

# The Jambor

The student voice of Youngstown State University since 1931

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## Words of wisdom

"Work to stay focused on your dreams and goals by continuing to follow them, no matter what hardships may come your way. Eventually, hard work is rewarded, even if the accolades do not come as soon as you may expect. Above all, believe in yourself, and don't forget to thank those who helped you get to where you are today and where you will be in the future."



"The mature, seasoned leader exhibits true integrity by aligning their values with their actions in all aspects of their personal and professional interactions. They know when to lead, but, more importantly, when to follow."

"To handle yourself, use your head; to handle others, use your heart."

"As you graduate, remember not only what you learned in the classroom, but also beyond, through involvement and leadership opportunities from student organizations and other extracurricular activities."

"Be curious. Understand that the world consists of a wide variety of interesting people, each with their own fascinating stories. Get to know them. Listen. Learn."

"Your hard work has paid off. As you go forward, remember to always give your best. Work hard but also take time to have some fun. Always try to be fair with others, maintain your health, treat others like you want to be treated and always remember family is what matters most. Congratulations."

## New beginnings in store for spring '12 grads

*Alina Rios*  
REPORTER

As the spring semester comes to an end, 1,183 students from Youngstown State University will be earning their degrees and diving into the professional world — or, possibly, more school.

Their first step, however, is to walk across the commencement stage in Beeghly Center in front of family, friends and the YSU community.

Joining the graduates on commencement day is Nnette Lepore, a YSU alumna who is the founder of her eponymous fashion brand.

After completing her undergraduate degree at YSU, Lepore went on to earn a degree in design from New York City's Fashion Institute of Technology. Her brand has grown into an international business with boutiques in the U.S., Europe and Asia.

This year, the student speaker was chosen from the College of Fine and Performing Arts. Kaitlyn Fabian, who is receiving her bachelor's degree in dance management, said she was excited to be selected.

"When Dr. Castronovo of the theater and department told me I was selected to be nominated, I was very surprised. I went into his office the next day, and he told me congratulations that I had been selected, and I was

caught unaware because it happened so fast. But I was very excited and honored to be chosen," Fabian said.

Dru Perren, the graduate student commencement speaker, will be earning a Master of Science in education degree. Her studies include a focus on clinical mental health counseling, with a specialization in counseling children and adolescents with autism spectrum disorders.

Many faculty members are involved with commencement planning.

Jacquelyn LeViseur, interim director of alumni and events management, has been in charge of commencement planning since 2008.

"We hope the graduates stay in touch with the university. We always like to hear what's going on with them, and, of course, we wish them great success," LeViseur said. "Commencement is a full campus effort. It's an exciting day for us and the graduates."

The commencement ceremonies will take place on May 19 in Beeghly Center.

The undergraduate ceremony begins at 10 a.m. Of the graduates, 147 will receive associate degrees and 830 students will receive bachelor's degrees.

The graduate ceremony will begin at 2:30 p.m. At the ceremony, 185 master's degrees and 21 doctorates will be awarded.

## Number of spring '12 graduates from each college

**102**  
STUDENTS



Williamson College of Business Administration

**118**  
STUDENTS



Beeghly College of Education

**67**  
STUDENTS



Fine and Performing Arts

**288**  
STUDENTS



Health and Human Services

**139**  
STUDENTS



College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences

**264**  
STUDENTS



Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics

**206**  
STUDENTS



Graduate Studies

GRAPHIC BY KEVIN BUCK/THE JAMBAR.

## Learning from Lepore

*Students to make most of visit from international designer*

*Sarah Perrine*  
NEWS REPORTER

International clothing designer Nanette Lepore said she will always feel connected to Youngstown State University.

As an undergraduate student at YSU, Lepore created her own curriculum — a combination of art, business and fashion. She graduated in 1983.

Lepore resides in New York City, but she'll return to Youngstown to receive an honorary degree and speak at the commencement ceremony on May 19.

"I'm happy to accept the award and have my dad see me accept the award," Lepore said. "My family, my husband, my husband's family will all be there. It's nice to come back to my roots to receive the award with my family."

Lepore said her upbringing centered on YSU, mainly because her dad taught at YSU for more than 30 years. She remembers being brought to YSU on weekends for events and being surrounded by YSU students all of the time.

The fashion department at YSU is eager for Lepore's arrival.

"I'm very excited because she was one of the fashion students at YSU. All of our students are very excited about her coming. They know who she is and all of her designs," said Tachibat Turel, an assistant professor of human ecology.

Alyssa Robbins, a fashion merchandising major, said Lepore is one of her role models.

"It makes YSU look really successful that a national fashion designer got her start at YSU," Robbins said.

Robbins said she plans to graduate next spring, but wishes that she was graduating this semester so her commencement could be lead by her idol.

"Hopefully, one day when I become successful, I might get a chance to meet her," Robbins said.

Turel and her fashion students are turning Lepore's visit into a learning opportunity by creating a design contest.

LEPORE PAGE 6



## Dancing all the way to graduation

*Marissa McIntyre*  
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

As a stay-at-home mom, Renee Fabian raised her three children on a tight budget.

When her daughter, Kaitlyn Fabian, came to her at the age of 10, she wanted to be a gymnast. But the financial means to put her in classes weren't available. So, instead, Renee Fabian enrolled her daughter in dance classes.

Come graduation day, Kaitlyn Fabian will reflect upon how God closed one door and opened another, as she will be the first to graduate from Youngstown State University, with a degree in dance management. She is one of the keynote speakers for YSU's spring 2012 commencement.

"I believe that God directed my path to dance," Kaitlyn Fabian said. "I am very honored to be in this position to be the leadoff with this new major."

For three years, she took classes at YSU with an undeclared major and a dance minor. She credits her adviser, Christine Cobb, for guiding and preparing her for the new major.

"She knew that we were working towards the new major, and she knew that was what she wanted to do," Cobb said.

Cobb has been working with Kaitlyn Fabian for four years.

Although Renee Fabian was worried about her daughter picking a major before her scholarship ran out, Kaitlyn Fabian said she had no doubts.

"I just started taking the classes before I was techni-

cally in the major, and God put me right where he wanted me," Kaitlyn Fabian said.

She teaches dance at Chaney High School and the studio where it all started, Ballet Western Reserve.

Kaitlyn Fabian is also involved with the YSU Dance Ensemble. At the spring concert, she'll perform a solo during "Shadow of Your Wings." It's a song that will pay homage to her relationship with God, she said.

"That's such a big part of me and a big reason why I dance. ... I'm most passionate when I dance. So, I'm excited to do that," Kaitlyn Fabian said.

Renee Fabian said she saw her daughter's interest in dance spark at a young age, especially when she performed with her church's children's choir.

She added that she knows the exact moment her daughter wanted to pursue dancing as a career.

It was when the two saw Ballet Magnificat, a premier Christian dance company that travels and performs worldwide.

"We went and saw them, and it was amazing how they could tell a story through dance," Renee Fabian said. "We looked at each other with tears in our eyes, and she said, 'I want to do that, Mom.'"

They then made an effort to see Ballet Magnificat whenever a performance was nearby.

"I am so blessed and honored to be her mother," Renee Fabian said.

Kaitlyn Fabian said she's nervous about speaking on stage instead of dancing, but she knows God will give her

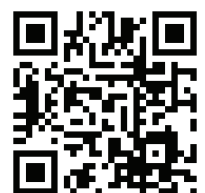
DANCING PAGE 6

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# Students awarded annual pre-law scholarship

Kevin Alquist  
NEWS REPORTER

Typically, four to seven students are awarded the Judge Sidney Rigelhaupt and Bert Rigelhaupt Pre-Law Scholarship.

This year wasn't typical.

An unprecedented 15 Youngstown State University students were selected for the prestigious award, which will cover undergraduate tuition costs for students who intend to go to law school.

Paul Sracic, chairman of the political science department, said more students received money this year because of fewer individuals' needs.

"A lot of students are already getting money from other grants," Sracic said. "We try to make the money go as far as possible."

Sracic said this year's scholarships totaled more than \$40,000.

The annual scholarship is made available to YSU students from Mahoning and Trumbull counties who intend to take undergraduate courses in pre-law at YSU and go on to law school.

Sracic said the selections are mostly based on academic performance and the number of credit hours each student has completed.

"Each student writes an essay about why they want to go to law school, and that's taken into great consideration," Sracic said.

The 2012 recipients were Chelsea Baker, Jesse Huber, Patrick Kiraly, Bonnie Laska, Devon Marbuary, Bryce Miner, Shawna Moore, Michael Podolsky, Gina Ponzio, Joshua Prest, Rachel Roberts, Sean Varsho, Zachary White,



**WHITE**

Melanie Womer and Zachary Zarzycki.

Prest, who is focusing on political science and criminal justice, said he is honored to receive the award.

"It's a true honor that the scholarship committee picked me, and I am very grateful for their generosity," Prest said. "It will be a huge help next year."

He said that involvement in various activities, such as the YSU Moot Court team, and his grades earned him the scholarship.

"[The idea of going to law school] has always interested me," Prest said.

He said he plans to earn a juris doctorate and a master's degree in political science after graduating from YSU.

"I am sure this scholarship will help me achieve that goal," Prest said.

For the second year in a row, White



**PREST**

was awarded the scholarship.

"It means a lot on a personal level," White said. "It feels great to have all of my hard work pay off."

White said he will apply to law schools in the fall.

"I hope to gain admission into a law school that will not only further my educational journey, but one that will also provide great opportunities after graduation," White said.

White was part of the YSU Moot Court team with Prest. He said he thinks his participation helped him to receive the award.

Once White completes his education, he said he hopes to continue to give back to YSU.

"The university has helped to shape the man I've become," White said.

## Rigelhaupt recipients:

Chelsea Baker  
Jesse Huber  
Patrick Kiraly  
Bonnie Laska  
Devon Marbuary  
Bryce Miner  
Shawna Moore  
Michael Podolsky  
Gina Ponzio  
Joshua Prest  
Rachel Roberts  
Sean Varsho  
Zachary White  
Melanie Womer  
Zachary Zarzycki

## Incentivized competition produces solutions

Jordan D. Uhl  
NEWS EDITOR

Lawyers and wealth are typically associated with each other, resulting in a competitive admissions process at law schools.

Kevin Hulick, a senior at Youngstown State University, said he plans to attend law school at the University of Virginia, where he's already been accepted; however, he said he feels the successful young lawyer portrait painted by many law schools is just an illusion.

Desolate job prospects for young graduates, low starting salaries and high amounts of debt make what appears to be a sound career choice into a mere uncertainty.

This was the topic of Hulick's essay. It took first place at the Stocks Essay Contest, which was hosted by the economics department and had Tomi Ovaska, an associate professor of economics, at the helm.

All majors were encouraged to submit essays of no longer than 2,500 words that comprehensively analyzed a policy dilemma and provided viable solutions.

Ovaska said he was overwhelmed with the amount of submissions — more than 60 — as well as the vast assortment of topics researched. Students wrote on issues such as the long-term effect of the North American Free Trade Agreement, the defense budget's effect on the economy, legalizing marijuana and Senate Bill 5.

The three winners, along with the seven other top 10 fi-

nalists, were recognized at the Omicron Delta Epsilon dinner in the Ohio Room of Kilcawley Center on Tuesday night.

The evening, Ovaska said, was "to celebrate our smart students."

Roughly 35 faculty members and students and their families attended to hear a keynote from Wesley Gillespie, senior vice president of FirstMerit Bank, and witness new members' induction into the society.

The focal point of the evening was announcement of the essay contest's results.

Hulick snagged the top \$250 prize, which has eluded him for four years. Ovaska said Hulick's constant participation has made him a better writer.

"The previous two years, he was in the final 10. Now, he got it," Ovaska said.

Hulick admitted the irony in his critique of law schools.

"It makes me hesitant, to be honest," Hulick said. "I thought about taking a year off, but I know I'm going to law school regardless."

Senior Barbara Neiswanger took second place, winning \$150, with her essay, "Environmental Impacts of Hydraulic Fracturing and Shale Extraction — Policy Analysis."

Neiswanger said she doesn't have a concrete opinion over whether fracking is good or bad, but feels people in this area may be overlooking the potential environmental consequences in favor of economic gain.

Lucas Benson's essay, "The Leasing of the Ohio Turnpike," took third place, and earned him \$100.



Members of the Youngstown State University Latino Student Organization gather at last year's Cinco de Mayo event. This year's event is scheduled for 11 a.m. Friday in the Ohio Room of Kilcawley Center. Photo courtesy of the YSU website.

## Kilcawley Center hosts Cinco de Mayo fiesta

Cory Bartek  
REPORTER

The Youngstown State University Latino Student Organization's Battle of Puebla Cinco de Mayo — scheduled for 11 a.m. Friday in Kilcawley Center's Ohio Room — will be filled with food, music, dance and presentations.

The event will last until 1 p.m.

William Blake, director of student diversity programs, said this is the eighth year the event has taken place at YSU.

"It is always well attended," Blake said. "The challenge is competing for space; it's hard to find a big enough space at this time of year."

This will be the sixth year that the event has been held in Kilcawley Center, and attendance is expected to reach last year's record of 140 participants.

Attendees can expect to enjoy authentic Mexican food.

"Sodexo dining services bases their menu on selections made by the [Youngstown] Mexican Club, and there is a taste test that takes place prior to the event to ensure the food is 100 percent authentic," Blake said.

The fiesta will also feature a variety of entertainment.

Mexican mariachi singer Miguel Angel will perform a musical selection. Katie Hankins, a member of YSU's Spanish club, will also perform.

The program will include a dance performed by Dacmara Delgado and Anita Gomez of

the YSU Latino Student Organization.

A Canfield High School student will give a presentation that pays tribute to Cinco de Mayo, while Rocio Rosales, an assistant professor of psychology, will give a presentation about the history of Cinco de Mayo and the Battle of Puebla.

Blake said the goal of hosting this event is to celebrate the various cultures and languages spoken at YSU. An increasing number of students and members of the community speak Spanish as their predominant language.

According to 2010 U.S. Census Bureau reports, Youngstown's Hispanic population is three times more

concentrated than the state average. More than 9 percent of Youngstown's 66,982 residents are Hispanic or Latino.

The Hispanic community is also a part of the YSU family.

According to the YSU preliminary enrollment summary, 376 students have a Hispanic background.

That number is up from 356 last year and 290 in 2010.

"It is important for us to celebrate diversity on this campus — period," Blake said. "Cinco de Mayo seems to have many people who desire the program, giving it great success, which is why the event continues to be held and will continue to be held in the future."

## Campus Connection

What are your thoughts on Cinco de Mayo?



"I've always just viewed Cinco de Mayo as an American excuse to party, and I've never strayed too far from that tradition."

- Joe Garwig, senior



"I'll celebrate a little, go to a Mexican restaurant or something like that. ... I know there'll be parties around campus."

- Mike Poponak, senior

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## It's our turn already?

The Jambar  
EDITORIAL BOARD

The basement of Fedor Hall is a little darker today — a little emptier and a lot more arduous.

We say goodbye to friends and colleagues. Journalism can sometimes feel like a war zone, and we are outnumbered now that we've lost such brothers and sisters at arms as Josh Stipanovich, Doug Livingston, Chelsea Telega, Sam Marhulik and Mitchell Thornton.

All across campus, departments are preparing to cope with the retirement of colleagues. For us, we're losing some of the greatest products to ever go through the journalism program.

We've learned a lot, fighting in the trenches alongside some of YSU's best and brightest. You've taught us a lot, perhaps without even knowing it.

Now we, Chris Cotelesse, incoming editor-in-chief, and Jordan D. Uhl, incoming managing editor, have to take the reins.

Now, our asses are on the line.

We have to be as talented and wise as they are. We have to behave like grownups, and that scares us the most. More so for Chris.

To rely on our own limited talents would be to invite failure into the legacy that those before us worked so hard to build.

We can't go it alone. We need your help.

We need you to tell us what's important to you. Tell us your stories so we can spread them through campus and beyond. Most importantly, we need you to remind us that The Jambar is your newspaper. It doesn't belong to us.

That's no small task. Combining our bloated egos creates a dangerous concoction. Confidence drives us to be our best, but we're aware that it needs to be kept in check.

In exchange for your vigilance, we solemnly swear to stick it to The Man so you can get a fair shake. We'll rebuke you when it's appropriate and comfort you when you need it.

In the next 12 months, you can expect extensive election coverage.

We'll tell you about your student organizations and their civic engagement.

We'll keep an eye on the newly established shale institute.

We'll demand action from the Student Government Association.

We'll maintain steady and comprehensive coverage of the Jamail Johnson murder trial and the hazing case.

And you can bet your sweet ass we'll watch any move the board of trustees makes this summer. Especially the proposed tuition increase and mandatory transportation fee.

Fight the power!

### JAMBAR POLICY

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

### OUR SIDE POLICY

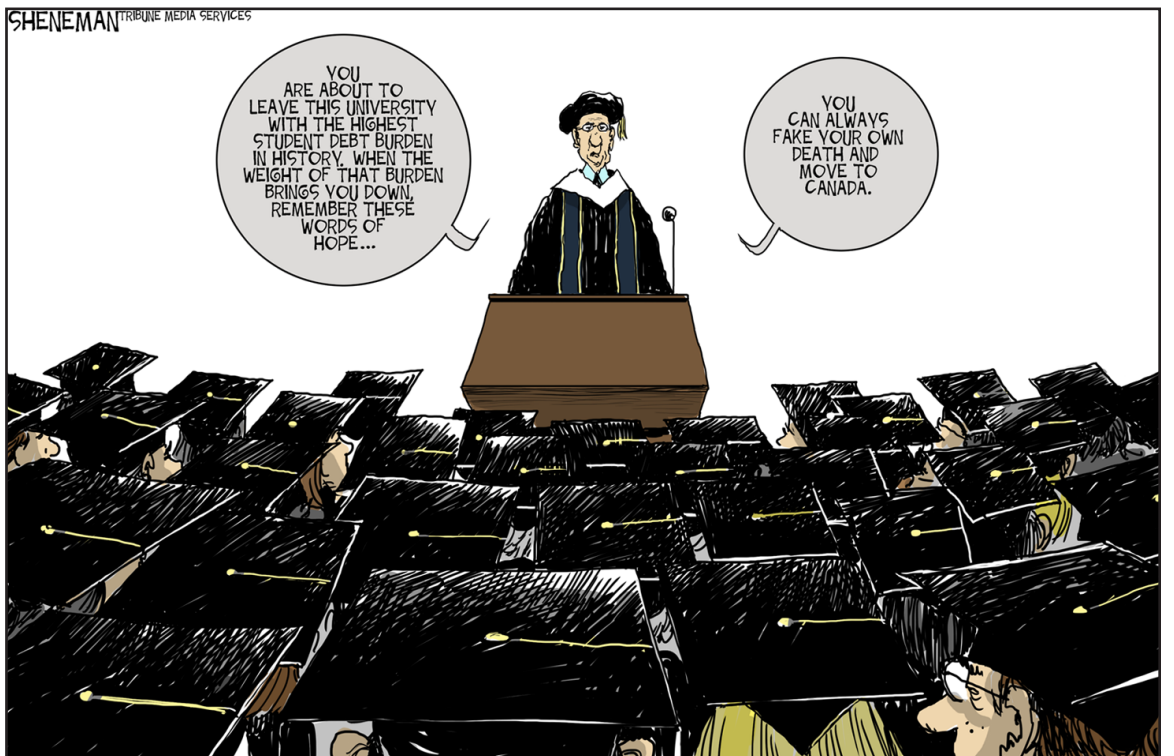
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### YOUR SIDE POLICY

The Jambar encourages letters to the editor. Email submissions are welcome at editor@thejambar.com. Letters should concern campus issues, must be typed and must not exceed 400 words. Submissions must include the writer's name and telephone number for verification and the writer's city of residence for printing. Letters are subject to editing for spelling, grammar and clarity. The editorial board reserves the right to reject commentaries that are libelous or that don't defend opinion with facts from reliable sources. The editorial board will request a rewrite from the submitting writer based on these requirements.

Letters will not be rejected based on the view expressed in them. Letters may be rejected if they are not relevant to Jambar readers, seek free publicity or if the editorial staff decides the subject has been sufficiently aired. The Jambar will not print letters that are libelous, threatening, obscene or indecent. The Jambar does not withhold the names of writers of letters or guest commentaries.

The views and opinions expressed in letters and commentaries on the opinion page do not necessarily reflect those of the Jambar staff. Editorials do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the faculty, staff or administration of Youngstown State University.



The views of this artist do not necessarily agree with those of The Jambar.

# Stand up for the silent

Mitchell Thornton  
ASSISTANT COPY EDITOR

Today's world is a scary place in which to live. Wars are being fought. The national debt is at its highest. And one's well-being is continually on the chopping block.

Still, nothing is more frightening, or more deadly, than what's going on across America: bullying.

Today, bullying — of any kind — is unprecedented.

According to bullyingstatistics.org, "77 percent of students have admitted to being the victim of one type of bullying or another," "one out of every four kids will be bullied sometime in their adolescence" and "gay and lesbian teens are two to three times ... more likely to commit teen suicide than other youths."

In 2010, more than half of all bullying took place while at school. In fact, about one out of every 10 students either dropped out or changed schools because of it. Recent statistics reveal that about 282,000 students are reportedly terrorized in high schools each month, according to bullyingstatistics.org.

All of these numbers are frightening — and they don't seem to be going down.

In a world full of different people, it's still not uncommon for anyone to feel like a social outcast.

Sometimes the signs of being bullied aren't always clear.

I remember my experiences with bullying in grade school: I was harassed and made fun of, and even though I wasn't hit or mocked every day, I still recall the

pain of having no one to call a true friend.

Sometimes, I would spend my time at recess crying underneath the playground equipment, safely hidden from my peers' and teachers' eyes.

While those days are a distant memory, I'm reminded of them whenever I hear about or see someone being bullied.

For example, I recently saw the movie "Bully."

"Bully" is a 2011 documentary about bullying in U.S. schools. It follows five students during the 2009-2010 academic year.

From catapulting me into the lives of those who were being bullied, to pulling at my heartstrings during the victims' interviews, "Bully" was an emotional ride for me.

One person with whom I particularly connected was Alex Libby.

Many of the kids in Libby's school would call him "fish face"; others would beat him up, strangle him, or stab him with pens or pencils while on the bus.

The saddest moment of all, though, was when Libby's mom told him that anyone who "pounded on him" wasn't his friend.

"If you're telling me that these kids who like to hit me aren't my friends, then who do I have?" Libby responded.

Today, kids know where to hit and where to hit hard. They know what names will have the greatest effect, how damaging a few jabs can be and how far they can go without being disciplined.

Why is it that people are belittled just because they are ... whatever?

And why is nothing being done about it?

When someone is so afraid to go to school — the place where he or she is supposed to be safe — then something needs to be done.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, suicide is the third leading cause of death among young people, resulting in about 4,400 deaths per year.

Bullying has to stop.

How would you feel if someone you knew committed suicide?

What if you were the person who caused someone to kill him or herself?

While the memories of my being bullied are far in the past, they're still there, forever reminding me of what could have been — or what couldn't.

Who knows? Maybe if things wouldn't have gotten better, one chair would now be empty.

My life today is a far cry from the one I had in grade school. I have a multitude of friends and a loving family, and I always remember that, whenever a rough patch comes, we all have to go through the bad times to get to the good.

So look for that one person — the new one, the one who's all alone, the one who doesn't fit in — and talk to him or her. Stand up for him or her. Make him or her know that he or she has a life to live, as well as others with whom to live it.

Everything starts with one and builds up.

If we all do it together, we will change the world.

And we'll make it so that every seat has someone to fill it.

### YSU SPEAK

YSU Speak is a collaborative project by students in the 2012 Editorial and Opinion Writing class. This section serves as a medium to share students' views, and we invite you to do the same. Entries are written by individuals and are reviewed by the Jambar Editorial Board.

## Kim Kardashian for mayor ... political nightmare?

Darla Conti  
CONTRIBUTOR

In a recent clip from her sister's E! show "Khloe and Lamar," Kim Kardashian announced her future political aspirations.

Before you shake your head in disbelief, think about Arnold Schwarzenegger and Ronald Reagan. Both were successful stars who made notable careers in politics.

Kardashian, who professes to being a Democrat, plans to run for mayor of Glendale, Calif., in the future. The announcement came with much criticism, as expected.

What the pundits forgot to mention is the success that other stars have had in politics.

"They do have advantages. President Reagan knew how to use

the camera very effectively and outshine his competition, so there are certain actor-training techniques that can pay off," said William Binning, a political science professor at Youngstown State University.

Kardashian's mayoral bid closely resembles Clint Eastwood's.

The iconic actor had a successful run for mayor of Carmel-by-the-Sea, a resort town in California. Thanks to Eastwood, the citizens of Carmel can now enjoy an ice cream cone in public.

Not all stars are cut out for public office, however.

If you recall Jerry Springer's candidacy for governor of Ohio, you'll remember a disaster.

Springer's TV ad called for transparency, referencing his unique form of payment for a prostitute earlier on in his career. He

very classily wrote her a check.

He's someone who belongs in his usual TV spot, clearing up paternity issues and passing out Jerry beads.

Binning went on to say that stars who test the water in politics are generally seeking publicity for other venues. He cited Donald Trump as a prime example.

I'm going to give Kardashian the benefit of the doubt, though.

Kardashian has just as much right to run for mayor as any other schmuck placed on the ballot; just as much as Reagan had the right to be president.

Just think: Without Reagan, we may not have ended the Soviet Union or gained affordable air travel.

What influential policies might the reality star have up her designer sleeves?

Got an  
opinion?

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## NEWS BRIEFS

## May Day concert spotlights Andy Grammer

On Thursday, the free May Day 2012 outdoor concert will feature singer/songwriter Andy Grammer, along with opening acts The Strange Familiar and Katianne Timko. Grammer has appeared on "The Tonight Show with Jay Leno" and "Live with Regis and Kelly," and his radio hits include "Keep Your Head Up" and "Fine by Me." The event — which begins at 7 p.m. — is sponsored by YSU Penguin Productions, the YSU Department of Campus Recreation and Student Programming, YSU Housing and Residence Life and the YSU Student Government Association. The concert will be held on the tennis/basketball courts (or the Rec 5 area), located outside of Kilcawley Center. Gates open at 6:30 p.m. Admission is free to YSU students with valid ID.

## Plot of land goes from boring to beautiful

The former location of the Sacherman House on Lincoln Avenue will now be the home of a new garden, thanks to members of the Youngstown Environmental Studies Society. YSU has planted seven trees and numerous shrubs where the house used to stand. Future ideas for the garden include a seating area and a walkway. YSU is in its third consecutive year of being certified by the Arbor Day Foundation's Tree Campus USA program.

## YSU Dance Ensemble's spring concert to feature plastic bathtub toys

The YSU Dance Ensemble's spring concert is planned for Thursday, Friday and Saturday at 7:30 p.m. in Bliss Hall's Ford Theater. The concert will showcase 13 dance pieces of modern, ballet, jazz, hip-hop and tap genres. Tickets are \$10 for the general public; \$5 for senior citizens, Penguin Club members, groups of eight or more, and YSU faculty and staff; and \$3 for all students. Tickets may only be purchased at the door.

## POLICE BRIEFS

## Elevator traps student for several minutes

On Tuesday evening, YSU Police reported to Bliss Hall in response to a disabled elevator with a female student inside. Upon arrival, YSU Police discovered that the student was free; she told officers that she'd been stuck in the elevator for several minutes. The elevator, which had gotten stuck twice the day before, was put out of service by YSU's maintenance department, according to the report.

## Burnt food sets off alarm

On April 24, YSU Police reported to Lyden House after a smoke detector was activated in the first floor coordinator's residence. Upon arrival, the woman told YSU Police that she had been cooking chicken. She slightly burned it, causing the smoke detector to go off. She said that she would open a window for ventilation, and maintenance workers reset the alarm.

## CLASSIFIEDS

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Upstairs Cape Cod home. Partially furnished 1-bedroom apartment, kitchenette, large bath and closet. Land for organic farming. Close 680, 11 and turnpike. \$650/mo utilities included. Deposit. 330-549-0019.

## OTHER

## COMMUNITY ASSISTANT

An on-campus housing community is seeking candidates for Community Assistants. Ideal candidate must have excellent communication and organizational skills, possess a positive customer service attitude, strong salesmanship, computer skills and enjoy interacting with people and community events. We offer a rent concession. Please e mail resume as an attachment to: ucysumanager@ambling.com. EOE, M/F/V/H. Drugs don't work.

# Letter to The Jambar

There's a tree just outside my office window that deteriorated over the last couple of years and had to be removed earlier this spring. In the spot now is a young, sturdy replacement that will sprout, grow and grace the campus core for decades to come.

It got me to thinking about the proud history of YSU and the generation after generation of people who have come to campus, sprouted, grown and gone on to find personal and professional success, only for the next group to follow in their footsteps. And it reminded me about how all of us — students, faculty, staff, alumni, donors, supporters, parents and so many others — are all critical parts of that history and the fabric of this

great institution for more than a century.

As another academic year draws to a close, I congratulate those students who graduate this spring. Good luck. Do good work. Reach for your dreams. And, keep in touch with your old alma mater. I also congratulate those students who will be returning to classes this summer and in the fall. To you, I applaud your continued determination and dedication. Know that you are at the center of all we do. Your success — in and out of the classroom — is our number one priority.

A big thanks also to the talented and committed faculty, staff and administrators in every classroom and office across campus. Your work on behalf of

our students and all of the Mahoning and Shenango valleys makes YSU a better place to learn, live and work.

Have a great summer.



Cynthia E. Anderson  
YSU President

## LEPORE PAGE 2

Students participating in the contest will have their designs judged by Lepore on graduation day.

Fashion merchandising student Sara Cummings is one of the students who will present a design to Lepore. Cummings has participated in many national design competitions, but, for her, nothing measures up to this experience.

"This is, by far, the most nervous I've been for a competition," Cummings said. "Our group can't wait to show her our talent, but we are anxious because, on the other hand, we don't know what she'll think of our work."

The project was open to students in the fashion merchandising and graphic design departments.

"Our students are very passionate about their designs," Turel said. "Each product has something from YSU, whether it's pictures of buildings or YSU colors."

A few fashion students were paired with one graphic design student to design an item made of old YSU banners.

Three groups are participating in the project, which started at the end of February. Projects were due at the end of April.

Lepore is intrigued to see what the YSU fashion students will come up with.

"I think it's great to see what the fashion students are doing. I'm excited to be around young people and see some fresh ideas," Lepore said. "People from Youngstown are spunky, so I think they will have some good ideas."

Iqram Khawaja, provost and vice president for academic affairs, said Lepore's arrival at YSU has been anticipated for a while.

Khawaja said the selection process for choosing a commencement speaker to receive an honorary degree is fairly long.

According to the University

Guidebook, the board of trustees "grant[s] honorary degrees in recognition of a significant impact on the university; on the community, state, or nation; or on society. Such degrees will be conferred at commencements or at special convocations."

A senate committee goes through a nomination process, and the people who have been selected by the board of trustees are discussed. The committee then gives the recommendations to the provost, who gives the final approval.

"Some of the nominees selected need less time in advance than others," Khawaja said. "Lepore has been one of the longer processes. She was contacted a year and a half to two years ago."

Through her experience, Lepore encourages YSU students to never give up.

"Follow your heart," Lepore said. "Don't feel like anything is too much to tackle. Don't feel defeated."

## DANCING PAGE 2

the words.

"With dance, you memorize your moves, and it's all there, and then you just do it. But, now, it's like I'm going to have a piece of paper in front of me, and I have to remember my lines. So, that should be interesting," Kaitlyn Fabian said. "It's probably easier to dance and not open your mouth."

She said she's honored to be the undergraduate speaker.

Kaitlyn Fabian plans to continue teaching dance and expanding her horizons. She'd like to one day open a Christian-centered dance school.

"This is really just the beginning for her," Renee Fabian said.



Senior Kaitlyn Fabian rehearses for the YSU Dance Ensemble. Fabian is the first to graduate with a dance management degree and will be the undergraduate keynote speaker at the spring 2012 commencement. Photo by Marissa McIntyre/The Jambar.

# 13 charged in Florida drum major's death

Los Angeles Times

MCT

ATLANTA A Florida prosecutor announced Wednesday that charges have been filed against 13 people in connection with the death of Robert Champion, the Florida A&M drum major who was allegedly beaten to death as part of a college hazing ritual on a band bus.

But Lawson Lamar, the state attorney for Orange and Osceola counties, declined to name or in any way identify the suspects at Wednesday's televised news conference in Orlando, because law enforcement officials were in the process of rounding them up. A Florida Department of Law Enforcement official said that as of Wednesday afternoon, only one suspect was in custody.

"Obviously, we cannot divulge the names," Lamar said, "so they cannot flee."

Orange County Sheriff Jerry Demings said that 11 of the 13 suspects were charged with felony hazing. They face a maximum of six years in prison for the charges if they do not have prior criminal records, Lamar said.

More than 20 misdemeanor hazing charges were also filed stemming from other incidents that were apparently brought to light as a result of the investigation into Champion's death in

November.

Lawson read from excerpts of a medical examiner's report that concluded that Champion, 26, died as a result of a brutal beating he received on the band's charter bus after the Florida A&M football team's 26-16 loss to rival Bethune-Cookman University.

The incident sent shock waves across American college campuses, where many administrations have attempted in recent years to rein in hazing rituals at fraternities and other campus organizations.

The soul-searching has been particularly deep at the historically black colleges and universities, or HBCUs, many of which have a distinctive marching band tradition known for attracting and developing some of the nation's finest musicians. FAMU's band, The Marching 100, is widely considered to be one of the best, if not the best, of its kind.

The fallout on FAMU's Tallahassee campus has been significant. The band director, Julian White, was placed on administrative leave in November. In recent days, two music teachers accused of being present at a 2010 band hazing incident resigned before the school could fire them, according to the Orlando Sentinel.

The school has also convened an anti-hazing advisory panel, but many of the members have stepped down

due to "operational constraints" and the limited time they had in which to prepare a report, according to a school spokesman's statement.

Champion's parents have been openly critical of the pace of the criminal investigation. A call to their attorney, Christopher Chestnut, was not returned Wednesday.

Lawson, the prosecutor, noted Wednesday that the charges were brought under an anti-hazing criminal statute that became law last year.

At the news conference, Lawson, when asked why more serious felony charges were not filed, said that the testimony gathered in more than 48 interviews does not thus far "contain the elements of a murder."

"We do not have a blow, or a shot, or a knife-thrust that killed Mr. Champion," he said. "It is an aggregation of things, which exactly fit the Florida statute as written by the Legislature. They did a good job. This allows us to go forward with only having to prove two things: participation in hazing and a death."

Though there was "more than sufficient evidence" to move forward with the case, Lawson said, he urged anyone else with facts about it to come forward "and tell the whole truth."

"Especially those not charged," he said. "Because further charges may be forthcoming in the future."

# Meet YSU's finest

## DISTINGUISHED PROFESSORS

*This year, 26 YSU professors have been named as Distinguished Professor Award winners.*

**Christopher Barzak**, instructor of English

**Patrick Bateman**, assistant professor of management

**Ray Beiersdorfer**, professor of geological and environmental sciences

**Steven Brown**, professor of English

**Michael Butcher**, assistant professor of biological sciences

**Michael Crescimanno**, associate professor of physics and astronomy

**Rebecca Curnalia**, assistant professor of communication

**Patrick Durrell**, associate professor of physics and astronomy

**Rangamohan Eunni**, associate professor of management

**Karen Giorgetti**, associate professor and chairwoman of psychology

**Priscilla Gitimu**, assistant professor of human ecology

**Qi Jiang**, professor and chairwoman of sociology and anthropology

**Diane Kandray**, associate professor of health professions

**Brian Leskiw**, associate professor of chemistry

**Hazel Marie**, assistant professor of mechanical engineering

**Marcia Matanin**, professor of human performance and exercise science

**Donna McNierney**, professor of educational foundations, research, technology and leadership

**Jeanine Mincher**, assistant professor of human ecology

**Peter Norris**, professor of chemistry

**Yogendra Panta**, assistant professor of mechanical engineering

**Nathan Ritchey**, professor and chairman of mathematics and statistics

**Gary Salvner**, professor and chairman of English

**Albert Sumell**, associate professor of economics

**Michael Theall**, professor of teacher education

**Richard VanVoorhis**, assistant professor of counseling and special education

**Mark Womble**, associate professor of biological sciences

### PETER NORRIS, PROFESSOR OF CHEMISTRY

Peter Norris grew up in the town of Wigan, England. He graduated from St. John Rigby College, a high school in his hometown, and received his bachelor's degree from Salford University, located in Manchester, England. He earned his doctorate at Ohio State University.

Norris has been teaching and researching in the area of organic synthesis at YSU for 16 years. He was awarded for excellence in scholarship.

Norris said he always wanted to work in a field that had something to do with science, but he didn't decide to become a professor until later in his life. He was somewhat

influenced by his parents, who are both teachers. Additionally, in high school, he liked science and math.

Norris said his favorite aspects of academia are finding new ways to create novel molecules in the research lab and finding new ways to present old material in the classroom.



"With organic chemistry, it is largely the same material from year to year, but you can always find something new and a new way to teach it. Also, interestingly, the students find

new ways of asking questions," he said. "This also happens in the research lab, where we ask questions based on familiar principles, and my students and I plan and carry out experiments to develop new reactions and processes."

### GARY SALVNER, PROFESSOR AND CHAIRMAN OF ENGLISH

Gary Salvner has been a YSU faculty member for 35 years. He graduated from the University of Michigan with his doctorate in 1977 and came to YSU that fall. Salvner graduated from Arthur Hill High School in Michigan, and he earned his bachelor's degree in English and political science at Valparaiso University in Indiana.

Salvner has always been interested in English literature, but, before he came to love teaching, he intended to enroll in law school. Because of the Vietnam War and the draft, he decided to enlist in



the Teacher Corps program in order to exempt himself from military service.

"[Teacher Corps is] where I really got stuck on teaching. I just realized I was fascinated by the whole experience of working with kids, and interacting, and the sort of mystery of teaching. The fact that it is never the same way every class," he said.

Since his background is in English education, he used to teach a lot of classes for "students preparing to teach English," he said. However, as head of the English department, he stays mostly in his specialty of children's and young adult literature.

He received an excellence in service, primarily for his work with the English Festival, which he's directed for 34 years.

### RICHARD VANVOORHIS, ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF COUNSELING AND SPECIAL EDUCATION

Richard VanVoorhis received an excellence in service award primarily for his work in creating and implementing the new school psychology program at YSU.

VanVoorhis said he came to YSU in 2009 because he wanted to get in "on the ground floor" of the emerging program.

The school psychology program will begin its first classes this summer, some of which will be taught by VanVoorhis. He has been teaching mostly

special education and counseling classes.

VanVoorhis graduated from Canton McKinley High School and earned his bachelor's degree at Ohio University. He then earned his master's degree in school psychology at Ohio State University.



VanVoorhis also holds a doctorate in school psychology from Indiana University of Pennsylvania.

Before coming to YSU, he worked as a school psychologist for Canton City Schools from 1994 to 2009.

He has also been married for 21 years to his wife, Hayley. They have two children, a son and a daughter.

### REBECCA CURNALIA, ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF COMMUNICATION

Rebecca Curnalia graduated from Barry County Christian School, a high school in Hastings, Mich. She received her bachelor's degree from Olivet College in Olivet, Mich. At Northern Illinois University, she earned her master's degree, and at Kent State University, she earned her doctorate.

Curnalia knew when she first started college that she wanted to go into the communication field, but said she didn't



anticipate a career as a professor.

"I declared communications as my major before I started college. ... When I was looking at the different majors, communications was a blend of a lot of my different interests, like psychology and English," she said.

Before coming to YSU, however, Curnalia pursued a job in public relations and ran for state representative in Michigan. Eventually, teaching became "the shoe that fit."

She worked at KSU as a teaching assistant for three years and then came to YSU, where she has been teaching for six years.

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# SENIOR GOODBYES



## One hell of a ride

**Josh Stipanovich**  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

My collegiate career had its ups and downs. But one thing I've learned in my six years at Youngstown State University is to embrace the positives, learn from the negatives and take full advantage of every opportunity.

And that's what I did. It helped me get to where I am today, and I know it's going to help me accomplish anything in the future.

Coming in, all I knew was I wanted to write, and I loved sports. I wanted to be the next big thing in sports media.

While I have yet to reach my goal, the people I've met, worked with and associated with have given me the strength to know I have the potential to one day meet it.

You must hold on to and learn from those stepping stones that many people tend to look over.

If you want to be successful, you must be able to give yourself credit where it is due and never quit. Be curious. Know that, no matter what obstacles life throws at you, you are capable of achieving anything.

Yes, the road was bumpy the way, but I have no regrets. Live life to the fullest, and never take anything for granted. If you do, life might creep up on you and bite you in the ass.

With that, I'd like to take another few hundred words to thank those who have helped me reach this milestone in my life, and please forgive me, ahead of time, if I leave someone out, as I know I'm going to do.

I only have so many words to work with here. If I knew you or worked with you, I'm sure I can think of at least one way you have positively influenced me.

To my family: Thank you so much

for your support. I'm not sure where I would be without it. The sometimes endless nights at the office or weeks upon weeks I didn't see you were because I was doing everything I could to get where I am today. And I know you understand that.

Dad, you are the most influential person in my life. I am the man I am today because of you, and words cannot express how much I appreciate everything you have done in my life. You have always been there for me and have supported every decision I've made — good or bad. Thank you. I love you.

To my fiancée, Carrie Marie: What can I say? You are a big reason I even decided to enroll at YSU. Your support has been endless. You are the yin to my yang. We have been working as a team throughout our collegiate careers, and I cannot wait to continue that until the day I die. I love you.

To the journalism faculty: Each and every one of you has been such a huge part of my life for the past six years. It's because of you I know I am ready to hit the professional world hard.

Mary Beth Earnhardt: You have inevitably been my adviser, mentor and second mother. You and I have grown so close. I have learned so much from you. This time last year, I wasn't ready to move on with my life. I can certainly now say I am ready for mommy to release me into the wild. You will not be forgotten. Thank you.

Alyssa Lenhoff and Tim Francisco: Thank you for never giving up on me and for the opportunities. If it weren't for the trip to NYC those years ago, I probably would have never interned there this past summer.

Tom Pittman: I never had you for class, but I had the chance to get to know you through SCJ, which has

**JOSH PAGE 9**

## Slainte

**Doug Livingston**  
MANAGING EDITOR

It's bittersweet to say goodbye. Well, a little on the sweeter side. I've closed countless chapters in my life, and this may be one of the lengthier ones.

As a 28-year-old undergraduate, the road that led me to YSU was paved with many setbacks.

But I have to appreciate the mishaps that landed me on the doorsteps of YSU, because it has truly been an incomparable experience.

And I have many to thank for it.

Alyssa Lenhoff opened doors for me. And I always — albeit sometimes unwittingly — stumbled through those doors. I have attempted in every way possible to reciprocate her dedication to my success.

Tim Francisco kept me grounded as Lenhoff fanned my hopes. His heavy and sometimes tumultuous words of wisdom have fortified my pragmatism. At every turn, I often reflect on his skepticism, and I'm a better reporter for it.

Mary Beth Earnhardt, like so many others, is a steward of students. She guides, cultivates, inspires and encourages us. Her advisement at The Jambar is wise and matriarchal.

If there was ever a person who tempered my patience, it was Todd Franko. His why-the-hell-should-I-care comments forced me to consider why we do what we do.

We have a relationship with our reader that transcends the page. And we must never forget our purpose.

We are storytellers. We document the best and the worst that humanity has to offer. We catalogue the tears and the joy. We advocate for reform through transparent and unabashed reporting. We relate in empathetic words.

To my colleagues: We've shared the lessons and learned from one another.

I guess I'll give thanks and remarks chronologically, in order of appearance, so to speak.

Adam Rogers' eye for design made me realize that you can draw a reader to a paper with craft that preludes content.

Lamar Salter's persistence and innovation, though often powered by Google, instilled in me the idea that anything is feasible. Even if his words were spoken with an inside voice, they would carry the same weight.

Josh Stipanovich has a monk's patience and an honest humbleness that I will never forget. His only downfall may be his ill-advised faith in Notre Dame football.

Emmalee C. Torisk commands copy like a priest regurgitating gospel. Her diligence is unmatched by anyone I have ever met. If she ever leaves the university, I know that great things await her.

Chris Cotelesse is a force in journalism. He's witty, brazen, callous and sometimes contemptible. Basically, he's fearlessly devoted to muckraking. Best of luck to you next year, Chris. Never let them tone you down.

Sam Marhulik has been a stable at the design desk from before my time. I'm glad to see him get up from that chair and venture into his profession.

Dan Pompili left The Jambar in 2010, making me the oldest staffer. Thanks, Dan. Joe Giesy left a year later. He's a kindred spirit and a great person to brave the wild streets of an untamed town with.

It's comforting to see Pompili and Giesy steering local news.

I've left the most important inspiration for last: my mother.

For a woman who shrugs hardship and bears burden with grace, she is the strongest person I know.

Everything I accomplish from here on out will be in her name, and all those who have shaped my life.

## Moving on, but not moving away ... yet

**Sam Marhulik**  
DESIGN EDITOR

With my Jambar career closing, I'm fondly looking back at the memories created and lessons learned over the last four years. Fedor Hall has become a second — maybe even a first — home to me, and when I walk out tonight, it will be hard to hold back the tears.

The friends I've made while working here have become some of the best in my life, and they have proven to be some of the most decent people I know. However, before I wax poetic about a bunch of people, I want to look back at my education at Youngstown State University.

I've learned about the inverted pyramid, how to use Adobe and so much more, but what I want to focus on are the things I never learned.

First, what in the name of all that is holy is an ice cream paint job, and, more importantly, how did it become a

popular song? Second, why can't I have superpowers? Last, why can't anyone find Carmen Sandiego and Waldo? We've been at it for years.

Humor, or lack thereof, put aside, I'm proud of my decision to come to school at YSU, and so should everyone that comes here. The fact is, you are furthering your education, and, while you may have stayed home to do so, you are still bettering your chances of finding a good job and being able to call yourself a success story.

I have a lot of people to thank for helping me become the person I am today and they are, in no particular order, Mary Beth Earnhardt, Alyssa Lenhoff, Tim Francisco, Guy Coviello and Bill Lewis. In one way or another, you all have made an impact on my life whether you realize it or not, and for that I thank you and will carry you all with me as I continue on in life.

To my Jambar comrades that have continued on before me — Justin Mitchell, Chel-

sea Pflugh, Adam Rogers, Dan Pompili and Lamar Salter — I also want to thank you for being in my life.

While my teachers laid the blueprint, it is because of my relationships with you all that I have able to build on the foundations that were built.

To my current co-workers and friends, it is with a heavy heart I say goodbye. I will remember all of you — well, most of you — fondly.

Josh: First, and most importantly, congratulations on your upcoming graduation. For what it is worth, I am proud of you. We've done a lot of Jambars together, and, come this summer, I don't think I'm going to know what to do without it. But, at the same time, I will rest easy knowing there isn't something we disagree on. Just a couple of random notes: Nickleback sucks, you're better than that

and good luck to you.

Emmalee: You may technically have graduated already, but we started at The Jambar at the same time, and, in some non-creepy way, we are connected. I will forever remember the moment you and I ka-

raoked Alanis, and it is something I hope we can do again. It really was a lot of fun. Good luck with the rest of grad school and with another season on the cast of "The Jambar."

Doug: Oh, wise one, please show me the way to enlightenment ... or at least the way to good reporting and writing. We've shared a lot of smoke breaks and had some conversations about things I frankly don't remember, but I appreciate having someone to smoke with. Bring back the argyle.

Jeff: Regardless of how hard you try, you'll never convince me that Nas is better than

Jay-Z. You've become a good friend of mine, and I am glad that the paper gave us a chance to get to know each other. You have a good outlook on life, and someday the good guys will stop finishing last.

Jordan: I wanted to hashtag this whole part, but that is just too many pound symbols. Dragon coins, WATTS going on, laser tag kid. No one else will understand this line, but that makes it more amusing. Good luck as the managing editor next year, and keep my design cronies in line.

Chris: We probably got off on the wrong foot back in Louisville, and, for that, I have but one question: Are we cool, man? That one annoying phrase will forever haunt me, and I'll never be able to say it to anyone without laughing. Congratulations on earning the editor-in-chief position, and, as I told Jordan, keep those designers in line.

Marissa: Never has anyone been able to argue with me and keep me remotely entertained.

**SAM PAGE 9**



## SENIOR GOODBYES

## Here's to you, YSU

## Chelsea Telega

ARTS &amp; ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

As the end of my college career approaches, I find myself getting more and more uncomfortable about how big the world actually is outside of the basement of Fedor Hall.

When I drive out of my regular parking spot in the residence lot, I imagine I will feel a bit too much like Dustin Hoffman did in *The Graduate* — and I have a lot of Mrs. Robinsons to thank.

First and foremost, my parents. Mom and Dad: Thank you for always pushing me to succeed in everything I do and for letting me choose my own path. Without your support, I wouldn't have been so driven. For everything you have done for me, I love you both more than I can write.

To the journalism department: Thank you for accepting a confused telecommunications major into your curriculum with such wide-open arms. Mary Beth Earnhardt: You constantly made me feel like the Little Engine That Could, and, because of you, I finally believe that I will. Thank you, from the bottom of my heart, for everything you have taught me and how tolerant you have been of my profanity.

Tom Pittman: I am running out of fingers and toes to count how many times you have bent over backwards for me. You are the person who

originally got me interested in written journalism and, because of your news reporting class, I will always know that I am number one in your heart, even above Jordan Uhl, and I hope you know that you are number one in mine.

To my editor-in-chief, friend and brother, Josh Stipanovich: I couldn't have handpicked a better boss. You always found the perfect balance between being my friend and my mentor, and you always guided me when I needed you the most. Thank you for letting me cry on your shoulder in the conference room and for dealing with all of my unnecessary, procrastination-driven visits to your desk. There isn't a pair of headphones thick enough to keep me away. I can't wait to see what you do with your future.

Doug Livingston: You scared and intimidated me to no end for the first six months of our work relationship. I will never forget the day you said to me, as I was working on the cup-stacking story, "Would you have contacted these people if I hadn't told you to?" From that point on, you have been, without a doubt, my biggest mentor. I admire your journalistic abilities and respect your criticism. It has made me a better journalist, person and worker. You don't need my "good

luck," but I will admit, I'll miss you.

Bestie, Kacy Standohar: You will forever be my co-awesome. We have more jokes, memories and stories than anyone in the office, and maybe even the world. I can't fit them in to one measly paragraph.

When I walk out of the doors of The Jambar, we will have so many more adventures of our own. Thank you for supporting me in everything I have done and for sending me texts about people that were sitting right next to us most of the time and telling secrets from behind our computers. If I could leave you with one word of advice, it would be to not, under ANY circumstance, blow bubbles at an editors' meeting. I love you, blood buddy. There is no doubt in my mind that you'll be all of the awesome next year. I love you with all of my heart, buzz kill.

My new friend, Jordan D. Uhl: I can't discount the fact that we used to be arch nemeses, but I couldn't be happier that the tides have turned. We found our friendship too late in my college career, but I can only imagine that you will be in the backseat of my car for all of our future trips to Pittsburgh. You stay classy, Planet Fitness. Always keep the Constitution handy.

Catullo: I have never been so proud of a co-worker be-

fore. We have become so close during my time at The Jambar, and I have seen so much initiative in you that it has made me want to work harder. You're always there to make everyone laugh, but when I need someone to talk to, you are one of the first people I can turn to. Thank you for being you, and for teaching me how to play catch. It's multimedia editor time!

Marissa: You are such a kind and genuine person, and often just seeing you puts a smile on my face. I love hearing your debates about the Titanic and music and our bonding sessions during quick trips in the Beetle. I'm sorry I wasn't awake to protect you from inebriated Joe Catullo that fateful night in Columbus, but just like always, you were strong enough to hold your own. I can't wait to see the flair you bring to the A&E page next year. Keep rockin', girlie. I'll miss you.

Chris, before I knew you, I thought you were a big, egotistical, stubborn jerk. While I still think you're gwooss, I can say that my opinion about you has completely changed. You are still all of those things, but now I know how well you wear them. You have a very different way of criticizing people, and it usually ends in tears, but it made me get my s--t done, and done well. I can't believe you're going to be in charge of an entire group of people next year. This is a really bad idea. Sam Marhulik, you are my

number one office confidante. I can tell you any secret, any story or any completely irrelevant fact, and you will always be there to listen. Your sarcasm and wit always makes me laugh, mostly because we share that trait with each other, and I'm often one of the only people who gets it. You will do so many impressive things with your life, but please don't ever lose your passionate hatred toward the new Transformers movies.

Zee, I mean, Jeff: (Read this paragraph in a British accent.) Even though you always gave me a hard time about the holes in my sweatpants and my desire to shop at a thrift store before Nordstrom, I could always ask you for the most unruly advice. When I leave, make sure you keep reminding Trevor to eat his parsnips and drink his acidophilus milk.

Lamar: We are friends, neighbors and enemies, all in one. You're nicer than people think you are, and I've seen it. Before you graduated, you took me under your wing and accepted me as a foolish little workshopper. Thank you for putting up with my crap and keeping me in line.

To everyone else, especially Jenna, Pat and Sarah: Journalism only allows so much room to be sentimental. But that does not mean that you haven't left your own impact on my life. I can't wait to see what comes of the paper next year and what you accomplish in your life. Good luck, and just keep writing.

## What a year it's been

## Mitchell Thornton

ASSISTANT COPY EDITOR

Not too long ago, I walked through the doors of The Jambar and met with Mary Beth Earnhardt and Josh Stipanovich. This meeting, while brief, resulted in my becoming a copy editor for the paper that has been the voice of Youngstown State University since 1931.

Even though I have been here for only a short time, I leave The Jambar with many fun, happy and indelible memories.

From having epic battles with Emmalee over which is better (MLA or AP), to dancing around the newsroom on production nights with Cassy, The Jambar has been one of the most wonderful experiences of my college career.

Jordan, thank you so much for telling me to apply for the copy editing position. You're a great person, an awesome writer and one of the most dedicated and hardworking people I know, especially when it comes to doing something you love. Learn your semicolons, though.

Josh, from putting up with the play I was in last semester, to dealing with my absurd office hours, you have been a great editor-in-chief, and I wish you the best of luck in whichever avenue you choose to pursue.

Emmalee, you never cease to amaze me — I can't believe you never had an orange before, like, last week. In all honesty, though, you've been a lot of fun to be around, and I know you'll whip those new copy editors into shape next year. Oh, and you know if I find a "there" being used as anything other than a pronoun for a place, or a "healthy" where a "healthful" should be, I'll come back and — well, I'll just let that be a surprise.

Bonnie, are you going to

miss me next year? And my many red marks on the pages? You're a fun person, Bonnie, and I'm glad I got to meet you this year, even though you don't say hi to me on campus. Have fun designing next year! Even though the pages will be missing my red pen.

Chelsea and Kacy, it's so nice knowing that other musical theatre fans are on The Jambar's staff. I loved talking to you both about "Wicked" and "Billy Elliot" and singing "Defying Gravity" a few times. Both of you had some great stories this year, and I can't wait to see what you two produce in the future.

Marissa, from talking about "Titanic," to discussing why you could possibly like Big Time Rush, you have been one of my best buddies here. I wish you the best of luck in your new position next year, and I hope to continue our discussions when I randomly pop in on production nights.

Lacey, congrats on your promotion! I've enjoyed our random talks in the back of the newsroom, as well as our copy editing discussions. You are one funny person, and I'm looking forward to having a class with you again next semester. Hopefully you'll remember that I was in this one.

Cassy, you are definitely one of the funniest and most energetic people I've ever met. Thanks for dancing with me. Our step line is great — mmm-hmm. I'll miss not reading stories with you next year. I just won't "know what to do." Oh, and I'm glad you finally realized that you live on the east side of Warren. Those darn S.E. signs — they're tricky.

To everyone else, I have truly enjoyed working with you on the production of this paper. Well, as I wrap up this letter, I guess the only thing left to say is ... See ya, guys. I hope to see you all again soon.

## JOSH PAGE 8

been another tremendous opportunity I've stumbled upon. When I was selected to join YSU's chapter, it was next to nothing but a resume builder. You had faith in Lamar and me to build it. And it has grown exponentially. Thank you.

To Lamar Salter: I'm not even sure where to start here. You are my best friend. You and I have accomplished so much together, and, to be honest, I'm not sure how I would have achieved so much without your help and friendship.

I'll never forget the first day we met. I walked into Chad Krispinsky's speech class on the first day and happened to sit next to you.

A couple of years later, we were working at The Jambar. Through our successes, we moved up the totem pole and were selected as SCJ's head honchos. That same year, I was hired as editor-in-chief, and you were my secondhand man as managing editor. And who knows? If all goes well, we'll have the opportunity to again form a badass duo at WFMJ.

We were always able to lend each other a helping hand, and that ultimately led to the successes we, The Jambar and The Yo\* Magazine have endured. Thank you.

To Chelsea Pflugh: Chelsea, when I decided to apply for editor-in-chief two years ago, I wasn't sure I was ready,

but nobody else applied. I knew I had to step up and man the ship.

I've learned so much from you. I observed your work as editor-in-chief from the news desk and applied everything you taught me. It is one reason The Jambar is what and where it is today. Don't ever forget that. Thank you.

To Doug Livingston: I have learned so much from you this past academic year. You have been a tremendous help and managing editor. I know The Jambar would not be where it is today without your brilliance and journalistic integrity. You're the man. I know you'll land a great job, if you ever graduate. Stay in touch.

To Sam Marhulik: Sam, I also met you on the first day of Chad Krispinsky's speech class. How long ago was that, again?

Yes, we've had our disagreements, but that's what happens when you stick two stubborn heads in the same room. Ultimately, I value you and the hard work you've done for this paper, and it's worked out for the best. Good luck to everything you do in the future.

To Chris Cotelesse: I've had the great privilege to watch you grow from the edgy columnist who had a great way with his words and ability to challenge our readers to a determined online edi-

## SAM PAGE 8

Hell, sometimes I even feel like you get the best of me in exchanges, just because you never let me win. I will finally admit it, outside of The Beatles, I don't hate your music, and I even find myself singing along to All Time Low. Joe has to supplant me as your arguing partner, but we both know he'll never replace me.

Joe: You're about as unique of a guy as I've ever met, and I mean that in the best way possible. I really respect your transformation of The Jambar's sports section, and, even though it's goofy, "Jack Up the Rev" has really come a long way. Stick with sports, Joe. I really think you have a talent for it.

To my design team: Kevin, Paris, Bonnie and Keeley, you've all come a long way since August of last year. I'm

proud to say that I got to work with such a talented group, and I know next year you will keep making me proud. I hope to see you all again, and I wish you guys the absolute best of luck.

Kevin: You have an immense amount of talent, and I can't wait to see what the future layout of The Jambar looks like.

Paris: Your cartoons are fantastic, regardless of what anyone says. I've found myself laugh at them all, and I hope that you will continue with them as a page designer.

Bonnie: You've impressed me the most in the strides you've made since day one. Keep Kevin and Paris in line; I won't be here to help.

Keeley: Talk more!

KC: I still can't believe I didn't make the editors' picture

tor who would never give up on anything to the incoming editor-in-chief.

You certainly deserve it, and I know you and next year's staff will continue to thrive and expand upon the successes we've endured as a staff these past two years. I'm only a phone call away, if you ever need anything.

To everyone else (you know who you are): In the four years I've worked at The Jambar, I've gotten to know and work with a lot of you.

In my two years as editor-in-chief, I've always had an open door policy and have worked diligently to help you all develop individually.

I knew and understood your strengths and weaknesses. I've been able to pinpoint areas you struggled with and have tried my best to help you develop into strong-minded people.

If anything, I hope I have been able to succeed at that.

Remember you are the future of this ever-expanding field, no matter what you think or hear. Thank you for all your hard work and dedication to this paper. It's up to you now to follow in my footsteps and create your own footsteps for those under you to one day follow. This paper is in your hands now, and I know I have nothing to worry about.

-30-



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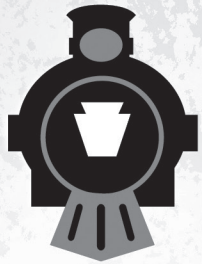
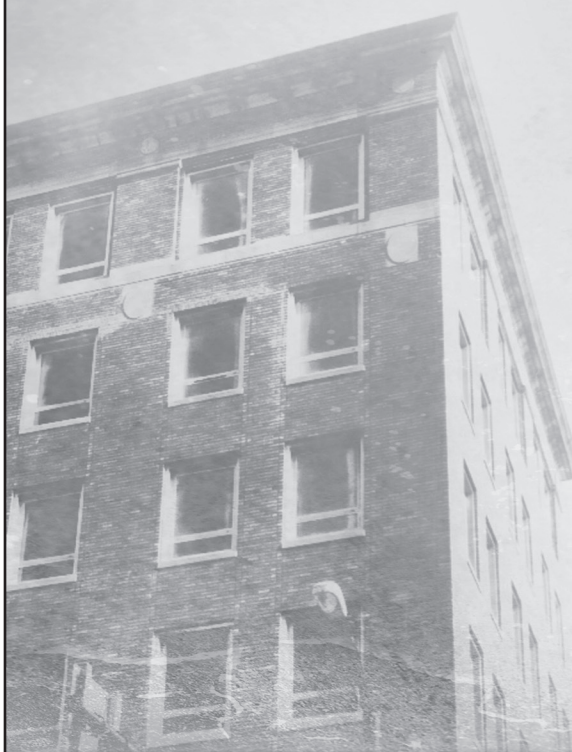
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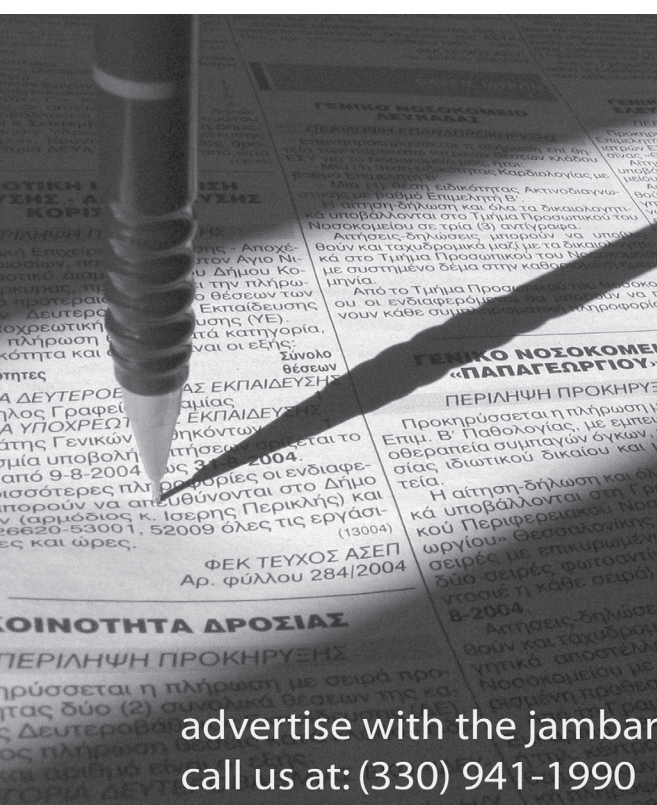
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**CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION OF YOUNGSTOWN –ELECTRICIAN WATER DEPARTMENT - SALARY: \$55,452.80.** This is highly skilled electrical work involving the installation, maintenance, diagnostic evaluation and repair of Water Department electrical systems, telemetry control systems, and building electrical systems. **MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS FOR ENTRANCE TO THIS EXAMINATION AS ESTABLISHED BY THE CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF YOUNGSTOWN ARE AS FOLLOWS:** Completion of a State Certified Electrical Apprenticeship Training Program with experience in electrical control systems and maintenance is required. At least three (3) years experience in the electrical trade in governmental, public or private utility, commercial or industrial environment. Must possess and maintain a valid State of Ohio driver's license. Applicants must meet the above mentioned minimum qualifications to be considered. **EXAMINATION INFORMATION: TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE EVALUATION:** Applicant's grade will be determined based on Education and Experience found in the application and resume. Each applicant is required to submit a detailed resume of his/her education and experience at the time of filing application, supplemented by proof of educational attainments, training and experience (original transcripts required). All candidates for employment with the City of Youngstown must be a resident of Mahoning County or an Ohio County that is adjacent to Mahoning County at time of hire. Application must be made on the regular application form available at the Office of the Civil Service Commission, 26 S. Phelps Street, 7<sup>th</sup> Floor City Hall, Youngstown, Ohio. Applications will be accepted from 8:00 a.m. on Monday, April 30, 2012 through 4:00 p.m. on Friday, May 11, 2012. Applicant's applying for City Resident Bonus Credit must show proof of residency by providing the following: Driver's License, Bank Statements, Utility Bills, Mortgage Release/Lease, and/or Insurance Statements. In order to be considered applicants must submit four (4) different proofs of residency from one (1) year ago and four (4) current proofs of residency. **APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED AFTER 4:00 P.M. ON FRIDAY, MAY 11, 2012.**



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## 21 baby boomers retire

Kacy Standohar  
FEATURES EDITOR

As the spring semester comes to a close, 21 faculty members will retire, leaving their legacy and mark on Youngstown State University.

"It isn't just about all of us getting old, but it also has a lot to do with the demographics of the university," said Gary Salvner, 14-year English department chairman. "YSU became a university in 1968, and there was a significant increase in enrollment and hiring in the early '70s, so it has a lot to do with us just spending a lot of time here and moving on."

Salvner has spent 35 years at the university. He said he is grateful for both excellent colleagues and students.

"This has been a stimulating and rewarding place to have a career," Salvner said.

Salvner said the English department will renew itself.

"The department will be fine and will continue to serve students, the profession and the university and community well," he said.

At the end of his career, Salvner said his most vivid memories are of the students.

"That mystery of starting a new class and engaging a new group of students to think, respond, inquire, challenge," he said. "That's the real satisfaction of our profession."

Nancy Mosca, a profes-

sor of nursing, will retire after 30 years at YSU. She said the nursing department is a growing division of the Bitonte College of Health and Human Services.

"I am sure they will recruit another nurse faculty to continue on with work I have been involved in," Mosca said.

She recalled one of her fondest memories. It was when the nursing department held a nursing alumni reunion during YSU's Centennial Celebration in 2008.

"We flooded the Cushman Hall atrium area with over 225 nurses who came back to see their alma mater that year," Mosca said. "It was exciting to talk to them and hear where they were in life and what they were doing in their nursing careers."

Louise Aurilio, an associate professor of nursing, said Mosca will be sorely missed as an academic leader.

Aurilio said Mosca has been instrumental in the department's growth.

"She is the first one to volunteer for any project or job that needs done, as well as offering to assist any faculty in need," Aurilio said. "When faculty have a question, she is the first person that they seek out."

Aurilio added that a quality faculty member is hard to replace.

Ikram Khawaja, provost and vice president for aca-



Dan Suchora reviews an inventory list for the dean's office with student assistant Matt Coppage. Photo by Chris Cotelesse/The Jambar.

demical affairs, said that when people retire, they often go on extended teaching service.

Extended teaching service includes a reduced salary. Khawaja said it is beneficial to avoid losing faculty expertise and experience, also known as institutional knowledge.

Khawaja said more than 30 searches are under way for next year.

"We are constantly replacing faculty," he said. "Last year, we lost at least 20 members, also."

Khawaja said the indepen-

dent faculty pool remains intact, insulating full-time positions from the budget.

"The faculty retirements are not a budget issue unless we decide to eliminate faculty," Khawaja said.

Louise Pavia, a professor of human ecology, will return next year under extended teaching service. She said it's a good thing to help ease into retirement.

She said that doing so will allow her to continue preparing students to teach preschool children.

Pavia said that, although the pre-kindergarten department is down a faculty member, she will assist new faculty, thus benefiting the department's continuity.

"I was very involved in committees, so I will miss the opportunities to interact with other faculty," Pavia said. "That won't be part of my responsibility anymore. But I will miss the opportunity to watch students grow, learn and see their faces light up when they get something great."

## Linkon leaves Lincoln for Georgetown

Jordan D. Uhl  
NEWS EDITOR

To some, it's the loss of a colleague and friend. For students, it's the loss of a mentor and a role model.

For the faculty union, it's their voice.

Sherry Linkon's departure from Youngstown State University will have different effects for different people, but the void left in her absence will touch many.

This will be Linkon's last semester as a faculty member at YSU. She will begin a new career at Georgetown University in the fall as director of the Writing Curriculum Initiative, a newly created position where she will develop writing programs.

At 52, Linkon — former spokesman for YSU's chapter of the Ohio Education Association, host of "Lincoln Avenue" on WYSU, professor of English, co-director of the Center for Working-Class Studies and former director of the American studies program — has made the most of her 22 years at YSU.

"I'm the kind of person who likes to get involved in things," Linkon said. "I tend to operate on the assumption that I don't have a right to complain if I'm not willing to step up and try to do something."

Linkon's facilitation of her colleagues' initiatives left a lasting impression on Gary Salvner, outgoing chairman of the English department.

"She was very helpful in getting us started with our assessment program," Salvner said. "We'd be in the middle of a meeting, and you'd see her really engaged."

To Linkon, it's simply a frame of mind.

"It's being able to look at the landscape of what we have and say, 'Here's what we've got, and here's what we can do with it,'" Linkon said.

After graduating from high school, Linkon enrolled at Macalester College, with hopes of becoming a rabbi or a music therapist.

"I didn't become a rabbi because they canceled the Hebrew class the first semester I was in school," Linkon said. "The great joke is that I didn't want to become a rabbi because I didn't want to go to five more years of college. Here I am, I got a Ph.D."

After doing "badly" in her required statistics classes, Linkon abandoned the music therapy degree as well.

By mixing elements of journalism and

professional and creative writing, Linkon got her bachelor's degree in 1981. She then received a master's degree in English in 1983 from the University of Denver.

After earning her doctorate in American studies at the University of Minnesota in 1990, Linkon accepted a position at Metropolitan State College of Denver, teaching writing and women's studies.

In 1994, Linkon's tendency to get involved landed her the position of director of the American studies program at YSU. After former director James Dale passed away, a group convened to determine the next leader.

"I said, 'I'm the only person in the room who has a Ph.D. in American studies; I will run this program,'" Linkon said.

For the next 10 years, she guided the program, increased student participation and created a master's degree program.

Linkon said her greatest accomplishment has been her role in the development of the CWCS.

Linkon, her husband John Russo and several others pioneered the program in 1996. What resulted was a new field of study for academics across the country.

"It's the thing that's had the most impact, not only locally, but nationally," Linkon said.

Russo and Linkon co-wrote "Steel-town U.S.A.," which has sold more than 7,000 copies.

"I think the book made a difference," Linkon said. "Absolutely ordinary people read our stuff. That's very unusual. Not many academics can say that."

The future of the center they built from the ground up is now in peril.

"I'm a little anxious," Linkon said. "Just because you've built something over a long time and you want to make sure that at least parts of it continue."

"CWCS is the most international and nationally known center on this campus," Russo said. He said he also fears the university won't prioritize its continuance.

Linkon's departure is bittersweet.

"Last fall, I reached a point where I was frustrated with a number of things at YSU and wanted to look for a different job," Linkon said.

After a number of contentious contract negotiations for the faculty union, Linkon said she feels slighted by the way the administration and the board of trustees approached the negotiations process.

It wasn't about the money, but rather about the respect.

"It was more about the attitudes,"

## Long-standing English department chairman retires after 35 busy years



Gary Salvner, English department chairman, teaches one of his final classes in DeBartolo Hall before his upcoming retirement. Photo by Chad Travers/The Jambar.

Chad Travers  
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT  
REPORTER

When Gary Salvner came to Youngstown to teach, a gallon of gasoline cost about 60 cents and the Apple II computer had just been introduced. The Voyager I and II spacecraft were recently launched, and American moviegoers were lining up around the block to see George Lucas' groundbreaking "Star Wars Episode IV: A New Hope."

Today, with fuel costs threatening to exceed \$4 a gallon, MacBooks everywhere, the American space program gutted by budget cuts and "The Hunger Games" topping the box office lists, Salvner is retiring as English department chairman at Youngstown State University.

Thirty-five years ago, Salvner earned his doctorate from the University of Michigan in English and education. He had never spent time in Youngstown but had vague memories of the city from driving through on family road trips.

"I still have a picture in my childhood photo album of the Youngstown steel mills that you could see from the highway with smoke belching out of them. That was my entire impression of Youngstown," Salvner said.

A native of Saginaw, Mich., Salvner taught in the Detroit and St. Louis city schools before he applied for a teaching position at YSU as a joint English and education professor.

Sept. 19, 1977, two days after Salvner began his first college teaching job, an event that came to be known as "Black Monday" changed the face of the city of Youngstown forever. The closure of Youngstown Sheet and

Tube's Campbell plant and the laying off of more than 5,000 workers devastated the local economy and signaled the death of the Youngstown steel industry.

"It was quite a cataclysm. It looked like the whole city was going to fall apart. Everyone was really in an uproar," Salvner said.

Salvner said he stayed through the economic downturn because he enjoyed seeing students succeed and helping them work toward their potential.

"The reason this became such an interesting place for me is because I love our students. I love what they do, and I love their very grounded sense of a need for education and an opportunity to advance themselves," Salvner said.

The late Gratia Murphy, a longtime member of the English faculty, was a mentor and a close friend whom Salvner treasured working with in his early days at YSU.

"Gratia's name was so close to the word 'grace.' It was very fitting because she was the most gracious person I've ever known. She's one of the people I miss the most," Salvner said.

In his second year at YSU, Salvner was instrumental in creating the YSU English Festival, a tradition he has continued for 34 years. He served on the original committee that planned the event.

"The English Festival is one of the most satisfying things I've done in my years here. It's a lot of really hard work, but it is so gratifying to watch students learn to value literature. It's been a joy of my life," Salvner said.

Salvner held a joint appointment in

# Docking his hardships

## Nontraditional student prepares to set sail



Travis Stauffer, middle, with his Alpha Phi Delta fraternity brothers and fraternity mascot, Zeta. (From left to right: Mark Ramsbottom, Dominic Mascarella, Travis Stauffer, Zeta, Chris Dozier and Dino DePasquale) Photo by Chelsea Telega/The Jambar.

### Chelsea Telega

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

When Travis Stauffer was 18 years old, he started his six-year, four-month, 23-day mission in the military. Now, at age 31, Stauffer is ending his two-and-a-half-year mission in another structured environment — the Alpha Phi Delta fraternity house.

"I pledged Alpha Phi Delta fraternity when I was 29. I am the oldest member of our chapter," Stauffer said. "I thought it was kind of comical to have younger guys that are 18 to 22 years old telling me what to do when I'm 29 and had already

been in the military."

The veteran started in the military as an undesignated deckhand, which he said is essentially the "bottom of the barrel." He then went on to work in electric warfare, then as a cryptologist and finally as a wrestler for the Navy.

When Stauffer was released from the military in November 2005, he returned to Ohio for a short three months. He then drove a 23-foot RV to San Diego, lived out of the van and attended San Diego Community College.

While his unemployment pay was nearing its end, Stauffer reunited with a friendly face from the military

that got him a job at a nightclub in San Diego.

"Things started going pretty well. I was getting paid pretty well, and I moved to a three-bedroom house three blocks from the beach," he said. "I worked at the club and was continuing my general studies at San Diego Community College."

In 2007, Stauffer was accepted to California Maritime Academy, a school he had been applying to for two years. He said he sold everything he owned to attend the school.

While in the Northern Arabian Gulf, Stauffer said he worked as an electronic warfare operator dealing with

electronic signals associated with missile platforms, which caused a tremendous amount of stress.

He said he also acquired back problems from wrestling.

When he arrived at the university, he was told he was not able to attend school there because of the pain and stress medications he was on.

"Since then, I've been doing well, and I haven't been on my prescribed meds," he said. "I deal with the pain that I have and the issues that I have through exercise and healthier ways of dealing with my anxiety."

Stauffer has since reapplied and has been accepted to the

academy. He said he plans to attend in August.

Because of spending so much time in the military, Stauffer said he was never able to experience the life of a college student. That is why, when he started school at Youngstown State University, he joined a fraternity.

"I would hear stories, but when I was 18 to 22, I wasn't having such a great time. I was having a pretty rough time," he said. "I never got the opportunity to live the college life, and being in a fraternity is the epitome of college life."

Stauffer said he has made a

**SAIL PAGE 14**

## Handyman Negri jazzes up YSU

Shannon Watson  
REPORTER

From the late 1960s until 2001, Joe Negri lived in "Mister Rogers' Neighborhood."

Viewers knew him as Handyman Negri in those days.

On Friday, Negri will conduct a jazz clinic at Youngstown State University.

The clinic will be held from 12:30 to 3 p.m. in Room 2222 of Bliss Hall. It will feature several performances by Negri and Dana School of Music students.

"Because [Negri] is located in Pittsburgh, the students of the Dana Guitar Association of YSU took advantage of his proximity to Youngstown to see if he would be interested in teaching a clinic," said Francois Fowler, an associate professor of guitar at YSU.

Fowler spearheaded the event.

"We were delighted that he agreed to do this," Fowler said.

As a child, Negri began performing. But when puberty changed his voice at the age of 13, Negri said he thought his career was over.

"I thought, 'What am I going to do?' after I lost my voice I always had," Negri said. "I was thinking about quitting the business around 14 or 15, but I heard Charlie Christian when he played for Billy Goodman, and he was

the face of jazz guitar."

After changing his focus to guitar, Negri got an offer from a top country swing band. He went on the road at age 16 and toured nationally for two years.

The next job he landed would lead to a 40-year career in the TV industry as a performer on two programs in Pittsburgh. One of those was "Mister Rogers' Neighborhood."

"That made me recognized all over the country and maybe all over the world," Negri said. "I've always been grateful for that, and it was a wonderful experience."

Negri said he has taught national classes that feature a specific approach to the guitar, but he thinks this one will be different.

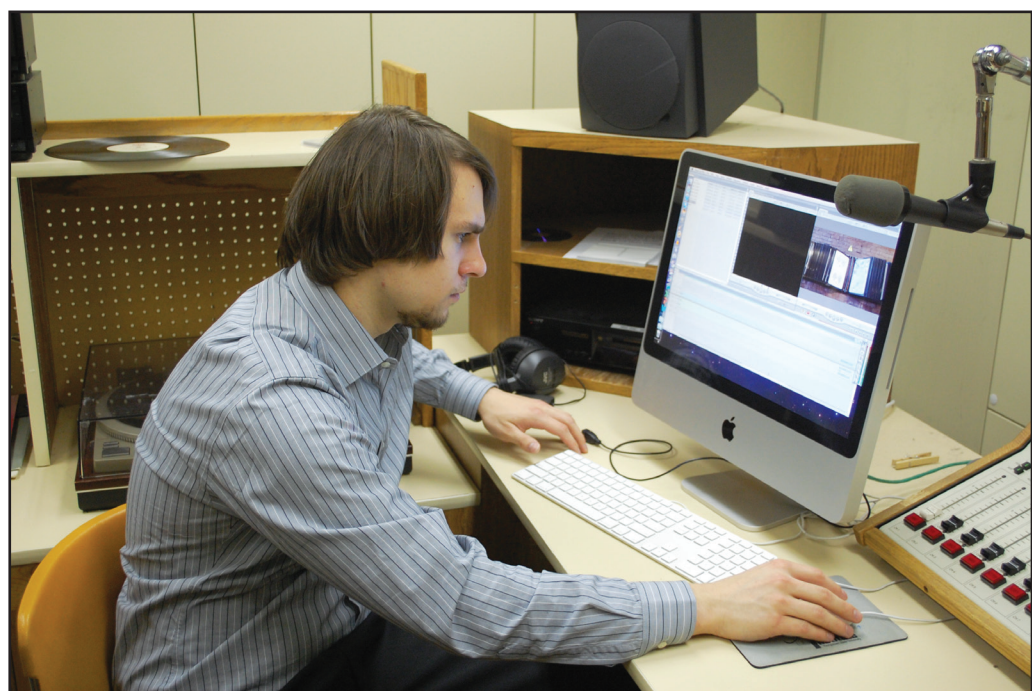
"I am going to critique the students while they play for me," Negri said. "I will be commenting on what they are doing."

The clinic will include performances from guitar, percussion, woodwind and violin studios. In the past year, the Dana Guitar Association has offered clinics featuring Duo Spiritoso, an international classical guitar duo, and Johannes Moller, a Swedish classical guitar virtuoso.

"The students and myself have worked tirelessly, raising money to bring in these world-class artists," Fowler

**NEGRI PAGE 14**

## Student film group makes its debut



Brad Kolasinski, vice president of the Youngstown State Film Group, works on a project in the audio lab. Photo by Chad Travers/The Jambar.

Chad Travers  
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT REPORTER

The Youngstown State Film Group unites students who are passionate about filmmaking. The group is comprised mostly of telecommunication studies majors, but is open to anyone interested in the hands-on aspects of film production.

Barry Cunningham, senior telecommunication studies major, serves as the group's president. Founding member Brad Kolasinski, a junior in the telecommunication studies program and the group's vice president, said he met Cunningham while working on a class project.

"I got to know Barry from classes. One day, I was working on a project, and Barry came in and asked me if I thought there would be any interest in a film group on campus. I told him I definitely would be, and I knew several other people in the [telecommunication studies] department would be, as well," Ko-

lasinski said.

Members share a love of film, an interest in the creative process and the mechanics of producing movies — from scriptwriting and storyboards to shooting and editing.

"The [telecommunication studies] department doesn't offer an area of study in film, but I've always wanted to start a group that really focused on the filmmaking process," Cunningham said.

The group, which officially formed midway through the spring semester, is in its infancy with only 10 members, but members hope to recruit more next semester.

"We're always looking for talented people who want to contribute to the production of films. We'll be holding a few meet and greets early next fall," Cunningham said.

Cunningham said he plans to advertise the group on campus and organize several informal meetings for students who are interested in joining.

Members meet on Wednesdays in Bliss Hall to work on their current project, a short film with the working title

"Hostage." The film is still in the scripting stages, so the details are not yet finalized. The plot revolves around a young girl who is kidnapped. Her wealthy father responds to the tragedy.

After scripting, the group will start scouting for shooting locations and searching for on-screen talent.

Cunningham said the group intends to have its first short film completed by next semester so it can be entered into local film festivals in the fall.

Amy Crawford, an assistant professor of communication at Youngstown State University, serves as the group's faculty adviser. She said she has big plans for the group's future, including guest speakers.

Crawford said the group represents an excellent opportunity for peer review.

"Even though I only serve an administrative role, I'm very interested in film production. Barry asked me to step in as the group's adviser to provide some structure," Crawford said.

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said. "With the additional help and support from the YSU student government and the generosity of the Dana school, we were in a position to bring in a third artist this year."

The students thought it would be appropriate to bring in a jazz musician.

"Because the guitar studies program focuses on classical and jazz guitar, I thought this was appropriate and was very happy to support their initiative," Fowler said.

The clinic will be free to the public. All ages are welcome.

Fowler said he is expecting a great turnout.

"I think because Mr. Negri is so well known as a legendary jazz guitarist, but also as a star of 'Mister Rogers' Neighborhood,' the word is really getting out there," Fowler said. "People are looking forward to this event with great enthusiasm."

Negri mirrors that enthusiasm.

"Honestly, I'm so glad they invited me, and I'm anxious to meet the students because they seem to be very into the same things I am," Negri said. "I'm really looking forward to it because there have been so many musically talented people that have come out of [YSU]."

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connection with his brothers, despite their age difference.

Alex Neville, 23, formed a special bond with Stauffer through his aspirations to join the military after college.

"He's one of the closer fraternity brothers I have. I commend him for coming back to school, but it also helps that you have help from the naval experience," Neville said. "I think that since he is kind of a child at heart, and he has a very good sense of humor, I think that helps out with him joining."

Stauffer's father, Ron, joked and said that if they can put up with him in the frat-

ernity house, the more power to them.

"We're really proud of Travis because he's an older student living in a frat house, but he spent six and a half years in the military right out of high school," he said. "It was a good choice for him because I don't think he would have been ready for college at the time."

Stauffer said his ultimate goal is to be a harbormaster, and possibly use his engi-

neering background to work on boats as well.

"I wasn't very happy with my quality of life when I was in the Navy. When I was younger, I didn't take too much pride in what I did because I didn't enjoy what I did," Stauffer said. "But I feel like, if I'm going to do something for a living, I want to be able to be happy going to work every day."

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the departments of English and education and taught classes in both fields until 1998 when he was nominated as chairman of the English department, a position he has held for the past 14 years.

Salvner said he has enjoyed teaching YSU's diverse mix of traditional and nontraditional students.

"One of the biggest disappointments about being the chair of a department is that I don't get to spend as much time teaching as I used to. I love the magic of starting a new class. No matter how many years you've done it, it's always exciting to interact with students and see how they respond," Salvner said.

Deborah Lowry, part-time English instructor, began taking undergraduate classes at YSU in 1994. Salvner was one of her English professors as a

student. He's now her department chairman.

"I'm eternally grateful to Dr. Salvner as a teacher, as a mentor and as a leader. He's touched my life in so many ways. It's so sad to see him go, but his retirement is well earned," Lowry said.

Sherry Linkon, a professor of English, said Salvner has done a terrific job during his time as chairman of the department.

"He has been a fair and gentle leader. The department will miss him," Linkon said.

Salvner said he plans to stay in Youngstown after his retirement. He will continue to teach a reduced course load at YSU and remain involved with the annual English Festival, but he also hopes to find time to write and is excited to be able to spend more time with his grandchildren.

Salvner's wife, a middle school guidance counselor, is also retiring at the end of the school year. Salvner said he is looking forward to having the time and opportunity to travel with her.

"There are places in Europe we haven't been for many years and places in Africa we've always wanted to see. We really want to explore other cultures and traditions. Our daughter-in-law is from Estonia, and they have a beautiful culture. We can't wait to spend more time there," Salvner said.

Salvner said he will miss interacting with the friends and colleagues he's gotten to know over his 35 busy years and that he would not trade his experiences at YSU for any price.

Still, he feels that retirement is calling to him.

"It's time," Salvner said.

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Linkon said. "It felt to me ... that things are not going to be productive here between the board and faculty for a while, and I was discouraged by that."

Past negotiations' atmospheres have varied, but last year's standoff was too much for the union's spokeswoman.

"It felt like they don't really value us. They can say they appreciate us, but they're not doing anything in the way they talk to us," Linkon said.

Attempts to reach Ron Cole, director of university communications, were unsuccessful.

Julia Gergits, a professor of English and the president of YSU-OEA, worked closely with Linkon during the negotiations and said she was awestruck by her calmness during tense times.

"She was invaluable," Gergits said. "It's not an easy job [to find an amicable message] to send out [in] press releases all within a few minutes."

Linkon said the wounds suffered during the process won't heal. She contemplated becoming less involved to avoid encountering future conflicts.

"The idea of being here for 10 more years, and keeping my head down, and doing my work, and trying to ignore what's going on, I knew I couldn't do it," she said. "I would be really unhappy."

She began seeking new opportunities in the fall; shortly thereafter, she was contacted by Georgetown.

"I don't think it had to be this way," Russo said.

Gergits calls it a "horrible, horrific loss."

Graduate assistant Sarah Lowry credits Linkon with inspiring her to "make a difference in the world and to not give up."

"I wouldn't be doing what I'm doing if it wasn't for [Linkon]," Lowry said. "She taught me that one person has the power and the ability to bring about change."

Russo said he plans to retire at the end of the calendar year. The couple will keep their house in Youngstown, as Russo will travel back and forth to continue his work in the community.

"John jokes some people have a summer home on a lake somewhere; ours is in the heart of Youngstown. But we like Youngstown," Linkon said.

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## 'Life is good'

### Soccer career ends, professional career emerges

Nick Mancini  
SPORTS REPORTER

When Geneva Strelka came to Youngstown State University on a recruiting visit, she was extremely nervous.

But her nerves calmed quickly. "The team really helped me settle into soccer and school, and the balance for everything," Strelka said. "Everything ended up working out, and now I am graduating, and life is good."

Strelka said the only reason she decided to attend YSU was that recruiting visit.

"I was so nervous to come and meet everyone, but they were so welcoming and so nice. It was completely unlike any other place I visited," Strelka said. "That's what sealed the deal for me."

It didn't hurt that her best friend since seventh grade, fellow teammate Kelsey Kempton, also decided to play soccer for the Penguins.

"We didn't decide to play at YSU together; it just sort of happened that way," Kempton said. "As college went on, we grew closer together. It was definitely one of the best things to be able to play soccer with her."

In her YSU career, Strelka played in 71 games and started in 52. She scored seven goals. However, Strelka said the records don't show how well the team has been doing in her time at YSU.

"When I first got here, we were losing games by a lot more than what we

are now," Strelka said. "Every game we play is close, and we are right there with the other team. We just needed to work on our finishing."

Kempton said Strelka is one of the most gifted offensive players she has ever played with.

"She is a very skilled player," Kempton said. "She is such a hard worker and just has a great mind for the game."

Aside from being a talented soccer player, Kempton said no one is better to talk to if you are looking for a laugh.

"She is easily my funniest friend," Kempton said. "She is such a good-hearted person and just knows how to make people feel better if they are down."

Strelka is graduating on May 19 with a major in criminal justice and a minor in psychology. But she said she is pursuing something completely different.

"I am actually looking to be a pharmacy technician right now," Strelka said. "It has nothing to do with my major, but it just interests me, so that's what I am pursuing."

Strelka already has interviews set up, which she is hoping go well.

"I already had an informal interview with Giant Eagle

Pharmacy, and I am setting up a formal interview with them after I graduate, and hopefully I get that job," Strelka said. "I have turned in my resume to other places, too."



#### Sports Briefs

### Hall named assistant men's basketball coach

Steve Hall has been added to the men's basketball program as an assistant coach. During the past four seasons, Hall coached at Duquesne University. Prior to that, Hall was a high school coach; he won Michigan state titles in 2003, 2004, 2005 and 2008. He will replace Byron Thorne, who left the YSU program in March.

### Baseball, softball teams anticipate busy schedule

The YSU softball team will play six games over the next four days, starting with a doubleheader on Thursday at home against Robert Morris University. The first game starts at 3 p.m. The softball team will play another doubleheader on Saturday and a single game on Sunday at the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay against the Phoenix. The baseball team, meanwhile, will travel to Butler for a three-game series, starting on Friday. The series concludes on Sunday.

### Three former Penguins honored

Former football players Marc Kanetsky, Andrew Johnson and Nate Schkurko represented the Penguins on the 2012 NFF Hampshire Honor Society. The award compromises college football players from all divisions who each maintained a 3.2 grade point average or better throughout their careers.

#### Penguin Spotlight



### Silviu Mistreanu

Year: Freshman  
Hometown: Iasi, Romania

Tennis freshman Silviu Mistreanu was named first-team All-Horizon League on Friday. On the season, Mistreanu went 14-5 during the spring (6-1 in the conference), and he played his last 15 matches at No. 2 singles, posting an 11-4 record. Mistreanu joins Tariq Ismail, Tom Barth, R.J. Pepino and Seth Banks as Penguins who have received first-team honors.

## YSU offers needed change for Johnson

Nick Mancini  
SPORTS REPORTER

When Andrew Johnson decided to transfer to Youngstown State University, he thought he needed a change.

He said he made the right decision.

Johnson, a transfer from Bowling Green State University, came to YSU to play football, but he also wanted to increase his grade point average.

"Lets just say it was below a 2.5," Johnson said. "I was a lot more immature, and a lot less focused on my grades. Here, it increased to just under a 3.5. It gave me opportunities I didn't have."

Head football coach Eric Wolford said Johnson's recent academic successes were a result of his commitment.

"We obviously have a great academic support system here," Wolford said. "Sometimes people just need a change. I think he grew up and realized some mistakes he made in the past, and was ready to make a change in his life. It was a good thing he did before it was too late."

Johnson will graduate May 19 with a sociology major and a human resource management minor.

"It was probably one of the best decisions I had made to this point in my life," Johnson said. "It was a great experience. Every day was just good, based on the team and the people around it."

In his senior season, Johnson started all 11 games for the Penguins, anchoring the defensive line. He finished with 39 tackles, 27 of which were solo. He also had 6.5 sacks and 11 tackles for a loss. His 6.5 sacks were the most by a Penguin in nearly 10 seasons.

"First, I would like to shout out my fellow defensive linemen, Obinna Ekweremuba and Daniel Stewart, because



Andrew Johnson pursues Indiana State University's Ronnie Fouch on Sept. 24. Johnson graduates this month with a bachelor's degree in sociology. Photo courtesy of YSU Sports Information.

they were right there with me, and we anchored that defense," Johnson said. "I believe we left our mark by beating the national champions. We were a team to be reckoned with. We weren't no joke on the field."

Johnson finished with two tackles and 0.5 sacks in the win against the then-No. 1 team in the country, North Dakota State University. The defense also recovered two fumbles.

When Johnson was on the field, his leadership could always be counted on, Wolford said.

"He was voted on by his

peers, and he was kind of like another coach for us on the field," Wolford said. "He was a guy that was a catalyst for us on the defensive line. He raised the level of everyone else's play."

Johnson said he has been studying for the GMAC, which measures a student's aptitude to succeed in graduate business studies, and the LSAT, which assesses prospective law school candidates.

"I'll see what my grades are and what my options are when it comes to schools," Johnson said. "As far as trying to pursue a career in football,

I have been spending a lot of time doing that. I am just trying to juggle both, and it is tough, but it is fun, too. I am trying to play football as well, but that is just temporary."

Wolford said he'll fondly remember his time with Johnson.

"He was just such an enjoyable person to be around," Wolford said. "He was always studying film, always around the office. He is kind of a quiet guy. When the time was right, he would step up and say something. He was someone you could count on, and I really enjoyed being around him as a person."

# Athletics makeover

## YSU plans to build at least two new sports facilities

Joe Catullo Jr.  
SPORTS EDITOR

Stambaugh Stadium and Beeghly Center stand as Youngstown State University's homes to football, basketball, soccer, volleyball and swimming.

This past fall, the \$12.3 million Watson and Tressel Training Site was installed, opening many new opportunities for the football, baseball, softball, and track and field teams.

But that wasn't enough.

YSU is in the planning stages of two, possibly three, new facilities on campus for soccer, softball and intramural sports, with promising potential for tennis.

"It will help our programs a lot in the sense of having those new types of facilities on our campus," said Ron Strollo, executive director of intercollegiate athletics at YSU. "We're a Division I program. Unfortunately, most high schools have a softball field and a soccer field."

Richard White, associate director of planning and construction, said the new facilities would cost an estimated \$1.9 million.

The first priority of the project is a soccer/intramural field that Strollo said would include lights.

"Its main use is going to be for campus rec and intramurals because, obviously, when we built the indoor facility, we took away a grass field there," he said.

Strollo added that the soccer team needs a new home. The team plays its home games at Stambaugh Stadium, where the field is not as wide as a standard soccer field, and Stambaugh's Beede Field is not a level playing surface.

A standard soccer field ranges from 100 to 130 yards with a width of 50 to 100 yards. Stambaugh Stadium is 120 yards in length and 53.5 feet in width.

"There's a need for us to have a true soccer field that's flat and a lot wider," Strollo said. "Our soccer team would be able to utilize it for competition, but that will be a very small percentage of the usage. It will mostly be used for campus rec and intramurals."



A new softball field will be built on the left side, behind McDonald's, and a soccer/intramural field to the right. The blueprints for these facilities are planned to be drawn in the summer. Photo by Joe Catullo Jr./The Jambar.

Joe Conroy, intramural sports coordinator, said he is excited about opening new doors for intramurals. Intramural sports take place in Stambaugh Stadium and will begin scheduling at the WATTS this fall.

"The biggest advantage will be when they build these fields that we'll have more green space to add to our programs so that our college students will have more opportunities to play outdoor activities," Conroy said.

The new soccer field will be next to the Madison Avenue Expressway and behind Sunoco on Fifth Avenue.

"I think that once you get accustomed to the field that you're on, it will give you advantages playing there," said Jamie Hall, assistant sports information director at YSU. "It gives us more versatility in our department as a university."

Hall added that scheduling for practices around the players' school schedules will be easier. This year, Will Lemke, head soccer coach, said he could sometimes schedule practices for only 6 a.m. at Stambaugh Stadium.

"The difficulties can't be

overstated," Lemke said. "For us to be able to go and have a consistent practice time really helps this organization, helps the team morale, helps us stay focused [and] makes it so much more efficient."

The next priority would be a new softball stadium behind McDonald's on Fifth Avenue.

The softball team has played at McCune Park in Canfield since 2003, a place Hall and Strollo said has treated YSU well.

"They've been an unbelievable partner for us," Strollo said. "We're very fortunate that we have that as an option."

McCune Park is made up of nine fields, two of which have lights. The No. 4 field is where the Penguins play their home games.

According to Google Maps, 8.9 miles separate YSU from McCune Park, which makes for a 17-minute drive.

"I think any university wants to give their students more events to go to, to be more involved," Hall said. "It gives us more things for our students to do to enhance their actual student experience."

Hall added that a huge advantage to an on-campus soft-

ball field is video. The Penguins would be able to stream live games on the Horizon League's website.

If all goes well, most of YSU's sports will be able to compete on campus for home matches, but one sport may be left in the dust: baseball.

Strollo said enough land isn't available to shoehorn a new baseball field, but, if they wanted to do that, they would eliminate all possibilities of building a soccer field.

And people at YSU, including Strollo, are pleased with Eastwood Field, home of the Penguins and the Mahoning Valley Scrappers. YSU pays nearly \$15,000 to \$20,000 a year to play at Eastwood.

"Although it's not on campus, it's an unbelievable venue for our student-athletes," Strollo said. "It's the nicest one in the conference. Although someday we would like to bring it back on campus, that's a pretty good home for it right now."

John Vogel, assistant sports information director, also said Eastwood Field is a great recruiting tool.

"I think there's probably advantages and disadvantages recruitingwise because you're

giving up that big park feel versus having the on-campus field," Vogel said. "Student turnout has been pretty good out in Niles. You might get a few more students over there, but they've done a good job of coming out."

According to YSU Sports Information, the baseball team is averaging nearly 115 fans per game, with 14 games at Eastwood Field and one at Cene Park in Struthers as of Tuesday.

Rich Pasquale, YSU's head baseball coach, said he likes coaching at Eastwood Field, though it would be nice to have an on-campus field.

"Obviously, it would be nice to involve our campus community to have a baseball field on campus or close to it," Pasquale said. "But I think we have the next best thing at Eastwood Field."

Besides new soccer and softball facilities, Strollo said that if the resources are available, YSU would like to relocate the tennis courts, which are located in between Stambaugh Stadium and the WATTS.

"Right now, there's some cracks in them that almost make them unplayable," Strollo said. "The idea is that location where the tennis courts are right now a better location for parking or something else, and is there a better location to move those tennis courts? Again, it all comes down to dollars."

Mark Klynsner, YSU's men's and women's tennis coach, said the courts must be either fixed or removed.

"The last thing I heard was that we might be keeping the location, which I prefer," Klynsner said. "I like being in between the stadium and the WATTS. It's closer to our locker rooms. It's closer to my office, so that would be my preference, but any time you get the possibility of new courts, we'll take that, too."

With tennis courts as a third option at YSU, the soccer and softball fields could be blueprinted as early as this summer.

"It's one thing to dream, but it's a whole other thing to figure out what you really have there as far as resources to invest," Strollo said. "I'm excited about being able to get fields, but I'm probably more excited about cleaning up some areas."

## Track looks to top Horizon League

Nick Mancini  
SPORTS REPORTER

Beat the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, and the Youngstown State University track team will beat everyone else.

That is what junior sprinter Mike Davis said of the upcoming Horizon League Championships, which start Friday in Wisconsin.

Brian Gorby, head track and field coach at YSU, said he is excited for his team's prospects.

"Projectionwise, we can probably score anywhere in the range of 160 to 190, which is good," Gorby said. "Milwaukee, which is always kind of a team we are always competing against, is between 140 and 170. So, overall, even on paper, if you can have a lead, the kids have done a good job."

Senior thrower Kaitlyn Griffith said that to go out with an HL title would be a great end to her career.

"The last time we won here was my freshman year," Griffith said. "For me to cap it off, it has been hard to keep getting runner up every year since I was a freshman, and I want to go out being on top."

Griffith won the indoor shot put and hammer titles during the HL Championships.

Junior Bobby Grace, a fellow thrower, said as long as the team works hard, it should be able to accomplish big things.

"Just kind of work hard, come in the best as we can," Grace said. "From the throws side, just keep improving. We are usually a pretty big part of the team come conference time, so we just want to rally the troops and get a ring."

Sophomore Katrina Rettburg said she feels the team has a great chance to come away with the title. In her event, high jump, she is battling with a fellow teammate for the top spot.



Sophomore Katrina Rettburg practices the high jump during Monday's practice in the Watson and Tressel Training Site. Rettburg looks to take home the high jump title during this weekend's Horizon League Championships. Photo by Dustin Livesay/The Jambar.

"Makayla [Martin], who is a freshman, just tied me at 5 feet 7 inches, so it is me and her at the same height," Rettburg said. "We are all just improving. We all saw where our weaknesses were in the indoor season."

Gorby said the team must continue to build on what it has accomplished.

"We have had a great outdoor season," Gorby said. "On paper, we are projected well, and we are happy to have that, but, again, it is only on paper. We are going to try and minimize any mental errors, don't make any mental mistakes and continue to peak as we all focus on this."

Sophomore sprinter Ciara Jarrett said

she expects the women's 4X100 relay team to take the title. In the 100-meter dash, she expects a tougher challenge: senior Cassandra Lloyd from Wright State University.

"She is real good, [and] she is the champion in hurdles," Jarrett said. "She was injured last year, and this year, she is really stepping up. She is my toughest competition."

Lloyd was an All-American last spring for the Raiders. On March 30, she was clocked at 13.20 seconds, 28th in the world, in the 100-meter hurdles at the Texas Relays.

Junior sprinter Tarelle Irwin said the team wants to bring back a ring.

"It's the Horizon League, and we have been in this for while," Irwin said. "We want to work as hard as we can and give our best efforts and come out with something special. It is not often a men's side brings back something great to show the campus. We just want to work our hardest and prove ourselves."

Gorby said he is confident his team will perform to his expectations.

"We will always be a better outdoor team," Gorby said. "We have 17 events where we can score in, so we are definitely a well-rounded team. We have more depth and more quality. Milwaukee has 13 events they can score in. Overall, it gives us a confidence."