



THE JAMBAR

The student voice of
Youngstown State University
since 1931.

BACK PAGE

Softball rebounds, baseball holds onto a win

THE SIDEBAR

Faculty:

The Jambar wants to know about your most interesting classes for fall, in your words. Are you teaching a class about UFOs, showing students how to ferment beer, or using the Kama Sutra as a text book?

E-mail us at thejambar@gmail.com



SPORTS

Struggling tennis squads hope to halt losing slides6

CLASSIFIEDS

.....2

FEATURE

Gender battle: 'He said, she said'4

OPINION

'Til the last dog dies5

March Madness, when all the world's a crime scene5

EDITORIAL

Provost candidates, listen up5

SPORTS BRIEFS

.....6

WEATHER

Today ☁ 44° 21°

Wednesday ☁ 39° 33°

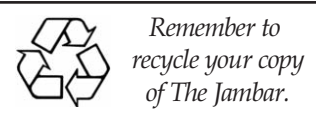
Thursday ☁ 46° 32°

Friday ☁ 52° 39°

Saturday ☁ 40° 33°

Sunday ☁ 42° 24°

Monday ☁ 45° 30°



PRESERVATION

YSU to restore historical Coffelt

For students, building restoration also means relocation of the Writing Center, Graduate Studies

Sarah Sole
News Editor

Youngstown State University has set aside \$1.2 million toward renovations for Coffelt Hall. As part of the university's Centennial Master Plan, the budget covers updates to the building's structure and restoration of its historical architecture.

The building's construction will cost \$990,000, said Richard White, associate director of planning and construction at YSU, though the final cost could be lower. The money will come from either capital funds from state allocations given every two years, or from bonded funds.

The writing center, which is housed in the building, will move to the basement of Maag Library, while the Graduate Studies office will take its place, White said.

David Sweet, YSU president, said the campus master plan calls for having undergraduate and graduate admissions in convenient locations. The Graduate Studies office's move to Coffelt will help the offices get more visibility and more accessibility.

The renovation will focus on reversing some of the changes made to Coffelt in order to restore its historical style, White said.

"We want to make sure that the character of the building remains the same," White said, calling the renovation an adaptive reuse of a vintage structure.

For example, the porch on the front of the building used to have French doors, White said. The renovation will put a new set of windows on the building's front, or it will install new French doors.

Coffelt is one of the few historic buildings on campus, said Ronald C. Faniro, principal of the Ronald Cornell Family Architects, selected by YSU's Board of Trustees to implement the design. The renovation will aim to keep a traditional, stately feel for Coffelt, even down to the lighting.

The building was originally used as an American Region Post, Faniro said. There are fireplaces on every floor, and ceramic tile in the former lodge room in a herring bone pattern, which the university will retain.

"There's a lot of historic fabric," Faniro said. Additionally, they will work on tuckpointing, or freshening the joints of Coffelt's masonry, Faniro said. This will make the building last for another 50 to 100 years.

Faniro said historical buildings like Coffelt are non-renewable resources.

"It keeps part of our history alive and intact," he said.

Sweet agreed. "I think it's always important for a campus or a community to respect its heritage," Sweet said.



Coffelt Hall

PHOTOS BY BRIAN CETINA/THE JAMBAR



WEAR AND TEAR — Rusty doors, stained carpet, and peeling paint and plaster are some of the damages that Coffelt Hall's \$1.2 million renovations will fix. The target date to complete renovations is Jan. 1, 2009.

Coffelt Conversion Plans

Source: YSU Centennial Master Plan

- Convert Coffelt Hall to the Office of Graduate Studies
- Relocate the Writing Center to well-designed, accessible space in Maag Library
- Reinforce Spring Street as the ceremonial entrance to campus

ADMINISTRATION

Final provost candidates to visit campus for open forum

Ashley Tate
News Reporter

The search for a new provost at Youngstown State University has been narrowed down to three top candidates, said Joe Edwards, dean of Fine and Performing Arts and chairman of the search.

Edwards said the interviews for the candidates will take place within the first two weeks of April.

A total of 39 candidates met the qualifications of the job description, Edwards said.

YSU President David Sweet said the candidates will spend two days on campus and different constituencies will have the opportunity to meet with them. Their visits include an open forum.

During the forum, Sweet said, "Students are invited to participate and can submit comments based on this activity."

The role of the provost is quite

critical. Sweet said he or she is responsible for the academic division of YSU's colleges, departments and the library. He or she is the chief academic officer and "serves as second in command."

"When the president is away, the provost carries the responsibilities and provides leadership," Sweet said.

The provost also takes the lead in developing programs such as

YSU's strategic plan and has an important role in working with faculty and sharing governance issues. Planning and implementation of these programs are key roles for the provost, Sweet said.

When looking to fill the provost position, Edwards listed a number of general criteria used as a basic foundation.

Edwards said candidates need administrative experience, evidence

of research and scholarship, and an understanding of YSU's mission and strategic plan.

Beyond these qualifications, Edwards said during the interviews the committee looks to see if the candidates have people skills.

Edwards said the committee also looks to see if the candidate is "truly a team player" because YSU's primary mission is teaching. He or she also has to have an "understanding of collective learning," he said.

The 22-person committee includes administration, faculty and students from the Student Government Association.

"I think (the committee) worked exceptionally well together. We had a strong consensus of final candidates. There were no debates over a special candidate that someone wanted to be selected for the pool," Edwards said.

"Students are invited to participate and can submit comments based on this activity."

David Sweet, YSU President

STAFF

Early, predictable staff retirement equals big savings for university

J. Breen Mitchell
Reporter

The Early Retirement Incentive Plan will save Youngstown State University a projected \$2.6 million, David Sweet said. The university president said that from the inception of the program in March 2006 to its completion in February, 133

staff members used this program, often referred to as a buyout.

Since the retirements were phased in over this two-year period instead of all at once, the university has been able to prepare for the loss of employees.

Tom Maraffa, special assistant to Sweet, said early retirement only applied to non-faculty employees. The program made it easier to pre-

dict non-faculty retirement, because most who were likely to retire would do so while the program is in effect.

"We expect fewer retirements in the next few years, because many who were going to retire probably would have done so," he said.

Maraffa said that faculty retirement fluctuates based on demographics, so it is difficult to predict

future trends.

The program came out of contract negotiations for non-faculty employees. The Ohio Public Employees Retirement System determines eligibility.

Under the plan, YSU offered to purchase either two years of service credit or one-fifth of total service, depending upon which was less. Eligible employees included

those who were 55 years old with at least 25 years of service, 60 years old with five years of service, or any employee with at least 30 years of service.

Maraffa said that no more employees will be taking the buyout in the near future.

"The last people left the university as of March 1. It's over," Maraffa said.

BANNER

Faculty learn new registration system

Samantha Pysher
Reporter

When students register for classes this semester, they won't be the only ones affected by the new Banner system that's replacing SOLAR. Faculty and advising staff also had to learn this brand new program.

"We had to invest a little time in learning the system, but it's an improvement," said Tod Porter, professor and chair of economics.

Faculty have attended numerous workshops, he said, including sessions about the student part of Banner and the financial section and a session about accessing Banner via the MyYSU portal.

Professor Howard Mettee of the YSU chemistry department said that Banner has been slowly introduced over the last couple of years, but faculty members have seen the biggest chunk over the last couple of months.

"I like it," said Patricia Hoyson, chair of the nursing department. "As with any new change, it takes some time to get comfortable with it. I see many positives with the new system."

"It's a good move," said Porter. "We had to move out of the old system. The key issue is simply that it works."

Hoyson said there has been a huge effort behind the scenes preparing the system and training faculty.

Hoyson said the work is well worth it, since new technology that helps with the registration and advisement of students is worthwhile.

Mettee said the changes with registration will require two things from faculty: patience and perseverance.

"It's going to be a learning experience for everyone," Mettee said.

"Nothing works seamlessly the when you adopt a new piece of software, but we move ourselves through it. It might take a little time at first," Mettee said.

Predicting that Banner will evolve, Mettee expressed his confidence that people will be able to understand Banner.

Mettee said that if any problems occur, they're likely to come with the stricter prerequisite requirements. Although he said Banner enforces prerequisites to keep students from getting in over their heads, the feature bothers him.

"The student is the customer and if they choose to aspire beyond the prerequisites that should be considered," Mettee said.

Porter said he will like the future ability to e-mail an entire class over Banner.

"I'm looking forward to using that for my students," he said.

Porter also said he thinks the financial system that lets university employees check pay stubs and tax forms on Banner is a big improvement.

On the other hand, Hoyson is looking forward to having all of the needed information on one screen.

"Banner is getting the same job done as SOLAR, but differently. It's more modern," Porter said.

TO THE POINT

Michigan professor to speak at social work conference

The department of social work is holding a conference called "Honoring Diverse Strengths: An Empowerment Perspective" Wednesday from 7:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. in Kilcawley Center. Robert M. Ortega, associate professor at the University of Michigan, will be the keynote speaker.

'What Not To Wear' seminar for students

A seminar featuring a fashion show will be held Monday from noon until 1:30 p.m. in the Ohio Room of Kilcawley Center. The event, "What Not To Wear And What To Wear to Interviews and Beyond: Fashion and Feedback" will focus on showing students what is appropriate and inappropriate attire for interviews and the business world. The seminar, sponsored by the Office of Career and Counseling Services and facilitated by Stephanie Volpini, will be co-hosted by WFMJ-TV meteorologist Mark Monstrola. He will be broadcasting live from the event.

FBI speaks in DeBartolo

The FBI is recruiting students as special agents and in professional support positions. A current special agent will host a meeting to discuss careers with the FBI Wednesday at 4 p.m. in DeBartolo Hall's Room 132.

Students can register as organ donors this week on campus

Students will be able to register to become an organ donor from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m. in Kilcawley Center until Friday. At the end of the registration drive, Fifth Season restaurant will hold prize giveaways and food and drink specials from 5 to 9 p.m.

NATIONAL

Music biz looks at giving fans all the songs they want in exchange for broadband access fee

Greg Kot

Chicago Tribune

While most of the 12,500 registrants at the South by Southwest Music Conference were out playing on a beautiful early-spring afternoon a few days ago, the latest plan to save the music industry was being scrutinized at a dimly lit panel discussion inside the Austin Convention Center.

There some of the industry's brightest minds were gathered: veteran manager Peter Jenner, McGill University professor Sandy Pearlman, Big Champagne Web site founder Eric Garland, entertainment lawyer Dina LaPolt, and consultants Bryan Calhoun and Jim Griffin.

On the table was Griffin's nascent proposal to have broadband users pay for any music they download through a fee bundled into their monthly Internet access bill. It would allow consumers to download, upload and share music without restriction, and create a pool of money collected from Internet service providers to compensate music copyright holders.

As news of Griffin's plan spread, it was instantly dissected. It was even inaccurately labeled "a culture tax" by at least one critic on Pho, a contentious Internet mailing list on digital technology that Griffin founded.

"Government involvement in the arts is abhorrent to me, and I do not favor a tax," Griffin said. "This is a network licensing model" that would function much in the way cable TV billing does.

"Our industry now functions on a tip jar," he said. "We have to be

extremely persuasive to get people to pay (for recorded music) or make it roughly involuntary to pay" in the same way that "sports has made it roughly involuntary to pay with cable TV deals."

The fee would not apply to broadband users who do not download music. Still, Griffin expects that "70 to 80 percent of users would pay" to gain access to all the music their hard drives could hold.

The proposal would require deals with Internet service providers worldwide, and could potentially represent a huge pool of revenue, even at relatively modest monthly rates (figures bandied about hover around \$5 or less per user per month).

The proposal follows one that surfaced two months ago from Canadian songwriters, which sought a \$5 government tax on every wireless and Internet account in the country. Both proposals are earnest attempts at adapting to and profiting from customer behavior rather than trying to quash it. In the last decade, the music industry's primary means of dealing with unauthorized Internet downloading has been to issue threats and lawsuits. A few weeks ago, U2 manager Paul McGuinness called on Internet service providers to disconnect users who trade copyrighted files and urged governments to get involved if they don't.

But there were signs at South by Southwest that at least some music-industry insiders were getting tired of such tactics. Suing file-sharers, Griffin said, "is shameful."

His plan would create a live-

and-let-live world in which peer-to-peer file sharing would co-exist with iTunes and other legitimate MP3 music stores. With an estimated 750 million people expected to be hooked into wireless broadband networks in Western Europe and the United States alone in the next decade, the potential revenue from licensing fees on Internet service providers could be substantial.

Yet such a forward-thinking plan might already be too little too late for the industry, McGill's Pearlman said. A portable data base containing all the music ever recorded is imminent, he said. "Once this paradise of infinite storage is entered," he said, "it will represent the end of all intellectual property rights."

Apple is reportedly taking the first steps toward that "paradise of infinite storage" by investigating a plan that would give customers free access to the 6 million songs in its iTunes store. Consumers would be asked to pay a premium price for their digital player upfront from Apple, but then would be able to download an unlimited number of songs for the life of the device. To work, the plan would require approval from the 2,000 record labels that service iTunes.

In nearly five years, 4 billion songs have been sold at iTunes. But more than 1 billion music files are traded each month on peer-to-peer networks, representing about 20 percent of U.S. Internet users. Meanwhile, the music industry, a \$15 billion-a-year enterprise as recently as 1999, is now at \$11 billion and dropping fast, as CD sales continue to plummet.

Classifieds

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■ Design and photography positions seek students having successfully completed initial design or related photography courses.

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Where to pick up an application:

Applications are available from Lynn Haug in the Kilcawley Staff Office located on the upper level of Kilcawley Center. One application applies for both publications—simply check the position(s) you are most interested in.

Application Deadline: 1pm, Tuesday, April 1, 2008

APPLICATION DEADLINE:

1 p.m. Tuesday, April 1, 2008.
Interviews will be scheduled for mid-April.

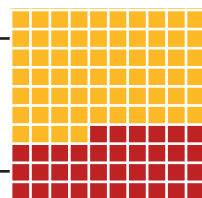
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BATTLE OF THE GENDERS

“He said” and “She said”

Jeanette DiRubba

Reporter

A man asks an obviously troubled woman, “What’s wrong?” and she responds with a sigh and says, “Nothing.” The man doesn’t ask again.

The after effect

The woman is angry and hurt because the man didn’t continue pressing her to express her true feelings. She felt the man should know right away what was bothering her.

Miscommunication occurs in the exchange of male versus female responses through misread signals and dialogue due to language externalizing gender tension, said Barbara Nykiel-Herbert, assistant English professor at Youngstown State University.

It’s possible to better understand the opposite sex through the study of linguistics, Nykiel-Herbert said, but the many outcomes of study could never be fully accurate because each individual is different.

That’s what she said

YSU senior Jason Patterson said he thinks males are more nonverbal in expressing themselves because women always explain themselves.

“I hate when you ask girls what’s wrong and they say nothing. It’s obviously something, and they just expect us to know what it is!” Patterson said.

Freshman Brooke Campana disagreed with Patterson. She said sometimes girls “really are just fine, and we mean it. When boys keep asking, it annoys us.”

Rachel Rice, senior English major, believes women communicate on a much more nonverbal level that can sometimes be confusing for the opposite sex to follow.

“We tend to have a ‘coded’ language that men seem oblivious to, and this is the main reason for our miscommunications. Men just hear the words and miss the emotions, and women expect men to be mind readers,” she said.

In Rice’s opinion, not only do women naturally interrupt in conversations and repeat gossip, they also communicate cooperatively while reading emotions.

Nykiel-Herbert said women speak to talk about problems, and they just want someone to listen to them. When women converse together, they support each other, she said.

“When women have ‘supportive talk,’ it doesn’t solve their problems, but the talking seems to lessen the weight of their problems,” Nykiel-Herbert said.

Women shouldn’t treat their male partners how they would treat their female friends, Nykiel-Herbert said.

“Don’t hold your boyfriend or male partner on the same level you would hold your female friends. You can’t expect the same attentive and emotional response from them as you would have from your female friends,” she said.

Nykiel-Herbert said when women enter into new relationships, they automatically devote all their time to the new boyfriends and think their male partners will offer support and will converse the same way women do. Women support, sympathize and bring examples to the conversations while men do not

show or talk about weakness, she said.

That’s what a man does

Rice said she thinks men communicate more competitively.

“Men tend to mean what they say, and they view communication on a purely literal basis. Men also will view interruption as an attack,” she said.

Rice also said men and women just communicate emotion on different levels.

Jeff Basile, senior integrated language arts education major, agreed with Rice’s emotional level difference when he said, “Guys just talk; girls explain.”

Nykiel-Herbert said men feel compelled to solve problems in conversation.

“A common misconception is that men think women talk to them so men can think of an immediate solution to their problems,” she said. “Women don’t want a solution. They just want to talk,” Nykiel-Herbert said.

Men think that if a problem can’t be solved or their advice is not wanted, then the problem should not even be talked about, Nykiel-Herbert said.

Senior Bill D’Amico said he doesn’t notice a difference with gender communication because he just takes notice of how the other person interacts with him.

“I usually read the person first, and then I can automatically tell if I can joke around with them, but this has nothing to do with gender. I am this way with everyone,” D’Amico said.

upcoming events

Today

Avril Lavigne

7 p.m.

A.J. Palumbo Center

Guitar Hero

8 p.m.

The Cellar (\$3 - \$5)

Karaoke

10 p.m. to 2 a.m.

O’Donald’s in Austintown

Open Stage at Barley’s

10 p.m. to 2 a.m.

The Zou

11 p.m. to 1 a.m.

University Pizzeria

Wednesday

Music at Noon

The Butler Institute of American Art



Writing the Holocaust

a talk by Serbian Jewish author David Albahari

Tuesday, March 25, 2008

7 pm

Ohio Room, Kilcawley Center



David Albahari

Serbian Jewish author David Albahari will discuss his novel “Goetz and Meyer” which tells the story of the destruction of the Serbian Jewish community in 1941-1942. He will also talk about the moral issues writers have to deal with when they write about the Holocaust today. Five of Albahari’s works have been translated into English including Words Are Something Else (1996), Tsing (1997), Bait (2001), Gotz and Meyer (2003) and Snow Man (2005).

For more information contact Judaic and Holocaust Studies at Judaic@ysu.edu or 330-941-1604.



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Thursday, March 27, 2008



2:00 p.m. Student Session
“HR Competencies: Setting the Stage for Success”
Auditorium in The Butler Institute of American Art

5:30 p.m. Networking
6:15 p.m. Buffet Dinner
7:00 p.m. Program
“The Evolving Role of HR in Today’s Global Knowledge Economy”
DeBartolo Stadium Club in Stambaugh Stadium

Meisinger, who has served as President and CEO since March of 2002, previously held the position of Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer of SHRM from 1999 to 2002. She also served as Senior Vice President from 1997-1999 and as Vice President of Government and Public Affairs from 1987-1997.

Meisinger frequently serves as an expert on workplace and business issues in the national media and has appeared on CNN, CNNfn and NBC Nightly News. She has been quoted in the New York Times, Washington Post and the Wall Street Journal, among other leading national publications.

In addition, Meisinger—with former SHRM President and CEO Mike Losey and University of Michigan business school professor David Ulrich—co-authored and edited “The Future of Human Resource Management,” which was published in June by John Wiley & Sons. In the book, 64 thought leaders explore the critical HR issues of today and tomorrow.

The Williamson Symposium Series is free and reservations are required. The 2 p.m. session is open to walk-ins. Please RSVP by registering for the evening presentation at www.wcba.ysu.edu at Williamson Symposium. Meisinger registration or call the Office of Dean at 330-941-3064.

Society for Human Resource Management

The Society for Human Resource Management (SHRM) is the world’s largest professional association devoted to human resource management. Our mission is to serve the needs of HR professionals by providing the most current and comprehensive resources, and to advance the profession by promoting HR’s essential, strategic role. Founded in 1948, SHRM represents more than 225,000 individual members in over 125 countries, and has a network of more than 575 affiliated chapters in the United States, as well as offices in China and India with a staff of over 300.

Youngstown
STATE UNIVERSITY

OUR SIDE

Provost candidates, listen up

RELATED STORY

Provost, page 1

While the university is in the process of searching for a new provost, The Jambar has some advice for the candidates.

You have your extensive resumes, you have your charisma, but these alone are not enough to make you the right person for the job.

Firstly, you need to communicate well. You should talk to students and faculty in a plain unvarnished manner that gets your point across in the simplest way.

You should understand the university's history enough to realize the importance of strong communication and trust between faculty and administration.

Unfortunately, Youngstown State University has a historically poor relationship between administration and faculty. Typically the bargaining efforts between the university and the unions don't go over as well as they have this year. While we aren't suggesting pessimism, we wouldn't recommend taking this year's (hopefully) quick agreement for granted.

While communication lines between the provost and faculty are greatly important, you can't forget about students, who should be your priority. Communicating with us is crucial, and is usually best achieved when combined with large amounts of free food. Don't talk at us, talk with us - about your goals, our goals and our opinions about your goals.

Don't expect all of us to have a working knowledge of your plans or what you do, but don't let that stop you from educating us about it. You talk; we eat, listen and ask some questions.

Keep the mission of the university and the students at the core of all your actions. Be honest, be fair, and don't be afraid to return The Jambar's phone calls.

POLICIES

Editorials in The Jambar reflect the opinions of the editorial staff, including the Editor in Chief, News Editor, Managing Editor and Copy Editor.

The Jambar encourages letters to the editor. E-mail submissions are welcome at thejambar@gmail.com

Letters should concern campus issues, must be typed and must not exceed 400 words. Submissions must include name and telephone number for verification, and letters are subject to editing for spelling, grammar and clarity. Items submitted become the property of The Jambar and will not be returned.

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

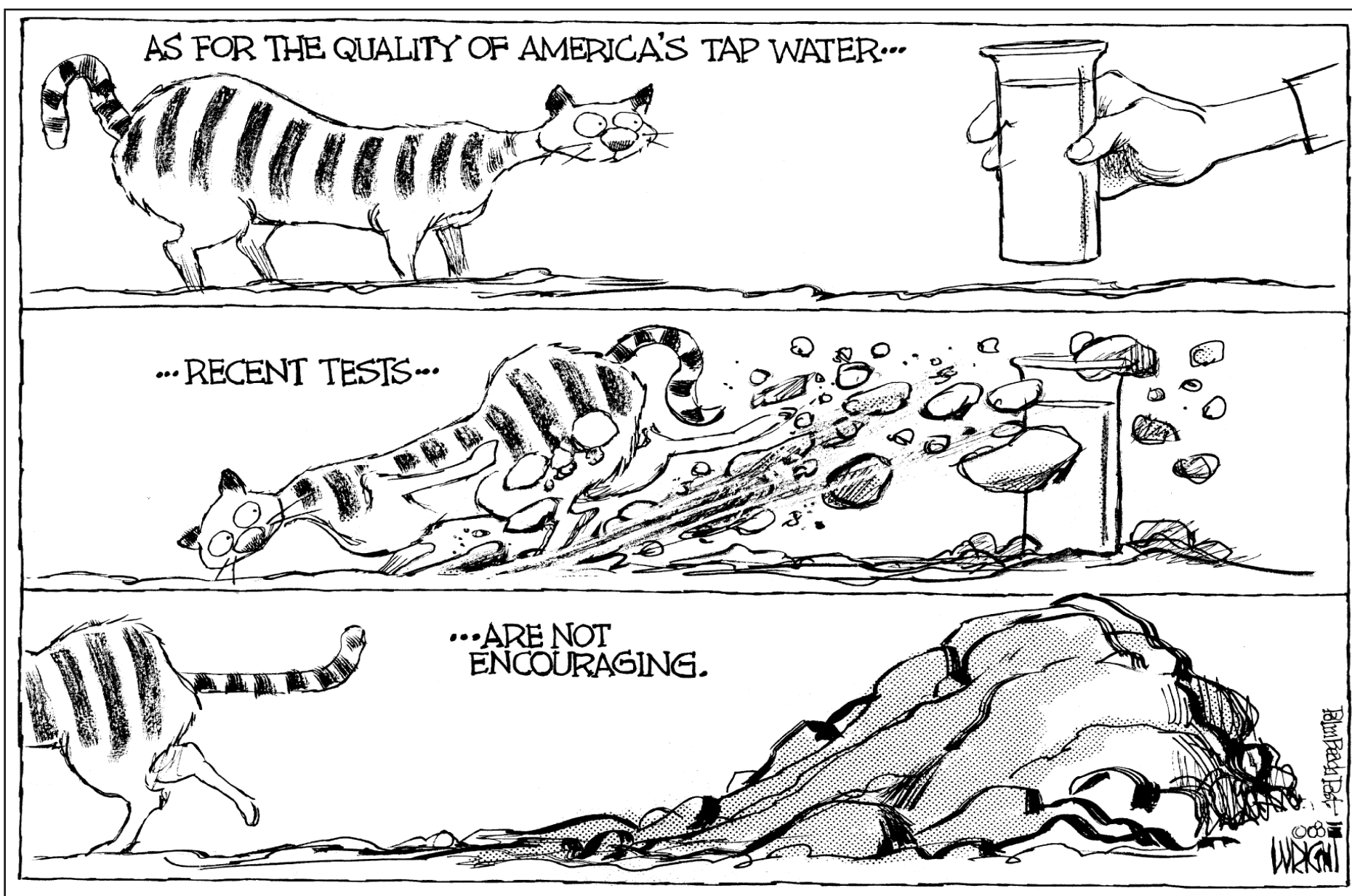
The views and opinions expressed in published letters do not necessarily reflect those of the staff of The Jambar or the faculty, staff or administration of Youngstown State University.

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.



COMMENTARY

'Til the last dog dies

St. Louis Post-Dispatch (MCT)

There is nothing inherently wrong about a presidential nomination fight that lasts until Easter; it's been argued here that a rational - and national - series of primaries would last until Memorial Day or even Flag Day.

But the 2008 Democratic nomination battle is following the right calendar for the wrong reason. The longer it lasts, the worse the party's chances this fall may become. President George W. Bush handed the Democrats an unpopular war and a recession, and yet they still may find a way to blow the election. That old joke about Democratic firing squads being formed in a circle still applies.

New York Sen. Hillary Clinton may well take her mathematics-be-damned battle against Illinois Sen. Barack Obama all the way to the nominating convention in Denver - and that doesn't start until Aug. 25. Estimates by news organizations give Obama a lead of between 119 and 148 delegates. Given that the Democrats allot their delegates proportionally, Clinton would need to crush him in the remaining primaries to pull even.

That improbability explains why her campaign was busy on two other fronts last week: trying desperately to convince Michigan and Florida to hold do-over primaries, and trying to convince party leaders and elected officials in the ranks of the so-called "superdelegates" that regardless of what the hoi polloi think, she is much more electable against Republican John McCain of Arizona than Obama.

Results of the earlier Florida and Michigan primaries were ruled illegitimate by party officials because the two states had tried to butt in line ahead of the sacrosanct, first-in-the-nation Iowa caucuses and New Hampshire primary.

In a bit of that famous Clinton "triangulation," Clinton went along with the party leaders' decision to not seat the delegates chosen in Michigan and Florida and agreed with other candidates to not campaign in either place - but she left her name on the ballot in Michigan and showed up to back

in a meaningless victory on election night in Florida. Now, purely in the interest of the democratic process, of course, she argues that the national party's decision "disenfranchised" voters in both states.

She has a point. Voters in the two states are paying a heavy price for the profound silliness of the presidential nominating process. It's understandable that Michigan, a big industrial state, and Florida, the fourth most populous state in the nation, would want to move ahead of tiny, atypical New Hampshire and Iowa. But both states decided last week that do-over primaries at this point would present too many other problems - not the least of which is that it wouldn't be fair to the other states that played by the rules.

Yet Clinton's arguments to the superdelegates also threaten massive disenfranchisement. For the superdelegates in states that chose Obama to vote contrary to the wishes of their voters threatens the kind of election-by-fiat that occurred in 2000.

A party that screamed foul when Al Gore won the popular vote but was denied the presidency hardly can risk alienating Obama's supporters by handing the nomination to Clinton.

At this point, any victory that Clinton might eke out would be Pyrrhic, dooming the party to defeat for decades. There has been talk of sending a delegation - perhaps led by Gore, House Speaker Nancy Pelosi and party elder and longtime Clinton friend Vernon Jordan - on a peace mission to deliver that message.

A similar message was delivered indirectly Friday by New Mexico Gov. Bill Richardson, a cabinet member and U.N. ambassador in President Bill Clinton's administration and another close friend of both Clintons: Richardson announced his endorsement of Obama. If other party leaders, in particular former North Carolina Sen. John Edwards, follow suit in coming days, the message will be hard to ignore.

But given what we know of Clinton's sense of entitlement and of her husband's 'til-the-last-dog-dies stubbornness, they're certainly capable of ignoring the message. Selflessness is not a family virtue.

COMMENTARY

The people's choice

McClatchy Newspapers (MCT)

Those Americans who have long felt "left out" of the debate over the war in Iraq will soon hold the only microphone on the stage that matters. On Nov. 4, they'll go to the polls and vote either for Sen. John McCain of Arizona, who staunchly supports President Bush on this war and thinks the effort must be sustained, or Democrats - Barack Obama or Hillary Clinton - whose priority is to get the United States out of Iraq.

The president continues to assert that his "surge" strategy has made a big difference, and as he did in a Pentagon speech Wednesday, continues to argue that the war is about terrorism and containing and defeating al-Qaida, which he says can be accomplished.

Pointing to what he says would be the consequences of abandoning the war effort, he is harsh in his criticism of those who want to commit to a troop withdrawal and who cite the war's tremendous expense. Despite continued sporadic violence, Bush says that a drop in deaths, both American and Iraqi, indicates the surge has worked as intended.

It's true that the situation in Iraq has improved from when the surge

was launched a year ago. Yet the administration doesn't seem to have an answer to the question: where do we go from here? Even as the surge deployments are withdrawn, what are the prospects for reducing the American commitment in Iraq beyond the level of troops that was there when the surge began? In other words, by White House logic, are we simply stuck?

Under Gen. David Petraeus, the strategy in Iraq has evolved toward an emphasis on counter-insurgency that is showing some success. But if 100,000-plus troops must be kept there to prevent the situation from deteriorating again, that could continue to undermine the effort to combat the Taliban and Osama bin Laden's al-Qaida - proven threats to America - in neighboring Afghanistan.

Obama argued in his speech in Fayetteville, N.C., on Wednesday that winding down in Iraq and refocusing on Afghanistan "will ultimately make us safer." That is a judgment voters will have to make, but the choice between the two strategies is clear.

Both Obama and Clinton, in a tight race for the Democratic presidential nomination, are in basic agreement that the United States must extricate itself from Iraq, and as soon as possible. Obama has indicated he'd bring troops home

over 16 months. Clinton says she'd put together a timetable after taking office.

To be realistic, the truth is that until a new president takes office, and engages in intense discussions with generals and diplomats, who are split on Iraq, there's no way to know what a timetable might look like. There's also concern that a hasty or poorly executed withdrawal might result in civil war and chaos in Iraq, with forces hostile to the United States gaining a grip on the country and using it as a base to spread further mayhem in the Mideast.

That said, the United States should be looking for ways to avoid becoming mired in an endless conflict that will take the lives of even more Americans (the death toll stands now close to 4,000) and still not bring stability to the region. And it is true that Iraqis must, sooner rather than later, take charge of their own country and their own defense.

These are the issues that confront the candidates who will inherit the whirlwind President Bush has created in foreign policy. But before those candidates are given a chance to tackle this problem, they'll first be hired or fired by the people who will in this election make an important foreign policy decision - American voters.

COMMENTARY

March Madness, when all the world's a crime scene

McClatchy-Tribune News Service (MCT)

Hey, you! Yeah, YOU! Put down the pencil. Don't touch that keyboard. Leave your computer just like it is. Now step away from your desk. Slowly. And keep your hands where we can see them.

Don't give us that "What did I do?" look. We've seen it before - too many times. We know what you've been doing, and so do you, scumbag. The evidence is right there for us and everybody else to see.

Look at your desk, Mr. Honest Citizen. You expect us to believe all those half-filled-in brackets belong to somebody else?

And what about all the sports sites listed on your Internet brows-

er's recent history? You're gonna try to pin that on your cubicle-mate, right? And maybe your kid or your spouse or your brother-in-law signed you up for those e-mail alerts from BigMadness PoolWinner.com, huh?

You think anybody will believe that stack of \$10 bills is headed for deposit in the credit union? Yeah, sure. And the Easter Bunny starts at point guard for UCLA, too.

Save your breath, pal. Face it. You fought the law, and the law won. You're goin' down. Next pool you have anything to do with will be the jury pool at your trial.

We know what you're thinking. Maybe Kevin Jeffries, your buddy in the California Legislature, will bail you out of this jam. Forget about it.

Yeah, he's got a bill that would

cancel the jail time for guys like you. But it has about as much chance of passing as Play-in Winner has of beating North Carolina.

Yeah, yeah, so everybody does it. So what? That doesn't make it right. You think it's OK for you and millions of other working stiffs to waste company resources on a scam like this? Think of the lost man-hours. Think of the inefficiency. You don't see the Chinese spending time on this kind of crapola. No wonder they're eating our lunch.

A deal? You got nothing to deal with. You're - what's that? A lead-pipe cinch 15-seed over a 2-seed. Can't happen. Still, you never know. Let's see what you got. This might be your lucky day after all, punk.

got an opinion?

Send letters to:
 thejambar@gmail.com

TENNIS

Struggling tennis squads hope to halt losing slides

Aaron Blatch

Sports Reporter

The men's team's record is just 2-6, but that mark does not fairly reflect the solid play of seniors Scott Kathary and Ryan Trapp. Each player has posted 4-4 records in singles matches, with Kathary playing No. 1 singles and Trapp at No. 2, but the pair really shines in doubles matches where they are 5-3.

Coming off a great week in which he was named Horizon League Tennis Athlete of the Week, Trapp has successfully transitioned from competing against the opposition's fourth or fifth best singles player as a junior to going up against their second-best option.

"It's kind of made me push harder playing against better players," Trapp said. "I think I'm playing my best tennis at YSU because of it."

UIC is 6-7 so far this season but has played better of late, winning four of its last five matches. Trapp said he is encouraged that the team was competitive against UIC in last season's Horizon League Championship match.

"Last year we played them 4-2 in the conference championships so we know that we can play with them," he said.

Kathary will be looking to avenge a singles loss in the tournament to sophomore Sebastian Lystad, who beat him 7-5, 1-6, 7-5. Lystad, the reigning league Newcomer of the Year, enters the match at 9-4 at No. 1 singles. Both

players earned all-league recognition last season.

Trapp will face another sophomore, Bastian Harbo in his singles match. Harbo, who Trapp credits for his consistency, is 6-7 this year. The players are familiar with each other because Trapp was part of a doubles team that defeated Harbo's team in the league tournament last year.

The Penguins will likely need a win at No. 1 doubles if they are to get a team win. No. 1 doubles has been the team's strength all season — a fact that Trapp attributes to his chemistry with Kathary.

"It's kind of made me push harder playing against better players. I think I'm playing my best tennis at YSU because of it."

Ryan Trapp, senior tennis player

"Our chemistry is good," he said. "We really watch each other play a lot and had been looking forward to playing with each other."

In the match they will face Lystad and Harbo, who are 4-6. UIC, which has used two different combinations at No. 1 doubles, is 4-9 overall in the event.

The Penguin women have struggled much of the year, posting a 3-11 record. They have not registered a point in their last two matches, and will try to reverse their fortunes against a Duquesne team that is 6-4.

Sophomore Anna Volkova, the team's No. 1 singles player and a member of the No. 1 doubles team, said that the keys to turning the season around are raising the team's intensity level and making sure players don't get down on themselves despite their record.

Volkova has been the team's biggest bright spot in her first season as a Penguin after transferring from Marshall, but has lost her last two matches and fallen to 6-8 in singles play. She said her focus will be on regaining her aggressiveness on the court and having fun while she plays.

The sophomore will be matched up with Zena Williams, the Atlantic 10 Freshman of the Week. Williams is off to a successful career at Duquesne with an 8-2 record in singles. The two players have not faced each other in the past, and Volkova said she is not familiar with Williams' game.

YSU's No. 2 singles player, sophomore Tanisha Welch (3-11), will also be in for a tough match against Johanna Bezjak, who is 6-4. Volkova and Welch pair up at No. 1 doubles, an area that has been problematic for the Penguins. The duo is 1-6 in the No. 1 spot, and the team is just 8-31 overall in doubles play.

Volkova said the team's play should improve by playing together in doubles matches and keeping a positive attitude in all events.



RISING STAR — Senior tennis player Ryan Trapp was named Horizon League Athlete of the Week after putting together solid performances on the team's spring break trip and against IPFW. Trapp went undefeated at No. 2 singles and at No. 1 doubles with Scott Kathary for the week. Photo courtesy of YSU Sports Information.

BASEBALL



FIREBALLER — Sophomore Aaron Swenson has been a solid option in the starting rotation for the Penguins this season. In four appearances, Swenson has posted an ERA of 3.04 with one win, one loss and 16 strikeouts. Photo courtesy of YSU Sports Information.

Swenson comes up big for Penguins in win over Bulldogs in the series finale with Butler

Andrew Berry

Sports Editor

The Penguins suffered a rough start to their weekend series with Butler after dropping the first two games but were able to pick up a win in the second game of Sunday's doubleheader.

Carried by the right arm of sophomore Aaron Swenson, the Penguins held onto a narrow lead to defeat the Bulldogs 2-1 after dropping the first game of the doubleheader to Butler 4-1.

After surrendering a run to the Bulldogs in the first frame, Swenson turned up the juice and pitched a gem the rest of the way. The sophomore starter hurled a complete game scattering eight hits and not walking a batter.

With Swenson's quality start allowing the Penguins to hang around, the offense manufactured the runs necessary in the eighth inning to take the lead

SEASON STATELINE
Aaron Swenson, No. 26
Sophomore, Pitcher

Record: 1-1
1 complete game
26.2 innings pitched
23 hits
9 earned runs
16 strikeouts

from the Bulldogs.

Following freshman Jason Reitenbach advancing to third on a wild pitch, fellow freshman David Leon scored his teammate from third on a single. Leon later scored the Penguins second run on a double to left hit by senior Sean Lucas. Leon's run proved to be the game-winner as the Bulldogs failed to muster any offense in the final frame.

Swenson's complete game earned him his first win.

TIME CHANGE

Today's contest against Indiana has been changed to 2 p.m. due to rain in the forecast.

HOME OPENER

University of Indiana (Pa.) Today, 2 p.m. at Cene Park YSU (4-11), Indiana (14-4)

SCOUTING REPORT

The Crimson Hawks have been on fire this season. The team has put up 20 or more runs in a single game four times and has won four straight heading into today's game with the Penguins. The last time Indiana scored less than five runs was in its season opening 4-1 win over Virginia State in February.

SOFTBALL

Penguins end losing streak, crack win column with tournament victory over Michigan State

Andrew Berry

Sports Editor

The long losing streak is over for the Youngstown State University softball squad.

After nine straight defeats, the Penguins put together a solid game Sunday to score an uplifting 6-4 victory over Michigan State on the second day of the Miami Tournament in Oxford.

Sophomore starting pitcher Danielle Chase was the anchor for the team against the Spartans as she tossed a complete game while scattering five hits and surrendering two runs to pick up the win.

The Spartans jumped on the scoreboard early with one run in the first inning, but did not hold the lead for long as senior McKenzie Bedra blasted a three-run homerun to put the Penguins up 3-1. Following Bedra's second long ball of the season, senior Bethany Hafley hit a sacrifice fly that allowed senior Jamie Fornal to score and give the Penguins a three-run advantage.

The fourth inning saw the Spartans attempt a comeback as they cut the lead in half and trailed 4-2. But the Penguin bats stayed alive as freshman outfielder Katy Potokar hit an RBI single to extend the lead to 5-2. Bedra, who went 2-4 in the game, singled home another run in the sixth inning to give the Penguins a 6-2 lead that was out of the Spartans reach.

With the conclusion of the Miami Tournament, the Penguins will now redirect their attention to Akron University. Wednesday's contest against the Zips (9-15) will be a dangerous one for the Penguins (1-10). Akron is on a hot streak with four straight wins and has outscored its opponents 23-7 in those contests.

The Zips will also have the advantage of playing on their home field as the Penguins will look to spoil the Zips' home opener. It will be the first game in Ohio for the Zips after starting the season with six tournaments hosted by southern states. The Zips most recently went



POWER SOURCE — Senior slugger McKenzie Bedra is coming off a solid weekend at the plate. At the Miami Tournament in Oxford, Bedra went 6 for 13 with five hits, five RBIs and her second home run of the season. Bedra and the Penguins next take on a hot Akron team that is riding a four game winning streak. Photo courtesy of YSU Sports Information.

4-1 in the Rebel Spring Games held in Orlando, Fla.

A key strategy for the Penguins will be to jump on the Akron squad early and often. The Zips are 8-2 when scoring first but just 0-9 when their opponent scores in the opening frame. The magic number for the Penguins could be four as the Zips are 2-10 overall when the opposition scores four or more runs in a game.

To keep runs at a minimum, the Penguins' pitchers will want to take the bat out of Lisa McLean's hands. McLean leads the Zips in hitting

with a .388 batting average and 31 hits. If McLean is able to get on base, the real challenge for the Penguin pitching staff will be pitching around slugger Julie Boyes. As the rest of the team sets the table, Boyes is the power hitter who drives them in as she leads the team with 13 RBIs and two homeruns.

Wednesday's contest against the Zips is a crucial one since it's the Penguins' last chance to fine tune their game before opening Horizon League play on the road in a Saturday doubleheader against Loyola.

PENGUIN SPORTS TO THE POINT

Football players participate in annual NFL Pro Day

Six senior members of the 2007 Youngstown State University football team improved their professional football chances during a workout in front of seven NFL Scouts on Thursday at Stambaugh Stadium.

Participating in the Pro Day workouts were safety Vince Gliatta, tight end Louis Irizarry, safety Dorian Chenault, linebacker James Terry, linebacker Jeremiah Wright and defensive end Maurice Smith.

The players went through numerous drills testing strength, speed, quickness and agility as numbers were collected in the vertical jump, standing broad jump, bench press reps and 40-yard dash. Each player was also weighed and measured.

Chenault was the top performer in the vertical jump, board jump and 40-yard dash, with an impressive time of 4.4 seconds. Terry was the leader in the three-cone run while Gliatta led the way in the short shuttle at 4.28 seconds.

NFL teams in attendance were the Pittsburgh Steelers, Atlanta Falcons, Jacksonville Jaguars, New York Giants, Indianapolis Colts, San Francisco 49ers and New Orleans Saints.

The Youngstown State football program plays host to NFL scouts from almost every team throughout the year. Scouts are able to watch practice, attend meetings, watch hours of video and meet with players both during the season and in the off-season.

The annual NFL Draft is set for April 26 and 27 in New York City. After the two draft days, players are eligible to sign free-agent contracts. Each of the past two seasons (Marcus Mason in 2007 and Kyle Smith in 2006) YSU has had a player sign a free-agent contract.

Source: Sports Information