

the jambar.com

The student voice of Youngstown State University since 1931

Hattie's harvest

62-year-old student works to transform land, city



Lee Murray
REPORTER

When she is not attending classes at Youngstown State University, Hattie Wilkins spends a lot of time with her hands in the dirt. She owns a community garden on the corner of Fairmont and Covington, a former abandoned plot of land that she has transformed over the past three years into an oasis of green. Her third growing season, she said, was a resounding success.

"It was real good this year," Wilkins said.

Wilkins is one of many gardeners and urban farmers who are rejuvenating Youngstown's vacant plots. She said the like-minded individuals help one other, meeting at community members' gardens and sharing advice.

"We had some garden parties, and everyone brought something that they had grown or they had made," she said. "There's a fellowship with one another. At my garden party, I think I had 50

gardeners at it."

This year, Wilkins worked with the Youngstown Neighborhood Development Corporation to install a water line to her garden. She had previously been using water from a fire hydrant until the city insisted that she find alternative arrangements.

Wilkins said that YNDC will have to remove the line before winter to prevent it from freezing. The line, which cost YNDC more than \$1,000, will be stored until spring when it can be reinstalled.

In addition to beautifying her neighborhood, Wilkins is an advocate for grass-roots political activism. Before attending YSU, she was the union president at Brentwood Originals, where she worked for 35 years. She orchestrated a walkout because, she said, the company was cutting pay.

"I'd talked people into going out on strike because they were talking about, instead of giving us raises, they were going to take money from our

HATTIE PAGE 2

Hattie Wilkins, a nontraditional student at YSU, devotes her time and energy to revitalizing the landscape of Youngstown by encouraging urban farming. Photo by Lee Murray/The Jambar.

Alumna goes green

Sarah Perrine
REPORTER

Pandora Thomas, a Youngstown State University alumna, was one of the first to complete the Green For All fellowship at Columbia University. She joined in 2008 during the project's early stages.

The project is designed to revitalize depressed areas by teaching about green energy, helping to create jobs and restoring liveliness.

Fellows work within their neighborhoods using these tools to develop "community-generated solutions and organize for change in their cities," according to the Green For All website.

"Green For All wanted to create this relevant movement that brought together the environment, social justice and art," Thomas said. "And that was kind of the beginning of that."

The project has grown all over the U.S., with more than 150 Green For All fellows working in more than 74 cities in 28 states.

"People all over the country, diverse groups of people are integrating the environment in relevant ways into their work," Thomas said.

Thomas said Green For All could be used within Youngstown to help continue

the movement, but the people of the city must take an active role to see results.

"It's not just Green For All; it's how to find those leaders in the system with the most innovative learning models, community engagement and education," Thomas said. "Green For all is a good support, but not a training program."

Thomas said she often speaks to groups about incorporating environmental tactics into communities,



THOMAS

adding that the root of many issues within different communities, like housing and violence, evolves from environmental problems.

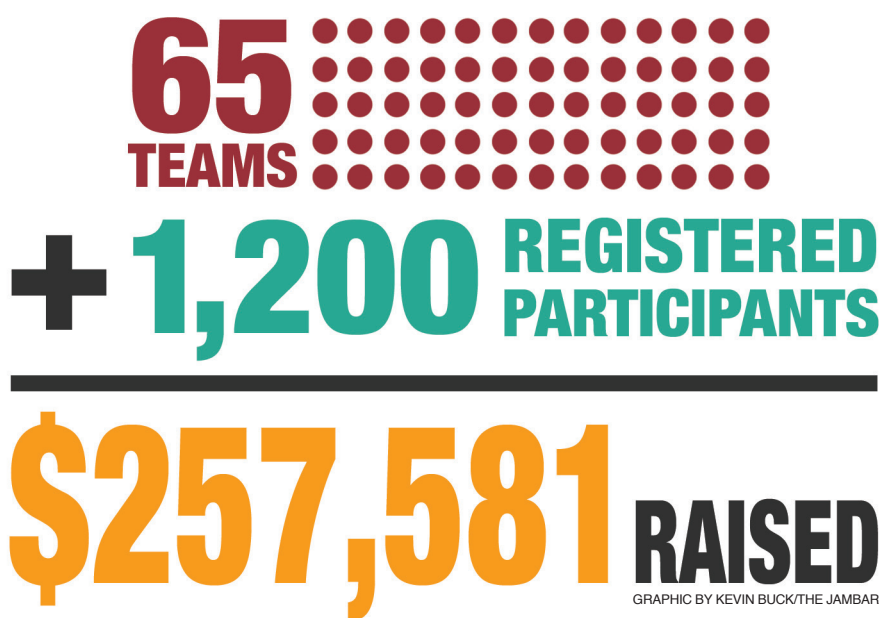
"Those issues need to be integrated into the green movement," she said.

She said things as simple as backyard gardens can unite a community and give it something to protect and grow.

"Those traditions that had gardens, how do we nurture those stories? It's about creating a movement that's about beautifying YSU [and] beautifying Youngstown," Thomas said.

Thomas said she believes that YSU students can help the green movement by talking and collaborating with citizens of the area, adding that these green conversations will have a

GREEN PAGE 3



Strength in numbers

Boardman Relay celebrates growth in 20 years

Kacy Standohar
NEWS EDITOR

This spring, the Boardman Relay for Life recruited the second largest number of fundraising teams in Ohio. The committee had 65 registered teams with more than 1,200 registered participants, raising \$257,581 at the end of the fiscal year on Aug. 31. More than 2,500 people attended the event as well.

The Boardman Relay for Life committee learned of the news after their staff partner at the American Cancer Society, Tasha Wells, sent out an email.

"It wasn't long before the message had been tweeted, Facebooked and texted to all of our participants," said Chary Hively, chair of team recruitment and development for the Boardman Relay for Life. "How could we not be proud to be a part of such an amazing boost to the fight against cancer?"

Wells, a representative for the American Cancer Society Income Development, said a lot of support and guidance factored

into their success.

"We have a lot of community involvement, and Boardman is a big shopping area, so we had over \$35,000 in sponsorship," Wells said.

Hively said the community, including Boardman's surrounding areas, helped out. She said in the past two decades, many communities have sent participants, volunteers and teams.

However, Hively said behind-the-scenes work should not go unnoticed either.

"Most Relay teams spend months out of the year, if not the entire year, fundraising and planning for our Relay weekend," she said. "We're also fortunate enough to have a very experienced and dedicated committee overseeing the event and an army of volunteers who help us along the way."

Wells said both the Boardman and Warren Relay committees are consistently ranked among the top five in fundraising throughout Ohio. The Boardman Relay has also raised more than \$4 million in the last 20 years.

Wells said both Warren and Boardman were

RELAY PAGE 2

Memory of slain officer lives through scholarship

Christina Mullen
REPORTER

Twelve Youngstown State University students were recently awarded the Michael T. Hartzell Memorial Scholarship.

"The scholarship was created by Howard and Mary Kay Hartzell in memory of their son, Michael Hartzell, who was a police officer for the city of Youngstown and was killed in the line of duty," said Paul McFadden, president of the YSU Foundation.

Michael Hartzell was killed on April 29, 2003.

Scholarship applicants must be enrolled in the YSU Police Academy, be children of a Youngstown police officer or an officer in the tri-country police or sheriff's department, or be graduates of Austintown Fitch High School.

This year's recipients are Jordan Fisher of Warren; Simone Grant of Boardman; Joshua Grimes of Boardman; Christopher Kenney of Girard; Parker Lopez of Youngstown; Delaney Lyons of Youngstown; William Magnuson of Canfield; Samantha Marucci of Salem; Tina Meloro of Hubbard; Christopher Platon of Youngstown; Travis Williams of Youngstown; and

Jenna Yacovone of Austintown.

Howard Hartzell, Michael Hartzell's father, said the scholarship is funded by an annual charity golf outing.

"This year was the 10th annual golf outing, and we have collected over \$250,000 throughout the years. But we also get a lot of contribution from local business," he said.

Howard Hartzell said more students have been taking advantage of the scholarship in recent years.

"It is a great way to keep people getting their education at YSU," he said. "To help kids get their education in Mike's name is a

tremendous feeling."

Meloro, a recipient of the scholarship for the 2012-2013 academic year, said she feels honored.

"I think it is generous that the Hartzells have set up this scholarship; it helps students get forward with their lives," she said.

McFadden said he is happy to work with Howard Hartzell in establishing the scholarship. Since its start in 2004, the scholarship has been awarded to more than 60 students.

"I am glad we have put something together for the memory of Michael Hartzell, and this horrible tragedy is benefitting others," McFadden said.

Student musicians attract world-class guitarist

Justin Carissimo
REPORTER

Christopher Mrofchak and fellow members of the Dana Guitar Association will greet Andrew Mah at the airport before their performance at 8 p.m. Tuesday in Bliss Recital Hall.

The concert is free and open to the public.

Mrofchak, the association's president, said the group has worked diligently and is excited to perform with the world-class guitarist.

"As a group, we have always made it a point to make our guest artist's stay in Youngstown a wonderful experience," Mrofchak said.

Francois Fowler, an associate professor in the Dana School of Music, founded the association six years ago with the help of Youngstown State University students. Fowler said the group's mission is to encourage renowned artists to hold clinics and master classes for students.

"They also wanted to make all the events free and open to the public, so they could contribute to the performing arts in the greater Youngstown community," Fowler said.

The Dana Guitar Association has interacted

with artists all over the world. For instance, performers from France, Poland, Sweden and Canada, among other countries, have collaborated with the student organization.

"Our students learn a great amount from working with these performers, and they also learn a lot organizing such events," Fowler said. "Promoting live music and education and sharing their efforts with the community is invaluable."

Philip Monrean, vice president of the association, said it hasn't been cheap to bring in artists every semester.

"We hold bake sales and get sponsors from local businesses to help cover the costs. When we bring in performers, the lessons they teach us are invaluable," Monrean said.

On Tuesday, Mah, a renowned classical guitarist, will perform Johann Sebastian Bach's famous "Chaconne" alongside YSU students.

Mrofchak said he believes that the concert is a rare and exciting event for YSU students.

"Students will have the opportunity to view a world-class artist in concert for free," he said. "It should be a relaxing and fun experience, which I am sure all YSU students can appreciate in the final weeks of fall semester."

HATTIE PAGE 1

401k and put [less money in our paycheck]," she said. "I told the people it's now or never. ... If we take this, we'll be living on our knees for the rest of our lives."

The strike lasted for more than two months. Wilkins lost her job in October 2008 following a heated debate with management over the company's Occupational Safety and Health Administration compliance issues.

At 62 years old, Wilkins is engaged in local community groups and involved with her church. As well as working alongside YNDC, she is involved with the Mahoning Valley Organizing Collaborative, the Youngstown Warren Black Caucus, Mount Sinai Missionary Baptist Church and Ambassadors for Christ.

Wilkins said she's enrolled at YSU because she wants to help people.

"I think I'm going to do nonprofit [leadership] because I like to teach people how to garden, and I want to show people the different avenues to go down, so they can get aid," Wilkins said. "Even though I'm a little over the hill, there's still time. I still have time to help somebody in my lifetime, show them a better way."

She is in her fourth semester at YSU, and she hopes to set a good example for her great-grandchildren.

"My great-granddaughter was my motivation to come here. She helps me work in the dirt, and she asks a lot of questions. I want to be able to answer [her questions], or be able to do the research myself to answer the questions," she said.

Two years ago, Wilkins was robbed and her house was

burgled. Her gold necklaces were stolen from her neck, and her door was kicked down by the thieves that stole her television.

Despite being a victim of crime, she said she thinks the city's problems can be solved by finding hard work for idle hands.

"If they would give these young people something to do with their lives, we wouldn't have these problems," she said. "They'd be too tired to sit around, waiting around for some old person to come home."

Wilkins said the banks that own the foreclosed properties in her neighborhood are responsible for those problems, too.

"I have five vacant homes in the one block where I live at. For every vacant house that's near your home, that's \$10,000 off of the price of your home," she said. "If they would tear them down, you know, we could make a community garden or park or something for the kids to play in. It's bank-assisted crime."

Wilkins said she feels safe living in a neighborhood where people look out for one another.

"I love my neighbors," she said. "After I got robbed, my neighbors would sit on their porch until I came home. The young girl across the street would wait up for me, [too], and would have a stern warning for me when I got home about staying out so late."

Wilkins has a strong voice in her community. She has an idea of why so many people pay attention when she speaks on issues that involve them.

"Because I'm everyday people," she said.

Internationally acclaimed tenor returns home

Rachel Lundberg
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

Dana School of Music voice students will have the opportunity to attend a master class with Lawrence Brownlee on Thursday in Bliss Recital Hall.

Brownlee, a native of Youngstown who attended his first year of college at Youngstown State University, is returning home to perform in Opera Western Reserve's production of "The Barber of Seville."

A select few students will perform for Brownlee during Thursday's master class.

Lauren Corcoran, a senior vocal education major, said she looks forward to singing for Brownlee.

"Lawrence Brownlee is one of the most famous and

sought-after tenors right now. It is a privilege to sing for him and get his feedback," Corcoran said.

Each student involved will sing an excerpt of music for Brownlee and will then receive coaching in front of the audience.

"It's so wonderful that our smaller school has the ability to bring in such an amazing star," Corcoran said.

Brownlee has performed in Russia, the Netherlands, France, Italy, Canada and New York City, among other locations.

Allan Mosher, a voice professor at YSU, said he admires what Brownlee has accomplished in the professional opera field, but that he appreciates his returning to Youngstown.

"He hasn't forgotten where he came from," Mosher said.

Brownlee will perform the role of Count Almaviva in "The Barber of Seville" at Stambaugh Auditorium on Friday.

Corcoran said she and other Dana students look forward to performing with Brownlee in "The Barber of Seville."

"It's great that he can come back and sing in his hometown," Corcoran said.

"Audience members are really in for a treat. His voice is flawless and effortless."

Misook Yun, a voice professor at YSU, said she has seen Brownlee perform and looks forward to hearing his input for her students.

"People here appreciate and support quality music," Yun said. "I am looking forward to hear his input from his experience performing internationally."

RELAY PAGE 1

the first Relay organizations in the Mahoning Valley.

"They needed that time to grow in the community," Wells said.

Youngstown State University students play a big role in Relay for Life membership. Danielle Procopio, event chair for the Boardman Relay, said the students are dedicated to supporting the people who live in the area.

"Cancer has touched most people, and I am sure it's no different for most of YSU's students," Procopio said. "Being a part of Relay provides you the opportunity to fight back against cancer and change the future for others that hear the words, 'You have cancer.'"

She said a few YSU students are on the committee, including Josh Prest, Danielle Shovlin and Megan Chero; they became involved as high school students and have remained involved ever since.

"It's an honor that they choose our event to be a part of. There are several communities in Mahoning and Trumbull [counties] that have relays," Procopio said. "I'm glad they choose to support ours."

Shovlin said her ef-

forts come from personal experience, watching many people around her battle with cancer.

"88 percent of every dollar raised by Relay for Life goes directly to cancer research," Shovlin said. "I believe that if we are able to keep raising funds, I will live to see the day that we will live in a world that is cancer free."

Procopio has been part of the Boardman Relay since 2006, but she said she was stunned by the good news.

"With the economy being what it is, I didn't expect northeast Ohio to raise more money than Cleveland, Columbus, Cincinnati," Procopio said. "What that tells me is that our community is committed to supporting its neighbors and fighting against cancer. It makes me proud to be a part of [the] cure."

Hively said committees are always in need of more volunteers.

"Forming a team is easy; simply gather 10 or more friends who hate cancer and wish to fight back," she said.

Hively said a team is available for individuals who want to participate, but can't summon enough friends to form a team of their own.

Online courses to be reviewed for possible degree credits

Larry Gordon
LOS ANGELES TIMES
(MCT)

LOS ANGELES — Officials of two prominent education organizations Tuesday announced a partnership that eventually could lead some colleges to grant degree credits for online classes offered through a network of currently free, non-credit courses.

The American Council on Education, an influential group representing colleges and universities, will start next year to evaluate some of the courses available through the online consortium education group Coursera and make recommendations about whether they meet academic standards and anti-cheating safeguards, officials said. It would then be up to colleges to decide whether to allow their students to obtain degree credit through such so-called massive open online courses, or MOOCs.

Universities around the world are grappling with the challenge to brick-and-mortar classrooms that online education might pose. And online organizations are seeking the respect and

legitimacy that would come from being linked to diplomas from big-name schools. So the new partnership may be an important step in bridging the two areas.

Coursera, a for-profit organization, was founded by two Stanford University computer science professors last year and now offers about 200 courses for free, many from such schools as Caltech, Princeton and the University of California, Irvine. A spokeswoman for the American Council on Education said it is also in talks to possibly evaluate classes for Coursera's nonprofit rival called EdX, a smaller online consortium that includes Harvard, MIT and UC Berkeley.

The review work is being funded by a grant from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, which is also announcing support for other projects related to MOOCs.

ACE President Molly Corbett Broad said massive open online courses hold much promise to educate students around the world and for schools to broaden their audience. But she added that much study is needed into whether the courses can "help raise degree completion, deepen college curricula and increase learning productivity."

CLASSIFIEDS

HOUSING

LICENSED AND INSPECTED BIG HOUSES, SMALL PRICES
Nice 4-bedroom homes for your group. Includes all utilities, appliances, ADT, cable & internet. From \$415.00 per person. Call Chris 330-743-7368

Rent Duplex House. 2 bedroom downstairs. Parking, free washer/dryer, alarm, appliances, large rooms, fireplace. Woodbine Av. near YSU. \$500 plus utilities. Kathy (330)533-4148

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Infertility is heartbreaking! We help dreams come true, and now you can be a part of that miracle! Egg donors are needed. We pay \$5,000 to women ages 21-32 who donate their eggs to help our patients become parents. Interested in being a donor? Have questions? Call us today! 330-375-3596 Women helping women. Private and Confidential.

Computer Marketing Position
Local medical company seeking quality individual with experience using Microsoft Office Outlook contact manager for fax and email marketing. Part time or full time available. Contact marketing at 330-501-7445

JAMBAR STAFF

- EDITOR-IN-CHIEF:**
Chris Cotelesse.....330-941-1991
- MANAGING EDITOR:**
Jordan D. Uhl.....330-941-1807
- SENIOR COPY EDITOR:**
Emmalee C. Torisk....330-941-3758
- NEWS EDITOR:**
Kacy Standohar.....330-941-1989
- MULTIMEDIA EDITOR:**
Joe Catullo Jr.....330-941-1913
- ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR:**
Marissa McIntyre.....330-941-1913
- SPORTS EDITOR:**
Steve Wilaj.....330-941-1913
- WEB MANAGER:**
Daniel MacMurchy....330-941-1807
- DESIGN EDITORS:**
Kevin Buck.....330-941-1807
Paris Chrisopoulos....330-941-1807
- SALES MANAGER:**
Jeff Mamounis.....330-941-1990
- COPY EDITOR:**
Lacey Arnold.....330-941-1913
- ASSISTANT COPY EDITORS:**
Jenna Medina.....330-941-1913
Cassandra Twoey.....330-941-1913
- ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR:**
Kevin Alquist.....330-941-1989
Rachel Lundberg.....330-941-1989
- ASSISTANT MULTIMEDIA EDITORS:**
Dustin Livesay.....330-941-1913
Josh Medore.....330-941-1913
- ASSISTANT WEB MANAGER:**
Cassandra Ohlin.....330-941-1913
- ASSISTANT DESIGNER:**
Keeley Black.....330-941-1807
- AD SALES ASSISTANTS:**
Anthony DiPiero.....330-941-1990
Arbin Shrestha.....330-941-1990
- SPORTS REPORTER:**
Cory Bartek.....330-941-1913
- GENERAL ASSIGNMENT REPORTERS:**
Justin Carissimo.....330-941-1913
James Toliver.....330-941-1913
Taylor Phillips.....330-941-1913
- COLUMNIST:**
David Roberts.....330-941-1913
- RECEPTIONIST:**
Alyssa Italiano.....330-941-3095
- BUSINESS MANAGER:**
Mary Dota.....330-941-3094
- ADVISER:**
Mary Beth Earnhardt.330-941-3095

CONTACT THE JAMBAR

EMAIL..... thejambar@gmail.com
FAX.....330-941-2322

NEWS BRIEFS

SMARTS offers holiday cards

YSU's SMARTS, or Students Motivated by the Arts, now has holiday cards available for purchase. This year, two designs are offered. The first design features a photograph of a penguin, and the inside reads, "Happy Holidays," while the second consists of a drawing of a hand giving the peace sign. The cards are six for \$5, or 100 for \$50. To purchase the cards, contact Becky Keck, SMARTS director, at rlkeck@ysu.edu. The cards will also be available at the SMARTS Store in downtown Youngstown; the store's hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. Proceeds from both the holiday cards and the SMARTS Store support SMARTS programming, which integrates art into the lives of underprivileged K-12 students. For more information about SMARTS, call 330-941-ARTS.

Carols and Cocoa planned for Dec. 5

The YSU Dana School of Music's annual Carols and Cocoa event is scheduled for Dec. 5. The evening will begin at 7 p.m. in Stambaugh Auditorium's grand ballroom with seasonal music favorites and a holiday sing-along, as well as cookies provided by Dana students and complimentary coffee and cocoa. Following a brief intermission, guests will be invited to the upstairs concert hall, where the Dana Holiday Concert will be presented. Tickets are general admission, and they may be purchased in advance at the Stambaugh Auditorium Box Office, by phone at 330-259-0555 or online. Tickets will also be available on the evening of the concert. Admission is \$10 for adults; \$5 for students, senior citizens and YSU faculty and staff with valid YSU ID; and free for children under 12 and YSU students with valid YSU ID.

POLICE BRIEFS

Flats resident triggers alarm with boiling water

On Nov. 19, a YSU police officer reported to the Flats at Wick after a fire alarm activation. The student resident said she had been boiling water on the stove when some of the water trickled down onto the heating element, causing smoke to appear. The officer told the student to open some windows and to turn on a fan to clear the smoke. The alarm was reset.

Man arrested for driving under suspension, drug possession

On Nov. 17, a YSU police officer on patrol observed a gold Chrysler traveling on Elm Street toward Madison Avenue. A check of the car's registration revealed that it had been entered stolen out of the Elyria Police Department. The officer stopped the car's driver, who had several active warrants for his arrest; he claimed that the car had belonged to his dead grandmother. The officer informed the driver that he would be charged with receiving stolen property and driving under suspension. The suspect admitted that he had a bag of marijuana on him; it was retrieved and seized by the officer. The suspect was booked and transported to the county jail.

GREEN PAGE 1

positive impact on the city of Youngstown. "Everything we do can have a green twist to it," she said. "Every job has an environmental impact to it. YSU could help by getting other people active and thinking about this." Thomas said her love for the environment passed down from her parents and started at an early age when she was living in Sharon, Pa. She said she remembers a home filled with her mother's houseplants and a childhood characterized by fishing trips with her dad. She loved being outside and felt a deep connection with nature. As she grew older, her love for the world around her developed, and she was eager to learn more. Her passion took her to Germany during her senior year of high school. The time she spent abroad quickly opened her eyes to how big the world really is. "I was like kind of getting to be an activist around my city, and I was frustrated with at first the Iraqi war," she said. "The minute I got to Amsterdam and saw the energy of the rest of the world, I was like, 'Oh my goodness.'" She then went on to major in religious studies at YSU. Thomas became invested in her major, while at the same time integrating her love for the

earth and sustainability into her studies. "What the different religions had to say about the environment, how we treat the earth like the way we treat women, like I was always kind of thinking about those things, even though there weren't necessarily clear answers for them," Thomas said. During her time at YSU, her love of learning about cultures and people led her to join multiple student groups. "I had a little overcommitment because there was so much I was trying to explore," Thomas said. "So, through religious studies, I had a way to integrate the things I wanted to learn about the world and about myself." However, she felt that many of the groups she was involved in were extremely isolated. Thomas wanted to see the various groups combine, work together and bridge the gap. "I was that bridge," she said. After YSU, Thomas enrolled in a teaching program at the New College of California. She went on to study at Columbia University and Tufts University. Thomas is working to complete her master's degree in urban and environmental planning at Tufts University. She resides in San Francisco, where she is working as director of the Green Career Program at Global Exchange.



thejambar.com



Under The Sun
Latone's Tanning and Spray Tan
Tan for 2 Weeks
\$12.99
3525 Canfield Rd, Cornersburg
Next to Rite Aid
330-770-6902
www.latonesunderthesuntanning.com
Redeem this single use coupon.
Expires 12/12/12

Chiropractic
This unique program is now offered in a traditional college setting

Apply Now for Spring or Fall 2013 classes

D'Youville offers an excellent faculty - state of the art facilities - and a rigorous progressive curriculum

- Chiropractic Students are enriched through collaboration with D'Youville's programs in nursing, pharmacy, physical therapy, occupational therapy, physician assistant and dietetics.
- Hands on experience begins in the first year.
- Clinical rotations through five sites offer a unique wide variety of settings not offered in many other programs.
- Class sizes limited to 30 students and our adjusting lab ratio is 10:1.



Visit us today at:
www.dyc.edu/admissions/graduate/program_chiropractic.asp

OPERA
Western Reserve
SUSAN DAVENNY WYNER, MUSIC DIRECTOR
DAVID VOSBURGH, STAGE DIRECTOR
Rossini's Comic Opera

YOUNGSTOWN'S OWN METROPOLITAN OPERA STAR
LAWRENCE BROWNLEE
FRIDAY NOVEMBER 30TH, 2012 7:30PM
STAMBAUGH AUDITORIUM, YOUNGSTOWN

Student Rush Tickets \$5 Available Within One Hour of the Performance With ID.

THE BARBER OF SEVILLE
En Italian with English Supertitles

LEAVING A REPUTATION LOCAL BAND PLAYS FINAL SHOW

Marissa McIntyre
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT
EDITOR

After five years of performing in Ohio and Pennsylvania, Jordan DePaul & The Reputations are calling it quits.

The band members will perform their final show at Cedars Lounge in downtown Youngstown on Friday.

DePaul, a marketing major at Youngstown State University, said he hopes to flex his muscles as a songwriter in Nashville, Tenn.

"It was my cousin's idea to have this final show for everyone to come and say goodbye and to show the impact the band has had on all of us," DePaul said.

DePaul said years of watching his cousin, Michael Cleland, perform made him want to pick up a guitar.

The band formed in 2007 after Cleland's band "fizzled out," DePaul said.

"That's how we all sort of came together," Cleland said. "It was very natural. We just started jamming together."

"Through doing open mic nights, the band sort of grew together," said Ryan Daily, the band's drummer. "It's a lot less intimidating to just say, 'Hey, let's jam together.'"

The band had previously disbanded, but opportunities arose that made the members change their minds.

"Two weeks after we broke up, I got a call from the Covelli Centre asking if we would be the opening act for the Goo Goo Dolls," DePaul said. "How do you say 'no' to that?"

He said it was an awesome experience to play in front of thousands of people.

"For a while, no one actually let us quit," DePaul said.

The band's swan song show

will be divided into three sets. In each set, the members will perform songs from different stages of the band's development.

"It'll be fun for us to all meet one last time, but I'm excited for what's to come," DePaul said.

The band's guitarist, Joseph Verzilli, a media communications major at YSU, said he's excited to see years of the band's progression on one stage.

"It'll be cool to see all of that in one night," Verzilli said.

DePaul said he is interested in all types of music, so songwriting is a more appropriate goal than performing.

"Because I write so many different types of music, I'd have to pick and choose if I just performed," DePaul said. "I just don't want to be defined."

He said his musical influences stem from folk, rock, pop and even opera. He would classify himself as a hybrid of Bob Dylan, Tom Petty and Kings of Leon.

He said he will miss the support system he has in Youngstown when he moves to Tennessee.

"I'm real lucky to play with these guys because they make me better," DePaul said.

Michael McGiffin, the Reputations' bass player, said he's sad to see DePaul go, but will be there if he needs him.

"He knows we're standing behind him and if he ever needs help, he can reach out to any one of us," McGiffin said.

Cleland said even though this is the last time they're playing as the Reputations, it won't be the last they see of one another.

"We're all going to find ways to play together again," Cleland said.



Jordan DePaul practices for his final performance in Youngstown before he moves to Nashville, Tenn., to pursue songwriting. Photo by Marissa McIntyre/The Jambar.

Men plan to strut their stuff for autism awareness

Taylor Phillips
REPORTER

On Friday, the Youngstown State University chapter of Alpha Xi Delta will host its 15th annual Xi Man, a male pageant competition that raises money for the world's largest autism advocacy organization, Autism Speaks.

The pageant will be held in the Chestnut Room of Kilcawley Center from 6 to 10 p.m.

John Monroe, a Sigma Chi brother, said he first participated in Xi Man in the spring of 2011, which was also his first semester involved with Greek Life.

"It was a wonderful way to integrate all the chapters together, and I got to know a lot of great people from other fraternities and sororities," he said.

After this year's event, one man will be crowned the Philanthropy Champ and another as the Xi Man Overall Champ.

Autism is a developmental disorder that typically begins in children in their first three years; it is characterized by trouble communicating with others, difficulty forming relationships and behavioral patterns involving repetitions of restricted focus.

Laura Krcelic, the president of Alpha Xi Delta, said autism affects everyone.

"Our job is to just do whatever we can to help find a cure and to bring attention of how bad autism can affect

our society today," she said.

Kayla Micco, the philanthropy chair of Alpha Xi Delta, said this year's theme is "If I Could Be Anyone, I Would Be" Participants will dress as their choice for

the pageant.

Monroe said he is keeping his persona a surprise.

"The only people who know are myself, my coaches, Laura Krcelic and Sara Pretoka, and the sisters of

ZTA, whom I am representing in the competition," he said.

Aside from the silliness the pageant may bring, the sisters also impart an important message about autism awareness.

"It's important to raise awareness because no one knows what really causes [autism]," Micco said. "It is important to raise money and do research, so more people are informed about it."

Micco said autism is becoming more prevalent.

"It used to be 1 in 105 children have autism. But today, that number has changed to 1 in 88 children that have been diagnosed with autism," she said.

Monroe said the disorder has both economic and physical effects.

"More people need to realize how expensive it is to pay bills for the disease," he said. "That's why it is important to raise all the money we can."

In the week leading up to the pageant, the Alpha Xi Delta sisters will set up informational tables in Kilcawley Center to spread the word about autism awareness.

Sex scandal sensationalism

Americans are too preoccupied with the sex lives of their leaders.

Retired Gen. David Petraeus, the man most responsible for changing the War on Terror from a traditional war to an intelligence-based method, recently resigned as director of the CIA after an FBI investigation revealed an affair with his biographer, Paula Broadwell.

Petraeus didn't resign under public pressure, but the puritan sensibilities of American culture have created the fiction that public figures must be sexually pure to lead effectively.

From President Bill Clinton's blowjob from Monica Lewinsky to Rep. Anthony Weiner's sexting scandal, the public has allowed personal problems to influence its assessment of our elected leaders.

A vivacious sexual prowess doesn't necessarily inhibit one's ability to draft effective legislation or to lead our great nation.

Despite the dome, Clinton still left office with a surplus.

Understandably, scandals place an undue burden in the way of progress, but it's only because of the sensationalism created by the media.

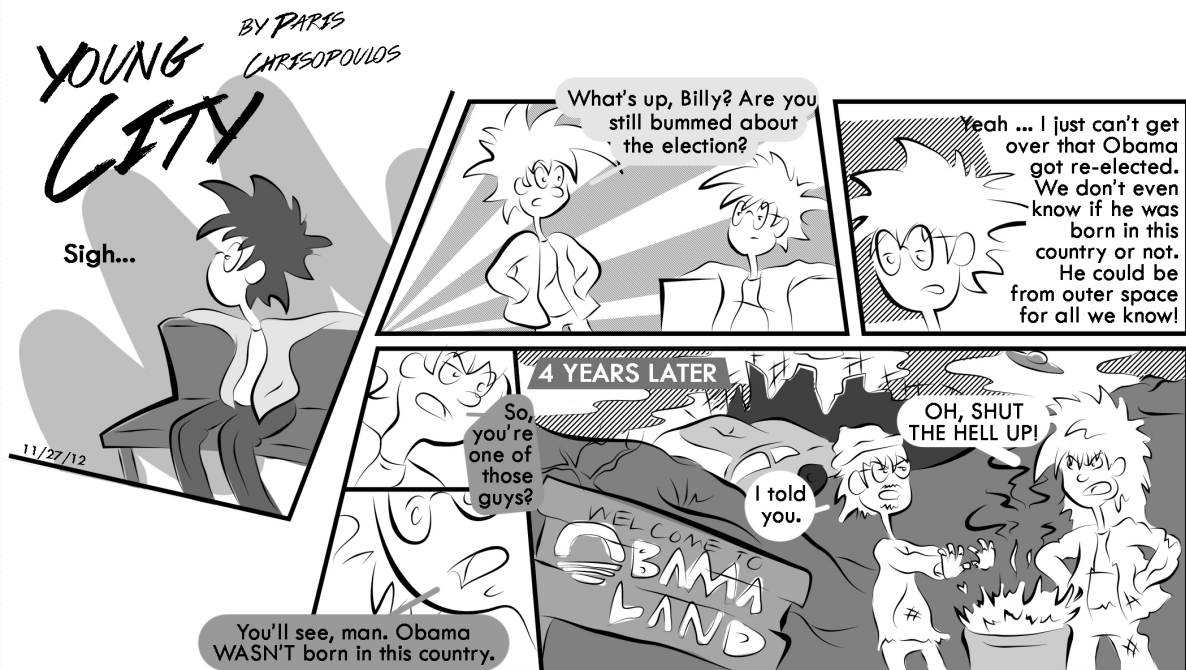
News networks salivate at the mere thought of a sex scandal.

From the week of June 6-12, Weiner's wiener constituted 17 percent of all news coverage, 6 percent more than the next leading topic, the economy.

To news networks, viewers are everything, but therein is the problem. The sheepish public would rather consume hours of gossip about a representative's genitals than tough-to-swallow fiscal updates.

So, as leaders continue to dumb it down and slut it up, consider for yourself whether the next elected official's personal life should be grounds for his or her resignation.

We think not.



Thanksgiving: a holiday of unique thanks



David Roberts
COLUMNIST

Thanksgiving is thought of as a wonderful day that's spent giving thanks with friends and family, as well as sharing a delicious cornucopia of foods and fond thoughts about the past, present and future.

However, the truth is that the stereotypical image of peaceful Thanksgiving dinners that Hallmark movies depict is far from what most of us experience on the fourth Thursday in November.

First of all — between the food, the family members and, if you're part of one of those overachieving families, activities — a lot of logistics go into orchestrating Thanksgiving Day. For many, the day starts with watching the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade, which serves as the relaxing prelude for the rush of activities about to unfold.

Once the parade ends, the phone rings with relatives checking in on the progress of the meal — meaning that you better get started on the preparations. Usually, that involves my mother and father yelling at me to help, then hunting for my brother and sister who always seem to go missing during the cooking process.

One thing we can certainly be thankful for is all the bickering that goes on in the house that day. Our

two-story home seems to become a one-room schoolhouse with how many times we run into one another.

Finally, after several hours spent slaving over dinner, the family arrives, and we all sit down and enjoy every last bit of that delicious meal. Making a Thanksgiving meal is not anything to be taken lightly, by the way. From years watching my folks prepare and from the last few years helping out myself, it certainly is a trying time.

In addition, it can be a dangerous task, as an article from the Chicago Tribune said the average property loss from a Thanksgiving Day dinner fire is \$14,500. That bird can cause a lot more damage than we may think.

My point with all of this is that Thanksgiving Day is one of the few days out of the year where families come together to celebrate. Whether you have relatives who live just a town away or halfway across the country, family members traverse the country to be together, and that says something.

Regardless of the endless bickering that may go on during the day and whether or not somebody burned the pumpkin pie, you're all together, and that is something to give thanks for in and of itself.

I think the mainstream view of

Thanksgiving Day is not wrong; the day is about giving thanks. The difference is that what we should really give thanks for is just the fact that we have all these family and friends to gather together with, even if we fight all the time. Sure, my siblings may be annoying, and when you throw my cousins in there, it becomes a scene for the ages, but that is what's great about it.

There is something thrilling about having your face pushed into a slice of pumpkin pie; for the record, it tastes better that way. Sure, in an ideal world, the holiday would be spent having a nice, relaxing and peaceful meal with family while talking about this, that and other things, but let's be honest: Where's the fun in that?

Therefore, here are my sincerest wishes that you all had a wonderful Thanksgiving Day weekend. I'm sure none of you will complain about having the extra few days off to recuperate before the start of finals, which are just around the corner. I hope you all slept off your wonderful food comas that surely arrived with the beginning of the holiday season.

Meanwhile, for those of you who do not really care for Thanksgiving Day, fear not: The most wonderful day of the year is less than a month away!

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

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

YOUR SIDE POLICY

The Jambar encourages letters to the editor. Submissions are welcome at thejambar@gmail.com or by following the "Submit a Letter" link on thejambar.com. Letters should concern campus issues, must be typed and must not exceed 500 words. Submissions must include the writer's name and telephone number for verification, along with the writer's city of residence for printing. The Jambar does not withhold the names of guest commentators. Letters are subject to editing for spelling, grammar and clarity. Letters will not be rejected based on the views expressed in them. The editorial board reserves the right to reject commentaries and letters if they are not relevant to our readers, seek free publicity, fail to defend opinion with facts from reliable sources or if the editorial staff decides that the subject has been sufficiently aired. The editorial board will request a rewrite from the submitting writer based on these requirements. The Jambar will not print letters that are libelous, threatening, obscene or indecent. The views and opinions expressed in letters and commentaries on the opinion page do not necessarily reflect those of The Jambar staff. Editorials do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the faculty, staff or administration of YSU.

Campus Connection

What is your opinion on the football team's performance this season?



"The football [team] did really well. They beat the number three in the nation. They just kind of fell off at the end."

Corey Crisan
Sophomore
Chemistry Major



"I followed when YSU football was undefeated, but I don't follow them anymore. ... I watched their win over Indiana State."

Kelly Cagley
Junior
Art Education Major

TheJambar.com



Need Advice?

We've extended the deadline for Counselor's Corner to give more students a chance to submit. Please go to thejambar.com and follow the the Counselor's Corner link on the home page.



Unexpected turn derailed Penguins' season



Youngstown State University head football coach Eric Wolford yells at a referee during the Penguins' victory against the University at Albany on Sept. 12. Photo by Dustin Livesay/The Jambar.

Steve Wilaj
SPORTS EDITOR

Ah, to go back to Oct. 5. The Youngstown State University football team was 4-0. The YSU faithful were still faithful. Spirits among the players were high. Confidence sprang aplenty. The birds were chirping, and, well, you get the point.

Although you wouldn't know it at the time, that Friday was the last day before the Penguins' championship-destined season would take a U-turn into oncoming traffic.

The Penguins were boarding a flight at the Youngstown-Warren Regional Airport to head to North Dakota State University. If only someone could have warned head football coach Eric Wolford of the dangers waiting in Fargo, N.D. Mainly, it was the top-ranked, defending national champions: the Bison.

The Penguins' defeat the following day was no surprise. The surprising aspect was the humiliation and embarrass-

ment the Bison delivered to YSU.

In the process of having their lunch money stolen and getting stuffed in the trash can, the Penguins were exposed to the rest of the Missouri Valley Football Conference.

Suddenly, quarterback Kurt Hess' passes were landing in the defenders' hands. Running back Jamaine Cook — although not shut down — was less effective, largely because the Penguins had to resort to a pass-heavy offense while trying to come back from large deficits.

And during the nightmarish month of October in which YSU went 0-4, the defense was, to put it nicely, ineffective.

As a result, the chipper mood and invincible feeling that surrounded the Penguins after early-season wins against the University of Pittsburgh and the University of Northern Iowa slowly faded into a sense of embarrassment.

But, hey, not winning a game from Sept. 22 until Nov. 3 will do that to a team. Especially a team that truly be-

lieved it was playoff — if not championship — bound.

Still, you have to give credit where credit is due.

During the losing streak, the YSU players didn't point fingers (at least not publicly), remaining upbeat, positive and hopeful to the media.

Like a leader and quarterback should, Hess accepted responsibility for the team's struggles when it was obvious that the losses were hitting him the hardest.

Also, funny-guy offensive tackle Andrew Radakovich still cracked jokes. Cook continued to say all the right things. And defensive captain Aronde Stanton never lost his "glass half full" mentality.

Maybe because of these actions, the Penguins were able to somewhat salvage their season, winning their final three games.

Finishing 7-4, playoff talk was kept alive until the ESPNU tournament selection show officially put an end to YSU's 2012 campaign.

They didn't go out with style, but the Penguins at least went out with pride.

Speaking of pride, it was painful to watch the season turn so harshly on Wolford, a Youngstown native so proud to represent his hometown.

With his supreme confidence and noticeable swagger, Wolford is a coach easy to love in the good times. That being said, he's a coach easy to take shots at in the bad times.

He experienced both ends of the spectrum this season. But to his credit, his demeanor never changed — and that's what you want from a head coach.

So, having caught so much heat, is Wolford still the right man for the job? I believe so.

From 3-8 in 2010 to 6-5 in 2011 and 7-4 this season, he's made progress with the football program. Another step forward next year, say 8-3, would most likely earn YSU a playoff spot.

With a senior quarterback in Hess, a defense that improved by season's end, a return for a majority of the starters and a head coach that has experienced such drastic ups and downs, another step forward is possible.

'We can definitely get better'

Cory Bartek
SPORTS REPORTER

While the Youngstown State University volleyball team enjoyed its most successful campaign in 13 years, first-year head coach Mark Hardaway said he was feeling lucky.

"I'm very fortunate for what I stepped into," Hardaway said. "There are certain things you expect to find when you come to a losing program, and that wasn't the case here."

While a first-round exit in the Horizon League tournament isn't exactly what the team was hoping for, Hardaway said he's still pleased with the season and the progress made.

"Looking at the team statistically, we made great strides, but we haven't come close to the potential that we have on this team," Hardaway said. "There's more in them."

This year, the Penguins accumulated 15 wins — more than the wins from the previous three years combined.

Hardaway said it'll be harder to improve and fine-tune the smaller things, but he said he believes that his team can do it.

"This team is a team that can compete for a title in the Horizon League; they're athletic and physical enough,"

Hardaway said. "I don't think it's far-fetched."

With this season coming to a close, Hardaway said it is initially important for the women to rest and have their injuries fully heal.

"In the spring, we need to get physically stronger and give more attention to defense," he said.

Junior Missy Hundelt, who was elected to the All-Horizon League Team, added that the season was a success.

"To get [to the Horizon League tournament] and get past the regular season was a great accomplishment," Hundelt said.

Hundelt said she was also excited to make the All-Horizon League Team.

"It was also a goal my first two years, so it feels good to finally make it," she said. "I didn't get there by myself; I owe a lot to my teammates."

As opposed to other teams in the league, the Penguins will lose only one senior, Kelsey Wagy, and they'll have a large senior class of seven members next year.

Both Hardaway and Hundelt said they have high expectations for the upcoming season.

"The league will be very competitive next year, but our goal will be to win the conference tourney and get a bid to the NCAA tournament," Hard-



Missy Hundelt (14) and Erika West (3) celebrate during a home game at Beeghly Center this season. The Penguins finished with an overall record of 15-14. Photo by Dustin Livesay/The Jambar.

away said.

Hundelt has more in mind than just winning the tournament.

"We want to host it here; a lot of us are graduating next year," she said.

Hundelt said she knows that YSU needs to have a strong offseason in order to host the tournament. She added that all members of the team are close,

and that they have the same goals; this closeness, Hundelt said, contributes to the team's success.

"We all have a great work ethic and feel the urgency to win games," she said. "There's always room for improvement. There are some games that we could've and should've won. ... We can definitely get better."

SPORTS BRIEFS

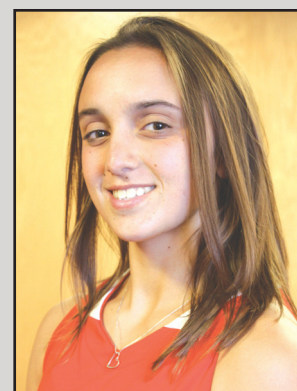
Men's basketball falters at Duquesne

The men's basketball team lost, 84-74, to Duquesne University on Wednesday evening in Pittsburgh. The Penguins are now 3-3, while Duquesne moved up to 2-3 on the year. Kendrick Perry, a junior, led the Penguins with 15 points; freshman Bobby Hain scored 13 points, and sophomore Shawn Amiker contributed 10. The Penguins will host Kent State University on Wednesday at 7:05 p.m.

Women's basketball dominates at Miami

Thanks to a 76-56 win over Miami University of Ohio on Sunday, the women's basketball team improved to 4-0 for the first time since the 1996-1997 season. The game also marked the Penguins' first win at Miami since 1979. During the matchup, Liz Hornberger scored a career-high 18 points, while Brandi Brown contributed 18 points. Heidi Schlegel and Shar'Rae Davis added 12 points each, and Karen Flagg scored a career-best 10 points. The Penguins will play Northern Kentucky University on Tuesday at 7 p.m.

PENGUIN SPOTLIGHT



Liz Hornberger
Year: Junior
Height: 5'7"
Hometown: Reading, Pa.
Position: Guard

In leading the Penguins to a 76-56 victory against Ohio's Miami University on Sunday, Hornberger scored a career-high 18 points on 6-of-8 shooting from beyond the arc. Adding a team-high five assists, Hornberger scored 12 of her points in the second half. Averaging 10.5 points per game and shooting 46.4 percent from three-point range on the season, she is the 2012-2013 recipient of the Helen R. Stambaugh Women's Basketball Scholarship.

SCHEDULE

- Women's Basketball vs. Northern Kentucky University
Tuesday, 7 p.m.
Northern Kentucky University
- Men's Basketball vs. Kent State University
Wednesday, 7:05 p.m.
Beeghly Center
- Women's Basketball vs. Stony Brook University
Friday, 7:05 p.m.
Beeghly Center