

Made in China: YSU Makes Agreements with Chinese Education Institutions

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A delegation of administration and faculty members from Youngstown State University returned from a two-week trip to China earlier this month. Provost Martin Abraham said the trip was a successful first-step in the process of relationship building.

"We had very good meetings with several universities, we talked with several recruiting agencies, we met with some alumni, visited an incubator and we learned more about the Chinese culture," Abraham said. "So this was a very good start to what I would expect will be a long-term initiative."

Ann Gardner, assistant director of the Center for International Studies and Programs, said they signed four memorandums of understanding — formal agreements establishing partnerships — and one pathway articulation agreement — intended to streamline the transfer process.

Memorandums of understanding were signed with the China University of Petroleum Beijing, Chengdu Technological Base, the Communication University of Nanjing and the Union of Northern International Universities — a conglomerate of schools with an enrollment of 200,000 students. The pathway agreement was with Beijing Jiaotong University for graduate students



YSU Provost Martin Abraham and Mike Crist, dean of YSU's College of Creative Arts and Communication, are shown a model of the Yanching Institute of Technology by Charlie Zhang, dean of the School of International Education at YIT.

who meet YSU's English language and graduate admission requirements.

They also provided information to recruitment centers and gave contact cards to students interested in studying abroad at YSU.

At an educational expo in Chengdu, the delegates had a booth where they could engage

with students and their families about studying at YSU.

Gardner said they made an effort to deliver information to parents and grandparents of prospective students.

"Even if the students have enough English or are proficient in enough English to study here, the parents might not speak any English, or the

grandparents. And in China, it's the grandparents and the parents and one child, and those grandparents and the parents are the ones paying and making the decisions," Gardner said. "So we gave them the information in Chinese. We really made an effort to reach the non-English speaking decision makers."

They made a video that showcased the additive manufacturing equipment YSU has to show to people at the expo and the various universities.

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TEDx Speaker Series: Saving The World One Beer at a Time



PHOTO COURTESY OF ANDY TVEEKREM.

Andy Tveekrem is the proprietor of the Market Garden Brewery in Cleveland. Before opening Market Garden, he served as brewmaster for Great Lakes Brewing Company, Frederick Brewing Company and Dogfish Head Craft Brewery.

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Andy Tveekrem developed a love of beer in college.

"I went to college in Wooster. There were not a lot of beer places available in the '80s, so I got really interested in beer," Tveekrem said. "I took a semester abroad in Germany and learned a lot."

While attending grad school

at Kent State University, he began experimenting with home brewing.

"Like other graduate students, I couldn't really afford beer, so I started making my own," Tveekrem said.

What started as a hobby became a passion, and decades later he serves as brew master for the Market Garden Brewery and Nano Brew Cleveland on West 25th Street in Cleveland's

Ohio City neighborhood.

"After [college] it started snowballing, it took five years to transition from a hobby to an actual career," Tveekrem said. "I started working at Great Lakes Brewing Company in 1991. The guy who hired me, the head brewer, after six months went to work out west so I took over his job and was there for nine years."

Following his nine years at Great Lakes, he served as brew master for the Frederick Brewing Company in Maryland and Dogfish Head Craft Brewery in Delaware before returning to Ohio to start his own business.

He will deliver a TED talk at Youngstown TEDx about how breweries can improve economic development in impoverished areas.

"Brewing companies help revitalize impoverished areas," Tveekrem said. "You have these run down neighborhoods in the inner core of the city, and they need some kind of a spark or anchor to start the revitalization process. Breweries can do that."

One factor that played into his decision to get into brewing was that breweries tend to last longer than other food-associated business ventures.

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Empowerment Through Entrepreneurship

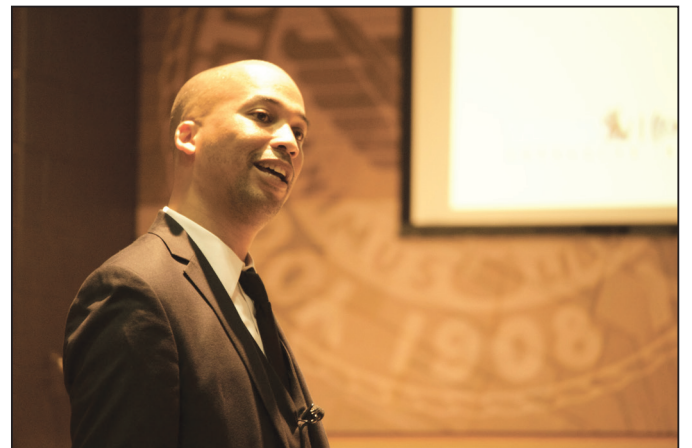


PHOTO BY JUSTIN WIER/ THE JAMBAR.

David Anderson, founder of Empowerment Radio Network, speaks to students about financial literacy in Kilcawley Center's Chestnut Room on Thursday.

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David Anderson, founder of the Empowerment Radio Network, spoke to Youngstown State University students Thursday about empowering themselves through entrepreneurship.

Later that evening, he hosted a screening of the documentary "Generation ONE: The Search for Black Wealth."

The documentary featured Anderson and others discussing the lack of generational wealth in black communities.

The film stated that 13 percent of the U.S. population is black, but they possess only 2

percent of the nation's wealth.

The film attributed this to a culture of spending in black communities and a lack of proper financial education, as well as government transfers of wealth to white Americans through programs like the Federal Housing Administration and the GI Bill.

"The black community is dying because of a lack of information," Anderson said in the film.

At a seminar held Thursday afternoon, Anderson outlined a number of strategies students could use to start building wealth while in college.

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YSU Master's in Financial Economics Reaches Top Ten

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The Financial Engineer Times ranked Youngstown State University's master's program in financial economics eighth in the nation for their 2016 rankings released this fall.

YSU moved from 13th place in 2015 to the top ten, and will receive a TFE Times Top 10 badge for its accomplishments.

Ou Hu, associate professor of economics at YSU, said that TFE Times used six criteria to produce their rankings. In order of importance, they were: average scores on the Graduate Management Assessment Test, average starting salary

and bonuses of graduates, average undergraduate GPA, acceptance rate, full-time graduates employed at graduation and full-time graduates employed three months after graduation.

"A score for each program is the weighted average of each of the components respective score, where the weights sum to 100 percent. The final scores are normalized and are not rounded," TFE Times said upon the release of their data.

While Hu said there are not many U.S. master's programs in financial economics, he said YSU's program consistently offers great opportunities for students from northeast Ohio and brings in many interna-

tional students as well.

"Given that all the other rankings such as master of economics, or finance, or MBA seem to be consistent with ranking systems from other sources, I am very glad to see that our MFE is ranked eighth at TFE Times," Hu said.

YSU's master's program in financial economics was also recently recognized by the Chartered Financial Analyst Institute, which was consistent with TFE Times' rankings.

Sal Sanders, dean of Graduate Studies, said the factors TFE Times considers when ranking programs are very important to students, employers and the College of Graduate Studies.

"Starting salaries and bonuses, employment at graduation and three months after graduation I think are important to many students as they consider what program to enroll in," Sanders said.

Sanders said the TFE Times rankings, and other similar rankings, suggest that YSU's MFE is a quality program.

"The results of this ranking by The Financial Engineer Times suggests that the financial economics program at YSU is of high quality, and [is] meeting goals of helping students earn their degree and preparing them with skills that make them employable," Sanders said. "This program was also recently evaluated as part of

our ongoing review of graduate programs at YSU. Our review also finds that the program meets evaluation criteria."

Sanders said the criteria used suggest YSU's MFE Program is doing a good job of choosing students.

"The GMAT Scores are about how well students do on the standardized tests to get into the program, but the salary and employment criteria shows that students are going to be successful after graduation — unless they want to go after their Ph.D.," Sanders said. "I think that TFE Times' rankings show that MFE graduates will get what they want in the world — to get a job, keep a job and to make money."

Search On for Conspirators as Islamic State Claims Paris Attacks

By Mitchell Prothero
McClatchy Foreign Staff (TNS)

IRBIL, Iraq — The Islamic State group claimed responsibility Saturday for the attacks that killed at least 129 people across Paris Friday, issuing both written and audio statements promising that the violence was only the "first of the storm."

If confirmed as genuine, the statements would make Friday's coordinated violence the first major operation by the group outside an area where it has a significant presence.

The Islamic State claim came as French authorities struggled to put together what took place Friday night, and security officials worried that the network that supported the attacks was still at large and planning more.

Police arrested one of the people thought to be involved in the attack trying to drive back into Belgium, where three of the dead attackers are known to have lived. In addition, Belgian police "made several arrests" of those suspected of involvement in the terrorist plot, according to French media reports.

French officials used the fingerprints of one of the dead attackers to identify him as a 30-year-old French national from the Paris suburb of Courcouronnes who had been previously flagged as having extremist ties.

And Nikos Toskas, the Greek minister for citizen protection, said a Syrian passport found near the bodies of two suicide bombers had been re-

corded as entering Europe through the island of Leros as a refugee. The minister noted that it was not clear that the passport belonged to an attacker.

The death toll was expected to rise. An estimated 352 were wounded in the attacks, at least 99 of them critically. Medical officials called for off-duty doctors to report for work at hospitals treating the wounded.

In Washington, State Department spokesman Mark Toner said Americans were among the wounded. He would not say if any had been killed, but French news reports said at least one American student had died.

The claim of responsibility was released on an encrypted online channel previously used by the group, and the banners and accompanying Quranic verses conformed with the group's previous announcement of a major attack in Tunisia.

The logo referred to the group as the Islamic State of France. The statement was released in French and said the attacks were revenge for French military participation in the U.S.-led anti-Islamic State coalition and perceived insults to the Prophet Mohammed, a reference to January's attack on a French satirical magazine prone to mocking Islam by gunmen from the group's rival jihadists, al-Qaida in the Arabian Peninsula, or AQAP.

"Eight brothers carrying explosive belts and guns targeted areas in the heart of the French capital that were specifically chosen in advance: the Stade

de France during a match against Germany which that imbecile Francois Hollande was attending; the Bataclan where hundreds of idolaters were together in a party of perversity as well as other targets," the statement said/.

"France and those who follow its path must know that they remain the principal targets of the Islamic State."

The statement also referred to the French capital as a "capital of prostitution and obscenity," and directly targeted entertainment and nightlife venues.

Multiple analysts noted that the direct targeting of civilians more or less randomly based on the venues — which themselves were picked with obvious care — appeared in line with a previous Islamic State attack in Tunisia, which killed scores of mostly Britons on vacation. The analysts noted that al-Qaida and its affiliates usually target political, military or economic targets.

Witnesses described the attackers as very specific and methodical in both selecting the targets and in executing victims, pausing to reload as they shot individual victims. They waited to detonate their explosive vests only as police closed in.

Hollande, the French president, described the attacks Saturday as an "act of war" in a statement that vowed revenge.

"What happened yesterday in Paris and in Saint Denis is an act of war and this country needs to make the right decisions to fight this war," he said. "This act committed by the terrorist army, Islamic State, is against who we are, against a



On the third day of national mourning, the Eiffel Tower was lighted in the national colors after going dark on Nov. 16, 2015 in Paris. (Carolyn Cole/Los Angeles Times/TNS)

free country that speaks to the whole world."

"It is an act of war prepared and planned outside, with outside involvement which this investigation will seek to establish. It is an act of absolute barbarism. France will be ruthless in its response to Islamic State," Hollande said.

To equip eight well-armed

attackers with automatic weapons that are illegal in France and to manufacture the explosive vests the attackers wore, to say nothing of planning an operation that spanned six locations in eastern Paris, likely required a substantial network whose members likely are still at large.

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NEWS BRIEFS

Tressels Donate \$1 Million to Expand Student Employment Opportunities at YSU

Jim and Ellen Tressel have made a \$1 million pledge to Youngstown State University to help create the Ellen and Jim Tressel Student Work Opportunity Endowment Fund. Jim Tressel, YSU president, and Ellen Tressel, YSU alumna, announced the gift Monday afternoon at a meeting of university donors on YSU's campus.

"Pictures of Nursing" Postcard Exhibit in Cushwa

"Pictures of Nursing: The Zwerdling Postcard Collection" is on display in the atrium of Cushwa Hall through Dec. 4. The six-banner exhibit about the history of nursing was developed and produced by the U.S. National Library of Medicine and the National Institutes of Health, is curated by Julia Hallam and is sponsored by the YSU Melnick Medical Museum.

EMPOWERMENT FRONT

These included purchasing cars or the contents of storage lockers at public auctions and reselling them online at sites like Craigslist.

He said learning to spot opportunities should be part of the curriculum at all institutions, and it's more important than having a job.

"I'm not saying don't get a job," Anderson said. "I'm saying train yourself to identify opportunities."

He also underlined the need for students to acquire skills while they're in college.

"Do not go through YSU and not get a specialized skillset," Anderson said. "Especially if you're black."

He said that in a labor market where people are often hesitant to hire young black people, possessing a specialized skill can greatly increase your likelihood of finding a job.

He related the need for wealth to the Black Lives Matter movement, and said that if students want power, they need to own things.

"You don't have the right to put your fist in the air and say my life matters if you don't own resources. That doesn't make any sense," Anderson said. "Control the resources, and then you can influence what's going on."

Julian Jones, president

of the YSU Student Diversity Council, helped bring Anderson to campus. He spent the day with Anderson and said it was great to hear different ways to be successful.

"I think it's imperative that we learn — and not just African Americans but all of us as Americans — how important it is to be financially stable," Jones said.

He said the current model of financing education through student loans often disadvantages college students.

"We go to college, we get into debt, we don't get a job coming out of college, so we start off bad because we're already in debt," Jones said.

William Blake, director of the Office of Student Diversity Programs at YSU, said establishing sound financial practices is necessary to ensure future economic security.

"I'm not saying I want you to be wealthy," Blake said following the screening of the film. "I want your children's children's children's children to be wealthy."

He told students that they are where they are because of how they have chosen to use money, and said changing those habits will make things easier for future generations.

"Those who come after us won't have to rebuild the bridge because the bridge has already been built by you," Blake said.

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CHINA FRONT

It showed the creation of 3-D printed models of Pete the Penguin and a panda that they gave to university leaders.

"Most people seemed to be quite impressed with the quality and capacity of the lab. Students were excited about the possibility of coming to YSU to participate in our program. We included the video as part of our display at the recruiting fair, during which we seemed to have one of the more active booths, so overall, it seemed like a very positive element of our efforts," Abraham said.

A YSU alumni dinner was held in Shanghai. Trish Reader, a YSU alumna, and her husband attended. The couple moved to Shanghai a few years ago, where Reader works as a teacher. Her husband works for Delphi.

"It was very productive because we want to try and make contacts and see what we can work out," Gardner said.

On their last day in Shanghai, the delegates met with Sudan University, which Gardner described as "the Harvard of China." Mike Crist, interim dean of the College of Creative Arts and Communication, gave a recruitment presentation.

"We had discussions with



Delegates from YSU stand with representatives of Yanching Institute of Technology. YSU signed a memorandum of understanding with the Union of Northern International Universities which includes YIT.

them but this one was a little bit different. They were quite interested in Dean Crist and the College of Creative Arts and Communication, and journalism, and we began discussions," Gardner said.

Gardner said work still needs to be done in some areas, such as a 2+2 program that would allow students to attend YSU for two years and a Chinese university for two years. The faculty needs to compare

and contrast the curricula of YSU and Chinese universities to determine the best plan.

Abraham said the delegation will hold a follow up meeting so they can identify specific targets and assign responsibilities to each delegate. The next steps will be to develop relationships with partner organizations and recruiting agencies.

"This was an important first step. But there's a lot of additional work that we need

to do to get us to the level we hope to be at," Abraham said. "We're working to enhance our own operations back here in Youngstown, to make sure that students who do come over will be comfortable here. And we're also looking to determine ways in which our students and faculty can travel to China, as part of a more robust study abroad effort. This needs to be a long-term investment in YSU's future."

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TEDX FRONT

"A restaurant's life expectancy is usually three years. However, a brewery has less than a 25 percent failure within the first seven or eight years. There is a longer life expectancy than other places that have food or alcohol," Tveekrem said.

Tveekrem continues comparing it to the restaurant business

"In a brewery you have all the elements of a restaurant, creating a nice atmosphere for food and interaction ... However, the advantage of a brewery is that you make your own beer," Tveekrem said. "It has a lot of elements for attraction for people, people who want to eat at a nice place and not have to walk somewhere else to get equally great beer."

Tveekrem said Great Lakes and Market Garden attract people to the Ohio City neighborhood.

"Great Lakes is about 150 yards from our location; it is basically a great anchor for this community. Mar-

ket Garden started in 2010 and opened in 2011. It really opened up this neighborhood. You are right on West 25th Street, and it brought a lot of people's eyes to the area," Tveekrem said.

He said he has seen the positive effects breweries can have on a neighborhood firsthand.

"Before it used to be a low lit area; you kind of had to go through abandoned buildings and dumpsters just to get to the parking lot. People would just hang around, and so nobody wanted to be there. But once we opened the business, within three years, 50 percent vacancy of businesses in the area became zero, and it was an amazing and eye opening thing to see," Tveekrem said.

The neighborhood improvements build on what drew Tveekrem to start a brewery in the first place, creating experiences.

"My favorite part about owning a brewery is the creativity and freedom to create different beers and create different experiences for people," Tveekrem said.

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YSU Welcomes Pittsburgh Director to “It’s a Wonderful Life”

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The Youngstown State University theater department has hired Lisa Ann Smith as an outside director for their latest production, “It’s A Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play.”

“I think my soul leans more toward theater, but my pocket leans more toward film,” Smith said. “That’s just what the truth is. It’s a completely different medium. In theater, it’s a director’s medium, and film is an editor’s medium, really.”

“It’s A Wonderful Life” opens this weekend, with scheduled performances at 7:30 p.m. on Friday and Saturday and a matinee performance on Sunday at 2 p.m. More performances are on Dec. 4 and 5 at 7:30 p.m.

Matthew Mazuroski, assistant professor of theater, worked alongside Smith in a production of “Out of This Furnace” with the Unseam’d Shakespeare Company, out of Pittsburgh. Mazuroski reached out to Smith, knowing she had experience with the sound creating technique, Foley.

Smith, originally from New York City, came to Pittsburgh to earn her master’s in fine arts in acting from Point Park University’s Conservatory of Performing Arts. After gradu-



PHOTO COURTESY OF YSU THEATER DEPARTMENT

YSU Theater’s next production is a stage adaptation of the American classic film, “It’s A Wonderful Life.”

ation, she stayed in the area. “The work is incredibly plentiful,” Smith said.

Smith is a member of the Stage Directors and Choreographers Society, Actors’ Equity Association and the Screen Actors Guild. She appeared in the films “Love and Other Drugs,” “The Director” and “One for the Money.”

In 2006, Smith joined Bricolage Production Company, an immersive theater company in Pittsburgh. Her experience with Foley was honed

while she performed on Bricolage’s “Midnight Radio,” a live radio theater production.

Foley technique in film, theater and radio is where all sound effects are created by hand, utilizing common objects rather than electronic devices. Jack Foley was a sound editor at Universal Studios during the golden age of radio and the emergence of silent films. Foley was used during performances and movie showings, creating sound in real-time.

Smith said the production is a radio show in a literal sense. So much so that she encourages audience members to close their eyes and listen to the sounds created by Foley.

“If you were listening to it on the radio, all of the sounds you would hear — the footsteps, the wind, the thunder, magic chimes — all of them are being made by the actor,” Smith said.

Actors will be creating sounds for the live radio pro-

duction at three stations. Actors will switch microphones in these Foley tables, moving up and down stage. To further create the atmosphere of a radio station, the actors will be in the space 20 minutes before the production starts, settling down and hanging up their hats and coats.

“It’s very exciting for the student actors because this is an art,” Smith said. “And Foley is an art — it’s an art that is not taught. It wouldn’t have been exposed to if Youngstown hadn’t chose to do this production. It’s exciting to see — to expose these young actors to another skill that they can have on their resume when they leave school.”

Smith auditioned for “It’s A Wonderful Life” in late August. Production work began in the first week of November.

“It’s A Wonderful Life” was adapted for stage by Joe Landry, pulling inspiration from the classic film by the same name. The cast is freshman Terrè Snead, sophomore Jack Rusk, freshman Allyson Hood, sophomore Jessica Hirsh, junior Josh Fleming and senior Mark Warchol.

Tickets for “It’s A Wonderful Life” are available for purchase at the YSU Theater Department Box Office at 330-941-3105 or by visiting www.ysu.tix.com.

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EDITORIAL

**Solidarity - Solidarité
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تضامن

After recent attacks in Paris and Beirut, plus the natural disasters that hit Japan and Mexico, many young adults are facing a terrifying truth for the first time. This is the world, and soon, it's ours.

Every triumph and tragedy is ours to deal with. Not just the events in the U.S., but the events all over our increasingly shrinking world.

The attacks — particularly those in Paris — shook Western societies from the ground up. When the attacks on 9/11 happened, those of us born in the '90s were in elementary school. That's not old enough to fully understand what was happening in New York. We're older now, and comprehending the world we live in is a challenge we're facing head-on.

Although the attack on Paris is one of many terrorist attacks that have happened over the years, it seems to have influenced the American public more. Facebook is littered with the red, white and blue icons as well as posts discussing every aspect of the event.

We as a country are concerned because France is like us. Many Americans dismiss Lebanon as a little known brown or black Middle Eastern country without the same technologies, religions or ideals as us. France is a well-developed, primarily white country that the U.S. has been allies with since before the revolutionary

war.

The attack on Paris helped wake the Western world from its collective sleep and — in a brief moment of clarity — show us what many people deal with on a day-to-day basis.

Beirut was attacked on the day before the Paris attacks, but the attention drawn to those attacks paled in comparison to the — warranted — outpouring of sympathy for Paris.

While the Internet is rightfully filled with #PrayForParis, there are significantly less #PrayForBeirut tags. Practically, this is due to Paris' role as a global city and the center of media operations in France. Philosophically, it's because Beirut is "over there" and Paris is very close to home.

Thousands of Syrian refugees flee their country every day to escape bombings and attacks that happen there while countries like France, England and the U.S. are pressured to close their borders to prevent the same refugees from entering their land.

Basically, while the terrorism in the world affects all, Paris showed us that fear can affect everyone, anywhere.

Whether it's at a funeral, at a soccer game or at a concert, after this past Friday, it's hard to feel safe when out and about. The events brought to light that we trust those around us with our lives more than we

realize.

These attacks were a painful reminder that it takes only a few acts of violence and barbarism to rattle the foundations of a civilized society.

Following the 9/11 attacks, the French newspaper *Le Monde* ran a headline reading, "We Are All Americans." Today, we all must stand up and not only declare "we are all French" but "we are all human."

We must not only care about France. We must care about all of the world's people as they regain their footing after one devastating loss or many. It is our duty to not be afraid, but to support those in their time of need, just as they supported us in our time of need. We can't control the actions of others, but we can control the way we react to them.

Solidarity refers to the ties in a society that bind them together as one, usually for a certain cause. Today, we must all stand together.

"Welcome to Earth. It's hot in the summer and cold in the winter. It's round and wet and crowded. On the outside, babies, you've got a hundred years here. There's only one rule that I know of, babies — God damn it, you've got to be kind."

— Kurt Vonnegut, Jr.

LETTER

— TO THE —

EDITOR

To the editor,

As flu season is vastly approaching and school is in full swing, immunizations for school-aged children is a hot topic. Many false accusations have been made recently about how immunizations can be harmful and how they may be related to causing autism, but we quickly tend to forget why vaccination is done every year.

Children do have immunity from their mother when they are born. This, however, only lasts for as long as the antibodies for these diseases stays in the child's bloodstream.

It is always better to prevent these infectious diseases instead of trying to treat them after they have occurred. The use of vaccines allows one's child to be actively immune from a disease without it actually ever occurring. The vaccine can be introduced slowly so that the child's immune system can handle these infectious diseases.

If the child were to get the infectious disease, his or her body may or may not be able to handle it, causing severe illness or even death (March of Dimes, 2015).

Eradication, the elimination of an infectious disease worldwide, can also be accredited to the use of early detection alongside the use of vaccinations. This means that the vaccines that were once being used for this dis-

ease worked and we no longer have to get vaccinated for it.

This fact shows how important getting children and adults vaccinated is (The College of Physicians of Philadelphia, 2015).

Most cases of autism, however, appear to be caused by a combination of autism risk genes and environmental factors influencing early brain development. A number of environmental stresses appear to increase the risk of having autism. Evidence of these autism risk factors involves events before and during birth. Obvious signs of autism and symptoms of autism emerge between two and three years of age.

This being said, vaccines really do not play a role in effect this genetic disorder. All vaccines that a child gets in his or her lifetime is after birth. If they are diagnosed, it is most likely that the child has had this genetic disease before the vaccines were even introduced to the child (Autism Speaks, n.d.).

Vaccination is one of the simplest and most important ways of preventing children and adults from getting infectious diseases. We have come a long way in our endeavors to get the upper hand on these diseases, so why not keep them in check?

Sincerely,
Mason Donahue, YSU S.N.

JAMBAR POLICY

Since being founded by Burke Lyden in 1931, The Jambar has won nine Associated Collegiate Press honors. The Jambar is published twice weekly during the fall and spring semesters and weekly during the first summer session. Mail subscriptions are \$25 per academic year. The first copy of The Jambar is free. Additional copies of The Jambar are \$1 each.

OUR SIDE POLICY

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

YOUR SIDE POLICY

The Jambar encourages letters to the editor. Submissions are welcome at thejambar@gmail.com or by following the "Submit a Letter" link on thejambar.com. Letters should concern campus issues, must be typed and must not exceed 500 words. Submissions must include the writer's name and telephone number for verification, along with the writer's city of residence for printing. The Jambar does not withhold the names of guest commentators. Letters are subject to editing for spelling, grammar and clarity. Letters will not be rejected based on the views expressed in them. The editorial board reserves the right to reject commentaries and letters if they are not relevant to our readers, seek free publicity, fail to defend opinion with facts from reliable sources or if the editorial staff decides that the subject has been sufficiently aired. The editorial board will request a rewrite from the submitting writer based on these requirements. The Jambar will not print letters that are libelous, threatening, obscene or indecent. The views and opinions expressed in letters and commentaries on the opinion page do not necessarily reflect those of The Jambar staff. Editorials do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the faculty, staff or administration of YSU.

JAMBAR COLUMN

Pursue Your Dreams

JORDAN MCNEIL

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Something I've heard quite a bit in my life is others lamenting that they are unable to follow their dreams or make a difference with a problem they care about, because they are either too young or it's too late, they've missed their chance.

Both of those statements are completely bogus. Your age doesn't matter — what matters is your motivation and your heart. If your heart's not in it, of course you're not going to accomplish what you set out to do. You have to want it and believe in it, and that has no age restrictions.

Gabe and Livvy Feinn are only 13- and 9-years-old, respectively. They wanted to provide help to impoverished communities overseas — specifically, they wanted to raise the money necessary to renovate a mission hospital in the Democratic Republic of Congo through the organization Samaritan's Purse. And they didn't let their

young age stop them from this: through selling homemade cupcakes, they raised the \$35,000 needed to rebuild the maternity ward at Nyankunde Hospital.

Ashley and Victoria Van-Buskirk — sisters I graduated from high school with — founded their own non-profit organization, Flora Stationery, after Ashley's study abroad trip to Kosovo. She met a young woman there who was struggling to afford a college education through circumstances out of her control. Flora Stationery takes artwork done by women in Kosovo and turns them into journals. The money raised from these journals goes toward paying college tuition for these women, to empower them with an education and help them gain the skills to find employment.

Ashley Orr and Megan Evans, undergraduate students at Youngstown State University, founded their own initiative for fighting poverty in Youngstown — PAYO: Poverty Awareness in Youngstown. With other YSU students, they have been hosting various events to both educate others in the community and raise

money and collect items needed to help combat the poverty in our area. Orr has stated that poverty issues are something very dear to her — they are her passion, and working to fight them is her dream.

It's never too late, you're never too young to follow your dreams or make a difference in your community, or even the world. If your dream is to become a published novelist, get on writing that book and join a writer community to help you through it. If your dream is to become a goat farmer, do your research and buy yourself a goat.

If your dream is to make a difference, there are so many ways you can do that now. Give your time to charities and nonprofits that support the cause you're passionate about; donate at the American Red Cross blood drive happening on campus on Nov. 17 and 18; send money to the International Red Cross or Doctors Without Borders to help with tragedies like Paris, Japan and Beirut.

You are not too young; you have not missed your chance. Pursue your dreams.



Still Searching for 700: YSU Head Coach Jerry Slocum Looks to Get Historic Win at Home

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Youngstown State University men's basketball head coach, Jerry Slocum, has been searching for his 700th career win since the Penguins beat Wright State University 74-69 on Feb. 15.

"I think we showed some character and showed some heart ... that was a positive. I think our young guys performed pretty well," Slocum said. "For being their first college game, a lot of those guys — some of those guys have been redshirting — I thought they kind of handled the situation OK. That was the positives.

"The negatives are that we got there and didn't execute like I hoped for us to do down the stretch. We had three different possessions — one where we were down by two, one where we were down by three and one where we were down by five — and the ball had gotten stopped, and we ended up coming up with not getting shots up. This is a work in progress with these guys. I think there were some signs

that we did some positive things and couldn't overcome our negatives."

With YSU losing its season opener, Slocum and the Penguins are looking to get the 700th win against the University of Toledo on Wednesday night.

"I think that would be big for this group," forward Matt Donlan said. "Going in, I think his record speaks for itself. Obviously he's accomplished a lot, and I think to be a part of the group that's able to bring him that 700th win would be pretty special for us."

The Rockets are coming off a 96-65 win over West Virginia Tech. Four of Toledo's five starters scored 15 or more points on Saturday. Rockets guard Jaelan Sanford led the team with 22 points and shot 6-8 from behind the 3-point line.

"They might have one of the best big kids in the MAC [Mid-Atlantic Conference], a 6-11 kid that could shoot three's," Slocum said. "[He's] a lot like Bobby [Hain] — really good from midrange, really good with his back to the basket. Their two guards are really good and they have a freshman kid that just shoots the heck



COURTESY OF YSU SPORTS INFORMATION.

out of it. This is a good basketball team. We're going to have to play extremely well to be in the basketball game. They really could score the ball, they're really good in transition ... might be one of the most offensively gifted teams in the MAC."

If Slocum doesn't get a win on Wednesday, the Penguins might not get another chance at a win until the Penguins get back from

a tournament at Florida Gulf Coast University.

"I think this group has a chance when that proverbial light comes on. The lights are on in the house, but they're not bright lights right now," Slocum said. "And again the schedule's not easy. Obviously, we're playing a really good Toledo team that won 23 or 24 ball-games over the last three or four years — had kind of the

best three to four year run in their history.

"Then you go to Florida Gulf Coast over the weekend and play in their building, a team that's really, really good. Then you play Bowling Green [State University], a team last year that went to postseason play. That road doesn't get any easier, but the positive side of it is our guys are going to grow up in a hurry."

A Return to DI Basketball: Matt Donlan Joins Roster After Knee Injury

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Outside of second-team All-Horizon leaguer Bobby Hain, not much is known about this year's Youngstown State University basketball team. The team is replacing a majority of its production from a year ago and is inexperienced.

The new faces on the team will be forced to step in and become leaders on and off the court, and perhaps no one has stepped into this role more than junior forward Matt Donlan.

The Australian native moved to Sacramento, California at age 10, but his love for basketball was established well before that. Donlan began playing for a semi-professional team in Australia at age five and has been in love with the game since.

"It was the only sport I've played my whole life," Donlan said. "I started with a local team there, [in] Australia. Their system is kind of different over there — they have semi-pro teams all the way down to five years old. So you move through the ranks like that, kind of like an organization."

Donlan became a dominant force when he reached high school. He was a four-year letter winner for Capi-

tal Christian High School and was named California's Division 5 Player of the Year.

After a successful high school campaign, Donlan chose to attend South Dakota State University to continue his basketball career. He was redshirted his freshman season, but after a knee injury the following year, the coaching staff and Donlan decided it would be best for both parties to move on.

"My first practice back was actually our first official practice of the season, but by that time the coaches had already made up their minds, and at the end of the season we talked and just decided to move on," Donlan said.

Donlan wasn't going to let that be the end of his basketball career. The next season he joined the Iowa Western Community College team and flourished at that level. Donlan led the team in 3-pointers made and shot over 80 percent from the foul line en route to an Honorable Mention All-Region XI selection.

"It kind of gave me my confidence back. It helped me to get on the floor and play some basketball and get some reps in. It gave me the right exposure to get me to the next level," Donlan said.

YSU took notice of Donlan while in high school and thought he would be perfect

for the program.

"We keep track of these kids and just because we don't recruit them necessarily or get them, we keep an eye on the guys that we like," recruiting coordinator Michael Wernicki said. "I know the staff at Iowa Western really well. We've recruited their kids for years."

Donlan's role on the team is yet to be determined, but it can be expected for the junior to see important minutes at both guard and forward.

"He's [an] older guy with some experience. So he's a guy that's a little bit more mature that we're going to need throughout the year, but he's also going to be a guy we go to to make shots. He's a very good shooter and one of the guys in our program that can get his own shot off the dribble," Wernicki said.

With his journey back to Division I now complete, Donlan's biggest challenge is still ahead of him, proving that he can still play at this level.

"It's been a while since he's played at the Division I level," Wernicki said. "Even though he played at a very high level junior college — a really good program — when you get back to Division I level it's going to take some time to get the rust off. You just go to work hard and play through it."

SPORTS

BRIEFS

Penguins Finish 17th at Great Lakes Regional

The Youngstown State University cross-country team finished 17th in the Great Lakes Regional Championships on Friday. Ryan Sullivan, who finished 57th, was the top runner for the Penguins. Austin McLean finished in 66th place. The field included 30 teams from the Big Ten, Mid-American Conference, Horizon League and several teams from other conferences.

Varcolla Receives Postseason Honors

Youngstown State University outside hitter Sarah Varcolla was named to the Horizon League All-Freshman Team on Monday. Varcolla led the conference with 40 aces and played in all 31 games, including 21 starts. She was third among Horizon League Freshman with 234 kills.

Bobby Hain Moves Up Career Points List

On Saturday, Youngstown State University forward Bobby Hain finished with 20 points during the YSU men's basketball team's 79-70 loss to Kent State University. Hain moved up to 27th on YSU's all-time scoring list.

MISSOURI VALLEY FOOTBALL ACTION

WEEK 11 RESULTS

WESTERN ILLINOIS 37
INDIANA STATE 31

(5) SOUTH DAKOTA ST 30
SOUTH DAKOTA 23

(17) NORTHERN IOWA 41
MISSOURI STATE 0

(6) ILLINOIS ST 42
SOUTHERN ILLINOIS 21