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Doctor of Physical Therapy program incorporates group research

Tyler Williams
REPORTER

Last semester, the Doctor of Physical Therapy program at Youngstown State University began to use faculty-directed group research as part of the curriculum for second-year DPT students.

There are eight different research groups in the department.

Nancy Landgraft, chair of the physical therapy department, said these projects will give students hands-on experience in the field.

"This has some direction. It's going to go somewhere," she said.

Kenneth Learman, an associate professor of physical therapy, leads one of the projects, which investigates the differences in balancing ability between stroke patients and control patients who haven't had a stroke.

Graduate student Alyson Ellis, one of the co-investigators, said the research group has already collected the data of stroke patients and is working on gathering the data of control patients.

"We can look at the data and see if there is any difference," she said.

Ellis is working with other members of the department on a textbook of orthopedic cases, which will likely be published next year.

Landgraft, along with other faculty members and six students, is launching exercise programs for people with movement challenges.

"We've trained ... exercise science students, [DPT] students and community physical therapists to offer these group classes for people that have nowhere to go," she said. "When patients don't move around, ... they lose ground [mobility]. ... So, this gives them a place to go to work out."



Students enrolled in the Doctor of Physical Therapy program at YSU teach an exercise class for community members with limited mobility. Photo courtesy of the YSU Department of Physical Therapy.

If the projects are not finished by the semester's end, they will be passed on to next year's class.

Graduate student Meghan

Teitz said these projects add a legacy to the program that will benefit both current and future students.

"They've done a lot of

great work, and they work very closely with us to make sure ... that momentum stays within the program," she said.



Hannah Jefferson sings a Taylor Swift song during tryouts for a talent show that will be hosted by YSU's chapter of the American Marketing Association. Photo by Taylor Phillips/The Jambar.

YSU's got talent

Justin Carissimo
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

Dancers, singers, jugglers, bands and comedians showed up to Monday's talent show audition night in Kilcawley Center's Ohio Room. The main event, planned by Youngstown State University's student chapter of the American Marketing Association, will be held in the Chestnut Room on April 11.

During an AMA meeting, Vice President Amy Perotta came up with the idea to create YSU's own version of "America's Got Talent." Then, on Monday, AMA members set up a performance stage, stereos, a video camera and microphones for contestants.

"We have one of the best art schools in the United States. We want to give local talents in the opportunity to see some recognition," Perotta said.

Drae Smith, a YSU student, will kick off the April 11 talent show with a hip-hop performance. Smith has shared the stage with national recording artists Wiz Khalifa, Machine Gun Kelly and Yelawolf.

Following Smith's performance, the competition will showcase undergraduate students with various artistic talents.

Chad Zirafi, YSU senior and AMA president, said he didn't think the talent show would come to fruition as fast as it has.

"It all came together pretty quickly. We're not being too selective as far as acts go. If you have an off-the-wall talent, you're free to come audition for us," Zirafi said.

AMA members also recruited judges to help facilitate the event. Nick Sainato, a YSU student and drummer of The Strange Familiar, will serve as the only student judge. Michael Pontikos, an instructor in the Williamson College of Business Administration, and Nancy Wolfgang, an instructor from the College of Fine and Performing Arts, will help Sainato narrow down the list of contestants.

The panel of guest judges will evaluate participants, and winners will have the chance to win prizes donated by local businesses.

"We wanted other people that have background within the arts and talent world to help judge with us," Zirafi said. "We don't want to offend or be unfair to participants performing."

Zirafi said what first started as a simple brainstorm turned into an event that YSU students can become excited about.

Participants will be judged on overall skill, creativity and the audience's reaction. The panel of judges will have the final contestants selected as early as Thursday.

Handyman Negri to teach masterclass

Frank George
REPORTER

Joe Negri — a well-known actor, educator, composer and jazz musician — will return to Youngstown State University on April 12 to teach a masterclass at Bliss Recital Hall. The free event is sponsored by the Dana Guitar Association and will emphasize jazz and musical improvisation.

Known for his role as Handyman Negri in "Mister Rogers' Neighborhood," the jazz guitarist didn't begin his acting career until the show's star and creator, Fred Rogers, asked him to join the cast.

"I knew [Rogers] from the Pittsburgh scene," Negri said. "He asked me to be the handyman, and if there is one thing I am not, it is handy."

Even while starring as a regular cast member in the hit children's TV show, Negri's musical talents were featured in performances and duets with other characters in the Neighborhood of Make-Believe. During this time, Negri was majoring in composition at Carnegie Mellon University, and he went on to teach at Duquesne University, at the University of Pittsburgh and at his alma mater.

Negri's interest in music began in early childhood when, at only 3 years old, he sang and played the ukulele on the radio, and also appeared in various theater productions. He learned to play the guitar before age 10, and by 16, he was on the road, performing in bands.

"I can't say I came from a musical family," he said. "But there was always music around me."

Francois Fowler, a professor of guitar and the adviser to the Dana Guitar Association, said

he is honored to have Negri on campus.

"It's absolutely amazing to see how much positive energy and passion [Negri] has for music and teaching. It's very inspirational," Fowler said. "He has so much knowledge and experience in matters ranging from what it takes to be a professional performing musician, improviser, arranger and composer, ... and he is gracious and generous in sharing this vast knowledge with students."

Fowler noted that many students who attended last year's event remembered Negri from his TV career.

"I noticed many people were star-struck ... getting to meet a celebrity they remembered from 'Mister Rogers' Neighborhood,'" he said.

Philip Monrean, a second-year music performance major and the vice president of the Dana Guitar Association, said he devotes his time to raising funds in order to bring musicians like Negri, a "world-class guitarist," to the Youngstown area.

"I have so much to learn from him, both in guitar technique and also in developing my musical improvisation skills," he said.

This event will be Negri's second visit to YSU.

"I am glad to be invited back again. That made me feel really good," Negri said. "I hope students can get a lot out of [the masterclass]."

Monrean said all students, not just guitarists, can enjoy Negri's visit.

"If the average Joe wants to attend, they will be in the presence of a famous American icon, Handyman Negri," Monrean said. "They will get to be in the presence of a great musician who is not only entertaining through his music but also through his lively personality."

Play it safe in a zone of no judgment

Josh Medore
ASSISTANT MULTIMEDIA EDITOR

From 1998 to 2001, when Brian Wells was an undergrad at Youngstown State University, there was a “negative attitude” toward specific members of the campus community — namely those who displayed rainbow-colored Safe Zone signs on their office doors. However, things have changed.

“It went from, ‘OK, is that person gay because they have a rainbow sticker on their door?’ to now — people pounding down our doors, going, ‘When’s the next training?’” said Wells, an academic adviser for the Bitonte College of Health and Human Services.

The YSUnity Safe Zone training program, which Wells helps to coordinate, has more than 400 allies. The program educates faculty, staff, administrators, student employees and student leaders on LGBTQIA issues.

“It’s really about building empathy, so people can relate to the struggles of people within the community,” Wells said.

The four-hour training program includes information about proper LGBTQIA terminology and features testimonials from members of



Brian Wells, an academic adviser for the Bitonte College of Health and Human Services, has watched the campus atmosphere regarding the LGBT community evolve. Photo by Chris Cotelesse/The Jambar.

the LGBTQIA community.

“One of the things that has been the best piece of Safe Zone in my opinion is that we have a couple students who share their own personal story, as well as one of our campus administrators who talks about her daughter’s coming out,” Wells said.

As many as one out of four people are kicked out of their homes when they come out to their parents, Wells said.

“There have been students in the past who have not been in contact with their parents as a result of coming out, so I’ve helped those students to work with financial aid,” he said, adding that students

under 24 need their parents’ tax information to do so. “If you’re not talking to your parents, it’s a little difficult to get their tax information.”

Those who participate in the Safe Zone program are made aware of these issues and are taught how to support LGBTQIA students during difficult times.

Ashley Altiero, a Safe Zone member, said the experience has been awesome.

“I’ve been able to view any student in an open way, no matter what problem they approach me with,” she said.

Altiero said that being a part of the program has made her a more understanding person.

“It’s also given me more community resources so I can direct [LGBTQIA students] in the appropriate direction if they need to talk to anybody in particular,” she said.

Altiero encouraged other members of the YSU community to participate in the training. She said the rainbow placard is a sign of allegiance that makes the university more like a family.

“Because students know that my office is a Safe Zone, immediately when they come in, they feel comfortable talking to me,” Altiero said. “When students come in, they know the place they’re going into is somewhere where they’re not going to be judged.”

SGA plans four-year road map

Kacy Standohar
NEWS REPORTER

The Youngstown State University Student Government Association plans to propose an incentive-based program, which would guarantee that students will graduate in four years, to the YSU Board of Trustees later this semester.

If YSU doesn’t live up to its end of the bargain, the university would foot the bill.

SGA President Cory Okular said the idea is still in the developmental and research-gathering stages.

“Ideally, when you come in as a freshman, you would be — either digitally

or in print — have a contract that says, ‘Here is your curriculum sheet, and here are the classes you would need to take for the next four years in order to graduate on time,’” he said.

Okular said the plan would be an option and solely the student’s decision. There would be certain stipulations, such as a requirement to maintain satisfactory academic status and restrictions on failing or withdrawing from any courses.

Upon implementation, the university would be required to pay for any additional time incurred or even substitute an equivalent class to fulfill that requirement.

That is, if the student met all the re-

quirements.

“It would virtually be a zero risk for the university,” Okular said. “The university would never pay a dime if it works correctly. All they would have to do is make sure they’re offering the correct classes, and if something comes up, be able to switch classes that are equivalent.”

Okular said he just wants this option to be available to students. SGA is modeling its plan on other universities’ similar programs.

Sharon Stephan, vice president of university affairs at the University of Nebraska, said the school’s board of regents approved the four-year graduation guarantee in 2002.

Of the students who entered the university as first-year students in 2002, 25.4 percent graduated in four years — 32.3 percent for those who entered in 2007.

UN’s four-year plan comes with a list of practices a student must follow, including choosing a major without changing it, working with academic advisers and working less than 20 hours a week. Students who follow this plan must also register early for 15 to 18 credit hours a semester and receive acceptable grades.

Stephan said UN also recently implemented a 120-credit-hour policy to reduce the required number of hours a

SGA PAGE 3

Skeggs Lecture Series

Bob Woodward

Presidential Leadership and
the Price of Politics

Thursday, April 4, 2013 at 7:30 p.m.
Stambaugh Auditorium, Youngstown, OH



Since 1971, **Bob Woodward** has worked for *The Washington Post* where he is currently an associate editor. He and Carl Bernstein were the main reporters on the Watergate scandal for which *The Post* won the Pulitzer Prize in 1973. Woodward was the lead reporter for *The Post*’s articles on the aftermath of the September 11 terrorist attacks that won the National Affairs Pulitzer Prize in 2002. In 2004, Bob Schieffer of CBS News said, “Woodward has established himself as the best reporter of *all time*.”

Woodward has authored or co-authored 17 books, all of which have been national non-fiction bestsellers. His most recent book, *The Price of Politics* (September, 2012), based on eighteen months of reporting, is an intimate, documented examination of how President Obama and the highest profile Republicans and Democratic leaders in the United States Congress attempted to restore the American

economy and improve the federal government’s fiscal condition. Woodward was born March 26, 1943, in Illinois. He graduated from Yale University in 1965 and served five years as a communications officer in the United States Navy before beginning his journalism career at the Montgomery County (Maryland) Sentinel, where he was a reporter for one year before joining *The Washington Post*.

The lecture is free and open to the public.

Tickets are **mandatory** and seating is on a first-come, first-serve basis. Ticket distribution will be limited to four per person and must be picked up between 8:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. March 25 through March 27 (or until they run out) at the Information and PC lab in Kilcawley Center located on the YSU campus. Tickets must be picked up in person.

For more information call the YSU Alumni and Events Office at

330-941-3497

SGA PAGE 2

student would need to complete to graduate.

Susan Fritz, interim provost and executive vice president at UN, said the four-year guarantee is a good way to increase graduation rates.

"This really weighs out the practices in the past to successfully graduating," Fritz said. "There's no 'gotcha' to this. It's nothing but a plus for students."

YSU's graduation rate for students entering as first-year students in 2005 (the last year for which data is available) is 11.8 percent.

Okular said a four-year guarantee could boost that number.

"Students would have a clear-cut road map," Okular said. "A lot can be done online, and it would show up when an adviser pulls up a student's file whether or not they're part of the program."

Okular said he thinks most advisers already monitor and track students' schedules.

"It saves the university money and ups the four-year graduation rate too, which is one of the big metrics that state funding is by now," he said.

If students initially test into remedial courses, Okular said the program could still work.

Okular said the students in remedial coursework might not be initially eligible until they finish that coursework.

"It's really targeted at the largest middle group of stu-

dents. The very smart ones will already graduate in four years virtually no matter what happens," he said. "The people that may take the remedial courses might go at the pace that is comfortable for them and may not be comfortable with a pace that is on a four-year track."

But there are still a few kinks to be worked out.

William Buckler, coordinator of academic advisement, said it might be a difficult task because it is unknown when all upper-division courses will be offered.

"It would be a challenge for most departments to plan out four years ahead," Buckler said.

Okular said that trying to persuade every department and major to have a four-year plan would be the hardest part.

He said the process may take "a year or year and a half, unless the university wants to step in and help push this along."

Buckler said he is developing a website as a centralized location where all students can find every major's current curriculum sheet. He said he noticed that the curriculum sheets and bulletins are not always correct and up-to-date.

The senate and the university board of trustees must approve the curriculum sheets before Buckler can post anything online. He also plans to revamp the academic advisement website by this summer.

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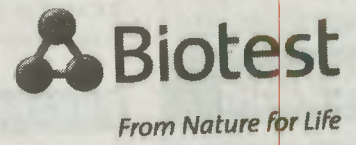
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NEWS BRIEFS

Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist to lecture in Youngstown

Journalist Bob Woodward will speak at 7:30 p.m. on April 4 at Stambaugh Auditorium. His visit is part of YSU's Skeggs Lecture Series, and the theme of the lecture is presidential leadership and the price of politics. Since 1971, Woodward has worked for The Washington Post, and is currently an assistant editor at the newspaper. He and Carl Bernstein were the main reporters on the Watergate story, which won a Pulitzer Prize in 1973. Woodward has also written several books, all of which have been national non-fiction bestsellers. The lecture is free and open to the public, but tickets are required. They are limited to four per person and will be available from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. on March 25, 26 and 27 at the info desk in Kilcawley Center. All tickets must be picked up in person. For more information, contact the YSU Alumni and Events Office at 330-941-3497.

YSU history profs to host two workshops

The Youngstown Historical Center of Industry and Labor will sponsor two workshops on March 16. The first, at 10 a.m., is titled "Capturing Your Family's Oral History," and it will be presented by Donna DeBlasio, a YSU history professor; this workshop will help participants plan and record oral histories of family members and friends. The second, at 1 p.m., is titled "Your Immigrant Ancestors," and it will be presented by DeBlasio and Martha Pallante, a YSU history professor; this workshop will look at the city's ethnic neighborhoods. Each workshop is \$10 per person. For more information or to make reservations, call 330-941-1314 or 330-941-1433. The Youngstown Historical Center of Industry and Labor, also known as the steel museum, is located at 151 W. Wood St. in downtown Youngstown.

POLICE BRIEFS

Man strikes girlfriend after she refuses to bring him to 'get some crack'

On Feb. 26, a 27-year-old woman told a YSU police officer on patrol near Cafaro House that she needed police assistance. She said that her boyfriend, a 33-year-old man, punched her in the eye and in the mouth after she refused to "take him up the street to get some crack so he can get high," according to the police report. At the time of the report, the woman's two children were in the car; YSU Police brought all parties into Cafaro to stay warm until the Youngstown Police Department arrived on the scene.

Group trapped in elevator with tub of clay

On Wednesday, a YSU Police officer reported to a Bliss Hall elevator where five people were stuck. No injuries were reported. The instructor who was trapped in the elevator along with the students said they'd been transporting a 500-pound tub of clay.



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QUESTIONS?

Call Dr. Becker, coordinator, or Denise Altman, secretary, at 330-941-3099

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"ZEPHANIAH," THE PROPHET OF ALBUM

Marissa McIntyre
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT
EDITOR

Winfield Dray befriended brothers Jason and Josh Hopkins in grade school. They began spending a lot of time with one another — first writing cartoons, then playing music together.

Album is the band that they formed.

"On the mantel [at Dray's house], there was a photo album, and it said 'Album' in a really nice font," Josh Hopkins said. "I just thought it would be a cool band name."

The band's name has since become an inside joke, particularly when members name their albums and songs.

"Our first album was titled 'Album the Album,' and the first song was called 'Album,'" Dray said.

Album's second album, "Zephaniah," was recently re-released on vinyl by High Roller Records, a German record label.

Drummer Josh Hopkins blazed the trail to the record label across the world.

"I sent them an email basically saying, 'We're your next band.' I sent them the full 'Zephaniah' album, and one day I woke up and there was a review online," Josh Hopkins said.

The surreal feeling of having reviews written, many in different languages, about their music overcame them.

"Before that, we really didn't have anyone objectively listen to our music we didn't know," lead singer Dray said.

Members agreed that the worst thing they've seen a critic write about the band was a dislike of its name.

"The music part they said was really good, but they just hated the band name. It was like he was trying to find something bad to say," Jason Hopkins said.

Jason Hopkins said the band's live shows are energetic and fun.

"We play off of each other really well," he said. "Around here, shows are energetic. I think we're having more fun than anyone else in the room."

Jason Hopkins said performing live has taken a backseat to perfecting their songs.

The band members also remembered the first time they heard themselves on the radio: when Viking Jim played Album on The Wolf's "Homegrown Show."

"We wrote [Viking Jim] a nice little letter asking him to listen to us, and then we were all gathered in the van, and he was playing our songs," Josh Hopkins said.

Dray said the band members have enough material for their next two releases, as well as a vault with plenty of bits and pieces of songs.

The three commented on what being in Album has done for them.



Album's album "Zephaniah" was recently released in Germany, and they've gained worldwide recognition. Jason Hopkins, Josh Hopkins, and Winfield Dray are already preparing for their next release. They'll perform on March 23 at the Royal Oaks. Photo courtesy of Album.

"I've become so much of a musician by writing. I can do stuff I couldn't do otherwise," Dray said.

"Yeah, it's all about getting better about what we do," Josh Hopkins said.

"I'm even interested in different music now. My 16-year-old self would probably be shocked," Jason Hopkins said.

Dray said the content of their songs goes beyond the typical love story or romance that many bands write about. The market for those songs is "kind of oversaturated," he said.

"There are so many other things to write about," Jason Hopkins said.

Members also pay close attention to their songwriting

so the same rhythms are not repeated.

"I feel like we make a conscious effort not to repeat ourselves. I hear other musicians do that, and I'm like, 'Why? What artistic fulfillment is in that?'" Dray said.

Album is now practicing for the "Zephaniah" release show on March 23 at the Royal Oaks.

Wind ensemble blows away audience



The YSU Wind Ensemble performs at the seventh annual wind and percussion invitational at Stambaugh Auditorium on Feb. 22. Photo by Justin Carissimo/The Jambar.

Taylor Phillips
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT
REPORTER

The Youngstown State University Symphonic Wind Ensemble has long been a staple in the Youngstown area, with members who have gone on to become key musicians in the Cleveland Orchestra and the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra.

Alice Wang, an associate professor in the Dana School of Music, said the wind ensemble is remarkably talented. It is composed of the school's top wind and per-

cussion players.

"The group performs some of the best and most challenging band repertoire under the wonderful direction of Dr. Gage," Wang said. "The students are truly great role models and an inspiration for the community."

This semester, freshman trumpeter Bevin Flaughter made it into the wind ensemble.

"My first semester, I was in concert band," he said. "It does feel quite amazing knowing that I am one of the few freshmen in the wind ensemble, and [it] makes me excited for my future

in music."

At a recent concert, the YSU Wind Ensemble welcomed two local high school bands to play their Ohio Music Education Association Contest pieces. Students also played John Philip Sousa's "Stars and Stripes Forever" with select members of the wind ensemble.

Freshman trombone player Tony Colella said music was his only choice.

"I did not pick music; it picked me," he said. "It can be brutal at times, but to be able to sit down each day and make music with some of the finest players I know

is remarkable."

Colella added that for 50 minutes each day, he is lucky enough to forget everything wrong in the world, and focus on all that is right.

Like Colella, Flaughter said she's "always had this love and connection to music."

"I remember when I was little, I would be messing with different instruments, like the piano my family had or just banging on pots and pans," she said, adding that she enjoys playing her music for others and making people smile when she plays. "I can't imagine doing any-

thing else."

At the beginning of each semester, the YSU Wind Ensemble holds auditions. A few weeks ago, the Dana School of Music held its annual fall audition day for incoming students.

Wang said the school had a terrific turnout of more than 80 students.

"It is important for these young aspiring students to come and audition, because they can truly learn about the wonderful atmosphere here at Dana," she said. "It is also a great opportunity for them to share their talent and accomplishments with us."

Safe Zone training is an abomination.

Wait, don't freak out. Two decades ago, safe zones were an oasis in an unaccepting society. Since then, public perception has evolved, but not fast enough. Gallup polls indicate that 53 percent of Americans feel that same-sex marriage should be legalized for the 3.5 percent of the U.S. population that identifies as LGBT.

A Politico survey found that 70 percent of those polled favored legalizing civil unions or same-sex marriage, with 40 percent of those favoring the latter.

Even the AP Stylebook was amended last month to include a "husband, wife" entry: "Regardless of sexual orientation, husband or wife is acceptable in all references to individuals in any legally recognized marriage."

Views aren't limited to marriage either. A YouGov poll discovered that 48 percent of Americans said if their son was in the Boy Scouts, they wouldn't mind if a member of the LGBT community led their troop.

While there's still a large swath of the American public, 46 percent, that feels the need to meddle in the personal affairs of others, their views are fueled by religion and moral objections that have no place in public policy.

No, Safe Zone training isn't obsolete, but it should be.

LGBT students shouldn't have to seek out a rainbow banner in order to feel safe. They should find allies in every person paid by the taxpayers.

That means every YSU employee. Sadly, our country took too long to accept African-Americans as equals, women's rights and interracial marriage. This is the next step, and it's long overdue.

We applaud Brian Wells' efforts and encourage him to continue. The future of LGBT acceptance looks promising, but it needs to migrate off campus.

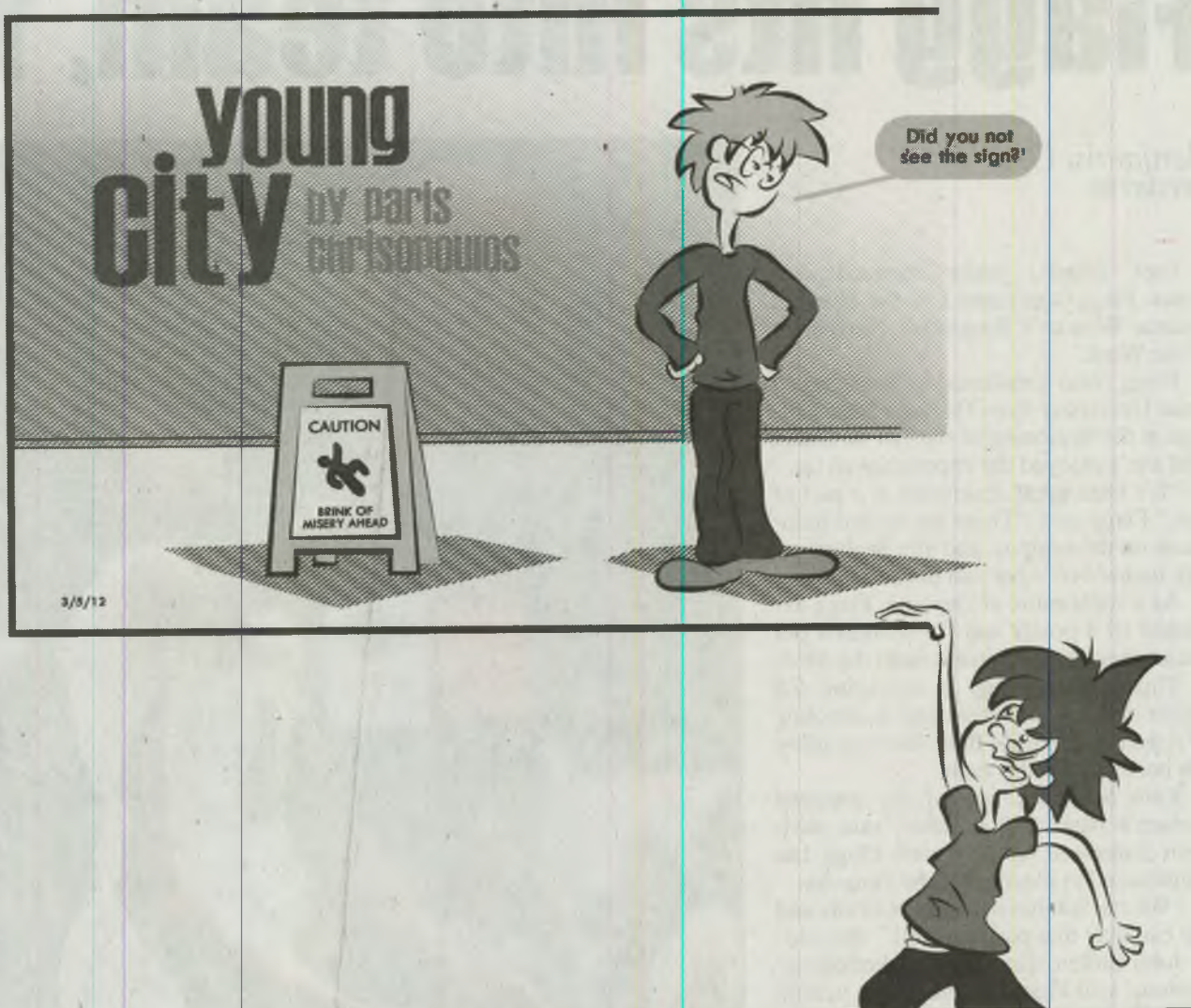
Over the past week, Youngstown's economic and business development has dominated the regional headlines.

On Sunday, The Plain Dealer's front-page story was about Youngstown's business boom, the tech belt and the emerging advanced manufacturing sector cultivating in NAMII.

We've editorialized on Youngstown's budding "urban renaissance," and it's absolutely essential that LGBT acceptance is incorporated with the city's new mindset.

Youngstown is setting the pace for urban revitalization, and what's better than a LGBT-friendly community to set the standard for regional, state and national onlookers?

Next time a reporter writes about the city, we hope it's about the welcoming community and not the rusty past.



Liberal arts become disposable



David Roberts
COLUMNIST

Generally, I think most Americans could tell you the importance of the year 1776.

Beyond that, though, people knowing any other historical fact is something I don't take for granted. I've honestly met more people than I care to admit who couldn't name the original 13 colonies.

Liberal arts subjects like history have been treated as second-class citizens in school curriculums in recent years, and new ideas for education policies have seemed to confirm that fear.

In his State of the Union address a few weeks ago, President Barack Obama discussed the nation's education system, and he certainly made some great points about moving forward. However, one particular point made me rather wary. He wants to "redesign America's high schools" for our new high-tech economy.

I really cannot argue with this policy. We need to modernize our schools, and teaching kids how to operate in this high-tech world should start in high school rather than college. So, I have no problem with advocating for this modification to school curriculums.

However, here's where I draw the line: if compensating for these changes negates the need for liberal arts courses. Not creating well-rounded students is a disservice.

It's amazing how little these kids are learning in high school history classes as it is, and I'd be afraid to see what happened if these courses were further reduced. Nevertheless, as of now, nothing has been said about how these curriculum modifications will be implemented, so I can temporarily push aside my fear.

Meanwhile, things seem pretty outrageous in their own right in Florida. Gov. Rick Scott has been trying to find a way to stop the continual cutting of funding to students who attend Florida colleges, and he seems to have found it.

According to a New York Times article, Scott's plan is to freeze tuition for three years for students majoring in "strategic areas" — or for the nation's future engineers, scientists, and specialists in health care and technology. The programs that would qualify for the lower tuition rates would be determined on a supply-and-demand basis.

Don Gaetz, Florida's new Senate president, wholeheartedly agrees with the measure since he wants "to lash higher education to the realities and opportunities of

the economy." As expected, this proposal is eliciting some strong reactions from instructors of the liberal arts. Lillian Guerra, an associate professor of Cuban and Caribbean history at the University of Florida, argued for the value of such an education: "It gives students a set of analytical skills and writing skills."

I realize that these skills won't help to develop the latest and greatest technical innovations, but they do most definitely equip students with the ability to succeed in a great many other fields.

As a product of a liberal arts education, first history and now English, the prospect of this policy going through is quite frightening. I respect members of these "strategic" fields a great deal, and I know they do a great deal of good and help improve our lives in so many ways. But without the arts, our society would lack a great deal of its color and creativity.

Even though we may be in this era of unfathomable technologies, we cannot forget the timeless things that still have a place in our society. Studying history may not help us create the newest engineering feat, but it does help us to learn our past, understand our present and even keep an informed mind for the future.

JAMBAR POLICY

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 the first summer session. Mail subscriptions are \$25 per academic year. The first copy of The Jambar is free. Additional copies of The Jambar are \$1 each.

OUR SIDE POLICY

The editorial board that writes Our Side editorials consists of the editor-in-chief, the managing editor and the senior copy editor. These opinion pieces are written separately from news articles. They draw on the opinions of the entire writing staff and do not reflect the opinions of any individual staff member. The Jambar's business manager and non-writing staff do not contribute to editorials, and the adviser does not have final approval.

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Tip of the Month



Thurston Winbush
YSU POLICE OFFICER

Hello, everyone. It's that time again. This is Officer Winbush with safety tips.

This time around, we're discussing recreational safety. I don't mean biking or hiking safety. I'm talking about partying, bars, dating, etc.

I remember the first time I drove away from home on my way to college — and I also remember the expression of sadness and dread on my mother's face. I got the sadness part; my mother and I were very close. But what about the dread? What was up with that?

I now understand that she was recalling every stupid, questionable or just plain bad judgment call I've ever made, and she was thinking, "I will not be there to help him."

Hey, students: Try to remember that the people who care about you are not mistreating you when they express concern. It's everyone else they have a problem with.

Let's talk about partying. Try to attend parties with friends, and look out for one another. A good friend will steer you away from drama, not pull you into it.

I guess we could talk about the amygdala and the research suggesting that this part of the brain that is responsible for decision-making, as well as some emotion, is not fully developed in human beings until the

early to mid-20s.

Or we could just say mistakes will be made. Here's how to keep them from being dangerous ones.

Before you go out partying, decide on a goal for yourself like meeting someone from another country or connecting with friends you haven't hung out with for a while.

If your goal is drinking all the beer in Youngstown, then you just might succeed, and bad things are sure to follow.

Besides, that's not really a goal. It's more like a consequence of a deeper problem. Control your drinking. Being able to conduct a great conversation with someone you're interested in is one of the best things about parties.

Never leave your drink unattended. You've all heard the story of the guy who went out to a bar, stepped away from his drink for just a moment, came back, took a sip of his beverage and lost his mind.

Well, I've tracked him down. His name is Rufus, and he now runs a pawnshop in the Bronx.

But, seriously, don't walk away from your drink. You could end up in Debo's chicken coup. Or in the kiln out behind Bliss.

If your friend has tampered with your drink, call the police and get to a hospital.

There are student groups off campus who really understand that the police are here for your safety, not to ruin your good time. They actu-

ally hire cops to assist with securing their parties and other functions. Now, that's smart. The parties are just as much fun (if not more fun), and a good time is had by all.

Having the police around makes the people at your party feel like you really have thought things through and that you care about the safety of your friends and guests. It also adds a note of class to your endeavor.

Remember: Not drinking at all is an option too.

Know who you're partying with. There are people who start the evening off at the height of civility, then, after a few drinks, they're arguing with friends over stupid stuff and throwing ice cubes at strangers. If this is your friend or if this is you, get help.

Dating is a big one. If you're going on a first date or a blind date, take a friend or two, just to check the person out. Bring cash, in case your date is cut short.

Know what you want or don't want sexually. You would not believe the statistics on date rape and sexual abuse, and please don't hesitate to call the police.

Staying in control, making smart decisions and trusting your instincts will help you avoid sexual assault crimes and let you have a good time safely.

Until next time, don't be afraid to dance; you'll surprise yourself.

And remember to take care of yourself and take care of one another.

Flagg fits into team, YSU

Benjamin Orr
REPORTER

Last month, junior forward/guard Karen Flagg was named as the Horizon League Women's Basketball Newcomer of the Week.

Flagg, who transferred to Youngstown State University from Daytona State College at the beginning of the fall semester, said she's enjoyed the experience so far.

"It's been great. Everyone is a part of this," Flagg said. "There are no bad influences on the campus, and you become really focused on what you need to do."

As a sophomore at Daytona, Flagg averaged 10.9 points and 7.3 rebounds per game, shooting 38 percent from the field.

This season, Flagg is averaging 6.8 points and 4.4 rebounds, and is shooting 37.6 percent from the field. Her versatility has been key for the team.

Kate Schrader, one of the assistant women's basketball coaches, said she's been impressed by how well Flagg has transitioned to playing for the Penguins.

"We can sub her in at any position, and she can play that position well," she said.

John Cullen, director of basketball operations, said Flagg has the ability to look down the court and pay attention.

"She probably has the best vision out of anyone on the team, as far as seeing people that are open," he said.

Tavares Jackson, another of the assistant coaches for the women's basketball team, said Flagg's transfer to YSU hasn't affected her play on the court.

"The biggest thing is her picking up and grasping the style of play that she needs to play at to be successful," Jackson said.

Jackson said Flagg was one of the better players on her previous team and in the country. On any given night, Flagg was better than most of the players she went up against.

"She pretty much is doing all the same things that she did in junior college, but she has really adapted well to this level of the game," Jackson said.

Schrader said she's hopeful that Flagg can step up as a leader for the team.

"She is an upperclassman, but when she came in, she was known as a newcomer. We're looking for her to be more of a vocal leader," she said.

Since the team is in its second half of conference play, Flagg now has a better grasp on offense and defense, Schrader said.

Cullen said Flagg's ability to pass over opponents and make passes to her teammates is one of her most impressive skills.

"When she's at her best, she takes



YSU's Karen Flagg attempts a layup during a home game earlier in the season. Photo by Dustin Livesay/The Jambar

some of the rebounding load away from Brandi [Brown] and Heidi [Schlegel]," Cullen said.

Jackson said Flagg "always had flashes of being able to score the ball, pass the ball and be able to handle the ball well."

"I think her size and versatility allows her to do a lot of different things for us in our system," Jackson said. "She still has one more year left with us, so she's still a growing player. ... With her getting the newcomer of the week award, that shows us how important she is to our team."

Flagg began to play basketball at the

age of 9. Her dad taught her how to play, and while she doesn't have a favorite team, she cites her dad as her biggest influence.

She's a social work major at YSU, but said she'd "like to see how far basketball goes" after her collegiate career ends. Flagg added that playing basketball overseas is something she'd love to do.

But if that doesn't work out, she'll stick to her major.

"I like to help kids, adolescents and adults," Flagg said. "I just like helping people."

SPORTS BRIEFS

Men host HL tournament game

The sixth-seeded Penguins will host seventh-seeded Loyola University Chicago on Tuesday for the first round of the Horizon League Tournament. Tipoff is scheduled for 7:05 p.m. Reserved tickets are \$10, and general admission tickets are \$7. Group general admission tickets are \$4. Tickets for YSU students are free with valid ID. For more information, contact the YSU Athletic Ticket Office at 330-941-1978.

Baseball loses at Charlotte

Over the weekend, the Penguins dropped to 2-10 on the season after losing all three games at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte. On Saturday, YSU had the go-ahead runner on base in the ninth inning before falling to the 49ers, 3-1. In the opener, YSU received seven innings from starting pitcher Blake Aquadro. Dan Poppio had an RBI double for the Penguins. On Sunday, YSU lost the first game, 10-4, before losing the second game, 5-2. In the second game, the Penguins once again brought the tying run to the plate in the final inning. However, Mike Accardi hit into a double play to end the game. Accardi had three hits combined on Sunday.

Men's basketball receives HL honors

After a vote between head coaches, sports information directors and other media, the YSU men's basketball team received three Horizon League Postseason Awards. Damian Eargle received Defensive Player of the Year, Kendrick Perry was named to the All-Horizon League First-Team as well as the All-Defensive Team, and Kamren Belin was named to the HL All-Newcomer Team.

High-profile hire

Mangino joins YSU coaching staff

Steve Wilaj
SPORTS EDITOR

When Mark Mangino, a native of New Castle and a former Football Bowl Subdivision National Coach of the Year, arrived in Youngstown from his home in Naples, Fla., on Friday, he received a cold reminder.

"I thought, 'Holy cow! It's really chilly,'" Mangino said. "I remember riding my bicycle just the other morning, and the birds were singing, and the sky was nice and blue."

Even so, Mangino said he doesn't mind. If he did, he wouldn't have accepted the position as Youngstown State University's assistant head football coach.

"The weather doesn't make a difference in my life. People do," Mangino said during Friday's press conference. "That's why I'm here at Youngstown State. I care about the people here, ... and I want to help this program get to the next level."

Elevating football programs is something that Mangino has done for his entire coaching career.

A 1987 graduate of YSU, Mangino served on YSU's staff for two seasons as an undergraduate in 1985 and 1986.

He then had successful stints with Geneva College (1987 to 1989) and Kansas State University (1991 to 1998) as an assistant. In 1999, he joined the University of Oklahoma as the Sooners' offensive coordinator.

In 2000, OU won the national title, and Mangino collected the Frank Broyles Award, which honors the top assistant coach in college football.

From there, he became the University of Kansas' head coach — a position he held from 2002 to 2009. He turned around the school's program, leading KU to a school-record 12 wins in 2007 and an Orange Bowl victory while collecting Coach of the Year honors.

"When I look back at coaching, Coach Mangino has been one of those guys that I think has done a tremendous job in his career," said head football coach Eric Wolford. "When he became a head coach and what he did at Kansas, ... I think he's one of the guys that did the most with the most difficult situation."

Wolford's respect for Mangino stems from their longtime association. As an offensive lineman at KU, Wolford played for Mangino. He also coached with Mangino as



University of Kansas football coach Mark Mangino holds up the Insight Bowl trophy after defeating the University of Minnesota, 42-21, in the Insight Bowl in Tempe, Ariz., on Dec. 31, 2008. Photo courtesy of MCT.

"I told Eric that I come to win, and Eric's a winner," he said. "Eric is one of the main reasons I came here because he has this program going in the right direction. He's done it the right way."

hard, and we're going to win," Mangino said. "This isn't just a hobby for me. This is my life. This is what I do. When I put my signature on something, I want it to be good, and we're going to be good."

PENGUIN SPOTLIGHT



Brandi Brown

Year: Senior
Height: 5'11"
Hometown: Pomona, Calif.
Position: Forward

In two games last week, women's basketball forward Brandi Brown scored 81 combined points. She scored 39 points against the University of Illinois at Chicago on Thursday, and followed up with a 42-point performance against Wright State University on Saturday. She also grabbed a combined 38 rebounds. For her performances, Brown was named the espnW National Player of the Week, the College Sports Madness High-Major Conference Player of the Week and the Horizon League Player of the Week. Brown is averaging 21.3 points and 11.8 rebounds per game.