

STRESS DURING THE PANDEMIC

DOUGLAS M. CAMPBELL

With the coronavirus pandemic continuing to cast a shadow over the world and the midterm season approaching for students, it is easy to become entangled in feelings of stress or anxiety.

According to a study by the Kaiser Family Foundation, in 2021 the average of adults who have reported symptoms of anxiety or a depressive disorder is at 41%, which is a 29.1% increase from 2019.

Dr. Victoria Kress, a professor of psychological sciences and counseling, feels this increase in anxiety and depressive disorder is caused by a variety of reasons.

“We want to believe that we have a sense of control for our lives and our situations, and I think this pandemic, on an existential level, has really highlighted that we all have so little control over our day-to-day life experiences,” Kress said.

She said the feeling affects everyone in personal ways, which comes from a practical place in life where people question their future while also living day-to-day with a sense of permanency.

“I think with the pandemic, it really immobilized us because we are realizing we don’t have a lot of control over what happens in the future and the pandemic made it very, very difficult to plan and even think about the future,” Kress said.

Feeding into our social side by finding time to connect with friends and loved ones digitally is a way to alleviate stress, according to Kress. She also recommends creating a set schedule with wellness activities and strategies planned throughout the day.

“For me, for example, I work a lot and it’s just so easy for me to spend 12 hours a day in front of my computer working all day, but I have to go, ‘No, at 1 o’clock I’m going to go exercise or do yoga,’ or whatever,” Kress said.

Throughout the month of February, the Andrews Student Wellness and Recreation Center on campus offered virtual yoga and spin sessions for students to help their basic self-care needs and physical and mental health.

Carrie Clyde, wellness coordinator at the office of Human Resources, said it is important not to lose sight of the basic things we need to do every day to take care of ourselves.

“These are the foundations of good health, and it’s really important to keep in mind and keep people aware of doing those things. Not just the physical attributes but also the mental, social-emotional pieces that fit within that,” Clyde said.

Frances Clause, a first-year graduate student in clinical mental health counseling, copes with stress during the pandemic by winding down and playing music and video games, journaling and watching videos.

“A lot of people still think that even when you relax you still have to be doing something as well. I feel that as a society we think we have to be productive at every second and that also includes our relaxation ... it’s okay to sit down and do nothing,” Clause said.

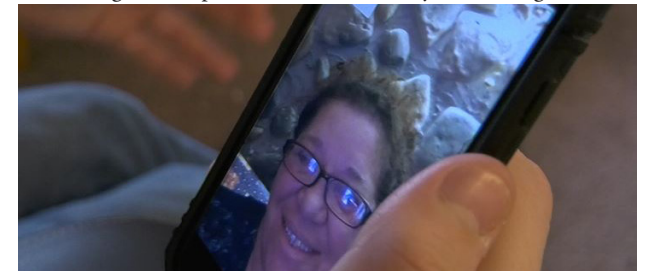
Clause created an Instagram page last year called “Coping With Fran,” where she shares with her followers her experiences with mental illness.

“It’s all such a different experience for anyone. So many people can have anxiety and each of those people individually are so different. So, my thing was mostly to explain my own experiences just so other people can know, ‘Oh, this is what it’s like with her,’” Clause said.

Ryan Lalchand, a junior computer science major, copes with pandemic stress by completing to-do lists and organizing his schedule on the calendar, an organizational skill that he learned from his girlfriend.

“It helps me clear my mind and distract from the pandemic and my workload. Chunking my time is honestly the only way I’m able to keep up with deadlines and commitments,” Lalchand said.

The most important advice Kress offers her clients and students is to reach out for help if they need it and talk about the feelings they may have during the pandemic. She recommends utilizing the free counseling services available at community counseling on campus and from university counseling services.



YSU students are dealing with the stress of a yearlong pandemic in various ways, like talking to relatives, exercising and going outdoors. Photo by **Douglas Campbell/The Jambar**



Pete Julian, a 91-year-old graduate from YSU who’s attended a lot of football games, got to meet Pete the Penguin Monday with help from Student Government Association. Photo by **Kelcey Norris/The Jambar**

PETE SQUARED: YSU SUPERFAN MEETS MASCOT

KELCEY NORRIS

Pete Julian attended every Youngstown State University football game from his freshman year until he was 80 years old. The first question the YSU graduate asked Pete and the entourage: how’s the football team doing this year?

Julian, now 91 years old, lives at the Ohio Living Long Term Care Facility in Cortland. He had a surprise visitor Monday afternoon and was visibly excited to see Pete the Penguin waddle through the gate.

Even though he was already sporting his YSU baseball cap and hoodie, Julian also got a few new signature items, including a YSU beanie and fanny pack.

Julian graduated sometime in the 1950s — he couldn’t quite remember that exact date for us — after studying social sciences and

business. He was a founding member of the still-active fraternity Alpha Phi Delta.

When he graduated, it was still called Youngstown College, according to Danielle Olson, a caregiver at the long-term care facility.

“This [visit] meant so much to him,” Olson said. “Pete’s been going through hard times with his health, but this really, really cheered him up.”

Justin Shaughnessy, executive president of Student Government Association, and Kati Hartwig, coordinator of social media and digital marketing, coordinated the surprise visit from Pete the Penguin.

Catch Pete the Penguin at the next home football game, where YSU will host Southern Illinois State University at 12:00 p.m. March 6.

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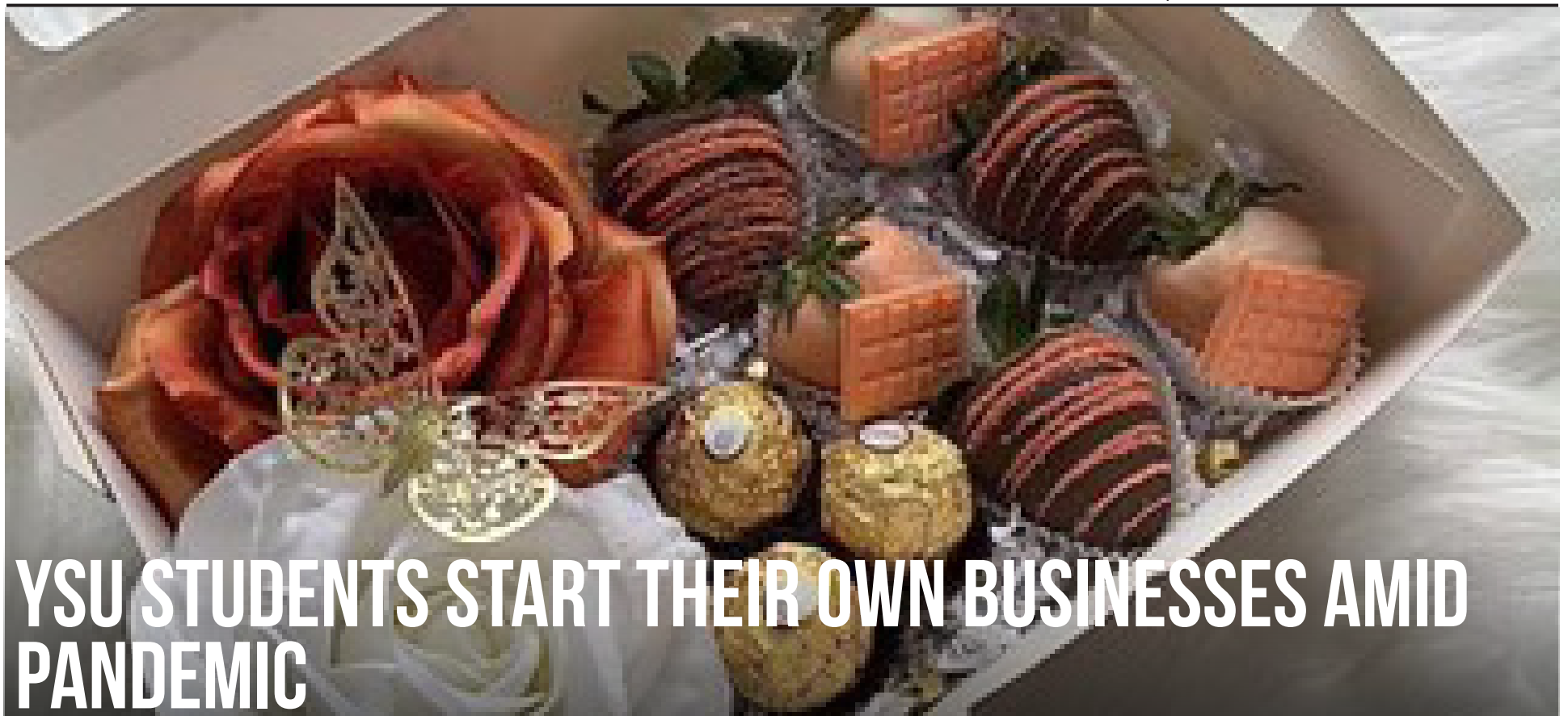
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YSU STUDENTS START THEIR OWN BUSINESSES AMID PANDEMIC

*Kristen Graul, a YSU student working toward her master's degree in social work, started Victorious Sweets with her long-time friend, Victoria Duckworth, last fall. Photo courtesy of **Kristen Graul***

EMILY MCCARTHY

The past year has been a unique one for many students at Youngstown State University. For many students, the COVID-19 pandemic brought a lot of change, in both school and work environments, but for some students, the change included starting a business.

Taylor Javey, an exercise science major, started her business, 1011 Fabrics, last October. She began her business Oct. 11, 2020. The business consists of an online female boutique which includes affordable apparel in northeast Ohio, offering both shipping and local delivery services.

"1011 Fabrics is an online clothing boutique for women created to help me pay for graduate school and meet my lifelong dreams," she said. "I was born and raised in Youngstown, Ohio, on October 11 (aka 10-11) which is how I came up with the name for my company 1011 Fabrics. [I am] currently attending Youngstown State University, as a first generation college student ... I aspire to be an Athletic Trainer for the NBA."

Javey is not the only YSU student who began a business last fall.

Kristen Graul, a YSU student working toward her master's

degree in social work, started

Victorious Sweets with her long-time friend, Victoria Duckworth, last fall. The business offers a variety of sweets and baked goods like chocolate-covered strawberries, chocolate-covered pineapple, cakesicles, cookies, chocolate-covered pretzels and more.

"[Victoria] went to a creative arts school in Cleveland for her high school, so she's just super creative and we just love color. We just want to make people happy, like when they open their boxes of sweets," she said. "We want them to love what they are getting ... We are all about presentation."

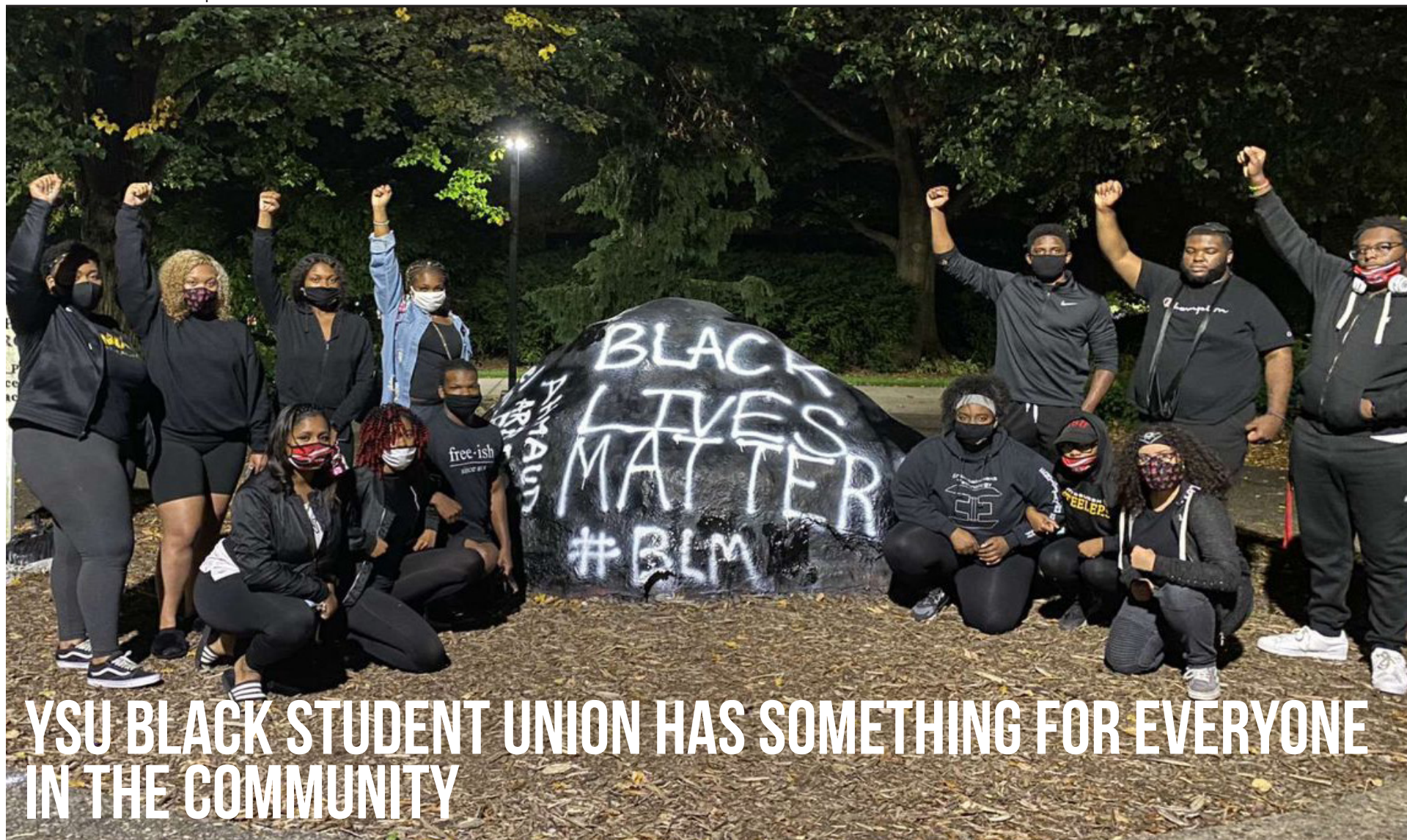
Setting this business aside from others serving sweets, each box ordered is uniquely decorated with a variety of colors and themes based on the customers interests. According to Graul, the feedback was much better than they anticipated, especially during the holidays.

"We always wanted to have our own business, so we decided one day we're going to try and see if it goes anywhere because we wanted to build our customers and clientele before taking the big jump and opening our own place," Graul said. "We didn't expect it to go so good, so we were like, 'Wow ... this really confirms that we can make it in the business industry.'"

Santajah Douglass, a freshman psychology major, co-owns Stayce Artistic Treats with YSU alumna Stayce Blackston. Douglass is the eldest daughter of Blackston, and together they found enjoyment in opening a business. The business opened in January and sells one of a kind boxes, picture frames, masks and pouches. Each product is unique and includes treats with it.

"It was self-healing through art ... [the products] are all pre-made by the artists. We would like to express our point of view through art. They are original designs — never duplicates," she said. "Just like us, people are inspired by something new everyday, so why not inspire our customers ... it can be that one product that makes your whole day."

Douglass is in charge of the marketing and primarily does advertising for the business, and while they brainstorm ideas together, Blackston is the main artist. Douglass said Blackston is a very talented person and she takes pride in the family partnership, which she said she believes is the best kind of business.



YSU BLACK STUDENT UNION HAS SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE IN THE COMMUNITY

Youngstown State University's Black Student Union painted the rock and held a merchandise fundraiser for Black History Month in February. Photo courtesy of **BSU**.

EMILY MCCARTHY

The Youngstown State University Black Student Union has made a positive impact on the students and the community. Although the organization has existed on campus for a long time, it was revamped in 2016 and has since begun to grow.

Lekelia Houser, a member of BSU since fall 2020, feels the percentage of Black students at YSU is low, and they are not always given enough representation.

“The purpose of the Black Student Union is to create a presence for Black people on campus. It’s really hard to do that at YSU because there are very few people who have power on campus that are trying to achieve the same goal as us,” she said. “In every meeting, we update the members about events and goals and we always have a discussion question. The discussion question is always about current events about Black people.”

BSU not only directly helps Black students, but informs others of Black history and works to build leadership in the community. Kameya Parks, president of BSU, said the organization provides a way to bring Black students together.

“We provide a safe space for African American students on campus to come together and connect with each other,” she said.

Serina Pipkin, vice president of BSU, has been involved with the organization since the fall 2016 as a freshman and helped the organization become what it is today. She said although they’ve been limited in what they were able to do this semester due to COVID-19, they organized many events in the past, including community outreach.

“We have put on a veterans’ breakfast in the past, we also have done a formal for students, we have done a panel ... we tried a speed dating program where we were just trying to bring other

students out to meet each other,” she said. “We did a ’90’s party, we did a water drive for Flint Michigan, we have done a clothes drive for the homeless shelter here in Youngstown.”

Pipkin also said the organization is very unique to other campus organizations. BSU is mainly for students who feel out of place on campus or feel judgement and a lack of diversity. One common misconception of the organization, she said, is that only Black students are allowed to join.

“We don’t discriminate who comes into our organization. Everyone is welcome,” she said. “I think that’s [why] a lot of the heritage students here on campus are so afraid to join us, because it says ‘Black Student Union,’ so they think it is only for Black students. We mainly focus on Black students, but we are receptive to anyone who wants to join and who wants to learn different things from everyone in this city’s background.”

GRAD STUDENT CUTS HAIR AS HOBBY

HAILEY ROGENSKI
JAMBAR CONTRIBUTOR

Many Youngstown State University students have developed unique hobbies during the pandemic — Zachary Minney's is cutting hair.

Minney, an engineering graduate student, said he was inspired to start cutting hair because of how quarantine forced barber shops to close for a long time. According to him, his friend Yousof Hamza really needed a haircut during this time.

"I told him I'd cut it, and I've been cutting his hair and a couple of guys in the equipment room ever since," he said.

Hamza, a senior telecommunications major, is also a coworker of Minney's. Both work in YSU's equipment room for the athletic department. Hamza said Minney is a natural at cutting hair.

"He was pretty good at it. I would say he's better than some of the people I've had," Hamza said. "The last person to regularly do my hair was also a coworker."

According to Hamza, Minney had cut his own hair prior to cutting other people's. This gave Hamza confidence in his friend's ability to cut hair for the first time.

"He did it to himself and if you mess up, it's just hair. You can shave it all off and it'll grow back," Hamza said.

Minney said he taught himself to cut hair after observing how his barber did it.

"I go to a really good barber, so just observing what he did kind of showed me how to do it," he said. "Everyone has different types of hair so it's nice to mess with it and see what you can do."

Minney cuts his friends' hair for free. While he enjoys his new hobby, he doesn't plan to pursue it as a career.

"I probably wouldn't work at a salon, just because I don't have the experience and I would have to go to extra schooling for that," he said.

Minney is a former player on the YSU men's baseball team. An injury to his shoulder during practice ended his career as a pitcher for the university.

"In the fall, I suffered a torn labrum. I ended up having to get surgery on that, and that put me out for the whole season," Minney said.

Minney said he played baseball for 19 years. He's not planning to play for YSU again because he's looking forward to beginning his professional career.

"I won't get back on the team because I'll be graduating soon with a master's degree and I'm going to try to get a job as either a chemical engineer or a process or material engineer," he said.

Minney said he was persistent to be successful and still is. He began cutting hair while he still played baseball. He also attends school full-time while maintaining a part-time job.

"I wanted to be successful while doing something I loved on the side," Minney said.



Greek life organizations find some silver linings to the challenges brought by the pandemic. Photo courtesy of [ysu.edu](https://www.yasu.edu)

C. AILEEN BLAINE

Active in-person involvements used to be the hallmark of Greek life organizations, but leading brothers and sisters had to think outside the box to maintain safety during the pandemic.

Ian Ward, a junior biology major, is the vice president of finance and administration for YSU's interfraternity council. He said the pandemic greatly impacts many aspects of Greek life participation, from recruitment and fundraising to engagement with philanthropic causes.

"Some chapters have almost no hope of raising money for their philanthropy. They have turned their efforts into raising money for other charitable organizations, like our local Guinathon on campus. It hasn't been easy, but everyone is doing a great job," Ward said.

Prior to March 2020, Greek life organizations held many in-person events. These included fraternity and sorority mixers, restaurant takeovers and Greek competitions and intramurals. But now, mixers are limited to online meetings and many restaurants can't accept organization takeovers. In-person competitions and sports are limited to a small number of participants, and there are restrictions on what activities can take place.

Judin Balella, a business administration marketing junior, is president of Pi Sigma Epsilon, a marketing and sales co-ed fraternity.

When campus shut down in March 2020, Balella decided to place PSE on a hiatus from meetings for the remainder of the semester because he wanted members to put family, schoolwork and other obligations first.

Balella said one of the biggest differences now is how PSE conducts fundraisers.

"The product is the same, from restaurants to food and so on. But the way we deliver — the delivery system — is different. Now, we're trying to focus on online as much as we can," Balella said.

Before, PSE often used in-person events, such as

recruitment tables in Kilcawley Center or Williamson Hall, to raise funds. Now, online PDF flyers and QR codes replace the in-person events. But Balella remains hopeful for the organization.

Despite the challenges the pandemic brings, Balella said he thinks it helped the organization establish a stronger online presence with virtual meetings so members can participate even if they're not on campus.

Erin Urbaniak, the vice president of Panhellenic Council recruitment and a human resources and management sophomore, is a member of Zeta Tau Alpha.

ZTA's philanthropy month takes place during October, where the organization holds a large event called Pink Out to raise money for breast cancer education and awareness. However, the organization had to host several smaller fundraisers, such as restaurant flyers and online bracelet sales, to take Pink Out's place.

However, Urbaniak said the pandemic provides the opportunity for closer relationships with her Greek sisters.

"We have more time, now that everything's online," Urbaniak said. "We have more time with each other at meetings, rather than everybody just running around and just staying in their cliques and everything."

The organization saw fewer new members in fall 2020 compared to the previous year, but Urbaniak remains hopeful for the organization's future.

"We're still trying to do fun things on campus," she said. "So even though it looks different, the experience that comes with it, I honestly think is a little better. It's a little more enhanced."

Ward also remains optimistic for the present and future of Greek organizations due to the connection members have to each other.

"Students in Greek life, although they may be isolated, don't ever have to feel like they are alone," Ward said. "It's certainly a huge advantage right now to lean on someone when your mental or physical health is suffering, and you always have that reassurance with a fraternity or sorority."



YSU PROFESSOR TRACKS EXPANDING UNIVERSE

This HET telescope at the University of Texas, captured an image of the galaxy M101 in a search for dark energy, an exhibition led by YSU astronomy and physics professor, John Feldmeier. Photo courtesy of John Feldmeier

JOSEPH CHAPMAN

Youngstown State University professor of physics and astronomy John Feldmeier is the chief imaging scientist for the Hobby-Eberly Telescope Dark Energy Experiment, or HETDEX. It is the first major experiment in the search for dark energy.

“This is the most important plot in astronomy, which is: ‘What is the universe made up of?’ So, you and I are made up of stuff, atoms, and of course, most of it is heavy elements,” Feldmeier said. “And all this stuff we see with our eyes, normal matter is this stuff. And you can see, that’s exactly 5% of the universe. Most of the universe is made up of stuff that we do not understand.”

According to Feldmeier, dark energy is responsible for the universe’s expansion. He said he has been involved in the project for the last 10 years and although results may be coming slowly, this is the nature of this type of project. The blind imaging survey is officially one third completed.

“This kind of science research people are sometimes like,

‘How come you didn’t do it faster?’ And we’re like, ‘It’s hard’... So, a lot of these projects, they take time to build up. But once they build up, it’s pretty amazing.”

Spectra — images taken of dispersed light from a source — are important to astronomers. Feldmeier’s job is to coordinate astronomers and download imaging data from various telescopes to match up the images with one another.

“The idea is that you match these two things against each other. So, this is like the peanut butter and this is like the chocolate. And when you put them together, you get a Reese’s Peanut Butter Cup,” he said.

Feldmeier explained how this project will use cosmic webs. “Here’s a computer simulation of part of the universe. And each blue dot here is actually a galaxy. So, the Milky Way would be one of these dots. And so, as the universe has expanded with time, what happens is we wind up with this box on the right, where everything kind of looks like a spiderweb that is the galaxies clumped together,” he said. “But then there are these big empty spots where there aren’t that many galaxies. So, this

cosmic web can tell us a lot about dark energy.”

He discussed how this large collaboration involved not only approximately 150 scientists working remotely from around the world, but YSU Penguins as well.

“The only way you can learn how to do science is to do some science. So, what we try to do is give each student, as part of their Capstone, a little piece of the project,” he said. “Eventually, they will be authors on the [academic] papers when we get to them about the imaging survey.”

Feldmeier also expressed excitement at the idea that HETDEX could lead to unrelated discoveries in astronomy.

“It’s like you’re digging for treasure. This is true of all astronomy surveys, you tend to find some cool stuff that you didn’t expect. But because HETDEX looks at the sky in a very different way, I think we’re going to find some very interesting things. I don’t know what those things are, but I’m very confident we’re going to find something really interesting that no one else has seen before.”



STAFF SUPERFAN VOLUNTEERS IN ATHLETICS

Hoff believes this might be the smallest YSU penguin in the world, 20 to 50 times smaller than a hair follicle. Photo courtesy of **Raymond Hoff**

YOUSOF HAMZA JAMBAR CONTRIBUTOR

From operating chemistry instrumentation to being on the sideline at Youngstown State University football games, Raymond E. Hoff is an unlikely character.

Hailing from Galeton, Colorado, Hoff attended the University of Northern Colorado, earning a degree in physics. He made money shearing sheep through college — before securing a job in Boulder, Colorado — designing optical crystal controllers.

Hoff was a junior state champion sheep shearer in Colorado and placed in the top 50 nationally for both junior and senior sheep shearing. After he moved to Youngstown, Hoff watched the Canfield Fair sheep shearing contest twice before competing in it.

“I went down and joined the sheep shearing contest,” he said. “Since I never sheared in the Ohio State Fair contest I went in the non[-statefair] and won it.”

Hoff competed two more times, winning both.

He then worked as an instrumentation specialist at Tulane University, New Orleans, before he was hired for the same job at YSU.

In 1996, YSU’s chemistry department purchased a nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) machine and hired Hoff to work on it and all equipment to save costs and reduce downtime.

“I was on an NMR users group and they advertised the job here. And I came up here and interviewed and fell in love with the place,” Hoff said.

Chair emeritus of the chemistry department, Daryl Mincey,

said Hoff remains an asset to the department. Not only does the university save money with Hoff on staff to fix equipment, he said, Hoff can fix anything.

“Sometimes a student will say, ‘This doesn’t work.’ [Hoff] will put his hand on it, and say, ‘It looks like it’s working now,’” he said.

Hoff is a selfless worker, Mincey said, and he does work at home and late at night. He likened Hoff and other salaried workers to news anchors where you only see part of their work.

“That’s got to be the easiest job in the world — they work two and a half hours a day. What can be an easier job than that?” Mincey said. “Well, what you don’t see is what the newscaster puts in to build half an hour.”

Hoff also has volunteered with the athletic department since his first day at YSU, when Mincey gave him a tour of the campus, including Stambaugh Stadium. There, he said, he volunteered to help fix the live stats system so there could be four viewing monitors. He then made a signal multiplier so each of the 32 stadium lodges could have a screen for viewing football stats.

When Trevor Parks, director of Athletics Communications, started at YSU in 2000, Hoff helped him maintain the live stats program until it became obsolete.

“If it wasn’t working, he would whip out his tools and try to ... you had like nine pins going in or 12, 13 pins. He would take out a couple pins and jury rig it around and the next thing you know, it would come up,” Parks said.

He said Hoff also has helped his department by taking photos for sports information.

Over the years, Hoff has volunteered in a variety of ways for the athletic department, all while performing his job for chemistry. He’s done everything from maintaining the stats program to taking photos at football games, and from loading and unloading equipment on planes to driving the equipment to all away games.

Hoff said he drove to every away game except for the 2016 playoff semifinal game against Eastern Washington, which missed to attend his daughter’s wedding in New Orleans.

His daughter planned her wedding for December when the playoffs happen. He told his daughter because she scheduled her wedding for December, YSU would make the playoffs.

“I told Daryl that we’re going to be in the playoff game, and he says we’re playing Eastern Washington, and I say, ‘How do you know that?’” Hoff said. “He says, ‘That’s the game that’s going to hurt you the worst not being able to drive to.’”

Hoff thinks of himself as a different kind of fan and believes he is integral to the team.

“If I’m able to take one more pair of shoulder pads, or one more pair of cleats, or one more piece of equipment that might be needed during the game, that might be the difference of us winning a game or not,” he said.



ABSENCE OF LIGHT IN MCDONOUGH MUSEUM

Amy Giese, a Boston-based artist, creates skiagrams and focuses on using shadows to paint the scene. The exhibit is up until April 2. Photo by **Sydney A. Stalnecker/The Jambar**

SYDNEY A. STALNECKER **JAMBAR CONTRIBUTOR**

There are new shadows dressing the walls of the McDonough Museum of Art. “The Absence of Light Within These Walls” is one of four new galleries currently on display.

Amy Giese, a Boston-based artist and teacher, created skiagrams — a Greek term meaning “to write with shadows” — based on the different shadow patterns along the walls of her home without a camera. She has worked without a camera for over a decade.

“All of the pieces in the show are actually the direct recording of the light and shadow patterns in a specific moment straight onto the photo paper,” she said.

At night, Giese unrolled darkroom paper, a type of photographic paper, in different rooms of her house to capture the shadow patterns.

“[With] traditional black and white darkroom paper, any place that’s hit by light gets dark and any place that is not hit by light stays white,” Giese said.

Sharon Koelblinger, an adjunct professor of art at Youngstown State University, works with darkroom paper and expanded on the process.

“With darkroom paper, basically, there is a light-sensitive silver coating that is on the surface of the paper,” Koelblinger said. “That silver darkens when it is exposed to light.”

Creating images without a camera is not the only unique aspect of Giese’s work. She attaches an element of sound to each skiagram as well.

“Once I take a digital photograph of the mural, I can translate each pixel into a note,” Giese said. “Then I make a sound piece out of all of those notes.”

Claudia Berlinsky, director of the McDonough Museum, said the sound is very innovative and unique. She said it enhances the overall experience of the gallery.

“The images themselves have a sort of haunting quality to them because they are very atmospheric,” Berlinsky said. “The sound is really very similar, and so I think it’s really going to enhance the experience in the gallery.”

The two larger installations have speakers that alternate sound pieces playing on a loop. One of the two grids, which is a collection of smaller skiagrams, has a QR code linked to a sound piece on Giese’s website.

The gallery consists of two grids, four skiagrams from previous collections and a new collection titled “Dwelling.” The seven skiagrams in “Dwelling” were created in Giese’s living room and are arranged in the gallery to resemble the shadow patterns of the room.

Berlinsky said Giese gave precise instructions on the arrangement of the gallery.

“Amy was very thorough, and she sent out very exact instructions on how to use the hanging devices,” Berlinsky said.

“There will be a couple of prints that are suspended from the ceiling.”

Giese and Berlinsky met at a Society for Photographic Education conference in Cleveland. Shortly after, the pair began brainstorming ideas for a future exhibition.

Originally, they planned for Giese to work directly with YSU students last fall to create artwork for the exhibition based on the shadows of campus. However, due to COVID-19, their plans changed.

Giese suggested making artwork of her house because it was the only place she was allowed to go.

“We both really liked the idea of it being both relevant to what we’ve all been going through but also kind of still being able to make site specific work,” Giese said.

Berlinsky said the change of plans and limitations can be seen as a spark for creativity.

“Even in times when you’re not able to do what you normally do, you can be innovative and try to find a new way to create what you want to create given your limitations,” Berlinsky said.

Giese will discuss her work during a lecture open to all YSU students March 10 at 10 a.m. via Zoom. There will be a link to the Zoom call posted on the museum’s Facebook page.

The gallery opened Feb. 26, and will be displayed until April 2. The museum is open to the public from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday.



Jacci Johnson, primary adviser for the Zeta Gamma chapter, explains the importance of lifting up fellow Black women in Delta Sigma Theta. Photo courtesy of Jacci Johnson

SAMANTHA SMITH

Delta Sigma Theta and Alpha Kappa Alpha are both reestablished sororities at Youngstown State University. Both sororities are a part of the National Pan-Hellenic Council, which maintains sorority operation standards. Both historically Black sororities are seeing renewed participation and interest from YSU's student body.

Carrie Anderson, associate director of Student Activities, stated the requirements necessary to be an established or reestablished sorority.

"We're very specific on any student organization, whether it's the Biology Club or Squirrel Watching Club or a Greek organization, is that they have to be able to have five members to be able to be active on our campus," she said. "So, that incorporated with our Greek policy, which we do have specific ones that kind of outline what process[es] they have to do."

She went on to say the sororities had a head start on

reestablishment because they already have a charter at YSU.

"What I mean by charter is that nationally, across the country, at each campus that they're on, they have a specific charter or chapter that identifies them," Anderson said. "For example, for Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, we have the Delta Delta chapter here at Youngstown State or with Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc., we have the Zeta Gamma chapter that's established with Youngstown State."

Each sorority at YSU, and other colleges, has a purpose. Jacci Johnson, the primary adviser for the Zeta Gamma chapter, explains its general purpose.

"The mission statement for Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc. is that it is the organization of college-educated women, committed to the constructive development of its members and the public service, the primary focus in the Black community," Johnson said.

For Alpha Kappa Alpha, its mission statement is "to cultivate and encourage high scholastic and ethical standards, to promote

unity and friendship among college women, to study and help alleviate problems concerning girls and women in order to improve their social stature, to maintain a progressive interest in college life and to be of service to all mankind."

Johnson went on to stress an important factor about the Delta Sigma Theta sorority.

"Membership in Delta Sigma Theta Sorority is a lifetime commitment," she said. "One of the main philosophical and kind of functional differences between Black Greek letter organizations and non-Black letter organizations is that it doesn't end when you graduate ... it is not supposed to stop when you're a member of Delta specifically, but Black organizations in general."

For more information on the two sororities, their Facebook pages are Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc. and Zeta Gamma Chapter and Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Inc., Delta Delta Chapter.

COVID-19 UPDATE: CASES CONTINUE TO DROP

ABIGAIL CLOUTIER

For the week of Feb. 21-27, Youngstown State University reported 16 new cases on its COVID-19 dashboard. These cases include three employees, 11 students living off campus and two students living on campus. As previously noted, students living off campus include students

residing in the University Courtyard, the Loft, University Edge and Enclave apartment complexes.

This marks the third week that YSU's coronavirus cases dropped below 20 since the beginning of the semester. Last week, YSU also tested 109 students, staff and faculty for COVID-19. Three of those tests came back positive, for a positivity rate of 2.75%.

For further updates, check YSU'S COVID-19 dashboard.



Dante Davis, aka zEnViOuSz, played Call of Duty: Warzone for his followers and subscribers on Twitch. Photo by Zach Mosca/The Jambar

ZACH MOSCA

Over the past decade, video game-related content on the internet has become more widespread. Students at Youngstown State University have joined the fun by broadcasting gameplay live on the livestreaming website Twitch.

Twitch started in 2011 as a platform for gamers to broadcast gameplay live to people around the world. Over the years, the website has grown in popularity, becoming the primary source for watching esports tournaments or simply for people to watch others play their favorite games.

One of the streamers on this site is junior computer science major Dante Davis. Davis runs the Twitch channel zEnViOuSz and is a Twitch affiliate. Davis described the process of reaching this status and what it entails for streamers.

“You have to stream for a consecutive amount of days in a 30-day period. So, you have to stream for however many days and however many hours total streamed, and then you have to be able to average at least three viewers,” Davis said. “Once you get that, you get an email from Twitch, and then on your Twitch channel there is an affiliate tab that ends up appearing that you’re able to then further go into Twitch and set up [subscribers].”

Subscribing on Twitch is not the same as on websites such as YouTube. YouTube subscriptions are free and allow users to get updates in their feeds from their favorite channels, whereas Twitch subscriptions cost \$4.99 per month and will get users exclusive emotes from the channel to use in chat rooms as well as other potential perks.

Some users have private chat rooms on sites like Discord exclusively for subscribers, and others host game nights where subscribers can play games with them. Luke Frye, a former computer science major at YSU, operates the Twitch channel TheSuperBetic. He plans to implement more perks for his subscribers soon without alienating those who aren’t subscribed.

“We’re actually in the works of doing [subscriber]-only nights, but I usually just have an open night. If people are going to sub, they’re going to sub if they want to ... If you sub, you get the emotes, you get a cool badge and we can hang out more in Discord probably, but it’s not anything separate from what you do just for following or being a part of a community,” Frye said.

Twitch is a very diverse platform for streaming — not only for the amount of games people play, but for the styles of content people produce. For example, Davis describes himself as a “variety streamer” who aims to attract various audiences based

on what game he is playing.

“I don’t like to just play one game all the time, because I just believe that obviously a lot of people absolutely love watching a person just for one specific game. I want to be a person that you like to come watch for multiple different reasons, not for just one game,” Davis said.

However, other streamers prefer to stick to one game or a series. Senior computer science major Sarah Hunt streams the Fire Emblem series. Hunt participates in a type of challenge called “draft racing.”

“It’s a speedrun of a Fire Emblem game ... but it’s not just a speedrun, it’s a speedrun where you can only use specific units. You and your opponents are randomly assigned an order in which you’ll pick your units and you take turns picking your units that you do the race with,” Hunt said.

Developing a community of fans takes time, but users such as Davis have advice for aspiring streamers struggling to gain viewers.

“Don’t get discouraged about it. You want to embrace it, and you want to stay consistent ... You don’t have to stream every day, but what I will tell you is you want to make a schedule and stick to that schedule,” Davis said.

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.

OUR EDITORIAL POLICY

The editorial board consists of the editor-in-chief, managing editor, news 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.



STUDENT EXPERIENCE RESTRUCTURES AS CAMPUS NEEDS CHANGE THROUGH PANDEMIC

Joy Polkabla Byers, associate vice president of Student Experiences, Nicole Kent-Strollo, dean of students, and Elaine Ruse, associate vice president of Student Enrollment and Business Services, collaborate in their office. Photo by *Jessica Stamp/The Jambar*

JESSICA STAMP

Youngstown State University restructured Student Affairs into separate departments after Eddie Howard's departure last semester. The restructuring is meant to place focus on student needs and better assist students with any problems they may have.

Joy Polkabla Byers, associate vice president of Student Experiences, now works with Housing and Residence life, Student Activities, Campus Recreation, Auxiliary Services (Kilcawley Center) and Veteran's Affairs. She said the focus of the department is to keep YSU students safe.

"We are listening to students and helping them discover their passions and making sure that needs are met while they're on campus," she said.

Student Affairs is now divided into three departments: the office of Student Experience, the office of Dean of Students and the office of Student Enrollment and Business Services.

"All of those areas have really taken a team approach in trying to make sure that our students' needs are met right now as we still continue to prepare for when we are post-COVID,"

Polkabla Byers said.

The restructuring allows more attention to be brought to certain areas relating to more individual focus on helping students accomplish their goals and to emphasize the support students may need.

Nicole Kent-Strollo, dean of students, serves as the point of contact for students who need her guidance for career success or to discuss issues regarding their mental and physical health. In her proactive role, she looks for recurring problems students have on campus and tries to figure out a solution. After restructuring, Kent-Strollo works with Student Outreach and Support, Student Counseling Services, and Community Standards, Advocacy and Conduct.

The restructuring more evenly distributes the workload and allows for collaborations between the departments. Kent-Strollo said through the partnership, they'll be able to provide more education for the YSU community on issues of welfare, safety and advocacy instead of only providing help for individual issues.

"The new structure in general is really, to be honest, nice to have two other people really at the same level that I can bounce

ideas off of and they can do the same with me," Kent-Strollo said. "I already have seen it working really well and it's only been a couple of weeks."

Because of COVID-19's impact, adjustments to help students such as a more targeted concentration on students living on campus were required. Elaine Ruse, associate vice president of Student Enrollment and Business Services, is trying to find ways to give a more personalized approach to students. She now works with the Undergraduate Admissions and Financial Aid and Scholarships department.

"Reaching out to students and actually speaking to them [virtually] or by telephone seems to be more appreciated during COVID-19 versus an email or texting," Ruse said.

Polkabla Byers, Kent-Strollo and Ruse hope working together with the restructuring will bring a greater experience for students.

"Hopefully ... the three of us would work together to bring the students the experience ... that they deserve and what they expect," Ruse said. "To collaborate as much as possible. To make sure that we provide the best experience as much as possible for the students that they can have at YSU."

THE JAMBAR EARNS RECOGNITION FROM OHIO NEWS MEDIA ASSOCIATION

KELCEY NORRIS

It's been one of the toughest years to share news, but The Jambar received recognition for persevering through it all. The Ohio News Media Association awarded the student publication of Youngstown State University with 10 awards in as many categories for collegiate news publications across the state.

The ceremony was held virtually Friday, Feb. 26. The ONMA awarded The Jambar staff second place in the News Coverage category, as well as second place in the In-Depth Reporting category for the issue called "Goodbye Vindicator: The End of a Youngstown Legacy."

The Jambar also received the runner-up spot in best multimedia package for coverage on Jambar TV about The Vindicator closing.

Material was submitted from the 2019-2020 The Jambar staff working under the leadership of editor-in-chief Rachel Gobep and managing editor Alyssa Weston. For some categories, including COVID-19 coverage, materials from fall 2019 to October 2020 were submitted.

In the arts and entertainment category, third place was given to YSU

psychology graduate student Frances Clause for her story titled "Jeff Wormley: On the Road with the Ramones." Clause was formerly the arts and entertainment editor for The Jambar.

In opinion writing, Mac Pomeroy's column series earned second place. The Jambar also received third place in staff headline writing.

The Jambar was awarded first place for print design. Head designer of the issue was Britany Hickey, with assistance by Douglas M. Campbell.

In the photojournalism category, graduates Brent Bigelow, Frances Clause and Brian Yauger were the key photographers awarded with first place. Bigelow's photo of graduate Nathan Mays of the football team titled "The Sun Sets on Nathan Mays' Career" was the best submitted, according to the judges.

The Jambar was awarded first place for website design under former head web manager John Galvin. The staff was also a Pacemaker award semifinalist for thejambar.com in 2020.

One of the first place wins that stood out was winning in the special category of coronavirus coverage. The judge said the following about the Jambar coverage:

"These stories all had unique aspects that gave the reader introspect into pandemic from various viewpoints. The best by far, which put these entries at the front of the line was the focus on the nursing students. Beautiful pieces and well written."

The Jambar's adviser and YSU professor of journalism Mary Beth Earnhardt expressed pride in the organization.

"The Jambar does so well because of the environment created by YSU," she said. "The fact we get institutional support for the work of our students translates to success in contests like ONMA and in the professional lives of students after they graduate."

Erin Driscoll, executive director of Student Experience & Residence Life, commended the group for the accomplishments.

"The talent, passion and creativity of our students across the spectrum of student media is inspiring, and I'm so proud of the recognition that they have earned through ONMA," Driscoll said. "These students are a living example of the importance of applying what you learn in the classroom to life outside the classroom, and using those experiences to develop skills to prepare for career success after YSU."

THE JAMBAR

— EDITORIAL —

LOOKING FORWARD TO THE FUTURE

Slowly but surely, things seem to be returning to normal.

Last week, the University of Akron announced they're planning "a return to as close to a normal semester as possible." According to KentWired, Kent State University's newsource, the university will offer more in-person classes. Youngstown State University's website announced plans for an in-person spring commencement ceremony in accordance with Gov. Mike DeWine's revised large gathering protocol.

Fans attended a YSU football home game for the first time in over a year. It's a much more hopeful picture than a year ago, when on May 5, 2020, then-editor-in-chief Rachel Gobep wrote:

"I'll be virtually graduating from Youngstown State University on Saturday. This isn't what I thought I'd be feeling at the end of my college career. I'm trying to be optimistic because my time at YSU was absolutely unforgettable."

Recently, President Biden announced there will be enough vaccine doses available for every American adult by the end of May. Many hope people will be widely vaccinated by the end of July.

It is our hope that this May our time at YSU will be equally unforgettable and our graduating staff can walk across the commencement stage with a feeling of hope.

BIRTHDAY CANDLES AND COVID-19 SWABS

MAC POMEROY

So, there I was, COVID-19 swab up the nose, doctor telling me happy birthday, phone continuously going off, wondering what in the world was going on. I am sure at this point you are probably just as confused as I was, so let me back up a bit.

I have always had rough luck with birthdays. While my family is very supportive and does their best, having a birthday at the end of February means you have to work with the circumstances of winter, whether it be weather or illness. So, blizzards and colds on my birthday are far from uncommon.

Before I get into complaining about it, I want to discuss my birthday itself.

This year especially felt really strange since I didn't feel like I aged. Not that I expected a huge difference between 20 and 21, but it seems like just yesterday I was writing my last birthday article. I can probably say without a doubt, between then and now, I have learned absolutely nothing.

I'm not kidding. I have had zero character development as far as I can see. I haven't gained any great wisdom or figured out another mystical secret of life. I am sure I have changed, but just not in ways clear to myself. As far as I can see, all I did was slap on some fresh hair dye and call it a day for maturing in the last year.

This year I turned 21. While this doesn't mean much in the long run, it seems like one of those milestone numbers. I am finally old enough to legally drink alcohol, which honestly wasn't very exciting. I am not a huge fan of alcohol in general, but I most certainly did not intend to drink given the state my

stomach was in.

It seems as though a stomach bug has been going around these last few weeks, and I was one of its unlucky victims. Ever since Tuesday, my gut had been performing some olympic-level flips. Thinking about eating my cake on Thursday was already causing a chemical reaction — there was no way I was going to be drinking.

However, while I am used to getting sick around my birthday, these aren't normal times. While I had been dreading the possibility of getting tested for COVID-19 the past year, it was important. I was intending to spend time with my whole family on my birthday, so I either needed to cancel my plans and isolate, or just accept what was coming.

As I said at the beginning of this article, this is how I ended up with a cotton swab shoved up my nose on my birthday.

That part of the testing probably took ten seconds at the most, but it felt like torture. For starters, I have a lot of sensory issues, especially when it involves my face. Many people may struggle to sit still for a COVID-19 test, but I was squeezing my eyes tight and forcing myself as much as I could to not pull back. Truthfully, it wasn't as bad as I am making it sound, I am just dramatic.

Thankfully, the test was negative. I just had a stomach bug, so that bizarre part of my birthday was over.

Also thankfully, my sister exists. When we left the clinic after testing, my dad immediately called her and let her know what was up. She had him bring me to her house so we could get a drink on my birthday.

This tale is a bit rambling, and it doesn't have a real point,

minus the fact even the worst days can be turned around.

What began with me panicking and getting swabbed ended with spending time with my sister and having a laugh.

Maybe the days are the same lately, maybe this whole year has been strange, but good times and good memories still exist. We can still joke and smile.

Happy birthday to me.



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QUARTERFINALS: BOHANNON SECURES TRIPLE-DOUBLE IN OVERTIME LOSS

KYLE WILLS

Youngstown State University had five players score in double figures and led for more than 35 minutes in a 74-58 victory over UIC in the opening round of the 2021 Progressive Insurance Horizon League Men's Basketball Championship on Thursday at Beeghly Center.

Senior Michael Akuchie scored a game-high 16 points and grabbed 10 rebounds for his seventh double-double of the season, and YSU's other four starters also scored in double figures. Senior Naz Bohannon had 15 points and six assists, junior Darius Quisenberry scored 12, and senior Garrett Covington and freshman Shemar Rathan-Mayes both had 10 points. Akuchie and Rathan-Mayes combined for 17 points in the first half as Youngstown State built a 35-25 lead at halftime.

The men shot 48.4% overall from the field, and it went 8-for-23 from 3-point range. UIC shot 45.3%, but they committed twice as many turnovers as the Penguins, 18-9. The largest margin was 74-56 on a layup by Quisenberry with 27 seconds left.

During Thursday's post-game press conference, Akuchie talked about how he needed to contribute to the team during the game.

"On the court, my mindset was like what

Coach said before," he said. "Obviously, I knew I had to be better guarding the bigs tonight, so going into the game I had to make sure I'm doing my work early. I had this convo all last year where I got in foul trouble. I was making sure I was smart, making sure I was boxing out, making sure I was doing the little things and just keeping my mind consistent."

YSU advanced to the conference tournament to play third-seed Oakland in the quarterfinals this past Tuesday. The Penguins entered Tuesday 15-11 on the season.

Bohannon posted the first triple-double in program history and Covington scored a career-high 30 points, but the YSU men's basketball team fell 87-83 in overtime to Oakland in the quarterfinals of the Horizon League Men's Basketball Championship. The Penguins fall to 15-12 while the Golden Grizzlies improve to 11-17 and advance to the semifinals.

Bohannon made program history with 14 points, 13 rebounds and 11 assists. He connected on 5-of-8 from the floor and 4-of-5 from the free-throw line. Covington was 12-of-21 from the floor and tied a career-high with five 3-pointers, six rebounds and three assists. Quisenberry scored 18 points and dished out six assists while freshman Rathan-Mayes added 10 points.



Naz Bohannon posted the program's first triple-double, but the team lost in overtime to Oakland in the quarterfinals. Photo courtesy of *Jose Juarez/YSU SPORTS*

Bohannon's three-point play with 1:41 remaining gave the Penguins a 73-71 lead before Oakland tied the game at 73-73. Quisenberry's game-winning attempt was short.

Quisenberry hit a 3-pointer to open the overtime period and a Covington jumper gave the Penguins a 78-76 lead. Oakland, scored 8

straight points over the next two minutes to take an 84-78 lead with 50 seconds left. Covington hit his fifth 3-pointer of the game to get the Penguins within a possession, 86-83, but the Golden Grizzlies made a free throw with 10 seconds left to seal the victory.

NOW HIRING FOR FALL 2021

THE STUDENT MEDIA COMMITTEE IS ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR YSU STUDENT MEDIA LEADERSHIP POSITIONS. APPLICATION DEADLINE IS **MARCH 16**.

Available leadership positions include:

- Jambar Editor-in-Chief and Jambar TV News Director *
- Jambar Managing Editor and Jambar TV Executive Producer *
- Penguin Rundown Executive Producer **
- Rookery Radio General Manager
- Guin Yearbook Editor
- Jambar Arts and Entertainment Editor and Yo Magazine editor **
- Assistant Web Manager**

* Must be available Wednesday and Thursday afternoons

** Must be available Wednesday afternoons



WOMEN'S BASKETBALL PLAYOFF RUN CUT SHORT AFTER TWO GAMES

Senior Chelsea Olson and the women's basketball team fell to Milwaukee in the quarterfinals. Photo by Tom Barrett/YSU SPORTS

KYLE WILLS

Youngstown State University's women's basketball team fought off Purdue University Fort Wayne for a 62-59 victory in round one of the 2021 Horizon League Women's Basketball Championship, on Thursday at the Beeghly Center.

All-conference forwards Mary Dunn and Nneka Obiazor were responsible for 46 of the team's 62 points. Dunn finished with a season-high 26 points and 10 rebounds, while Obiazor had 20 points of her own. The duo scored all of YSU's 18 points in the first period.

YSU won both regular-season games with impressive 102-60 and 68-52 victories, but Fort Wayne fought from the tip, making six of their first seven attempts from the field and leading for 16:49 of the game. There were 10 lead changes and 10 ties, with no team leading by more than six.

The women shot 14-for-29 from the field in the first half for 48.3%, but had nine turnovers and went 0-for-6 from 3-point range. The Mastodons shot 42.9% and were 6-for-12 from 3-point range while being plus-three in turnover margin.

Dunn scored her 26th point from Olson's eighth assist at the

3:32 mark in the fourth period to put the Penguins ahead 60-59. Obiazor finished the scoring on a bucket from Dunn with 1:22 left. The Penguins would hold on from there. Dunn's 26 points were the second-most ever scored by a Penguin in the Horizon League Women's Basketball Championship playoff game.

During Thursday's post-game press conference, head coach John Barnes talked about how Dunn and Obiazor are able to build off each other.

"Mary's [Dunn] been a presence in the paint for the past three, four years for us," he said. "Nneka [Obiazor] is just difficult to guard because she's strong and physical posting up, but she can also step out and shoot the outside shot."

YSU shot 49.1% overall, and was 25-for-43 inside the arc. While holding a 46-18 edge in paint scoring, YSU also dominated on the glass with an impressive 36-22 rebound advantage.

Also during the post-game press conference, Barnes acknowledged the fight the Mastodons brought to the first round.

"My dad and my older brother always talked about it being

better to not play well and win than play a great game and lose, so we're going to take that with this game," he said. "I thought Purdue Fort Wayne did a great job. They played loose, they played hard. I thought they made a lot of shots. They just went out there and played their butts off, so I'm giving them a lot of credit."

After their win Thursday against Fort Wayne, YSU played at second-seeded Milwaukee in the quarterfinals of the Horizon League Women's Basketball Championship on Tuesday. This was the third time in the last four years that the Penguins and Panthers have met in the championship. YSU pushed Horizon League regular-season champion Milwaukee to a deadlock through 33 minutes, but the Panthers prevailed 77-68 in the quarterfinals, ending YSU's championship competition.



YSU FOOTBALL DROPS HOME OPENER

In the first game back at Stambaugh Stadium in 2021, the YSU football team fell 21-0 to the University of Northern Iowa. Photo by Yousof Hamza/The Jambar

JORDAN BOITNOTT

Last Saturday, the Penguins held their home opener at Stambaugh Stadium. The Penguins dropped their second game of the season to the University of Northern Iowa 21-0.

The day started off rough when head coach Doug Phillips tripped leading his team onto the field. The day only went downhill from there. After the opening drive, the Penguins were down 3-0. Youngstown State University's offense was stagnant all day.

The defense played well, holding NIU to 6 points at halftime despite being dominated in time of possession. The first half ended with a bang when redshirt freshman cornerback Troy Jakubec intercepted a pass thrown by NIU quarterback Will McElvain in the end zone, saving a touchdown.

In the postgame press conference, sophomore defensive lineman Vinny Gentile said the morale of the defense is staying strong despite not receiving much help from the offense.

"Our thought process is if they can't score, they can't win. We

keep getting the ball back to our offense. One of these times it's going to happen," he said. "We trust those guys on the other side of the ball from us every day at practice. I know if we keep getting them the ball and keep getting those three-and-outs, keep getting those turnovers, it's going to turn around."

YSU came out in the second half looking strong on a drive behind redshirt freshman quarterback Mark Waid. He drove the team down the field into scoring position, but the drive ultimately ended in a missed field goal.

He said the opening drive in the second half showed YSU's offense has the potential to be great all the time.

"Just believe in the guys. We can prove we can do that every single drive," he said. "We can prove that we can have the momentum. We can make the plays and when we do what we're supposed to, positive things happen."

After the interception and the strong drive to open the second half, YSU was never able to gain any more momentum. The score was 6-0 at the end of the third quarter. NIU would score two rushing touchdowns and a two-point conversion to spread

the game out and make the final score 21-0

Phillips said the team needs to focus and get back to work on achieving their first win.

"You go back to work. That's what I told our young men in the locker room. We got to find a way. We're going to continue to keep developing," he said. "I don't know how much [it's] X's and O's or just getting into a rhythm, or whether it's having consistency — we talked about that this week."

YSU's director of player personnel Tim Johnson was banned from the sidelines for the rest of the season. The Missouri Valley Conference announced the decision Monday after Johnson shouldered tackled NIU's wide receiver Quan Hampton as he ran out of bounds towards the end of the first half.

The Penguins will defend the Ice Castle again this Saturday at noon against 11th ranked Southern Illinois University.