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STUDENT CENTER FORUM



Students and faculty gather in the Rossi Room for the student center forum.

Photo by Alex Sorrells / The Jambar

Student center set for success

By Alex Sorrells
The Jambar

Student employees and organizations were invited to a forum Sept. 5 to discuss the details of the new student center.

The discussion covered several topics such as the locations of student activities, temporary relocation of student services and the additions coming to Kilcawley.

Joy Polkabla Byers, associate vice president of Student Experience, described the layout of the new center.

“Our staffing areas that oversee Kilcawley are kind of scattered in different spaces, so they’re going to have one shared main office and then one front desk,” Polkabla Byers said. “So where we have them,

things are more efficient use for students and staff and being able to communicate more efficiently and having all those resources in one place.”

Along with student and staff offices, food options will also be placed in one open area. Jordan Pintar, president of Student Government Association, describes the layout of the new food court.

“We’re going to have a food court — super excited about that. It’ll keep all of them in one space, provide a really large eating area, and then additionally, in the food court, they are going to have a little maker’s kitchen. Any students who might want to have an event centralized around that, cooking classes, anything like that, are going to be able to do that in that food court,” Pintar said.

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Heritage month, but make it Hispanic

By Niciarlye Hanchard
The Jambar

National Hispanic Heritage Month is celebrated annually from Sept. 15–Oct. 15. The celebration began as a week-long event in 1968 by President Lyndon Johnson. It was later expanded to a month-long event in 1988 under the leadership of President Ronald Reagan.

Hispanic Heritage Month celebrates the culture, presence and accolades of Hispanic Americans whose ancestors came from Spanish or other Latin-American countries and cultures.

With today being the Opening Ceremony, Youngstown State University’s Hispanic Heritage Month Planning Committee and the greater Youngstown community are preparing for a month of festivities.

The ceremony is being held at the Youngstown Public Library. The keynote speaker will be Christopher Colon, executive director of Thrive Mahoning Valley and a YSU alumni.

Ana Torres, co-director of the William F. Maag Jr. Library and a member of the YSU Hispanic Heritage Month Planning Committee, spoke about the month’s history in

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Construction will be completed in five phases:

- Phase one: summer 2025
- Phase two: school year 2025–26
- Phase three: summer 2026
- Phase four: school year 2026–27
- Phase five: summer 2027

The final phase is scheduled to be complete by fall 2027. Polkabila Byers explained how this plan will be executed.

“Nothing is happening at the Rec Center and nothing is happening to Kilcawley house, so it would be that area in between... So where The Cove and Student Activities are right now, will probably be one of the last things touched,” Polkabila Byers said. “That middle section will be where a majority of the work will take place in that first year, and after the summer of the first year, we will go into the Chestnut Room and into Chick-fil-A and that area.”

Ongoing construction has led many staff and student offices to temporarily relocate to other buildings on campus. Polkabila Byers covered the current relocation plan.

“The main plan is that most of the offices, the card office, graphic services, student activities, the staff in Kilcawley, we are looking at the Silvestri Hall basement area,” said Polkabila Byers. “We also have block-booked some spaces throughout campus. If you were a student organization or you’re a department that wanted to reserve a space, we have four to five different spaces that will be kind of our new Kilcawley satellite concept for the next two and a half years.”

With many changes happening at once, Pintar explained that SGA will be there for those who need help navigating.

“A lot of student [organizations] rely on Kilcawley to have their meetings in, and the student government will be here guiding students so that they know there are other buildings you can book your meetings,” said Pintar.

Two large meeting spaces are also included in the renovation

plans.

“Two really big things that I’m excited about is going to be the ballroom and the black box. It’ll just be new open spaces where you can have large gathering events,” Pintar said. “I feel like the Chestnut room is really the only place that we can do that now, but with those two spaces being added and updated, it will provide a really great face-lift, a lot more open space and larger seating.”

The black box will be an open area designated for late-night meetings, studying or activities. Polkabila Byers explains the plan with that space.

“There is a black box theater that’s going to be in [there] that holds about 100-120 students, but it opens into the food court and so there will be an area that we don’t have to have the entire building open, but just the section of it that will allow us for late-night,” Polkabila Byers said.

Three open forums will take place Oct. 3. Students can register for a session on ysu.campusgroups.com until Oct. 1 to learn more about the new student center.



Photo courtesy of Alex Sorrells / The Jambar

Potential blueprints were shown at the student center forum.

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7-DAY WEATHER FORECAST

Thu. Fri. Sat. Sun. Mon. Tue. Wed.

High: 85°F	High: 83°F	High: 82°F	High: 84°F	High: 83°F	High: 81°F	High: 84°F
Low: 58°F	Low: 59°F	Low: 58°F	Low: 60°F	Low: 59°F	Low: 60°F	Low: 58°F
Chance of precip: 4%	Chance of precip: 9%	Chance of precip: 13%	Chance of precip: 18%	Chance of precip: 19%	Chance of precip: 0%	Chance of precip: 1%



Information courtesy of accuweather.com

Reality of Realty Tower

By John Ostapowicz
The Jambar

Four months ago, an explosion at the Realty Tower — one of Youngstown's most historic landmarks — killed one individual and injured several others. The aftermath of the tragedy still affects both the community and local businesses.

Since May 28, parts of downtown Youngstown have been closed off because of the explosion and demolition efforts, which began June 17. The closures of both East Federal and Market Street restricted access to YSU, DoubleTree by Hilton Youngstown Downtown and Bistro 1907.

With the east side of Market Street and East Federal Street between Market and Champion still closed, traffic is being designated to one lane through the city's Central Square.

The demolition of the tower was approved by Youngstown City Council because it was deemed to have significant safety concerns.

The initial explosion leveled most of the first floor and the adjacent Chase Bank. Akil Drake, a Youngstown State University alumnus and bank employee was killed in the explosion.

It also damaged sidewalks as well as roads. Other than physical damage, the impacts of both the demolition and the blast still resonate with those that live and work in the city.

The Bistro, DoubleTree and the International Towers were all affected by the explosion and subsequent demolition efforts, which brought business to a stand-still. This also forced both the residents who lived in the Realty Tower and the nearby International Towers to evacuate.

It wasn't until recently that the evacuation ban was lifted, and those who lived near the affected area could return. Residents and community members who occupied the Realty Building were unable to return to their homes, which prompted many to leave the city or relocate elsewhere.

Scott Schulick, President of Youngstown CityScape and the Mahoning Valley Historical Society, has spent 27 years on the revitalization efforts of Youngstown. He said the decision to demolish the tower will not replace the impact the building had.

"I don't believe there's demand for a new building, although some may want to do that, and that would be great," Schulick said. "You're never going to replace what you lost."

The history behind the Realty Tower stretched 100 years and before its demolition, the building was listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Many residents fought to save the building because of its historic significance and Schulick said the loss could cause long-lasting damage to the community.

"There are some businesses that won't come back and maybe some of those residents won't come back. The International Towers, there are some who have found other places to go," Schulick said. "We've taken out an important building on the Central Square."

Penguin City Brewing Co., a business that was farther from the blast, saw a drop off in business after the explosion.

Aspasia Lyras, co-owner of Penguin City and YSU alumna, said the business felt the effects of the blast with a decline in patrons. It also received calls asking if it was still open for business.

"When we looked at what we did last year compared to this year, there has been a significant loss. At events the turnout was not as great as the year before," Lyras said. "There were lots of phone calls asking if we're open and 'Is downtown open?' — a lot of that throughout the course of the summer made it challenging for us to get through

the summer."

The former pastor at St. Patrick Church and a resident of downtown Youngstown for nearly 40 years, Rev. Ed Noga, witnessed the blast and said if it weren't for the construction on the side streets, the outcome could have been much worse.

"The building I live in, it didn't shake but it moved. By the time I walked to the window within one to two minutes, West Federal Street was filled with people," Noga said. "As minutes went on, I started to see ambulances and fire trucks as well as the hazmat team from the airport were coming to the city."

Several downtown events are planned throughout the year, such as a Jon Pardi concert at the Youngstown Foundation Amphitheater, the Halloween Bar Crawl and the annual Christmas tree lighting and parade. The hope for both residents and business owners is that the planned events will help bring new and old residents back to the city.

As of today, what remains of the Realty Tower is a shadow of a building that was a symbol to the downtown Central Square.

With the demolition almost completed, the process has begun to move the debris. Although an official timeline has not been given, Modarelli Excavating looks to finish the project and clear the site by the end of September.



Demolition is set to be finished by the end of September.

Photo courtesy of Megan Preston

Celebración Hispana

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“Hispanic Heritage Month is celebrated nationally, in the United States, for over four decades,” Torres said. “It celebrates the contributions and accomplishments of the Latinos and Hispanic community throughout the U.S.”

Torres said the Opening Ceremony will feature 22 flags of Spanish-speaking countries.

The planning committee aims to partner with multiple on-campus departments and organizations in the Youngstown community to create a month of events that can be enjoyed by all.

“What we do in this committee, we try to collaborate with various departments on campus and also with the community to put together a calendar of events so that students can take advantage of it,” Torres said.

Culture and heritage are preserved through celebrations like those being held this month. Jacqueline Arroyo, a senior journalism student, said Hispanic Heritage Month is a time for her to be proud.

“It’s a way for us to embrace our culture. It’s us representing ourselves the best way we can. It’s a mix of us being out there, happy and proud,” Arroyo said.

She also said her mother helps in keeping the traditions alive.

“My mother keeps our heritage around. In our house, we have the Virgin Mary. We have an ofrenda — it’s something we use to keep our dead ones alive. She likes to sage the house,” Arroyo said.

Along with the opening ceremony, several other events will take place throughout September on campus and in the area. For all activities, students are encouraged to attend.

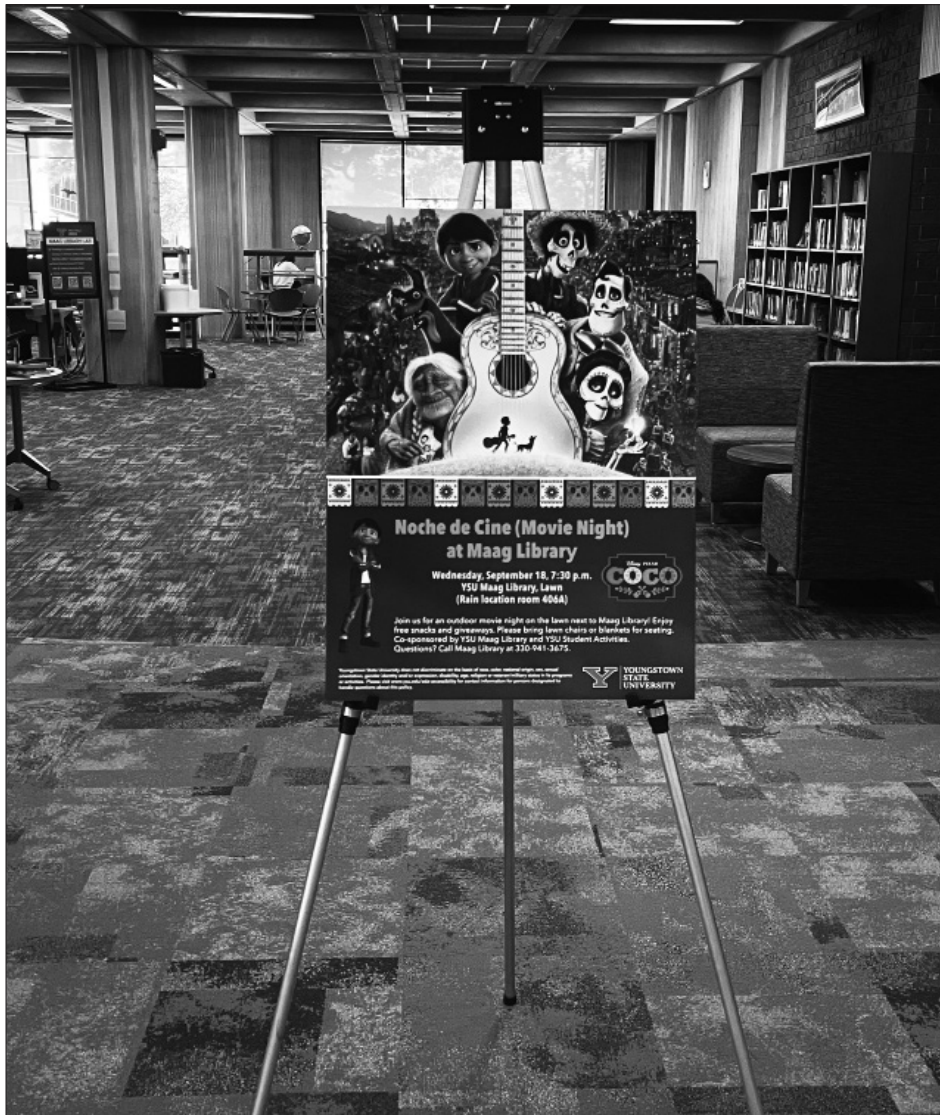
Noche de Cine, or “movie night,” will be at 7:30 p.m. Sept. 18 on the lawn between Maag Library and Ward Beecher Hall. If there is rain, it will be moved to room 406A in Maag Library. The film being shown is “Coco.”

iHola Fest! Youngstown, a parade and festival, will be held from 12-9 p.m. Sept. 21 at Wean Park and is free to attend.

Torres said YSU’s main event for the month is the Hispanic Heritage Celebration, which will be held from 12–3 p.m. Oct. 12.

“I would love for the students to join us. There will be performers, music, food and vendors. Anyone can attend,” Torres said.

There will be brochures available in Maag Library or at ysu.edu/hispanicheritage with the full list of events.



The Opening Ceremony is set for 12-1 p.m. There will be a movie night outside Maag Library on Sept. 18.

Photos by Nicarlyle Hanchard / The Jambar

A fresh brand for YSU Eats

By Matthew Sotlar
The Jambar

For hungry students, Youngstown State University's catering service, YSU Eats, offers 11 restaurants across campus to choose from. These include Chick-fil-A, Dunkin' Donuts, Wendy's and back by popular demand, Chop'd and Wrap'd.

Previously, YSU Eats was known as YSU Dining by Chartwells. Marketing Director McKenzie Kobbe said she felt the logo needed updating.

"We were originally YSU Dining by Chartwells and that the name was too long and clunky and the logo itself was outdated," Kobbe said. "How can we make it more fun and more engaging? So we changed to YSU Eats and our new logo has Pete [the Penguin] in it."

YSU Eats works to serve all students on campus. Kobbe said that YSU Eats holds events to serve students.

"We do a lot of free events for students on campus," Kobbe said. "We do the football games on Saturdays, we do a lot of catering and then we'll set up a Chick-fil-A tent. We like to do these events called 'Love YSU Eats' where we give out freebies, we give out hot chocolate or apple cider donuts. Always something fun."

YSU Eats also hosts pop-up catering events twice a month outside the 9/11 Memorial near Kilcawley Center. The next pop-up catering is Sept. 17, cheeseburger sliders will be offered to celebrate National Cheeseburger Day.

Each year, surveys provided by YSU Eats allow both students and staff to leave feedback. Kobbe said feedback helps YSU Eats determine how new and existing

restaurants can be improved.

"We do these voice-division survey results in the fall," Kobbe said. "We'll actually be putting them out soon, where we ask all students, staff and faculty what can be changed around campus. A majority of them asked for Chop'd and Wrap'd back, so we replaced Choolaah with Chop'd and Wrap'd in the food court, and everybody's excited about that."

Student engagement is a top priority for YSU Eats. Kobbe said for the fall semester, she hopes to see more engagement at campus events.

"We'd love to see students stay on campus," Kobbe said. "We'd love to see more student engagement, people coming to events and just supporting because so many people are doing great things here. We get to be a part of it, but there's so many that are involved. Seeing people turn out to events would be great."

YSU Eats offers both late-night dining from Monday to Thursday from 8–11 p.m., as well as food delivery. Kobbe said that the deliveries are done through YSU Catering by Chartwells.

"The deliveries are done through catering, so you would order at ysu.catertracks.com, and you'll see all the different options," Kobbe said. "You just order it right through there and you put in the instructions where you want it delivered and we'll bring it."

Delivery fees are included in the cost of the food. YSU Eats delivers food across campus via golf carts.

For those interested in events sponsored by YSU Eats, it posts regular updates to its Facebook and Instagram @ysueats.



A map in Kilcawley showing dining options at YSU

Photo by Matthew Sotlar/The Jambar

A look inside the MVFC

By John Ostapowicz
The Jambar

Since its inception in 1985, the Missouri Valley Football Conference has garnered a lot of attention and statistically has been a staple in the Football Championship Subdivision.

The Youngstown State University football program has called the conference home since 1997 and brought the first-ever national championship title to the MVFC.

For the college football season, the MVFC is home to 11 teams.

For other sports, the Missouri Valley Conference is home to six consistent members, which includes Illinois State University, Indiana State University, Missouri State University, Murray State University, the University of Northern Iowa and Southern Illinois University.

Although the MVFC and the MVC share the same name, both remain separate entities and operate under a separate administration.

The MVFC was originally founded as the Gateway Collegiate Athletic Conference in 1985. Its name was changed in 1991 to the Gateway Football Conference, a title that lasted until 2007. Missouri Valley Football Conference became the organization's official name in June 2008 after an approved rebrand of the conference.

Patty Viverito, commissioner of the MVFC, entered her 40th season as the commissioner in 2024. She has witnessed 14 national championship victories and 20 title-game appearances — the most by any FCS conference.

Viverito said she has watched the conference evolve over the past four decades into a prestigious FCS conference.

"I've seen [the MVFC] grow from a six-team conference to what we are today as we are spread across the upper Midwest and as far east as Youngstown," Viverito said. "We've got a long, proud history and the Penguins have been a part of it."

Besides YSU, North Dakota State University and South Dakota State University have combined for 11 national championships since 2008. Both programs have brought national attention to the MVFC, with SDSU's second-straight national title and NDSU's most recent bout with the University of Colorado.

To start the 2024 season, the MVFC has seven teams in the Stats Perform FCS Top-25 rankings with South Dakota State at the No. 1 spot. In response to several teams within the rankings, Viverito said that all the teams within the league play at the highest level.

"Taking the Dakotas into the league has been a game

changer. All of our teams have risen to the occasion to try and compete at the highest level. It's certainly been the case since the beginning but we've never been as deep as we've been," Viverito said.

Since 2015, the MVFC has partnered with ESPN for exposure on linear television and ESPN+ in 2024. The only exception to the partnership is the four Dakota universities, which use the local broadcasting network, Midco Sports.

The introduction of the MVFC "Game of the Week" has provided more exposure to several programs and allowed league games to be tabbed as an important game.

Mike Kern, associate commissioner of the MVFC, said all 11 of the programs within the league operate differently as each institution has a separate television package or requires clips from road games.

"For Youngstown, they like to have a road game delivered back to their market and would sometimes prefer a specific home game selection," Kern said. "Several of our schools that are over the air have packages with the cable outlets so that we try to avoid going into their market and taking from games in which they are generating money for their institution."

The most crucial brand exposure to the conference is any title appearance. Kern said the opportunity to play in a championship game benefits both the MVFC and the university, regardless of a win or loss.

"It's a three and a half hour commercial for our league and for that school," Kern said.

Several members have joined or departed the MVFC over the last four decades. In 2007, Western Kentucky University left the league and moved from the FCS to the FBS to join the Sun Belt Conference.

Most recently, MSU joined the conference in 2023 and Western Illinois University departed at the conclusion of the season. Missouri State University will play its final season with the MVFC in 2024, as it will join Conference USA in the FBS to begin the 2025-26 season.

The National Football League draft prospects run deep in the MVFC. Senior quarterback Mark Gronowski for SDSU declined offers to transfer to an upper-division program to play his final season in the MVFC and enter the 2025 NFL Draft.

Over the past decade, NDSU has had two quarterbacks drafted in the first round, with former players Carson Wentz selected second overall in the 2016 NFL Draft by the Philadelphia Eagles and Trey Lance, who was drafted with the third overall pick in the 2021 NFL Draft.

The official start of MVFC play begins at 1 p.m. Sept. 28. For a complete list of conference games, visit valley-football.org.

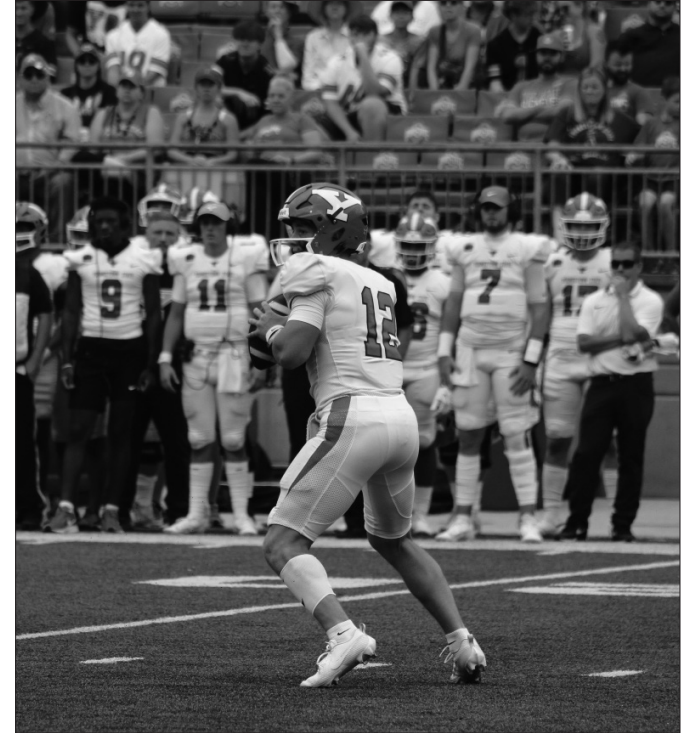


Photo by Dylan Lux / The Jambar



Photo courtesy of Dave Eggen

Sophomore quarterback Beau Brungard (top). South Dakota quarterback Mark Gronowski.

YSU student hits the right notes

By AnnaBelle Boone
The Jambar

Overseas in France, Team USA medaled in various sports, but one Youngstown State University student brought home an international gold medal in music.

Ryan Lamb, a sophomore music performance major with a focus in tuba, competed in the Leonard Falcone International Euphonium and Tuba Festival, earning a gold medal for Youngstown State University. The festival brought in talent from all over the world, including Korea, Italy and England.

The competition took place over Aug. 9–12, at the Blue Lakes Fine Arts Camp in Twin Lake, Michigan. Lamb's favorite moment was meeting the players from all over the world.

"I felt right at home with all these people," Lamb said. "It didn't feel like a competition. It just felt like a presentation of our earthly skills, which was really nice. It was just a really welcoming community."

The audition process began in December 2023, when Lamb had a professor reach out to him and encourage him to enter.

In March, Lamb recorded himself here at Bliss Hall and submitted it. He was then notified in May that he had advanced to semifinals. For the semifinals, he went to Twin Lake to compete against five other people in

his division. The competition ended with a final performance in front of 12 judges.

"We got the day off, and then found out if we advanced to finals or not. I fortunately advanced to finals. And then on the last day, I got to play the final round... and then right then, they announced the results and I was the gold medalist," Lamb said.

When asked about what piece of advice from the judges stuck with him, Lamb said it was to have more musical moments.

"I was very academic in my playing ... very precise." Lamb said. "But they said I can feel it, and they know I want to dive into the music a little more, because that's what we musicians do. We just try to make an art, try to make something to touch the human soul that's listening and the human ears that are listening. It's really nice to be told, 'Hey, don't worry about what you're playing, just feel it.'"

Lamb also discussed how this event has shown him where he wants to take his career post-graduation.

"This is the start of a pretty prestigious resume that I want to build," Lamb said. "It's been a nice kickstart for me to think, 'Oh, I really love doing this sort of thing, and this is what I want to do with my life.'"

Lamb said the advice he received helped how he worked with the YSU Marching Pride, on field staff as the brass technician.

"I really take a lot of passion into teaching other brass players with my own tips and tricks into being successful," Lamb said. "It's just so fulfilling to see how successful they can be by just one little intricate detail that they can always incorporate into their future endeavors."

Winning the gold medal meant a lot to Lamb, and he said he was proud to represent Dana School of Music.

"It was really nice to tell people I was from YSU and Dana. They [were] like, 'Oh, that's awesome, you guys are out here,'" Lamb said. "It's so nice to take a deep breath and know that YSU is not totally forgotten."

Joseph Carucci, the director of Dana School of Music and University Theatre, gave a statement about Lamb's success in the competition.

"The best collegiate tubists in the world are represented at the Leonard Falcone International Euphonium and Tuba Festival," Carucci said.

Carucci said Lamb's medal speaks to his skill, and to the quality of education at Dana.

"Ryan's gold medal not only speaks to his incredible musicianship and dedication to his craft, but the level of musicianship that is fostered in [Yukitada] Onitsuka's tuba and euphonium studio at YSU's Dana School of Music," Carucci said. "We are immensely proud of Ryan and look forward to his future successes and career as a professional musician."



Lamb standing in front of festivals logo (left) and Lamb with his fellow competitors.

Photo courtesy of Ryan Lamb

Music at Noon in full swing

By Brookelynn Roush and
Hannah Werle
The Jambar

For over four decades, residents of Youngstown and the surrounding communities have had the opportunity to experience the magic of music and art on Wednesday afternoons.

Music at Noon started when The Butler Institute of Art collaborated with Youngstown State University's Dana School of Music and University Theater to showcase the arts in the weekly series.

The season began Sept. 4 with the first Music at Noon of the school year. From now until Nov. 20, Music at Noon will occur weekly on Wednesdays. The season will resume after winter break Jan. 22.

The Music at Noon series promotes Cliffe College of Creative Arts and Dana, allowing opportunities for students to perform and for the community to be exposed to the arts.

According to YSU's website, "Those who attend Music at Noon can be surrounded by American art in numerous galleries, faculty, students and guest artists take center stage in The Butler's Beecher Court, while audience members are treated to selections from multiple genres of music."

Susan Carfano, director's executive assistant and event manager at The Butler said Music at Noon is a great partnership between both The Butler and Dana.

"[Faculty at Dana] come and provide a wonderful opportunity for museum visitors to listen to music and the university faculty and students come over as well," Carfano said. "It's been a

wonderful program for decades now."

Music at Noon has featured genres such as classical, jazz, world music, contemporary pieces, pop tunes, favorites from "The Great American Songbook" and more.

"The Great American Songbook" includes popular American songs and jazz standards of the 20th Century.

According to Carfano, Music at Noon runs throughout the regular school year, with occasional special performances during the summer.

Performers typically include Dana and University Theatre faculty, as well as other affiliated music groups and performers.

For the fall 2022 sessions, Music at Noon featured performers such as Hornist Sean Yancer and Pianist Diane Yazvac, Dana and University Theater Director Joe Carucci with his trio, piano duet Ralista Georgieva-Smith and Professor Caroline Oltmanns and Pianist Sylvia Wang.

Music at Noon is held in the Beecher Court of The Butler, which Carfano said allows for good acoustics without disturbing the atmosphere of the museum.

"Even when they're playing the flute, it's just phenomenal. It's just a wonderful way to cooperate and bring music and art together," Carfano said.

The Explore YSU website features a calendar of upcoming Music at Noon performances, including Michael Strauss playing the viola, a voice studio recital, the Dana Chorale and more.

Music at Noon is free and open to the public. Free parking is available at The Butler and in adjunct lots for a minimal cost.

Penguin City Brewing Co. hosts events for students

Brunch Party with BYOB!

10 a.m. – 4 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 8

BYOB, or "Build your own breakfast," will be housed at Penguin City every Sunday serving brunch. Special new menu items and all the original BYOB dishes will be available to order. Music by DJ Spruce. The event is family friendly with games, breakfast cocktails including beer-mosas, mocktails and a coffee bar by Stone Fruit Coffee Co.

Thirsty Thursday Karaoke hosted by DJ Spruce

Weekly from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m.

Drink & shot specials available

Friday Country Line Dance Night

Doors open at 7:30 p.m. with a \$5 fee

Friday, Sept. 27

Friday, Oct. 4

Saturday, Oct. 26 — County Line Dance Halloween Party!

Friday, Nov. 8

Friday, Nov. 29

Friday, Dec. 13

Friday, Dec. 27

Lessons by Patti, all skill levels welcome. Music by DJ Spruce or DJ Daum.



Photo by Brookelynn Roush / The Jambar

Music at Noon is a partnership between The Butler, Dana School of Music and University Theater.

Most anticipated movies of fall 2024

By **Moira Macdonald**
The Seattle Times
(TNS)

As we settle in for a prestigious movie season, all isn't quite well in the movie world. The summer's box-office totals, despite some big hits, lagged behind last year's — 13 movies are slated for fall 2024.

To kick off September, "Beetlejuice Beetlejuice" hit theaters Sept. 6. Tim Burton's follow-up to the goth horror comedy "Beetlejuice" reunited Michael Keaton, Winona Ryder and Catherine O'Hara from the original film. Jenna Ortega, Justin Theroux and Willem Dafoe were also casted for the new film.

"Spider-Man" director Jon Watts, will release "Wolfs" Sept. 20 with a limited theatrical release and will hit Apple TV+ on Sept. 27. The film takes on a crime caper in which two longtime "fixers," played by George Clooney and Brad Pitt, accidentally get called to clean up the same apparent murder.

A longtime passion project for filmmaker Francis Ford Coppola, "Megalopolis" was described by the Toronto International Film Festival as "pivoting between political drama, philosophical science fiction and star-crossed romance."

Adam Driver stars as a grieving architect with utopian ambitions. The cast also includes Giancarlo Esposito, Jon Voight, Laurence Fishburne, Talia Shire, Jason Schwartzman and Dustin Hoffman. "Megalopolis" will hit theaters Sept. 27.

Scheduled for Oct. 4, "Joker: Folie à Deux" will star Joaquin Phoenix and Lady Gaga as a follow up to Todd Phillips' 2019 film "Joker." Gaga will make her debut as Harley Quinn, who Joker/Arthur Fleck meets during a stint at a psychiatric hospital. The French subtitle translates as "madness for two."

The next installment of Lego movies, "Piece by Piece" will portray the life of Pharell Williams rendered in Lego animation. Morgan Neville will direct the film and

with the recent release of the trailer, the movie will be streaming globally Oct. 11.

Andrew Garfield and Florence Pugh will pair up for the Oct. 11 release of "We Live in Time," directed by John Crowley. The movie is about a couple who meet and embark on a long romance.

Based on Colson Whitehead's 2019 novel and Pulitzer Prize winner for fiction, "Nickel Boys" gets the movie treatment in an adaptation directed by RaMell Ross. The story is set in a fictionalized version of the Dozier School for Boys, a reform school in Jim Crow-era Florida notorious for abuse, and follows a man looking back on his experiences there. The film is scheduled for an Oct. 25 release.

"Conclave" planned for a Nov. 1 release is based on a novel by Robert Harris, is a drama that takes us inside the Vatican for a notoriously secret process — the selection of a new pope. Ralph Fiennes plays a cardinal tasked with overseeing the succession — who finds that the previous pope has kept a secret from him.

The latest August Wilson play to arrive on screen is "The Piano Lesson." The story of two siblings clashing over the family legacy of an heirloom piano. The film stars Samuel L. Jackson, Danielle Deadwyler and John David Washington.

Wilson is known for his 10-play Pittsburgh Cycle, a series of plays depicting the Black American experience across the 20th century. The film adaptation will have limited theatrical release Nov. 8 streaming and Netflix on Nov. 22.

For "Gladiator II," it's been rather a long wait since the original "Gladiator" released in 2000. Although Russell Crowe's not involved, Ridley Scott's long-awaited sequel of ancient Rome will finally arrive in theaters Nov. 22. Connie Nielsen and Derek Jacobi will reprise their roles, while Denzel Washington, Paul Mescal and Pedro Pascal join the cast.

"Wicked," a "The Wizard of Oz" inspired musical, has been beloved for decades. Cynthia Erivo will play the green-skinned witch Elphaba, Ariana Grande as the pink-clad witch Glinda and supporting roles played by Michelle Yeoh, Jeff Goldblum, Bowen Yang and Peter Dinklage. The film will finally hit the big screen Nov. 22.



"Beetlejuice Beetlejuice" (left) hit theaters Sept. 6 and "The Joker: Folie à Deux" hits theaters Oct. 4.

Photos courtesy of The Seattle Times

How to talk with someone grieving a suicide loss

**Mayo Clinic News Network
(TNS)**

In 2021, suicide was the 11th leading cause of death in the U.S., claiming the lives of more than 48,000 people — nearly double the number of homicides. People of all ages, ethnicities and backgrounds choose to end their own lives. That means that people of all ages, ethnicities and backgrounds may be affected by suicide.

When learning that a loved one, friend, neighbor, work colleague or child has lost someone to suicide, you want to support them. Your first thought might be, “What do I say?”

Supporting someone grieving a suicide loss can be uncomfortable and even a bit scary. The support you provide is crucial to helping them navigate this tragedy, and it’s essential to their mental health. Be aware that those who have lost someone to suicide are at a higher risk of dying from suicide, as well.

People who have lost a loved one to suicide may consider themselves a survivor. They may be experiencing a complex range of feelings from grief to anger, shame and fear. Being present and showing you care — without judgment — plays a vital role in supporting them.

When talking with the survivor, show you still remember their loved one. Use the person’s name, share memories and maybe even photos of time spent together. Talking openly about the person can help remove the stigma of their death. Sometimes, all you need to do is listen.

The survivor may ask unanswerable questions, such as, “I don’t understand how this happened,” or “How could they do this to me?” Validate those thoughts and acknowledge that neither of you has the answers. Provide support with statements such as, “This is very hard for you, and I’m sorry that I don’t have any answers.”

Often, a survivor hears most from their circles of family and friends shortly after the death, but then the connections taper off. The survivor’s emotions and feelings haven’t tapered off. That’s why keeping in touch is so important.

Holidays, anniversaries, birthdays and other milestone events can be particularly difficult for survivors because they conjure up intense memories and emotions about their loved ones. Check in with survivors around these times. A “thinking of you” card, email or text may be all they need to know you’re there for them.

Also, remember to include the survivor in activities. If you’ve frequently met for coffee, extend the invitation again. If they enjoy the theater, ask if they’d like to go to a show with you. If the answer is “no,” accept it and don’t push, but don’t give up on them. The time will come when they say, “Yes.”

Because survivors are at greater risk of dying from suicide, pay attention to them. Listen to what they’re saying and what they’re not saying. Although it’s uncomfortable for you — without judging them or minimizing their feelings — gently ask if they’re having thoughts of suicide themselves.

Setting aside your discomfort to ask a few questions can help the survivor feel supported and less alone, isolated and

hopeless.

If you see these signs and are with the survivor, call 988, the national suicide and crisis line, a local crisis center or take them to the nearest emergency department.

Everyone plays a role in suicide prevention. Stay connected with a survivor, listen to them, be aware of risks and warning signs, and don’t hesitate to offer help when needed.

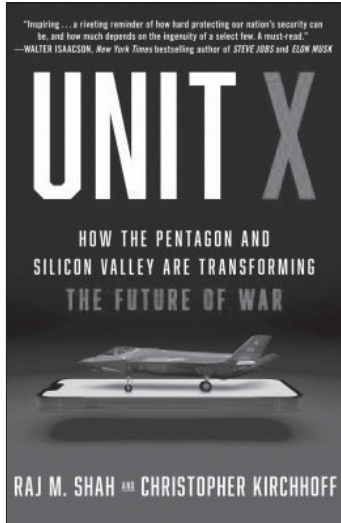
Note these crisis phone resources:

- National Suicide Prevention Lifeline, 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline: call or text 988 or chat at [988lifeline.org](https://www.988lifeline.org).
- Crisis text line: text “HOME” to 741-741.
- For veterans: call 988, then press 1. Text 838255.
- YSU Police 330-941-3527
- YSU Student Counseling Services at 330-941-3737

Jessie Wolf is a clinical social worker in Psychiatry & Psychology in New Prague, Minnesota.



Penguin Book Nook with The Public Library

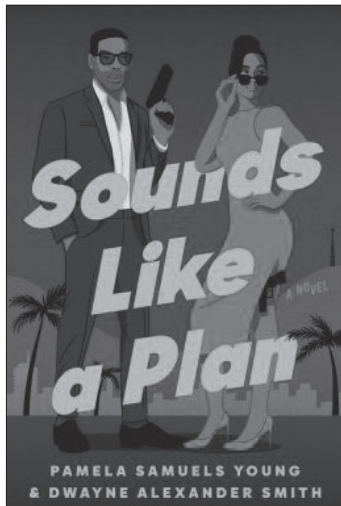


Nonfiction review

Unit X: How the Pentagon and Silicon Valley Are Transforming the Future of War

by Raj M. Shah

A deep look into the Defense Innovation Unit of the Pentagon, where the mission is to make U.S. military technology as fast and effective as possible. For anyone interested in the rise of the tech industry, warfare, and the revolutionary state of the modern world.



Fiction review

Sounds Like A Plan

by Pamela Samuels-Young

Set in Los Angeles, two private investigators find themselves assigned to a case where they're forced to set aside their differences in order to find justice. A true enemies-to-lovers layered with murder-mystery and alternating points-of-view.

Upcoming programs

Saturday, Sept. 14

10 a.m.

Genealogy and Local History
Open House

Monday, Sept. 16

11 a.m.

Mystery Monday Book Club

Monday, Sept. 16

5 p.m.

Monochrome Movie Monday

Visit libraryvisit.org to register, get more information or find other programs

To find more information or to place a hold on a title, visit libraryvisit.org, meet us at 305 Wick Ave. or call the library at 330-744-8636.

Have something to say to The Jambar?

Write a Letter to the Editor!

Email The Jambar at

thejambar@gmail.com

The Jambar Column

Do you really want to talk about it?

Everyone laments about the issues that Gen Z faces with socializing. It is difficult, it is hard, but it must be done. I will not say that I am the best communicator to have entered or exited the communication department. Nor am I the most social of individuals, but I believe myself to be a decent communicator.

As we venture through our early twenties, trying to find our footing, and “establishing boundaries,” there are conversations that must be had with ourselves and those with whom we interact, which involves “open communication.”

Many people believe they are an “open communicator,” but are they really? More goes into communicating openly than just saying how you feel and leaving the conversation where it lies. One must consider the context of the conversation, the views of those involved, why those views are held, if common ground can be met and if not, what other resolutions can be reached with further discussion of the issue.

I will not lie and say it’s easy. It is not. There are many hindrances that stand tall in the path of open communication. Our cellphones are one such hindrance. Tone in written communications is indicated by choice of words. What we say may be the most encouraging and supportive thing possible, but if the choice of words implies condescension, we cannot be surprised when the recipient takes offense to the statement.

Through text, people can misinterpret and misconstrue tone, thus changing the entire meaning of the original message. It will also result in further responses being misconstrued.

We have a chain of messages that has essentially “lost the plot.” That missing



Nicarlyle Hanchard

plot is the key to reaching actual resolutions. And is that not the point of open communication, positive resolutions?

Tone aside, one’s actual openness to communicate is another hindrance. Many of those who say they want to have the hard conversations and support society’s new found openness are often incapable of holding these discussions.

Some are very intentional in their miscommunication. Others may not have the depth of understanding they previously had to hold these conversations. But I believe, in that instance, a slower approach can be adopted to have the conversation.

For those accused of people-pleasing, another hindrance faced is establishing boundaries when people believe they have an idea of who you are. We often feel guilty about “standing our ground.”

I know it’s a cliché, but it happens. Some also feel guilty about attempting to openly express their thoughts and feelings because it is otherwise “out of character.” In this instance, being passive aggressive would only worsen the outcome of the conversation. Again, the intention behind open communication, for me at least, is positive resolutions.

Where do we go from here? As individuals, Gen Z or otherwise, we have to evaluate how open we actually are to having conversations that may or may not go in our favor. I hope we can move toward more open communication as society progresses.

The Jambar Editorial

Technology in the classroom

As our society advances technological, there is bound to be more of it in the classroom. The question The Jambar is asking today: Is technology helping or hindering learning?

The COVID-19 pandemic took place almost four years ago and there have been many technological advances in that time. However, in an article posted on The National Library of Medicine, researchers acknowledge that schools had to adapt to these changes.

According to the article, “These issues were emphasized during the recent COVID-19 pandemic that accelerated the use of digital technologies in education, generating questions regarding digitalization in schools.”

COVID-19 greatly impacted how quickly technology was incorporated into the classroom. However, it is important to remember that a lot of schools were not prepared for this transition. Therefore, a lot of students lacked a quality education while we were in quarantine.

Additionally, with the younger generations being more familiar with today’s technology, there may be a disconnect between students and educators. Students may want to take advantage of the technology, while professors may take a more traditional route.

Researchers elaborated on the National Library of Medicine’s website, explaining why educators need to be properly trained in utilizing technology in the classroom.

“Research on the use of mobile devices to support learning tends to report that the insufficient preparation of teachers is a major obstacle in implementing effective mobile learning programs in school,” the article elaborated.

With that being said, when technology is properly used for education there are many benefits. It allows students the chance to expand their resources and have them more readily available.

Resources such as online libraries, lessons and training are something we often see incorporated into education.

The National Library of Medicine article also stated, “The authors suggested that tablets offered additional advantages to students; namely, they reported improvements in students’ notetaking, organizational and communications skills, and creativity.”

Rather than using pen and paper to take notes, students use their tablets or laptops, which allows them to better keep up with lessons or lectures. These notes can also be easily reorganized for studying purposes.

Another area that improves with the integration of technology into education is communication between students, educators and other staff.

The National Library of Medicine’s website stated, “The capabilities of ICTs (e.g., interactive media, simulations) create new potential methods of testing specific skills, such as problem-solving and problem-processing skills, meta-cognitive skills, creativity and communication skills, and the ability to work productively in groups.”

Having new technologies in the classroom gives students the chance to easily collaborate on schoolwork.

Technology in the classroom has its strengths and weaknesses, but The Jambar believes the technological advances we have made recently have left a positive impact on education.

CLASSIFIEDS

MISCELLANEOUS

RADICALIZATION AND PARALYSIS

Two legacies of America's unique experiment with group health insurance and its radical social engineering.

Off-off-campus details TBA

Jack Labusch and Friends of Health
Care Free Speech

THE JAMBAR POLICY

Since being founded by Burke Lyden in 1931, The Jambar has won nine Associated Press Collegiate Press honors. The Jambar is published weekly in the spring and fall semesters. The Jambar is free for YSU students and faculty.

EDITORIAL POLICY

The editorial board consists of the editor-in-chief, managing editor, news editor, sports editor, arts and entertainment editor and head copy editor. These opinion pieces are written separately from news articles and do not reflect the opinions of any individual staff member. The Jambar's business manager, multimedia journalists and non-writing staff do not contribute to editorials, and the adviser does not have final approval.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR POLICY

The Jambar encourages letters to the editor. Submissions are welcome at thejambar@gmail.com. Letters should concern a campus issue, must be typed and must not exceed 400 words. Submissions must include the writer's name and telephone number for verification, along with the writer's city of residence for publication. 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 has decided that the subject has been sufficiently aired. The editorial board will request a rewrite from the submitted 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.

News Brief

Scholarship recipients for YSU Women Retirees

The YSU Women Retirees met in June at the Stonebridge Restaurant in Boardman to honor and recognize the recipients of their annual scholarship.

Four scholarships were awarded this year and are solely funded by the members of the group.

The recipients who were awarded a scholarship this year were:

- Crystal Lin of Massillon
- Jordan Truelsch of Brunswick
- Grace Economus of Poland
- Eden Lesnansky of Youngstown

SWING: ARM AND CLUB

Women's golf wins Mill Creek opener

By Joel Fuzo
The Jambar

The Youngstown State University women's golf team won its season-opening golf outing at the Mill Creek Golf Course, with the three top-scoring individuals all being Penguins.

Junior Maddie Shoults, a transfer from Ottawa University Arizona claimed medalist honors with a 68, four-under-par, in her first game as a Penguin. Shoults is also a 2023 National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics Second-Team All-American.

Individually, Shoults finished in second place behind her own teammate, sophomore Neeranuch Prajunpanich. She shot an even-to-par with 72.

In her college debut, freshman Sofia Perez Escarcena placed third as she shot a four-over-par score of 76.

Youngstown State had four more players finish within the top 10 in the season opener.

True freshman Valentina Peña Anaya finished her first outing with a score of 78,

the fifth-highest individual placement, while senior Lizzie Saur tied for sixth-place with 79.

Both junior Adena Rugola and true freshman Bella Saur tied for ninth place with 81, topping off all the top 10 players of the tournament.

True freshman Taylor Morrone shot an 82, giving her the 12th place finish and in her first outing, redshirt junior Kelly Hitton had to withdraw from the match due to injury.

The team is currently unaware of the severity of Hitton's injury, or if it will affect her participation in future matches.

The Penguins posted a single-team score of 305 and finished ahead of the second place team Le Moyne College by 21-strokes and Westminster college who placed third with its team score of 339.

Youngstown State will have its next outing Sept. 14-15 at the Pennsylvania State University Nittany Lion Invitational at the PSU Blue Course in University Park.

The Penguins will return home Sept. 22 to host the Roseann Schwartz Invitational at Mill Creek Golf Course in Boardman.

Penguins are far from home

By Joel Fuzo
The Jambar

The Youngstown State University women's volleyball team sits with a 2-4 record as it continues a long road trip.

The Penguins have competed in both the University of Connecticut Tournament and the Geri Polvino Invitational, hosted by Eastern Kentucky University.

Youngstown State started the tournament with back-to-back losses to Sacred Heart University and UConn. The Penguins went on a two-game win streak against Long Island University and Radford University.

Youngstown State's win over LIU marks Riley Jarett's first win as the Penguins' head coach.

Senior Isabel Schaeffbauer set a new career high with 54 assists and 24 digs against LIU.

In the same game, junior Abbie Householder had her first 20-20 match — a tied game. Junior Bianca Giglio set a new career-best with 10 kills as the Penguins won the series 3-2.

Radford kept the series close in the first set with a six-point deficit. The last two sets were decided within a few possessions.

Fifth-year senior Nyia Setla had a team-high of 20 digs, and Householder set a career-high of 24 kills, as Youngstown State won the series 3-1.

Morehead State University ended the Penguins momentum, as the Eagles went on multiple-scoring-runs at the end of each set to defeat YSU, 3-0.

The team's struggles continued against Eastern Kentucky, as the team had a collective 26 kills and the series ended with another 3-0 loss.

Householder earned herself all-tournament team honors in both tournaments. She currently averages 3.65 kills per set, the highest of her collegiate career. Householder also ranks fourth in the Horizon League in kills with 84.

As Youngstown State closed out its last game in Richmond, the Penguins will face Canisius University on Sept. 12, launching the first game of the Ellicott Hotels Western New York Invitational.

The first match of the three-game tournament will be streamed live on Golden Griffins Broadcast Network.



The women's volleyball team prepares for home opener.

Photo by Joel Fuzo / The Jambar



Maddie Angelo (left) and Taylor Berry compete on Farmers National Bank Field.

Photo by Dylan Lux / The Jambar

Women's soccer seeks consistency

By Dylan Lux
The Jambar

After a run-in with two Mid-American Conference opponents, the Youngstown State University women's soccer team went on the road for three of its next four contests.

YSU traveled to two cities in New York, and Richmond, Kentucky, for non-conference matchups.

Buffalo, New York, was the first stop on the Penguins' road trip for a matchup with Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference opponent Canisius University on Aug. 29. The Golden Griffins came into the matchup following a 5-nil victory over Binghamton University.

The Penguins were down 1-nil at halftime, but following the first career goal from sophomore Tatum Gretz, the 'Guins ended the match in a 1-1 draw. Junior Taylor Berry assisted on the goal.

Farmers National Bank Field was next on the schedule, as The George Washington University Revolutionaries came to Youngstown for a Sept. 1 match under the sun.

A first-half game-winning goal by senior Elis Klein Spindola off an assist from Gretz was all YSU needed to pick up its second victory. With a 1-nil final score, the team moved to 2-1-2 before another road game.

Spindola said the free space during her goal run caught her by surprise, but she didn't want to overthink putting the ball in the back of the net.

"I was surprised that I had so much space, I think [Gretz] was surprised too," Spindola said. "I was so open [that] I didn't want to think too much. So I was like, 'goal-keeper saw it, I'm gonna tip her,' and it worked out."

For that week, Gretz and freshman Maya Naimoli were named Horizon League Of-

fensive and Defensive Players of the Week, respectively.

Gretz said the team is coming together well now after seven games and the 'Guins are creating many goal chances.

"We had a lot of really great opportunities [against the Revolutionaries]," Gretz said.

Gretz said she needs to continue to generate scoring opportunities.

"Just keep shooting, that's the thing for me," Gretz said. "Keep shooting and creating opportunities for other players."

The Guins' waddled back to New York to the campus of St. Bonaventure University as they faced the Bonnies on Sept. 5.

Two goals from St. Bonaventure and a stout defense, only allowing two shots on goal for Youngstown State, saw the game end in a 2-nil loss for YSU. Naimoli had 6 saves in the contest.

Rounding out the Penguins' recent stretch of games was a Sept. 9 match against Eastern Kentucky University in Richmond. The Atlantic Sun Conference proved formidable, as YSU was shut out once again 1-nil.

Seeking to amend two straight losses, Youngstown State will play its final non-conference match Sept. 15 against Duquesne University.

YSU will look to build on last season's performance, as the two teams met up in Pittsburgh, where the Penguins came out victorious, 2-1 on a last-second goal from junior Chloe Weiland.

The Penguins are 2-10-2 all-time against the Dukes, who are 4-1 this season, including a 2-1 loss to nationally-ranked No. 7 Pittsburgh University.

The broadcast from Farmers National Bank Field will be on ESPN+. Kickoff is slated for 1 p.m.



“The Boys of Fall” return

By Teziah Howard
The Jambar

Football season is back for Youngstown State University, as this season opened in Villanova, Pennsylvania, against Villanova University.

Although the 'Guins shut out the Wildcats in the fourth quarter, they were bested by seven in a 24-17 loss on the road.

Villanova's rushing attack led the way as graduate-student quarterback Connor Watkins picked up 107 yards rushing through 10 carries. Watkins totaled 197 yards and two touchdowns in the matchup.

The Penguins balanced their passing and rushing game, with a total of 152 yards through the air and 169 on the ground. The 'Guins also lost the turnover battle with a fumble, alongside two interceptions.

Freshman defensive back Zahmir Dawud was the first to intercept a pass from sophomore quarterback Beau Brungard. Senior linebacker Richie Kimmel added to Villanova's turnover stat, as he tallied the second interception of the game.

For YSU, the passing game was spread out amongst seven different targets for Brungard, which included redshirt-freshman wide receiver Cyrus Traugh, who caught his first career touchdown just before the half.

Head Coach Doug Phillips said he was proud of the way his team played, but he still wants to see a leap in improvement moving forward.

“We have to make a jump. We have to get better fundamentally. We have to be better tacklers and play with a lower pad level. We have to play with ball security,” Phillips said. “Those are the areas we need to focus on going into Week 2.”

The Penguins had extended time to prepare for Valparaiso Universi-

ty. The 'Guins opened the season at home with a 59-25 win.

The game's first touchdown came in just over 15 seconds with a fumble recovered by the Penguin defense resulting in a scoop and score.

YSU jumped out to a 21-point lead in the first quarter with scores by junior wide receiver Max Tomczak and Brungard.

Brungard totaled 319 yards, including 125 through the air and 194 on the ground. He also finished the matchup with five total touchdowns.

The 34-point win for the Penguins was the first career win for Brungard at the helm of the offense. The performance earned the quarterback Missouri Valley Football Conference Offensive Player of the Week.

Brungard expressed how his first win impacted him and his team.

“To get that first win, it feels good. We've worked so hard this summer and offseason and you only get 12 games,” Brungard said. “To win at home in front of our fans really means a lot.”

Defending the Ice Castle is a standard upheld by the YSU football team and Phillips makes sure the message is received from his players.

“It's special playing in the Ice Castle,” Phillips said. “It's about how you react, how do you react when great things happen or how you react when you're up 21-0?”

The Penguins will continue their home stretch Saturday, Sept. 14 in a matchup against Duquesne University. The game will mark the second time this season the Penguins rematch a playoff opponent.

Kickoff is set for 2 p.m. as the Dukes will visit Stambaugh Stadium for the second-straight season. The Penguins will be looking to continue their undefeated record against Duquesne, sitting at six wins and zero losses.