

Tonoli Talk 7

The Beginning of the End 8

THE FINAL FOUR: PROVOST FINALISTS ENGAGE FACULTY, STUDENTS AT TOD HALL

ALYSSA PAWLUK
GRAIG GRAZIOSI
thejambar@gmail.com

Forums featuring the final four candidates in Youngstown State University's search for a new provost and vice president of academic affairs began Tuesday, offering the public a chance to engage the candidates in an open forum before the final decision is made.

The forums, starting Sept. 2 and ending Sept. 5, consisted of the four finalists chosen to speak, each on a separate day, with two sessions a day — one starting at 11 a.m. and the next at 3 p.m.

DAVID STARRETT

David Starrett, dean of academic information services at Southeast Missouri State University and the first finalist to speak on Sept. 2, explained the role of a provost.

"A provost's role is in being an advocate, somebody that can champion what it means to carry out [YSU's] change in mission, implement it and be able to take it to the president, Board or other executives and make a case for why it needs to happen," he said.

Starrett is well experienced in the field of academic affairs and has first-hand experience with college students. In addition to serving as a dean at SMSU, he has also served as the director of the Kent Li-



PHOTO COURTESY OF BRUCE PALMER (LEFT). PHOTO BY ALYSSA PAWLUK/THE JAMBAR (MIDDLE AND RIGHT).

Finalists for the position of provost visited YSU and held open forum events over the course of last week, outlining what visions and goals they would pursue should they become the next Provost.

brary, accreditation liaison officer to the Higher Learning Commission and an assistant biology professor at SMSU.

Starrett said he analyzed potential opportunities at YSU using data metrics and found the rate of student success.

"This ... [data metrics] is looking at all the information we have about the students, student success in particular and then trying to figure out if that can help us predict success," he said. "We took student successes of four courses

and looked at student success rate. We looked for correlations and the most surprising thing that we found was the biggest differences between A's and B's. In general, the student that gets an A in whatever course, their chances were about 70 percent of graduating with that degree, while the B student's chances were lower."

Starrett highlighted the qualities that he thought made an effective leader, citing transparency, honesty,

decisiveness and positivity as among the most important. He also spoke about his own decision-making method.

"I've learned to take some time, listen, be inclusive, get the information and voices heard, get the input and at some point a decision is made," Starrett said.

GRAHAM GLYNN

Graham Glynn, vice provost and executive dean for college-wide programs at

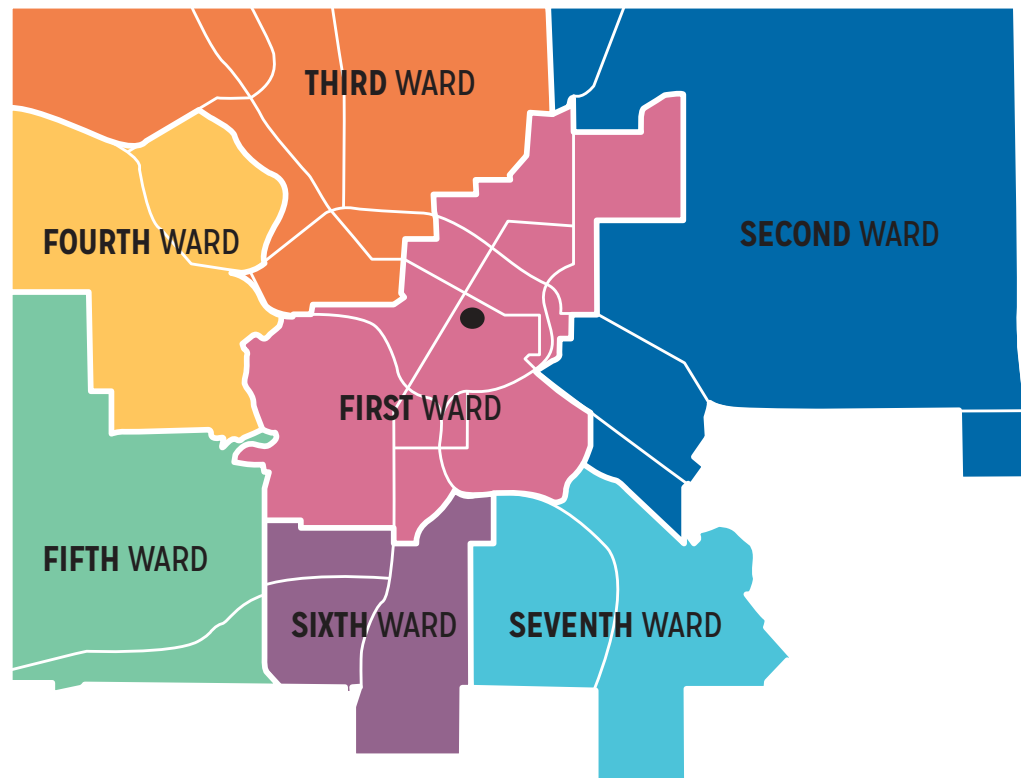
Mercy College in New York, visited YSU Sept. 3, indicating that his interest in Youngstown began during his time at Kent State University.

"You truly have a hidden gem here," he said. "You have great facilities and great people."

Glynn's presentation focused on the implementation of learner centric teaching, much of which he drew from

PROVOST PAGE 5

'They Can Call it Gerrymandering if They Want To' New Districts Raise Concerns



● =APPROXIMATE LOCATION OF YOUNGSTOWN STATE UNIVERSITY

GRAPHIC BY CORIN MILLER AND STACY RUBINIC/THE JAMBAR.

JUSTIN WIER
jcwier@student.yzu.edu

Youngstown City Council has been struggling with redistricting over the last two years. At a special meeting held on Aug. 20, they finally agreed on maps after an arduous two-year process fraught with disputes, but the maps aren't perfect.

Thomas Finnerty, director of Youngstown State University's Center for Urban Studies, was involved in the process early on, but maps he drew had been rejected by council.

"There were some council people who wanted to be in the ward they were in no matter what, despite how much population their ward had lost. They didn't want to change," Finnerty said.

Council subsequently obtained new maps from the Mahoning County Board of Elections. The Board of Elections provided the maps free of charge.

Finnerty said rules were dis-

DISTRICTS PAGE 3

YSU's Oder Receives Patent for New Design

SPENCER CURCILLO
smcurcillo@student.yzu.edu

A bright idea and a decade of work later, the first patent in the history of Youngstown State University has been awarded to a current member of the faculty.

Tom Oder, professor of physics at YSU, has obtained

a patent for his improved design of the silicon carbide barrier diode. This is the first patent received by a YSU faculty member.

Diodes are components necessary for conducting electricity in most of the technological devices people use every day — such as computers, tablets and cell phones.

Oder's unique modifications to the diode design yield certain improvements.

"The barrier diode has improved properties. The property here that we're looking for is its functionality at high temperature and high power," Oder said.



ODER

He believes that his design could improve existing and future technologies' ability to function at high temperatures.

Oder is proud of his accomplishment both as an individual and as a part of YSU. Author of 16 peer-reviewed publications and various conference presentations,

Oder is no stranger to sharing his work with the world. He hopes that his patent award opens the door for future accomplishments at the university.

"I can only hope that this will be something that's recognized as a new direction as far as research at YSU; and therefore [the university] should put emphasis on supporting research here at YSU," Oder said. "We have lots of professors who can do a lot of things, but they need support from their administration."

Martin Abraham, dean of

ODER PAGE 5



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YSU and OH WOW's 7 Days of STEM



OH WOW! Science Center is providing the venue for the 7 Days of STEM, a week-long celebration of the sciences and regional scientific achievements.

SCOTT BRINDIAR
sjbrindiar@student.yzu.edu

Youngstown State University's College of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics will be taking part in OH WOW! The Roger & Gloria Jones Children's Center for Science & Technology's upcoming 7 Days of STEM event.

This is Youngstown's first regional science and technology fair. The College of STEM at YSU, as well as the university's planetarium, will be a part of the festival.

Martin Abraham, dean of STEM, is excited to showcase the college's accomplishments.

"This is an opportunity to celebrate STEM efforts within the Valley," Abraham said. "I would really want to encourage people to come out and take part in the activities throughout the week. There's something for everyone, and this will provide a great opportunity for everyone to see how STEM impacts so much of their lives."

On Tuesday, Sept. 16, the College of STEM will be hosting guest speaker Tom Serenko, head of the Ohio Geological Survey. On Thursday, Sept. 18, the planetarium will be holding a sneak peak of The Dynamic Earth, a course available at YSU.

High school students who are interested in a STEM career will have the opportunity to work one-on-one with a Youngstown STEM senior on Friday, Sept. 19. Emilie Eberth, STEM academic adviser, believes current STEM faculty can help influence interested potential students to pursue a career in the field.

"We have planned STEM Student for a Day, where we are affording the opportunity for high school seniors to be paired with a current STEM student in their major of interest to basically shadow them for a few hours," Eberth said. "They will go to a couple classes, lunch and meet a faculty member in their interest area, as well as see some of our facilities."

On Saturday, Sept. 20, the College of STEM will take

part in a robotics competition.

They will also take part in a closing event at OH WOW — Silly Science Sunday — the annual Sunday event around which the festival was built.

Katie Seminara, assistant manager at OH WOW, said there are a host of events to get people excited about STEM.

"Events are geared toward family, teens and adults," Seminara said. "It kicks off on Monday in some area schools, where we will bring a STEM assembly to get kids excited. Tuesday starts the open-to-the-public events. The National Aeronautics and Space Administration is coming down to do an event."

NASA will help kick off the public events on Tuesday, Sept. 16, with their Astronaut for a Day event.

Other activities throughout the week include a STEM Trivia Showdown, an art and technology exhibit at the Butler Art Museum, a look at birth control in The Science of Contraception, a digital scavenger hunt and a Lego Lab.

For a complete calendar of events, visit ohwowkids.org.

BLAST IN NORTHERN SYRIA KILLS MOST LEADERS OF LARGEST ISLAMIST REBEL GROUP

MOUSAB ALHAMADEE
McClatchy Foreign Staff
(MCT)

ISTANBUL — An explosion of uncertain origin Tuesday killed nearly all the leaders of the largest rebel group fighting to topple the government of Syrian President Bashar Assad.

At least two dozen senior leaders of Ahrar al-Sham, a conservative Islamist group, died in the blast, which came 10 days after the group had distanced itself from al-Qaida's official Syrian affiliate, the Nusra Front. The death toll, by some accounts, was as high as 75.

Activists and witnesses gave varying versions of what took place at a former government agricultural research center outside the town of Ram Hamdan near the Turkish border that had become a major Ahrar al-Sham base. One account attributed the blast to a car bomb.

But a senior member of Ahrar al-Sham who tweets under the pseudonym Mujahid al-Sham posted on Twitter that the explosion had originated in a workshop for manufacturing bombs that was adjacent to the room where the Ahrar al-Sham leaders were meeting. He said the explosion detonated huge amounts of TNT.

Among the dead was the group's top leader, Hassan Abboud, and its military leader, Abdunaser al-Yassin, al-Sham tweeted. Only one survivor was reported, Allam Abboud, Hassan Abboud's younger brother. He was reportedly hospitalized in critical condition.

Al-Sham said in his Twitter account that the devastated meeting room had no windows and had quickly filled with acrid black smoke from the blast. He said it took 10 minutes for rescuers to reach the blast site and that by that time, most of the leaders and their bodyguards had suffocated.

Zaki al-Idilbi, a reporter for the opposition Orient TV, told McClatchy that doctors who'd examined the dead told him that most had died from smoke inhalation and that injuries from the explosion itself were few.

Al-Idilbi said that most of the bodies had already been buried hours after the explosion, though a few were still waiting to be claimed by relatives.

Al-Idilbi said the meeting of so many key leaders apparently had been called to consider whether Ahrar al-Sham should join a new rebel coalition, the Council for Leading the Revolution, that would unite moderate rebels, including those receiving U.S. aid. The decision to join the coalition, whose formation was announced hours after the explosion, would have been a major change for the group, whose ties to the Nusra Front were so close that some U.S. intelligence officials have advocated that Ahrar al-Sham be classified as an international terrorist organization.

Most of the dead were members of Ahrar al-Sham's moderate wing, al-Idilbi said.

The explosion was likely to prove fatal to the organization, which was once thought to have had as many as 35,000 fighters. Those fighters now are likely to drift to one of the other groups fighting in Syria — the Free Syrian Army, Nusra or the Islamic State, the extremist group that has declared an Islamic caliphate in Syria and Iraq.

McClatchy contacted one of the group's surviving leaders and asked whether there was an official statement on what took place.

"No one is left to issue an official statement," he said, asking that he not be identified by name for security reasons. "We are waiting for our brothers who are still alive to regroup so we can hold a meeting."

Brier Dudley: APPLE WATCH, IPHONE 6 STYLISHLY ENTER MARKET

BRIER DUDLEY
The Seattle Times
(MCT)

CUPERTINO, Calif. — The iPhone 6 is late to the big-screen party but it's making a pretty nice entrance.

After trying both the standard iPhone 6 and the jumbo iPhone 6 Plus at Apple's launch event, I think the company once again has produced handsets against which the next wave of phones will be measured.

The upcoming Apple Watch will also raise the bar for smartwatches and other wearable computing devices, but I'm not sure that even mighty Apple can push them as far into the mainstream as it did with smartphones and tablet computers.

Either way, Apple fans — and others upgrading to bigger devices — will covet the new iPhones.

The 4.7-inch display on the iPhone 6 standard model doesn't seem unusually big, even when held next to a 4-inch iPhone 5. Instead it makes the 5 seem puny and outdated.

Holding the 5.5-inch iPhone 6 Plus model is a more dramatic change, at least for people who aren't familiar with big-screen "phablets," such as Samsung's Galaxy Note.

Like the Note, the Plus seems unusually thin for such a big slab but its aluminum case didn't flex when I bent the phone as much as I dared.

The default home screen on the iPhone 6. Not much difference other than the Health app.

Both of the 6's felt lighter than you'd expect and fit easily in the pocket of a pair of jeans or a dress shirt.

There's really not a lot designers can do to differ-

entiate phone hardware; they are all thin rectangles of metal, glass and plastic. But Apple did away with the distinctive, squared-off edges of the 5 series and gave the 6's rounded edges. They look a bit like the original aluminum, Porsche-like Google Nexus phones.

The 6's also look a bit like the current HTC One M8, especially from the back, where both use horizontal bands of plastic to insulate the antenna.

Apple made several changes to ensure its bigger phones are still easy to use with one hand. The power button moved from the top to the right side, which is handy. But on the 4.7-inch model the button is more likely to be pressed accidentally if you have big hands or if you really clutch the phone.

Apple also added a software trick it calls "reachability," which pulls down the screen and icons when you touch the home button twice. It's like a window shade that drops down halfway. It gives you thumb access to stuff that's out of reach on the bigger screen, though it takes a little getting used to. I kept pressing instead of touching, which instead calls up a carousel of apps to scroll through sideways.

Even more handy, especially for those trying to be productive with their phones, is the new windowing capability on the Plus models. Holding it horizontally brings up a preview pane in email, for instance. It was especially useful for creating calendar appointments.

But apps don't automatically get a second pane; developers will have to add the capability and they may wait to see how many Plus models are sold first.

Less exciting is Apple's 8 megapixel camera, which is well below the specs of other companies' flagship phones. The camera was fast — focusing is noticeably faster and low-light performance was good in the dark demo rooms — but megapixel count is still a selling point that the 6's lack.

The Apple Watch, which works with an iPhone,

is an even more subjective experience. It's exciting, handsome and fun, and the display options are terrific. Controls are smooth and precise for such a small and complicated device.

The watch does so many tricks with so many input techniques you'll need to spend some time with the tutorials.

Individual tasks are simple, such as tapping on the image of an Apple Watch wearing contact to give him or her a Morse code like "tap" on the wrist, but that's just one of many tricks.

My initial, hurried impression is that the watch is fun and exciting, but the abundance of apps and features makes it seem pretty complicated for something that looks and feels like a watch and serves largely as an iPhone accessory.

But Apple's right on time for the wearables trend.



**DISTRICTS
PAGE 1**

regarded in the new maps in order to keep people in their wards.

"That's kind of the definition of gerrymandering: drawing lines to keep people or groups within a ward or any political subdivision and not have the compact wards," he said.

The Youngstown city charter states that, "all wards shall be composed of contiguous and compact territory, as nearly equal in population as possible, and bounded by natural boundaries or street lines."

Finnerty said the first ward, in which YSU resides, does not meet that standard.

"[The districts are] not compact. If you look at the new maps of the first ward, you'll see that in the east there's a thumb-like appendage that goes up, and in the upper-right-hand corner of that appendage is the current councilperson," Finnerty said. "So that was drawn specifically to keep that person in the first ward."

Paul Drennen, who represents the fifth ward, agreed with Finnerty's position.

"If you look at the maps, it's pretty obvious that some things were moved around to keep certain people happy," Drennen said.

Drennen said he was happy with the maps Finnerty provided and that getting a second set of maps from the Board of Elections set the redistricting process back a year.

"I don't think council should have had any say in where boundaries were drawn," Drennen said.

Annie Gilliam, who represents the first ward, didn't think it was a big deal.

"They can call it gerrymandering if they want to, but my ward didn't change a whole lot," Gilliam said.

She said that when council

decided not to count inhabitants of a private prison on the city's east side, the second ward had to be extended to account for population. This required them to move the boundary over slightly to keep her in the first ward where she would like to keep working.

The decision not to count prisoners at the private Northeast Ohio Correction Center prison was reached after concerns were raised by a group called the Prison Policy Initiative. The group considers counting prisoners when redistricting a form of gerrymandering, as they are incapable of voting and do not require representation in Youngstown government.

Mike Ray, who represents the fourth ward, said compromises were necessary to agree upon districts.

"We tried to work out the best solution, an amicable solution, with the body that I work with," Ray said.

The population of the new wards ranges from 8,949 in the third ward to 9,534 in the fourth ward, which is a vast improvement upon the current maps that range from 7,227 to 12,130 according to the most recent US census data.

Ray said in his opinion there was nothing wrong with the maps provided by YSU.

"I would've went along just with his recommendations," Ray said. "I respect his work, and think he provided us with unbiased, professionally done, districts."

Martin Hume, the city's law director, said he did not play a personal role in the creation of the maps, but did not believe they were in violation of the law.

"The map that was ultimately approved met all the constitutional and statutory requirements for redistricting," he said.

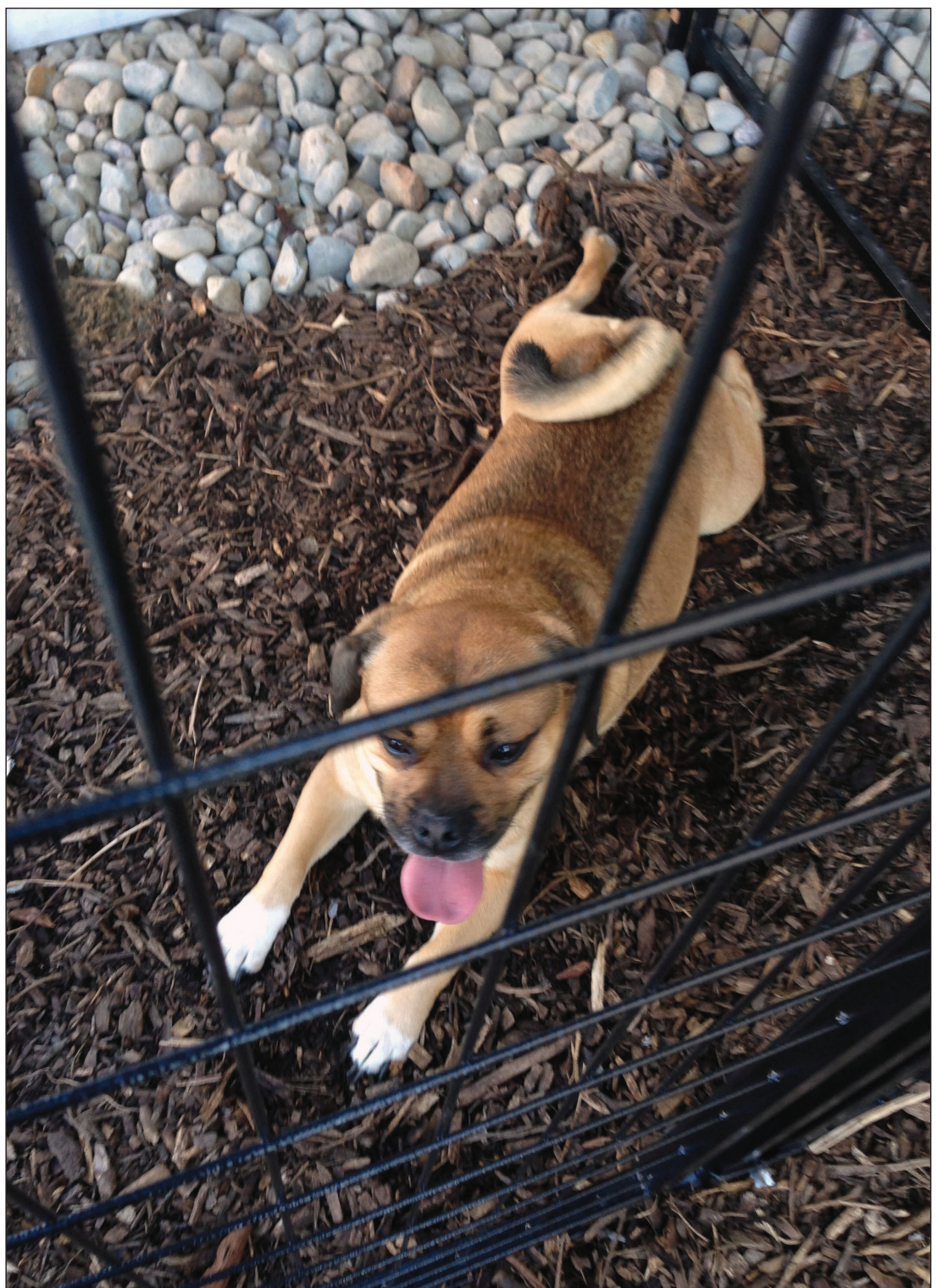


PHOTO PROVIDED BY THE YOUNGSTOWN STATE UNIVERSITY POLICE DEPARTMENT.

A stray dog was found on campus on Tuesday and brought into the Youngstown State University Police Department's station and placed in the new YSU Police Department kennel. Travis McDade, a YSU Police officer, elected to take the dog home at the end of his shift. YSU Police is still hoping to find his owner.

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NEWS EDITOR:
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NEWS BRIEFS

Cleveland Pianist Visits YSU

Sean Schulze from the Cleveland Institute of Music will perform in the Bliss Recital Hall Thursday, Sept. 11 at 7:30 p.m. His recital, entitled "An Evening with Claude Debussy," will feature pieces from the classic composer.

Head of Ohio Geological Survey to Speak

Thomas Serenko, a graduate of YSU and the head of the Ohio Geological Survey will speak on "The Utica/Point Pleasant Shale" Tuesday, Sept. 16 at 6 p.m. The lecture is free and open to the public and will be in room 2400 of Moser Hall.

ROTC Open House

The Military Science Department at YSU will host an Army ROTC Open House from 1 to 4 p.m. Friday, Sept. 12, in Room 1112 of Stambaugh Stadium. Guests will receive an overview of the ROTC program.

UN CLIMATE AGENCY REPORTS CARBON DIOXIDE GROWING AT ALARMING RATE

CAROL J. WILLIAMS
Los Angeles Times (MCT)

Carbon dioxide accumulation in the atmosphere reached a record high last year and grew at the fastest rate in 30 years, the United Nations' climate agency reported Tuesday.

The World Meteorological Organization's latest Greenhouse Gas Bulletin "injected even greater urgency into the need for concerted international action against accelerating and potentially devastating climate change," the U.N. agency said.

"We know without any doubt that our climate is changing and our weather is becoming more extreme due to human activities such as the burning of fossil fuels," said WMO Secretary-General Michel Jarraud in Geneva.

The bulletin compiles assessments of annual concentration of the three most enduring greenhouse gases — carbon dioxide, methane and nitrous oxide — which are blamed for 88 percent of the increase in global temperature, WMO said.

Jarraud called for developed and developing countries to commit to a binding formula for reducing emissions and limiting global warming to 3.6 degrees Fahrenheit over the pre-industrial global temperature, calculated as that in 1750.

The concentration of heat-trapping carbon dioxide increased last year by 2.9 ppm, or parts per million, to 396 ppm, the biggest annual increase since 1984, WMO said. Some climate scientists believe concentrations below 350 ppm to be relatively safe, but that is a level not seen since 1987.

The agency's bulletin included a report on the greenhouse gas emissions' effect on ocean quality for the first time. The oceans "cushion" the impact of carbon in the atmosphere by absorbing about a quarter of the worldwide emissions, the report said, but with alarming consequences for the water.

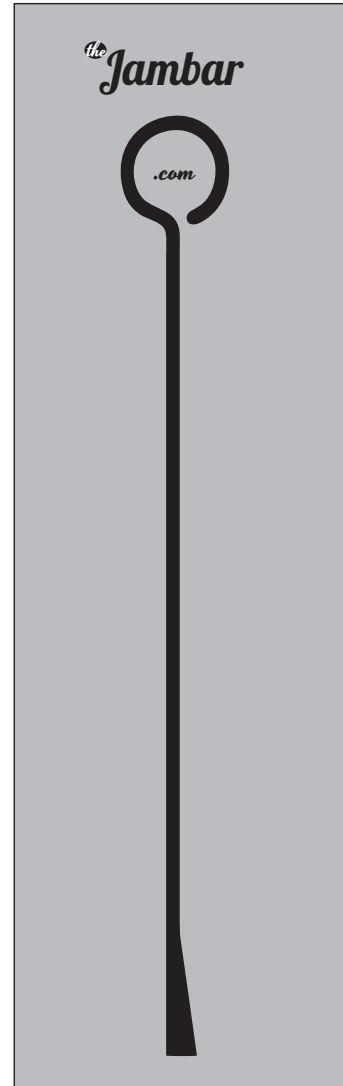
"The current rate of ocean acidification appears unprecedented at least over the last 300 million years," the bulletin stated.

Wendy Watson-Wright, executive secretary of UNESCO's Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission, warned that time is running out in the mission to prevent devastating climate change.

"It is high time the ocean, as the primary driver of the planet's climate and attenuator of climate change, becomes a central part of climate change discussions," said Watson-Wright.

The oceans take up about 8.8 pounds of carbon dioxide per person per day, the report said. Increased acidification alters "calcifying organisms" like coral, mollusks and algae, and reduces the survival and growth rates of other aquatic species, the bulletin noted.

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FARM TO YSU

ASHLEY SMITH
amsmith14@student.yosu.edu

A Youngstown State University student group managing a community-supported agriculture project is looking to expand its programs on campus this year. Farm to YSU is a student organization — working with the non-profit organization Grow Youngstown — on campus that focuses on presenting staff and students alike the opportunity to purchase local, mostly organic food.

Sam Anderson, founder and president of Farm to YSU, hopes the organization's new direction will serve as a bridge between the student body and agricultural endeavors.

"This is a student-wide, campus-based community that involves the YSU community getting involved with the outside agricultural community. It started as the Grow Youngstown Student Organization in the spring, but recently we made some aesthetic changes to make the name Farm to YSU," Anderson said. "We also cut down some of the activities from last year, so that now our main focus is on the Farm to YSU program which brings fresh local produce to students on campus, and presents volunteer opportunities for students with community gardens."

The organization's volunteer opportunities range from service opportunities in local community gardens by weeding, planting and harvesting to cleaning and beautification projects for current and future gardens. There are also volunteer opportunities avail-

able to anyone interested in raising awareness for the program through flier campaigns.

Libby Rogenski, a sophomore double-majoring in mechanical engineering and physics, hopes to see the Farm to YSU program partner with existing YSU programs to help raise awareness for the organization as well as provide practical food preparation education.

"Actually this past summer there were classes offered called Crash Course to Cooking that taught people how to make meals out of foods that are locally grown. This was open to the public, through Grow Youngstown, so once we get the YSU support base we can hopefully utilize this as an aspect of the Farm to YSU program," Rogenski said.

Anderson said the group is focused on short-term and long-term goals.

"Our short-term goal is to see this program grow to where I can start it next semester and know or predict that 30 people are going to sign up for these shares. The long-term goal is to make this an essential and an attractive part of the YSU community. I want it to be a nice resource for students," Anderson said.

Anderson said anyone is welcome in the organization.

"You don't have to be extremely health conscious to be a part of this program," she said. "It's just a cool way to stimulate business in the local community."

Currently, produce shares are being offered to staff, faculty and students. The staff share period is 14 weeks and began on Aug. 26. The student shares cover 10 weeks and begins Sept. 23, which is also the last day to sign up for a share.

The student shares are catered to the needs of busy students, giving them easily prepared foods for quick, healthy meals.

"The main difference between these shares is that the student shares are customized to fit within the needs of the student. So everything is easy — you don't have to cook it or do much for preparation but throw it in a bowl and eat it," Anderson said. "An example of a share would be a dozen eggs, a head of lettuce, a pint of cherry tomatoes and a pint of blueberries."

These shares are delivered on a weekly basis to various locations at YSU where shareholders can pick up their food.

Rogenski said that she feels Farm to YSU positively impacts students who want to eat healthy and locally.

"I think it is a great idea for students who are looking to eat more locally grown foods, organically grown foods, but they don't want to drive to a whole foods store or pay the expensive prices of whole foods. This kind of cuts out the middleman," Rogenski said. "I think it would be great if we could get a whole community in YSU to purchase shares and be more aware of what they are eating, and be interested in helping out our local agriculture business."

Anyone in the area or on campus that is looking to get involved with the organization is welcome to attend a local farmer's dinner Thursday, Sept. 11 at 4 p.m. in Christman Dining Hall. The dinner will feature a variety of local foods, bands and games.

The farmers who personally grow these foods will be available for questions about their produce.

PROVOST PAGE 1

his book "Creating the Learner Centric Institution." He describes this approach as "a philosophical approach to choose the learner first in decision making and to bias the system in favor of the learner."

Explaining his approach, Glynn emphasized a need to refocus the purpose of instruction. Where, he claimed, many institutional education programs serve to act as job training or simply to produce graduates, education must be refocused to center on creating critically-thinking, yet well-prepared, graduates.

"Educated individuals generate business," he said. "I support a focus on the liberal arts, but we have to do so responsibly."

Glynn also emphasized the need for YSU faculty to continue pursuing research endeavors, as well as the need for researchers to have access to support for their projects.

"You can tell the difference between the quality of faculty between research and non-research institutions," he said. "We need to talk to local businesses ... ask them what they need and see if they will partner with us in our research endeavors."

Following the presentation, Glynn participated in the open forum portion of the event, where faculty raised questions concerning Glynn's leadership and his commitment to providing institutional support to faculty researchers, both in the College of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics and the College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences.

"I'm committed to leading the institution in the direction the faculty want to go," Glynn said. "I can do nothing if the faculty is not behind me."

NATHAN RITCHEY

Nathan Ritchey, former chair of the department of mathematics and statistics at YSU and dean of the College of Science and Health Professions at Edinboro University, spoke Sept. 4 about what he thinks provosts of universities need to focus on. He said that cutting programs is not an efficient way to improve these universities.

"Every university in this country needs to figure out where it spends its money and with some detail. Every program here makes something — there's some positive contribution — however, we don't contribute enough," he said. "That's what a provost needs to do is figure out — work with faculty, work with departments, find ways to do things better and generate more money for students within that. Cutting the pro-

gram does not lead you to what you think."

Ritchey said he learned from his experience working as a dean that cutting money out of academic programs to reduce university deficit does not work.

He said that as provost, he would leave behind a legacy of faculty members who were dedicated to research at the university.

"Youngstown State University is an urban research university whose sole purpose of being creative is to help this community at large. It means teaching, it means research and it means helping out the community in any way that we can," Ritchey said. "I get the fact that an urban research institution has to have the research; it needs to be supported and it also needs to have faculty members that are doing it when no one is looking. That's the faculty that I'd want to hire in the future. That's the legacy that I'd leave with the department here."

CHERYL TORSNEY

On Sept. 5, Cheryl Torsney, the senior vice provost at the University of Texas El Paso, visited YSU to participate in the open forum discussions at Todd Hall.

Torsney, a Youngstown native, focused her presentation on the goals she hopes to meet should she become the next provost at YSU, utilizing the acronym PENGUIN to outline her goals.

PENGUIN — which she said stands for promoting the university, engaging in stakeholders, networking with regional players for the university, generating research funding for the university and enrollment, understanding students' needs, innovation in ideas for the school and need for excellence at the university — served as the core of Torsney's presentation.

Throughout the discussion, Torsney emphasized her closeness to the region, pointing out that her interest in YSU runs deeper than a new job opportunity.

"I'm not looking for another job — I was only nominated for the YSU position," she said. "I'd move back and wouldn't be moving."

Torsney has been consistent in her undivided interest in YSU, as shown in a letter she sent in July in response to YSU's provost search.

"I'm very happy in El Paso. I don't need a satisfying and challenging job; I already have one," she said in the letter. "YSU's distinctive mission, though, piques my interest ... the fit between my experience and YSU's needs seems excellent."

ODER PAGE 1

YSU's College of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics, views Oder's accomplishment as a step forward for the university as it continues to evolve.

"This is the first patent ever awarded to a YSU professor. That's pretty significant," Abraham said. "It's clearly another milestone as we make the transition to an urban research university."

The modification's inception began during Oder's time as a graduate student in the 1990s, but he was unable to pursue it until he began employment at YSU.

Oder finished work on his device in 2009, but only recently received his patent on Aug. 26, 2014. He cites the lack of a preexisting structure for obtaining patents at the university as the major cause.

No one has expressed interest in commercializing Oder's design as of yet, but he remains optimistic.

"I hope people will be interested in it and they will want to use it," Oder said.

Oder's research was funded by the National Science Foundation.

Biden Honors Anniversary of Law to Protect Women

SAMANTHA EHLINGER
McClatchy Washington
Bureau
(MCT)

In the wake of Ray Rice's release this week from the Baltimore Ravens and suspension from the National Football League, Vice President Joe Biden addressed the ongoing conversation about ending domestic violence at a commemoration Tuesday of the 20th anniversary of the Violence Against Women Act.

While he did not mention the recent controversy — the video released Monday of the running back knocking unconscious his then-fiancee in a casino elevator — Biden did passionately speak out against domestic violence.

"Under no circumstance does a man ever have a right to raise a hand to a woman other than in self-defense," Biden said in a speech at the National Archives.

During an interview with NBC News earlier in the day, Biden addressed the issue more directly, saying that the Ravens "did the right thing."

At the commemoration event, Biden discussed the challenges of changing the culture of domestic violence to an audience of about 250 men and women, among them members of women's organizations, law enforcement, tribal leaders and survivors. They listened to Biden's emotional account of some of the testimony from hearings that preceded the bill's signing into law on Sept. 13, 1994.

"The only way to change this culture was to expose it," Biden said.

Then-Sen. Biden introduced the original bill in 1990. The Violence Against Women Act was reauthorized last year, with additional protections for Native Americans and LGBT — lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender — communities.

The Violence Against Women Act established a network of services for victims of sexual assault and domestic violence, including expanding shelters and establishing a national hotline. It also improved criminal justice system processes and law enforcement training.

In a signed proclamation to honor the anniversary, Presi-

dent Barack Obama praised the expanded protections Tuesday while also acknowledging the continued issue of domestic violence.

Biden also wrote an op-ed for Delaware's The News Journal, similarly acknowledging progress made toward changing the culture surrounding reporting domestic violence, while admitting there is "still more to do."

The vice president announced an initiative related to domestic violence: a summit on civil rights and equal protection for women, which is expected to gather scholars and law enforcement to determine a path for survivors to sue their abusers in federal court.

In a report released this week in conjunction with the act's anniversary, Alaska, South Carolina, Oklahoma, Louisiana and Mississippi were ranked the five states with the highest rates of women killed by men in 2012. Following those states were Nevada, Missouri, Arizona, Georgia and Tennessee.

The annual report used data from the FBI to examine single victim and offender incidents.

The worst state in the nation for men killing women was Alaska, where 2.57 women per 100,000 were killed in 2012, according to the report, titled "When Men Murder Women: An Analysis of 2012 Homicide Data," released by the Violence Policy Center in Washington, which advocates stricter gun laws. (The report can be found at <https://www.vpc.org/studies/wmmw2014.pdf>.)

South Carolina improved marginally from 2011, when it was ranked the worst, but Mississippi, Missouri and Georgia didn't make the top 10 the previous year.

From 2011 to 2012, the overall number of women killed by men remained constant, the report said. In 2011, 1,707 females were killed by men. In 2012, it was 1,706, only one woman fewer than the previous year.

The long-term trend is more positive, however. During the 17 years the Violence Policy Center report has been published, the nationwide rate has dropped 26 percent from 1996 to 2012.



H.O.P.E.

CAITLIN SHERIDAN
cmsheridan@student.ysu.edu

Helping Others by Providing Encouragement, or H.O.P.E., is a new organization created by Krysten Simpson and Jerrilyn Guy — students who both hope to foster a caring and accepting environment.

Because Sept. 10 is National Suicide Prevention Day, H.O.P.E. hosted the Providing H.O.P.E. event to provide the YSU community with facts regarding suicide and to show students how to get someone the professional help they may need.

Simpson, co-founder and the president of H.O.P.E., started the organization in the hopes of becoming a university chapter that would be nationally affiliated with To Write Love On Her Arms — a nonprofit organization dedicated to providing hope and finding help for those struggling with mental illnesses.

"I wanted H.O.P.E. to exist in an effort to break the stigmas associated with mental illnesses and to give people the message that it's okay to need help, and they won't be alone in their journeys," Simpson said.

The idea to start the organization originated when Simpson was browsing the To Write Love On Her Arms website.

H.O.P.E. is now in the process of becoming a registered affiliate with To Write Love On Her Arms.

Simpson hopes that this organization will be an aid to those suffering from mental illnesses by providing resources,

holding fundraisers to invest in treatment, giving people hope and not letting anyone struggle alone.

"I think sometimes what people need most is to know that at least someone will be there throughout our struggles and hard times, and I want H.O.P.E. to provide the message that we will be there," Simpson said.

As an organization, H.O.P.E. currently has two goals: to become an official affiliate of To Write Love on Her Arms and to educate the YSU community on what To Write Love on Her Arms stands for and what they do.

Guy, vice president and co-founder of H.O.P.E., stated that there's nothing embarrassing about dealing with mental illness.

"It's something that many people face throughout their lives," Guy said. "H.O.P.E. is here to encourage and inspire those individuals to take pride in their strength and seek out professional help."

As a psychology major, Guy is familiar with these issues.

"I'm very passionate about it. I just want people to know that they're not alone and that we are here for them. We can't take on the role of being a counselor because we're not qualified to do so, but we are qualified to be their friend," Guy said. "We want students to know that it's OK to not be OK and sometimes you need to ask for help. Our purpose on campus is to help students realize their purpose and provide them with resources to get them help that they may need."

Guy stated that the organization wants to present hope and find help for people struggling with depression, addiction,

self-injury, anxiety and suicide.

H.O.P.E. currently has about 20 members and they intend to grow the organization.

If students are interested in joining H.O.P.E., they can contact Simpson or Emily Ruminiski, the membership director.

Students can join the organization at any time during the school year. The only requirement is that the student is in good standing with the university.

For this upcoming semester, H.O.P.E. plans on hosting social events in which a few different bands will perform as well as an open mic night. Future events are still in the process of being planned.



GRAPHIC PROVIDED BY JERRILYN GUY.

Keeping YSU Informed: Skype Lecture Series



PHOTO BY GABBY FELLOWS/THE JAMBAR.

The Skype lecture series hosted by Ray Beirsrdorfer will continue throughout the month of September into November.

GABRIELLE FELLOWS
gabbymfellows@gmail.com

Youngstown State University is offering a free Skype lecture series on energy and the environment, taking place every Wednesday night from Sept. 3 through Nov. 12 in Room 2000 in Moser Hall.

The series is being hosted by Ray Beirsrdorfer, a professor of geological and environmental sciences at YSU.

"The September speakers will be looking at scientific and public health research related to shale gas. The focus for October will be on policy, with two political scientists and two attorneys speaking," Beirsrdorfer said. "In November, we move to renewable energy with solar and wind. YSU has a solar electricity expert on the faculty in chemistry: Dr. Clovis Linkous."

Most of the lectures will be shown by streaming video of the speech via Skype, but there will also be three lectures that are delivered by the professors live.

Beirsrdorfer said that this series is based on the video lectures he had organized last spring by Tony Ingraffea of Cornell University and Mark Jacobson of Stanford University and that the topics will focus mostly on the same subject.

"The talks will focus on peer-reviewed research — the only real exception to that will be when Thomas Linzey, the founder of the Community Environmental Legal Defense Fund, speaks about the community rights movement," Beirsrdorfer said. "This will be an exciting lecture — the whole community rights versus corporate rights issue is what Ralph Nader refers to in his left-right coalition."

Although the lecture series has a main theme, Beirsrdorfer said that he hopes to see people attend all of the showings because they work together to convey a message.

The lecture on Wednesday was over the biodegradation of organic additives in hydraulic fracturing fluids, presented by Paula Mouser, the assistant professor of the department of civil, environmental and geodetic engineering at Ohio State University.

Katie Huffling, the director of programs at the Al-

liance of Nurses for Healthy Environments, will be speaking on Oct. 29 about the role of nurses concerning the impacts of shale gas development.

"I am glad to be able to add the nursing perspective to this lecture series. In communities near fracking sites, we are now seeing increases in a number of health problems such as asthma, headaches, maternal health issues and birth defects," Huffling said. "Nurses and other healthcare providers have an essential role to play in assessing and treating exposures caused by gas and oil development as well as advocating for the health of their communities."

Due to the differing subject matter of each speech, Beirsrdorfer said he hopes to see a large amount of students and public attending the series throughout the ongoing dates.

"It's free and open to the public," he said. "With a 7 p.m. start time there should be ample free parking at the on-street, metered parking spaces along Lincoln Avenue and adjacent streets."

The dates of the speakers and what topics they are speaking on are available online at www.ysunews.com/lecture-series-energy-environment/.

EDITORIAL

LOVE THY NEIGHBOR;
HATE THY BROWNS' FAN

Everyone remembers being a kid and being taught to have school spirit — wear your colors, cheer for your team. Getting older, the human spirit does not exactly lose its fire — quite the opposite actually. Instead of cheering for the Fighting Falcons, however, we direct our passions into our music, our sports, our arts and so much more. Inevitably, these interests infect every part of our lives, including the friends we choose.

A consequence of this, for good or ill, is that sometimes we turn our interests into a competition — one that can get particularly heated.

Many people find identity in what they enjoy, take certain football fans or music lovers for example. In turn, belonging to a group of other people who like the same things grants a sense of community. Unfortunately, people of one community tend to ridicule other groups of people as a makeshift form of bonding.

No matter what group you reference, this sense of disdain toward perceived opposites or opponents is fairly prevalent within its membership. It's normal to see people of the local music scene in Facebook fights or see that certain bands won't play a show with another band because of bad blood. Rock and Roll lovers will bash people who like country music, claiming them to

be uncultured. At least that's what the local Facebook feed has looked like ever since the Luke Bryan concert at Heinz Field.

Sports rivalries are home to the most relentless and acerbic comments, and a lot of the time harmless banter mutates into hateful bashing at the drop of a hat. I'm not sure saying someone makes poor life choices for their love of the Browns — which is definitely one of the more mild insults we've heard, seeing as it is not filled with a colorful assortment of curses and slurs — is necessary for a simple game rivalry.

On campus, the theme is the same. People complain about anything from Humans vs. Zombies to Greek Life, slinging an impressive range of spite their way for how little the groups actually interfere with their day-to-day lives. It seems people are obsessed with identifying their group or culture as better than those that surround them.

So does complaining or harassing other groups really bond you to the community you believe you belong to? Or does it just give people a sense of superiority to demean what they perceive as unscrupulous or simply odd? Or is it simply a small attempt to justify our own fleeting existence in a world full of people trying to do

the same?

The whole phenomenon echoes certain darker tendencies ebbing through human nature, like when people slaughter each other because of the emblem they hang over their home or the color of their hair. Of course, it is hardly an identical situation, but our consistent desire to find lines that separate us — even as old lines start to blur — is frighteningly consistent throughout our history.

What if instead of just being cruel we actually just stayed neutral on topics that didn't concern us and had friendly competition when it was necessary? Wouldn't that satisfy our need for community and kinship? The us vs. them narrative we hold so dear is perpetrated to our own detriment. It is doubtful that many psychologists would disagree, loathing is not beneficial to your health. It is a small distraction we engage in partially because of our nature and partially because of our culture, but the brilliant thing about the human mind is it can surpass its own wiring or conditioning. Though it is not exactly simple, it has this power.

Besides, in a culture so concerned with what is new, isn't this fruitless anger we hold so close a bit out of fashion by now? I mean, that is so 1096.

What's a Nice Girl Like You
Doing on a Website Like This?

AMANDA TONOLI
ajtonoli@student.ysu.edu

Life is a funny thing isn't? From birth to the grave, everyone is yammering about what a miracle life is and how it is all beautiful and elegant. Meanwhile, here I am, blithering through this miraculous gift and trying my best not to literally light myself on fire on a day-to-day basis.

Joking that I suck at life is the most embarrassingly truthful thing I have ever admitted. Recently, I dropped my cellphone in the trashcan, tried fixing it with a bowl of rice and managed to push rice into my phone through the charger port. If that's not bad luck I'm not sure what is.

In the same day, I came

home — nearly \$200 later — and walked into the open microwave door, splitting open my forehead. I promptly gave up on life that day and went to bed, forfeiting anything else I had set out to do. So there it is. I will repeat myself once more: I am absolutely atrocious at this whole living thing.

Of course, life is a fairly large category to be terrible at. Really I suck at several facets of life that amalgamates into the perfect storm of sucking. For example, I am, without a doubt, completely oblivious to the nuances of dating or, really, anything at all concerning dating. Dating is a mystery to me, and what I thought to be true has turned out to be cataclysmically incorrect. It has become plain to me, probably long after everyone else found out, that I have no idea what I am doing with dating.

So the standing questions are, what exactly does it entail? Am I as lost as I think I am? And

am I the only one that sucks this much at something that humans have probably been doing before they figured out agriculture?

Maybe it is a matter of evolution. Love, dating and relationships have evolved over time, and perhaps some of us just survived the strong hand of evolution and are now flopping around in the dating pool until we just ram into a fellow fish that will put up with our nonsense.

In "American Dating Culture," on eHow.com, Amanda Stovall describes the progression of dating through the last couple hundred years and how it has changed.

"American dating culture has a long, storied history that is closely related to the history of marriage in America," Stovall said. "In the 1700s, a couple's union was still staunchly guarded by parents ... in the 1800s, young men and women began to have more autonomy in their choices for a mate."

This autonomy came in the form of marrying for love, the gushing kind they read about in "Romeo and Juliet," rather than stability and trading of livestock.

Cliché as it may be, that transformation was one of the most romantic that American dating culture has ever experienced. Who wouldn't want to be with someone they actually, dare I say, love?

Stovall moves forward in her progression of dating through the times, bringing it to the era of courtship in the 1920s.

"Exclusive couples often shared letter jackets and rings with the expectation that the relationship would lead to marriage," Stovall said. "As couples began to date younger, starting in junior high and high school, the age of marriage dropped to the late teens and early twenties, with many couples marrying before a husband, or a husband and wife, began university studies."

Couples began marrying younger after WWII, Stovall continued, but in the 60s feminism slowed all of that down. Females began to feel stronger, became more educated and less pathetic for not marrying right away — perhaps even more respectable for waiting longer.

Times have changed even more with the onset of Internet dating.

"The digital age of dating has ushered in dating websites, matchmaking tools and per-

sonality assessments to help couples find each other in an era that often lends itself to feelings of disconnect and isolation," Stovall said. "While many people, especially women, will act ashamed of having met a date on the Internet through an online dating service, the rapid growth of dating websites demonstrates that they are in high demand, whether or not people are willing to talk about it in public."

The problem with the dawning of this infamous "digital age" is that despite quick responses and the depletion of gender roles — the Internet has opened up the pathway for women to be just as forthcoming as males — we are still so slow to get involved with one another. Why?

Distraction. Joe Kraus said he is convinced distraction is destroying the once sacred friendships and relationships alike in "We're creating a culture of distraction," published in May 2012.

"I want to ask people a simple question: are you happy with your relationship with your phone?" Kraus said. "Do you think it's a healthy one? I don't think I have a healthy relationship with mine. I feel a constant need to pull it out — to check email, to text, to see if there is something interesting happening RIGHT NOW. It's constantly pulling on my attention."

How relatable is this? How often does anyone actually set their phone down for an entire day? How much are we actually missing? How many times do you have to ask someone to repeat what he or she said because you were staring at your cellphone screen?

Kraus discusses the age of the Internet changing to a more mobile form — a more readily accessible form — increasing the amount of times we can, and do, check our messages, emails or social networks. We are training ourselves to have short attention spans, so how can we possibly focus on one thing, or person for that matter, for an extended period of time?

Beyond this lack of focus, if people cannot look at their phones, they become anxious — I know I do. If my phone dies and I left my charger at home, I have to go home and get it. I simply cannot go without, right? How did I even survive before?

The anxiety with the Internet age is overwhelming, and the focus of something as delicate as a relationship, or potential

relationship, added into the mix of distraction as well is a recipe for disaster. My advice? Take a technology break and reevaluate your priorities.

Regardless of being slowed down by the anxiety-inducing and distracting age of the Internet, there are still reasons why dating is worth it.

On a personal level, Rachel Emerson, a third-year student at Youngstown State University, has been in a long-term — four-year — relationship. Emerson said we have evolved the entire idea of dating into the deep connection that marriages used to seek, by bringing that into the dating scene.

"I think we date because we want to feel important, needed and special, uniquely to one person on earth, whomever we choose to date," Emerson said. "I think we date because we are lonely. I think we date because we like the idea of commitment. We commit to a lot of things in life — religion, our parents, our jobs, our hobbies, etc."

Emerson also said she thinks we date because we want to share our life struggles with another person that we want to fully understand us, in the close way that people in relationships do — both mentally and physically. Another aspect she mentions is that of possession — of being one another's.

"We date because of all of those things," Emerson said. "If the person we date satisfies all those reasons we are dating them ... we marry them. If they don't, we continue the search."

So what does this mean? If you are still stuck in the era that boys court girls, get over it. Gender roles are less prominent; feminism dealt a significant blow to those a while ago. Walk over those disintegrated lines and ask someone out. Be courageous.

Put the phone down. How important is your message-less phone anyway? How much time do you waste aimlessly scrolling through Facebook anyway?

And finally, don't forget that even though communication has changed and so have the traditions and customs of dating, we still date for a common purpose — to find the one person we simply can't live without; the one that you share your whole self with; the one that understands you on a deeper level than you ever thought imaginable. It's definitely not the one your parents promised to you when you were sixteen in exchange for a cow.

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.

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The Beginning of the End

Gibbs and Cejudo prepare for their last season together

DUSTIN LIVESAY
djilivesay01@gmail.com

Members of the Youngstown State football team took the field at Stambaugh Stadium on Sept. 6 for the home opener of the 2014 campaign. For teammates Nathan Gibbs and Joey Cejudo, this will be a very meaningful season because it will be their last.

The two have played together for most of their football career, meeting at the beginning in their freshmen year of high school.

"I first met Nate my freshman year when we had freshman football tryouts," Cejudo said. "He tried lineman and I was trying QB, but in the end that didn't work out so good for both of us."

Gibbs and Cejudo attended Chino Hills High School in California, where they made a name for themselves as a force to be reckoned with on special teams. Gibbs held the position as the team's long snapper, while Cejudo took on the duties of a kicker.

When their high school careers came to an end, it looked as though their partnership would end with it. Gibbs sent out a commitment letter to YSU, while Cejudo attended junior college in Walnut, California at Mt. San Antonio College. It wouldn't be long, however, before the dynamic duo would be reunited as Penguins.

Cejudo transferred to YSU as a junior and his road to Youngstown was paved by the persistence of Gibbs.

"Getting Joey to come to YSU from his junior college was very important to me," Gibbs said. "Knowing how important a long snapper is to a kicker or punter's success, I wanted to make sure he had the best opportunity to succeed."

His prior relationship with Gibbs helped Cejudo make his final decision.

"[Playing with Gibbs again] was a big selling point in my decision to come to YSU," Cejudo explained. "I am extremely happy where I am today and wouldn't want to be with any other long snapper."

YSU head coach Eric Wolford feels that his special teams tandem doesn't always get the credit they deserve.

"Nathan Gibbs played a big part in helping us get Cejudo here," Wolford said. "[Gibbs] is kind of like an unsung hero because he never really gets recognized until he does something wrong, and Cejudo is a kicker — he gets one shot at it and doesn't have second and third down to make up for a mistake."

Working so closely has helped them develop a strong friendship both on and off the field.

"Being together for the past eight years definitely gives us a great deal of chemistry both on and off the field — whether its our operation times on the field or playing video games, we pretty much know what the other is thinking," Gibbs said. "It's something people talk about and many want to achieve, but not all have



PHOTO BY DUSTIN LIVESAY/THE JAMBAR.

Nathan Gibbs (left) and Joey Cejudo (right) celebrate after they made a field goal during the 2014 season opener against the University of Illinois.

the opportunity to work together this long to obtain this chemistry."

Cejudo said trusting his teammates is of paramount importance as a kicker.

"As a kicker, I need to trust my long snapper that he will do his job so I can do mine and with Nate that is the least of my worries," Cejudo said. "I would say Nate has messed up twice with me, and we have

had over 500 snaps together; I'm never worried about him."

When the occasional mistake does happen, neither teammate points the finger at the other.

"I do try my best to show [Gibbs] love after every kick, though, make or miss," Cejudo said. "I tend to run off the field nice and slow next to him, to show that there is no me without him."

Second-Half Struggles



PHOTO BY DUSTIN LIVESAY/THE JAMBAR.

Dubem Nwadiogbu makes a tackle during last weekend's game against Duquesne. YSU plays against Butler on Saturday.

JEFF BROWN
jrbrown02@student.yсу.edu

Many questions face the Youngstown State University football team after last week's unimpressive finish against Duquesne University.

The Penguins came out firing on all cylinders in the first half, jumping out to a 31-7 lead, but they lost momentum after half-time, with Duquesne outscoring the Penguins 16-3. This is the second straight week the Penguins have struggled in the second half; they were out-scored 21-11 in week one against the University of Illinois.

YSU head coach Eric Wolford said a major factor contributing to the team's second-half struggles is its inability to convert on third downs. Through two games the Penguins are 8 of 31 on third downs.

"The second half I was really upset about it. Our overall third-down execution is not where we expect it to be. Our third-down production has been really below average as far as our standards go," Wolford said. "We know we have to play better in the second half, and that starts with us coaches at halftime getting guys' motors going and making sure we're ready to go."

Senior tight end Nate Adams was also displeased with the offense's second-half struggles, but thinks that their mistakes are all correctable.

"We just weren't hitting our stride there in the second half," Adams said. "We just all got to be on the same page. As long as we're all together — clicking — on the same page we'll be OK."

The Penguins also suffered a

blow late in the fourth quarter of last week's game when starting quarterback Dante Nania left the game with an ankle sprain. Wolford lists Nania's status for this weekend's game against Butler University as probable.

"He said he felt 100 times better than he did on Sunday," Wolford said. "I think it's going to be a judgment call — how much practice he can get in on Wednesday and Thursday."

A decision on Nania's status for this weekend's game is expected to come Sept. 11. If he is unable to give it a go, freshmen Hunter Wells will most likely get the start with Ricky Davis backing him up.

Whoever is to line up behind center for this weekend's game will be facing a Butler team that likes to pressure the quarterback. In Butler's 22-16 win last weekend against Wittenberg University, the Bulldogs defense came away with 10 sacks.

"I think the glaring thing that stuck out from the first game was they're heavy blitz, brought a lot of pressure, basically almost every play," Wolford said. "I don't know the last time I've seen a team have 10 sacks in one game."

Butler is a non-scholarship program, but junior linebacker Dubem Nwadiogbu says that the Penguins cannot overlook the Bulldogs.

"We don't really look at scholarship; we treat every team like they're the best team and we have to go out and prepare like they're the best team," Nwadiogbu said.

YSU takes on Butler Saturday at 4 p.m. at Stambaugh Stadium.