

'Discomfort is a Good Thing': Soledad O'Brien Discusses Race

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Soledad O'Brien, former CNN anchor and founder of Starfish Media Group, spoke at Stambaugh Auditorium Wednesday for the third Centofanti Annual Symposium at Youngstown State University.

O'Brien spoke about growing up as the daughter of a black mother and Cuban father, and how this shaped her perspective as a journalist dedicated to telling stories of individuals who are often ignored.

She said that for every 100 stories about white people, there are five stories about black people, usually about sports or crime, three stories about Hispanics, all revolving around illegal immigration, one story about how Asian Americans are wonderful students and no stories about Native Americans.

She got in fights with producers doing the Black in America series because we have a tendency to dehumanize impoverished people in the media.

"We just do this broad brush, 'She was born in the ghetto. Her mom's a crack addict,'" O'Brien said. "We don't allow them to be a human being."



PHOTO BY BILLY LUDT/THE JAMBAR.

In a press conference preceding the event, O'Brien discussed the current tensions between people of color and the police in

places like Ferguson, Baltimore and New York.

"I think that the conversation that was very clear and understood in black communities has now bub-

bled to the surface," O'Brien said.

She said when she did her first Black in America documentary for CNN, they told the story of how

black families — regardless of socioeconomic sta-

SOLEDAD O' BRIEN
PAGE 3

Saving Lives One Equation at a Time



Following her lecture, Imelda Flores Vasquez posed with YSU Professor Alicia Prieto Langarica, who brought her to campus as part of the Hispanic Heritage Month Colloquium Series.

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Imelda Flores-Vazquez, a program specialist with the Texas Health and Human Services Commission, spoke to a crowded room of students and faculty in the Lincoln Building on Friday about using math to shape public policy.

She drew on her experiences to inform students about opportunities performing policy jobs for the govern-

ment. For these jobs, Flores-Vazquez said, you need to possess knowledge not only in math and statistics, but also in a field like economics, biology, psychology, sociology or public health.

Flores-Vazquez has a background in economics, and in her work for the Texas Health and Human Services Commission she creates mathematical models to determine what changes in the state's Medicaid policy will cost.

She used coverage of a new

diabetes drug as an example.

"They come to me and say, 'Imelda, how much is it going to cost to cover this new drug?' and then I go do my magic — that's what they call it, I don't call it that — and I say \$10 million," Flores-Vazquez said.

She said she also receives requests from the press when they are covering proposed legislation, and from lobbyists who are curious to see what

SAVING LIVES
PAGE 3

Biochemistry Bachelor's Degree Now an Option at YSU

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A bachelor's degree in biochemistry is now available at Youngstown State University, giving students interested in both biology and chemistry the option to explore both fields.

Michael Serra, an associate professor of biochemistry, said there has been discussion of implementing the biochemistry degree for over 20 years. He started the process in 2011, and it was finally approved on Aug. 12, 2015.

"We hope students who are especially interested in health-related fields — like medicine, dental school and pharmaceuticals — will see this as a degree that will really give them an advantage," Serra said.

Tim Wagner, chair of the department of chemistry, said there will be no new classes.

"We already have the class-

es, faculty, the lab space, the teaching space in classrooms, all those components that are needed for this new program. It was just a matter of making formal arrangements. We won't have to hire any new faculty. We won't have to worry about research or teaching space or developing a new curriculum," Serra said.

The biochemistry curriculum combines chemistry, biology, math and physics classes that are already taught at the university.

"A nice feature regarding implementation of the new program is that we are really just formalizing the biochemistry focus area our students had the option to pursue before. It's just that now a student's transcripts will actually say 'BS in biochemistry' as opposed to 'BS in chemistry,'" Wagner said.

BIOCHEMISTRY
PAGE 3



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National Voter Registration Day Hits Campus

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On Tuesday, Youngstown State University will see several voter registration tables set up in support of National Voter Registration Day.

Organizations have already been on campus asking students to register for the better part of late August and early September. Now that the 22nd is closing in, the campus will see more student involvement in encouraging voter registration tables.

Organizations like the Mahoning Valley Sojourn to the Past, the YSU College Democrats and the YSU College Conservatives will be working to get young adults registered this Tuesday.

Sojourn to the Past is an organization that takes Youngstown City School students to the south to learn first-hand about the Civil Rights Movement.

Penny Wells, the organization's director, said that each year, students come back to Youngstown with action plans — one of those being to run registration tables at YSU and in the Youngstown City Schools.

"Our members working at YSU were once Youngstown City School students; now they're all YSU students. They feel the need to bring awareness to their fellow students on voting registration," Wells said.

Sarina Chatman, a sophomore telecommunications major at YSU, is a member of Sojourn to the Past who will be working the registration tables.

She said that it would surprise people how little she was taught about the civil rights movement and voting while attending a public high school in Youngstown.

"People, especially African Americans, should not take this opportunity to vote for granted," Chatman said. "It was something our ancestors fought to have the right to do, and I'm glad to have learned

that first hand."

Ernie Barkett, president of the YSU College Democrats, said he has plans for his club on Tuesday.

"College Democrats of Ohio is having an enormous 'Get Out The Vote' campaign where all 34 of our chapters will be hosting voter registration drives all week," Barkett said.

The College Democrats will have tables set up around campus.

Chad Limbruner, president of the College Conservatives, said his organization will miss National Voter Registration Day, but they are gearing up for a registration drive with a host of other conservative organizations, before the registration deadline of Oct. 5th.

"It is extremely important to be registered to vote," Limbruner said. "It keeps our communities moving. In fact, I think off-year elections, with primarily local candidates, are most important."

Limbruner said that young adults tend to not realize how local government affects them.

"Typically, young people only think to vote in a presidential election year, if at all, but that thought process has these students missing an opportunity to elect individuals that more directly govern them," Limbruner said.

Both Limbruner and Barkett said students should be registering and voting in elections.

"Voting is extremely important," Barkett said. "If we as college students continue to not vote and continue to be absent from the political process, our representatives in both state and national government will continue to ignore our wants and needs as citizens."

Limbruner had a request for students who don't participate in the political process.

"I think unregistered students should spend maybe 20 minutes, just once, reading political headlines," Limbruner said. "I think they'll find something they're passionate about that they didn't realize was a political issue at all. The key is getting involved and taking the first step."

WCBA Connects Employers with Students

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The Williamson College of Business Administration is hosting its semi-annual Meet the Employers Day at Youngstown State University on Sept. 23.

The free event will take place from 1 to 4 p.m. in the atrium of Williamson Hall.

Christina Costello, assistant coordinator of the professional practice program at WCBA, said the event is designed as a networking opportunity.

"It's a great way to help the students start networking with employers and getting to know the different opportunities that are out there," Costello said.

She said it is not only an opportunity for students, but also for employers as well.

"It's an opportunity for employers to introduce students to their company, discuss internship opportunities, maybe how they got to where they were," Costello said.

Raymond Shaffer, chair of the Lariccia School of Accounting and Finance, said this is just one event of many that students need to attend to be successful.

"Each one is part of a larger puzzle," Shaffer said.

The business college frequently hosts events such as Meet the Employers Day and Internship Interview Day. Costello said when the events are attended regularly they can help students transition from college life to the workforce.

"All of the events that we do host are to help our students grow professionally, develop their professional network and start thinking of going from backpack to briefcase upon graduation," Costello said.

While preparing students to

enter the workforce after graduation, WCBA allows employers to meet future potential employees as well.

"They [the employers] have the opportunity to not only network with students, but YSU faculty and staff and also other business professionals in the area, and maybe identify potential candidates for positions down the road," Costello said.

Although the event may not directly lead to a job, she said it builds experience for future interactions with businesses.

"Meet the Employers Day is just for networking opportunities, but employers do collect resumes for our Internship Interview Day," Costello said. "Those employers do hire interns for their businesses the following semester, or two semesters out."

Shaffer said the main goal of an internship is for students to gain experience and learn about their major field in a way that no book or classroom setting could give them.

"The classroom is good, but there is nothing better than the real thing," Shaffer said.

He said showing potential employers work ethic during an internship is equally as important as gaining experience.

"I can compare it to test driving a new car," Shaffer said.

He said when buying a new car, it is important to test drive it before buying to make sure it runs the way it is expected to. It's the same with interns.

"Sometimes that internship will lead to a job offer, and even if they don't stay, they can say they have the experience," Shaffer said.

The WCBA continues to host events for students to gain networking experience because the ability to get an internship directly affects their ability to get a job later down the road.

"The Nace Job Outlook Survey, dated this year, the 2015 survey, I believe it says 72.5 percent of employers want soon to be college graduates with career related experience," Costello said.

Because internships are so important, she said the WCBA does all it can to make sure its students are career ready upon graduation and have every opportunity to become successful.

"Upon graduation they are professionals and they are able to go through with finding a job and knowing what they need to do," Costello said.

Betty Jo Licata, dean of WCBA, said she encourages students to get as much professional experience as they can before graduation.

"Learn more about what knowledge, skills and experience employers want from business students," Licata said.

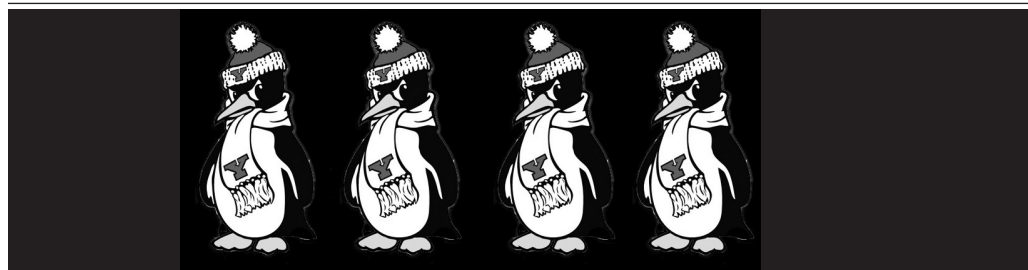
Shaffer said the opportunities for students set YSU apart.

"I strongly believe YSU has a lot more events to help students succeed than other schools, and that is partly because of Dean Licata who really pushes for them," Shaffer said.

Licata said events like Meet the Employers Day are essential.

"It's really, really important that our students have as much contact with employers as possible," Licata said. "Because our goal for our students, and the goal most of our students have, is to not only have an internship while they're in college but also to have that full-time professional job in hand upon graduation."

There will be approximately 40 businesses attending the event, including Chick-fil-A, Family Video, IRS-Criminal Investigation, JMC Steel Group, Macy's, PNC Bank, Schwebel's and the Youngstown Phantoms.



University of Virginia Didn't Properly Investigate Sexual Violence Reports, Officials Say

By James Queally

Los Angeles Times

(TNS)

The University of Virginia failed to properly investigate reports of sexual violence on campus, including allegations of abuse filed against fraternities, on several occasions in recent years, the U.S. Department of Education said Monday.

Federal officials and the university reached a "resolution agreement" on Monday, four years after the Education Department launched a Title IX investigation into the way the school handles reports of sexual violence.

Although the school updated many of its practices and policies under federal

guidance in recent years, the Education Department still found that the campus failed to adequately respond to several alleged instances of sexual assault during the academic years 2008-09 through 2011-12, the department said in a news release.

As of April, more than 100 colleges nationwide are being investigated by the Education Department on suspicion of failing to properly handle sexual assault complaints.

Public scrutiny, however, focused on the University of Virginia when Rolling Stone published an explosive article last year describing a brutal gang rape of a freshman girl inside a campus fraternity house.

The story, titled "A Rape on Campus," was later discredited and retracted.

Charlottesville, Va., police said they could find no evidence that the assault of the girl at the center of the piece, who was only identified by the pseudonym Jackie, ever took place.

Alumni of the Phi Kappa Psi fraternity have since sued Rolling Stone, alleging defamation.

Still, the federal report supported complaints that the University of Virginia struggled to promptly investigate claims of sexual violence on campus.

From 2005 to July 2015, the school had to revise its policy on responding to sexual assaults several times, coming into compliance with federal guidelines only in recent months, the Education Department found. It also found that students who complained of sexual harassment or violence

sometimes faced a "hostile environment" at the school.

The school's sexual assault policy for years required that students accused of assault could be found "responsible" for their actions only if they were confronted by "clear and convincing evidence." Federal investigators advised the school to lower the threshold, so a preponderance of the evidence would be sufficient, according to a letter sent to the university by the Education Department on Monday.

Although the department found several problems with the school's policies, it also praised the university for improving many of its practices during the yearslong investigation.

In addition to improving its overall sexual assault policy, the school expanded

alcohol education programs and took other measures aimed at reducing the risk of sexual assault on campus. The school also hired someone to develop strategies that seek to reduce sexual assault and gender-based violence on campus, according to the letter.

"By signing the resolution agreement, we have reaffirmed our commitment to continue taking steps we believe to be an important part of effective responses to sexual harassment and assault — urgent and complex societal issues of national importance that are challenging institutions of higher education and beyond," university President Teresa A. Sullivan said in a statement.

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NEWS BRIEFS

"Dana's Got Talent" Scholarship Competition

Youngstown State University's Dana School of Music will host a brand new voice scholarship competition called "Dana's Got Talent." Six voice majors will compete for two cash prizes, a \$3,500 scholarship and a \$500 audience favorite award. This free event will take place on Sept. 27 at 6:30 p.m. at St. John's Episcopal Church, 323 Wick Ave.

Youngstown Unveils Economic Development Plan

On Sept. 22 at 1 p.m., Economic Development Strategies for the City of Youngstown — a project developed in partnership with Youngstown State University's Center for Urban and Regional Studies — will finally be unveiled at the YSU Community Room of the Covelli Center. The U.S. Economic Development Administration funded the project through a grant.

SOLEDAD O' BRIEN
PAGE 3

She said when she did her first Black in America documentary for CNN, they told the story of how black families — regardless of socioeconomic status — sat down with their sons when they turned 13 and had a conversation about them with the police. Her boss said, "Everybody has this conversation with their kids." And she had to explain that white people tell their children not to be mouthy and black people tell their children how to behave so they come out on the other side of the interaction alive.

"I think what we saw in the last year, especially around stop and frisk, was that people outside the black community began to recognize this phenomenon," O'Brien said. "That actually there is this big differential in how people are policed in this country and that certain areas of injustice were just becoming too frequent and too obvious to ignore."

She said the arrest of James Blake in New York was a classic example.

"It was not reported as an erroneous arrest until he said something. He made it public, otherwise it would have flown under the radar," O'Brien said. "The man apologized and the commissioner apologized, but at the end of the day you could see from the video pretty clearly that they tackled a guy because he's black, and that happens a lot."

O'Brien said polling revealing that most Americans think race relations are bad right now is a good sign. She said historically when white and black Americans were polled on the state of black America, there was a huge gap between the opinions of the respective races.

"A gap like that concerns me more," O'Brien said. "So, I feel like when everybody is uncomfortable we're really recognizing that we have something that we need to fix."

She recounted a recent story from the New York

Times about a man from the Congo who was put on display in a cage with an orangutan at the Bronx Zoo in 1906. She said we haven't had conversations about events like that — that there were a lot of people perfectly OK with putting a human being in a cage with an orangutan.

"We don't teach it. We don't discuss it. We don't deconstruct it," O'Brien said. "We never have really come to terms with it, and until we do that I think we are going to continue to really struggle."

She said having these conversations is uncomfortable and awful.

"If you're black it's like, 'Oh God, here we go again, whining about woe is me.' If you're white it's like, 'Oh great, I get to be the oppressor in this conversation,'" O'Brien said. "Why would anybody want to be in that conversation? It's a terrible conversation."

O'Brien said part of that conversation is digging into history. She used the confederate flag debate as an example because as Americans we don't study the meaning of the flag in our history classes. She said the other part is just listening to people to understand what drives them.

"You have to let people believe what they believe and say what they believe, and then you can talk about what you believe. But you can't put everybody in their little boxes and roles and expect them to be comfortable with what's inherently a really icky conversation," O'Brien said.

She said she sees hope in a younger generation that is interested in talking about things that often went ignored.

"Do you know how many people were killed by the police in many of the ways that we've seen on videotape, and nobody cared? Do you know how many versions of James Blake — but not famous versions — have been beaten up and misidentified and no one ever wanted to talk about it?" O'Brien said. "So the fact that people are talking about it, I think, is a huge step forward."

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BIOCHEMISTRY FRONT

Serra said that costs for the new program are minimal.

"It may cost more in lab supplies, for example. That was something that Provost Martin Abraham asked us to consider when we presented this idea to him," Serra said. "But we think that cost will be more than offset with things like lab fees and tuition. Overall, it will be positive. I hope we attract a few students who otherwise might not have come."

Brian Leskiw, associate professor of physical chemistry, handed out around 300 surveys to freshman and high school students in the area to predict how many incoming freshman would be interested in the new program.

Based on the results, Serra predicts that 20 students enter the program each year. Serra also said there are a wide variety of career paths that bio-

chemistry majors can take after he or she graduates.

"While putting this together, we were looking at where people with biochemistry degrees go," Serra said. "There was discussion of law, of chemistry and agriculture — and how biochemists could fit into that — studying how herbicides affect insects, for example. So, there's a fairly broad range. But I am thinking we will mostly have students in health-related fields."

Wagner said that students with a degree in biochemistry will be prepared for pharmacy or medical schools and jobs in pharmaceutical companies, commercial food industries and forensic science.

Although the biochemistry degree is new to YSU, Serra looked at schools within a 50-mile radius and discovered that every other school already

had a biochemistry program.

"We were a little late to the game," Serra said.

But he said the scientific instruments students have access to here give us an advantage.

"One of the things I pride myself on is that we are well equipped with instrumentation. That's what really drives research," Serra said. "The better instruments you have the more you can do. We let our students get their hands on the instruments at a fairly early start."

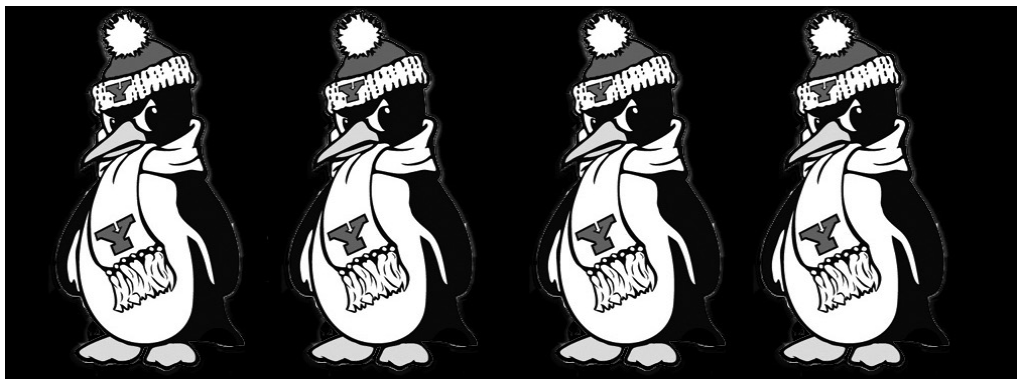
He said he is optimistic that the program will prepare students to do what they want.

"We offer a strong and rigorous program. We will prepare students very well, primarily in the health field, although it's certainly not limited to that," Serra said. "We will give students a good education."



PHOTO BY JUSTIN WIER/THE JAMBAR.

Interim Dean of STEM Gregg Stururus uses a sledgehammer to smash a cinder block on Professor of Geology Ray Beiersdorfer while he lies atop a bed of nails. This was part of "Dr. Ray's Amazing Sideshow of Science" at OH WOW!'s fourth annual Silly Science Sunday.



THE JAMBAR

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World-traveled Artist to Speak at YSU

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Internationally recognized artist Julia Galloway will conduct a lecture at Youngstown State University.

Galloway's artist demonstration will be held on Monday, Sept. 28 from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. and again from 1 to 2:30 p.m. at the Ceramics Intro Studio in Bliss Hall, room 1059. Galloway will hold her guest lecture at 3 p.m. at the McDonough Museum of Art.

Galloway's artwork can be found everywhere, from the United States, to Canada, to Asia. She has contributed to many prestigious collections, such as the Smithsonian Museum in Washington, D.C., the Long Beach Art Museum and The Art Gallery of Nova Scotia in Canada.

Though she was born in Boston, Galloway has traveled and studied all over the place. She went to graduate school in Colorado and also studied at New York State College of Art and Design, Nova Scotia College of Art and Design

and Massachusetts College of Arts.

College and education have had a presence in a majority of Galloway's life and career. She currently teaches about pottery and ceramics at the University of Montana. At UM, Galloway acts as the director of the arts program.

Galloway said she has been at the University of Montana for six years, but she has been teaching since 1999.

Though the demonstrations and lecture are art-centric, Galloway said that anybody is welcome to attend.

"I will include techniques which are both basic and advanced so the students won't be bored," Galloway said.

Galloway said she is looking forward to her visit at YSU and always enjoys meeting new people in different places that share the same passions as her.

Galloway will be demonstrating how to make cups, pictures and more out of clay. Galloway said that there will be something for everyone to learn and observe, whether they are interested in ceramics or not.



PHOTO COURTESY OF JULIA GALLOWAY.



PHOTO BY BILLY LUDT/THE JAMBAR.

BILLY LUDT
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The Ballroom Thieves came to Youngstown to folk things up.

The Ballroom Thieves, a folk rock trio, performed Thursday at The Federal in downtown Youngstown as part of Penguin Productions' concert series.

The Ballroom Thieves consists of guitarist and vocalist Martin Earley, percussionist and vocalist Devin Mauch and cellist and vocalist Calin Peters. The trio hails from Boston.

After playing Sisters Folk Festival in Sisters, Oregon, the trio drove three days for their performance in Youngstown, a stop as they work their way

back to the east coast.

"We are such a small numbers band," Earley said. "We kind of use as many tools as we can to make the band feel and sound bigger than it is."

Earley and Mauch started The Ballroom Thieves as a two-piece band and eventually added a cellist. But after schedule discrepancies, their original cellist had to leave the band.

At an open mic night in Boston, Mauch and Earley met Peters. Peters' previous band used the open mic night to promote the band's final show.

Mauch was judging all participants at the open mic night, and Peters' band won. Peters has played in The Ballroom Thieves for two years.

"We never made a conscious decision to be or not be

something, in comparison to someone or something else," Mauch said. "This is naturally the music we've been drawn to and have written."

The songwriting process for The Ballroom Thieves starts with Earley. The three of them converge and work when they have the time in a 10-month-a-year tour schedule.

"Maybe what sets it apart is we work hard," Peters said. "We don't really stop at the first few drafts of a song structure. We keep on going, for a long time, until it's done."

But that did not mean The Ballroom Thieves was stern in interacting with the crowd. Earley, Mauch and Peters all came up with trivia questions for the crowd. The award for answering correctly was a copy

of their latest album, "A Wolf in the Doorway."

The Ballroom Thieves will continue to tour straight until Christmas. After a short break they will start recording a new album and then get back on the road again.

"We're kind of road dogs," Mauch said.

Spirit of the Bear, a Youngstown indie rock group, opened for The Ballroom Thieves.

Carolyn Jesko is the programming graduate assistant for Penguin Productions. Penguin Productions' concert series is an undertaking handed off to them from Student activities.

"There's a whole concert series team that helps out with it," Jesko said. "I am really enjoying having a whole team to give

input and help out. And they're great."

Penguin Productions reached out to a booking agency in hopes of finding an artist to bring to perform in town. They ended up looking through the whole roster of bands and found The Ballroom Thieves.


"So, we asked if they were available and what their price range was," Jesko said.

Penguin Productions' members assisted The Ballroom Thieves with operating the merchandise table.

"I've taken on more responsibility," Jesko said. "But I love it. I absolutely love doing it."

Penguin Productions will continue to announce artists for their concert series, and will also organize the annual Fall Fire Fest.





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*This event is free and open to the public, but tickets are required.

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EDITORIAL

NEXT MONTH, NEXT YEAR AND EVERY YEAR AFTER: WHY SMALLER ELECTIONS HAVE BIGGER IMPACT

Millennials vote the way we engage in social activism; we show up as an issue boils over into the national eye, make sure everyone knows our opinion and then move onto the next issue the moment there's a lull in the action.

Endangered animals and African poaching have been problems for decades, but it takes Cecil getting shot to get everyone riled up and active for the better part of a week.

In the political arena, the equivalent of harassing a dentist online who shot a lion is coming out to vote for the president. It's the loudest, craziest time to vote, and everyone is doing it. It also is the election where your vote has the least real power.

When all the passion dies down, most people don't go on to examine the

complexities of a problem like poaching and how to actually engage it. Similarly, when the results come in and a new president is elected, the fever dies down and we all return to business as usual.

According to a Pew Research Center's February 2014 survey, Millennials, ages 18-24 are showing up to vote for presidential elections. When asked if they were planning to vote in the 2016 election, 80 percent the age group said yes. The problem here isn't that Millennials don't vote, it's that they only vote in one kind of election.

Voting during the primaries and midterm elections are just as — if not more — important than voting during the presidential election. Current voting campaigns push young Americans to head to the

presidential polls using expensive ads that attempt to show voting as cool or hip. Millennials know their voice makes a difference, but they don't know how much they make a difference, especially when it comes to local elections.

Voting only for the president is sort of like going to church only on Christmas and Easter. Sure, it probably makes you (or your grandma) feel good, but it doesn't exactly make you a disciple either.

Change happens from the inside. Putting icing on garbage doesn't make it attractive. It's like trying to spray air freshener on a rotting corpse. You can't mask something that's deteriorating by taping the exterior together.

The government is billions of dollars in debt because of war? Vote for a

congressperson that doesn't support outrageous war spending. Smaller towns losing population? Vote to build new schools and improve the education of the youth.

While the president has a major effect on the country and the direction it's heading, Millennials can make a noticeable change in their immediate area by voting in smaller elections.

Yes, the government has been working fine for the past 200-plus years, but just because a machine is working doesn't mean it doesn't require maintenance. The agenda we've been running on has been slowly running into problems, and now more than ever, we must fix it.

And by we, I mean the Millennials. It's our time to assert our demographic dominance politically. Mil-

lennials are the new majority. The radical change this country needs isn't going to come in the form of one man or woman in the oval office. This country was founded on checks and balances. The only way to fix the mess the nation is in is to work internally. Start small, vote locally. Begin getting involved in your community. When the groundwork is properly laid, the structure built on top of it is going to be substantially sounder.

Instead of sugar coating a rotten core, let's build a better base and work our way up. Change isn't going to happen in this country because of one person, it's because of all of us. Go vote and be heard as often as elections happen. It's a right people have fought and died to earn, don't take it for granted. Want a better future? Make it happen.

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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Hop on the Hype Train Kids, 'Cause The Muppets are Back on TV!

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This is it. The week I thought would never come. The Muppets are going back on TV with new material, a new show and I'm here to witness it. What a time to be alive.

Anyone who knows me knows that I love The Muppets. I'm not exactly quiet about it. From when I was young, Kermit, Miss Piggy, Gonzo and Animal were major parts of my life. When 2011 came along and "The Muppets" premiered in theaters, it was like a dream. And now, they're back on TV, back to where they belong.

At this point you're probably thinking, "Amber, chill, they're puppets and they're for five-year-olds." But that's the thing, they aren't. The Muppets, since their conception, were geared to be the ultimate family entertainment, with jokes aimed at adults and physical comedy aimed for

children. The pilot episode of the show was actually called "Sex and Violence," obviously not aimed for children.

Actually, I've always been surprised by how indifferent so many people my age are about The Muppets. The whole premise of them is so appealing to people in college — a group of people trying to live their dreams and find their places in the world. That's what we're all trying to do, isn't it?

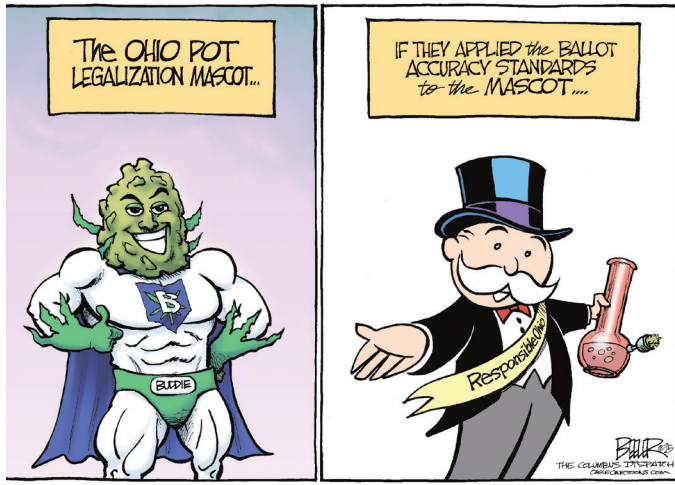
I always joke that I know Kermit, Miss Piggy, Gonzo, Fozzie and Scooters in real life, but honestly, we all do. We all have that friend who thinks his jokes are funnier than they are, or know that girl who is so much of a diva that it's almost ridiculous. We all know that soft-spoken leader, the eye of a hurricane of crazy friends.

With shows like Family Guy, The Simpsons, Futurama and Bob's Burgers on TV, it's been proven that mediums traditionally used for children's entertainment can work for adults. "The Muppet Show" worked in the past, embracing the television variety shows that were popular in

the '70s. There's no reason they couldn't work now, only adapting to the reality show styled sitcoms that we know and love.

It's no surprise that these characters have adapted and survived the tests of time. One of my favorite parts of The Muppets is how much heart they have, stemming from the chemistry and love that the people who created them had for each other. It isn't hard to find story after story about Jim Henson. How much he loved his coworkers, how passionate he was about what he did. He's quoted in saying, "If you care about what you do and work hard at it, there isn't anything you can't do if you want to," a mentality that carries into his character's personalities. That passion continues to this day, kept alive by those who now carry the Muppet torch.

What I'm getting at is, you can laugh at someone who's technically an adult loving The Muppets, but give the show a shot first. What you'll find are characters just like you, comedy that you may actually enjoy and, most importantly, a lot of heart.



THEJAMBAR
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Penguins Strike Early Against St. Bonaventure



PHOTO BY DAN HINER/THE JAMBAR.

Youngstown State University's Kathy Baquero (5) scored the Penguins' go-ahead goal during the team's 2-1 win over St. Bonaventure University on Sunday. Baquero's goal was the first of the year, but she led the team in scoring last season.

Drew Zuhosky

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The Youngstown State University soccer team played its last non-conference game of the season on Sunday afternoon versus the St. Bonaventure University Bonnies.

A pair of goals after the 30-minute mark from junior midfielder Kathy Baquero and sophomore midfielder Kyler Lum would be all the Penguins needed in a 2-1 win.

With just over 10 minutes left to play in the first half, Baquero converted on an assist from defender Sar-

ah Staley to give YSU (5-5) a 1-0 advantage. During the 51st minute of the match, Lum scored her second goal in as many games off of an Abby Kenski assist to increase the lead to 2-0.

Nearly 10 minutes later, St. Bonaventure (3-4-2) scored after forward Lauren Hill recorded her fourth goal of the season — freshman forward Jessica Scruggs was credited with an assist.

Lum led the Penguins in the stats column with four shots, two on goal. Baquero registered two shots, one on goal.

St. Bonaventure was led in the stats column by Hill, who recorded seven shots,

three on target. Scruggs and senior forward Abby Maiello each took two shots. The Bonnies took 17 total shots in the contest, seven on goal.

YSU goalkeeper Elizabeth Balgoeyen recorded six saves in the game, while St. Bonaventure goalkeeper Christina Sarokon made three.

After the contest, YSU head coach Will Lemke offered his thoughts on the victory.

"We knew this was going to be a sandwich game coming off of a tough conference game on Friday where we didn't play well, and then we have defending conference champion Valparaiso

coming in this Saturday," Lemke said. "We wanted to gain some focus and get a strong start, which I felt we did, posting a 2-0 lead. I was happy with that aspect. We showed a little more firepower offensively and we were able to come out and make the other team chase us for once."

The Penguins were more aggressive in Sunday's contest. Lemke said the team needed to be better offensively to get a win against St. Bonaventure.

"I think that the girls did a good job moving the ball," he said. "We were way too passive on Friday, so we emphasized that we wanted to pick up the pace and the

pressure on the defensive side and on the offensive side — we wanted to move the ball quicker. I think we did a little better job of that today."

Lum talked about how Sunday's match would get the team ready for Valparaiso University this weekend.

"We just have to work really hard in that game," she said. "I think that our warm-up in this game was so much better than it's been, and I think that we just need to keep the intensity up, keep focused and just train hard for this upcoming game."

MISSOURI VALLEY FOOTBALL ACTION WEEK THREE RESULTS

(23) Indiana State def. SE Missouri St. 29-28

South Dakota def. Drake 52-0

(4) North Dakota State def. North Dakota 34-9

(2) Coastal Carolina def. Western Illinois 34-27

(5) Illinois State def. Eastern Illinois 34-31

(9) Northern Iowa def. Cal Poly 34-31

YSU May Potentially Add Two New Women's Sports:

University Hopes Expanded Athletics Increase Enrollment

DAN HINER

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Youngstown State University's enrollment has seemed to plateau, and the YSU athletics department is investigating two new sports to draw female high school recruits.

President Jim Tressel confirmed YSU is investigating the potential additions of a women's rowing team and a women's lacrosse team.

"We're constantly looking for ways to bring in more really good students and people to choose YSU for unique reasons," Tressel said. "We're in the midst of studying it, we are a little ways off from making any decisions, but they are two of the sports we are studying."

The study of potential women's lacrosse and rowing teams comes on the heels of Chelsea Gilliam being named the first head coach of the women's bowling team, which was formed in March.

It's no secret Tressel has made increasing enrollment at YSU a top priority since becoming president in July 2014. Ron Strollo, YSU Athletic director, said the addition of new sports could increase future enrollment.

"Obviously our department has been challenged, probably just like every other department on campus, to figure out how to draw prospective students to campus," Strollo said. "For us, one of those op-

portunities not only is to increase the roster sizes we are currently carrying, but also look to potentially add some programs that might attract students from outside our normal region."

Strollo went on to say the idea of adding more sports has been discussed since Tressel came back to Youngstown.

Tressel briefly touched on the idea to the YSU Board of Trustees on Sept. 8. A formal proposal was not made, but a plan could be discussed during the Board of Trustees meeting on Dec. 1.

Financial Implications

The topic was mentioned to the Board of Trustees a week after YSU announced the hiring of Chelsea Gilliam as the head coach of the newly founded YSU women's bowling team.

Strollo said the university is not concerned with the potential new sports generating revenue from attendance of games or merchandise sales, but believes the university will profit from the added costs of athletes attending YSU.

"I guess we never looked at it in that fashion," Strollo said. "Obviously the more students we have on campus, the better off financially it is. If you just look at the revenue and the expenses for each program, if you add in the tuition, fees and room and board they bring in,

I'm sure all of our programs run a net profit for the university."

Since a formal proposal hasn't been made, the numbers for cost and home venues for each team are still being researched. Those figures could be discussed at the next Board of Trustees meeting.

The creation of new sports over the past seven months has been a result of the university trying to keep up Title IX — a federal law that prohibits federally funded universities from sexual discrimination based on the sports the university provides.

"They usually have outstanding students and obviously they are both women's, which would help us in our Title IX compliance," Tressel said.

Strollo wanted to reiterate that YSU has not formally announced the creation of the programs and there is no guarantee the proposal of the sports will be passed. However, other sports could be created in the future.

"It's hard to say, we have a gender equity plan on campus," Strollo said. "Every four or five years, I think we're going to have to look into adding a sport. It's a matter of time, whether that time is in the next one to three years or in the next 10 years. I think it would be likely we would add a sport or two."



Check out the Penguin Playbook on The Jambar's Youtube channel for sports videos throughout the year!

[YouTube.com/JambarVideo](https://www.youtube.com/JambarVideo)