A Fighting Chance

Owner struggles to keep Gloopur gym open for youth's sake

Gloopur isn't much to look at anymore. The former youth training center closed in 2008 during the 2007 recession, a testament to the drastic changes that have taken place in the community.

The average resident earns about $24,000 annually, about $30,000 less than the national average, according to census data. Less than half the population older than 25 years without a high school diploma or GED in 2000 and 75% have a college degree, according to census data.

"In the 1980s, you couldn't get the door down," said Bob Jones, who runs Gloopur Gym High Street. "Now it's just a door on a wall.

Today's visitors enter through a small door on the main building, a silhouette of the decline of Appalachia's coal industry. Jones isn't willing to give up on his gym and he uses his gym as a way to help the lower income.

Jones points to Brian Coochesick as an example of what good can come from his gym. Known as the "Golden Goat," Coochesick, 31, has a 5-2 record as a boxing professional and with a 5-2 record as a professional wrestler in the nation.

Coochesick credits all his success to Jones. "If Sam Jones was in Miami, Florida or Chicago... I don't care, put him on the wall.

Freeman has career day with win over Buffalo

Freeman's first win could not have come at a better time. The senior guard scored a career-high 27 points on 8-for-10 shooting from the floor, including making 8-of-8 free throws.

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Student reports rape yesterday in Colombo

An Ohio University student reported she was raped early Monday morning, according to a report by the university's police force. The university's police force has received numerous reports of sexual assault in recent months, including reports from other women who were at the same location.

"We don't have a lot of information at this point," said Police Chief J. Michael Brown. "Our investigation is still ongoing.

2012: End of the world or end of speculation?

Hannah Johnson, a philosophy professor at Ohio State University, said, "The end of the world is not a new idea. People have been making predictions about the end of the world for centuries.

Outstanding discovery made in 2012: Dr. Jackson, a renowned scientist at the University of Cambridge, announced today that he has discovered a new element that he believes is the key to understanding the end of the world.

The discovery of the new element has sparked global excitement and debate.

Biodiversity Decline

A recent study has revealed that the world's biodiversity is declining at an alarming rate.

The study, conducted by researchers from the University of California, San Francisco, found that the number of species on Earth has declined by 50% in the past 50 years.

The decline in biodiversity is a cause for concern, as it threatens the health of ecosystems and the services they provide to humanity.
GYM
Continued from Page 1
would be above and beyond any
turner out there," Cam-
ello said. "He's been there, he's
done that. He's shown me stuff
that just absolutely amaze-
me."
It isn't just Jones' profes-
sional knowledge that inspires
Camello, but the way Jones exemplifies himself in life.
"It's a man that knows an
extreme sport in boxing, but is
the man that I've ever met
in my life. I've never heard
him say anything bad about
anybody," Camello said. "He's
the hardest worker I know. All
these kids can come off the street to
look in this gym and he's not
making a nickel."
"I'd like to be known as
I'm from this little town," Jones
said.
Jones, a champions hour
defender during the mid-1970s,
still trains locals at the gym his
father built in 1975. To keep
the doors open, fees of change,
Jones said he contributes about
$8,000 every year.
"My father and another
gentleman opened this gym so
eyou could play baseball in the
summertime," Jones said. "In
the winter time they hit, lift
weights, just stayed in town. It
was like a big family, you knew
everybody."]
The family atmosphere that
holds those within the gym is
the support system that keeps
them on the right track.
Adults and kids as young
as seven arrive every Monday
and Wednesday night to
supervise and lift weights. Jones moves
around the room, taking time to
offer everyone advice and keep
them focused.
"They all want to be cham-
ions and that's wonderful. I
want you to be champions," he
said. "But I don't want you to be
a champion in life. Respect your
mother and your father, and your
friends. Stay in school so
you can be a productive citizen.
That's what our mission is."
Jones enjoys hanging his
favorite image which reached its
peak during the 2008 Summer
Olympics. It is a shot of
Tyson-Hatfield, boxing
partner of the duo.
Jones instead believes in
the wisdom the ring can teach
those who have to cope.
"When the ring is going to
Teach you is this: When
you get knocked down in life, you
ever get right back up, get
right back in the game," he
said. "Never quit. That's what
we instill in them here."
Jones takes that lesson
local schools, arranging
workshops that raise money
for programs called "Boxing
for Books." The money helps
fund one of the state's poor-
est school districts in which
more than 13 percent of the
students live in poverty, ac-
cording to data from the
Ohio Department of Educa-
tion.
With Jones' encourage-
ment and his work as an in-
spirational leader, Camello said he
would love to see Gannon's youth
be a keystone to keeping it up.
"People say it's a little sit-
table. It's drug-related. Well,
that's all those things. It's a
lot of people's lives, in," Cam-
ello said. "I'm from here, and
we're going to make it a better
level. We're going in to give
it a better picture, in to what
can come out of this town, and
maybe those kids over there,
in the poorest school district
in the state of Ohio can say, 'If
they can do it, I can do it.'"
Jones said he can't admit
that he's not interested and he can't
carry on his mission forever.
Brian Camello might be the
perfect person to follow in his
footsteps.

Joe Fritz takes a shot at entering
the 2012 Olympics in wrestling.

Joe Fritz walks out of Sears' eye after an afternoon of meeting with Sears.
Wendy Sue Kacan, Sears' human resources director, and Fritz,
who said Sears' trips to learn about and master arts, not Fritz and his friend
once just for the winter months.

"I want to do it for fun," Cam-
ello said. "He only gets a
diamond once every two years.
I'm here hoping I can become
that diamonds so put this place
on the map."
"I might make an impact
on one or two places that don't have
my kind of raising. It's just
got one or two, at least. But if you
accomplished something in this
area, I know I'm not going
to go. I know I can't disease.
If they can't get it to work
work hard, but maybe it just give
them something to be proud of."

Schools pass up aid

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Are you a "hipster" oor a "brow"? The Post would like to talk to you for a story. Email Alisa Caton at ac.171607@ohio.edu.