



THE JAMBAR

.COM

12 . 08 . 16 The Student Voice of Youngstown State University since 1931



Students and faculty file in during the Youngstown State University commencement ceremony in 2012

PHOTO COURTESY OF YSU

BY JAMBAR CONTRIBUTOR
TAYLOR DRESSEL

On Dec. 18, just over 900 Youngstown State University students will walk across the stage in Beeghly Center and receive their degrees.

Jackie LeViseur, director of university events, said Olivia Johnson and Sam Covelli will be speaking at commencement.

Johnson is an anthropology major. LeViseur said she has traveled to South Af-

rica, the Bahamas, Guatemala and Belize during her four-and-a-half years at YSU. She plans on earning a Ph.D. in archaeology.

Covelli is the owner and CEO of Covelli Enterprises. The Warren company has been around for more than 50 years and employs about 26,000 people. They are the largest single franchisee of Panera Bread and O'Charley's restaurants.

Brittany Landsberger, a professional and technical writing major, is among the students graduating on the 18th. She said

she's excited to hear Covelli speak.

"I think it's great that Sam Covelli is speaking," Landsberger said. "[He's] a big name in our community, and he's had a big impact."

Tessa Ault, a social work major, is also graduating this semester. She echoed Landsberger's comments about Covelli.

Because the university no longer holds commencement in the summer, 175 students who completed their degrees during summer semester will be joining the 730 fall graduates during the ceremony.

Both Landsberger and Ault expressed excitement about the prospect of graduating.

"I am excited to [get] my diploma, to shake the hand of President Tressel and cry tears of joy," Ault said.

Landsberger agreed.

"I'm really excited for the ceremony and walking across the stage and having my family see me accomplish finishing college," she said. "I know they are really proud of me, and I'm thrilled that I can share this with them."



Follow us on Facebook
TheJambarYSU



Follow us on Twitter
@TheJambar



Subscribe on YouTube
JambarVideo

JAMBAR STAFF

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF:

GABRIELLE FELLOWS GFELLOWS@STUDENT.YSU.EDU

MANAGING EDITOR:

JUSTIN WIER JCWIER@STUDENT.YSU.EDU

HEAD COPY EDITOR:

AMBER PALMER AMPALMER03@STUDENT.YSU.EDU

ASSISTANT COPY EDITORS:

PATRICIA SHARP PMSHARP@STUDENT.YSU.EDU

SAMANTHA WELCH SLWELCH01@STUDENT.YSU.EDU

ELIZABETH LEHMAN ELLEHMAN@STUDENT.YSU.EDU

DESIGN EDITOR:

LAURA MCDONOUGH LLMCDONOUGH@STUDENT.YSU.EDU

ASSISTANT DESIGNERS:

STEPHANIE NUSSLE SNUSSLE@STUDENT.YSU.EDU

LANI NGO ENGO@STUDENT.YSU.EDU

NEWS EDITOR:

SAMANTHA PHILLIPS SPHILLIPS@STUDENT.YSU.EDU

ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR:

JORDAN UNGER JAUNGER@STUDENT.YSU.EDU

REPORTERS:

DANIELLE GARNER DKGARNER@STUDENT.YSU.EDU

ANTHONY KRIM II AMKRIM@STUDENT.YSU.EDU

RALEIGH BASINGER RJBASINGER@STUDENT.YSU.EDU

ALEXA DEVORE ANDEVORE@STUDENT.YSU.EDU

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR:

AMANDA LEHNERD ARLEHNERD@STUDENT.YSU.EDU

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT REPORTER:

WILL KEFFLER WKEFFLER@STUDENT.YSU.EDU

COLUMNIST:

JILLIAN SMITH JSMITH04@STUDENT.YSU.EDU

SPORTS EDITOR:

DAN HINER DGHINER@STUDENT.YSU.EDU

SPORTS REPORTERS:

ANDREW ZUHOSKY ATZUHOSKY@STUDENT.YSU.EDU

MARC WEEMS MRWEEMS01@STUDENT.YSU.EDU

WEB MANAGER:

ALYSSA PAWLUK ALPAWLUK@STUDENT.YSU.EDU

ASSISTANT WEB MANAGER:

BRUNO SERRANO BFSERRANO@STUDENT.YSU.EDU

SOCIAL MEDIA CURATOR:

MEGAN WHITE MLWHITE01@STUDENT.YSU.EDU

HEAD OF VIDEO PRODUCTION:

GRAIG GRAZIOSI GRGRAZIOSI@STUDENT.YSU.EDU

VIDEO JOURNALISTS:

COREY MCCRAE CDMCCRAE@STUDENT.YSU.EDU

COREY CRISAN CDCRISAN@STUDENT.YSU.EDU

PHOTO EDITOR:

WILLIAM LUDT WRLUDT@STUDENT.YSU.EDU

PHOTOGRAPHER:

ALYSSA PFLUG AMPFLUG@STUDENT.YSU.EDU

ADVERTISING AND PROMOTIONS MANAGER:

CHRISTIANA YOUNG CMYOUNG04@STUDENT.YSU.EDU

ASSISTANT ADVERTISING AND PROMOTIONS MANAGER:

BRITTENY MARINELLI BMMARINELLI@STUDENT.YSU.EDU




BUSINESS MANAGER:

MARY DOTA 330.941.3094



ADVISER:

MARY BETH EARNHEARDT 330.941.3095

CONTACT US

 THEJAMBAR@GMAIL.COM 330 - 941 - 1991 330 - 941 - 2322

ADVERTISING

 THEJAMBARAD@GMAIL.COM 330 - 941 - 1990

FEATURES



14



8



6

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

NEWS

- 3 | New Deans
- 4 | International Outreach
- 5 | Women in Leadership / Criminal Justice Grads
- 6 | Stone Fruit
- 7 | Standing Against Discrimination

A&E ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT

- 8 | Carols and Cocoa
- 9 | Theme Park Engineers / Ugly Sweater Show

OPINION

- 12 | Editorial / Column
- 13 | Letters to the Editor

SPORTS

- 14 | Women's Basketball
- 15 | Pressbox Perspective / Men's Basketball
- 16 | Football

Discussions with New Deans

BY JORDAN UNGER

As the year comes to an end, three new Youngstown State University deans shared their experiences during their first semester and talked about some upcoming changes to their colleges.

Phyllis Paul, dean of the College of Creative Arts and Communications, began her position in July. She said her time at YSU has been terrific so far.

"I think it's one of the most creative places I've ever been," Paul said. "I enjoy the collaboration that we have between the departments and across campus."

The College of Creative Arts and Communications is working to make itself more visible to area schools and the community. Paul said this is something she hopes to see develop in the future.

"In many ways, I think we're the best kept secret on campus," Paul said. "They know we do a lot of stuff, but they don't really know what goes on."

Paul said CCAC wants to showcase its internal internships and student successes. One of the ways to do this is through the Presidential Gala on April 27, which will present the five departments of CCAC to the public.

Paul said the department chairs do a great job to keep her informed.

"The chairs are outstanding," Paul said. "I meet with them regularly, and I make a conscious effort to know what the departments [are doing]."

Mini-grants are being launched next summer to encourage more interdisciplinary courses, Paul said. This could lead to an interdisciplinary degree collaborating with all the CCAC departments within five years.

"It broadens their horizons in different kinds of ways," Paul said. "It's a very transformative time to be alive."

Wim Steelant, dean of the College of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics, is also excited about the progress his college has made since he started in March.

"We're moving in the right direction," Steelant said. "I'm working on improvements of the facilities where I can."

One of the largest investments in STEM since March is the renovation to the third floor of Moser Hall, Steelant said.

"We [now] have state-of-the-art physics research labs up there," Steelant said.

Other changes to STEM facilities include improvements to the Clarence R. Smith Mineral Museum, a new 360-degree camera for the planetari-

um and the upcoming second manufacturing lab. Renovations Ward Beecher and Moser Hall are underway, he said.

Steelant said he would like to use the Mineral Museum's success to invest in a student-run store in Moser. The store would sell mineral samples and STEM apparel to raise money for the departments.

A bachelor's of engineering in manufacturing was recently approved for STEM students. Steelant said it's exciting, and people are waiting to get started with the program.

Kristine Blair, dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences, started in May. Blair said she spent considerable time learning about the components of the college and connecting with the community.

"It's been a busy but productive time," Blair said. "I've been exceptionally impressed with students on campus."

Blair attended CLASS student activities such as an ethics bowl practice, the Jenny release party and Moot Court. Blair said she continues to be impressed by student accomplishments.

"I'm really impressed with the extent to which students in CLASS are engaging in undergraduate research," Blair said. "I'm aware of students who regularly go to conferences or work on poster sessions."

It is important for a dean to remain visible to students and faculty on campus, Blair said.

"The work balance issue is always a challenge," Blair said. "It is really important for a dean not to sit in her office all day long."

A recent project will migrate the bachelor's of general studies into online delivery, which Blair said is thanks to a partnership associate's degree from Eastern Gateway Community College.

The bachelor's of general studies will become available online starting fall 2017, Blair said.

"Online courses have become so popular for a diverse range of student populations," she said. "Many students ... like the idea of being able to take courses online, because they help with things like scheduling."

A first-year experience course is under review to help orient students in CLASS to understand the mission of the college. Blair said the course will look at social issues and how each major and minor would approach the issue.

"We have nine academic units with diverse majors and minors," Blair said. "I think the idea of trying to find something that fits every student is a real challenge, so we thought this would be a way to orient students about what CLASS is all about."



Phyllis Paul
CCAC



Wim Steelant
STEM



Kristine Blair
CLASS

Jiang to Help Increase International Outreach at YSU

BY SAMANTHA PHILLIPS

Shuiping Jiang has 14 years of experience working in international education in China and the United States, and now she is bringing her talents to Youngstown State University to work as the assistant director of International Admissions and Recruitment.

This position was created to help the International Programs Office expand international outreach, establish partnerships with overseas universities and process international student applications.

YSU Provost Martin Abraham said one of YSU's goals is to increase enrollment. He believes they can do that by growing the university's population of international students. He said it's important for administration to add staff in the International Program Office, like Jiang, to achieve that goal.

Jiang will begin her job at YSU on Dec. 8. Nathan Myers, associate provost for International and Global Initiatives, said her background and skill set makes her a great fit for the job.

"I think this is a game changer for us," he said. "She understands the different professional limitations and possibilities in higher education in China, and that's a huge advantage for YSU."

Jiang has her master's degree in economics and bachelor's degree in computer science from the Qingdao University and the Shandong University of Technology. She has many years of working in po-

sitions for international and study abroad programs under her belt, at Chinese and American universities.

"I'm really thrilled to be back to my career as a full-time specialist after being an international student for two years," she said. "I'm sure I will enjoy my work, my office and my responsibilities."

She's leaving her job as the administrative assistant of the Office of Global Engagement at Clemson University in South Carolina to work at YSU. At that position, she assisted with study abroad programs and helped manage their global partnerships.

One thing she is proud of is establishing the International Office at her undergraduate university, Qingdao Agricultural University, in 2005.

"I enjoyed my job a lot. I enjoy international exchanges and collaborations," Jiang said. "I was in charge of everything."

Within two years of her working there, the International Office at Qingdao established partnerships with 18 universities. She proceeded to work in five positions there, including working as the director of International Partnerships and Program Operations.

When her school's collaboration with American universities increased, she was given the opportunity to work at the Murray State University in Kentucky in 2013. She served as the international recruitment consultant and assisted in international recruitment and Chinese scholar services.

Jiang is pursuing her Ph.D. for International Family and Community Studies

at Clemson University. She is working on her dissertation, which involves international students in higher education, and wants to continue doing research for that paper in Youngstown.

"I was looking for a job that can match my qualifications. At the same time, this job will benefit my dissertation. It's a mutual benefit," she said. "It's an amazing opportunity."

After working at building relationships between universities for years, Jiang realized that some universities are hesitant to try and establish partnerships for fear of wasting time, energy and resources if they aren't successful.

She's interested in finding models and theories that can help universities create more successful partnerships.

Jiang said she is excited to work with the international department at YSU. She said she already feels like she belongs there.

"I really appreciate the team, I have a great feeling about it," she said. "It's not about the money or level of the position — it's the team you work with; that's the most important factor to me."

It's her goal to help the team increase international enrollment, create global partnerships and maintain a high-quality experience for international students. She said their strategy must be tailored to YSU for it to be effective.

"Before I start recruitment, I want to identify the strengths, target population and identify the basic policies," she said. "Then I can use all recruitment channel strategies."

Recruitment channel strategies include articulation agreements and in-house recruitment. She emphasized that international students need a strong English program at YSU to help them speak fluently to other students at this university.

Jiang said it's important to increase internet interaction through social media and to advertise the newer technology that YSU is equipped with, like 3D additive manufacturing labs.

As of now, YSU has about 20 Chinese students, and the department is working towards increasing that number. Jiang said reaching out to the Chinese student market is one of her strengths, especially because she already has established relationships there.

"I'm happy the university would like to put more effort into the Chinese student market; the universities I have worked with have nearly 400 Chinese students," she said. "I can use my resources and skills to improve Chinese student enrollment."

Abraham recognizes that part of Shuiping's strength in this role is her understanding of what international students are motivated by and what they expect when they study abroad. Her relationships with Chinese universities and students will be beneficial for YSU, he said.

"We have programs that international students need," he said. "We are available and able to accommodate these students not just academically, but also socially, and provide a cultural experience that meets their needs as they study in a foreign country."

Mahoning Valley's Women in Leadership

BY JAMBAR CONTRIBUTOR
AMELIA MACK

The Mahoning Valley is home to many women in leadership positions, who are challenging traditional gender roles, whether it be in the realm of government, manufacturing or sports.

Gabriella Gessler, executive vice president of the Student Government Association at Youngstown State University, assumed the role alongside former SGA President Ashley Orr in the spring of 2016.

Gessler said that Orr is one of the strongest leaders she has ever met. Originally, she said she had concerns that SGA would receive some pushback while being led by two females, but instead they received encouragement from administrators and faculty.

Gessler has worked with SGA on different initiatives such as Mental Health Advocacy trainings, the Student Food Pantry, Text Book Affordability and Academic Senate work.

She said these initiatives have given her more YSU pride, and that the university encourages success to all with no limitations based on gender.

"Many of my peers and co-leaders are some of the most brilliant and inspiring individuals that I know ... and many of those individuals are women," Gessler said.

Gigi Mitchell is co-president and CEO, along with her brother, of two companies that have been in the Valley for 49 and 30 years, Warren Fabricating and Machining Corp. and Ohio Steel Sheet and Plate.

Mitchell said she grew up working on the floor of these two companies and learning the ins and outs of the family business.

She said it takes time to earn respect from co-workers. It doesn't happen overnight.

"Earning respect from my male employees has taken years of them seeing me on the shop floor next to them, doing the same job as them," Mitchell said.

In a male-dominated industry, Mitchell said she tried to overcompensate because of her gender.

"I would stay later, work harder and try to have all the answers," she said.

Mitchell noted that as millennials are entering the workplace gender is making less of a difference with more women in leadership positions.

"I used to be the only woman in the room. Now I usually have one other woman with me," Mitchell said. "We are still outnumbered, but the culture is changing."

Mitchell said her company places importance on its employees' health. She created a health and wellness program called Fit and Fab to reduce health care costs and provide free health services, such as biometric screening events and flu shots for employees and their families. She also started a sustainability initiative to reduce the company's impact on the environment.

Aafke Loney is another great leader in the Mahoning Valley. She and her husband are co-owners of the Youngstown Phantoms hockey team.

The sports industry is predominantly male, and Loney said this is a motivating factor for her.

"Because it's majority males around you, you have to know what you're doing and how to apply it and make it successful on a daily basis. It's not a bad thing to hold you accountable," she said. "You want to be the best person in that position. You want to work hard and earn that spot."

In September, Loney facilitated and

moderated a fundraising event for the Youngstown Business Incubator's Women in Entrepreneurship Program. The event raised over \$20,000 for the program.

"We wanted to have a really unique event to bring to light what YBI is doing for women entrepreneurs," Loney said.

Loney said she is most proud of the Phantom's Hockey for Health Program.

"We're focusing on nutrition, physical activity, finance and education," she said. "It's helping kids understand that they have to work hard to get where they want to be and teaching them how to do these different things."

The Phantom's Power Play Program with the help of its sponsors has also been able to donate 12 sets of floor hockey equipment to local schools.

Loney noted that as a woman you must work hard and prove yourself every day.

"It's a lot of work, but at the end of the day hard work pays off, and that's how, as a woman, you have to look at that when you're going into the business world," Loney said. "You are always competing, and you just have to do your best and work hard."

Criminal Justice Grads Enter a Changing Profession

BY JAMBAR CONTRIBUTOR
AMELIA MACK

In the last few years there has been a national spotlight placed on the police in this country. One of Youngstown State University's strongest and largest departments is the Bitonte College of Health and Human Services' department of criminal justice and forensic sciences.

Edward Villone has been YSU's Police Academy Commander since 2013. Villone said the criminal justice department continues to see high enrollment and good perspective from students.

"[The Police Academy students] want to be the police and want to do something good. People come into this for the right reason," he said. "It is a lot of work, time and effort and stress on yourself and your family to be involved in law enforcement to begin with, so I think they come into it today for the right reason."

The issues police are facing are always evolving, and the curriculum used in the criminal justice department and police academy has been updated to reflect these changes.

"The evolving changes are the issues with terrorism, new technologies, DNA evidence, electronic evidence

and cybercrimes," Villone said. "Things that are dynamic in nature have completely revamped the curriculums for the state and for the students, so they stay abreast to what's going on."

Villone noted that the curriculum is designed for them to interject and add information on these evolving topics. The day after the Ohio State University attacks in November, YSU's police academy was able to discuss it and focus in on issues of terrorism.

Several of the students in the police academy said they had mixed feelings on how prepared they feel going into the workforce after graduation.

Nathan Fabian, a police academy student, said while a classroom education is important, it can only do so much when it comes to a cop's overall education.

"We've taken in a lot of knowledge, but there's absolutely no way to fully prepare for [this job] ... You don't learn police work in a classroom," Fabian said. "You learn it through experience."

Fabian said that as a student he never second guessed his decision to choose policing.

"I personally felt like as things got progressively worse that was more so a call to duty for me," he said.

David Ritz, another student in the police academy, said the people speaking to them at the academy are proof

that they will be as prepared as they can be going into the job.

"We've had so many instructors who are phenomenal police officers, and they had far fewer hours in a police academy than we do," Ritz said. "They're still capable of doing their job at an extremely high level, so that just shows you that a lot of it is going to be learning while you're on the job. That's why you have those senior guys to actually speak into you and show you what you're supposed to be doing."

Christian Onwudiwe is a professor in the criminal justice department. He said the curriculum has been infused with the dynamics of cultural diversity.

"Before, cultural diversity was not an issue in policing, but today it is," Onwudiwe said. "As a police officer, you are breaking within a multiethnic, multiracial society."

Onwudiwe said the opportunity to help make students great future police officers motivates him in teaching.

"I'm excited to teach it. It's a good and noble career. A few bad officers have made the profession look bad. They should serve everyone equally and not abuse their power," he said. "Police can't solve the problem of crime if they don't have the support of the public. We need each other."



PHOTO BY JORDAN UNGER / THE JAMBAR

Stone Fruit Brings More Brews to Campus

BY JORDAN UNGER

What started as a man brewing coffee in his garage as a hobby has evolved into a coffee company that has established two locations and is continuing to expand.

The Stone Fruit Coffee Espresso Bar opened on Lincoln Avenue a few weeks ago. Owner Josh Langenheim started the Stone Fruit Company in 2013 and now operates coffee shops in Boardman and Youngstown.

As a Youngstown native and alumnus of Youngstown State University, Langenheim made it his goal to open a location in Youngstown for YSU students and the community to enjoy.

"This city is essentially my stomping grounds," he said.

Hunter Dorman, who has been a barista with the company since it began, said she has enjoyed seeing it grow over time.

"It's been a really good experience," she said. "I've met a lot of really good people and learned a really cool trade."

"Rust Belt" and "Steel City" are two coffee options that are sold at the shop. Langenheim said growing up in Youngstown influenced the company, so he named specialty coffee drinks after terms associated with Youngstown.

"Downtown is coming back, we're proud to be a part of it," he said. "Essentially we're here to do our part."

The on-campus location is set up like a bar, with a long table surrounded by chairs. Langenheim said that was intended so people can go in groups or alone without feeling out of place.

"The space is built so you can go in indi-

vidually and feel comfortable [and] communicate with people who are friendly," Langenheim said. "There's nothing worse than going into a big restaurant and you get a table that's meant for six people, and you're by yourself."

He hopes that Stone Fruit will become a hangout spot for students at night.

"You can be in college at [age 17] now," Langenheim said, "There's not a lot to do down here on a Friday or Saturday night, because you can't go to the bars. Everybody is too young [for that], so that's why we made a bar."

Store Manager Christian Powers drew artwork along the chalkboard walls of the bar, which he has done in each Stone Fruit location. The wall art will be changing throughout the year to match the seasons.

Stone Fruit just opened three weeks ago and feedback has been generally positive.

Dom Haniford, a regular at the coffee bar, said the quality of coffee and the nice employees keeps bringing him back.

"Josh does a really nice job with them," Haniford said. "They're friendly, they're awesome and I always like coming in and talking to them."

Langenheim said business has been high despite the construction on Lincoln Avenue, but business during winter break is up in the air.

"We're hopeful that we can attract the Federal Street clientele," Langenheim said.

Another location is being built at Firestone Farms in Columbiana. Langenheim said they will continue to grow as the opportunity arises.

"If the opportunity's there, no matter how hard it's going to be, we're going to chase it," Langenheim said.



PHOTO BY ANTHONY KRIM II

Hackathon

On Saturday, students and members of the community were invited to attend Local Hack Day at Youngstown State University. Nick Iovino and Joe Duncko, YSU students from the group Penguin Hackers, helped to organize the event in collaboration with Major League Hacking, which took place in Meshel Hall from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.

"I went to my first Hackathon my freshman year in Cincinnati. When I got there, I realized how little I knew and how much these people learned by doing things, and that I need to start learning how to do this stuff by getting hands on experience. So I decided that YSU needed a Hackathon," Iovino said.

Students were encouraged to attend the workshops — ranging from introductory talks on GitHub, how to create a domain at YSU to 3D Printing. The next hackathon will take place on Feb. 17 until the 19 and will include student collaboration on programming projects, technical talks and networking opportunities for students in the computing fields.

Students Stand Strong Against Discrimination

BY ELIZABETH LEHMAN

Since the election of Donald Trump, flags have been burned and city streets have filled with protesters as people worry how Trump and Mike Pence's stances on social issues will affect marginalized groups, including immigrants, Hispanics, Muslims, African Americans, women and the LGBT community.

Now that some time has passed, people have had a chance to regroup and figure out how to navigate this new political landscape. The question, for many, has become, what can we do now?

There are several organizations in the area that people can join, donate to or volunteer for in order to show their support. The Jambar talked to some people from these organizations to see what they think about the election results and how they recommend people deal with their feelings after the election.

Cryshanna Jackson Leftwich, associate professor and adviser of the Black Student Union and the Youth Chapter of the NAACP, said joining and supporting special interest groups is a way to be proactive.

"I tell people it might just be time to really give them more power and a little more strength, so those minority groups can be heard ... joining, donating, if you can't give, mobilize, bring attention to what their issues are," Jackson-Leftwich said.

Jackson-Leftwich said special interest groups need support from their members to get their messages heard by the public.

"A lot of these interest groups, in order to be successful, they have to have members, and they have to have members that are active and able to get their voices heard and get out there," Jackson-Leftwich said.

Jackson-Leftwich said Pence's conservative views are concerning, particularly for the LGBT community.

"Pence is very conservative," Jackson-Leftwich said. "He's ultra conservative, he believes in conversion thera-

py. He is not a friend of the gay/lesbian/bisexual/transgender community."

Marguerite Felice, leader of the Youngstown Area PFLAG group, said that while it is important to show respect for the grievances people have that made them vote for Trump, it must be recognized that these grievances cannot be resolved by denigrating and blaming people of different races, sexual orientations and gender identities.

"We need to work together to solve the difficulties and the challenges that we have, and we need to understand that our nation was built on diversity," Felice said. "Our nation was built on immigration, it was built on people coming here for religious freedom and for other kinds of freedom."

Felice said acceptance and respect are needed in our society.

"I think the more we can show acceptance, and at least respect, and be a voice for equality, a voice for unity, that's what we need to do," Felice said.

Felice said Youngstown Area PFLAG plans to continue to offer their support to the LGBT community.

"We continue to stand in solidarity with our LGBTQI friends, family, and continue to be of support, and we plan to continue to do so, now more than ever," Felice said.

The Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender Community Center of Greater Cleveland, an advocacy group for LGBT people in Northeast Ohio, released a statement following the election. They said their community is experiencing feelings of anger, uncertainty, grief and fear after the election.

"Many of us, especially those of us existing within the intersection of identities, have felt disenfranchised and scapegoated throughout this election season," the release said.

The Center also noted an increase in involvement and financial support in the week after the election.

"We have received increased engagement and support

— our community, both LGBTQ and ally individuals, have reached out to get involved with The Center, financially support The Center, and ultimately, have sought out The Center as a place for both information and solace," the release said. "We know that you are feeling this because we are feeling and seeing your support."

Chelsea Mishko from YSUnity said another way to be proactive after the election is to keep in touch with local and state representatives.

"I would say to call your local people and let them know that you are not OK with Trump and his ideas or the people he has appointed," Mishko said.

Jackson-Leftwich also recommends communicating with legislators and speaking about concerns.

"There's a bill we don't like, contact the congressman, hold Portman accountable, hold Sherrod Brown accountable," Jackson-Leftwich said. "[People need to be] contacting their representatives."

Jackson-Leftwich said people need to go out and vote in future elections if they are not happy with the decisions of current legislators.

"If you're really concerned about this presidency, then in two years, you have to vote Democrat, because you have to try to stop them," Jackson-Leftwich said. "It's all Republican now. You have to put people in place. A lot of people didn't turn out for this election. I don't know if people will turn out in 2018. So, if people just post on social media and are upset, and they don't actually get out there or put candidates that are viable candidates that can replace the candidates that we want out, then there is something to be afraid of."

Jackson-Leftwich said equality is not something that happens overnight and is something that needs to be consistently fought for

"You take two steps forward, and then sometimes you get knocked down," she said. "Are you going to fight it out, are you going to lay down, are you going to get the country back?"



PHOTO COURTESY OF JAMIE FLEESON

A symphony performs in Stambaugh Auditorium at last year's Carols and Cocoa event.

Carols, Community and Cocoa

BY WILL KEFFLER

Youngstown State University Dana School of Music ushered in the Christmas season by hosting its annual holiday event, Carols and Cocoa, in Stambaugh Auditorium's ballroom Wednesday Dec 7. The event, which originally began in the lobby of Bliss Hall, has grown every year since.

Randall Goldberg, an assistant professor of music history, said that the concert has become a holiday tradition for not only YSU, but the surrounding community as well.

"Almost 40 years ago, a new tradition began as the Dana School of Music hosted a modest sing-along in the Bliss Hall lobby," Goldberg said. "It is now an outstanding musical evening consisting of the easygoing Carols and Cocoa segment and the more formal Holiday Concert."

Michael Barkett, a fourth year YSU Dana student, who has performed at three previous Carols and Cocoa

events, said that every year he looks forward to playing in the annual community event.

"The sing-alongs are some of my favorites we perform," Barkett said. "Everyone in the audience joins in, and it creates this feeling of connectedness between the school and the people of the city."

Along with the carols and sing-alongs, the Dana School of Music students performed in ensembles including the Dana Trombone Ensemble, Clarinet Ensemble, Early Music Ensemble, Flute Ensemble, University Chorus, Dana Chorale and guest group, the Stambaugh Chorus.

Following the ensembles, guests were invited upstairs to the concert hall, where the Dana Holiday Concert was presented featuring J.S. Bach's "Magnificat" and many other holiday favorites.

Along with the Dana ensembles, two high school guest ensembles performed — the Poland Seminary High School Women's Chorus, directed by YSU alumnus Nick Olesko, and the Conneaut High School Show Choir, directed by YSU alumna Megan Mullins. Additionally, organist Kathy Davison Miller provided an organ postlude on Stambaugh's E.M. Skinner pipe organ.

The Dana Orchestra's participation at the concert has become a community staple, with many people returning year after year to hear a vast variety of Christmas music.

Amber DiCaprio, a student of the Dana School of Music, said that December wouldn't feel the same without taking part in the annual holiday event and listening to the Dana Orchestra.

"My favorite part is always hearing the Dana Orchestra play their Christmas songs because it's always a blend between up to date songs and the old timeless classics," DeCaprio said. "You can hear anything from the 'Polar Express' to 'Messiah Halleluiah' to Trans-Siberian Orchestra adaptations."

To further accommodate the community, those who could not make the concert can listen to a stream online through YSU's Rookery Radio. The rebroadcast will be featured on Sunday, Dec. 11 at 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; on Christmas Eve at 7 p.m.; and throughout the day on Christmas Day. To hear this concert rebroadcast, patrons should go to www.rookeryradio.com and click on the link under "Listen Now."



Coaster Lovers Unite: YSU's Theme Park Engineering Group

PHOTO COURTESY OF CRAIG LLOYD/FLICHER

BY RICK HENNEMAN

The Youngstown State University Theme Park Engineering Group, or TPEG, was created in March of 2014 by current president Jacob Janoso. TPEG is made up of students who are passionate about amusement parks, the engineering that makes them possible and the inner workings of the industry.

Janoso, a senior mechanical engineering major, said that starting the group was relatively easy.

"The hardest part was trying to gauge the interest that other students had in joining a group like this," Janoso said. "However, there was a lot more interest than I had anticipated, especially among engineering majors. The rest of the process was very easy."

TPEG members meet twice a month for meetings that Janoso calls "rarely serious."

"For the most part, the meetings are very laid back," he said. "We usually talk about what events or activities we have planned in the future. Some-

times we look up videos about some of the more interesting engineering aspects of theme parks or the industry itself."

This past November, TPEG members took a trip to Florida for the International Association of Amusement Parks and Attractions conference. Janoso said this gave the members a great opportunity to network with some of the most prominent companies in the business.

"The conference itself is the year's largest meeting in the industry. Almost every company that deals with theme parks were down there trying to sell their newest products," Janoso said. "There were ride manufacturers and food vendors, as well as any company that you could see selling something in an amusement park. It was really cool to see all of the newest technology before it arrives."

Michael Good, a sophomore electrical engineering major, joined TPEG in the fall and also went on the trip to Florida. Good agreed that the trip created a great opportunity to network with others in the industry.

"It was a wonderful experience," he said. "I was able to connect with multiple workers

in the themed entertainment community and see what they do as well as test out new ride technology and other services that may be implemented into parks in the future."

Good said that his favorite part about being a TPEG member was meeting other students who shared his interests.

"It gives me the ability to connect with other students who are interested like I am in theme parks and attractions, as well as the technology that makes these places run," he said.

Matthew Norris, TPEG vice president, recommended that students outside of an engineering major look into the group as well.

"Joining the group could open students up to an industry they may not realize they want to be part of because they didn't realize how broad the scope was," Norris said. "I would encourage students to look at jobs and internships in this industry as well, as it is a very welcoming one that promotes spreading happiness and fun."

Students interested in TPEG can learn more about the group and how to sign up on its Facebook page and website.

Ugly Sweater Party Featuring JD Eicher and Joy Ike

BY AMANDA LEHNERD

The SOAP Gallery presents JD Eicher and Joy Ike for the annual ugly sweater party, Dec. 10 at 7:30 p.m.

Eicher, a Youngstown musician, has been doing an Ugly Sweater Show since 2010. The idea started with the band simply wearing ugly sweaters and evolved into the theme for the show.

"Every year we do a show around Christmas, and everybody, band included, wears the ugliest holiday sweater they can find," Eicher said. "We've been doing holiday shows since 2010, and I think the band was wearing ugly sweaters. By 2012, it just became the thing. We have a history of goofing around, so this is very natural, and we just hang out in terrible outfits. It's always fun."

Eicher has performed at The SOAP Gallery in the past and felt the venue was a good place to host the ugly sweater show.

"We did our CD release at The SOAP Gallery this past spring and loved the venue," Eicher said. "It's a great room with lots of space, and the venue owner, Daniel Rauschenbach, is open to getting creative with event ideas."

The show will offer performances by JD Eicher and his band along with Joy Ike and her band. Eicher is a singer-songwriter from Youngstown, with a focus on Indie Music. Joy Ike is a singer-songwriter whose music is a blend of pop, soul and folk.

People attending the show will get complimentary cookies and hot chocolate; this perk is included with the ticket.

"We'll have tables out with cookies and hot chocolate, and there will be plenty of time for folks to mingle and catch up. It's casual, and there will be seating and tables available," Eicher said. "The show's set will consist of mostly originals and some holiday tunes."

Eicher and Ike connected eight years ago at a show in Pittsburgh. They have been planning a show together for some time and decided to collaborate for the Ugly Sweater Show.

"JD and I have known each other for years. We met at a show in Pittsburgh some eight years ago and had done a bit of touring together. I have a lot of respect for him and the music he makes," Ike said. "We loosely planned to do a Christmas tour last year, but it didn't happen due to both of our schedules. So this December we figured we'd do a weekend of shows in Philly, Pittsburgh and Youngstown."

Eicher stated this is a show anyone can enjoy, and if he wasn't playing in the show, this is how he would want to spend his evening.

"Come, enjoy the music. Come over for a joyful, energetic, yet cozy evening of live music, hot chocolate and cookies," Eicher said. "That's how I would want to spend my evening even if I weren't playing."

People looking to attend the show can buy tickets online at www.universe.com. Tickets cost \$12 online before the show, and they will cost \$15 at the door.

WANTED: EDITOR FOR PENGUIN REVIEW

Penguin Review is looking for an editor for the spring semester. Applications for the position can be picked up in the Dean's Office on the first floor of DeBartolo Hall. For any questions, please send them to penguinreview@gmail.com.



SALE Auto Loan

48 Months as low as

2.75%^{APR*}

New & Used Autos
2011 & Newer Model Years
Purchase or Refinance Current Loan

On Campus in Tod Hall (330)941-3204

Call today to learn how you can save when you purchase or refinance your auto with us! Open to everyone in Mahoning, Trumbull and Columbiana Counties! *It's where YOU Belong!*

1690 S. Canfield Niles Road • Youngstown, OH • 44515

(330) 792-4000 • www.asecu.com •  



*APR=Annual Percentage Rate. Rate shown for qualified borrowers. Other rates and terms available. \$150 processing fee applies to consumer loans. Contact the credit union at 800-77-ASECU for complete details.

THERE IS A NATIONAL SHORTAGE OF EMT'S

Explore a career in Emergency Medical Services (EMS) by becoming an Emergency Medical Technician (EMT).

Take EMS 1500/1500L/1500C Spring Semester 2017.

Gain valuable experience in direct delivery of patient care through a team approach in a variety of settings - public safety, emergency department, industrial health and safety, private EMS.

100% job placement

Contact Susan Kearns for more information
sekearns@ysu.edu office number 330-941-1426



CLASSIFIEDS

HOUSING

ALL PARTIES WELCOME!

CT Rentals has nice, city licensed, all inclusive houses and apartments. Now leasing for tenancy. Our package includes: All appliances plus over 90 channels of cable T.V., broadband Internet with Wi-Fi and ADT Security. All private bedrooms with individual leases and all utilities, maintenance and groundskeeping included from \$455 a month per person. Call Chris 330-743-7368.

STUDENT HOUSING \$325PP

Clean, quiet, and safe. Bring your friends and share this 6 bedroom 3 bath home partially furnished, includes all utilities, appliances, laundry. Plus security monitoring, cable and internet. \$325pp. Phone or text: 330-559-6219

AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Historical area - Walking distance to YSU Studio Apt. \$395
 1 Bedroom \$495
 2 Bedroom \$595
 All utilities included. Licensed and inspected by the city. Call 330-301-1626

TURNBERRY APARTMENTS

Just 3.5 miles from campus on the bus line. Studio / one bedroom units. Appliances included. Affordable starting \$399 per month. Move-in specials.
 330.788.6999 or www.turnberryliving.com

NOW HIRING

All Star Driving School - Hiring full time or part time. Great opportunity for college students looking for a job to fit around school schedules. Must be 21. Will train, no experience necessary. Call or email 330-726-3377, info@allstardriving.net for further info.

Second Harvest Food Bank - Part-time warehouse work. Shifts vary, can work with your schedule, no experience necessary - will train. Contact 330-792-5522 or email ptmiller@feedingamerica.org.

Attn. psychology - social work - education majors

Seeking direct service staff members to work with developmentally handicapped individuals in school, home and community. Flexible hours, \$13 per hr. Training and supervision provided. Contact: Dr. Derek Mihalcin at Oakwood Counseling Center, 330-856-4111.

OTHER

NEED BIRTH CONTROL, PAP SMEAR, STD TEST? PREGNANT?

Dr. Hill, 1350 Fifth Ave., near YSU campus, all insurances, walk-ins. Mon-Sat - 330-746-7007, askthedoctor@aiwhealth.com, answered confidentially.

THEJAMBAR@GMAIL.COM



*The possibilities are endless...
 from the type of function to the wide
 variety of menu selections!!*

*Beautifully Landscaped Venue
 overlooking the Water*

*Affordable Pricing/Convenient Location
 Outstanding Service
 Seating up to approximately 325*

*2177 W. Western Reserve Rd.
 Canfield, OH 44406*

330-758-4140

aviononthewater@sbcglobal.net

PARTICIPATE IN YSU'S FIRST DIGITAL YEARBOOK

HOURS AVAILABLE FOR PHOTOS

- Monday: 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. and 3 p.m. to 5 p.m.
- Tuesday: 3:30 p.m. to 5 p.m.
- Wednesday: 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- Thursday: 3:30 p.m. to 5 p.m.
- Friday: 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. and 3 p.m. to 5 p.m.

CONTACT

Mary Dota
330-941-3094
mfdota@ysu.edu

The Jambar Column

Stop Being Afraid of the F Word

Failure is an Option

BY JILLIAN SMITH

Last week, a no-name politician from a poor district attempted to take the party leadership position away from House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi. Despite two weeks of intensive campaigning, taking countless interviews and trying his best to challenge what some could term a Washington Goliath, Congressman Tim Ryan came back with only a third of his party's vote. In many respects, and as some columnists have stated, Tim Ryan failed.

But what Congressman Ryan argued, and what columnist Andrea Wood of the Business Journal argues so articulately, is that even though he may have "failed," the congressman's run was, in fact, a victory. As Ms. Wood states, Ryan's actions forced the party to consider a reshaping of its messaging on economic issues. In Wood's words, "Ryan took a big risk and came out a winner."

I don't mean to come out for or against Mr. Ryan as a politician, but I will unhesitatingly applaud his thought process in understanding that failing does not make him, or anyone else for that matter, a failure. This is an idea that seems to be lost among many of us.

Please don't take this as advice that barely studying for and failing your final exams is totally fine. That's just laziness. The type of failure I speak of is the dignified failure of doing everything you can to achieve something and still falling flat on your face. This failure is that gritty, painful feeling of not being good enough. But this kind of failure is the kind that our generation has largely become avoidant of, and this is not necessarily good.

A recent study from Babson College found that 41 percent of 25 to 34 year-olds cite "fear of failure" as their number one reason for not starting a business. This is an increase of 17 percent in the same response to the question from the year 2001. Another study from the University of San Diego found that reported levels of anxiety among young Americans are at the highest they have been in 80 years. One of the largest side effects of anxiety, according to the American Psychi-

atric Association, is an intolerance of risk; in other words, a fear of failure.

What these statistics point to is that our generation, having been raised in uncertain times in large part due to a massive financial crisis, would rather play it safe than avoid the whiff of the F word. The problem is exacerbated by the fact that nobody goes around documenting all of their failures on social media. To be constantly presented with images of our peers' successes only intensifies our intolerance of failure.

This is something I have had to tell myself often. My last year has been marked with many, many, many failures. But because I am also not prone to advertising all of them, friends often tell me that I seem to be doing quite well. They would be right; I have accomplished many personal goals and have even exceeded my expectations in certain areas. But what friends don't see is how many times I have failed to achieve them. I have become better at blocking out that little voice that tells me, "Yes, but what if this happens? Or yes, but what if you embarrass yourself?" and have started learning to embrace the fact that I can fail, and this does not mean anything at all, other than that I now have another experience from which to learn.

In the Christian faith tradition, a beautiful concept acknowledging human fallibility is expressed:

"But he said to me, 'My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.' Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me. That is why, for Christ's sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecution, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong."

In that same vein, may we embrace the fact that our weakest moments can sometimes be our deepest sources of future strength? In light of finals week, in light of Tim Ryan's unsuccessful bid and in light of the fact that our past does not define our future, remember to do things to the best of your ability no matter what. You very well may fail. You actually will probably fail sometimes. But don't run from the failure. Embrace it as an opportunity to grow and to learn, and never allow yourself to think that you are a failure.

Editorial

Fake News

is a

Real Problem

Over the weekend, a man walked into a D.C. pizza parlor with an assault rifle. He told police he was investigating a fake news story that claimed — without evidence — that Hillary Clinton was using the restaurant as a front for a child sex ring.

This is only the most extreme consequence of a problem that has been the result of much navel gazing by those of us in the media following the election.

A recent study conducted by Stanford's Graduate School of Education "shocked" researchers when it found that only a quarter of middle, high school and college students could tell the difference between a fake news story and a real news story. Stanford's own students couldn't tell the difference between research papers from mainstream and fringe sources.

The "pizzagate" story that inspired this weekend's incident was shared by Gen. Michael Flynn, who will serve as President-elect Donald Trump's National Security Adviser.

Signaling the extent of the problem, the Oxford English Dictionary named "post-truth" the international word of the year. They define the word as "relating to or denoting circumstances in which objective

facts are less influential in shaping public opinion than appeals to emotion and personal belief."

It's understandable that this would inspire turmoil in the media; we purport to trade in facts. It also undermines democracy. The founders wrote about the dangers of letting personal emotions overwhelm reason and logic. On Anderson Cooper 360 this week, Brian Stelter pointed out that people in power benefit from confusion, from competing narratives, from a sense that nothing is really true.

So what can we do about it? There needs to be a focused effort to increase media literacy in America. With the rise of social media and the democratization of publishing, we can no longer rely on gatekeepers to separate fact from fiction. The ability for the average citizen to assess the credibility of information becomes an essential skill.

Colleges and universities — and even high schools — need to focus on equipping students with the critical thinking skills necessary to discern truth from propaganda. One could argue that teaching media literacy in high school is now more important to creating an informed citizenry than teaching trigonometry.

**If you think you can write better than this,
give it a shot.**

thejambar@gmail.com

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The heroin epidemic in Ohio has become a major problem that hits our own communities. Thirty-eight states, including Ohio, have an overdose immunity law that provides a “free pass” to heroin users that are saved with Narcan after an overdose. What this means is that anyone that overdoses on heroin and are saved by an emergency dose of Narcan, at no cost to the heroin user, are allowed, once recovered, to go without out being charged with possession, drug paraphernalia or any other related offense or any mandatory rehab. I believe that this creates just a revolving door that doesn’t solve this major issue that we are facing. This system, if anything, will make the heroin user feel more invincible since they were able to cheat death and get the high that they are after, enabling them to do it again and again. I don’t feel that these people need to be placed in jail, because they do have a serious problem that they can’t control. I’m not sure what the right answer is for the heroin users, maybe some sort of mandatory rehab. I believe that our legislatures need to collaborate with each other, as well as medical professionals, and work on this issue. However, what really would make an impact on the heroin epidemic would be a crackdown on those that transport and sell heroin in our communities. What we need are very steep punishments for transporting and selling it, to the point that it would not be worth it to anyone involved. I believe then, we might see a decrease in heroin overdoses and heroin deaths. We need to encourage our elected officials to make this more of a priority so we can fix this major problem.

**SINCERELY,
ERIC HARRIS
YSU STUDENT NURSE**

As a fifth year nursing student at Youngstown State University, I believe it is crucial that the Maag Library hours be extended. Our campus library has minimal hours and when it is open, most of the students are in class. While Maag Library stays open 24 hours during finals week, that’s the only time YSU students can freely use the library at all hours.

This is a major concern, especially for a thriving university. There have been countless times that students need to study over the weekend for upcoming exams, but since the library closes at 5 p.m. on Saturday and does not open until 1 p.m. on Sunday, it makes finding time to study difficult. As college students, we are already crunched for time — trying to work, maintain good grades and keeping ourselves healthy.

I have spoken with multiple students who have either put off studying or just did not study at all, because they do not have a quiet working environment at home and depend on the library to study. While the Maag Library is open 24 hours during finals week, what about the entire semester before finals? This is an even more critical time to prepare for exams!

I am near graduation and even though extending the library hours at this time would not directly benefit me, it could mean a huge difference in grades for future students.

**SINCERELY,
SARAH A. PERRY
YSU STUDENT NURSE**

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 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.



By: L. A. Bonté

For more comics visit FilbertCartoons.com

Hey you! Yeah, you!
Like what you see? Hate
what you see?
Have something fun to say?
Send us an e-mail
thejambar@gmail.com

Please remember to include your name or your letter won't be printed

Overtime Proves Fatal for YSU

BY MARC WEEMS

The Youngstown State University women's basketball team looked to avenge their loss to the University of Akron last season.

But YSU lost to Akron 76-74 in overtime with Akron's Alex Ricketts scoring 20 points in the game.

YSU point guard Indiya Benjamin scored the first eight out of YSU's 10 early first quarter points.

In a fast-paced first quarter, YSU led Akron 21-14 with forward Natalie Myers joining Benjamin as she had seven first-quarter points. Benjamin and Myers combined to score 17 points in the first.

"When Indiya is in the game, she is scoring. When she's out, she doesn't score," YSU head coach John Barnes said. "She fouled out with a couple minutes left. She could have been the difference in the game, but it is what it is."

In the second quarter, YSU slowed down the pace and widened the gap with Akron. But with 2:35 left in the second quarter, YSU was forced to take a timeout as Akron shrunk the lead to 27-25 after the Zips went on a 9-2 run from the 6:04 mark.

As the Penguins' pace slowed, so did the scoring. YSU led at halftime 31-29 after a Kelley Wright floater went in as time expired.

YSU was outrebounded 43-34 and 13-9 on the offensive boards.

"We've been focusing a lot on [rebounding] in practice," YSU forward Mary Dunn said. "We can't let other teams get second-chance opportunities; we need those opportunities."

YSU got those opportunities to start the second half with a 12-4 run to take a 41-33 lead with about 6 minutes left in the third quarter. That run was

led by Alex Ricketts, who scored four points in that run.

The scoring action went back and forth in the third quarter as YSU went on its own 10-2 run to tie the score at 43 with 2:08 left in the third quarter.

With 4:15 left in the fourth quarter, the game was tied at 59. Both teams played super scrappy on both ends as they went back and forth.

Later, at the 2:15 point of the fourth, Benjamin fouled out after scoring 21 points with two assists.

With 1:25 left, Ricketts hit two free throws to tie the game at 62. Akron went to the foul line more than YSU. The Zips attempted 37 free throws to YSU's 14.

"We were not as focused in some places. We focused more on two players and let the other players kind of go off," Dunn said. "We were a little out of sync, and when we realized that, it was too late to catch up."

Dunn scored a career-high 19 points and grabbed five rebounds. Barnes said that Dunn has just gotten better every day and every game while still learning a great deal.

Akron controlled the ball for most of the last minute but were unable to score, even with Ricketts grabbing key rebounds for the Zips.

After some confusion, whether there was a shot clock violation or if the ball went out of bounds, the referees and head coaches decided to take the game to overtime instead.

Barnes said that the reason the game went to overtime is because the ball was still in play and the clock stopped when it shouldn't have.

In overtime, Ricketts got Akron ahead as she scored five points to extend their lead to 72-68 with 1:49 left in overtime.

YSU's next game is at Kent State on Dec. 10 at 5 pm.



PHOTO BY DAN HINER/THE JAMBAR

Youngstown State University's Jenna Hirsch (32) drives for a layup during the third quarter of YSU's loss to the University of Akron.

The Press Box Perspective: What About the Browns?

BY ANDREW ZUHOSSKY

Fans of the Cleveland Browns might know the number 92, and here's the reason why.

Since the NFL returned to Cleveland in 1999, the Browns have won 92 regular season games. Here's another number for you: 11.

Back in the 1994 NFL season, the Browns posted an 11-5 regular season record — the most wins in a season since going 12-4 in 1986 and their first winning season since going 9-6-1 in 1989.

Enough about the past; let's discuss this Browns' season. Last Sunday, NFL fans in Cleveland did not have to worry about whether the Browns would go 0-13, because they were off on their bye week.

This team hasn't won a game all season, and now the organization and fans are heading into familiar territory, an early first round selection on NFL Draft night along with all of the marathon conjecture on sports talk shows between the end of the regular season and draft night.

We've seen this play out before. Every single year, it seems that the Browns' front office will either draft a player that the fans wanted — only to watch said player never materialize, or draft a player the fans didn't like.

Still, there have been times where it looked like they got it right. 2007's draft saw quarterback Brady Quinn from the University of Notre Dame, yet Quinn did not start until 2008, having been the backup to Derek Anderson.

Quinn wound up having two stints as the starter in Cleveland before being traded away to the Denver Broncos in 2010.

Speaking of 2010, the Browns' fans were hopeful going into the draft that the organization would select former University of Texas quarterback Colt McCoy.

After some delay, which extended into the second night of that year's draft (this being the first year of the draft being a three-day event), they drafted him in round three, with the 85th overall pick.

McCoy lasted two seasons before being succeeded as Browns starting quarterback by Brandon Weeden, whom the Browns drafted out of Oklahoma State University in 2012.

Weeden remained the starter in Cleveland through 2013, after which he moved on to the Dallas Cowboys, and the Browns moved on to Johnny Manziel.

After a series of off-field transgressions and immaturity displayed by Manziel, among other things, he is no longer in the NFL.

In fact, of all the top-tier quarterbacks drafted by the Browns since 2007, only Weeden and McCoy are still in the league. Quinn is an analyst for FOX Sports.

So, that brings us to the current day. In a few months, NFL commissioner Roger Goodell might open up the NFL Draft by announcing to a crowd in Philadelphia, "The Cleveland Browns are now on the clock."

The question of who the Browns will draft in the first round in April can't adequately be answered at the moment. It's far too early for me to be making guesses like that, especially since none of the bowl games in college football have been played yet.

After the bowl games, the Shrine Game and Senior Bowl, the Browns organization will start to have an idea as to who they might want to target for the draft and will have a better idea after the NFL Combine in February.

As long as the Browns stay healthy consistently in 2017, I think they'll do just fine.

By the way, this is the final Press Box Perspective for the 2016 calendar year. Good luck to all graduating seniors and to those graduating in the spring, only one more semester to go!

I'll be back in the New Year talking about whatever. Happy Holidays, and I'll talk to you on Jan. 12, everybody!

Penguins Fall to Michigan State

Donlan, Santiago Step Up in Morse's Absence

BY DAN HINER

The Youngstown State University men's basketball team has been without star guard Cameron Morse for the last few games. But despite not having Morse, the Penguins were still able to compete with Michigan State University.

YSU (5-5) lost 77-57 to the Spartans on Tuesday night.

Penguins' head coach Jerry Slocum said the team played well on the defensive side of the ball, but offensively, the Penguins struggled to put up points. Michigan State, however, was able to get out in transition against the YSU defense.

"I thought we played a pretty good game. I thought we did a really good job on the defense end," Slocum said. "All of our inadequacies on the offensive end caused our game to not have an opportunity [for us] to be in it at the end. By that [I mean], 12 or 13 turnovers led to 18 points. Our offense was a problem in that game.

"It wasn't necessarily a surprise, because they're physical. They're very good at their ability at the defensive end. I thought our guys, in the last three games, did a really good job defensively. We just, offensively, had enough to beat Robert Morris [University]. And obviously, last night we didn't shoot the ball very well."

Slocum said the team had open looks but was unable to make shots. The Penguins were held to 20 of 61 from the field (32.8 percent shooting) and allowed the Spartans to make 50.7 percent of their shots.

For a team that likes to score quickly, YSU only had seven fastbreak points. YSU guard Matt Donlan said defenses are aware of the need to stop YSU's high-paced offense.

"Obviously it wasn't our best output. Obviously we make some mistakes," Donlan said. "It was a new environment, it was loud, we didn't execute the way that we wanted too, but I definitely think it was a building block for us and a learning experience that we can take with us into league play."

Michigan State (6-4) controlled the paint.

Horizon Basketball 2016-17 Men's Basketball Standings *As of Dec. 6*

1	Valparaiso	0-0 7-1
2	Oakland	0-0 8-1
3	Wright State	0-0 6-3
4	UIC	0-0 4-4
5	Northern Kentucky	0-0 5-3
6	Green Bay	0-0 4-5
7	Youngstown State	0-0 5-5
8	Milwaukee	0-0 4-5
9	Cleveland State	0-0 2-5
10	Detroit Mercy	0-0 1-7

GRAPHIC BY DAN HINER/THE JAMBAR

YSU was outscored 34 to 12 in the paint and was outrebounded 47 to 32. Donlan said the team's inability to score let it affect the other aspects of the game. He said the Penguins need to learn to play well in other areas even when the offense can't produce.

Donlan led the team in scoring with a season-high 21 points. Donlan's backcourt mate Francisco Santiago had his first double-double of the season — 13 points and 10 rebounds.

Slocum said the team will be without Morse for a while. He said the team doesn't plan on playing Morse until he's completely healthy.

"Structurally it's kinda OK; it's a wrist sprain," Slocum said. "We're holding him out for as long as we have too. I feel like conference play is more important than anything else, and if we had to hold him until the end of December for conference play, then we got to do what we got to do."

The Penguins will go on the road to play American College in their next game. Tipoff is scheduled for 2 p.m. on Saturday.

Playoffs Come Back to Youngstown: Penguins Get Another Home Game

BY MARC WEEMS

With the Youngstown State University football team coming off its biggest upset in more than a decade, the Penguins will look to advance to the FCS playoffs semifinals.

YSU gets another playoff home game after knocking off No. 3 Jacksonville State University 40-24 on Saturday.

This week, YSU takes on Wofford College, who had its own upset by defeating No. 6 The Citadel by a score of 17-3 on the road.

With YSU's offense finally matching its defensive effort, YSU will look to continue scoring.

YSU is averaging 39 points per game in the playoffs while gaining 475.5 yards per game in the first two rounds.

YSU's defense has given up 24 points per game and 426.5 yards per game while

allowing 170.5 yards per game rushing.

YSU head coach Bo Pelini said their conference slate prepared the team well for the teams they have faced, and will face, in the playoffs. The Missouri Valley Football Conference has good teams from top to bottom, and Pelini said that has helped the team tremendously.

"You get challenged week to week in our conference," Pelini said. "We are battle tested so to speak, and you look at the non-conference we played. All those things have done us good."

For Wofford, their defense has been stout this season. Wofford has given up just 16.1 points per game and 8.5 points per game in the playoffs. They have also given up just 277.5 yards per game but have given up 320.5 yards per game in the playoffs.

"It was nice to help out the defense. Obviously these past couple weeks, the offense has played much better than we have before," YSU quarterback Hunter

Wells said. "I think that's because things have been different. I came in, and people weren't used to me yet. Once we've gotten on the same page, I feel like we've gotten better each week."

The offense has improved a lot in recent games. Wells took over the starting job in week 8 against Indiana State University. The Penguins are 5-1 in that span, and after the first two games, YSU has averaged 41 points per game in the last four games.

"For so long our team has been dependent on our defense, and we have a couple defensive guys banged up," YSU running back Jody Webb said. "We are going deep into the depth chart on that side of the ball. At some point, the offense had to say that we would put the team on our back. That's what we did on Saturday, and when your defense is on the field a lot, we have to put points on the board."

Although the time of possession was almost even against JSU, YSU's offense scored quickly when they got the ball.

YSU has dealt with a lot of adversity, including the questions at the quarterback position. Wells started the year as the fourth string before he was the starter.

"Just like that, I wasn't the guy anymore. It was something that I've never experienced," Wells said.

Wells said that not being the starter was definitely something that he never experienced before.

"It was a great lesson for me," Wells said "It was something that matured me a lot and grew me up as a man."

YSU will have a tough task as Wofford is one of the few schools in the country that uses a "Triple Option Offense." Pelini said that all that matters in this game, and any more to come, is that everyone needs to be on the same page on every play.

YSU plays Wofford College at 2 p.m. on Saturday in the quarterfinals of the FCS Playoffs.

FCS Playoff Bracket

Quarterfinals

Semifinals

FCS Championship

Semifinals

Quarterfinals

Jan. 7
Frisco, Texas

#1 North Dakota State

#8 South Dakota State

Youngstown State

Wofford

#5 Sam Houston

#4 James Madison

Richmond

#2 Eastern Washington