

CEREMONY DECLARES OPENING OF HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH



Photo by JORDAN UNGER

JORDAN UNGER

Hispanic Heritage Month kicked off with its opening ceremony in the Mahoning County Courthouse on Sept. 14, recognizing individuals in the Youngstown area who come from Hispanic backgrounds.

Twenty-two national flags were carried by volunteers at the event to celebrate Hispanic countries. The keynote speaker was Paulina Montaldo, foreign language professor at Youngstown State University and Spanish teacher at Ursuline High School.

Montaldo said she was thankful for the opportunity, recalling only a few years prior when she became a United States citizen.

"This country and this place make me grateful," Montaldo said. "Grateful for the diversity that makes it so unique, grateful for the opportunities that this country provides and grateful for the friendships

that I have received from those who embrace culture."

Montaldo was born in Chile to a diplomat father, forcing her to live in different countries while growing up. She studied abroad for one year in the U.S. after high school, where she moved in with a family in New Castle, Pennsylvania.

"One of my classmate's family noticed [I was homesick] and invited me to dinner, and with their best effort to give me a little taste of home, they invited me to Taco Bell," Montaldo said. "I realized right then that there was a misconception about Spanish-speaking countries being all the same."

She moved back to the U.S. in 2001 to earn her master's degree and pursue a career in higher education. She said her goal in the classroom is to ensure her students are understanding and tolerant of diversity.

"By preparing our students through diversity, they can be more culturally and emotionally intelligent," Montaldo said.

"Simply put, they would be ready for the real world."

According to Montaldo, more than 1,000 students in Youngstown City Schools are identified as Hispanics. She said this growing population mirrors the rest of the country.

A recurring topic at the ceremony was President Donald Trump's rescinding the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program, which could leave the fate of Dreamers up in the air after six months. John McNally, mayor of Youngstown, addressed this issue during his speech.

"It is indeed unfortunate that President Trump has backtracked on his promise before and after his presidential campaign that these young Dreamers had nothing to worry about from this administration," McNally said. "I... stand with the Dreamers, standing in direct opposition to President Trump's decision."

Cat Cooper, president of the YSU Latino Student Organization, said one of the greatest benefits to the month is that peo-

ple learn about their own heritage as well as share it with others.

"In America, we only have one view. We only see United States and we're so accustomed to the cultures and traditions of our country," Cooper said. "In order to help students become more globally competitive, in order to promote diversity, we put on these events to help them showcase [the Hispanic culture]."

The Youngstown Latino Student Organization partners with the YSU Hispanic Heritage Committee and the Office of Student Diversity Programs to host events and activities throughout the month.

"The biggest issue that we're having is student involvement and student participation," Cooper said. "I hope more students will come out and experience that great diversity that we have at the university."

Hispanic Heritage month runs from Sept. 15 to Oct. 15.



Follow us on Facebook
TheJambarYSU

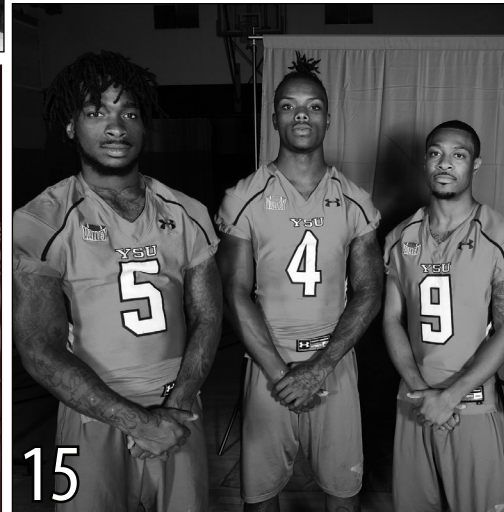


Follow us on Twitter
@TheJambar



Subscribe on YouTube
JambarVideo

FEATURES



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

NEWS

- 3 | Tattoo
- 4 | Rec Center / Women's Center
- 5 | Brews and Views
- 6 | Amphitheater
- 7 | Academic Dishonesty / LGBTQ+
- 14 | Steps Against Stigma

A&E ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT

- 8 | Eunsu Kang / Piano Quartet
- 9 | Film Festival

OPINION

- 12 | Jake's Picks / Jambar Column
- 13 | Editorial / Pressbox / Letter to Editor

SPORTS

- 15 | Home Life on the Brain / Tennis
- 16 | Soccer

JAMBAR STAFF

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF:

Laura McDonough.....llmcdonough@student.yсу

MANAGING EDITOR:

Jordan Unger.....jaunger@student.yсу.edu

NEWS EDITOR:

Jennifer Rodriguez.....jarodriguez@student.yсу

ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR:

Elizabeth Lehman.....thejambar@gmail.com

REPORTERS:

Rachel Gobep.....regobep@student.yсу.edu

David Ford.....drford@student.yсу.edu

Melissa Turosik.....mkturosik@student.yсу.edu

Nami Nagaoka.....nnagaoka@student.yсу.edu

Morgan Petronelli.....mlpetronelli@student.yсу.edu

PHOTOGRAPHER EDITOR:

Alyssa Pflug.....ampflug@student.yсу.edu

ASSISTANT PHOTO EDITOR:

Tanner Mondok.....tjmondok@student.yсу.edu

SPORTS EDITOR:

Marc Weems.....mrweems01@student.yсу.edu

SPORTS REPORTERS:

Rick Henneman.....rdhenneman@student.yсу.edu

Chris McBride.....cmmcbride@student.yсу.edu

Seth Rivello.....strivello@student.yсу.edu

HEAD DESIGN EDITOR:

Carly Redmond.....cmredmond@student.yсу.edu

ASSISTANT DESIGNERS:

Marissa Cennane.....mcennane@student.yсу.edu

VIDEO EDITORS:

Trevor Mastran.....tcmastran@student.yсу.edu

Corey McCrae.....cdmccrae@student.yсу.edu

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR:

Marah Morrison.....mjmorrison@student.yсу.edu

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT REPORTERS:

John Stran.....jpstran@student.yсу.edu

Mario Ricciardi.....mjr Ricciardi@student.yсу.edu

Jacob Myers.....jcmyers02@student.yсу.edu

Noah Johnson.....npjohanson01@student.yсу.edu

COLUMNIST:

Nathan Hritz.....nshritz@student.yсу.edu

HEAD COPY EDITOR:

Samantha Welch.....slwelch01@student.yсу.edu

ASSISTANT COPY EDITORS:

Elizabeth Lehman.....thejambar@gmail.com

Robin Stears.....rcstears@student.yсу.edu

SOCIAL MEDIA CURATOR:

Megan White.....mlwhite01@student.yсу.edu

ASSISTANT WEB MANAGER:

Morgan Petronelli.....mlpetronelli@student.yсу.edu

Bruno Serrano.....bfserrano@student.yсу.edu

CONTACT US



THEJAMBAR@GMAIL.COM



330 - 941 - 1991



330 - 941 - 2322

ADVERTISING



THEJAMBARAD@GMAIL.COM



330 - 941 - 1990



FROM THE WALL TO SKIN: A TATTOO SHOP'S ENDEAVOR TO COMBINE ART FORMS

Photo by MORGAN PETRONELLI

MORGAN PETRONELLI

A new tattoo shop opened on Lincoln Avenue under the name of DNA Studios. The shop was originally founded in Warren, but relocated to Youngstown in July 2017 due to its undesirable location.

This business has more than what meets the eye. In addition to being a laboratory for creating body art, founders and tattoo artists Amber Slick and Dennis Kirsch have created a way to link their artwork both on the skin and on canvas by transforming the tattoo shop into an art gallery as well.

The shop is filled with sketches, photographs, paintings and sculptures from a majority of local artists in addition to a few international artists. The art ranges from abstract to psychedelic and a wide array of other styles, all in part due to Slick's ability to select the artwork as the shop's official curator and tattoo artist.

Roy Schmidt, manager of DNA Studios, was both a patron and friend of Slick and Kirsch before they asked him and his business partner, Ian Wilson, to take over

the business aspect of the shop while they focused on tattooing.

Schmidt said that DNA Studios is not what you would typically expect when you think of a tattoo shop. He said the calm atmosphere and brightness on the inside catches a lot of people off guard when they stop in to check out the new shop.

When the shop closes at 8 p.m. and the tattoo guns are cleaned and put to bed, the artistry doesn't stop. Instead, it follows Slick and Kirsch, who married last year, back to their home where they continue their creativity by drawing and painting.

Sometimes, their artwork can be found not only on the skin of their customers, but also providing a pop of color along the white walls of the shop.

Troy Elsea, a student at Youngstown State University, first met the couple when they were his neighbors and since then has had all of his tattoos done by Kirsch.

He had three tattoos done thus far, one piece on both of his arms and a biomechanical chest piece in honor of multiple sclerosis, which he recently had done in early September.

Elsea said that it is more convenient now that the shop is located so close to the university. He went on to explain his favorite part of DNA Studios.

"I actually like Dennis and Amber the most. They tell people what they think would look best on them, and they aren't just in it for the money," Elsea said. "I love their work and I feel the artists are what makes the shop good."

Tiffany Menci, another student at YSU and tattoo enthusiast, has four tattoos, but only recently found out about the new tattoo shop.

"I think having the tattoo shop so close to campus makes it convenient for students and more personal instead of going to a shop farther away," Menci said.

She said getting a tattoo as almost like surgery, believing that the most important aspects of a tattoo shop are cleanliness and reliable and personable artists.

Schmidt said although they don't have a date set aside yet, he hopes to hold an official grand opening, as well as back-to-back opening and closing shows for the gallery.

Photos of Slick and Kirsch's work can be found on their Instagram accounts @amber.gris and @denniskirsch13.

RECREATION DEPARTMENT KEEPS PENGUINS ACTIVE

Jambar Contributor
CAITLYN WILKES

From club volleyball to a rock climbing wall, the Youngstown State University Department of Campus Recreation offers a wide variety of activities, clubs and services to suit the needs and interests of students and help them improve their health and wellness.

“The department is committed to offering a varying range of fitness and wellness opportunities to the YSU community, which will allow opportunities for an enhanced and healthier lifestyle,” the department’s online mission statement said.

The main recreation facility on campus is the Andrews Student Recreation and Wellness Center, located adjacent to Kilcawley Center. This large facility includes a 12,000-square-foot strength and conditioning area with a variety of fitness

equipment, including multiple types of cardio machines, free weights and weight training.

Ashley Ellwood, a sophomore, said she views the rec center as a place to get away from the stress of her hectic schedule and focus on fitness.

“Having the rec center is very convenient,” Ellwood said, “because any YSU student has the ability to get active, be healthy and have fun in the stressful college setting.”

The Andrews Rec Center also includes four large courts for basketball, volleyball and other sports, as well as an aerobics studio and a quiet area for meditation and relaxation.

Another feature of the rec center is the 53-foot rock climbing wall, which is one of the tallest in the state of Ohio. The facility is open and free to all students and faculty with a valid YSU ID.

The Wellness Resource Center provides many tools for students to improve their healthy lifestyles. The YSU website said the center is “designed to promote healthy lifestyle choices through comprehensive programming in areas of fitness, nutrition, mental and spiritual health and personal safety.”

Megan O’Neill, a graduate assistant with the department of campus recreation, said the goal of campus recreation is to provide services to help students become healthy and well, whatever their individual definitions of wellness may be.

“If an individual is interested in the outdoorsy aspect, we have our rock wall, rental gear, and outdoor trips which occur throughout the year. If sports are more someone’s preference, we offer both intramural and club sports to allow students to engage in their favorite sport at a collegiate level,” O’Neill said.

YSU offers a wide variety of intramural and club sports for all students to join, ranging from soccer to volleyball to fishing to paintball.

“Whether you work out at the gym, play basketball, join a cycling session or take advantage of many more opportunities, it all gives you something to help you feel good about yourself and I believe that is very important,” Ellwood said.

The services the YSU department of campus recreation has to offer encourage students to strive for a healthy lifestyle and to take care of themselves while focusing on their studies.

“Engaging in health and wellness related programs helps students’ emotional, mental and physical well-being, which carries over in so many aspects of their lives. These are important skills to learn and take with you for the rest of their lives,” O’Neill said.

YSU REVISITS WOMEN’S CENTER IDEA WITH NEW INITIATIVE: PART ONE

ELIZABETH LEHMAN

When feminist icon Gloria Steinem spoke at Youngstown State University this past March, her visit inspired some action on campus.

A women and gender resource center is currently in the works at YSU, and Steinem’s promise during a question-and-answer session was the impetus for this effort.

Michael Jerryson, associate professor of religious studies at YSU, said out of the 14 public universities in the state of Ohio, only two do not have such a center on campus, and YSU is one of these schools.

Jerryson said he asked Steinem if she thought it was a problem that the university does not have a women’s center on campus. Steinem said it was and she is willing to give money to make one possible.

“This seemed to stir into ac-

tion President Tressel, Provost Martin Abraham. Diana Palardy began to get people involved and I reached out to Gloria Steinem’s office to verify if they were willing to do this, and they said yes,” Jerryson said.

Palardy is an associate professor in foreign languages and literatures. She said so far funds have been raised by discussing the center with the provost and the office of student services.

“We have had conversations with the YSU Foundation and have been in contact with the office of Gloria Steinem, but we wanted to have some kind of center, even if it’s just a part-time interim director, before engaging in extensive fundraising,” Palardy said. “People are likely more inclined toward financially supporting something if at least the basic structure is in place.”

Brian Wolf, development officer with the YSU Foundation, said the foundation is currently waiting to hear back from Stei-

nem’s office about contributing to the project.

As of Sept. 1, Megan List, assistant professor of teacher education, was hired as interim director for the center, which List said, at this stage of development, is officially called the Women and Gender Resource Initiative.

Although a physical location for the initiative does not yet exist, List said the plan is to start doing the work of a women’s center prior to an actual location on campus, using buildings that exist on campus already.

List said the first action the initiative is taking on campus is putting out a suicide prevention poster. She said in the age demographic between 12 and 22, one in six individuals commits suicide.

Besides working with the YSU Foundation and Gloria Steinem’s office, List said a fundraiser dinner is planned for spring. All these efforts would go toward

the work of the women’s center.

“That’s going to be hiring staff, making sure the counselors are available, making sure that the needs are identified,” List said.

This is not the first time the university has tried to bring a women’s center to campus.

Linda Tessier, extended teaching service faculty in philosophy and religious studies, said there have been three women’s resource centers on campus in past years, and each was closed by administrative decision.

Tessier previously served as director of women’s studies. She said after she accepted the position, she learned she would have additional duties.

“After I agreed, I was told that there was no budget to hire a women’s center director, so I would have to fill both roles,” Tessier said.

She said she did the best she could despite a tiny budget and only receiving half-time release with no extra pay for her role.

After a couple years, the center was closed during the summer semester.

Martin Abraham, provost and vice-president for academic affairs, said he has had several conversations about funding for the center with Jerryson and Palardy.

“They wanted much greater resources on startup because of the concern regarding prior underfunding,” Abraham said. “I understand their concern.”

Abraham said he has chosen to start slowly with funding for the center, saying he would like to see a few early successes first to justify expanding funding and build from there.

“We build on each of those achievements to accomplish a little more and add to the investment,” Abraham said. “This becomes a virtuous cycle in which we continue to invest and continue to grow. New achievements justify greater investment, which allows us to do even more.”



Photo by JENNIFER RODRIGUEZ/THE JAMBAR

BREWS AND VIEWS: A DISCUSSION ON RACE IN AMERICA

JENNIFER RODRIGUEZ

A discussion about race, privilege and unity took place at Suzie's Dogs & Drafts on Monday. The event was open to the public and the panel was made up of three Youngstown State University professors.

City Club of Mahoning Valley held the event, a first of its kind. Phil Kidd, co-founder of the club, said they have held similar events before, but none in this type of atmosphere.

"We have had events before but they were larger and held at Stambaugh Auditorium," Kidd said.

Every month, City Club will hold a discussion on various topics. Kidd said these discussions are being called "Brews and Views." The topic of this past discussion was "White National-

ism, Xenophobia, & The Politics of Division."

Tiffany Anderson, assistant professor and director of Africana Studies at YSU, Jacob Ari Labendz, Clayman Assistant Professor and director of Judaic and Holocaust Studies at YSU and Dolores V. Sisco, assistant professor and director of American Studies at YSU were on the panel.

"Because most of the panelists were from the college of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences, it's important for us to take a stand in social justice," Anderson said.

Anderson said she feels the racial divide in the area is bigger than some people may be willing to admit.

"I think that people are very aware that there aren't a lot of black kids in Boardman schools, and they're very aware that there are a lot of black kids in

Youngstown schools, but they're unwilling to have that conversation of why that is and why black people are pushed into the city and isolated there, where as white people live in the suburbs," Anderson said.

During the panel discussion, one of the topics touched on was white privilege. Sisco told the crowd that it is important to understand that white privilege does not accuse anyone of anything.

Many people who benefit from white privilege are unaware of it, Anderson said.

"In my African Studies class, I asked my students, 'How often do you feel your race?' and you see a huge gap between black students saying, 'I feel my race all the time' whereas white students saying, 'I feel my race when I'm in your class surrounded by black students,'" Anderson said.

The discussion was moderated by Tim Francisco, professor of English at YSU and director of the Center for Working Class Studies. One of the questions he asked the panel was to describe the role of the media in racism.

"We have been taught that black people are scary," Anderson said. "The media continued that representation."

Sisco also commented on the media attention of police brutality toward African-Americans.

"It's so deep in American culture that a police officer can see a 12-year-old black child and think he is stronger and has to be put down with more force," she said.

When asked about the Black Lives Matter movement, Sisco said it is important for people to hear the voice of the black community and to also stop expecting black people to solve racism.

"The governor of Maryland

said 'All lives matter.' You're not listening to us. Yes, we know all lives matter, but for 240 years we have not seen anything where black lives matter, and that's what we're trying to tell you," she said.

At the end of the discussion, audience members were welcomed to ask questions to the panel. Questions about Alt-Right students, immigration status and education amongst minorities were asked.

Labendz said it is important that this event was put on by the local community. He said the most important thing to take away from the event is that it was only one hour and the community needs many more of these discussions, and they need to be followed up with action.



Photo by TANNER MONDOK/THE JAMBAR

OUTDOOR AMPHITHEATER MAKING PROGRESS IN YOUNGSTOWN

MELISSA TUROSİK

Youngstown will be home to a new amphitheater, an outdoor concert venue for people to see live performances exclusively outside the Covelli Centre.

Youngstown Mayor John McNally said construction is moving along.

“We continue to move dirt onto the site to establish the proper elevations. I expect next month bids for the construction of a new 84 sewer line that will go on the back of the site from one end all the way over to the Covelli Centre,” McNally said.

JAC Management, the group

that runs the Covelli Centre and brought the Zac Brown Band to Youngstown, will serve as managers for the project.

McNally said construction will be done by next year or early 2019, with concerts appearing there shortly after.

“Given the pace of how it’s going, I’m hoping that construction will be completed by the end of next summer, but I think, realistically depending on how the seasons and construction go, it could stretch into 2019 as well,” McNally said.

David Bozanich, finance director for Youngstown, said the project will cost about \$8 million.

“We’re using a combination

of Federal 108, which is a loan against our future block grant dollars, [and] we’re using utility money,” Bozanich said. “\$4 million is coming from the federal funds, \$2 million from our water [and] \$2 million from our wastewater.”

Bozanich said the city will not be issuing any long-term debt from the project.

Michael McGiffin, events coordinator for Youngstown, said the amphitheater is being built to improve the quality of life for residents and visitors, economic development and to stimulate the downtown area.

“What the amphitheater will do is allow for people to compete and draw events in the sec-

ond and third quarter,” McGiffin said. “A lot of events that go into arenas such as the Covelli Centre, whether they are concerts or shows, will only do indoor shows in the colder months so it’s a lot of outside venues that are able to buy acts and buy shows during warmer months.”

The amphitheater will save a lot of money on bringing concerts and events to the Mahoning Valley, McGiffin said.

“It’s going to act as a turn-key venue for a lot of the events that occur within the downtown area,” McGiffin said. “We’re building a venue in the middle of the street, so some of these street festivals and concerts that we put up in Central Square are very

expensive to do because we’re building a venue every time an event happens. Having an amphitheater will eliminate that need to spend money on production infrastructure.”

McGiffin said this will be another mark of downtown Youngstown thriving again.

“We got over 2,000 people working in downtown on a regular basis. We have 12 new bars and restaurants that weren’t here 13 to 14 years ago and I’m in firm belief that we have already started making a comeback and we’re just continuing to work on it,” McGiffin said.

THE COST OF ACADEMIC DISHONESTY

JAMBAR CONTRIBUTOR
COURTNEY HIBLER

An academic career filled with dishonesty can cause a student to lose credibility, and in some cases, can lead to suspension from the university.

According to Youngstown State University's student code of conduct, all forms of academic dishonesty are prohibited.

One form of academic dishonesty is plagiarism.

Kelly Beers is associate director for student conduct. She is responsible for overseeing and managing any type of student misconduct.

"I would say a third of our cases [are] ... plagiarism in the tra-

ditional sense," said Beers.

Many steps are taken when a student is accused of academic dishonesty.

Jennifer Pintar, associate provost, handles academic dishonesty cases.

"There is an academic integrity form that is required to [be filled] out," Pintar said. "If a student agrees to the sanction then it is signed and done with."

The accused student can accept the penalty they are given or they can request a hearing.

"If you are a student accused of academic dishonesty and you disagree with it, then your choice is to not sign that form and ... request a hearing," Pintar said.

During the hearing, the stu-

dent sits before a panel that consists of six faculty members and students from each college. The accused individual is allowed to have a witness during this panel, but that witness is not allowed to speak.

"Last year there were roughly 76 cases of academic integrity. Sixty-two were resolved with students signing off on the form while 14 of them went to a hearing," Pintar said.

When student Trasa Rossi was accused of plagiarism, she requested a hearing.

"During a class we were asked to have someone we trusted peer review our paper and used it as their own," Rossi said. "The profes-

sor was no help."

Rossi contacted Pintar through the help of her academic advisor. The process of the hearing began.

"The process itself was extremely long and took two months when it was originally supposed to be two weeks," Rossi said. "In the end, I was extremely happy because the trial ended up going in my favor."

If a student is found in violation of university policy in a plagiarism case, a professor might lower the student's grade or assign a different type of punishment.

"With really big cases, it can go all the way up to suspension from the university," Beers said.

When a student chooses a hearing, it allows them to present their side of the case, Beers said. If they are still found in violation, they receive whatever punishment is suggested.

Students caught committing academic dishonesty for a second time will answer for their actions in a different way, Pintar said.

"The second time one of these forms comes through, it causes a meeting to be conducted with the student," Pintar said. "This is not to yell at the student, but to simply figure out what is going on and try to eliminate the occurrences of this dishonesty."

LGBTQ+ ON CAMPUS

RACHEL GOBEP

Youngstown State University is rated three out of five stars on LGBTQ+ friendliness, according to Campus Pride Index.

Kent State University has an index of four stars, while The Ohio State University has five stars.

According to campusprideindex.org, "The Index is owned and operated by Campus Pride, the leading national nonprofit organization for student leaders and campus groups working to create safer, more LGBTQ-Friendly learning environments at colleges and universities."

The scoring is broken down into eight categories: LGBTQ+ policy inclusion, support and institutional commitment, academic life, student life, housing and residence life, campus safety, counseling and health and recruitment and retention efforts.

Carissa Brennan, president of YSUnity: Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity and Expression Society, said she believes YSU does not offer enough accommodations for the LGBTQ+ community.

"I think we need an LGBTQ+ dorm floor or building, so people don't feel scared.

YSU also needs more single-stall bathrooms for those who don't feel comfortable," she said.

YSU currently has a Housing and Residence Life and University Courtyard flexible housing policy. Flexible housing is currently available in 4-person dormitories in Cafaro House, on the co-ed floors in Lyden House, in the upper-class communities in Wick and Weller Houses and the University Courtyard apartments.

This policy requires the apartment or dorm to be filled to capacity with each students' consent. It allows for roommates to be chosen by compatibility regardless of gender identity or expression.

In addition, the Student Government Association and the Inclusion and Awareness Committee proposed a resolution to establish single use restrooms at YSU on Monday. Eddie Howard, associate vice-president of the Division of Student Experience, said they have key items to look at.

"One will be the single use rest-

room, [but] we are also looking at preferred name, in regard to those out there who want to use a preferred name," Howard said.

The SGA will encourage the Board of Trustees to implement this policy into the University's five-year renovation plan and recommends the single-stall restrooms be added to all university residence halls, academic buildings, Maag Library and Kilcawley Center.

They also recommended for each single-stall restroom to include a baby changing station and proper signage.

Brennan said YSUnity and the LGBTQ+ community have gotten both good and bad visibility.

"On some flyers we had hate words written on them [such as] f****s. A lot of times people will walk by our tables and make faces or make fun of us," she said.

A sophomore theater studies major said he emails his professors before the beginning of each semester because he prefers a name that is different than what is on the class roster. While in a general education class freshman year, a professor called him by the incorrect name multiple times throughout the semester.

In November, the professor

continued to call him by the wrong name. He did not return to the class for the rest of the semester.

Snjezana "Snow" Balaz, a physics and astronomy professor at YSU, said this is unacceptable.

"If I tell you 'My name is XYZ and I'm this,' you just have to go with it. Although it is simple, it is complicated for some people."

Brennan said many people have come to YSUnity because a professor has said something homophobic or transphobic to them.

Safe Zone Ally training is offered at YSU, which consists of a four-hour training session to receive a sign and access to a graphic for use on their email, according to Brian Wells, YSUnity advisor and Safe Zone organizer.

Through this training, faculty, students, community members and administrators learn information such as statistics about LGBTQ+ issues, terminology, legal issues and issues specific to college students, Wells said.

Wells said the YSU Admissions Office receives inquiries about LGBTQ+ life on campus and specifically if there is a Safe Zone program.

"Having a strong Safe Zone program meant either there was a positive campus climate for individuals or there were strides being made to improve campus climate," he said.

According to a 2015 article published in the Jambar, the YSU athletics department received criticism for hiring Ron Brown as assistant head coach for the football team because he expressed faith-based views condemning homosexuality while working for a state institution in Nebraska.

In response, Wells sent President Jim Tressel, head football coach Bo Pelini and Brown a memo to participate in Safe Zone training. Brown was assistant head coach for three months before leaving YSU to join Liberty University's coaching staff.

"As a faculty member, especially for the LGBTQ+ community and any other student, I just want them to feel safe because with feeling safe you can relax and learn," Balaz said.

Balaz said she believes YSU can do better when it comes to making the LGBTQ+ community feel comfortable on campus.

ONE-ON-ONE WITH ARTIST EUNSU KANG

JOHN STRAN

Media artist Eunsu Kang will be giving an art lecture on Sept. 21 at 4:00 p.m. at the Judith Rae Solomon Gallery in Bliss Hall to speak about her current exhibition at the gallery titled FACE.

FACE is an exhibition which creates the human face through computer generation of a collection of people's actual faces.

Q: Where did the idea of morphing hundreds of thousands of faces together come from?

A: There is no morphing going on at this show. The neural networks study about 200,000 faces then create new faces. The outcomes are not directly using the dataset face features.

Q: When did the idea of doing this come to you?

A: The idea of using machine learning for art came many years ago by observing the development in the machine learning field. The idea of generating faces and creating portraits that are artistically beautiful and meaningful came after playing with the GANs (Generative Adversarial Networks) and realizing their bias-free nature and ability to produce aesthetic results.

Q: How long does it normally take to create a digital art piece such as the ones in the Judith Rae Solomon Gallery?

A: Running the GAN may take hours or weeks. The ones in the gallery took about two months or more to get those specific results. I built the computer for that about a year ago and there have been tests for preparing this type of process since then.

Q: Exactly how does the machine generate these faces?

A: A general explanation can be that lots of layers of artificial

neural networks learn the dataset and generate results.

Q: How much of the work is done by you and how much is done by the A.I. system?

A: It is collaboration. Visual generations are all done by A.I. and I guide it through its steps and decisions as though I were its teacher.

Q: Is this a common art form where you're from or in the places you've been?

A: It is not common yet, but it's definitely something people are paying attention to at this point. It is relevant to the advancement of machine learning in recent years.

Q: How do viewers usually respond to your work?

A: I've always wondered about that. I focus on creating visually artistic results at the end of the process and I hope that creates good language that connects the works and the audience.

Q: How does this compare to more natural forms of art?

A: All artworks are artificial unless we are talking about the sunset or roses. Between human intelligence and artificial intelligence, the results are not distinguishable. I don't think any audience can tell that this is not done by human or not as good as other artworks done by only human.

Q: Do you feel that this will be the art form of the future?

A: Yes, it will be one form of art creators in the future.

Q: What will your upcoming art lecture pertain to?

A: I'll give an introduction to some machine learning methods such as GANs as well as what it is like working as a collaborator and the meaning of these faces.

INTRODUCING YSU'S OWN PIANO QUARTET



Photo by NOAH JOHNSON

NOAH JOHNSON

Youngstown State University professors will lend their musical expertise to the world debut of the Dana Piano Quartet on Sunday at 7 p.m.

The ensemble is part of the Romantic Masterpieces recital being performed in the Ford Family Recital Hall at DeYor Performing Arts Center. YSU piano professor Cicilia Yudha said the goal of the ensemble is to be a truly professional performing piano quartet.

"We will represent YSU Dana School of Music nationally and internationally," Yudha said.

The four-person ensemble will play Brahms' "Piano Quartet No. 1 in G minor, Op. 25." The group of four professors includes violinist Joseph Kromholz, violist Michael Strauss, cellist Kivie Cahn-Lipman and pianist Yudha.

All four members of the ensemble were happy to arrive at the decision to perform Johannes Brahms' piece, Yudha said.

"It is one of the most beloved masterpieces in chamber music literature," Yudha said.

Yudha maintains a prolific solo and chamber music career as well as her work in the classroom. She recently released a debut solo CD and teaches master classes both in Youngstown and abroad.

Part of the inspiration for the quartet came from the new addition to the faculty, Cahn-Lipman, who is starting his first year as cello professor at YSU.

"There was talk of there being a faculty piano quartet when I was still in the interview phase last spring," Cahn-Lipman said. "We finally had a critical mass of string players here with a pianist to put together a chamber group."

Cahn-Lipman has enjoyed his time teaching and looks forward to growing the department's cello studio. He received his doctorate from the University of Cincinnati and has performed frequently at Carnegie Hall and Lincoln Center as a chamber musician.

The four esteemed performers will be combining their instruments' unique voices to present the piece, Yudha said.

"Great chamber music is a perfect marriage between the mixed instruments," Yudha said.

Yudha said passages are exchanged between instruments and sometimes shared in equal partnership.

The string coordinator and professor at YSU, Kromholz, will provide the violin portion of the quartet. He is a concertmaster of the Youngstown Symphony Orchestra as well as several active musical roles beyond the classroom.

"I have dreamed of having a professional chamber music group with faculty as part of the Dana School of Music's environment," Kromholz said, "and I know that's been a vision shared by each of the other faculty members in this quartet."

The violist, Strauss, was a principal violist at Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra for 20 years and has recently made a recording release of "Wordless Verses," a collection of trio works inspired by the writings of Nikolaus Lenau and Edgar Allan Poe.

The first half of the "Romantic Masterpieces" recital is the Dana Chamber Orchestra's program. The un-conducted ensemble will perform Edvard Grieg's "Holberg Suite" and Edward Elgar's "Serenade for Strings."

The Chamber Orchestra is comprised of select performance majors, music education majors and some performance masters from the department. They will precede the Piano Quartet on Sunday's recital.

Dean of the College of Creative Arts and Communication Phyllis Paul has been supportive of programs that aim to grow the department like the chamber orchestra and the newly formed quartet.

"It's been Dean Phyllis Paul's vision and energy that's made that possible against so many other competing demands for our time," Kromholz said.

FRIENDS FOR FRIENDS FILM FESTIVAL

MARAH J. MORRISON

Operation Keepsake Inc. hosted its Fifth Annual Friends-4Friends Film Festival Campaign at DeYor Performing Arts Center on Sept. 14. This event featured live musical acts and short films about drug abuse, bullying, depression and other topics created by the students participating.

Executive director of OK Inc., Peggy Pecchio, said the goal is for younger men and women to find their voice in society and to become future leaders.

Pecchio said young people are very intuitive on how they can help others who find themselves in a difficult situation, whether it's drugs or alcohol use.

"Young people often know what they can do to help their friends," Pecchio said. "We'd encourage people to come and to see what their fellow students are doing."

The program liaison of OK Inc., Deborah Landis, said the students are selecting the topics they want to create their short films about in the Friends-4Friends Campaign.

These students are speaking from the heart about the issues they see as a problem in their schools, Landis said.

"The campaign encourages them to stand up and speak out,"

Landis said. "It's giving them a voice to speak against such issues or stand up for them."

Mikayla Moore, a 2015 Chaney High School graduate and current student at Youngstown State University, sang "The One and Only Me" for the event's opener.

According to Moore, this event was a fantastic way to bring awareness to these issues and to feel involved in something that is such a big deal.

"This is an award show for high school students, so it kind of makes them feel like they're a part of something," Moore said, "and it's for a good cause."

Having a lot of fun being a part of the film festival, Moore said the event gives people a sense of hope and offers a great opportunity to get informed about the topics that OK Inc. covers.

Two out of the four years Moore was a student at Chaney High School, OK Inc. came and presented to her and her fellow students concerning an opportunity to write stories concerned with dating abuse.

Moore said she ended up recording a song for one of the videos at the time and performed it at one of the OK Inc. showcases.

"We used to stay after school certain days to work on the movies and the songs," she said. "All of those kids come out to watch all of the videos and all of the art pieces that they put together."



Photo by MARAH J. MORRISON

CLASSIFIEDS

HOUSING

BRYSON STREET APARTMENTS

1 & 2 bedroom apartments available. Walking distance to campus, all utilities included.

Call HBF Properties (330)-744-5478

CAMPUS VIEW APARTMENTS

1, 2, 3 and 4 bedroom apartments available. Close to campus, all utilities included.

Call HBF Properties (330)-744-5478

AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Historical area - Walking distance to YSU

Studio Apt. \$420

1 Bedroom \$495

2 Bedroom \$595

All utilities included. Licensed and inspected by the city. Call 330-301-1626

CHRIS HAS HOUSES!

Nice all inclusive homes with individual leases. For your group of four or more, from \$455 each. Call Chris: 330-743-7368

**ATTENTION YSU STUDENTS
STUDENT DISCOUNTS ARE AVAILABLE**

at any of our 5 Austintown locations:

Four Seasons (330)-793-1110

Hillbrook (330)-793-3659

Kerrybrook (330)-793-8084

Deer Creek (330)-797-9100

Fox Run (330)-792-9974

Call for details or stop in for a tour today!

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 WiFi and ADT Security. All private bedrooms with individual leases and all utilities, maintenance and grounds keeping included from \$455.00 a month per person. Call Chris 330-743-7368

HOUSING

Youngstown House - 3.5 miles from campus. 4 bedroom rental, \$400 per room - all utilities included. 1 full and half bathroom. Totally furnished, new backyard fencing. Attached garage with remote. Call 330-727-0443. \$250 deposit.

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@aivhealth.com, answered confidentially.

Come in **WE'RE**
OPEN
to the YSU COMMUNITY

On campus in Tod Hall, basement level.
See us for auto & mortgage loans, credit & debit cards,
checking & savings accounts, mobile app and more!
Call (330)941-3204 or (330)792-4000 #4 for details.



www.asecu.com



Go Penguins!

ASECU

**ASSOCIATED SCHOOL
EMPLOYEES CREDIT UNION**

Notice to Invite Third Party Comments

Youngstown State University is seeking comments from the public about the University in preparation for its periodic evaluation by its regional accrediting agency. The University will host a visit March 26 and 27, 2016, with a team representing the Higher Learning Commission. YSU has held continuous regional accreditation since 1945. The Higher Learning Commission reaffirmed accreditation in 2008.

The team will review the institution's ongoing ability to meet HLC's Criteria for Accreditation.

The public is invited to submit comments regarding the college to the following address:

Public Comment on Youngstown State University
Higher Learning Commission
230 South LaSalle Street, Suite 7-800
Chicago, IL 60604-1411

The public may also submit comments on HLC's website at www.hlcommission.org/comment.

Comments must address substantive matters related to the quality of the institution or its academic programs. Comments must be in writing.

All comments must be received by Feb. 24, 2016.



YOUNGSTOWN
STATE
UNIVERSITY

**ADVERTISE
WITH THE
JAMBAR**

330.941.3094

THEJAMBAR@
GMAIL.COM



Photo by **JORDAN UNGER / THE JAMBAR**

More than 50 people gathered outside of Kilcawley Center on Sept. 14 to show their support for DACA Dreamers, individuals who came to the United States illegally as children. The Trump administration recently announced the rescinding of the DACA program. Vigil attendees, which included students, faculty and community members, painted the rock with messages of hope and support.

FOCUS ON YOUR *future* AT THE YOUNGSTOWN STATE CAREER FAIR

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 27
10:00 AM. – 2:00 PM.
KILCAWLEY CENTER
CHESTNUT ROOM

handshake
Connect with
Hiring employers
to apply for jobs
and internships!
ysu.joinhandshake.com

Bring multiple copies of your
resume & dress professionally!

YOUNGSTOWN STATE UNIVERSITY
Y Office of
Career &
Academic Advising

Career Services will be hosting a career fair at Youngstown State University where 79 employers will attend to meet current students for networking opportunities.

The fair is Sept. 27 at 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. in the Chestnut Room in Kilcawley Center.

There will be employers at the fair recruiting for most majors. Some recruiters are recruiting for all majors, such as the Cleveland Clinic, Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), U.S. ARMY and Ohio State Highway Patrol.

To view all participating employers, students can log into their Handshake account via the MyYSU Portal. Click on "Career Center" on the top right of the page and click on "Resources" then "Fall 2017 Career Fair Book."

**WHERE
FRESH
& FAST
MEET™**

WE DELIVER!

**VISIT JIMMYJOHNS.COM
TO FIND A LOCATION NEAR YOU**

Dr. Joseph G Protein

Laser Tattoo

Removal & Fading

Starting at ONLY

\$50

Don't forget to
ask about our
**Military,
First Responders
and College
discounts.**

330-953-3515
DRPROTAIN.COM

JAKE'S PICKS:

HAVE YOU SEEN ANY GOOD MOVIES LATELY?

JAKE MYERS

So many movies, so little time! Just like prioritizing your homework, you should prioritize your movie viewing. I am here to help with that. For me, it has been a stellar year for movies thus far.

The year started off right with the movie "Split," which is one of my favorite movies of 2017. In my humble opinion, it marks the return of M. Night Shyamalan, who in his infinite wisdom picked James McAvoy to play Kevin, the multi-personality main character in this chillingly thought-provoking film.

It just doesn't get any better than that. Oh, wait! It could, because there is going to be a sequel, "Glass," which will be out in 2019. But I digress.

The hits kept coming. March didn't come in like a lion; it came in like a wolverine with the release of "Logan." "It" was followed by "Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 2," "Wonder Woman," "Alien: Covenant," "Spider-Man: Homecoming," "Dunkirk," and "War for the Planet of the Apes" (my favorite of the summer).

After this summer's phenomenal line-up, can we expect the same greatness this fall?

I would say, yes! My first must-see of fall is out this week: "Kingsman: The Golden Circle." I loved the first one, "Kingsman: The Secret Service." If you haven't seen it, do yourself a favor, drop everything, and rent it or buy the Blu-ray for \$10 at Best Buy. Right now, seriously; you won't regret it.

I would describe "Secret Service" as the elegance of James Bond meets the comedy of "Men in Black." To top it all off, Jeff Bridges is in this one, enough said! Also out this week, is "Stronger" based on the inspiring memoirs of Jeff Bauman, who lost his legs during the 2013 Boston Marathon bombing. Jake Gyllenhaal took on the role of Bauman. Knowing how Gyllenhaal totally commits himself to a role, I predict an Oscar nomination, but he didn't get nominated for "Nightcrawler" (2014) and that is a massive oversight in my opinion, so we'll just have to wait and see.

"American Made" is another film based on a true story. It

comes out next week and stars Tom Cruise as Barry Seal, a commercial pilot who becomes a drug runner for the Medellín Cartel and ends up as an informant for the DEA. It looks like the type of stunt-filled role that Cruise excels at. I'll probably wait and enjoy this one at home on Blu-ray.

"Blade Runner 2049" comes out Oct. 6, and the trailers look amazing. It is directed by one of my favorite directors, Denis (pronounced Denny) Villeneuve who won my admiration with his latest films, "Prisoners," "Sicario," and "Arrival." The movie takes place 30 years after the original "Blade Runner" (1982) and stars Ryan Gosling and Harrison Ford. Both futuristic films explore man's obsession with playing God. I am definitely seeing this film in IMAX or XD.

The film "The Snowman," based on the book of the same name by Jo Nesbø, comes out on Oct. 20. It is about a serial killer in Norway. Nesbø has published 11 novels based on the character Detective Harry Hole, and this is number seven in the series and is the one that got me hooked. It is

a gripping and elegantly written novel, and I can't wait to see it come to life on the big screen.

On Nov. 3, two films will vie for my viewing attention: the lesser known "Roman J. Israel, Esq." and the box office juggernaut "Thor: Ragnarok."

"Roman J. Israel, Esq." is written and directed by another one of my favorites, Dan Gilroy. It stars Denzel Washington as the title character who is a defense attorney with a cause. Gilroy stated in an interview with the "Los Angeles Times" that Denzel became Roman Israel and totally exceeded his expectations for the character. There are no trailers out yet for this film but Dan Gilroy plus Denzel Washington equals a must-see for me. Gilroy wrote and directed "Nightcrawler," which is one of my all-time favorites.

Thor teams up with Loki and the Hulk to take down the latest threat to Asgard – Hela, the Goddess of Death. I saw the previews for this in XD and it looks action-packed and amazing.

For DC fans, the long anticipated Justice League will hit theaters on Nov. 17. This is going

to be phenomenal as our old favorites, Batman, Superman and Wonder Woman, team up with Aquaman, The Flash and Cyborg, who are all making their big screen debut. Two words: XD 3D.

For "Star Wars" fans, I hope your finals are over early in the week because "Star Wars: The Last Jedi" comes out Dec. 15. Episode VIII is directed by Rian Johnson who directed "Looper" (2012). I am that fan – I will be there opening day seeing it in IMAX or XD.

With all of these great films coming out this fall, now is the time to prioritize. Look at those syllabi and plan ahead. I know I will.

Did I miss anything? Drop me a line: I would love to hear from you. My email is jcmeyers02@student.yu.edu. If you wish to opine or use the comments section online.

While the list looks strong, the sheer numbers of great summer movies could be a problem when comparing it to the fall line-up. I am hopeful but this movie season is like the Trump-train, you just can't stop it!

COLUMN: TECHNOLOGICAL ADVANCES CAUSING HUGE RIPPLES

NATHAN HRITZ

I often find myself longing for a society in which I have never lived. Society has changed into quite the beast, equipped with a level of intimidation unmatched by most.

Maybe it's just me, but the technological advances that we have all come to know and love have caused a huge ripple from the way things were to the way things are. It wasn't all that long ago when neighbors would venture to the next door over to ask for a cup of milk and when it was an oddity not to know everybody on the block.

Cellphones, smartphones more specifically, have destroyed society in my humble opinion. It seems as if everybody nowadays is too caught up in what they are do-

ing to see the world going on around them. Notifications flood in from CNN, Vice, Fox, The Rebel and countless other news providers to my phone daily.

In all honesty, it takes away the need to be communicative. Fifty years ago, people got much of their news from word of mouth or from a newspaper. I have no doubt that I could go an entire day without speaking to another human, especially if I have access to an uninhibited well of information at my fingertips.

I'll tell you exactly why I would never do that, or even try. When you look at humans, now and throughout history, you'll find that we are social beings. We desire human interaction, even people as introverted as me need it, and Lord knows, I'm as introverted as they come.

I truly believe that the incorporation of smartphones to our everyday lives causes nothing more than damage to our society. Maybe I'm just speaking for myself when I

say this, but when all I see is what other people are doing I start to get depressed. I start thinking "Why wasn't I invited?" or "I wish I could do what (insert name) is doing right now," and it is not healthy in the slightest.

I get so tied up in what other people are doing that I forget to go out and live my own life. We are all humans, we are all capable of accomplishing the same astounding feats if only we put our minds to it.

We, as a society, need to get back to truly taking care of each other regardless of our religion, skin color or who we voted for in the last election. Biblically speaking, we are to be our brother's keeper. So, put down that phone, open your eyes and see the world we live in. Go out of your way to meet somebody new. Make a connection. Take a risk, talk to that guy/girl you've been wanting to talk to. Society is in danger, but it is not too far gone.

EDITORIAL: UNCHARITABLE CHARITY?

In the wake of several hurricanes battering the southern states, many people and organizations are calling for donations to help relief efforts – just not to the American Red Cross.

In a 2017 article by “NPR,” Richard Gonzales wrote that executives don’t know what percentage of donations make it to those in need.

But surely, they know how much they get paid.

In a 2012 article by “Business Insider,” Rob Wile examined the top Red Cross executives’ compensation from 2010.

Executive director Gail McGovern made \$561,210, Executive Vice President of Biomedical Services James Hrouda made \$621,779 and Biomedical Services President Shaun Gilmore made \$573, 933.

In a previous article co-produced with NPR and ProPublica in 2014, the Red Cross claimed 91 cents of every dollar is used for their services. The co-produced article proved otherwise and the claim was removed from the Red Cross website because it was “not as clear as it could have been.”

A statement of how much money was used for the humanitarian services offered by the Red Cross couldn’t

have been any clearer.

Red Cross fundraising alone was said to use as little as much as 17 to 26 cents per dollar, but they apparently don’t break down their spending on overhead and declined requests from ProPublica and NPR’s requests to do so.

In another article by ProPublica on the same day, written by Jesse Eisinger and Justin Elliott, it stated the 91 cents is technically true but it is misleading because the Red Cross is a large blood business. The Red Cross claimed donations of blood as a financial contribution.

“Except, as the Red Cross’ own audited financial statements show, blood isn’t considered a contribution. (Since the Red Cross sells the blood people give, it is not a donation but rather revenue from sales.) Indeed, the IRS prohibits people from claiming the blood they give to the Red Cross as a charitable donation,” Jesse Eisinger and Justin Elliott wrote.

The blood people donate is sold to hospitals.

There are many articles for and against the Red Cross, and everyone should do the research and make their own decisions about the company themselves.

PRESS BOX PERSPECTIVE: A SNAKE IN THE GRASS

SETH RIVELLO

Kyrie Irving will go down in Cleveland Cavaliers history as one of the most beloved players ever by some and the most hated by others. Irving is most remembered for the shot he hit a little over a year ago.

It was June 19, 2016, game seven of the NBA Finals. The Cavaliers battled back from a 3-1 series deficit to contend with the Golden State Warriors on their home court, Oracle Arena.

With less than a minute left in the game and scored tied at 89, Irving was one-on-one with the NBA’s most valuable player of 2016, Stephen Curry. Irving dribbled until the shot clock was down to its last couple seconds, then he pulled up. It seemed like the shot was in the air forever then finally, it fell through. He has one of the purest jump shots the NBA has ever seen. That shot put Cleveland up by three and was the dagger to Golden State’s heart.

Everything went the Cavaliers’ way that year. It seemed like this team would be locked in for years with many more championships to come. In 2017, it was the third straight year the Cavaliers would face the Warriors

in the NBA finals. For Cleveland fans it was nothing to memorable as the team was defeated 4-1. This was the final nail in the coffin for one player in particular.

No one really knows what drove Irving to leave Cleveland, or in a sense, to hate LeBron James. All of a sudden the dancing in the practice gym stopped the group workout videos stopped, and all fun was over. Kyrie did not want to be in Cleveland anymore, he didn’t want to play with arguably the greatest basketball player ever LeBron James anymore and he sure as hell didn’t want to talk to him.

As the word got out more details started to spill. The Cavs couldn’t get in contact with him, he wouldn’t answer the phone. Irving posted a Snapchat video of him singing “I’m Coming Home” while on a flight back from China. This doesn’t seem like a big deal until you think back to when LeBron was welcomed back to Cleveland, ESPN played that song for a month straight.

Finally the Cavaliers had enough and shipped Irving to the Boston Celtics. In return the Cavaliers received point guard Isaiah Thomas, forward Jae Crowder, center Ante

Zizic, Brooklyn’s 2018 unprotected first-round pick, and Boston’s 2020 second round pick.

Irving has started to talk more and give some reasons why he wanted out. If he had talked earlier and just come out, he might not be considered a snake or had his jerseys burned in the street.

Irving appeared on ESPN’s “First Take” on Monday. He spoke a little on LeBron James and a lot on how he felt about his situation in Cleveland as a whole.

“I just wanted to be in an environment where I felt I could be taught every single day and have that demand from my coaching staff and have that demand from a franchise that would propel me to exceed my potential and see how far I can go,” Irving said.

Irving goes on to talk about being the face of the franchise and not taking a back seat.

“The last person that everybody kind of forgot about was me,” Irving said. “I didn’t say a damn word.”

Oct. 17 the Celtics come to Quicken Loans Arena to face the Cavaliers in the first game of the new season. This could be one of the most talked about games since LeBron came back to Cleveland in a Miami Heat uniform.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

On September 14th, 2017, the article “Dress Codes Speaking Out Volumes” was published by Nathan Hritz to The Jambar column page. While I acknowledge that this is an opinion segment of The Jambar, I believe that this article displays an inappropriate reflection of the YSU community.

YSU prides itself on a diverse, open and welcoming environment for students of all backgrounds. The mission statement of the Division of Multicultural Affairs clearly states that YSU is accepting of all differences including; “age, sexual orientation, gender identity and/or expression, ability or disability, physical appearance, personality...” (Mission of Division of Multicultural Affairs).

This statement is clear and specifically addresses that physical appearance is part of our differences. While freedom of speech is important, where is the line for someone working and representing our population? What kind of message does this send to future students?

This article goes against everything the mission relays while also dropping subtle insults about the community The Jambar is a part of. Hritz quotes blatantly offensive statements to the page such as “I think that it goes without saying that not everybody can wear skin tight clothing” (“Dress Codes Speaking Out Volumes”). Not only is this inappropriate but potentially harmful to any students that may already suffer from body image issues. A blanket statement dropped on the bottom of a page does not bandage such cutting language.

The largest piece of irony in this article is that it focuses around professionalism while lacking its own professional decency. Advice on professional dress can be informative and helpful in the right context. However, this was written in a such a way that came off as more insulting than helpful. An informal class setting is not, in any way, impacted by the dress of students and professors. A pair of yoga pants has never once hindered my own ability to take notes.

Many instances of social unrest have been occurring on campus this semester and we need each other now more than ever. An article with such negative connotations, published in the midst of chaos, is extremely inappropriate and downright unacceptable. An employee from our community should be setting a better example and supporting the school that is giving them a better future.

Students and professors are here to gain knowledge, relationships and skills that last into the future. Let’s try harder to build each other up and focus on the education.

SAMANTHA ALLAN



Photo by NAMI NAGAOKA/THE JAMBAR

STEPS AGAINST STIGMA WALK: CHANGING HOW AMERICANS VIEW MENTAL ILLNESS

NAMI NAGAOKA

The Steps Against Stigma Walk was hosted by the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) at the Wick Park Recreation Center on Saturday to bring the community together and create awareness of mental illness.

According to NAMI, more than 75 percent of all mental health conditions begin before the age of 24, making it common among college-aged individuals. The event included a dog show, team photos, a Steps Against Stigma Walk and lunch for guests.

Hope Haney, the director of NAMI, has worked with severe-

ly mentally ill individuals for 30 years through an agency in the community.

"This [event] is a different way for me to help and to provide something besides therapy," she said. "This is the way I can provide something to people that is useful to them."

Haney said NAMI doesn't provide therapy or treatment.

"We do support them. We do education classes. We do a lot of classes for families," she said.

The money raised at this event will be used for providing support, advocacy and education to the people and families of the Mahoning Valley affected by mental illness.

A T-shirt design competition was also held during the event. Each group designed their own

T-shirts and took a picture as a group.

"The group goes out and gets contributions and we have a competition," Haney said. "If you raise \$100 [and bring it to NAMI], you will get a silver shirt. If you raise \$250, then you'll get a gold shirt."

Haney said NAMI has a lot of events for the people and family affected by mental illness such as a picnic and Christmas party.

"I love my job," she said. "I like the contact I have with the people, and a lot of the people who are seriously mentally ill living in the community can't live on their own."

Jenny Falvey, the owner of Dogsmartz Unleashed in Poland, gave a dog performance on Saturday with her members.

Three dogs performed with Dogsmartz Unleashed members, which was met by a smiling and applauding audience. Falvey said it is always great to see what the dogs can do.

"It's great for kids to show in their light," Falvey said. "It's a great thing to see so many people support this."

Mark Zidian owns Windhaven House, which is an adult care facility where most residents have a diagnosed mental illness. He said Windhaven House is designed to bridge the gap between independent living and nursing home facilities.

"[NAMI's event] brings attention to the community that people of all different types can suffer from mental illness," Zidian said. "This helps educate people

to break up the stigma."

Zidian attended the event with his family and the residences of Windhaven House.

"Animals can help because they are calming and soothing to most people. It helps them relax," he said.

YSU NAMI, an organization at Youngstown State University, participated in this event as a volunteer team.

Tara Baker, the president of YSU NAMI, said she got to know about this event from one of her members and decided to volunteer.

"It brings the community together, so, people who don't know about it can know about [mental illness] through this event," Baker said.

YSU STUDENT-ATHLETES:

HOME LIFE ON THE BRAIN

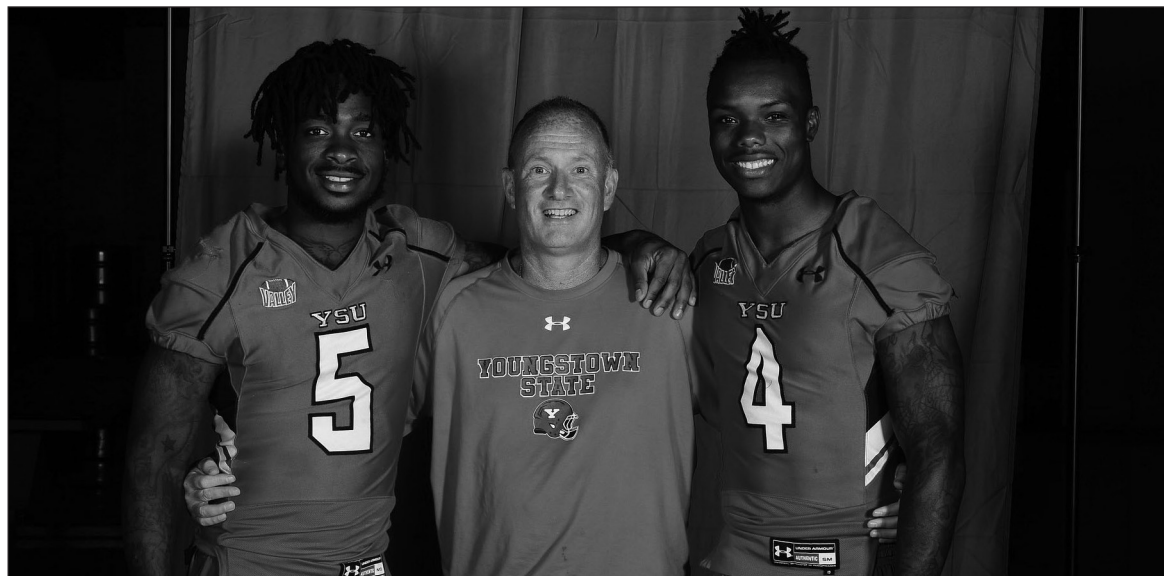


Photo courtesy of YSU SPORTS INFORMATION

Alvin Bailey (5), Damoun Patterson (4), and director of football operations pose on picture day. Both Bailey and Patterson are from areas directly affected by Hurricane Irma.

CHRIS MCBRIDE

A week after Hurricane Irma wreaked havoc across the state of Florida, the state has begun to pick up the pieces in its wake. Registering as a category five hurricane, Irma has been called

the most intense hurricane to hit the Atlantic since Katrina hit the Gulf of Mexico in 2005.

In the weeks after first responders took action in the state, several agencies in multiple counties have been making the rounds. People who have needed anything and everything have gotten it, but it is never enough. First responders have been per-

forming welfare checks for those who haven't been heard from by family and friends.

With unidentified bodies and a death toll still rising, it's hard to grasp the full scope of the wreckage left behind.

While the storm's devastation was far from Youngstown, several Youngstown State University student-athletes come from

areas in Florida and Texas that were directly in the path of Hurricane Irma's wrath.

On the YSU football team alone, 13 players are from Florida including Damoun Patterson and Justus Reed. Times like these remind players that football doesn't come before family.

For these players, the storm felt as close as ever with family

and friends back home making football harder to concentrate on. All of these players get the bye week to hopefully reach out to their loved ones to see how they can help.

Three of these players will be interviewed for an extended story that will be online in the coming weeks.

HORIZON LEAGUE HOPES: YSU TENNIS BEGINS A NEW SEASON

RICK HENNEMAN

The 2016-2017 season was marked with impressive feats from both the men's and women's tennis teams at Youngstown State University.

The women's team continued a miraculous streak with its fourth straight Horizon League postseason championship and its fourth straight NCAA Regional tournament appearance. The YSU women have won 11 of their last 12 Horizon League tournament matches dating back to 2013 and look to continue their success this season.

"There is a strong culture of winning and a confidence in this team that we can do it again regardless of how we do in the reg-

ular season," YSU head coach Mickael Sopel said about keeping the streak alive. "We know that we have been there before and the girls have that knowledge that we can win."

Five players from the Horizon League winning team last season returned to play for the Penguins this year.

For the guys, the team went 19-8 while setting the school record for most wins in a season. The Penguins also went 8-1 on the road, setting another school record. Sopel believes that last season's success was a work in progress.

"Last year was the result of a few years of improvement," he said. "It was the first step in getting to where we want to be eventually. What has to be learned is how to keep going and keep this

dynamic."

Thomas Rodrigues set an individual program record with 26 total wins and 18 victories in dual matches last season. Rodrigues will not be playing tennis for the Penguins this year but Sopel expects his team to fill in the gap left over.

"We had a young team last year and we had a lot of talent," Sopel said. "We are expecting those guys to step up and keep getting better as individuals and as a team. We are still pretty strong and we will keep getting better from there."

Nine of the ten athletes on the men's team played for the Penguins last season.

YSU junior Yossi Dahan finished last season with a 9-6 overall record. Dahan said that the women's success over the

last few years has pushed him and his fellow teammates on the men's team to do better.

"Seeing the girls doing so well on the court has definitely motivated us," Dahan said. "We are trying to go in the same steps and follow them to winning championships."

Dahan has been injured for the last ten months and said that his personal goal for this season is to just play tennis and focus on doing well in the classroom.

Something that makes both of these teams unique is where the players are from. South Africa to Romania and Israel to Brazil, every roster spot is filled by an athlete from outside the United States. While some would say that team chemistry would be a problem for the Penguins, Sopel says otherwise.

"The chemistry is unbelievable," Sopel said. "It is the power of sports. It can unite people, unite countries and unite cultures. It is all about character and values in the end. The girls and guys are all great people and they blend very well together."

The men's team opened up its season last weekend at the River Forest Invitational in Chicago. Senior Matthew Kritzinger won three matches to win the No. 5 singles draw. Sopel added that his team performed up to his expectations.

The YSU women will take the court this weekend at the Akron Invitational, while the men will next play at the Toledo Invitational on Sept. 29.



Photo courtesy of YSU SPORTS INFORMATION

Kyler Lum (24) goes after the ball against St. Bonaventure University. She leads Youngstown State University with five goals and 11 points this season.

KYLER LUM HELPS PUSH YSU SOCCER

MARC WEEMS

With the Youngstown State University soccer team (4-5-1) through half of its season, it's time to look at how the Penguins have fared so far.

After an underwhelming 2016 season where it only won three games and never really got in a groove.

This year has been much different, however, at YSU. Although the Penguins have struggled recently, YSU started the season with four wins in the first five games of the year. That includ-

ed two dominant road wins at the University of Arkansas-Pine Bluff and at Southern University.

One of the main reasons YSU is having a much better year than last has been the play of senior forward Kyler Lum.

Lum leads the Penguins with a career-high five goals and with a career-high 11 points.

"When I came to YSU, I really liked the team," Lum said. "My club coach is who I look to the most. Problem is, he's from England where the style of play is very slow."

Lum said that because of that style of that coach, she was too

slow when she got to college.

"I definitely struggled then. I think I've picked up the momentum," Lum said. "I'm a very dynamic player. I get out of tight spaces very well so when there are a lot of people around me, I can get out of it."

Beside Lum's play, YSU has gotten much better as a unit. Goalkeeper Kylee Moffett has been spectacular for YSU this year. She has earned three shut-outs and played to one tie. She has given up just 12 goals in her nine games started this season.

"We're definitely more positive this year as a collective team,"

Lum said. "I think we are buying into the style of play. Everything that the coaches are telling us we are implementing within our style. Last year, we weren't doing as well. We were losing a lot which was really taking a toll on our whole team."

She also said that because of that, the team was down on itself.

"This year we are a lot more confident," Lum said. "We have a lot of new players and we are still seeing how each other works. As a team, we just want to be positive. If we give 110 percent each game and lose, at least we gave

it our all."

Also in this season, senior midfielder Courtney Lavin scored her first career goal in a win against the University of Indiana-Fort Wayne.

YSU's biggest problem so far has been penalties, but that is correctable. YSU has drawn 10 yellow cards to its opponents three.

YSU's next match is against Northern Kentucky University on Sept. 23 at Farmers National Bank Field.