

The Jambar

The student voice of Youngstown State University since 1931

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Local artist unleashes secret studio

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Check out The Jambar interactive calendar

ONLINE

Students volunteer in YSU tent at Canfield Fair

PHOTO GALLERY ONLINE

Employee buyouts balance budget

Doug Livingston
MANAGING EDITOR

Faculty and staff are opting to retire early through incentive programs that Youngstown State University officials say will save millions after negotiating the staffing issues left by the vacancies.

Nearly 70 union and management employees under the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System, including members of the Association of Classified Employees union and the

Association of Professional and Administrative Staff, have agreed to an early retirement incentive program that will cost the university \$4.6 million.

The retirees will be replaced by less expensive employees.

Kevin Reynolds, chief human resources officer, is expecting myriad applications for clerical positions, some of which may be consolidated or eliminated as officials in human resources and the provost's office "restructure" the workforce's pay scales and positions.

"There could be serious savings," said Neal McNally, YSU budget director.

McNally estimates that after the ERIP costs are paid through fiscal year 2013, net savings for the following year will be \$1.5 million.

Some of the higher-paid positions will yield greater savings than lower-paid clerical positions.

"Some of these classified positions that are in the [information technology] department, for example, they're well compensated. If you're not gonna re-

place them or if you're replacing them at \$25,000 less than the person that was here for 30 years, then yeah, you're gonna have some savings," he said.

In the Ohio Education Association, 28 faculty members who opted into a severance incentive plan will be paid \$60,000 each over the next five years, with savings expected by fiscal year 2013.

Teachers who take the buyout will receive the severance pay and be eli-

ERIP PAGE 4

Vacant homes pose fire threat for students

Doug Livingston
MANAGING EDITOR

Youngstown State University alumnus Phil Kidd returned to the city in 2005, the year he recalls 15 to 20 fires blazing through the North Side.

By 2009, he moved from Broadway Street across from Wick Park to Pennsylvania Avenue, which empties into YSU.

The fires followed, four ensuing on his street.

The culprit behind those 2009 arsons, Steven Demidovich, pleaded guilty and was sentenced in June to three years probation.

In Mahoning County Judge Maureen Sweeney's court entry, Demidovich was given a non-prison punishment. He wasn't considered likely to commit another arson.

Kidd still sees Demidovich, a two-time convicted arsonist who pleaded guilty to a prior charge in 2006, riding his bike through Wick Park at night, through a neighborhood pocked with vacant structures and singed by arsons.

Two vacant structures sandwich

the Sigma Tau Gamma fraternity along Broadway Street. Kidd said that arson to any one of those structures could set the whole corner ablaze.

"That's a situation where it could be a really significant, potentially tragic, situation if an arson were to happen," Kidd said.

"It's a risk for anybody who lives next

to one of those vacant houses," said Alvin Ware, the city's chief fire investigator.

Ware said the university has had no history of arsons.

"The police up there do a pretty good job," he said.

It's the area just off campus that's been cause for concern in recent years.

Through Aug. 22, the Youngstown Fire Department has reported 155 arsons. The fires have claimed \$884,525 in damages, incinerating 39 vehicles and 116 structures.

Of the 116 structure fires across Youngstown this year, 85 have been vacant homes and buildings.

"Our biggest problem right now is vacant structures," Ware said. "That's where I'd say 75 to 80 percent of our fires are."

Ware explained that scrappers often salvage precious metals from vacant homes and set fire to the structure — sometimes deliberately — to cover up their crime.

A vacant home filled with debris requires only a match, whereas gasoline or other

ARSON PAGE 4

Optimism remains key heading into next round of negotiations

Josh Stipanovich
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

As Ron Cole sat in his office Wednesday evening, he noticed students sitting on benches and walking to classes.

Despite ongoing contract negotiations, Cole, director of university communications, said everyone at Youngstown State University is committed to keeping it that way.

"Our main objective here is to educate, and we're fortunate that we've been able to continue to do that, and my sense is that's the absolute main focus to all the students on campus as well as all the employees on campus," he said.

But as students make their way home each day, the uncertainty of not knowing if there will be school still lingers, and Cole recognized that.

"It's been an extremely difficult last several days for everyone involved including students and the uncertainty

NEGOTIATIONS PAGE 4



INTERACTIVE TIMELINE AVAILABLE AT THEJAMBAR.COM. In 2011, The Youngstown Fire Department has reported 155 arsons. The map above shows arsons for vehicles and structures that happened close to campus. Graphic by Doug Livingston/The Jambar.

YSU senior relives part of student housing past

Jordan D. Uhl
NEWS EDITOR

After numerous complaints that maintenance issues were left unresolved, Amber Hissom decided it was time for a change.

In May, Hissom, a senior at Youngstown State University, decided to relocate to Madison Avenue.

An additional \$50 a month was a small price to pay for heightened security, improved living conditions, closer proximity to campus and an increased sense of professionalism from her new landlord.

Her former residence, owned by Jim and Donna Brill, was a house converted into an apartment complex.

The couple operates Brill University Apartments, which consists of five houses on Ohio and Park avenues, separated into 18 individual apartments.

Although YSU is primarily a commuter campus, students

are forced to find somewhere to live close to campus, and the city's troubled reputation is a harsh reality numerous students are facing.

Leaking and broken faucets, poor insulation and cracked and broken windows were just some of the issues Hissom encountered during her lease.

"That apartment sucked," she said. "There was a hole in the window, I could stick my hand through it."

After notifying the Brills about the hole, they said they would come out and put plastic over it.

Hissom said their unreliable reputation with maintenance caused her to do it first.

On top of physical problems, her neighbor was clearly using drugs, she added.

"I could smell it," Hissom said. "I had chronic headaches [from it]."

Hissom said she frequently smelled marijuana, but suspected that harder substances

were used.

The Brill family refused to comment on the alleged living conditions that Hissom referred to.

According to a CNNMoney report from June, Youngstown holds the cheapest housing market in the nation, and an average rental rate of \$523, \$240 below the national average. That, coupled with a depressed local economy, provides students with advantages when they're searching for a residence during their college tenure.

However, Denise Baker, a



YSU senior Amber Hissom moved to her new Madison Avenue apartment after numerous complaints to her old landlord fell on deaf ears. Photo by Jordan D. Uhl/The Jambar.

mortgage loan specialist, advised against getting a mortgage in college.

Baker, who works with The Home Savings and Loan Company, encourages students to

rent while in college and then begin looking for permanent residence afterward.

For someone attempting

HOUSING PAGE 4

SGA fills empty chair positions

Kevin Alquist
NEWS REPORTER

On Aug. 29, Youngstown State University students Catie Carney, Nicole Pavlichich, Zachary White and Carissa Benchwick filled the empty chair positions on the Student Government Association.

White, who is in his second year as an SGA member, was nominated to be SGA's university affairs chairman.

White will be taking on more responsibility during SGA meetings. This includes agenda development and execution during the meetings along with Travis Battiest, vice president for university affairs. White is also responsible for passing along any information discussed at the meetings to SGA President Elyse Gessler.

"I served



Gessler

on the university affairs committee last year," White said. "I jumped at the opportunity to take a leadership role in student government."

White will be also competing at the regional moot court competition, which simulates real-life court cases, in November.

"I hope the competition will provide important skills for law school as well as a chance to qualify for the national competition," White said.

White will be taking his LSAT in June with hopes of gaining law school admission.

Pavlichich was nominated to be the academic affairs chairwoman. She is a University Scholar studying exercise science with the hopes of becoming a physical therapist. During her freshman year, she served as the Bitonte College of Health and Human Services SGA representative and was a member of the academic affairs committee.

Pavlichich's responsibilities will include assisting SGA Vice President Justin McIntyre run committee meetings and recording minutes. She will also hold a chairwoman position on



Zachary White



Carissa Benchwick

the academic senate.

The First-Year Experience Program is one of her major focuses. Last year, she helped coordinate the program as a member of the academic affairs committee.

"The FYE program would be really beneficial to all freshmen," Pavlichich said. "Hopefully we can get the support of the faculty, administration and

academic senate to make this program possible."

Benchwick was nominated as chairwoman of student life, and Carney was nominated as chairwoman of financial affairs. They were not available for comment. McIntyre noted Benchwick's past experience as an SGA representative. This is Carney's first year with SGA.

New IDs have smooth transition

Marissa McIntyre
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

In July, Youngstown State University implemented a new student identification system. Both new and returning students are required to have new ID cards and will use them the same way.

"An advantage of the new system is the immediacy in which students will receive their new ID," Tysa Egleton, associate registrar, said.

The old process consisted of essentially hand-making the ID cards by taking a Polaroid picture of the student and laminating it with the card.

Students had to make another trip back to pick up their IDs.

Now, they are processed within two minutes.

"It's made our service a lot better because we're not dragging the students back for a second time," Egleton said.

Students won't need to visit the library after receiving their IDs either, as they no longer need a barcode to access library materials.

Eventually, with the new digital system, the photos will be uploaded into the police department and show up on teachers' rosters for classes.

Egleton said that more than 11,000 new IDs were issued between July 19 and the start of the school year.

"We were pretty good about

the way that we marketed it, showing students peak times that they could come in," Egleton said.

Even with a portion of students retaking their pictures for IDs before the start of fall semester, there was a bombardment of students on the first day of classes with the line reaching down the hallway of Meshel Hall.

Egleton said this was the only instance where students had to wait a long time for their new IDs.

Jim Kapoun, associate director of Maag Library, said it's important for returning students to get their new IDs to access library resources.

"Once we learned that the campus was changing ID sys-

tems, we tried to work together," said Ana Bobby, manager of library operations.

Students will now only need to use their YSU Banner ID number at the library.

"In years past we used to have a different system of IDs called the patron ID number, but it was different," Bobby said. "Students will now need to use their ID number that begins with a 'Y' to access materials."

Bobby said this is a good system especially for distance learning students and others who have limited access to research materials because they can access the library's online resources the moment they receive their Banner ID number.

After entering a Banner ID number to check out online resources, students will enter a password. The first time entering a password, it is the same as the user ID. Students can go back and change their passwords later. Each password must be a minimum of eight characters.

With the new system, students can still check out online resources in case they lose their IDs, but an ID is still needed to check out physical materials from the library.

Students at this time can still access library materials with their old IDs as long as they know their banner ID number. Eventually they will no longer be accepted.

Campus Connection

What do you think of the new student IDs?



"I think they're fine. Just not of a bunch of people's names. I don't think those are good." -Nathan Keiper, junior



"I hate them. They're ugly, and I had to take time out of my day to take the picture because of the long line." -Rachel Mulidore, junior



STUDENT



John Q Student

Y00000000 jqstudent

Graphic by Paris Christopholis/The Jambar

Youngstown STATE UNIVERSITY

JAMBAR Q

What do you think of the new solar panels installed on Moser Hall?



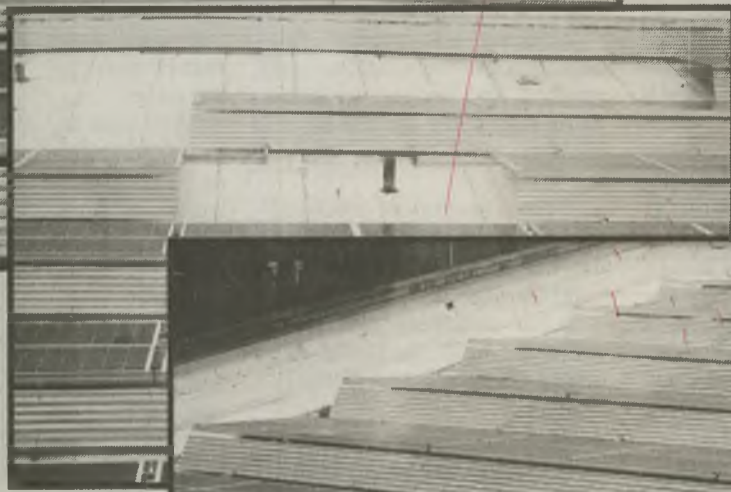
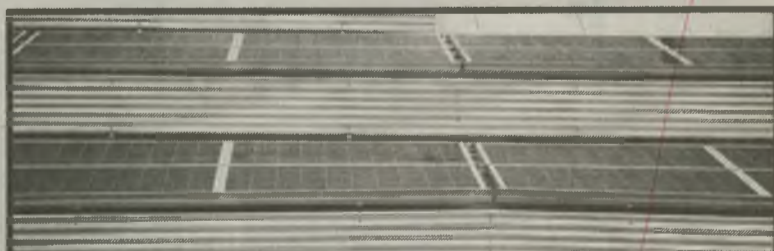
"I did not know there were panels installed, but it is a good thing. It helps the students and families of the community learn more about electricity."

Alyssa Sansone
Sophomore



"I feel it is a good thing because it is an energy saver, as well as the university can use the solar panels in lab experiments. The panels are in a really cool location.."

John George
Assistant professor of engineering and technology



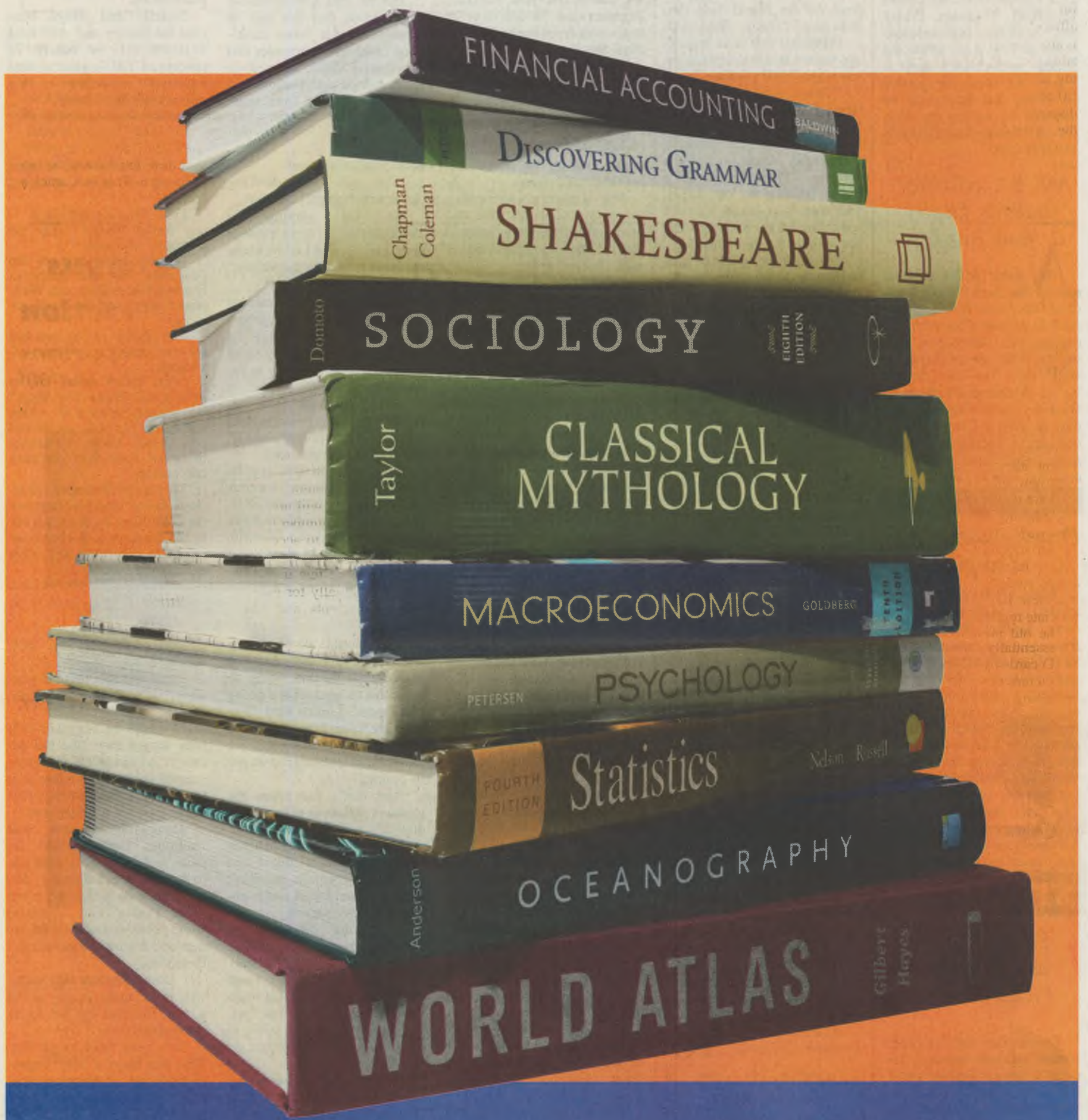
Two tennis courts of solar panels were installed on the roof of Moser Hall. The solar panels will supply the building with 64,000 kilowatt hours of electricity annually. Photos by Stephanie Vogel/The Jambar.

Solar panels shine on Moser

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NEWS BRIEFS

University Scholars host blood drive

A blood drive will be held Thursday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the Chestnut Room in Kilcawley Center. It will continue on Friday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Gallery of Kilcawley.

Blackbox Productions begins season with comedy/drama

University Theater's Blackbox Productions will present "Reasons to be Pretty," a comedy/drama about the impossibility of love, from Thursday to Sunday in Bliss Hall's Spotlight Arena Theater. Junior theater major Jessica Schmidt directs the production that features Eric Lewis, Kaleigh Locketti, Victoria Lubonovich and Daniel Temelkoff. Thursday, Friday and Saturday performances begin at 7:30 p.m., while the Sunday performance starts at 3 p.m. All seats are general admission, and tickets may be reserved by calling the University Theater Box Office at 330-941-3105.

WCBA welcomes students, faculty from Brazil

This week, MBA students and faculty from the University of Sao Paulo, Brazil, are attending business lectures and touring local businesses during the 12th annual business-study tour. The tour, hosted by the Williamson College of Business Administration and part of YSU's Center of Excellence in International Business, began Sunday and will continue until Friday.

POLICE BRIEFS

Drunk student taken to hospital

When a YSU police officer arrived at Kilcawley House early Sunday morning, he found vomit covering the elevator floor and an unconscious male student — also covered in vomit — on a couch in the seventh floor common area. An ambulance soon arrived on scene. The paramedics were able to wake up the student, who said he had been drinking but had not used any drugs. The male student was taken to St. Elizabeth Health Center for emergency treatment and was issued two citations: one for disorderly conduct, another for underage consumption of alcohol.

Student denies hanging out of Lyden Window

On Monday night, a Lyden House resident assistant noticed a female student standing in the third-floor hallway with a male student who was partially hanging out of the exterior window, as if to jump. Upon questioning by YSU Police, the students said they were only having a verbal argument. The male student denied that he was hanging out of the window and said that he was not suicidal. He also has charges of unlawful restraint and unauthorized use involving the female student. YSU Police told him to have no contact with the female student until after the court hearing. He was moved to Cafaro House for the night.

Man runs from campus police

On Monday, a man carrying a case of beer (with only 15 out of 30 cans remaining) bumped into a YSU police officer during a routine check of the University Courtyard Apartments. The man refused to provide his name, date of birth or any form of identification. After further questioning, he ran toward the exit. Despite a short scuffle with the officer, the man escaped and disappeared from sight.

CLASSIFIEDS

OTHER

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ARSON PAGE 1

chemicals are used in other structures, Ware said.

"For a while we had problems on the North Side. We took care of them," Ware said.

Problems like fires engulfing vacant houses occur in areas where YSU students lived.

"Those were some crazy times," said Alpha Phi Delta and YSU alumnus Bill D'Amito of his time living in a fraternity house on Indiana Avenue. "There would be a house burning on our street, and then you could literally look through the backyard and see another house on fire."

D'Amito never felt he was in danger. Most of the houses that burnt down around him in 2009 were vacant.

The arsonists "were probably doing the North Side a favor," D'Amito said. "Vacant houses attract vagrants."

Ware credits 50 percent of arsons to juvenile behavior, whether a product of recklessness or gang activity.

The remaining majority are opportunistic scappers, like the three convicted for the rash of arsons in 2005.

The arsons fluctuate with the economy, Ware said.

"Right now with the economy down, there has been a little bit more increased activity," he said. "When things are going good, it goes down."

The economy shows no signs of extinguishing the flames. According to the Ohio Department of Development, 16.7 percent of Mahoning County residents live in poverty, compared to the state average of 13.6 percent.

Inside the city limits, the numbers get worse. Youngstown is the poorest city per capita of the 12 largest cities in Ohio, with 32.1 percent of its citizens living in poverty. That percentage has grown from 24.8 percent living in poverty in 1999.

The Youngstown Fire Department advises any students who see suspicious activity or someone other than an owner entering a vacant house to phone the police.

Additional reporting by Emmalee C. Torisk.

ERIP PAGE 1

gible for extended teaching service, which pays a fraction of the faculty's base salary, saving the university money, officials said.

Those savings will be used to expand the faculty, increasing the full-time faculty to student ratio. But until those savings kick in, officials will refill the positions in increments, leaving vacancies over the next two years.

About half will be rehired through next year, McNally said. Of the 28 positions opening, 12 full-time faculty members have been hired to replace some of those vacancies.

The rest, mostly part-time faculty positions, will be replaced in fiscal year 2013 when faculty is expected to expand.

Replacing retired staff with inexperienced employees will lead to what former ACE President Brian Brennan calls a "brain drain."

"I was here in 1993 when we had a five-year buyout," Brennan said. "It took us years to recover from the brain drain from that."

The current buyout for OP-ERS employees will allow for 105 staff members who are eli-

HOUSING PAGE 1

begin looking for permanent residence afterward.

For someone attempting to go to school full time and work a full-time job in order to pay off their mortgage, Baker said it's a tall order.

"Unless the student is part-time employed and have a co-signer," she added.

The likelihood of a student who wants to maintain residency in the area after earning a degree isn't great either.

If the loan is an assumable mortgage, it can be sold off if the student moved. However, they still have no assets. A tax write off would be the only advantage to owning a home, yet it's not enough for Baker to suggest owning over renting.

Hisson, a senior English major, said she has no intention of purchasing a house

Salary and fringe benefits for fiscal years 2011 and 2012

Personnel	FY 2011 Budget	FY 2012 Budget
Faculty	\$44,651,190	\$44,177,275
Staff	\$36,382,494	\$37,295,529
Students	\$3,555,944	\$3,501,724
Fringe Benefits	\$27,966,014	\$28,924,907
Total Personnel	\$112,555,642	\$113,899,435

Infographic by Keeley Black/The Jambar

gible to retire within two years to receive their pensions early, though only 68 have applied. The deadline to apply for early retirement is Sept. 30.

The current ERIP, negotiated under the 2008 ACE contract, will have less of an impact than the five-year deal in 1993, Brennan said.

But he and administrators still caution that the loss of employees that have developed invaluable computer and managerial skills, as well as relationships and institutional knowledge gained from years

of service, could affect the university's overall ability to serve students and the needs of the university.

"The idea is not to reduce service levels," Reynolds said, not ruling out the possibility of temporary issues as faculty and staff positions are slowly refilled by inexperienced replacements.

Salaries and fringe benefits for faculty and staff total \$110,397,711, or nearly 70 percent of YSU's general fund expenses, according to the university's 2012 budget.

now or anytime soon.

"I'm not even thinking about a mortgage," she said.

As for staying in Youngstown, "If I get a career here, maybe. But I don't know if I want to stay in the Valley," she said.

Gary Davenport, president of the Wick Park Neighborhood Association, where he rents a home, said he plans on becoming a homeowner in the near future.

"I picked Wick Park because it's close to campus and I could walk [everywhere]," Davenport, a senior, said.

For those who seek an even safer, more involved campus experience, Housing and Residence Life at YSU offers more to cater to a student's lifestyle.

Danielle Meyer, director of Housing and Residence Life,

said there are three advantages of living in a campus-affiliated facility.

First is the convenience. "You're living right on campus," she said.

Meyer added that all the programs, like the Andrews Student Recreation and Wellness Center and the food, are close.

The ability to pay one bill for everything is another advantage.

"You know what you're getting. It's a one-stop shop."

Finally, around the clock assistance for both social and educational needs is something an apartment complex can't offer.

Meyer said attempts are always being made to improve the conditions by reaching out to the students and encouraging them to tell the staff what exactly they want.

NEGOTIATIONS PAGE 1

across campus with faculty, with the staff, with the administration," Cole said.

The administration and teachers union at YSU met for another round of long negotiating in Cushwa Hall last Friday, but little was accomplished.

Each side did, however, present new proposals to one another.

"There was some back and forth on both sides," said Sherry Linkon, YSU-Ohio Education Association spokeswoman.

Linkon was unable to release details of the new proposals but said she is pleased with the progress being made.

"Talking is better than not talking," Linkon said. "We remain hopeful, we keep hoping that [the administration] will sit down and have some real ideas about how we can resolve this situation."

But the long-hour negotiations are taking a toll on both sides.

"We would like to move ahead and not be worrying about what is this going to mean for us, and what's going to happen," Linkon said. "Everybody wants it resolved, and unfortunately at this point, we just have to let that process run its course."

And that's just what the teachers union is planning to do.

Despite an inability to agree to a new contract, Linkon said the teachers union wouldn't strike as a last resort just to ensure progress is made.

"We're not going to go on strike just because we're having negotiations," Linkon said. "My guess is that it's more likely that the administration would say, 'We're not getting anywhere. We're going to try to impose this contract on you.'"

Negotiations will continue in the coming weeks, and Linkon said there is no deadline that has been put into effect, which means nego-

tiations could drag into next spring, if not.

Even though this is possible, it's highly unlikely, Linkon said.

"I would be surprised if it took longer than [the fall semester to come to an agreement]," she said. "It's just hard to tell right now, when we're going to reach a settlement."

Meanwhile classes will continue, teachers will be paid, and YSU will continue to do what it's designed to do.

"The hope is that we come back Friday and continue some constructive discussions that will lead to a resolution," Cole said.

Both negotiating teams will meet again Friday at 10 a.m. A location has yet to be determined.

"It's very hard to predict. This has been a very unpredictable set of circumstances and negotiations for the last few weeks ... but we do sincerely remain optimistic," Cole said.

CORRECTION

In the Sept. 1 issue of The Jambar, the infographic that accompanied "Officials point fingers over decreased enrollment" incorrectly reported that fall 2011's preliminary enrollment was 14,167. It should have read 14,617. Additionally, although the graph's axis is incorrectly labeled — with 2008 and 2009 transposed — the related data is correct. To clarify, 2008's fall enrollment was 13,712, and 2009's was 14,682. We regret these errors.

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OUR SIDE

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RELATED STORY
ARSON AND HOUSING PAGE 1

We'll save you the tired sob story of how the steel mills closing affected Youngstown's economy and the subsequent decline.

But no matter how hard we try to ignore the past, there's no overlooking the copious amount of vacant houses plaguing the area and causing a repugnant eyesore.

Safe havens for crime and depreciating neighborhood property value, vacant houses plague all areas of the city.

With the north end of Youngstown State University spilling over into Wick Park, their hazards and evils affect the campus community.

Arson, as seen in 2009, is a realistic possibility.

Crime-filled vacant homes surround our fraternity houses, like kindling for a fire.

Wick Park Neighborhood Association President Gary Davenport and other members of the organization have been taking a proactive approach to rid their community of blight.

We applaud their efforts and support them on their quest for working housing code enforcement and vacant home registration.

Sadly, that is where the difficulty lies.

With nobody residing in a vacant home, whose responsibility is it to register it?

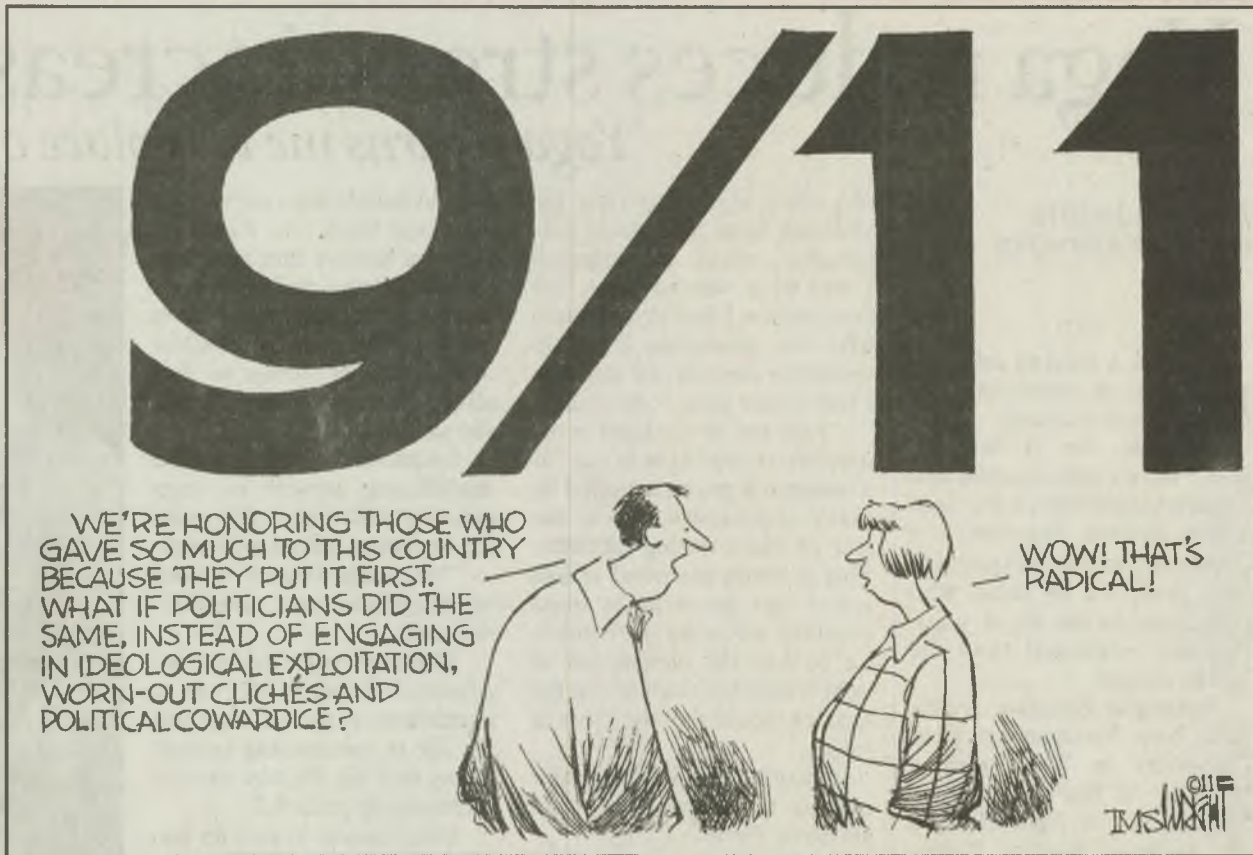
Alvin Ware, the city's chief fire investigator, advises to notify the police if anyone other than the owner is seen on the premises of a vacant home.

The problem is this: The owners are the last to be seen among the partially boarded up lots of overgrown lawns littered with trash.

The university is gorging land around YSU, but many of the structures on those plots remain standing. Tear them down. Tear them all down.

OUR SIDE POLICY

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



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



Bounce back YSU Greek life unites in a big way

Jared Buker
COLUMNIST

Shortly after the tragic death of fraternity brother Jamail Johnson on Feb. 6, Ohio Gov. John Kasich ventured to the city of Youngstown. His intent was to meet with YSU President Cynthia Anderson and former Youngstown Mayor Jay Williams to see what he could do to help the city become safer.

Well, actions speak louder than words, and though I'm sure venturing to poor old Youngstown was political gold, he didn't stay true to his hopes of helping us out.

So the burden fell to a university and a city both reeling with grief and unsure of how to act. At first, the situation was in limbo. The administration planned a meeting with the Greek system and the Youngstown Police Department that basically presented the following question: How do

we handle this?

The consensus was clear. Out of respect for the brothers of Omega Psi Phi and out of respect for the magnitude of what had happened, no fraternities should hold crowded events for a while.

It became a joint effort between the university, the YPD and YSU's Greek system that I am proud to say has been a great success. The rules that exist to regulate off-campus parties at YSU were tightened in an attempt to make fraternity parties as safe as possible. This speaks volumes as to the kind of leaders that the Greek system produces, for the system's advisers devolve a majority of decision-making to the students it encompasses.

As we delve into the new school year, we return to some normalcy. This probably won't be my only

shameless plug for a Greek system I am an active part of, but it deserves to be said how united we were in preserving our organizations in the midst of tragedy. I believe that the value of any organization can only be judged by its response to adversity and change. The Greek system has gotten stronger and tighter out of necessity.

However, what many outside our system fail to realize is that the bonds of brotherhood and sisterhood transcend a set of Greek letters. Six fraternities set aside their differences and worked together to make sure their off-campus parties could all be safe. Fraternity brothers of all labels now, I hope, have a new appreciation for the power of brotherhood. It transcends a house, transcends a handshake, transcends antiquated rivalries preserved by tradition and pride.

In short, the Greeks of YSU have been through a lot but have always persevered. Kudos to the brothers of Omega Psi Phi, for they have shown an entire community how to stick together ... as brothers.

So as fraternities and sororities begin rushing members this fall, get to know a little bit about them and see if Greek life could be for you. Believe me, it could prove to be much deeper than you think.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The horrid images of the 9/11 attacks on the World Trade Center were brought back to me in two images recently. On a drive in a rural area the day after Labor Day, there were many flags flying to commemorate the holiday. At one house I noticed two very large flags flying. One was the stars and stripes, and the other was the Confederate flag. Needless to say, I was disturbed to see the Confederate flag flying alongside the real one. Farther down the road was an outdoor church sign announcing the sermon coming up: "No God, No Peace. Know God, Know Peace."

These two images are reminders of how ignorance and bigotry can cause people to do terrible things like lynching other human beings because of the color of their skin and flying airliners into buildings in order to worship their version of God. The Confederacy was a form of terrorism on a large scale by causing a civil war to defend slavery that was condoned in the Bible so many times. The terrorists on 9/11 also justified what they did by saying the secular West had infiltrated the Muslim countries and showed disrespect for their faith. The fact, that as the planes flew into the towers, the attackers could be heard saying "God is great" should make us all pause and think about such motiva-

tion in a modern world. This Bronze Age worldview is only keeping humankind from advancing the way we should. I've come to the conclusion that religion, mainly in monotheistic form, is dangerous when practiced in a literal fashion, and since all religious people have their own interpretation of what it means, you can never have full accountability.

It's been said the terrorists were attacking our culture and our Christian faith, but ironically we are not or never were a Christian nation. This, like so many other myths, is perpetuated by propaganda spewed by the power structure to keep us always one step behind and ignorant of what is going on. Nothing in the world is more dangerous than sincere ignorance and conscientious stupidity. A familiar argument of the gun lobby is that "guns don't kill people; people kill people." This can be taken a step further to say that false ideology kills people too. This is why religion is dangerous. It's dangerous because it oftentimes triggers the worst in humans, like fear, envy, pettiness and bigotry, not to mention ignorance of the world and how it really works.

I have a revision for that church sign: "No God, Know Peace. Know God, No Peace."

James Rogers
Youngstown

Just a few weeks ago, students at Youngstown State University were in danger of not receiving their much-anticipated financial aid and scholarship money due to an impending faculty strike. Faced with the fact that the strike would cause harm to students, the faculty union withdrew its intent to strike so the students could get paid. Unfortunately, not all of them did. Those left without a paycheck to buy books, tuition and living expenses were the enrolled veterans of the U.S. military, all because of a new process at YSU.

This new procedure, which began during the summer session, requires GI Bill recipients to carry a form from class to class, asking their professors to place their signature on it to verify they were in attendance. According to a letter mailed to YSU veteran students, the form serves as proof that veterans have begun attending classes.

The letter reads, "Please be advised that YSU must verify your attendance in all of your scheduled classes before [GI Bill payment] will be applied to your student account."

Normally, the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs sends payment to the veteran's university on the student's behalf before the start of the semester. Whatever surplus is left over after tuition and fees are deducted is then forwarded to the veteran student in the same manner as financial aid and other awards. Other entitlements that the veteran may receive directly from the VA include money for books and a housing allowance, both of which can be delayed as well now because of the new certification requirement.

According to the VA, it is up to each individual school to implement policies for handling the disbursement of funds to veterans.

What this means for these stu-

dents, former service members, war heroes and defenders of the nation's freedom, is that they have to endure a financial hardship at the start of the semester. While most students are receiving their financial aid money to pay their tuition, books, rent, utilities and other expenses, veterans are struggling with the decision to request a last-minute loan from the school while awaiting VA payment.

For some of these non-traditional students, earning a degree full time means not working full-time hours, and they shouldn't have to with the way the new GI Bill benefits work.

In addition to the financial hardship this creates for those veterans, it also causes the students' right to privacy to be violated.

Instead of being able to blend in with the traditional students in their classes, veterans now have to approach their professor following their first class, introduce themselves as a veteran and request a signature on the form. The result can be detrimental to the student as some veterans may wish to keep this information private to not create a predisposed opinion of them from their professors or other students.

So why the new singling-out process? The YSU Office of Student Accounts and University Receivables claims it was implemented to protect the student service member and the university. How, exactly, is unclear. It is the responsibility of the veteran to attend classes and achieve a final grade, the same way it is for those receiving scholarships, grants and student loans. If the student later drops the classes or receives an incomplete, money paid for those classes will need to be repaid. Veterans would have to pay this debt to the VA's Debt Management Center, not to YSU, whereas financial aid money and scholarships require being re-

turned directly to the university.

In short, YSU, which has been deemed "veteran-friendly" by GI Jobs magazine, is receiving funds from the VA and holding onto them for no apparent reason. Just because a student attends the first day of classes is no guarantee that he or she will not drop the course or stop attending completely, so this form serves no purpose other than to allow YSU to hold onto the students' money a bit longer, making the veteran work even harder to receive payment and adjust to civilian life.

Brenda Haines
Girard

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.

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Yoga reduces stress, increases health

'Yoga returns me to a place of alignment and stability'

Jenna Medina
FEATURES REPORTER

Yoga is a relaxed and balanced way of exercising and finding peace of mind.

Namaste, or "I bow to you," shows appreciation and acknowledgement of the soul within another. Namaste is a commonly known gesture and term preferred by those who participate in the art of yoga. Namaste originated from the Indian culture.

Samantha Grbinick graduated from Youngstown State University in 2004 with a bachelor of fine arts degree. She teaches a yoga class at the Andrews Student Recreation and Wellness Center and is certified to teach YogaFit Level One, YogaFit Kids and Classroom Yoga Level One.

Grbinick also teaches a Zumba class and is an instructor at Z Fitness in Girard. Grbinick began participating in yoga in 1999 when she began college at YSU to relieve stress.

"Yoga helps me to draw my focus inward and allows me to show myself and my body kindness and compassion. When we begin to show ourselves compassion, we are able to show others compassion as well," Grbinick said.

Grbinick said teaching yoga allows her to encourage her students to relieve stress and find balance in their day-to-day lives. Doing so will help them remove the mind from such a scattered place.

Grbinick practices yoga every day and said how there are more aspects to it than just the physical. She said yoga is a constant process and that is why we refer to it as a practice.

Pranayama, which is yogic breathing, and meditation are a few techniques she practices periodically throughout her day.

"Many times when I encounter a stressful situation, I

can allow myself to view the situation from an outside perspective, recall the strength I feel in a warrior pose, the compassion I feel in a forward fold, the grounding I feel in mountain pose or the stillness I feel in tree pose," she said.

"May the divine light in me greet the divine light in you" is a frequently proverb recited by many yoga instructors at the end of class during namaste. This is when the mind is less active and the room is more peaceful, allowing the instructor to feel the connection of light within her students, as the student should feel the same in return.

Christina Salata, a junior and fine arts major, is passionate about the art of yoga.

Salata was introduced to yoga as a therapeutic method during an impatient stay at an eating disorder clinic. It changed her life.

"It was compassion that I gained through my yoga practice where I learned to have patience with my body. Yoga helped me believe that I am a powerful, beautiful being and am capable of recovering from my eating disorder," Salata said.

She said even if she hasn't practiced in a long time, she can go through every session knowing that just for a little while, she will feel balanced.

Beginning yoga at 14, Salata said her expectations are higher than what they show. A common problem she runs into is feeling as if she has not made the progress she aspires to make.

"A long-term goal of mine is to eventually open my own studio. I specifically would like to work with eating disorder patients. In the lowest moment of my life, yoga picked me up, brushed me off and told me to get over myself," she said.

Salata said teaching yoga gives her a sense of fulfillment.

"I am able to share all of its

gifts to people who are willing to accept them into their life. I do not believe that yoga has to be the one and only path for everyone, but my greatest belief is that we should allow trust for what makes us feel alive. For me, yoga works," she said.

Salata said she believes that disciplining herself in yoga practice will mirror disciplining herself in school and work.

"Yoga returns me to a place of alignment and stability," she said.

Although yoga has not accelerated Salata's life into a permanent place of tranquility, she is comfortable enough to say that her life has become increasingly peaceful.

Like Salata, yoga can improve abnormal eating disorders, such as binge eating or anorexia. It will allow you to gain control of your eating habits to get back into a normal lifestyle.

According to the LIVESTRONG yoga website, controlled breathing is an important part of yoga, which signifies your vital energy. It allows you to control your body and quiet the mind.

Vinyasa, or breathe-synchronized movement, is taught by the instructor, encouraging students to listen to their bodies, to breathe deeply in through the nose and out through the mouth and always provide positive insights.

Yoga course instructor Karres Cvetkovich teaches her students the origins of yoga and its authenticity. Being more of a traditional instructor, she said she believes in starting from the beginning.

"Yoga is about self mastery and getting to know yourself, who you really are underneath all the layers of conditioning and the mask that we all wear for the world," she said.

"Not just getting to know yourself, but to like yourself, to like the whole of yourself, not just the self that you are on your good days," Cvetkovich



Samantha Grbinick teaches breathing exercises at the Andrews Student Wellness and Recreation Center. Photo by Jenna Medina/The Jambar.

said. Each semester, Cvetkovich is amazed by the increase in men who participate in her class.

"In big cities you see a lot of men getting involved, but it's just starting to flourish around here," she added.

In the United States, public yoga classes have been going on for fewer than 100 years. In India, yoga is at least 4,000 years old.

Cvetkovich said she believes in practicing yoga through the eyes of its true origination.

"I am the kind of person who likes to go deeply into something when I am interested in it, so I went to the source," Cvetkovich said.

Meditation and relaxation are two main focal points in Cvetkovich's class. Her class takes place in Beeghly Center, with the lights dimmed, surrounded with chairs for the students to sit.

Cvetkovich focuses on ha-

tha yoga, which focuses on the body and emotions and allows decrease in stress reactions when they start to flare up. raja yoga, meaning royal, is yoga of the mind and working with it.

"Even if you have no problems with your body, your mind is an obstacle every day. It might help you part of the time but other times its just giving you interference. We are stuck with this mind for the rest of our life and so if we can get it to cooperate a little better then we can become more skillful," she said.

Cvetkovich also teaches at the Fellows Riverside Gardens on Tuesday nights, along with teaching private lessons within her home, overlooking Lake Glacier in Mill Creek Park.

"Yoga is about being the best you that you can be. It's about being happy with yourself so you can share that happiness with the world," Cvetkovich said.

Student starts group to unite cultures

Kacy Standohar
FEATURES EDITOR

Youngstown State University student Devon Marbuary wasn't content to simply choose from the existing diversity groups on campus, so she started her own.

The organization known as Speak Out Loud is all about coming out of your shell, she said.

"The name throws people off. To me, it stands for people from different culture groups on campus involved together to interact in social experiments," Marbuary, a Center for Student Progress office assistant, said.

She said she thought of the idea one day while watching "The Tyra Banks Show." She added that she watches the show a lot and finds it interesting when Banks participates in social experiments such as wearing a fat suit in public for one day.

"You learn something about yourself. You learn something about others, and you learn about the topic in general," Marbuary said.

She said she often wonders about experiments like this and is not afraid to try anything.

After being on campus since 2008, Marbuary stressed the need for events and groups that attract all culture groups.

"Besides the foam party and the recent drag show, it is pretty much divided. The fraternities and sororities are separated, for example, and there is always separate parties or events for strictly one group," she said.

Marbuary said the problem with this is that these events don't attract other groups.

"Youngstown is a fairly small school and our teachers know us by name, yet we just walk past each other. I think we all should be a lot closer," Marbuary said.

She added that she has high hopes that campus can become more unified.

Speak Out Loud has three other members: Jeremy McGhee, Ashley Lawson and Mark Jones.

"I'm kind of a control freak. I have a certain expectation for this organization because it's mine. It's like a business that represents me," Marbuary said.

Speak Out Loud was started through student activities. After Marbuary added members, she wrote the bylaws and constitution for the organization. The only requirement is that students have to have at least 32 credits, making them a sopho-

more. Otherwise, all are welcome.

"I would like freshmen to come, enjoy the events and focus on school their first year," she said.

Marbuary said she would like Speak Out Loud members to have weekly discussion tables, which would include the social experiments.

"I want us to talk about relationships and controversial topics such as religion and politics. But it is all in the name of fun," she said.

She added that because everyone involved is an adult, members should be able to speak their minds and that everyone needs to respect that.

Marbuary said she also plans to host a mock talk show panel discussion where students of different culture groups will ask and answer stereotypical questions to help break the ice.

Speak Out Loud's main project this semester is a red carpet event. It will be a talent show in Beeghly Hall's McKay Auditorium on Oct. 19.

"My audience has to look 'Hollywood.' Pictures will be taken, and everyone must look fashionable," she said.

Marbuary is looking for entertainment for the show. Participants can be singers, dancers, musicians, models, comedians or anyone with a talent.

Jacqueline Clifton, assistant director of Housing and Residence Life, is assisting Marbuary with advertising fliers in the dormitories. There will also be sign-up sheets for the show at the front desks of Lyden, Cafaro and Kilcawley houses.

Doors open at 7 p.m. and the show will begin at 7:30 p.m. The show is free but donations will be accepted. Refreshments will also be served. A portion of the proceeds will go to Alcohol Awareness Week at YSU.

Marbuary said she also plans to get help from other organizations such as Rookery Radio, whose staff is expected to DJ the show. Speak Out Loud is also working with the Student African American Sisterhood, Housing and Residence Life and the Sigma Chi Fraternity.

Shanice Lockhart, president of the Student African American Sisterhood, said she supports Speak Out Loud and thinks it is necessary on campus.

Lockhart said her organization will be attending the talent show.

"As president, I am willing to promote positivity on campus. I think it's great that [Marbuary's] goal is more social diversity," Lockhart said.

Marbuary said she hopes her event is a success.

"Everyone I talk to says it's a good idea and that it sounds fun. It's just a matter of getting performers and entertainment," she said.

For more information on joining Speak Out Loud, contact Marbuary via email at dmmarbuary@student.ysu.edu.



Marbuary

Yo Calendar

Thursday

Unlimited Bowling
Thursday, 9 p.m.
Camelot Lanes
\$8

Swing Night
Thursday, 10 p.m.
Cedars Lounge

Friday

Megasaurus Car Eating Dragon
Friday, 7 p.m.
Yankee Lake
\$5-\$10

Karaoke
Friday, 9 p.m.
B&O Complex

Saturday

Antiques in the Woods
Saturday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.
Shaker Woods
\$5

Fourth Annual Grey to Green Festival
Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.
Wick Park

Pabstolutely 4
Saturday, 2 p.m.
Royal Oaks

Grey to Green Festival After-party
Saturday, 5 p.m.
Lemon Grove Cafe

Music festivals rock the summer



A large crowd gathers around at Rootwire Music Festival in Logan, Ohio. Photo courtesy of B. Hockensmith Photography.

Patrick Donovan
NEWS REPORTER

As the sky turns that familiar shade of gray and the semester kicks into full swing, Youngstown State University students are beginning to fondly reminisce about the passing of yet another summer.

Although the summer activities of YSU students vary, the number of students who regularly attend music festivals has been on a steady rise.

"I started going to festivals in 2006 and ever since then I've been hooked," sophomore John Hull said. "Now I can't even imagine a summer without music festivals. I plan my whole year around festival season."

Hull's attitude, as well as many others, is reflected by their attendance at larger summer festivals such as Bonnaroo Music Festival, the Coachella Valley Music and Arts Festival and the All Good Festival. Rothbury Festival, which is now called Electric Forest Festival, has also been rapidly growing over the past 10 years.

The All Good Festival had an estimated 30,000 people in attendance this year, 10,000 more than in 2010. The Coachella Valley Music and Arts Festival drew crowds of more than 75,000, and Bonnaroo Music Festival boasted numbers topping 85,000, according to articles in MTV News.

"Bonnaroo is something like taking a four-day vacation to another planet," junior Lauren Verzilli said. "A planet where anything goes and the music never stops."

Senior Monica Andrecic attended the All Good Festival in 2010. She says Marvin's Mountain Top, home of the All Good Festival in Masontown W.Va., has become a sort of mystical place for attendees.

"The mountain has always

been centered around music and fun, but more importantly it's a place where you can be free to truly be yourself, and the best part is no one minds," Andrecic said. "It's like the biggest, strangest, happiest family reunion ever."

While the big festivals continue to grow and attract crowds reminiscent of 1969's Woodstock Music and Art Fair, there has also been an emergence in the popularity of smaller hometown festivals.

Youngstown festivals like Vexfest, now in its eighth year, along with Bon Frog Music and Arts Festival, in its 13th year, are two of Youngstown's local festivals that continue to grow and prosper.

"The thing about music festivals is that they just breed creativity," junior math major Matthew Pierson said. "From the musicians, to the artists, to the people just grooving in the crowd moving to the beat, it's one big celebration of human creativity."

Junior Nick Carrabbia regularly attends festival events in Youngstown and says he will never pass up the opportunity to see what the local festivals have to offer.

"The bigger festivals are always fun, but it's nice to have

something a little more low-key closer to home," Carrabbia said. "Even if you can't make it to Bonnaroo, you can still enjoy a summer filled with great music right here in Youngstown."

Senior Gino West, of the jam band JONES For Revival, has been participating in Jonesfest for a total of four years and says the response to the festival continues to be positive.

"Every year it just gets bigger and bigger. I mean, what's not to love? There is too much going on at music festivals, people can't resist it," West said.

Junior Haneen Adi recently attended the Summerdance Festival held at Nelson Ledges Quarry Park in nearby Garrettsville, Ohio. The Summerdance Festival, now in its fourth year, featured the band Lotus among many others for two nights of music.

"This is my second Summerdance and as long as they keep having it I'll keep going," Adi said.

Adi said it's the energy at a festival that is simply unmatched. He added that he frowns on people who view music festivals as simply a place to party.

"It's the music and the lights and the people. Sure some people go to get messed up but you don't need substances to influence you at a festival," Adi said. "That kind of positive energy is so rare it's more powerful than anything you can put into your body."

Although this summer's festival season is drawing to a close, next year is sure to bring more music and fun that can be explored by all who care to see what music festivals are all about.

"Whether you like rap, rock, funk, blues or country there is a festival out there for you. Music is for everyone and I can't think of any better way to enjoy it than a music festival," Hull said.



A large crowd gathers around at Rootwire Music Festival in Logan, Ohio. Photo courtesy of B. Hockensmith Photography.

Festival spotlights independent hip-hop artists



Frigid Giant, a hip-hop performer out of Buffalo, N.Y. Photo by Chad Travers/The Jambar.

Chad Travers
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT REPORTER

The Lemon Grove Cafe in downtown Youngstown hosted its first independent hip-hop festival on Friday night. More than a dozen artists, many from the immediate area, but some from as far away as Texas and California, performed individual sets on the cafe's small stage late into the night.

Jacob Harver, owner of the Lemon Grove, collaborated with MC Homeless, a local rapper who has worked with artists like Aceyalone in Los Angeles, to set up the event and invite artists to perform.

Independent artists are those not signed to a major record label, and they often produce and distribute their music via the Internet and affairs like the Lemon Grove festival.

"There aren't any corporate sponsors or labels for this," Harver said. "This is a chance for people to hear groups that might not be on the radar."

Many of the performers had demos to give away or CDs and T-shirts to sell at the event.

"This is my first time in Youngstown," said Frigid Giant, a hip-hop performer out of Buffalo, N.Y. "So far the city has been pretty good to me. It's good to see people coming out to support independent artists."

Most of the local acts highlighted local issues and concerns in their music. Some under-

scored problems that the city is facing and offered hope or solutions. Others spewed anger toward establishment figures that they believe are responsible for the discontent. Many were there simply to revel in the hip-hop lifestyle and culture.

Opening act Mic Ra, a Youngstown rapper, used the phrase "three thirty," the area code for the Youngstown area, prominently in several of his songs, as did Steff Success, another local hip-hop artist.

2D6, a self-described "nerdcore" group from Youngstown, performs songs about things that don't generally appeal to the hip-hop crowd.

"I get tired of explaining 'nerdcore' to people," said 2D6 lead singer MC Cliff B. "It's like hip-hop, well, it is hip-hop. It's just hip-hop about nerdy stuff. So get ready to listen to two white guys rap about video games and cartoons."

LethalFX, a beatboxer and rapper from the Youngstown area who has opened for established artists such as Snoop Dogg and Wiz Khalifa, performed his own set and also sat in with several other groups during the evening.

Festival headliner and featured artist Eddie Hays, better known by his stage name Aceyalone, has seen his music rise to national prominence after being used in various 2K Sports video games.

Aceyalone closed the event by performing with MC Homeless and Riddlore?, another independent hip-hop artist out of Texas.

Sharing secrets Local artist unleashes secret studio

Chelsea Telega
ART & ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

In the heart of downtown Youngstown, a white door stands alone next to the entrance of Silver's Vogue Shop. It does not lead to a historic building in the valley, nor a well-known shop or business. Instead, it leads to a covert gallery and an artist.

James Pernotto, a professor of art at Penn State University's Shenango campus, built a loft that he calls his "man cave," where his artwork is showcased. The catch, however, is that the gallery is not open to the general public. It is Pernotto's home.

Pernotto was born and raised in Youngstown and has most recently lived in Wisconsin and New York City. He has been an artist for about 50 years and has traveled all over the world with his masterpieces.

In 1994, Pernotto moved to New York City, where he ran a contemporary art gallery. As time went on, however, painting in a small studio apartment in the city became unexciting for the artist.

"I dreamt about being back in my studio," Pernotto said.

It wasn't until 2005 that Pernotto returned to Youngstown, this time by invitation. The Butler Institute of American Art, Trumbull Branch, requested to showcase Pernotto's work in the meme exhibit at the gallery.

Since then, Pernotto has consistently worked on projects that fill the walls, floors, corners and even roof

of his rented loft. The slew of art supplies such as paint, sculpting tools and brushes fill the small amount of empty space Pernotto has left.

Myth is a large part of what he incorporates into his artwork. The artist spends his free time reading stories about history, science, mythology and even Native Americans.

Pernotto said the inspiration for his work comes from everything.

"You want it to hit you graphically right away," he said. "There is some allure that makes you want to come closer."

When working on a project, Pernotto does not always know where it is going until he is finished.

"I don't always understand where things are coming from. Most of the time, I do it and then see it, instead of seeing it and then doing it," he said.

One of the most common questions that Pernotto is asked by fans and spectators is what his favorite piece of artwork is. It is a question that he cannot answer, though.

"Asking me what my favorite piece is would be like asking someone who their favorite kid is," Pernotto said. "My favorite always seems to be my last piece that I've done."

Pernotto deeply believes that there are so many layers to things that it is hard to separate individual works of art.

He continues to do work throughout the Valley, and his art is showcased in multiple places for bystanders to see. One of his most recent endeavors is a painting to showcase at the 10-year memorial ceremony of Sept. 11.

While in New York City, Pernotto



James Pernotto's "man cave" filled wall to wall with his creations. Photo by Chelsea Telega/The Jambar.

experienced the tragedy first hand.

He said he remembers it as if it were yesterday. He had run through all five floors of his East Village apartment building to get his newly purchased digital camera. After obtaining the camera, Pernotto said he captured breathtaking photos from his roof as the event unfolded.

One picture that Pernotto took became the image that he chose to paint for the memorial. When a spectator sees the painting, however, the twin towers are not what comes to mind.

After taking the picture, Pernotto panned the image in until it was distorted. The end result was a blurred image that could hardly be deciphered.

Pernotto said his intention with this style of portrayal was to work with the photo as if it was a memory. He said as time goes on memories are still there but they are not as vivid.

"Memory is blurred so I was trying to get more of an impression of how that felt," Pernotto said.

Critics, spectators and fellow artists all over the world are simply amazed by Pernotto's work. Magazines, newspapers, art galleries and individuals continuously sing his praises.

"Imagine a sermon delivered by Edgar Allan Poe; it peers into a part of the psyche as nasty as a rattlesnake," said Sally Norman, of the Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Dorothy Shinn, of the Akron Beacon Journal, said she feels the same.

"Pernotto doesn't just push our hot buttons. He studies, analyzes and represents them to us in a way that forces us to see them from the inside out," she said.

Pernotto said he sees his art as not only a job, but also a way of life. He added that he is at his happiest when he is in his element.

"It's what I do. Lawyers are lawyers; doctors are doctors. I'm really at my happiest when I'm making art," he said. "It's my bliss state."



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(s11)

TWMWR-5029

College students living in the lap of luxury

Los Angeles Times
(MCT)

LOS ANGELES Odds are slim that the cast of "Jersey Shore" will ever enroll at University of Southern California. But if they could, TV's legendary sybarites would find that gym-tan-laundry is just the beginning at a new luxury apartment complex near campus.

Nearly every detail at West 27th Place is upmarket, from the fountains, landscaping and custom outdoor light fixtures to the granite countertops and big-screen HD television sets in every unit. There are also televisions in the well-appointed gym, along with a professional-grade Sundazzler — a walk-in tanning booth that resembles a science-fiction movie prop.

Five Guys Burgers and Fries, the East Coast's answer to In-N-Out, is building an outlet on the ground floor. Other restaurants are set to follow.

Making margaritas? The kitchens include ice makers. Revelry can spill over to the billiard room, swimming pool and a hot tub that is supposed to hold five people.

"It's usually either two or 10" in the tub, quipped David Hilliard of Symphony Development, the owner of the complex.

Those who remember college housing as spartan dormitories or crowded cracker box apartments may be seized with envy — or the urge to give denizens of West 27th Place a sermon on how spoiled they are. Get over it. Students today expect more from their college experience, including all the comforts of Mom and Dad's sumptuous home, according to developers who are rushing to fill the growing demand for deluxe digs.

At the University of California-Riverside, the year-old Camino del Sol complex on campus boasts a 24-hour fitness center, billiards, a hot tub, barbecues and a resort-style pool with a sun deck and cabanas. University Gateway, which opened last year just outside the University of Southern California, is "almost like a youth-oriented luxury hotel," developer Dan Rosenfeld said.

"It's a national trend," he said. "There is competition among schools, and USC has to provide a competitively attractive student environment."

The \$55 million West 27th Place complex is a model for campus housing, said Henry Cisneros, the former Housing and Urban Development secretary who is now executive chairman of CityView, the Los Angeles investment firm that helped fund the project.

USC and the University of California-Los Angeles have made strides in recent years to outgrow their former images as commuter campuses where most students left at the end of the day. Both now draw more students from around the world, some of whom pay tuition of more than \$40,000 a year and want housing that meets their refined tastes. Old dormitories are being refurbished and new units that house fewer students are being built to the latest environmental standards.

"Students come on campus tours and want to know where they are going to live all four years; where they will work out, where they will sit with their friends," said Kristina Raspe, who is in charge of real estate development at USC. "The cinder block dorms I lived in do not meet current demands."

USC students who could afford it have always tended to lived in style — away from campus. Lodging within walking distance has traditionally been cramped, dog-eared and pricey. Figueroa Street, the campus' eastern

boundary, has for decades been populated by automotive repair shops and fast-food joints.

West 27th Place is a sharp upgrade. The seven-story, 161-unit complex on Figueroa, with its lush sidewalk landscaping, tiled roofs and Spanish Colonial architecture, is evocative of the nearby landmark Automobile Club of Southern California headquarters.

Sound deadening doors and windows seal tightly to keep out traffic noise. That's not to say the place is always quiet — it is student housing, after all.

"It gets a little loud, but it's much quieter than the dorms could ever be," said Jaques Dubois, a grad student from Connecticut. He likes the building's proximity to campus and amenities such as the full kitchen.

"The washer and dryer," he added, eyes widening with enthusiasm, "is huge."

There are also study rooms on each floor, a room to park 350 bicycles, hardwiring for the Internet and satellite TV, plus in-room and communal Wi-Fi, said Hilliard, president of Symphony. Recreation areas include a club room with a pool table and a big-screen television where management will host game-day parties. If a resident gets sick, management will deliver a get-well package with chicken soup and ginger ale.

It doesn't come cheaply, of course. A one-bedroom unit at West 27th Place, which can house two students, may cost more than \$2,500 a month, more than twice the county's median price. A four-bedroom, two-bath unit shared by eight students starts at \$680 apiece, or more than \$5,400. Parking is extra at \$150 a month, but judging by the garage many can afford it. Among the student vehicles there on the first day of school were late model

Mercedes-Benzes, BMWs and sports utility vehicles.

Still, other students are hard-pressed to pay for school and books, let alone a lavish apartment. Over in Westwood, UCLA is racing to add more affordable housing on campus, where demand has always been high and dormitories operate on a nonprofit basis.

Residence halls for about 1,500 undergrads are under construction. Compared with the hotel-like digs of some colleges, these units are modest. Students will live up to three to a room, share bathrooms and eat in dining halls. Still, the rooms will be wired for the latest electronics and built to strict environmental standards that include separate trash chutes for recycling and outdoor sun shades on the windows.

UCLA is also building 500 units of graduate student housing. These studios will have kitchenettes, contemporary furnishings and more privacy. Rent will probably be between \$1,000 and \$1,200 a month.

"With all the pressure coming on the tuition side, we need to be sure students have an affordable housing option to attend UCLA," said Peter Angelis, who is in charge of housing at the university. "A student's academic experience is greatly enhanced when living on campus. We are focusing our resources on building beds."

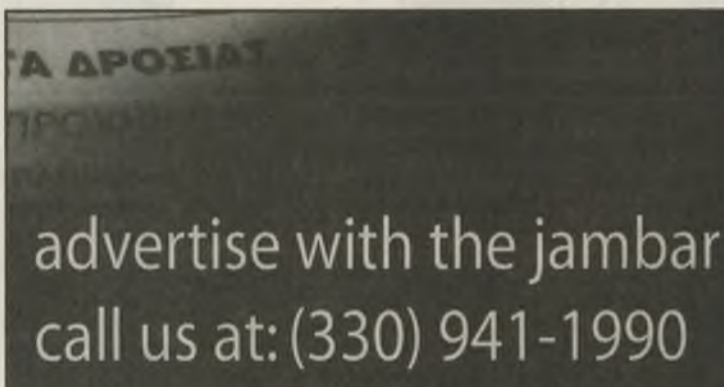
The projects will cost \$347 million, which will be paid for from student housing and dining fees, Angelis said.

With much of the nation's student residences dating to the baby boom era, housing for their children will grow in importance as expectations and tuition fees rise, said University Gateway developer Rosenfeld.

"Given what college costs today," he said, "a lot of kids and parents are expecting more than a camp-out."



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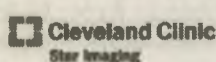
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a lecture by **Dr. Aomar Boum**
of the University of Arizona

Monday, September 26, 2011
12pm

Ohio Room, Kilcawley Center

This event is free and open to the public. In addition to the lecture there are a limited number of seats available for an accompanying Moroccan lunch. The cost for lunch is \$5.00 per person for YSU students and \$10.00 per person for all others and requires a reservation. Parking is available in the M-1 parking lot. For more information or to make a lunch reservation, contact the Center for Judaic and Holocaust Studies at 330-941-1604 or at judaic@ysu.edu.

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Judge orders Northwestern to hand over emails between professor, students

Chicago Tribune
(MCT)

CHICAGO Putting an end to more than two years of legal wrangling, an Illinois judge on Wednesday ordered Northwestern University to hand prosecutors more than 500 emails between former journalism professor David Protes and his students detailing their efforts to free a man serving a life sentence.

While acknowledging that student journalists would ordinarily be shielded by the state's reporter privilege law, Cook County Judge Diane Cannon ruled that the Medill School of Journalism students were "acting as investigators in a criminal proceeding" when they collaborated with law students at the university's Center on Wrongful Convictions.

"In this case, the Medill students worked at the direction of Anthony McKinney's attorneys, conducting interviews, gathering evidence," Cannon said. "While a book may be written or an article published ... the information is subject to

the rules of discovery."

Northwestern lawyers in 2008 petitioned for a new trial for McKinney, convicted of a 1978 shotgun slaying in Harvey. The request was based on an investigation by Protes' Medill Innocence Project that included recanted testimony, new alibi witnesses and interviews with dozens of people involved in the case.

The case took a sharp detour in 2009 when the state's attorney's office issued a sweeping subpoena for student memos, emails and other class materials relevant to the McKinney investigation. The university initially balked at the demand, but later concluded that Protes had lied about what information was shared with McKinney's attorneys and began turning documents over to the state.

Outside court Wednesday, Assistant State's Attorney Celeste Stack said the emails were important because they could contain information about student memos, transcripts of interviews, and other revelations of McKinney's case that has since been lost.

"The only reason we got

what we got is they searched the hard drives of the (Medill) Innocence Project's computers," she said.

Protes, who denied he'd misled the university, has since left Northwestern to start his own nonprofit, the Chicago Innocence Project.

He wrote in an email that he was "disappointed" with the court's decision. His students investigated the McKinney case for two years before there was any involvement with his defense attorneys, according to Protes.

"Every major reporting development, including the recantations of the state's witnesses and the confession of the alternative suspect, happened before McKinney even had a lawyer," Protes wrote. "After that, all reporting decisions were made within the Medill team."

He said he was hopeful that McKinney could now get a hearing on the evidence his students developed "that will prove his innocence."

Cannon granted a 10-day stay on her ruling so lawyers for the university can consider an appeal.



Coming off a loss to Michigan State University last week, the Penguins look to rebound against Valparaiso University in the home opener on a new turf. The Penguins are seeking their first win since September 2010 against Southern Illinois University. Photos by Jordan D. Uhl/The Jambar.

Penguins look to crush Crusader campaign

Joe Catullo Jr.
SPORTS EDITOR

Fans will get to see the Penguins on newly installed turf Saturday evening when Youngstown State University plays host to Valparaiso University.

Stambaugh Stadium is a turf field. Likewise, the Watson and Tressel Training Site installed the same type. It is used to enhance players' speed and performance, and Wolford agreed when he said footing has improved.

"The biggest thing I see is it's a safer surface," head coach Eric Wolford said. "It's not tough on your knees or your joints. [It is] closer to a real grass surface. The old surface, we got guys getting hurt just running."

Wolford also said that the surface can help further a player's career.

"This is big as far as having a long career," he said. "When you're 40 years old, you're better off playing on this surface. We're a faster team."

Junior Jeremy Edwards is in his first season as a Penguin. He said he mostly played on grass before coming.

"There's a difference from grass," Edwards said. "It's lighter, faster, safer and it's not as hard either."

Although Edwards sees a difference, senior captain Andrew Johnson does not see a

major change.

"You can feel a little more bounce to it," Johnson said. "[The old surface] wasn't bad, but we just improved it. I think it helps to have a nicer field when you play and look at it, but it never really crossed my mind."

The Penguins are coming off a 28-6 defeat against Michigan State University on Friday. Wolford said Saturday's game will be another opportunity to get better.

"We need to go out and win a football game now," Wolford said. "It's been a while and we need to control, meaning we have to execute. The only thing we can control is the way we prepare. I don't think you can take anything for granted in football. [Valpo is] going to be hungry. They haven't had a win in a while either."

Against MSU, the Penguins compiled 128 net rushing yards, 76 coming from junior captain Jamaine Cook. Wolford said he wants to see his team rush the ball more and better.

"I don't care if we're playing Michigan State, Cleveland Browns, Pittsburgh Steelers, it doesn't matter," Wolford said. "You got to be able to run the ball. The plays are there, but we have to execute them better."

One bright spot on YSU's offense is freshman wide receiver Christian Bryan. He led

the team with six catches for 45 yards at MSU.

"[Bryan] is a student of the game," Wolford said. "He's got a chance to be special. All indications are he has a bright future. He is the leader of the class [and] he's the first one on the field running routes. The receivers are better because they have to live up to what he does. It's good to have a young guy like him. He is like a coach on the field."

Bryan said his favorite player is Philadelphia Eagles wide receiver DeSean Jackson. He said he does not think he is as fast as Jackson, but he is playing a lot more outside than slot. He added that once he caught his first pass at MSU, he was ready to go.

"On the way [to MSU], I hit this confidence that nothing can stop me," Bryan said. "I was so excited out there [that] I was dropping everything in pregame. I'm not looking back for now on."

In his high school senior year, Bryan compiled 39 catches for 644 yards and six touchdowns. He also ran the pigskin for 183 yards and returned for 423 yards. On defense, he made 63 tackles and recorded two interceptions.

Bryan said playing Valpo is not going to be easier than playing MSU.

"Going from Michigan State to Valpo, you might come out a little flat, and you

can't think like that," Bryan said. "Every week you [have to] go in thinking you're facing a tougher opponent."

On defense, senior Daniel Stewart described how the team could improve from MSU to Valpo.

"Our defense feels pretty strong," Stewart said. "We are strong up front. We got [MSU] under 30 points, but that's not what we wanted to do. Coach feels we played strong. We're not satisfied, but we're happy of our roleplay."

Stewart said he recorded three tackles, one solo, in the season opener. Leading tacklers were senior John Sasson and junior Jeremy Edwards with 11 each.

Valpo is coming off a tough loss to Franklin University, 49-35. The Crusaders began with a 14-0 lead. Freshman quarterback Eric Hoffman threw for 394 yards on 27 completions and one passing and one rushing touchdown. Their leading receiver was junior Tim Bennett with five catches for 73 yards.

As a whole, Valpo compiled 463 total yards while allowing 669. Franklin also threw five passing touchdowns on 97 total plays and converted 36 first downs.

"Valpo is playing a lot harder," Wolford said. "Freshman quarterback had a good first night out, [and they have] three returners on defense. The score

may not have said [it], but they are improved. We got to put forward our best efforts."

Wolford added that Valpo is a passing game team, and the defense is playing cover two.

"They changed schematically as far as the defense," Wolford said. "The coach likes to play fast, score quick. They're going to run when they have to. They like to throw the football and spread the ball. They're going to see if we can stop the pass."

The Penguins have not won a football game since September 2010. The team is anticipating an exciting atmosphere at Stambaugh Stadium.

"I expect a lot of people out here Saturday," Bryan said. "[There] should be a lot of good things."

Stewart echoed Bryan's excitement and hopes the game is a sellout.

"Everybody is looking at us," Stewart said. "We're going to show them what we're able to do at this program. I expect a lot of fans and a lot of cheering."

Like Bryan and Stewart, Wolford said he is excited to be part of the home opener.

"I expect an electric environment," Wolford said. "I think it's always good to be part of a home opener."

Tailgating evolves into vital part of pregame

Nick Mancini
SPORTS REPORTER

Long before the stands fill up for a football game, the aroma of grilling hot dogs and hamburgers fills the air. Cornhole boards and empty beer cans decorate campus parking lots, two in particular.

At Youngstown State University, two lots — M-24 and M-7 — are used for tailgating, said Rick Love, associate director of athletics. He said that tailgating for games is as popular as ever.

"For the two lots we use ... there is always a pretty good crowd for the games," Love said. "For as long as I have been here, M-24 has been sold out every year with a waiting list for people still trying to buy passes."

The M-24 lot holds 525 passes, all of which are season passes.

"The number of passes used changes from game to game," Love said. "We have the diehard fans who never miss a game, rain or shine. We also get the fans who can miss a game here or there, for

whatever reason."

The M-7 lot holds 100 passes, with the option to sell 25 to 50 individual passes. The lot is also used for hospitality tents and corporations, Love said. The lot is also the site of two kids' days each year.

Pat Andrews and Zach Humphries, co-hosts of the ZAP Show on Rookery Radio, agreed that tailgating is a great way to spend the pregame.

"I love grilling out and talking sports prior to the game," Humphries said. "Burgers and hot dogs are definitely my picks for tailgating."

Andrews echoed those choices.

"Definitely burgers and dogs," Andrews said. "Anything that you can throw on a grill is usually a great choice."

Cold drinks are also a necessary part of the tailgating experience. Sodas, water and beer are three popular options.

"You've got to have beer," Andrews said. "Water too, but beer is an absolute must."

Besides food and drink, games and entertainment are

two other staples of the pregame tradition. Cornhole is an extremely popular game to play in the parking lot, and tossing the pigskin is another activity many enjoy.

"Cornhole, football and Frisbees are some fun things to do while tailgating," Andrews said. "Really any backyard game people want to play can be done in a tailgate lot."

As tailgating evolved throughout the years, people started bringing TVs to watch other games broadcast throughout the day.

Depending on opening kickoff, tailgating can start as early as 8 a.m. It typically concludes an hour and a half after the game.

YSU's tailgate lots are not without restrictions, though. Tailgating is not permitted during the game, and permits must be displayed from the rearview mirror, with only valid vehicles allowed. Coolers, bottles and cans are not permitted inside Stambaugh Stadium.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Zach Humphries wrote for The Jambar in fall 2010.

FCS Top 25

1. EASTERN WASHINGTON
2. GEORGIA SOUTHERN
3. APPALACHIAN STATE
4. NORTHERN IOWA
5. WILLIAM & MARY
6. MONTANA STATE
7. WOFFORD
8. DELAWARE
9. RICHMOND
10. JACKSONVILLE STATE
11. NORTH DAKOTA STATE
12. SACRAMENTO STATE
13. NEW HAMPSHIRE
14. LEHIGH
15. MONTANA
16. STEPHEN F. AUSTIN
17. SOUTHERN ILLINOIS
18. CENTRAL ARKASAS
19. JAMES MADISON
20. VILLANOVA
21. MASSACHUSETTS
22. MCNEESE STATE
23. CHATTANOOGA
24. LIBERTY
25. BETHUNE-COOKMAN

Former Penguin slated to start in Buffalo

Joe Catullo Jr.
SPORTS EDITOR

Former Youngstown State University wide receiver Donald Jones has recently been named the Buffalo Bills' No. 2 receiver.

Jones is in his second full season in the NFL.

"It's a great honor," he said about being named the No. 2 receiver. "It was a long road and I still have a lot of work to do."

Jones, an undrafted free agent for the Bills in 2010, played in 23 career games for the Penguins. He caught 108 passes for exactly 1,300 yards and 13 touchdowns.

Last year, Jones also played 15 games for the Bills and caught 18 passes for 213 yards and one touchdown. Four of the receptions were more than 20 yards.

The Bills are coming off a disappointing 4-12 season. Ryan Fitzpatrick returns as starting quarterback, and Jones feels confident in having him back.

"He's confident in me and I'm confident in him," Jones said.

Last year, Fitzpatrick threw for 3,000 yards and 23 touch-



Former YSU Penguin Donald Jones catches a pass in a preseason game last season. Jones has been named the No. 2 receiver for the Buffalo Bills' game on Sunday. Photo courtesy of the Buffalo Bills.

downs. As for the Bills, Jones said the team is confident with a bunch of young guys.

"Everybody looks good," Jones said. "We're excited and confident. We have a very young team."

The Bills' No. 1 receiver is Steve Johnson. He led the team in 2010 with 82 catches, 1,073

yards and 10 touchdowns. Space was made for Jones when the team traded veteran Lee Evans to the Baltimore Ravens on Aug. 13.

According to Gregg Rosenthal's Aug. 13 article on NBC sports, the Bills traded Evans to give their young receivers more playing time, and Jones was the first to get the opportunity.

SPORTS BRIEFS

Cross-country runs toward strong season

The men's and women's cross-country teams competed Saturday at the Duquesne Duels in Pittsburgh. Top finishers for the women include junior Samantha Hamilton who finished first with a time of 18:31 and sophomore Anna Pompeo who finished 18th with a time of 20:18. Sophomore Eric Rupe finished strong for the men, placing 12th out of 72 with a time of 27:25. Both teams will compete in the Akron Quad on Thursday.

Men's, women's golf teams open season

The men's golf team opened its season at the Fossum Invitational hosted by Michigan State University at the Forest Akers Golf Course. Senior Anthony Conn and sophomore Mark Olbrych tied for 12th place while the team finished eighth. Additionally, a strong showing from freshmen Aislynn Merling and Allison Metzler led the women's golf team to a win at the YSU Invitational, which concluded on Tuesday. The team's second-day performance propelled a comeback.

Volleyball falls to Eastern Michigan in home opener

The Penguins hosted Eastern Michigan University in their home opener on Tuesday evening at Beeghly Center. The Penguins fell to Eastern Michigan in four sets. Freshman Alexis Egler recorded a career-high 18 kills. This weekend, the team will play three matches at the Maddie Bingaman Memorial Tournament at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County.

Utah coach expects super-conferences

Los Angeles Times
(MCT)

LOS ANGELES Utah and Colorado officially joined the Pacific 12 Conference in July, but Kyle Whittingham, Utah's football coach, predicts more schools will soon follow.

"It's inevitable that there are going to be four super-conferences in Division I football with 16, maybe even 18 teams in each conference," he said Tuesday during the weekly Pac-12 football coaches' conference call.

"I'm not saying I'm in favor or against. I just think that's where it's headed, and I don't see any way around that. I also see a playoff system being implemented once those super-conferences are in place."

Whittingham said he has no insider information, that it's just an opinion he has held for years that has been accelerated recently.

The driving force behind it all? "Money," he said, laughing.

Comments from Oklahoma President David Boren on Saturday sounded as though the Sooners were already Pac-12 bound.

And Monday, Sooners Coach Bob Stoops said super conferences are where everything is headed.

"He could be right," Stanford Coach David Shaw said. "There are a lot of financial advantages. The way the world is nowadays, not everything needs to be so regional that we need to be in close proximity to each other to be in a conference. That's been proven in the last few years."

Getting chippy Oregon Coach Chip Kelly provided only short answers to the seven questions he fielded during a session that lasted all of two minutes (Whittingham's session was nearly 20 minutes).

Could have been that he didn't like the subject matter.

The questions Kelly faced focused on the Ducks' inability to beat a Southeastern Conference team, or four of the last five top-20 teams they've faced from outside the Pac-12.

In those losses — to Boise State, Ohio State, Auburn and, on Saturday, to Louisiana State — the Ducks averaged 18 points — 27 less than in their other 23 games during the same span.

Explanation?

"They have talented players; they're well-coached," Kelly said. "Sometimes the other team should deserve some credit."

Looking ... unique! In the late 1960s, when Dennis Erickson was Montana State's quarterback, uniforms were pretty uniform.

Looking back, the Arizona State coach said the biggest cosmetic change his team made then was switching from a single-bar facemask to a double-bar, and some players still played without one at all. "That's when guys were guys," Erickson quipped.

Today's era of countless uniform combinations — which can go horribly wrong, as Maryland showcased Monday — has forced teams to adjust.

As such, Arizona State will debut its new all-black uniforms and helmets Friday at home against Missouri.

Erickson called the current culture "unbelievable" and credited (blamed?) Oregon for starting the movement that has affected how teams recruit.

"The young person nowadays notices those things and they're important to those guys," Erickson said, "so that's why we're doing it."

Football Schedule

	Opponent	Time
September		
Fri. 2	at Michigan State	L 28-6
Sat. 10	VALPARAISO	4 p.m.
Sat. 17	ILLINOIS STATE*	4 p.m.
Sat. 24	at Indiana State*	2 p.m.
October		
Sat. 8	SOUTH DAKOTA STATE*	4 p.m.
Sat. 15	at Southern Illinois*	3 p.m.
Sat. 22	SAINT FRANCIS (PA.)	4 p.m.
Audio-Sat. 29	WESTERN ILLINOIS*	1 p.m.
November		
Sat. 5	at UNI*	5:05 p.m.
Sat. 12	at North Dakota State*	4 p.m.
Sat. 19	MISSOURI STATE*	1 p.m.

Soccer looks to get back to winning ways

Nick Mancini
SPORTS REPORTER

The Youngstown State University soccer team has two games, both coming from the Mid-American Conference, on tap for this weekend.

On Friday, the Penguins will travel to Kent State University to take on the Golden Flashes at 4 p.m. On Sunday, the Penguins return home and compete against Bowling Green State University at Stambaugh Stadium at 1 p.m.

Freshman forward/midfielder Julie Bentley said that as long as the Penguins carry out their game plan, they should have success.

"Executing our formations and game plans will be key," Bentley said. "As long as we do that, I think we should have some good games. Coach has been giving us things to work on in practice that will really help us out."

Freshman forward Jade Flory agrees with Bentley and added what she believes the team needs to do.

"I think one of the main things we need to focus on is playing the whole game and not tiring," Flory said. "Coach has been having us work on our conditioning in practice. I think we will be all right in that aspect."

The Penguins come into the game touting a 3-2-1 record in their first six games of the season. The Penguins were riding a school record three-game winning streak until they fell in the final minutes to Canisius College on Sunday.

Flory leads the Penguins with five goals through six games, twice scoring



Penguins midfielder Heather Coonfare looks to get the ball off a member of the Robert Morris University soccer team. Photo courtesy of Sports Information.

two goals in one game. She also leads the Penguins with 11 total points. Sophomore forward Allison Ludwig follows that up with two goals and

four points. Sophomore goalkeeper Ali Viola has started five games for the Penguins while compiling 22 saves for a save percentage of .880.

KSU comes into the matchup on the heels of a two-game losing streak after winning the first three games of the year. Leading the charge for the Golden Flashes is sophomore forward/midfielder Jessacca Girona with three goals and two assists, a total of eight points. Senior goalkeeper Kelly Sherwood has tallied 24 saves and a .706 save percentage.

One thing the Penguins will have on their side when traveling to KSU is the short travel time. Flory said that long travel has been taxing in the early part of the season.

"Only having to make a 40-minute trip, as opposed to a 16-hour trip we made earlier, will be nice," Flory said. "Not having to sit as long on a bus that long will definitely help our bodies."

After their return home, the Penguins will take on BGSU. The Falcons began the season on a bumpy note, posting a 1-4 record. They have scored only four goals in five games, while surrendering 11.

Flory and Bentley both agreed that returning home will be a big boost to the team. Being undefeated at home, they said the team plays well in familiar surroundings.

Flory described how comfortable she has been with the program as the season evolves.

"I have been [getting] more and more comfortable as the games go by," Flory said. "I have definitely been learning about my teammates so far, and they have been learning about me. Hopefully we can keep progressing and keep picking up wins."