

THE JAMBAR

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‘THE REVOLUTION WILL BE DIGITIZED’:

STORY: JUSTIN WIER
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PHOTO: LIAM BOUQUET

Angela Burt-Murray delivered a talk entitled “Black Voices Matter: Race and Gender in the Age of Social Media” in the Williamson College of Business Administration’s auditorium yesterday as part of the University’s Black History Month celebration.

Burt-Murray, former editor-in-chief of Essence magazine and the founder of Cocoa Media Group, opened by talking about the important events she has covered, including the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, the spread of the HIV epidemic, the racial achievement gap and mass incarceration.

But she said the best professional experience she’s had was covering the election of President Barack Obama.

She spoke about visiting the Obama family at their house in Chicago, seeing Sasha and Malia Obama practicing piano and reflecting on the similarity between the Obamas and her own family.

“Was it really possible they could be America’s first family?” Burt-Murray asked. “Could we dare to dream?”

She then spoke about interviewing the couple in the White House, talking to Michelle about settling into their new life, what the moment meant for black women and her future plans. Talking to the President, they discussed transforming urban schools, overcoming challenges for black boys and closing the achievement gap.

“There’s never been a more exciting time to be black in America,” Burt-Murray said.

But she said racial vitriol spouted by political figures and civil rights abuses make her question whether the country is moving backwards.

“Despite the challenges and fears I have raising four black boys in a country designed to destroy them, I still have hope,” Burt-Murray said.

That hope comes from social media. She said millennials are bringing back activism, and social media is making it easier than ever before.

“Thanks to social media,” Burt-Murray said. “I’m feeling a new spirit



Angela Burt-Murray, former editor-in-chief of Essence magazine and founder of Cocoa Media Group, addresses students and community members during her lecture in the Williamson College of Business Administration’s auditorium.

of hope and change.” She referenced the Black Lives Matter hashtag, created by three women, that has started a national conversation about the way communities of color are policed.

“The election of Barack Obama combined with the birth of social media launched a hotly-contested conversation about race and gender in America,” Burt-Murray said.

She asked the audience how they felt about a group of teenage girls at a high school outside of Phoenix posting a picture of themselves wearing shirts spelling the N-word to Snapchat.

One attendee said it made her shake her head, and she’s bothered by younger people that treat racism as a joke, noting that her grandfather’s house was bombed.

“I felt like some of the things my grandparents went through were trivialized,” the woman said.

She asked whether the act should follow those girls throughout the rest of their lives. Some believed it should, but one student said that is no different than allowing non-violent crimes to follow black youths into the future.

She then moved the

discussion to the football team at the University of Missouri, who refused to play until the University’s president resigned.

“Does a university have a responsibility to respect the thoughts, feelings and actions of its students?” Burt-Murray asked.

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NO LABELS: Changing the Way We Think About Politics

STORY: SAMANTHA PHILLIPS | SPHILLIPS@STUDENT.YSU.EDU
PHOTO COURTESY: TYLER MILLER-GORDON

When opposing views in Congress cause a stalemate, the lack of compromise can delay progress. No Labels, a student organization at Youngstown State University, wants to change that.

No Labels is a national movement that strives to build a cooperative government, with the presidential administration and both houses of Congress working together to achieve mutually

agreed-upon goals that will solve the nation’s problems.

Tyler Miller-Gordon founded the YSU chapter in the fall of 2015 and serves as chapter president.

“We are a bi-partisan political organization, so it doesn’t really matter if you’re Democrat, Republican or Independent because we are all about working together,” Miller-Gordon said. “We are ‘committed to fix, not fight’.

It’s not about being left or being right, it’s about moving forward.”

No Labels meets every other Tuesday in the dean’s conference room in the College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences at 5 p.m.

Lindsay Heldreth, vice president of No Labels, said the group aims to find common ground between political parties and alleviate the present tension.

“The main goal is to promote a spirit of



Members of the organization No Labels attend a national Problem Solvers Conference. The YSU chapter will be holding their own conference in Beeghly Hall’s McKay Auditorium from 12 to 2 p.m. on Friday.

problem solving. Essentially what we want is for people, no matter what their political party, to get together and talk about the issues that are concerning everybody,” Heldreth said. “Through inviting everybody, we think we will be able to get a lot more done. Currently in politics there’s a lot

of polarization in terms of the Republicans not wanting to work with Democrats and vice versa.”

No Labels doesn’t promote candidates or parties; they contact presidential candidates and ask if they would be willing to work towards one of four main goals.

The four goals are to

create 25 million jobs over the next 10 years, secure Social Security and Medicare for the next 75 years, balance the federal budget by 2030 and make America energy secure by 2024.

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SPORTS EXTENDED



Penguins Look to Gain Momentum as Season Ends

Youngstown State University point guard prepares to pass the ball during the Penguins' home game against the University of Illinois at Chicago.

STORY: DAN HINER | DHINERJR@GMAIL.COM | PHOTO: DAN HINER

The Youngstown State University men's basketball team has gone 2-5 in the last seven games, and the Penguins are having difficulty finding consistency on both ends of the court.

The Penguins have allowed 77 points per game over the last seven games. YSU head coach Jerry Slocum said the team is starting to improve defensively despite the points allowed by opponents during that span.

"It's been a tale of two halves for us. Both games we really competed and played well

in the first half," Slocum said. "Second half in both games ... I think in the Green Bay game, I think it was a seven-minute spell where we had eight possessions, five turnovers and three missed shots — and the game was over.

"In the Milwaukee game, we had it down to, I think at the 16:00 mark, it was six points. We had two possessions, and we followed it up with four turnovers — game over. Actually, I was kinda happy with how we competed defensively during that time. But if you go on

the road and you shoot 34 percent, you're not gonna be successful, and that's exactly what happened in those two games."

YSU forward Matt Donlan said the team has a pattern of struggling offensively when the team doesn't get shots to fall. Donlan said the young players on the roster need to look to the veteran players like point guard Francisco Santiago when the team starts to struggle on the court.

"I thought that we saw some encouraging things against Milwaukee. I thought that we

played better defensively; we just didn't get shots to go down," Donlan said. "That's something we need to go at our highest pace. We gotta get shots to fall. I thought we got stops, but I think if we could put it all together, we're gonna be a team that people don't want to see."

The Penguins will host Wright State University on Thursday, YSU 81-45 at Wright State on Jan. 16. The Penguins shot 28.8 percent during the first matchup and were unable to keep the Raiders out of the paint. Wright

State outscored the Penguins 32-12.

"They're a great defensive team. They're gonna clutch and hold," Slocum said. "You're not getting any clean cuts off the ball. They're better than they have been in the past couple years — maybe offensively."

With the season coming to an end, Slocum said the team needs to continue to improve down the stretch. He said the team could gain some momentum heading into the Horizon League tournament if the Penguins could put together a couple

wins in the last two regular season games.

"I just want us to continue to get better. I guess the discouraging thing for me is there are times where we are really, really good," Slocum said. "There were times against Milwaukee and against Green Bay that we just played terrific basketball. Now we get to come home to play two games against two terrific opponents ... just try to build some positive momentum going into the playoffs."

YSU'S CULTURE OF COMMUNITY

JAMBAR CONTRIBUTOR: LIAM BOUQUET

Administration gathered in Tod Hall on Feb. 24 to discuss President Jim Tressel's plans to create a "culture of community" at Youngstown State University.

The culture of community initiative would create a vertically integrated collaborative that would report to the administration as well as a smaller council.

The specifics of the culture of community collaborative and its role is still under discussion, but Sylvia Imler, executive director of multicultural affairs and interim associative provost for international and global initiatives, said the fundamental goal is to increase diversity on YSU's campus.

"Here we are looking at how we can increase diversity at the University, address barriers, capitalize on any opportunities present, stimulate a movement towards achieving the vision and positioning ourselves as a leader of diversity," she said.

Tressel and Imler emphasized, both in the administrative meeting and in a meeting with YSU's Student Government Association on Feb. 22, that this vision of diversity is not limited to just race or ethnicity.

"We have been talking about this for over a year transitioning from the old university diversity council," Imler said. "We can create a more nurturing environment where all members feel a part of it. The vision here is that we would reflect the diverse population of our valley, the nation and our world."

To realize this vision, Tressel and Imler said they had to collect members from all across campus. In the meeting with SGA, Tressel asked the student body to select two members for the collaborative, emphasizing the need for a persistent passion for the group's goals.

"So who in your group would do a great job selling what we are trying to create?" Tressel asked the administrators present at Wednesday's meeting. "And has an intentional, conscious awareness that we cannot truly become great until the entire institution appreciates each other and decides to learn how to create one another as we would like to be treated?"

Tentatively, the collaborative will have 65 members — including 13 faculty, 26 staff, 21 students and five community members — from the Academic Senate, the seven colleges on

campus, the unions and the various administrative bodies.

"These are big units, and we want a lot of people. There are 14,000 students that we are trying to create a cultural community from," Tressel said.

Tressel and administrators discussed the addition of other representatives from prominent groups.

"Under Greek life, you just got the two councils, and there is a third council — NPHC. If you depict IFC and PanHellenic, then I think you need to add NPHC as well, which is the historically black Greek organizations. IFC and PanHellenic might not represent them the way they feel they need to be represented," Eddie Howard said, the associate vice president of student experience.

Tressel agreed. He has also been responsive to suggestions from students adding adjunct representatives after a student drew attention to their significant presence at YSU.

Martin Abraham, the provost and vice president for academic affairs, said it was imperative that the group maintained some consistency across the years. Encouraging the choice of faculty that would remain at YSU for

the near future.

Tressel and Imler plan to approach deans and campus leaders about choosing representatives and continue promoting the initiative across the next month planning the first meeting for April.

"Our goal is by the end of March to have the delegates selected and vetted a little bit. We need to make sure we don't have 60 men and five women or 63 grey haired white guys and nobody who looks different," Tressel said.

The collaborative will meet once every semester with the smaller culture of community committee acting as handlers — presenting the representatives of the collaborative with ideas and information as well as managing the overall vision.

"This is really why universities were created. You bring people from lots of different vantage points, and you get to know them. It is not a new vision. We are not inventing the wheel," Tressel said. "In creating that spirit, that belief, that tradition that you are at a great place ... you want respect and well-being; you want inclusion and awareness."

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JAMBAR

Always wanted to know what it's like to work for a publication? The Jambar is looking for YSU students to contribute. If you're interested in writing, editing or graphic design, send an email to: yomagazine2@gmail.com.



PHOTO: SCOTT WILLIAMS

Construction is underway on the University Edge student apartments. The building is located on West Rayen Avenue, adjacent to Smith Hall. The 162 bed apartment is the first of two major housing additions coming to campus over the course of the next two years.

YGD GAME JAM

What is a Game Jam? This Game Jam is a 3 day over-night event where you and a team of 1-5 people come together to create a video game prototype.

The theme for your game will be announced at the Game Jam's opening speech, just after registration.

The event is totally free for you, and meals are included. In order to attend, you will need to sign up by March 25, 2016. You can register online at: youngstowngamedevelopers.com.

You do not need to have a team in advance; you can always form or join a team to meet new people when you get there!

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YO!

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Poli Sci Students Present Research at National Conference

STORY: LAUREN FOOTE | LAURENLEONA.1@GMAIL.COM
 PHOTO COURTESY OF: GRETA FROST

Youngstown State University students Jillian Smith and Greta Frost presented undergraduate research at the Pi Sigma Alpha National Student Research Conference in Washington, D.C. over President's Day weekend.

Pi Sigma Alpha — the national honors society for political science — welcomed more than 125 students, faculty and guests to the conference, which featured 67 presentations representing 40 Pi Sigma Alpha chapters. YSU's chapter was reinstated in the fall and is comprised 23 students.

Smith is president and Frost is vice president of the YSU chapter. They were excited to present their research and have a platform from which to discuss their work.

"As an undergraduate, we do not get a lot of opportunities to go to a conference, much less present our work," Smith said. "So this was a great movement forward in terms of the academic process of political undergraduate research."

Smith said between 60 and 80 people attended each of their sessions. Her research drew from an internship she did with the U.S. Economic Development Administration in the

summer of 2014.

"I conducted substantial research on federal grant distribution mechanisms," Smith said. "I was looking at different forms of manufacturing communities that had lost significant investment due to other countries outcompeting our region in terms of manufacturing."

She has studied which grant distribution mechanisms best spur development, innovation, technology adoption and entrepreneurship.

Frost presented her capstone, which assessed the impact of U.S. assistance to Morocco on the Moroccan education system. She became interested in the country while studying abroad there.

"I look into a history of Morocco's education reforms, analyze current education problems the country is facing and compare Morocco to other similar countries," Frost said. "Then I made policy recommendations in areas where I felt, based on my research, the strategy could be stronger."

Smith said Georgetown political science candidates were assigned to serve as discussants in the sessions;



they asked questions to probe deeper and provided criticism.

"The one that was assigned to me wrote on the back of my paper and gave me a lot of suggestions on how I could develop it further, and then how I can relate it more to the community," Smith said.

Frost said interacting with other members of Pi Sigma Alpha was beneficial.

"Since we are such a young organization, it gave us an opportunity to talk to other chapters about membership and things that they planned, fundraising ideas and such just so that we can make our organization better," Frost said.

Smith credited professor Adam Fuller, the group's adviser, with contributing to their chapter's success.

"He introduced us to the national network, which connected us to this information and conference. He was

instrumental with getting us of the ground," Smith said.

Fuller said the students' research was received well.

"It was great for us to get exposure at the conference," Fuller said. "They were really impressed by Jillian and Greta, and they represented YSU well."

Fuller said his role as an adviser has diminished since the organization was reinstated in the fall.

"The students have really taken a lead in the organization," Fuller said. "They have a lot of great things. I have been astounded in how much they have accomplished in a year."

Smith said attending the conference was good for the chapter and the University.

"It brings us up to the level of academic research that is being engaged in larger institutions than our own," Smith said.

COLLEGE SURVIVAL

JAMBAR CONTRIBUTOR: JORDAN UNGER

YSUrvivor, the reality showed-inspired organization on campus, began its second semester of challenges at Youngstown State last week.

YSUrvivor was founded by junior Sarah Davis last fall. Sarah Davis said that it is a club where the members replicate competitions inspired by the reality show, "Survivor."

Sarah Davis said much like the television show, club members are divided into tribes at the beginning of the semester. These tribes compete against each other in weekly challenges, which she said she comes up with on her own.

"A lot of them are based off of challenges on the show but scaled down so we can do them here," Sarah Davis said. "There's been lots of brainstorming."

At the end of each challenge, the losing team votes off one member of the tribe. Sarah Davis said this continues for several weeks until the last few players remain.

"The tribes merge, and then they do individual challenges where only the winner of the challenge is safe," Sarah Davis said. "Then the entire tribe can vote

anyone out. This eventually determines the winner of the semester."

Thirteen students participated this semester, down from the 18 participants last semester. Sarah Davis said that many of the players are returning participants from last semester, and that YSUrvivor received positive reception in its first run.

Rachel Davis, the treasurer of YSUrvivor and a participant in the game, said that she joined the club last semester because she enjoys "Survivor" and was curious of how it would be incorporated on campus.

"It is so exciting and fun to watch, so I imagined it would be fun to participate in an organization that replicates the show," Rachel Davis said.

The team meets Tuesday and Thursday evenings to participate in the challenges, which either test the physical or mental capabilities of the tribes.

Rachel Davis said that the club helps her ability to work on a team and teaches her how to think critically in real-life situations.

Immunity idols are hidden across the cam-

pus for the YSUrvivor students to locate. Sarah Davis hand-makes the idols out of cardboard and hides them, leaving clues for the participants to solve. The student who finds the idol can present it at the tribal council elimination ceremony to be immune from elimination that night.

Sarah Davis said the largest challenge when forming the club was to find people who wanted to participate. Sarah Davis said she was unsure of how students who have never watched "Survivor" would react to the activities.

"I was nervous that people who have never seen the show wouldn't really know what to do, but a lot of people who played last semester didn't watch 'Survivor,' and they had a great time. You catch on really fast," Sarah Davis said.

Carrie Anderson, assistant director of Student Activities at YSU, said that it is significant for students to take part in student organizations.

"The biggest thing is that it gives them the opportunity for a leadership role beyond the classroom," Anderson said.

DIGITIZED FRONT

A man who attended Kent State University following the shootings said university students today are not active enough.

"You can get more energy out of kindergartners than you can on a college campus," he said.

Burt-Murray noted that social media has increased transparency but questioned whether we could move beyond hashtags and start building bridges.

Many attendees claimed that money is power, and in order to affect change you need to vote with your wallet. Others claimed there is power in unity.

For societal problems like policing, Burt-Murray said people need to pay attention to local elections — sheriffs, police chiefs and county prosecutors.

"Those are where the decisions are being made that will di-

rectly affect your life," Burt-Murray said.

Burt-Murray asked why the current generation continues to struggle with problems that have plagued society since its inception.

"Your generation is the most diverse generation that this country has ever seen," Burt-Murray said. "So why are you still seeing the same racial tensions on your college campuses?"

She brought the conversation back to social media and the power social media gives to the current generation.

"People who dismiss it as just a tool to waste time on, ... not just in this country but around the world we've seen how social media really can change the dynamic," Burt-Murray said. "The deepest and most immediate conversations about race are happening with hashtags and in 140 characters or less."

Julian Jones, president of the student diversity council, helped

bring Burt-Murray here through a family connection. He said he thought Burt-Murray's talk was excellent.

"It was really great to let it be known that social media is a key part of activism and trying to get everybody together," Jones said.

Shienne Williams, a student who attended the talk, said the speech was relevant for students who are growing up in an era where social media is a catalyst for everything.

"Barack Obama won his election through a large social media campaign, so we got our first black president through social media," Williams said. "That just goes to show how powerful social media can be."

Burt-Murray closed the talk with a call to action.

"It's all of our responsibilities to continue the discussion of race and gender online," Burt-Murray said. "There is still so much work that all of us have to do."

NO LABELS FRONT

If they agree to address solutions to these goals within their first 100 days in office, they get the Problem Solver Seal of Approval.

"They're goals that we can all agree are positive to work towards, and we accept sort of any solutions to it," Heldreth said. "The goal isn't to promote one party's solutions to the problems, but to get everybody's input so we can come up with the best solution."

At the No Labels national convention last fall, eight candidates presented the issues they were most passionate about, described how they are a problem solver and were given the Seal of Approval.

"Essentially what No Labels does is inform people on the candidates and direct them to those candidates, so they're willing to work with other political parties to solve problems," Heldreth said.

Miller-Gordon said the objective is to promote a spirit of problem solving and encourage students who are hesitant to vote for candidates outside the political party with which they affiliate.

"[We want to] make it a common thought to say 'Yes, I'm a republican in my ideals, but I really think this Democrat or Independent candidate is capable of change, and I want to work with them to come to better solutions,'" Miller-Gordon said.

About 20 students signed up last semester and 38 signed up this semester, according to Antonette Schar-su, member of No Labels.

Gordon said a common criticism of No Labels is that it's a moderate organization, and people think they have to give up their political identity to join.

"That's not what No Labels means," he said. "We don't ask you to reject your identity, we ask you to not let it get in the way of the progress of America. We all have these

goals we can achieve if we actually work together."

Schar-su said that student involvement in politics is getting better, and they want people to think about how a candidate's solution will affect everyone.

"Especially with this upcoming election, there's been a major jump in educated voters in our age group," Schar-su said. "Furthering those solutions that are issues for everyone is really important."

No Labels is holding a Problem Solver Conference on Friday from 12 to 2 p.m. The main event is the keynote speaker presentations. The speakers will be State Senators Frank LaRose and Capri Cafaro.

There will be a panel of Problem Solvers — people who are devoted to No Labels and problem solving in politics including Interim Dean Jane Kestner, SGA President Ashley Orr, Student Trustee Sam Anderson, professor Bruce Waller and

Youngstown Incubator intern Jillian Smith.

There will also be student organization breakout sessions where organizations discuss solving problems on campus and in the community, giving students the opportunity to get involved. The organizations include YSUscape, Pi Sigma Alpha, Student Government Association, National Organization for Women and College Democrats. They are also reaching out to the College Conservatives.

"I don't know if they are particularly active on campus this semester, but it's important to us that we maintain both sides of the aisle," Gordon said.

Schar-su said the keynote speakers will contribute non-partisan solutions to fixing congress.

"They will basically be speaking on what it means to be a problem solver," Schar-su said. "What No Labels as an organization stands for and how students can further

those objectives in their own communities by participating in voting, voter education, and putting party labels aside to better our government."

Gordon said students shouldn't be apathetic towards politics because it impacts everyone's life. He hopes to see students come to the conference and have discussions with other students, listen to the speakers and grab some pizza.

Heldreth said joining No Labels and attending the conference is a great way for YSU students to get involved with politics.

"It's a great way to get informed with the issues, interact with a couple state senators and to get involved in politics in general because I think now is a more important time than ever to make sure we are informed and engaged," she said. "We're just trying to make a difference in [the way we] work together."



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NEWS BRIEF

MV Hospital Foundation Establishes YSU Scholarships Honoring Guerra, Senchak, Vallas

The Mahoning Valley Hospital Foundation pledged \$174,000 to establish three scholarships at Youngstown State University. The scholarships are the Alice D. Guerra, R.D.H., M.S. - Mahoning Valley Hospital Foundation Dental Hygiene Scholarship, Michael S. Senchak - Mahoning Valley Hospital Foundation School of Business MBA Scholarship and Michael Vallas - Mahoning Valley Hospital Foundation School of Business BSBA Scholarship. For more information, contact the YSU Foundation at 330-941-3211.

#YSUPreSpringBreak2016

There are many events going on around campus during the week before spring break. These events are Boost you Eats for a Beach Body, Feb. 29 from 1 to 3 p.m. in Kilcawley Center; Volley-ping Tournament, Feb. 29 from 6 p.m. in Stambaugh gymnasium; Spring Break BLOWOUT, March 3 from noon to 4 p.m. in Larricia Lounge behind Jamba Juice; and Movie Night, March 3 from 7 to 9 p.m. in the Larricia Lounge as well.



PHOTO COURTESY OF: SCOTT WILLIAMS
Youngstown State University student and Jambar staff photographer Scott Williams is brought on stage by Bruce Springsteen during his Tuesday show in Cleveland. This was Williams' sixteenth Springsteen concert.

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BUM ROLLS, HIGH HEELS AND ARRANGED MARRIAGE

UNIVERSITY THEATER OPENS TARTUFFE



Orgon, played by senior Christopher Hager, spouts about the endless wisdom of his houseguest Tartuffe, in the play by the same name at a technical dress rehearsal on Tuesday. University Theater opens "Tartuffe" on Friday evening.

STORY: **BILLY LUDT** | wrludt@student.ysu.edu | PHOTO COURTESY OF: **BILLY LUDT**

University Theater's latest production, "Tartuffe," exemplifies an intricacy in costume and prop design in comparison to prior theater productions.

"Tartuffe," directed by Matthew Mazuroski, assistant professor of theater and dance, opens Friday at the Spotlight Arena Theater at 7:30 p.m. in Bliss Hall.

The show runs from Feb. 26 to 28 and March 4 to 6. Performances on Fridays and Saturdays begin at 7:30 p.m. and on Sundays at 2:00 p.m. Tickets are \$16 for adult, \$8 for students and free for YSU students with valid university identification.

"Tartuffe" is "[a] biting satire on social pretense and reality," that follows the character Orgon and his family as they attempt to free themselves from the presence of Tartuffe, an unwanted houseguest.

Costume design staff has been building the costumes for "Tartuffe" for six weeks, starting at the beginning of January.

Cast members of "Tartuffe" performed for the first time in full costume at a technical dress rehearsal Tuesday night.

The costume design for "Tartuffe" is period, meaning that cast members are clad in powdered wigs, suit coats and dresses. Women are required to wear corsets and bum rolls and men will be wearing shoes with 2-inch heels.

Katherine Garlick, assistant professor of costume design and costume designer for "Tartuffe," began research for costume design and production in fall of last year.

"They can take off their outfit and there's a whole other outfit underneath," she said.

Putting on their makeup and costumes takes around two hours. Erica Hess, a senior theater studies major, made the hair and makeup for "Tartuffe" her senior project.

Prior to rehearsal, the actors fraternized, in-character, on the Spotlight Theater stage, which is painted to resemble a marble floor bordered by a twisting red carpet.

They traipsed around stage, curtsying and bowing to one another. The women sitting with one hand at knee, and the other brandishing a foldout fan. The

men practicing the motion of lifting their suit coat before sitting.

Garlick said that the roles, Tartuffe's in particular, are active, and the actors have to make sure to stay hydrated due to costume size. The dresses created were made with approximately 15 yards of fabric.

Half of the dresses used in "Tartuffe" were built on-site, and the others were borrowed from other theaters or used in previous productions.

Michael Free is the scenic charge artist for Tartuffe, whose focus is on the painted surfaces of the production and managing the paint crew.

"A skillful team of work study students — under the direction of Todd Dicken — were able to quickly build and install the set pieces," Free said.

Free said he examined model renderings of the set and mixed paints that were used on-set.

"I'm pretty happy with this show. I think it's pretty. We still have some work left," Garlick said. "I think it's a fun show, and as a costume history nerd doing a big historical production is exciting to me."

Dreaming, Ziplines and Cup Metamorphosis with Dana Sperry

STORY: **ASHLEY CUSTER** | AKCUSTER@STUDENT.YSU.EDU

From webcams to coding, Dana Sperry, associate professor and digital media coordinator, breaks traditional assumptions about art with his research and projects.

On Tuesday Feb. 23, Sperry presented a lecture titled "a" at the John J. McDonough Museum of Art. His lecture was part of the Intersections Biennial Faculty Exhibition that is on display at the museum from Jan. 21 through Feb. 26.

"I've realized I could care less about the system, and its effect on the art world. Art is about a different economy," he said.

"a" is Sperry's representation of not being interested in capital "A" art.

One of Sperry's first projects after moving to Youngstown was called Dreaming Youngstown. Participants of Dreaming Youngstown gathered at 11 sites throughout Youngstown and Campbell to come up with hundreds

of ideas aspiring for change in the communities.

The aim of the project was to widen the span of possibilities of development in Youngstown.

Another idea that came up a lot was zip lines. He was surprised how interested people were in building zip lines in the community.

"One idea that came up was to build giant parabolic dishes so if you had a complaint you could yell into the dish and then that would vibrate it right at city hall so you could scream at city hall," Sperry said.

Sperry discussed a project he worked on in Amsterdam with Natalya Pinchu called Ugly Objects: Amsterdam. The two relocated to De Wallen, the largest Red Light District in Amsterdam, in December 2008 for one month and then again in 2009.

Through advertisement, people were invited to give an ugly object to

one of 16 artists who volunteered to alter the object. They discussed the objects and would then return them to their owners a year later.

Ugly Object volunteers had a ceremonial cup that Sperry made to be shared between nine friends. Its original intentions were for when one of the friends got married that the cup be passed along. The newlywed couple would mix beer from each hometown and drink from it at the wedding. They would then display the cup in their home until the next friend got married.

Limitations were given to artists. In one instance, the cup had to remain just that, a cup and must preserve the engraved names of the married couples and the dates of their marriage. The cup turned into a trophy and the nameplates were connected and turned into a wearable object.

"You have to be shameless about

promoting yourself," he said. "In order to be a freelance artist, you have to think of yourself as a business. You have to advertise yourself."

Kate Pfahl, a graphic and interactive design major, had Sperry as a professor and said she really enjoyed Sperry's digital media class.

"He teaches a lot different than other professors," Pfahl said. "He actually sits down with us and teaches us on the computers. Most just do everything in one lecture, and he is more hands-on. I learned a lot in his class."

"I thought his lecture was really interesting. I've never seen any of his work outside of school. I really liked his videos, and I thought his whole community idea was interesting. It was something I've never heard or seen being done in art."

EDITORIAL

Student Athletes Do it Better,

Apparently

The Jambar can be a little hard on college athletics.

Not that anything is necessarily undeserved. It's good to be critical of high profile coach hires, of university priorities when it comes to budget allocation and — as was recently in the news — student athletes allegedly involved in criminal acts.

However, it's important to give credit where credit is due. A recent Gallup report — “Understanding Life Outcomes of Former NCAA Student-Athletes” — revealed that former student athletes are more likely to thrive in their adult lives than their non-student athlete counterparts.

The report surveyed nearly 30,000 U.S. adults with at least a bachelor's degree in five areas of “well-being”; purpose, social, community, physical and financial. In each of the five categories, former student athletes scored higher than non-student athletes.

The highest disparity in scores was in social well being, with 54 percent of former student athletes thriving against a 45 percent showing among non-student athletes. The lowest disparity was reported in financial well being, with 38 percent of former student athletes thriving versus 37 percent of non-student athletes.

Before everyone curses their slovenly high-school selves for not being more active in sports, it's important to remember two things. First, numbers are sticky, mischievous things, and even in well-respected reports like Gallup and Pew often produce, there is often more going on in the numbers than is present on the surface. Second, outside of the physical well-being score — which may be dubious, more on that in a moment — the increase in well being is not because of the actual physical participation in sports, but because of all the advantages and opportunities participating in collegiate sports provides to student athletes. Many of which, students can replicate by seeking out those opportunities off the playing field.

Take the community and social well being scores. Student athletes spend a ton of time with each other. Many end up at schools outside their hometowns. They practice together, they compete together, they travel together and many live to-

gether. Student athletes are essentially forced to figure out how to make complex relationships work; while under heavy physical and mental stress with friends they didn't get to choose. That's a strong life-skill, and it's one that isn't out of reach of non-student athletes.

We at The Jambar are lucky to have a lot of the same benefits socially. We work with each other on a near daily basis, travel with each other and many of us are in the same classes. Nursing students are likely in the same boat. It is the same with members of the Student Government Association.

For those not in a situation where they have to work in a tight community, they should look for those opportunities. Join a student organization or one of the many sports teams on campus outside of the NCAA programs. Not only will it look good on a resume, but it'll provide that team experience that student athletes benefit from.

As for physical well being, Gallup reports a 7 percent difference be-

tween former student athletes and non-student athletes, however those numbers are a bit hard to believe without seeing the age of those surveyed.

In a University of Southern California study examining the long-term health of former student athletes, nearly 96 percent of former student athletes over the age of 43 reported seeking medical attention for joint related issues. That's nearly 14 times higher than non-student athletes of a similar age.

To be fair, the USC report was significantly more narrow than the Gallup survey. However, of the 30,000 participants in the Gallup survey, less than 2,000 were student athletes.

Essentially, that means that no one should drastically alter their lives based on this information. However, it does provide a general framework for examining and understanding the added value that participation in sports programs add to the life of student athletes.

College administrators would be wise to examine these factors as well and devise ways of funneling more students into programs providing the same benefits, even if they aren't star athletes.

THE JAMBAR COLUMN

Present-mindedness

STORY: GINO DIGUILIO | GRDIGUILIO@STUDENT.YSU.EDU

Recently in one of my classes, I found myself engaged in a conversation about how your mind sees the world. The idea of future-mindedness and past-mindedness was brought to the table. I am never really one to be extremely outspoken in class, unless I feel very comfortable in the setting, and this was not one of those settings.

Sitting back, listening and attempting to comprehend the conversation, it was pretty clear to me that everyone in the class was able to identify themselves with one or the other. Me, on the other hand, was struggling to be

able to identify. I don't like focusing solely on the future because I have a fear of failure. Not achieving the goals that are always on my mind in a short amount of time terrifies me to no end. On the flip side, I hate always looking to the past in search of the 'good ole days' that honestly don't even exist for me like others.

Pondering the idea for a day or so and doing some research, I think I was able to come to a conclusion. I am neither a future-mindedness nor past-mindedness type of person. I identify as a present-mindedness type of person, as I am sure more people do as well. If given the

choice, I can almost guarantee that some people in my class would have jumped ship pretty quickly and joined me.

Present-mindedness is great, and I would recommend it to anyone that has high anxiety or stress. In the age of tantalizing technology and boundless possibility, the need for present-mindedness people is extremely high in demand. We are all trying to reach the potential that we have put upon ourselves, and regardless of how you do this, you will become stressed and filled with worry. With these three tips, you will be able to set goals but not become interlaced within them.

First, pick goals that are

worthy of your time. If a goal is going to make you miserable, and you are dreading the process by which you achieve it, switching that goal out for another is completely acceptable. The goal or goals that you are achieving should connect you to the present day and should enhance your day-to-day life rather than crush your hopes and dreams.

Next, be realistic about your life. Are you living your life in the past and constantly comparing today to yesterday? If so, you need a reality check. Live your life to better yourself and not compare what you are doing now to something better in the past,

or even something that might be better in the future. You can't control the future, and you can't change the past. All you can do is enhance the present day.

Lastly, know your place in the universe. What are you here to do? Is the way you're living your life worthwhile and are you making a difference? Check your perspective and reestablish the process of what you were put on this Earth to do and how you will do it.

It doesn't seem like a lot, but not only will this help present-mindedness be established in your life, but overall you will be happier and have a calmer life.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Open Letter to *President Tressel*

I attended the YSU Foundation / WYSU-FM Open house last evening. It was a bittersweet event as the pain of being manipulated out of a position that was made for me, both literally and figuratively, pierced through me like a knife once more. It is the pain of being ripped from a personal investment of my life by an employer that does not appreciate or respect my contributions. It is a pain that has only deepened through repeated stabs of rejection.

I am currently working at 10% of my skill set at a job that keeps me in deficit due to a 15% reduction in pay. With credit card interest charges I incur each month, it is actually costing me to work here. Yet all my attempts to work at capacity for a living wage are met with further disrespect and unconcern both for me, and our departments. After years of

committed service, I had expected more from my employer. The appreciation of supervisors, co-workers, and the community are very nice to receive, but that doesn't put food on my table.

I know I am not the only person here at YSU in a situation of disrespect, devaluation, and pure disdain for our efforts. However, the fresh pain I am experiencing again, makes me question where you think the assets of this institution lay. If the value is not in the people who invest themselves in teaching, supporting, securing, and studying, then there is no value in YSU at all.

Laurie Wittkugle
YSU STEM
Dean's Office

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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YSU, Barnes Hope for Shots to Fall Against Valpo

Youngstown State University point guard Indiya Benjamin (3) puts up a contested shot during YSU's game against Cleveland State University on Saturday.

STORY: DAN HINER | DHINERJR@GMAIL.COM | PHOTO: DAN HINER

The Youngstown State University women's basketball team is a group that prides itself on its ability to score and shoot the ball well. However, the Penguins have found themselves in another shooting slump as the season comes to a close.

YSU has reached 70 points once in the last five games. The Penguins are averaging 65.7 points per game this season, but during this five game stint, YSU offense averaged 56.6 points per game.

The Penguins lost their last game against Cleveland State University 53-43, and the YSU offense struggled throughout the game. The Penguins shot 24.6 percent from the field. YSU head coach John Barnes said the team's defense hasn't been the issue, but the team has to find a way to hit shots as the Horizon League tournament approaches.

"You have to make shots. It's not rocket science. We're gonna win

games if we're making shots. We average the league best, 10.3 threes a game," Barnes said. "We're like second or third in the league in 3-point field goal percentage. That's our game. We're usually a pretty good 3-point shooting team. If we don't make shots, it's gonna be hard for us to win."

YSU guard Kelley Wright said the team has been hitting shots in practice, but the team has been unable to find its groove come games. Wright said the team has been dealing with confidence issues since the loss to Cleveland State.

"Coming off that loss, we're kind of a little bummed about it, but we know that winning this week will mean just that much more," Wright said. "I think if we get that win, it will definitely get our morale up more."

Barnes said the team's inability to score is a direct result of the injuries to point guard Indiya Benjamin and

forward Janae Jackson. Both have been dealing with ankle injuries since the beginning of February.

"They were playing pretty well at that time, and they have a lot of weapons. We were struggling in terms of Indiya [Benjamin] and Janae [Jackson] got hurt in the UIC game and struggled at Valpo [Valparaiso University]," Barnes said. "We're hoping they're close to 100 percent this time. And as a team, more chemistry in terms of playing our regulars rather than throwing people in maybe where they don't normally play."

Now the team is getting ready to play Valparaiso on Thursday at the Beeghly Center. The Penguins lost 65-60 in the teams' first meeting on Jan. 23. Barnes said Valpo hasn't changed their style of play over the past four weeks.

"They're very similar. They run a similar offense, they like to push it up," Barnes said. "Defensively ... no-

body changes a lot this time of year. Basically, it's whoever plays that best at that time. Our league is tough. I think there are only two teams in our league that have an under .500 record, which is crazy. That says a lot about your league. They beat Northern Kentucky, who's one of the best teams in the league. They beat Oakland who's very capable of beating anyone."

Wright said the team's goal is to win the next four games. If the Penguins win the last four regular season games, the Penguins will have a third 20-win season in four years and momentum heading into the Horizon League tournament.

"Coach has said it from the beginning, our primary goal is to win the Horizon League championship," Wright said. "It's still in our reach, and hopefully we could get it."

"It's a Legacy"

Men's Track is the Favorite to Win its First Indoor Title Since 2003

STORY: DAN HINER | DHINERJR@GMAIL.COM

The Youngstown State University track and field team is getting ready to make another run at the Horizon League championships on Saturday.

The women's team won the Horizon League indoor championship last February. The men's team came up short with the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.

"It kinda sent a message about how you got to appreciate these things because sometimes we been blessed and sometimes we feel like we work hard and we celebrate winning 25 championships," YSU head coach Brian Gorby said. "With that being said, situations like that where you lost by one, and they won by a point, we try to tell our kids 'things like these aren't easy and it takes training until August until now, 24/7 and hard work from the coaches."

"It would mean just as much or even more than the others because this would be number 26 if we could get it and the ladies possibly have a battle to get number 27. Now with that being said, now we have to focus on just getting number 27."

Gorby said this could be the best team in the history of the program. He said the program has players in place that are "pillars" for the program. He said Chad Zallow, Conner Neu and Austin McLean

have formed the foundation for the men's program this season.

Last season, Gorby wanted to put an emphasis on improving the men's team. YSU jumper Jay Jakovina said the team has grown over the past three seasons, and the opportunity to compete for the Horizon League championship in his senior season didn't change the mentality of the team because the men's team is used to being "the underdog" in past seasons.

"Obviously going these past three years we've had some heartbreaks and going into this last year, and knowing it's your last year and you have a chance to win," Jakovina said. "It's very sweet but at the same time it puts the pressure on because it is the last chance to come in and take that indoor title."

"Freshman year, I came in, and we were basically fighting for second place — scraping to get points to get a chance at second place. Then sophomore year comes in and we're at 10 points, kinda in that zone where we could have a chance to win it and last year we lose by a point or two. Now we're coming in this year as the favorites."

For YSU distance runner Austin McLean, an indoor championship would be the greatest moment

in his collegiate career.

"It was great to get the one back in 2014 for outdoor, but this means so much more to me and the other guys than anything that we could really realize," McLean said. "The one thing I would tell the rest of the guys team is, 'look up at those banners. Most people see a number, but when I look at the banners, I see a legacy, I see a story behind the number.' The team ... there's names behind it. When the guys swept the 60[-meter], when the 3K went off and we went one, two, three and two 5K sweeps."

"Marcellus Embry, Austin McLean, Jon Hutnyan and Eric Rupe ... every name, remember what these guys did. There's always gonna be somebody who asks in the future, 'who was on that team back then?' There's always gonna be a story behind it. It's a legacy. The best team in history will be this year. And we've lost by six, seven points a lot of times to Milwaukee, and I think they got the last nine or 10 indoors. To win this one would be great, but I'm not satisfied with a win. I want to demolish them honestly. We've lost so many times. I want to go out there and get a big victory the first day and hold onto the lead."