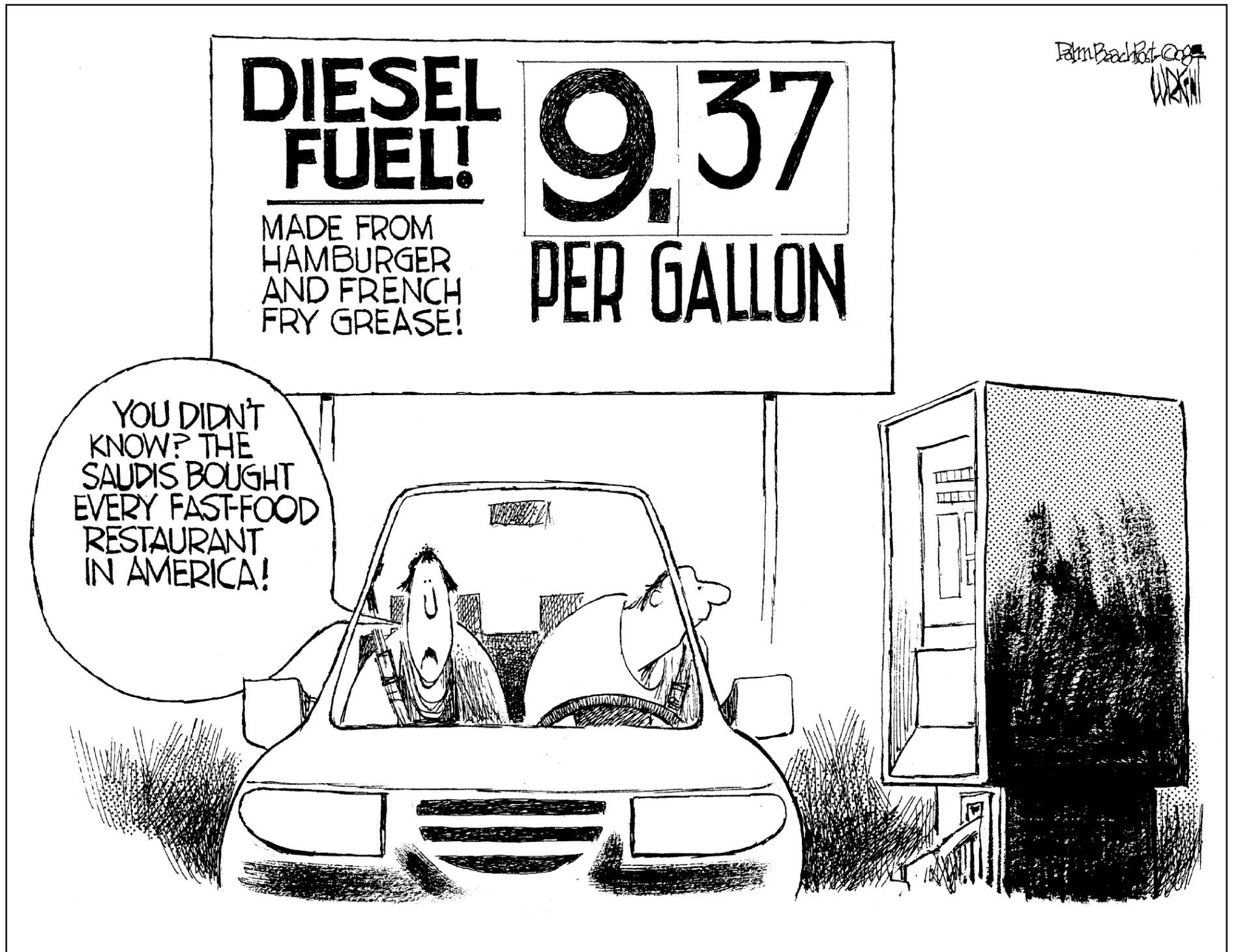
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ABOUT THE JAMBAR

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JAMBAR Question



Lisa Pitcairn, sophomore



Mark Sullivan, junior



Nicole Sabo, junior



David Swop, junior

How do you think a community college will affect enrollment at YSU?

"If it's cheaper then not many people will come here."

"Students may even see a degree here at YSU."

"I guess it depends on what classes are offered."

"It would probably add more student enrollment and programs at YSU."

COMMENTARY

The surge's success is emboldening Iraqi thinking on a U.S. withdrawal

Trudy Rubin

The Philadelphia Inquirer

A debate is heating up inside Iraq - and inside Washington - that will shape America's relationship with Iraq under the next president.

The debate is over a status of forces agreement (SOFA), a broad strategic framework that will define the long-term role of the U.S. military in Iraq. (The U.N. mandate authorizing the American presence expires at the end of 2008.)

Here's the big irony about this debate for the Bush administration: The security gains produced by the Petraeus-Crocker strategy in Iraq are leading Iraqis to rethink America's role.

The successes of the surge - which many Democrats still won't recognize - are creating an Iraqi political climate less friendly to Bush administration wishes. Iraqi politicians won't accept a Pentagon version of a SOFA seen as an insult to their sovereignty.

Iraqi Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki said Friday that the first draft had "reached a dead end. Any agreement that infringes on Iraq's sovereignty will be dismissed."

On the surface, this debate is over the future of U.S. bases in Iraq, immunity for U.S. soldiers and contractors, and key technical questions such as control of Iraqi airspace. The United States has SOFAs - not considered treaties and traditionally signed under executive authority - with more than 80 countries.

But this SOFA involves issues not present elsewhere.

The White House - and Sen. John McCain - have been tone-deaf on unique aspects of an Iraq agreement. McCain made the comparison again this week with post-World War II treaty arrangements. "Americans are in South Korea," he said. "Americans are in Japan ... in Germany."

Someone needs to give the Arizona Republican an atlas - and a history of Iraq.

Japan and Germany have zero relevance to the Iraq situation. The Middle East has a bitter history of colonial occupation; a significant, long-term U.S. presence in a major Arab nation is not sustainable.

Ali Allawi, a former Iraqi finance minister and respected analyst, told me Iraqis are comparing a

potential SOFA to the 1930 Anglo-Iraqi treaty that gave Britain military and economic privileges in exchange for Britain's ending its Iraq mandate.

"Iraqis remember revolts against those seen doing the bidding of the Brits," he said.

Iraqis also recall that huge demonstrations broke out in Iran after the Shah signed a 1964 SOFA with the United States, even though only a few hundred U.S. military advisors were involved.

"National sovereignty is the key issue," Allawi said. "If U.S. troops stay for a finite period, then leave, that's fine. But the Bush administration seems to have something else in mind. People are not sure how this will be wound down or if it will be wound down."

Allawi's comments reminded me of many conversations I've had with Iraqi officials and ordinary Iraqis. Shiite Iraqis - the majority, who hated Saddam and were our nominal allies - always gave me the same message: Please stabilize the country and then go home.

When al-Qaeda in Iraq and other Sunni militias were attacking Shiites, the latter wanted U.S. pro-

tection. When Shiite militias took revenge on Sunni civilians, the Sunni community - which had been favored by Saddam - reversed its position and looked to U.S. troops for protection.

Now, as Iraqi security has improved, the Shiite majority feels freer to think about a U.S. troop exit. And Prime Minister Maliki, buoyed by his "success" in routing radical militias from Basra, feels readier to challenge his American backers.

Moreover, Maliki, looking ahead to provincial elections in several months, must pay attention to rising popular nationalist feelings. Most important, he must get a two-thirds vote in his parliament to get the SOFA enacted.

Note to White House: If the details of the accord must be transparent to Iraqi legislators, that had better be made transparent to U.S. legislators, too.

All this might give Democrats the impression that Maliki is giving them cover to demand a full U.S. withdrawal ASAP. After all, if Iraqis want us out, why should we stay?

But Barack Obama should pay

attention to the context surrounding Maliki's pronouncements. The Iraqi prime minister knows his impulsive push into Basra would have met disaster had he not been rescued by U.S. air power. Iraqi forces are still not ready for prime time.

Maliki wants U.S. troops to remain for now, and he wants a SOFA. But he wants an accord that treats Iraq like a real country, where U.S. military and civilian officials don't have free reign - and can't stay forever.

In the end, there will probably be a deal that puts U.S. contractors under Iraqi law, Iraqi prisoners under Iraqi control, and gives Iraq far more control over what U.S. forces do, and for how long.

Ryan Crocker, the astute U.S. ambassador to Baghdad, acknowledged Iraqi sensitivities when he said last week: "There isn't going to be an agreement that infringes on Iraqi sovereignty." He added that the deal "isn't going to be forever."

So let's be glad that progress has made and Iraqis feel confident enough to demand equality. The sooner they can take charge, the sooner U.S. troops will come home.

got an opinion?

**Send letters to:
thejambar@gmail.com**

ENTERTAINMENT

Name that summer TV show, new and old

Jeanette DiRubba

Reporter

With regular scheduled TV shows on break for the summer months, new shows and returning summer favorites are back on air.

"Celebrity Circus," described as "Dancing with the Stars meets Barnum and Bailey," trains celebrities to perform death-defying stunts along with circus-trained professionals on Wednesdays at 9 p.m. Reality show "The Baby Borrowers" tests the lives of diverse teen relationships when it gives teens the responsibility to parent the children of other adults. The parent-swapping and baby-borrowing acts air Wednesdays at 8 p.m.

Other networks have also continued supplying new reality shows into the summer months.

"Legally Blond The Musical: Search for Elle Woods" is a reality show that follows 10 Tony-winners who wish to be the next Elle Woods. The 10 women go through dance routines, rehearsals and other workshops while being judged by a casting director, theater writer, and cast member. It runs Mondays at 10 p.m. on MTV.

Besides reality shows, TV networks have also served up a fresh plate in the drama department.

Crime show "In Plain Sight" stars Mary McCormack as Mary Shannon, a U.S. Marshal relocating criminals and others to the witness protection program. The show airs on USA, Sundays at 10 p.m.

"The Middleman" and "Secret Life of the American Teenager" are two new shows on ABC Family. "The Middleman" stars Natalie Morales as a top secret agent destroying comic book-like villains. The series is based on Javier Grillo-Marxauch's graphic novels and runs Mondays at 9 p.m. Molly Ringwald stars as the mother in "Secret Life of the American Teenager" and the show follows her teenage daughter's unplanned pregnancy. It airs Tuesdays at 8 p.m.



OLD SHOW

Kathy Griffin returns in her show, "My Life on the D-List," Thursdays at 9 p.m. on Bravo.



NEW SHOW

Nick Lachey hosts "High School Musical: Get in the Picture," a contest that offers a spot in the third "High School Musical." The show airs Sundays at 8 p.m. on ABC.



NEW SHOW

Molly Ringwald stars as the mother in "Secret Life of the American Teenager" and the show follows her teenage daughter's unplanned pregnancy. It airs Tuesdays at 8 p.m. on ABC Family.



NEW SHOW

"In Plain Sight" stars Mary McCormack as Mary Shannon, a U.S. Marshal relocating criminals and others to the witness protection program. The show airs on USA, Sundays at 10 p.m.

Returning this summer

Mondays:

- "American Gladiators," 8 p.m. NBC
- "The Closer," 9 p.m. TNT
- "Nashville Star," 9:30 p.m. NBC
- "The Mole," 10 p.m. ABC
- "Weeds," 10 p.m. Showtime
- "Saving Grace," 10 p.m. TNT

Tuesdays:

- "Project Runway," 9 p.m. Bravo
- "America's Got Talent," 9 p.m. NBC
- "Eureka," 9 p.m. SCI FI
- "30 Days," 10 p.m. FX

Wednesdays:

- "The Bachelorette," 9 p.m. ABC
- "Tyler Perry's House of Payne," 9 p.m. TBS
- "Shear Genius," 10 p.m. Bravo

Thursdays:

- "So You Think You Can Dance," 8 p.m. Fox
- "Kathy Griffin: My Life on the D-List," 9 p.m. Bravo
- "Last Comic Standing," 9:30 p.m. NBC
- "My Boys," 9:30 p.m. TBS
- "Burn Notice," 10 p.m. USA

Fridays:

- "Monk," 9 p.m. USA
- "Stargate Atlantis," 10 p.m. SCI FI
- "Psych," 10 p.m. USA

Saturdays:

- "Randy Jackson Presents American's Best Dance Crew," 10 p.m. MTV

Sundays:

- "Big Brother," 8 p.m. CBS
- "Design Star," 9 p.m. HGTV
- "Law and Order: Criminal Intent," 9 p.m. USA
- "Mad Men," 10 p.m. AMC
- "Army Wives," 10 p.m. Lifetime

Debuting this summer

Mondays:

- "Wanna Be!," 9 p.m. ABC
- "Secret Diary of a Call Girl," 10:30 p.m. Showtime

Tuesdays:

- "Wipeout," 8 p.m. ABC
- "I Survived a Japanese Game Show," 9 p.m. ABC
- "Tori and Dean: Sweet Home Hollywood," 10 p.m. Oxygen

Wednesdays:

- "Sortid Lives," 10 p.m. Logo

Thursdays:

- "Greatest American Dog," 8 p.m. CBS
- "Hopkins," 10 p.m. ABC
- "Swingtown," 10 p.m. CBS
- "Fear Itself," 10 p.m. NBC

Fridays:

- "Charlie Jade," 8 p.m. SCI FI
- "Flashpoint," 10 p.m. CBS

Sundays:

- "High School Musical: Get in the Picture," 8 p.m. ABC
- "Million Dollar Password," 8 p.m. CBS
- "Jingles," 9 p.m. CBS



PHOTO COURTESY OF WINSLOW

ENTERTAINMENT

Winslow brings soul rock to Youngstown

Natalie Scala

Reporter

Soul isn't what it used to be.

In the late '70s, soul and funk bands like the Isley Brothers, the Ohio Players and Sly and the Family Stone dominated the music charts. While soul music with full bands is becoming mainstream again, the singer is the focus and the musicians tend to be nameless, background fixtures as the case with Amy Winehouse, Joss Stone and Jill Scott. It's rare to find a soul group that writes their own material and plays their own instruments. Enter Winslow from Kent, a full soul funk rock band who will return to Youngstown June 27 to play Party on the Plaza.

Maurice Martin, vocalist for Winslow, says his band is a throwback to '70s soul and funk bands that played their instruments, but their sound is similar to modern

acts like Dave Matthews Band and Maroon 5 mixed with other influences such as Jimi Hendrix and Parliament Funkadelic. However, Martin is reluctant to categorize Winslow into one genre. He feels that because all six Winslow members have different music backgrounds and influences, Winslow's sound is unique and every member is equally important.

"We don't want to sound like anyone else," says Martin, "we don't want to be a cookie-cutter band."

Martin said their influences are the same artists they cover, like Stevie Wonder, and bands they sound similar to, like Dave Matthews Band.

When asked what makes seeing Winslow a unique experience, Martin says, "It's a high-energy show combined with an effort to be true musicians. Musicality is the foundation."

Since Winslow's formation in 2006 at Kent State University where all the members were music majors, they've played in Youngstown several times, at Vexfest, Barley's, JonesFest and most recently, The Furthermind Music Festival.

Martin says that Winslow is starting to build a fan base in Youngstown and that one of the band's goals is to immerse themselves in the Youngstown music scene and become a part of it. He feels that Youngstown has a great local music scene and that it seems people in Youngstown really support local artists.

Martin says that Winslow's upcoming Party on the Plaza show will be a longer set than what they are used to, and that they will perform their original material and a few cover songs by artists like Michael Jackson, Stevie Wonder and the Doobie Brothers.

ENTERTAINMENT

With the death of George Carlin, cerebral comedy just took a big hit

Roger Moore

The Orlando Sentinel

Wonder if he got "the two-minute warning"?

George Carlin's fans know what I'm talking about. It's part of a routine he did in the '70s, about the possibility of getting notice that you're about to die ... a voice inside your head that goes, "TWO MINUTES. Get your (Bleep) together."

His spirit's probably lurking beneath my car, chewing off the timing belt for censoring him like that, but hey, this ain't HBO.

There have been a few showbiz folks I've had chats with over the years who seem to have cheated death, so much so that it was worth making that the whole subject of the interview. Jerry Lewis was one. And he's still going. George Carlin was another. Here's a piece I wrote about him, before an Orlando appearance, after several health scares that ate up the late 1990s.

"Put these words on George Carlin's tombstone.

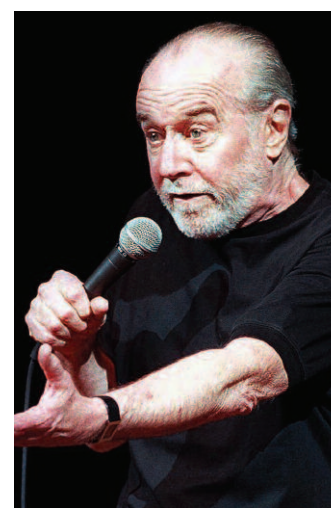
'Too hip for the room.'

Second choice?

'Gee, he was just here a minute ago.'"

Carlin, one of the funniest men in stand-up comedy history, from his "hippy dippy weather man" antics of the '60s to his eminence grise appearances in recent comedy documentaries such as "The Aristocrats," died of heart failure Sunday night. He was 71.

Yo, NBC-MSNBC, Fox et al. If Tim Russert was worth a weekend's orgy of obits and tributes, what do you do with a guy like Carlin, a true innovator, a force in popular culture like no other in stand-up comedy history? A month's coverage? He'll probably come back and haunt your airwaves if you do, but still, a little perspec-



of "hippies," the whole "Hey man, cool man, how's your old lady, man?" shtick, their benign place in American culture, comes straight from Carlin. He owned up to that in movies (he was the hippie microbus in "Cars," on TV (running a health-food commune in "The Simpsons").

I remember the older kids at Boy Scout camp in the '70s all had portions of his stand-up bits memorized, my first exposure to the dude ... the "seven dirty words," the nuances in meaning in the way one says one of those seven dirty words (starts with an "s"), his classic ode to (long) hair.

"My wife bought some hair at a fair, to use as a spare. Did I despair? Au contraire. Spare hair is fair."

His comparison of baseball to football? Classic, as well. Go read it.

I sensed a bitterness in the work the last time I talked with him in 2000. His outrage at the world seemed to have hardened him a bit. But his ability to find that outrage funny never wavered.

The dirtiest word in his dirty-word-happy Web site www.georgecarlin.com?

"Religion," he said from his Los Angeles home. "Because it's one of the worst things that ever happened to the human heart and the human mind. ... To surrender all the reason and potential of the human mind to a man in the sky who exists just to punish you seems very primitive to me."

A lot of Carlin's views on religion - he was raised a Catholic - fit neatly into his role as a cynical cardinal in the recent religious satire "Dogma."

"I always like taking a good, clean shot at the Catholic Church, and that movie certainly was that," he said with a chuckle.

Cool dude. Just cool. We'll miss you, man.