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## Helping students become financially fit

Rachel Lundberg  
CONTRIBUTOR

Students at Youngstown State University aren't required to take any courses in financial literacy, but instructors and students alike think that should change.

"I think it's one of those things that's worth bubbling up to be discussed at the appropriate committee or body at the university," said David Stout, a professor of accounting and finance at YSU.

In a 2009 study by Charles Schwab, an investing and banking agency, young adults did not list college as one of the places they learned about managing money.

Financial planners say young adults should be thinking about retirement and saving money, controlling spending and staying away from debt.

YSU graduate Sara Rodack said that while she felt YSU prepared her to get a job to pay off loans, it did not teach her to manage money.

"I didn't have any classes at YSU which prepared me with information on how to understand finance," Rodack said. "Luckily, I was taught financial literacy from my parents growing up and was prepared from them."

Campus isn't without its resources, though. New this

year on the university's student accounts home page is a link to <http://www.cash-course.org/ysu>, which is a website devoted to improving financial literacy.

Christine Adams, assistant reference librarian of business and economics, also compiled a set of financial literacy resources on Maag Library's website. Students can access this information by going to <http://maag-blog.ysu.edu/financialliteracy>.

YSU does offer one elective course on personal finance management during the fall semester. None of the resources YSU does have, however, have been highly publicized.

"I think that's significant," Stout said of the elective course. "Because not all programs of our size offer a course like that."

Ray Shaffer, a professor of accounting and finance, said he and a small group of faculty members sought ways to promote financial literacy on campus last year, but no ideas have been implemented and the project is on hold.

"Most schools are like us," Shaffer said. "Some things are being done, and some things could be done more and better."

Shaffer said he and YSU faculty members looked at other schools and at a couple of exceptional locations; they came across programs that use ideas like an on-campus financial literacy cash cab.

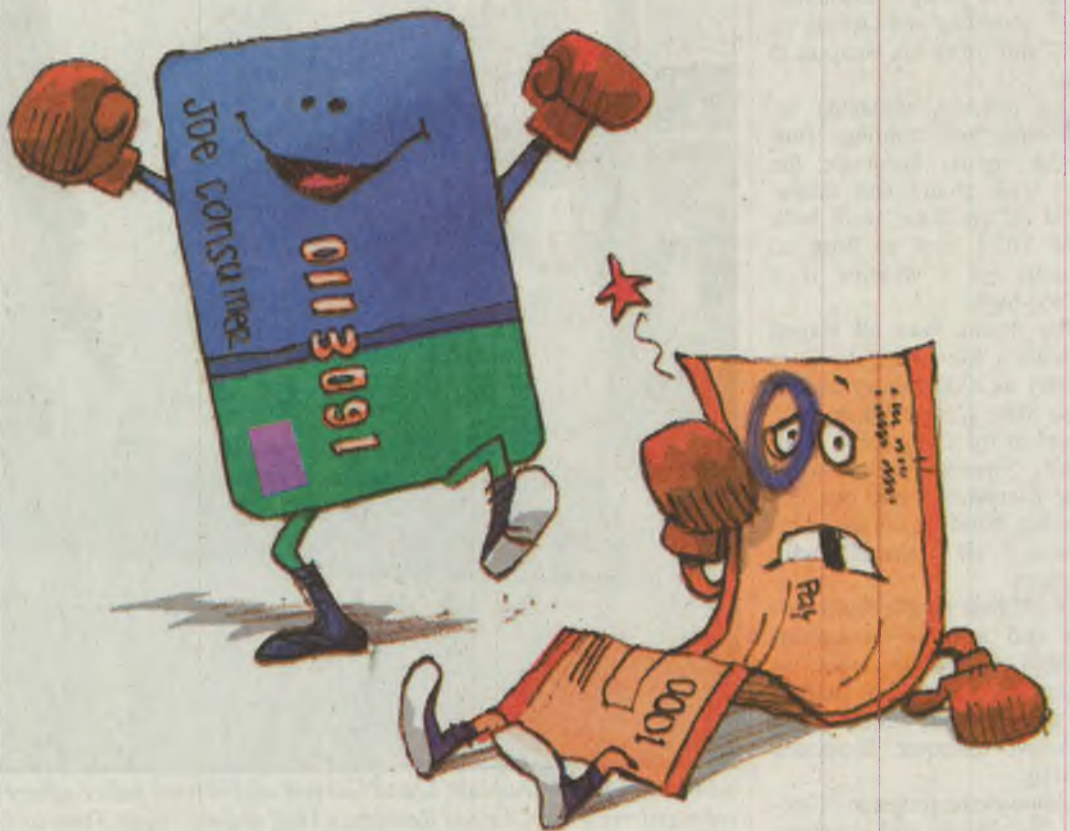


ILLUSTRATION COURTESY OF MCT CAMPUS.

Bowling Green State University's Student Money Management Services hosts BGSU's Money Cart program. Students are picked up in a BGSU golf cart and are asked questions to test their financial knowledge.

"Of course, it takes resources to do that," Shaffer said. "And there are a couple schools that have a whole department or

a whole area that's very well funded that promotes financial literacy. And we don't have that luxury here."

BGSU offers one-on-one financial counseling, seminars on financial literacy and help with other money management needs, like the creation of spending and payment plans.

Shaffer suggested that a more

attainable goal at YSU is hosting sessions on financial literacy at student orientations or Crash Days, or including handouts in new students' information packets.

"I saw a lot of students at YSU struggle with money when I was at school, and [they] were not always sure what to do," Rodack said.

## Search for new president officially begins

Kacy Standohar  
NEWS EDITOR



Anderson

at the end of the academic year.

After an executive session that spanned nearly two hours, the trustees revealed that they would head a 17-member presidential search advisory committee that would consult with AGB Search.

The committee consists of YSU trustees Scott Schulick, John Jakubek, Sudershan Garg, Harry

Meshel, Carole Weimer, Leonard Schiavone, Delores Crawford, David Deibel and James Greene; student trustees Joshua Prest and Melissa Wasser; former trustees Eugenia Atkinson and Donald Cagigas; Bege Bowers, retired associate provost at YSU; Chet Cooper, professor of biological sciences and president of the YSU Academic Senate; Carl Nunziato, YSU alumnus and former vice president of National City Bank; and Suzanne Fleming, former coordinator of the Northeast Ohio Regional Leadership Task Force.

Franklin S. Bennett Jr., secretary to the board, said the search for a new chief executive will be the most important task undertaken by board members.

Garg, chair of the board, said the trustees looked at four search firms. He said he believes that AGB Search, based in Washington, D.C., is the best and most economical option.

AGB Search's consulting services will cost the university \$65,000,

which Garg said the university budget will cover. Garg said he expects the contract to be finalized this week. The task of hiring the university's new president is projected to take between four and six months.

Garg said the active national search will include evaluation, screening and identifying the best candidates in a vigorous, comprehensive and honest manner.

"We have no favorites," Garg said.

Like the search for Anderson in 2009, the board will narrow the candidates from 300 to about 50. Then, the board of trustees will again narrow the list down to about a dozen candidates and bring in only a few of the most qualified prospects by mid-May.

Garg said no particular qualifications are necessary, but having a doctorate is a favorable quality.

"We want someone that will keep the faculty together, hire the best faculty and someone that gets along with the board of trustees," he said. "[We're looking for] the

best and most qualified person to bring the university out of tough financial times."

Wasser said she is sad to see Anderson retire.

"She was the president when I came to YSU, and it makes me sad that she won't be here when I graduate, but I think that we are going to be very thorough with the search process, and I think we will be able to find somebody that is more than qualified to replace Dr. Anderson," she said.

Wasser said she appreciated Anderson's focus on student activities.

"Besides serving as the voice for the students, I really want someone that is going to help increase our enrollment numbers and make sure we're going to get back to where we were in the past," she said. "I think that is a big issue that a president will have to take on."

Wasser said she is not worried and believes the search committee will be able to find someone to make these goals a reality for YSU.

## YSU sororities lack housing

Kacy Standohar  
NEWS EDITOR

Since 2006, no sorority chapters at Youngstown State University have had a house.

Carrie Anderson — Panhellenic adviser and coordinator of programs and marketing at YSU — said she thinks sorority houses are simply overlooked at this time. She said each sorority's headquarters and alumni would need to help solidify the plan and donate to the rent costs.

"They would need permission nationally to pursue a house and get that financial support," Anderson said. "It's definitely a goal in mind, and I know they want it. It's just going to take some time to bring

to fruition."

Kym McKinley, director of housing operations for Zeta Tau Alpha's international headquarters, said a YSU ZTA house could be a safety issue. The previous YSU chapter house was sold after concluding that the area was unsafe, McKinley said.

"It's not a financial issue by any means," she said. "You don't want your girls living in a bad area."

Genna Notareschi, a senior member of the Zeta Gamma chapter of ZTA, said sorority houses at YSU would be beneficial, but that she understands if they are too unsafe.

"It would be good to deter the deception that ... because YSU is a commuter school, you can't get involved here," she said.

Sorority recruitment takes place in Kilcawley Center, and all sororities re-

serve rooms for prospective members to visit.

Notareschi said reserving rooms in Kilcawley Center can be stressful because they are often already booked. She added that planning meetings off campus is even more difficult because it requires more paperwork.

"It would be cute to walk house to house instead of room to room in Kilcawley Center," Notareschi said. "If not that, it would be nice to at least have a suite or room just for each chapter."

ZTA sister Courtney Gobel agreed with Notareschi and said a house would be an advantage.

"It would be a much more personal and comfortable environment while going through the process, rather than walking into a room with limited space to display the sororities," Gobel said.

Alpha Xi Delta sister Katie Petrosky also said the lack of sorority houses has to do with the large commuter population at YSU.

In addition, a myth has sorority sisters reeling with frustration. The myth misinterprets city zoning laws, stating that more than five women living underneath one roof constitutes a brothel.

Notareschi said this mentality is "unfair and sexist because fraternities have houses."

Article IV of Youngstown's residential ordinances defines both fraternity and sorority houses as permitted uses for multi-family residences.

Anderson said getting a sorority house would require a lot of paperwork and the appointment of a housing corporation board.

"The ball is in their court if they are ready to take that on," she said.

## San Diego State hosts school shooting survival training

**Tony Perry**  
LOS ANGELES TIMES  
(MCT)

SAN DIEGO — The gunman stalked the dormitory halls yelling, "I'm going to kill somebody," pounding and kicking on doors, and firing his weapon in the air.

The resident assistants remembered their training: Turn off the lights, barricade the doors with chairs and tables, lie flat on the floor, push back if the killer tries to bust in, or jump out a window if it isn't too high.

The drama was all staged but with a life-saving purpose Tuesday as a dormitory at San Diego State University became a stand-in for Columbine High School, Virginia Tech, Sandy Hook Elementary and the engineering building on the campus here — all scenes of deadly rampages.

Two-dozen people from colleges and schools throughout Southern California came to campus for a two-day session with the chillingly modern title of Active Shooter Response Training.

Although the program of lectures, discussions and scenarios was planned months ago, the recent shooting in Newtown, Conn., where 20 children and six adults were killed, only heightened the urgency of planning for possible violence.

Bret Bandick, a trainer from Texas company Response Options, played the role of a heavily armed killer targeting students at the Olmeca Residence Hall. He fired an airsoft gun into the air and at doors to provide an extra dose of realism. Resident assistants and others played the role of students caught by surprise.

In the fall, those same assistants will be giving a new, mandatory 90-minute seminar to all incoming freshmen at San Diego State on how to survive an on-campus shooting. The session will be in addition to the university's system of alerting students via emails, text messages and social media when a gunman is suspected.



San Diego State Chaplain Dana Garrett and retired police officer Chuck Harold simulate a police team entering the Olmeca Residence Hall at San Diego State looking for an active shooter on Jan. 8. The two are a part of a training exercise conducted with several school districts, police departments and campus agencies learning how to deal with an active mass shooting suspect. The participants will take their knowledge back to the dorms, classrooms and agencies to train others. (Mark Boster/Los Angeles Times/MCT)

"Our responsibility is to give people as many tools as possible to survive," said Capt. Lamine Secka of the San Diego State police force.

Kerry Harris, also an instructor with Response Options, said the strategy "is not rocket science."

"We tell people they should flee if they can, hide if they must and fight back if there is no other option," Harris said.

The San Diego State resident assistants did better than many people who have taken the same training, Harris said.

The event drew police officers and school officials from Orange, the Vista and Escondido school districts in northern San Diego County and the campuses of Cal State Los Angeles, San Diego State, UC San Diego

and the University of San Diego.

San Diego has reason to be concerned about school shootings.

One of the first high-profile school shootings that gained national attention occurred here in 1979, when 16-year-old Brenda Spencer used a rifle to kill two people and wound nine others at an elementary school across from her home.

"I don't like Mondays," Spencer told a reporter by telephone during the rampage. She is serving a 25-year-to-life prison sentence.

In 1996, a graduate student at San Diego State killed three of his professors in the engineering department. The gunman pleaded guilty to avoid the death penalty and is serving a

life sentence.

In 2001, two shootings in high schools east of San Diego left two dead and 18 wounded. One shooter, then a 15-year-old student, is in prison; the other, an 18-year-old former student, committed suicide while behind bars.

In 2010, a mentally disturbed man jumped the fence at a Carlsbad elementary school and wounded two students before being subdued by construction workers. He is serving a life sentence.

By the time of the 2001 shootings, nationwide police protocol for school shootings had changed to emphasize an immediate response by the first officer on the scene rather than waiting for the SWAT squad to assemble.

The change in tactics was prompted by the 1999 shooting at Columbine High in Colorado where 15 people died, including the two shooters who committed suicide, while the SWAT squad was being assembled.

"After Columbine, we learned that you just can't wait for SWAT," said Lt. Joe Florentino of the San Diego Unified Police Department, which deploys 43 officers to protect 200 sites with 133,000 students and 15,000 employees, the second largest primary school district in California.

When a 15-year-old student opened fire at Santana High in Santee on March 5, 2001, the first police officer on scene was an off-duty San Diego officer who was registering his daughter for classes.

"When everyone else was running away from the sound of gunfire," said San Diego Police Lt. Andra Brown, "he was running toward it."

The post-Columbine era also brought more training for officers and dispatchers and, in some cases, better weaponry for beat cops who may have to confront a shooter with multiple weapons or assault weapons. "Lock down," a term and practice once used in connection with prison riots, became common parlance a decade ago to describe keeping students in their classrooms during an incident.

But those changes, Florentino said, are meant to limit the casualties once a shooting occurs. The better strategy, he said, is to be aware of any advance signs that a student might pose a threat.

The San Diego school district has a policy of following up, with counselors and police officers, when a student is heard making possible threats or posting troubling comments on social media. In rare cases, a student is put on a 72-hour psychiatric hold at a mental health facility, Florentino said.

"If a student says something odd, we don't just ignore it," Florentino said. "We have to be right 100 percent of the time, we know that."

## Schools embrace graphic novels as learning tool

**Diane Rado**  
CHICAGO TRIBUNE  
(MCT)

CHICAGO — In honors English class at Alan B. Shepard High School, sophomores are analyzing Truman Capote's "In Cold Blood" with the help of another book filled with drawings and dialogue that appears in bubbles above characters' heads.

"Capote in Kansas" is what generations of kids would recognize as a comic book, though it has a fancier name — a graphic novel.

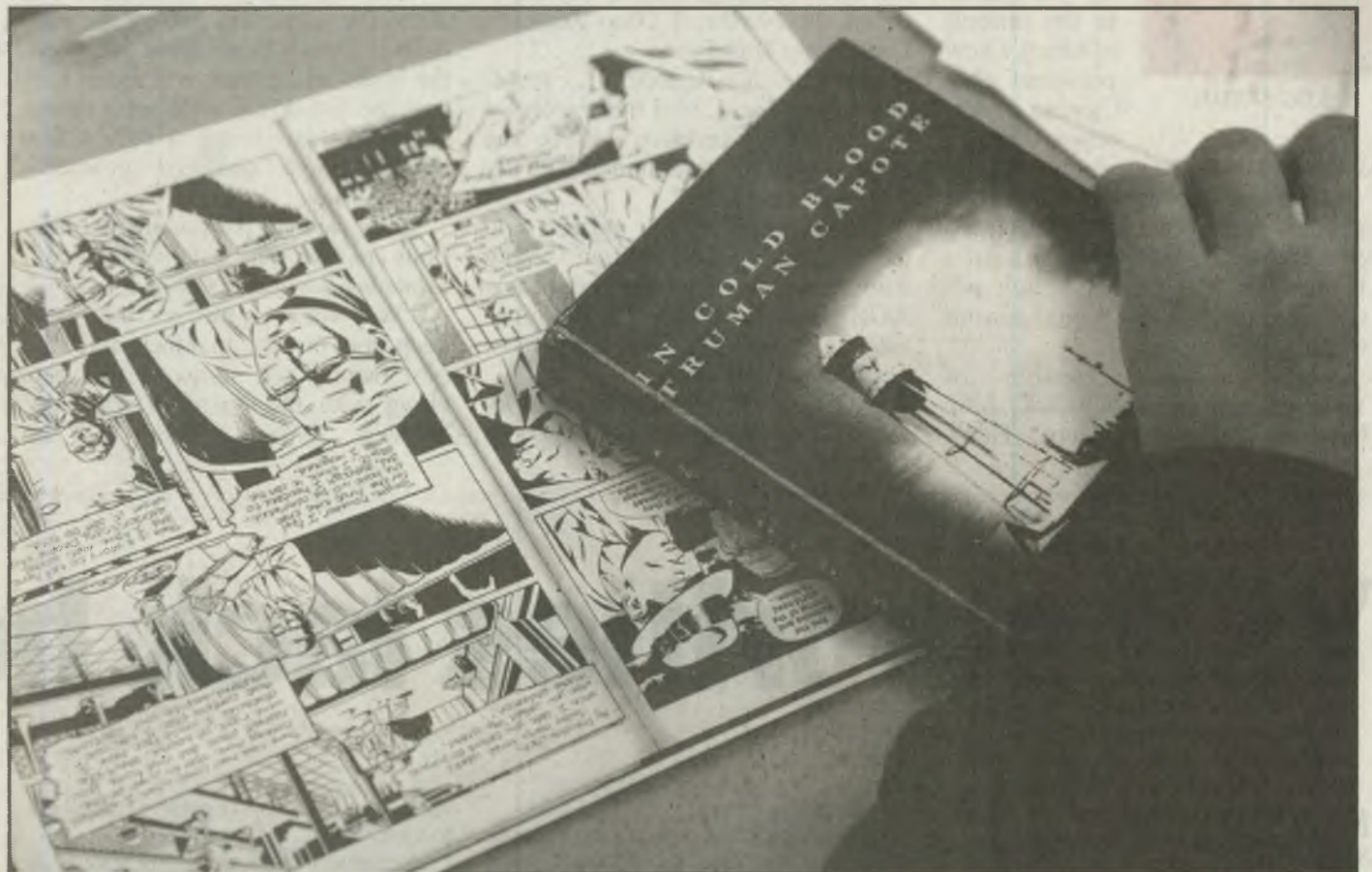
That honors students at the Palos Heights, Ill., high school are using it illustrates how far the controversial comic-strip novels have come in gaining acceptance in the school curriculum, educators say.

Once aimed at helping struggling readers, English language learners and disabled students, graphic novels are moving into honors and college-level Advanced Placement classrooms and attracting students at all levels.

They're listed as reading material for students in the new "common core" standards being adopted across the country, even though some naysayers still question their value in the classroom.

There's no data on precisely how many schools nationwide use graphic novels. But no one disputes that in other markets the popularity of the comic-style books — adapted to classic literature, biographies, science, math and other subjects — is on the rise.

Karen Gavigan, an assistant professor at the University of South Carolina who has focused her research on graphic novels, points out that their sales have increased by nearly 40 percent over the past 10 years. And public libraries have seen significant increases in circulation after adding such ma-



The Alan B. Shepard High School students in Eric Kallenborn's sophomore honors English class discuss the graphic novel, "Capote in Kansas," by Ande Parks and Chris Samnee, and contrast it with the novel it is based on, Truman Capote's "In Cold Blood," on Dec. 5, in Palos Heights, Ill. (Chuck Berman/Chicago Tribune/MCT)

terial to their collections.

"A whole range of kids just love these," Gavigan said.

Fans abound in English teacher Eric Kallenborn's sophomore honors class at Shepard.

"It perfectly complemented 'In Cold Blood,'" sophomore Kyle Longfield said of "Capote in Kansas." He believes the story helped him better understand Capote's groundbreaking book about two killers and their brutal murders in Kansas.

On a recent day, Kyle, 16, led his

fellow honors students through a discussion that compared the depiction of Capote in the comic-book novel to the author's voice and literary style in "In Cold Blood."

That discussion would have been considered unusual in the past.

Just ask Daniel Argentar, a communication arts instructor at Adlai E. Stevenson High School in Lincolnshire. Along with a colleague, he introduced the graphic novel "Maus" to some struggling freshman readers about eight years ago.

"People thought we were crazy," Argentar said.

The Holocaust-related book won a special Pulitzer Prize award in 1992, the first graphic novel to do so.

At the time, many Stevenson students already had read Elie Wiesel's Holocaust book "Night," so Argentar was looking for an alternative that would appeal to students more attuned to the visual. Some colleagues didn't think the comic-book format of

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**NEWS BRIEFS**

**Retired faculty, staff offer scholarship**

Students have until Feb. 15 to apply for a \$500 scholarship from the YSU Retirees Association. Interested juniors or seniors must have a minimum GPA of 2.70 and a declared major, while interested graduate students must have a minimum GPA of 3.00 and be pursuing a degree. Extracurriculars, accomplishments and work experience may be considered as well. The scholarship application is available on the YSU financial aid website and on the YSURA website. Application requirements include three letters of recommendation, an unofficial transcript and an essay of around 500 words titled "My YSU Experience." For more information, call 330-941-3156.

**WCBA, STEM to host expo next month**

From 1 to 5 p.m. on Feb. 13, the Williamson College of Business Administration and the College of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics will host an expo for current business and STEM students who are looking for a co-op or internship for the upcoming year. The expo will be held in the atrium of Williamson Hall. Employers from public, private, non-profit and government sectors are invited to participate. For more information, contact WCBA's Leigh Ann Waring at 330-941-1884 or lewaring@ysu.edu, or STEM's Sherri L. Hrusovski at 330-941-2151 or STEM.jobs@ysu.edu.

**Month's end brings financial aid night**

YSU will host a financial aid night for prospective students and their parents at 6:30 p.m. on Jan. 30; it will be held in the Chestnut Room of Kilcawley Center. Attendees will learn how to apply for financial aid, meet YSU's financial aid counselors and receive help with online financial aid applications. Free tax form preparation will also be available. Visit <http://www.ysu.edu/finaid/night> or call 330-941-3505 for more information and to register.

**POLICE BRIEFS**

**Student receives threatening messages**

On Jan. 8, a student reported getting a threatening message from an unavailable number. The victim said the harasser claimed to "know who she is" and "knows all about her." According to the police report, the "caller stated the victim would not live to see tomorrow." The victim said she doesn't know of anyone who would threaten her and is not having problems with anyone. The victim was advised to get a trace put on her phone in order to find out where the call came from.

**'I thought I smoked that'**

On Jan. 7, an officer pulled over a car that was going the wrong way down Bryson Street, a one-way street. After being pulled over, the driver claimed that he did not have a license. A license check confirmed that the driver had a suspended license. The officer then searched the car and found a bag containing suspected marijuana. According to the police report, when the officer saw the bag, the driver exclaimed, "I thought I smoked that!"

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**GRAPHIC NOVELS PAGE 2**

"Maus" was rigorous enough, Argentar said, but students liked it.

A website he and his colleague created to help educators teach "Maus" still generates calls and emails from around the country, Argentar said.

"You're always going to have the traditionalists say comic books aren't real literature, and I guess to a certain extent they have a point," he said. "But my point is that it is different literature. It is visual literature, and I'd be failing my kids if I didn't train them for all the visual reading they do today."

Professor Gavigan said graphic novels help students develop language skills, reinforce vocabulary and develop critical thinking skills, among other benefits.

The comic book-style format goes back decades or even centuries, depending on scholars' interpretations. In the 1970s, the term graphic novel emerged when Will Eisner's "A Contract with God" stories were published, Gavigan said.

"Then 'Maus' won the Pulitzer, and I think that changed everything," she said. "I think that gave a lot of credibility to the format."

More recently, graphic novels moved further into the mainstream when most states began adopting the new common core learning standards that guide schools on what students should learn.

Illinois adopted the rigorous standards in 2010, and the state's public school students are scheduled to be tested on them beginning in 2014-15.

"Graphic novels are specifically addressed in the common core standards," said Michelle Ryan, president of the Illinois Association of Teachers of English.

The standards refer to "texts" as the medium through which literature and reading skills are taught, Ryan said, and can include picture books used in kindergarten or the graphic novels available in high school.

"Graphic novels ... are specifically identified in the expected reading materials for students," she said in an email.

That might surprise some parents who may not be familiar with graphic novels in the classroom or who may be wary of this modern twist on literature.

Jennifer Williams' son Larry Lesniak is in Kallenborn's sophomore honors course at Shepard. She admitted to being "a little opposed" when Larry and his younger brother began reading graphic novels.

"This is not a book," Williams recalled saying when the boys picked out graphic novels at the library.

She remembers reading classics by authors Edgar Allan Poe and John Steinbeck when she was a high school honors student. She also recalls not liking some of the material she had to read.

So if a graphic novel can hold her sons' interest, "I'm all for it," Williams said.

Whether districts will increase their use of graphic

novels is unclear and likely will depend on a buy-in from teachers and curriculum officials, experts said.

"I don't teach a lot of graphic novels only because there are certain hoops to jump through," said Brian Curtin, an English teacher at Schaumburg High School and the 2013 Illinois Teacher of the Year.

In most districts, an approval process determines which textbooks and other books are used. In his district, very few graphic novels get a green light, he said.

Curtin said he loved the graphic novels he read in his master's classes and believes they can help build comprehension and engage unmotivated readers. But "I think you'd be on a slippery slope to look at graphic novels as a substitute for the real thing," he said.

In Oak Lawn-based Community High School District 218, which includes Shepard High, English department curriculum director Mike Jacobson said he "grew up on comic books."

He has embraced graphic novels as a teaching tool, he said, giving teachers leeway to use them.

English teacher Kallenborn has used graphic novels ranging from a version of Shakespeare's "Hamlet" to "Maus" and "Ultimate Spider-Man."

He joined Jacobson and another teacher last month in a presentation at a National Council of Teachers of English conference. Their discussion included Kallenborn's experiment with senior Advanced Placement and honors students who were studying the epic Old English poem "Beowulf."

Half the students spent nearly six hours on average reading the full traditional text. The other half, who read a "Beowulf" graphic novel, spent about two hours.

Both groups took the same 25-question multiple-choice test. Students who read the traditional text scored 81 percent on average compared with 75 percent for those who read the graphic novel.

The teachers' presentation raised the question: Is the score difference worth the additional time spent by kids who read the traditional poem or "would that time be better spent doing other things?"

Though the audience didn't respond, Kallenborn believes the score difference of 6 percentage points isn't worth the extra reading time.

James Bucky Carter, an assistant professor at the University of Texas at El Paso, wrote a book that guides teachers in pairing graphic novels with traditional texts.

"I think we live in an age where we should not study text in isolation," he said. "Every text should be put in relation to something else," such as graphic novels as supplements to traditional literature.

Carter works to dispel notions that such material is just for kids or struggling readers.

"Comics," he said, "are for everybody."

**got an opinion?** Send letters to: [thejambar@gmail.com](mailto:thejambar@gmail.com)

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# Having a fifth eye

*Viewing the world through a camera lens*



Kelsey Anderson was inspired to do a photoshoot in her own backyard. She said sunset is her favorite time of day to take pictures because she loves to work with light. Anderson's photos will be featured in the spring issue of Jenny, YSU's online literary magazine. Photo courtesy of Kelsey Anderson.

**Marissa McIntyre**  
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT  
EDITOR

Abandoned houses all over the U.S. hold both mystery and beauty. Tales of them being haunted likely drive away any passersby — but Youngstown State University senior Kelsey Anderson is an exception. When she has the time, she enjoys capturing images of the things that have been left behind to be forgotten.

"You could tell there was a story there and that a family had lived there. There were children's toys laying around, and the wallpaper was faded," Anderson said. "It just made me think, 'Who could have lived here?'"

Anderson is an early childhood education major usually seen with a bag filled with

school supplies. But she can also be seen carrying around her favorite tool: a Nikon D5100 camera.

"I've been exposed to photography since I was little," Anderson said. "My dad was really into cameras. So, literally from the time I was born, I've always had a camera in my face."

The second eldest of four sisters, Anderson began taking her hobby seriously when she was 14.

"I started out with a little point-and-shoot camera. I just sort of started manifesting from that," Anderson said.

However, she doesn't dwell only in the depths of abandoned households; no matter where she is, she likes to point her camera and capture the moment.

"I like to view everything

from an artistic point of view. God created all of this around us, and I like to capture what he envisioned," Anderson said. "Like, if I see an empty bench with some leaves on it, some people would think, 'It's just a bench.' But just working with different angles and lighting, ... you can get the most beautiful photo out of it."

This spring, Anderson will be the featured artist in Jenny, YSU's online literary magazine.

"I am going to have my photos published," she said. "So, that is very exciting."

Anderson owns four cameras: a Nikon D5100, Nikon D90 and two Nikon Coolpix cameras.

Her favorite thing to do with pictures is experiment with lighting.

"In the evenings, there are

really warm amber tones and it plays with people's skin and hair, just stuff around them. It's so beautiful," Anderson said.

Sometimes, her friends and family will model for her whenever she has the itch to take photos.

Anderson said her favorite place to take pictures is Pittsburgh's Strip District, where her family often shops during winter break.

"There is so much down there that you can take pictures of. One store my mom likes to go in is a spice shop," Anderson said while flipping through photos stored on the memory card of her Nikon D5100. "I love the way this turned out. The focus is on the cloves, but the rest is blurry. It's all about perception."

When she is in the mood to lift up her camera, she said she doesn't mind being patient.

"The day after Christmas, I went and dropped handfuls of birdseed. I was flinging it like fairy dust," Anderson said.

One feature on her Nikon D5100 allows her to silence the shutter speed. She said this came in handy when the birds finally showed up.

"I just crouched down and stayed still for like 20 minutes until the birds came around. But I got some fantastic photos because of it," Anderson said.

In the future, Anderson said she plans to keep her camera by her side and do photography jobs for friends. Plus, if she ever gets tired of teaching, photography allows her to always have a backup plan.

# Making resolutions a lifestyle

**Taylor Phillips**  
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT  
REPORTER

A new calendar year has inspired some students at Youngstown State University to make a change in their lifestyle. One of the more popular resolutions on campus this year is sticking to a strict diet and exercising regularly.

Junior Jeff Hogan has made working out a lifestyle rather than just a resolution. Ever since the fall semester, Hogan has lost a total of 15 pounds through cardio and weight training done at the Andrews Student Recreation and Wellness Center.

"Being 200 pounds was a wake-up call for me," Hogan said. "But ever since losing 15 pounds, I feel much better and have more energy. The facilities at the Rec Center made the process so much easier."

Ryan McNicholas, the coordinator of fitness and wellness programs, said he is shocked at how packed the Rec has been.

"I've never seen it this busy, especially over break," McNicholas said. "Once the semester starts, I imagine it will be even more crowded."

The Rec offers many dif-

ferent programs to help students stick to their resolutions.

"A few of the programs we have deal with fitness and nutrition," McNicholas said. "The great thing about it is that all of the programs are free of charge to students."

Personal trainers are also on staff to help students shed those extra pounds, and session costs range from \$20 to \$170.

A new Group X class, Piloxing, was just added to the offerings for this semester. Piloxing is a fat-burning, muscle-sculpting class that combines the basics of Pilates and boxing.

Senior Group X intern Stephen Horn said the Rec offers a variety of classes.

"We like to stick with fitness trends when we decide what classes we will offer," Horn said. "The classes really are a great way to started on your workout and also a great way to meet new people."

Horn added that the Rec is trying to conduct a few Cross-Fit classes in the near future.

Hogan said one of the hardest parts of a New Year's resolution is sticking with it. He said he thinks the Rec Center will become less crowded as January turns to February and March.

"So far this year, I have noticed a lot of people in the weight room," Hogan said. "But I know for a fact they will be out of there in a few weeks. Some people just lose their motivation that they had at the beginning of the year."

Junior Dave Macek said he believes that diet and exercise is a lifestyle rather than a short-term goal.

"Diet is a terrible word to use," Macek said. "It sets people up for failure because once they lose weight, they will go back to their old habits and gain that weight back."

Macek said he urges students to exercise and eat healthfully the majority of the time and to not consume empty calories, such as alcohol.

"Keep the drinking to once a week because alcohol has a lot of empty calories," Macek said. "It hurts protein synthesis, is dehydrating and prevents fat loss."

Hogan said it is best to take long-term goals and break them into short-term goals.

"Set a realistic goal. Losing weight is good, but it can be unhealthy if you do it in the wrong ways," Hogan added. "Go with a friend. Friends make it fun, and your workouts are better if you're competitive against the person."



Junior Jeff Hogan demonstrates his resolution of maintaining a healthy lifestyle by going on a run and exercising. Photo courtesy of Jeff Hogan.

## BIG SHOES TO FILL

The surprising retirement announcement by Youngstown State University President Cynthia Anderson led to another search for the board of trustees, its second in three years.

Yet, reasons are unknown for her seemingly premature departure from the institution she's called home since 1979.

Perhaps it could be that she got caught in the crossfire during 2011's tumultuous contract negotiations. Or maybe it's because the stress that comes from dealing with an off-campus shooting, a hazing scandal and regulations designed to avoid Obamacare policies, all of which gained national attention, became overwhelming.

Regardless, the school must now foot the bill for a search process, which requires professional consulting. At a time of increased financial scrutiny, every penny spent must be justified.

To its credit, the board found an affordable firm, AGB Search, which Chair Sudershan Garg said will charge the university roughly \$65,000 for its services. In comparison, the University of Florida was being charged nearly \$100,000 for its search, which was recently called off for excessive cost. In 2011, Iowa State University spent \$133,000 for its search.

The candidates, we speculate, will be primarily academics. However, given the aforementioned monetary circumstances, "budget-slashing" business types may be up for consideration.

There couldn't be a more inappropriate candidate than that.

Slashing budgets is the board's job; the president must only guide the way.

One of Anderson's greatest qualities in her role as president was her dedication to the student body.

It is paramount that the board seeks out a similarly suited replacement. With future enrollment declines projected due to a recovering economy, tuition will likely increase as a result. A staunch advocate for students must be president to ensure they don't continue to carry the entire burden.

### JAMBAR POLICY

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

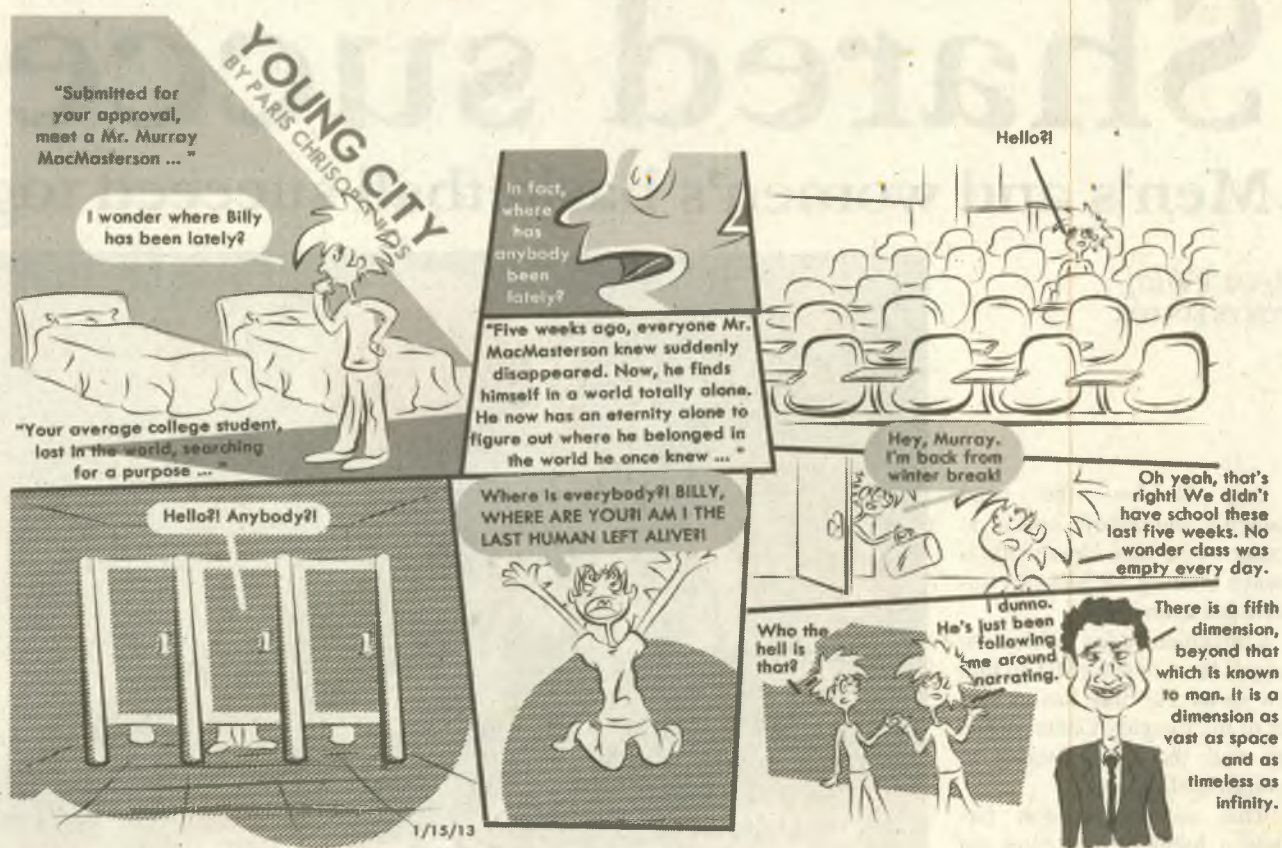
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## It's all about the game ... or is it?



David Roberts  
COLUMNIST

On Jan. 7, the University of Alabama faced off against the University of Notre Dame in the BCS championship game. In what effectively amounted to a blowout, the Crimson Tide dominated the Irish, 42-14, and secured their second straight national championship. While that should have been what everybody talked about Monday night, the real story involved Katherine Webb, the girlfriend of Alabama quarterback AJ McCarron.

Webb, a former Miss Alabama, was in the stands supporting her boyfriend's team as it chased the ultimate glory of college football. She attended the game as a fan of Alabama football, but she left it with virtually everybody knowing her name.

During the television broadcast, ESPN announcer Brent Musburger decided to bring an interesting storyline into the game. When the camera panned through the crowd and saw Webb sitting with McCarron's family, Musburger called her "a lovely lady" and "beautiful." He followed up by remarking, "Wow, I'm telling you quarterbacks: You get all the good-looking women."

This surprise attention from the announcer brought Webb a plethora of new fans. The evidence? Before the game, Webb had roughly 2,000 followers on Twitter. But, on Jan. 8, she had 175,000, according to ESPN.

That day, ESPN released the following statement: "We have always tried to capture interesting storylines and the relationship between an Auburn grad who is Miss Alabama and the current Alabama quarterback certainly met the test."

ESPN did acknowledge that Musburger's comments might have gone a bit far and apologized. However, the funny thing is that it doesn't seem like apologies were needed.

The battery of Webb's iPhone had died during the game, but she laughed about the comments afterward. In fact, it seems that Webb was quite flattered by the comments, as she told the Associated Press that the attention "was kind of nice."

Webb continued: "I didn't look at it as creepy at all. For a woman to be called beautiful, I don't see how that's an issue."

Others — like Jennifer Greer, an associate professor of journalism at the University of Alabama — disagree. Greer argued that football is a male-dominated sport and that the roles women do have are supportive secondary roles. Actions like Musburger's only make it more difficult for female athletes to be taken seriously, as attractive women are typified as being "the quarterback's girlfriend."

Personally, I'm hard-pressed to see a serious offense here. Sure, maybe Musburger's joke about the quarterbacks always getting the good-looking girl was a little over the top, but I don't think he genuinely tried to stereotype anyone. Webb even admitted to feeling flattered by the compli-

ments, so Musburger surely did not offend her in any way.

At some level, I can understand arguments about the commentary, as the announcers did spend a tad too much of their time on the former Miss Alabama, but Musburger's comments have been hijacked and made to be far more incriminating than he intended. We've all said something without thinking — and had that something become misconstrued; this very well could have been one of those situations. I just can't agree that this is a case of perpetuating stereotypes of the roles of women.

Honestly, I think that stereotype is very quickly dissipating from our society anyway. Plenty of female athletes take to the modeling stage to show off the natural beauty that accompanies their athletic prowess. Alex Morgan is one instance. Morgan played soccer for the University of California, Berkeley during her college days, and she's now a member of the U.S. women's national soccer team. I don't think anybody doubts her abilities on the soccer field, even though she's modeled for Sports Illustrated.

In the end, I think this is all just a laughable moment in sports history and certainly one for Webb. I can respect the media for their willingness to apologize for the comments; in a situation like this, it is probably better to be safe rather than sorry.

I'd like to reiterate, though, that at the end of the day, the most important thing that happened on that Monday night is that college football crowned a champion: the Crimson Tide.

## YSU Police Tip of the Month



Thurston Winbush  
YSU POLICE OFFICER

Hello, everyone. It's Officer Winbush with some winter driving safety tips. We need to begin to think about preparing our vehicle for cold weather conditions. It doesn't matter if your car is old or new; you should prepare the same way.

Let's talk about your car. How new is your battery, and does it have a respectable amount of cold cranking amps? These are important because the amps give your car the extra power it needs to start in the extreme cold. If you live farther away or have little ones, everything becomes that much more important. I know it's expensive, but if your budget permits it, get a roadside assistance service. It's an added level of security for you.

But let's get back to your vehicle. How are your tires? Tires are one of the most important investments you can make in your safety. Do your research and look for deals, but get a good set of winter or all-weather tires. While we're on the subject of traction, if you have a rear wheel-driven vehicle, consider putting two 40-pound bags of rock salt in your trunk. The added weight will help with your car's traction. If you can't afford to buy new tires and pay tuition too, then definitely spend the \$20 to get the rock salt. It could save you from a scary situation later.

OK, so you have a good battery and your tires are ready to go. What do you keep in your car for the off

chance you end up on the side of the road with car trouble? The first thing is that you want to stay warm. It's time to raid someone's closet, preferably an older relative: grandmom, aunts, uncles, whatever. You're looking for heavy blankets. The reason I said an older relative is because they mostly likely have wool or very thick well-made blankets, and they'll be glad you came by for a visit. They'll be so happy to see you they might not even notice the three blankets you just "borrowed."

Put a pack of bottled water and a couple of boxes of protein bars in your back seat. If you do find yourself in a dangerous situation, you'll be able to hold out till help arrives. Consider something to start a fire. Make sure you have plenty of fuel in your car. Also, carry a good first aid kit. If you can get your hands on roadside flares, then you're really on the ball.

You may be thinking, "I live only 20 minutes from campus." But, believe me, in sub-zero temperatures, waiting for help may take hours. Being overly prepared is a good thing. I'll tell you a story at the end of this article that haunts me.

Pack flashlights and batteries, and remember the military saying, "Two is one, and one is none." Or think about your favorite scary movie; you know someone's flashlight always gives out.

If you're traveling, tell someone where you're going and the route you'll be taking. Make sure your phone is charged, and having a GPS is a big plus.

OK, that's it.

It's time for the story that haunts me. A young family — a mother, a father and two little girls — set out to visit friends about 50 miles away. They knew the route, and they even had an older model GPS. Some miles into the journey, they ran into a snowstorm. Despite bad conditions, they decided to forge ahead. They made a wrong turn down a logging road that was supposed to be closed off during the winter and got stuck in the snow. They tried to back down the road, but they couldn't. It was late at night now, and they decided to wait until the morning. They waited, but the storm only got worse. They had a 9-month-old girl and a 7-year-old girl.

The next morning, the car was covered, and what little food they had was running out. The father melted snow for water, and the mother breastfed both children. Days passed, and the father burned the car's tires for heat. A hungry bear began to hang around the car. Due to the trees, the rescuers who were now looking for them could not see them from the air. Plus, there was so much area to cover. This family stayed in their car for two weeks. Finally, the father decided to walk in the direction of the next town.

Four people set out on this journey, and only three came back. If you see me around campus, ask me about the story, and I'll tell you the rest.

This story is both tragic and true. It haunts me, and now maybe it haunts you. Take care of yourself, and take care of one another.

Have a safe winter!

## Shared success

### Men's and women's basketball succeed together

Steve Wilaj  
SPORTS EDITOR

Bob Boldon, the head women's basketball coach at Youngstown State University, is always looking for ways to improve his team.

Conveniently for Boldon, he doesn't have to travel far to find new ideas. He only has to step out of his Beeghly Center office and walk the short distance to Dom Rosselli Court.

This season, Boldon has made a habit of watching the men's basketball team practice at least once a week, "just to get some ideas and check out some of the things that they're doing," he said.

While the women's squad (10-4) is undergoing drastic improvements under Boldon, the men's team is no slouch either. Led by head coach Jerry Slocum, the Penguins (9-7) seem destined for their second consecutive winning season.

So, with both teams experiencing an uptick of success, Boldon's and Slocum's teams are happy to feed off each other.

"We like to catch up on the boys' games and see how they're doing," women's forward Brandi Brown said. "I guess we do kind of keep up with them, and we're happy for them and all their success."

Men's sixth man DJ Cole said the men are "all good friends" with the women.

"[We] go [to the women's games] when we can be there," Cole said. "We just try to support them like they support us."

Boldon said the close relationship between the teams is in large part due to the facilities.

"Our kids share the same gym, and we practically share the same office with how close they are," he said. "The locker rooms are beside each other, and we use the same training room. I know we're cheering for each other to win."

Slocum, who referred to the basketball program as a "family," agreed with Boldon.

"We're very happy for them," Slocum said. "They're obviously a group that works very hard, and we're very excited for them. ... We pull for them to continue their success."

The simultaneous improve-



Shawn Amiker (4) goes up for a layup during a Dec. 29 win against Marygrove College. The men's team is 9-7 this season, while the women's team is 10-4. Photo by Dustin Livesay/The Jambar.

ments of the teams are no coincidence, Slocum added. He pointed to a shared formula.

"There are coaching staffs on the men's and the women's side — and I'm talking about, obviously, our assistant coaches and theirs — that have a lot of pride in what they do and have a lot of pride in Youngstown," Slocum said. "We can't do it without players, and I think both of us have gotten some better players over the last couple of years and signed some really good kids."

The recent successes of

the YSU basketball program raise a question that couldn't be asked for at least the past decade: Is YSU, which is obviously a football school, becoming a basketball school as well?

Brown, a senior, said she believes the Penguins are heading in that direction, although the program and its players "still have work to do."

"We still have to win more games, more [Horizon League] games," she said. "I think for us to be considered a basketball

school we need to be able to go far in the playoffs, win championships and things like that."

In the meantime, Slocum and Boldon just want to continue to move toward that label.

"I would hope so," Boldon said of YSU eventually becoming a basketball school. "I think the men have done a great job. They play an exciting style of basketball, and they're well coached. Hopefully, we can follow suit and continue to play good basketball."

## Fall semester proves record-setting for YSU student-athletes

Steve Wilaj  
SPORTS EDITOR

As if the fall semester for Youngstown State University's athletics program wasn't successful enough, it became even better with an announcement earlier this month.

On Jan. 2, the department announced that a record 193 YSU student-athletes achieved a GPA above 3.00 during the fall semester.

As a group, the 339 student-athletes posted a GPA of 3.06. That mark is a department best for a fall semester and ties the record for all-time semester performance, which was established in the spring of 2011.

"Obviously, we're very excited about the ability of our student-athletes to put forth tremendous effort in the classroom and receive the accolades they so deserve, while balancing the commitment and everything that comes with being a student-athlete," said Elaine Jacobs, associate director of athletics.

The record-setting GPA numbers come in a semester in which the teams also took a step forward on the field. For instance, the football, volleyball and soccer teams all increased their win totals from the previ-

ous season.

"For them to make sure that they're being the consummate student-athlete is quite satisfying for our department," Jacobs said.

Jacobs oversees the academic and eligibility requirements for YSU student-athletes. Marilyn O'Bruba, coordinator of athletic academic advising, and Marty Hyden, an athletic academic adviser, assist Jacobs' efforts.

"I don't know if anybody fully understands," Jacobs said of the efforts put forth by the university's student-athletes. "Until you've lived the life and are here early in the mornings, on the weekends [and in] the evenings and understand all the time that they're putting in, you don't necessarily get a perspective of how difficult it is for them to achieve what they have."

With a 3.52 GPA, the women's basketball team recorded the highest mark among all YSU teams. Second was the women's cross-country team with a 3.43 GPA. Softball came in third, while soccer ranked fourth.

The men's tennis team had a 3.32 GPA, the highest among all of YSU's men's programs.

"We addressed it," said head women's basketball coach Bob

Boldon, now in his third season at YSU. "My first year, we were 17th in the country, and last year we were fifth. They've bought into a lot of things that we've been doing, and that's just another thing they've bought into."

Of the 339 student-athletes, 27 earned a 4.00 GPA in the fall. Jacobs said it's a "universitywide effort" that goes into accomplishing the impressive numbers.

"Our coaches have done a really sound job of recruiting student-athletes that want to be students, that actually are here to get a degree," Jacobs said. "Then, with the appropriate support from the academic advisers, as well as additional support our coaches give, ... we have success. And enough can't be said for the professors that work with the student-athletes, having to adjust all what they do in the classroom to accommodate travel."

Boldon said the record GPA numbers speak to the "discipline" of the university's student-athletes.

"I think there's a distinct carryover of being able to get up and go to class every morning

and do your work in the classroom, to being able to come to practice every day with the mindset to get better and do your job on the floor," he said.



#### SPORTS BRIEFS

##### YSU loses opener at Valpo

Valparaiso University defeated the YSU women's basketball team on Saturday, 67-59. After leading by as much as 32-17 in the first half, the Penguins lost their 48-43 second-half advantage when Valpo scored 11 straight points. YSU was never able to retake the lead. Brandi Brown led the Penguins with 16 points and 11 rebounds, while Shar'Rae Davis added 13 points and six assists. It was the Horizon League opener for YSU.

##### Softball receives preseason honors

YSU softball players Vicky Rumph, Sarah Gabel and Casey Crozier received Preseason All-Horizon League honors from College Sports Madness earlier this month. Senior outfielder Rumph was named to the Preseason All-Horizon League First-Team, while fellow senior outfielder Gabel and junior pitcher Crozier were named to the Second-Team. Also, head softball coach Brian Campbell was elected Preseason Coach of the Year.

#### STANDINGS

Wright St.	13-4
Valparaiso	13-5
Detroit	11-6
Cleveland St.	10-8
Green Bay	8-9
<b>Youngstown St.</b>	<b>9-7</b>
Loyola (Ill)	10-6
Ill.-Chicago	10-7
UW-Milwaukee	14-7

#### PENGUIN SPOTLIGHT



Heidi Schlegel

Year: Sophomore  
Height: 6'0"  
Hometown: Wapakoneta, Ohio  
Position: Forward

As the first player off the bench for the Penguins, Schlegel is averaging 10.8 points per game, which is the second highest average on the team. Schlegel is also averaging 4.5 rebounds per game in 25.8 minutes per contest. Her most productive game this season came in a 76-43 win against Stony Brook University, when she posted 14 points and grabbed five rebounds on 5-of-9 shooting. A middle childhood education major, Schlegel is the 2012-2013 recipient of the Jack and Mary Kay McFadden Scholarship.