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# The Jambor

The student voice of Youngstown State University since 1931



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Tuesday, November 9, 2010

THEJAMBAR.COM

## Cleaning up the place



Patrick Donovan  
REPORTER

On Saturday, members of the Youngstown State University Student Government Association hosted the Wick Pollock gardens cleanup.

SGA members started the project in 2006. Representatives from SGA, the Emerging Leaders Program, the Student African-American Brotherhood, the Student Nonprofit Leadership Organization and the YSU Association of Classified Employees were all in attendance bright and early Saturday morning, ready and willing to get their hands dirty.

Under the direction of retired groundskeeper Larry Tooker, who oversees upkeep of the garden, volunteers spent their morning raking leaves, removing dead plants and sweeping sidewalks in the garden.

"I was surprised at the number of students and staff that showed up. Over the last several years, only approximately six to 10 students have shown up. I am extremely excited to say that we had 25 plus in attendance," said SGA President Nick Meditz.

The overwhelming response to the project was attributed, in part, to some creative advertising provided by Gina Russo and Graphic Services, which helped get the word out to everyone on campus.

"It is my belief that students generally want to get involved but often are unaware of [how] to get involved. I think the great advertising we had for this project alleviated the problem," Meditz said.

With the record-breaking attendance for the project and the desire of students to get more involved on campus, SGA has begun discussions of more projects centered on the garden.

"There will be the Wick Pollock gardens spring planting, and we're talking about a larger, campus-wide campaign of spring cleaning events," said SGA Vice President of university affairs Gary Davenport.

Although falling temperatures and construction on Pollock House will limit access to the gardens for students in the winter months, the gardens will be open again for everyone to enjoy in the spring semester.

Students are urged to take some time out of their schedules to find the "secret garden" and enjoy a piece of YSU history that has been around since the 1920s.

"Before becoming involved in the Wick Pollock cleanup, I actually didn't even know the garden existed. It is a beautiful place when the flowers are blooming in the spring. It's like a hidden treasure, and not many know about it," Meditz said.

PHOTO BY PATRICK DONOVAN/THE JAMBAR

## Students report University Plaza lighting problems

Keith Stinson  
REPORTER

According to Youngstown State University's "Your Right to Know" 2010-2011 annual report, no major crimes including murder or manslaughter were committed in a three-year span on or near campus grounds. However, some YSU residents have begun to fear for their safety as they head for their dorms at night.

"I have to call someone when walking from my car into Buechner because I'm

actually scared," said senior Halle Baird who resides in Buechner Hall.

Baird is just one of many students who venture back to campus at night to find that the street lights are out on University Plaza and throughout the F-1 and R-4 parking lots.

Senior Katy Accetta is a five-year resident of Buechner Hall. She can't remember a time when the lights went out as much as they have this semester.

"It's been happening more frequently," Accetta said. "I rely on the lights as I'm coming back from work at night,

and without them on I'm even more nervous."

Computers placed at designated locations on campus control all security and landscaping lights across the YSU campus. The signals are transmitted to a main computer database in the basement of Tod Hall.

The process of safely lighting campus begins when a signal is sent via photocells located on top of Maag Library to the different university computers. Both security and landscaping lights are time-sensitive and will turn on

LIGHTING PAGE 3



FlashNotes founder Mike Matousek is one of the masterminds behind the latest technology that's come out of the YBI.

## YBI start-up allows students to buy, sell class notes online

Bill Rusu  
REPORTER

A website that would allow college students across the country to buy and sell class notes, study guides and book summaries online is getting its start in Youngstown.

Founders of FlashNotes think the project will become "the eBay for college students."

FlashNotes began in a statistics class at Kent State University, as founder Mike Matousek began selling his notes to friends who didn't regularly attend class. Shortly afterward, Matousek had a computer science student develop an initial site, and FlashNotes was born.

Approximately 747 transactions occurred within the website's first month. Ma-

tousek then teamed up with Dave Petruziello, a graduate of the University of Michigan and former NFL player, who "put the foundation in place to make FlashNotes a real company."

FlashNotes is located in the Youngstown Business Incubator. YBI CEO Jim Cossler said, "FlashNotes is the perfect storm for an e-commerce site."

FlashNotes delivers the most valuable demographic for advertisers, which consists of college students, ages 18 to 22, Cossler said. Cossler also said FlashNotes has an answer for the two biggest issues that all e-commerce websites face: content creation and marketing. Because users are creating the content and are also doing the marketing, FlashNotes has

CLASS NOTES PAGE 3

Joe Giesy  
NEWS EDITOR

The Center for Nonprofit Leadership at Youngstown State University is receiving \$15,500 in grant funding for the second year of its Pay It Forward program. The funds come from Ohio Campus Compact and will be distributed among three classes for in-class use.

The three classes that will receive the grant money to distribute are Nonprofit Community Service taught by Laura McCaskey, Nonprofit Leadership taught by Lawrence Moliterno and Basic Public Relations taught by Michael Pontikos.

McCaskey is also director of the Center for Nonprofit Leadership and organizer of the Pay It Forward program.

Pay It Forward received 57 applications requesting more than \$200,500 last year, she said. They were only able to distribute four grants totaling \$13,500.

The Nonprofit Community Service class awarded \$4,500 to Inspiring Minds, while the

GRANT PAGE 3

### NEWS BRIEFS

#### Student nominated for Rhodes Scholarship

Senior Erik Johnson of Boardman, a biology pre-medicine major, has been nominated for the Rhodes Scholarship, the oldest international educational fellowship. If Johnson is selected, he would become the first Rhodes representative from YSU and have the opportunity to study at England's University of Oxford for up to three years. Johnson is a four-year member of the YSU football team and a Leslie H. Cochran University Scholar; he has also actively volunteered in the community.

#### Raga Boyz to perform Nov. 21

Raga Boyz, a musical group from Pakistan and India, will perform Nov. 21 at 6 p.m. in Kilcawley Center's Chestnut Room as part of the YSU Performing Arts Series. The band blends classical, semi-classical, hip-hop and rock styles and uses up-tempo lyrics and verses. The concert is free and open to the public.

### POLICE BRIEFS

#### Football fan falls in Stambaugh Stadium

At the YSU football game on Oct. 30, a woman fell in section four of Stambaugh Stadium. She tripped while walking down the steps, injuring her head, left shoulder and left knee. She was transported to St. Elizabeth Health Center.

#### Suspicious person brings article to Jambar office

On Wednesday, university police officers reported to Fedor Hall in reference to a suspicious person. The suspect said he attended Youngstown Early College and wanted to deliver an article to The Jambar for possible publication. The suspect has shown violent behavior toward officers in the past. He was searched and left the area without further incident.

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## Midterm election results indicate change for state, nation

Laurence Haley  
REPORTER

After all the votes of Nov. 2's midterm election were counted, change has come to the political guards across the country. On the national level, the Republicans won a majority of seats in the U.S. House of Representatives. On the state level, Ohio's new governor is a Republican.

"I guess in a very broad sense you can expect a more hostile environment for higher education or state-supported higher education," said David Porter, a political science professor at Youngstown State University and director of the Global Education Program, of John Kasich being elected governor of Ohio.

"There's been somewhat of a belief that the role of the state government, or the role of government in general with public education, should be drastically reduced," he said.

Porter said the main issue raised is that most Ohio graduates move out of state, so Ohio is spending money to educate them for other states to benefit.

After losing \$1.5 million in state funding, YSU is expecting another cut next year.

Porter said some of the budget-cut estimates are in the area of \$20 million or more across the state of Ohio. Such a large funding cut will have a substantial impact on the most expensive programs.

"Some of those programs are the ones the university is trying to build and serve the

area with, so that can become a bit of a problem," he said.

On a national level, Porter said the Tea Party's agenda includes elimination of the U.S. Department of Education and the reprivatization of student loans.

Participants in the Tea Party movement aim to limit government involvement. Porter said it's too early to say what role more traditional Republicans will play.

The Federal Pell Grant would be the biggest target in eliminating the U.S. Department of Education, Porter said. Turning student loans back over to the private sector would probably increase public school costs while also substantially increasing student costs.

Government student loans are given at a lower interest rate than private loans, and payments are less than 10 percent of the borrower's income.

"That's on the chopping block as far as the Tea Party is concerned," Porter said.

In 1994, when Newt Gingrich moved too fast on the Contract with America, he ended up losing substantially. This leads to hesitation and concern among the more seasoned Republicans to avoid a repeat of history, he said.

"It's very easy to talk about cutting and balancing the budget but, 'Oh, by the way, we need to spend \$100 billion less on the military,' and well, you just lost a number of conservative votes. There are some political limitations as to what they can do," Porter said.

## Football trainer, doctor discuss wears and tears of the game

Andrea DeMart  
NEWS EDITOR

Pittsburgh Steelers linebacker James Harrison has made news recently with three penalties and fines totaling \$100,000 for his controversial hits on opposing team players.

Only one of the fined hits resulted in a serious injury, but the entire football community has taken notice.

John Doneyko, head athletic trainer at Youngstown State University, said he and the other trainers work hard to keep the football team healthy.

"The first and foremost thing we do with them is try to give them good nutritional advice [and] make sure they're getting enough rest," he said. "When they have a small thing, we start treatment right away just to make sure it doesn't turn into a big thing."

Dr. Joseph Ethen, unofficial team chiropractor, said he volunteers his time to keep the players healthy by adjusting them before games.

"If there is [a] back or neck injury that the trainers cannot take care of at YSU in the training room, it means it's a little bit more serious and needs a little more attention. They will send them to me," he said.

Ethen said players get adjusted before games to decrease injury. Adjusting the spine makes it more mobile and also increases performance.

In general, the most common football injuries he treats are spinal and neck injuries that result from helmet-to-helmet contact during a game.

Healing after an injury for athletes is not as difficult as it is for others since athletes are already "primed," making it easier to regain the pre-injury condition, he said.

"Everybody's different, that's the thing, and every injury is different too," Ethen said. "You can have two people go through

the same injury and have completely different outcomes."

A lot of the injuries are determined by type of position, Doneyko said.

"Obviously we have linemen, offensive linemen, with a bunch of shoulder injuries. We have defensive backs with a bunch of hip and shoulder injuries. Some finger injuries on defensive line, concussion-type injuries to our linebackers, our defensive backs, our receivers," he said.

Ethen said it is a group effort to keep all players safe. "It's really important that we as a staff — the chiropractor, the doctors, the trainers — make sure the player is following through with the rehab," he said.

Doneyko said the severity of the injuries varies year to year. This year, the most serious injuries — an ACL, a foot and a shoulder — resulted in three surgeries.

"Out of a 100 person roster, we probably have 10 or 15 people hurt at one time, but that's not a lot of us. It's kind of down this year," he said.

Although tighter regulations in NFL football may not be as fun for the fans, it is in the best interest of the player's health, Ethen said.

"Intentional: Obviously you're going to injure somebody," Ethen said. "Unintentional: Even if you have it in the back of your mind, I cannot go helmet-to-helmet with this guy, the chance of you accidentally injuring somebody is a lot less."

He said athletes could work to prevent injury. "Number one: Listen to their athletic trainer; the athletic trainer is the number one person concerned with that body staying healthy," Ethen said. "Number two: Wear the proper equipment, and wear it the right way."

Athletes need to stay strong, healthy and injury-free during the off-season as well. Ethen said getting proper nutrition, rest after practice and chiropractic care is also important.

"If you keep your joints mobile and keep it strong, you're going to decrease your risk of injury," he said.



## What are you doing to celebrate Veteran's Day on Thursday?



"I don't know about anything going on really. We should have a parade or something like that here on campus."

Andy Schumaker, senior



"I'm going to Outback Steakhouse to get a bloomin' onion with my cousin. He just got home from serving in Iraq."

Elaina Bella, sophomore



"I always call my dad and my grandpa and thank them for their service to this country."

Bob Slepsky, senior

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**CLASS NOTES PAGE 1**

FlashNotes has practically eliminated those problems.

Some students at Youngstown State University think FlashNotes carries value on college campuses.

"It would make work easier," said Mike Pilch, a senior history major at YSU. "You can still learn as much because you're still getting the information, even though you're not having to do the work yourself."

Other students see FlashNotes as a way to cut down on the stress that some students face.

"I'm noticing people who are adults and are trying to pay bills and have children and go to school at the same time, but they can't always be in class. They still want to be successful, so it would help them keep up," said Keith Baker, a computer science major.

Petruziello said FlashNotes offers many benefits for students.

"The number one benefit is that students are paid weekly in cash," he said. "They are gaining free time because they don't have to work a job; some users are making over \$500 a week. Students are also getting better grades because they are learning how to take notes and how to learn from notes better."

Cossler said instructors' reactions have been positive.

YSU Spanish teacher Laura Goist said FlashNotes would be helpful situationally.

"For some classes probably [it would have value], but others it wouldn't be as useful. I think that people tend to remember things better that they write themselves as opposed to just reading," she said.

FlashNotes intends to grow by targeting specific universities in a step-by-step system, starting with YSU and Ohio State University, before increasing to 10 and then 50 universities.

**LIGHTING PAGE 1**

and off according to their set times.

Michael Orto, manager of facilities, said University Plaza experienced lighting issues during renovation of Coffelt Hall.

"The power panel was unplugged at times," Orto said. "There are so many reasons why they went offline, but at times we just don't know."

The latest incident of street lights going out across University Plaza and in the F-1 and R-4 parking lots was reported Oct. 26 at 10:30 p.m. The length the lights were out is unknown, but once maintenance was informed, crews reported to the area. The lights were on within minutes.

Facilities engineer Ralph Morrone said the lighting is-

sues are minimal and that the university's main focus is keeping its students and faculty safe.

"Lighting is very important to the university and we strive for safety," Morrone said.

Lt. Mike Cretella of the YSU Police Department said the YSU campus is safe. If students feel threatened, several courses of action are available.

"We have student security aides that will take you anywhere and they are always in constant communication with the police officers," Cretella said. "If we do receive any calls on lights being out, then we will have maintenance check out the situation immediately."

**GRANT PAGE 1**

Minds in 2006 after he returned home. He saw many of the kids in his neighborhood experiencing some of the same environmental issues he went through while growing up.

Inspiring Minds is a youth organization geared toward kindergarten through high school. It focuses on education for all participants, exposure to culture and entrepreneurship for high school students, community service and athletics.

Toles came up with the program while jotting down notes during a therapy session treating the football injury that originally caused him to return home, he said.

The program did not receive any outside grants or funding until two years ago, and Toles said he'd like to implement a business model into the organization in which grants aren't necessary. To begin Inspiring Minds, Toles had to use his own money.

"If you aren't willing to invest in yourself, how will you get anyone else to invest in you?" he asked.

The Nonprofit Community Service class chose Toles' organization unanimously after they saw his presentation, Mc-

Caskey said.

McCaskey's class used a three-part process involving questionnaires, presentations and on-site visits to choose a recipient.

The other recipients were chosen based on individual class criteria.

McDonald Local Schools was awarded money to incorporate B.E.A.R., a national reading incentive program designed by a classroom teacher that uses reading logs, folders and progress charts to inspire reading among participating elementary school students.

Habitat for Humanity of Mahoning County was awarded grant money to aid a building project that was already using Neighborhood Stabilization Program funds.

Etruscan Press was awarded the money for a Marketing and Educational Outreach program meant to expose at-risk high school students to literature by bringing in acclaimed authors to speak to their classes.

In September, Raul Hernandez, an award-winning Cuban poet, visited YSU and local high schools through the Etruscan Press' Outreach Program.

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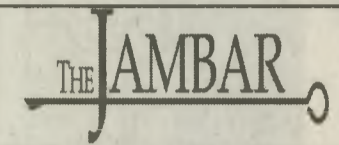
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The office of Grants and Sponsored Programs (OGSP) is offering a workshop for YSU faculty and staff on grant proposal development.

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OUR SIDE

## Look at the bright side

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RELATED STORY

Football, page 10

It's hard to remain optimistic after suffering six straight losses that have plummeted the Penguins to the bottom of the Missouri Valley Conference. But what's the use in harping.

The fact is that this year had its share of successes, and what the football program, campus community and fans need to do is recognize them.

We must remember a few accomplishments:

It's head coach Eric Wolford's first year with the Penguins. The offense, which has been averaging nearly 32 points per game, respectively, is lead by a promising redshirt freshman at quarterback.

Scoring a touchdown against a Division I team is already an unprecedented accomplishment under Wolford's belt — not to mention two touchdowns in Happy Valley.

The Penguins have outscored their opponents 177 to 134 in the first half and 320 to 317 per game.

They have outrushed opponents by more than 600 yards thus far.

Starting tailback Jamaine Cook broke the 1,000-yard mark, and is vying to become the 14th player in YSU history to average 100+ yards per game.

And all this was done with a roster of 52 percent underclassmen.

While these are just a few items on the Penguins' agenda that should work as momentum builders as the season comes to a close, one factor thwarts victory: defense.

The bottom line is that YSU's defense is young and hasn't been able to win games late. Of the last six games, the Penguins lost in the second half, fourth quarter or final drive.

Let's face it. Expectations were too high coming into the season. They were too high for Heacock, who buckled under the shadow of Jim Tressel.

The shoes were smaller this time, and Wolford's young team should have no problem filling them next year.

The team is better than its record indicates. The numerous successes and crippling defense should motivate, not discourage.

OUR SIDE POLICY

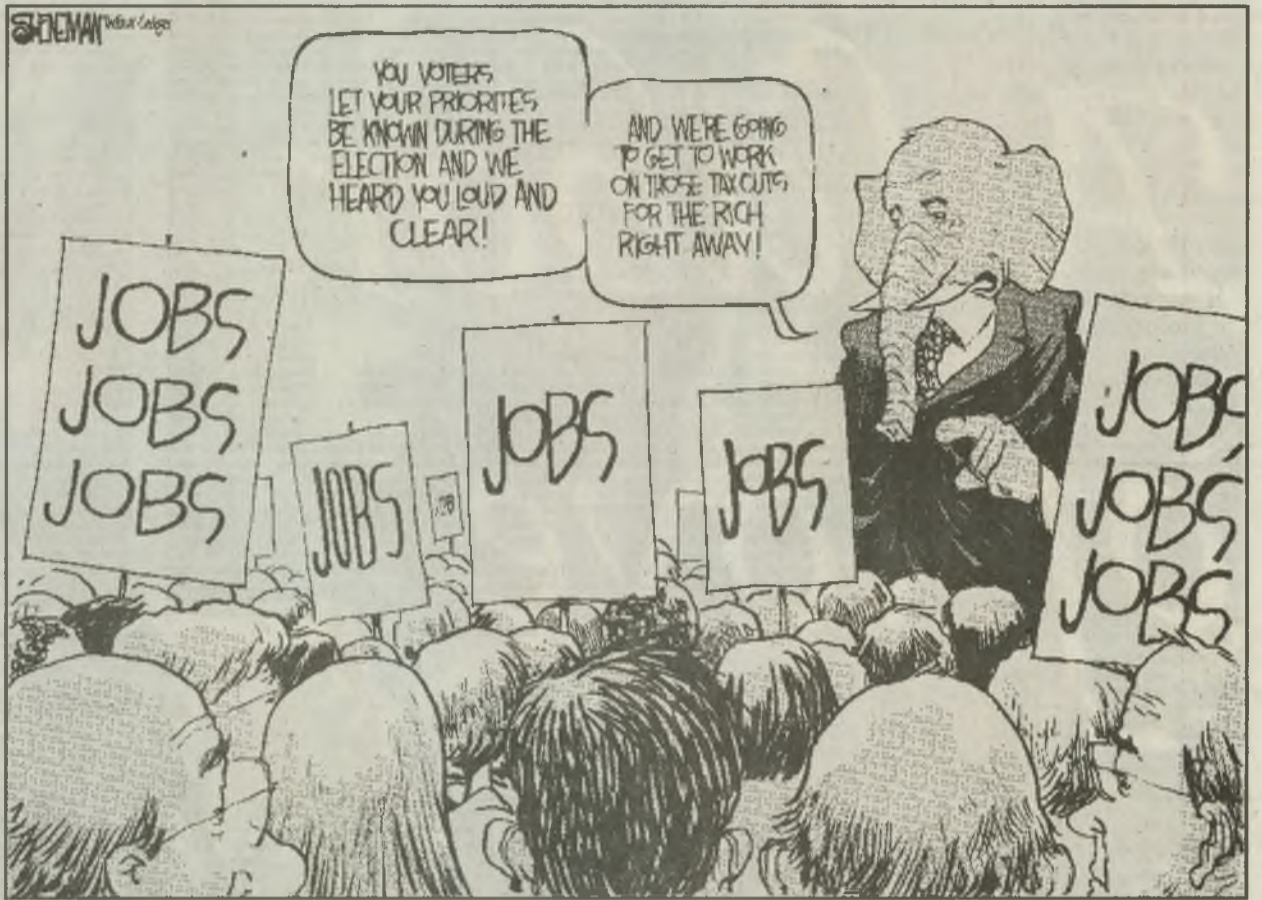
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YOUR SIDE POLICY

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

### Letter to the Editor

The "Winds of Change" editorial published Nov. 4 suggests that YSU's institutional agenda is based solely on Gov. Strickland's plan for higher education and that university planners must now go "back to the drawing board." This is not an accurate assessment of our current situation.

Higher education is neither a Democratic or Republican issue, but one that anyone who cares about Ohio's economic future should support. It is too early to predict what course the new administration will take relative to higher education. Both Strickland and Gov.-Elect Kasich acknowledge Ohio's prosperity is directly linked to its universities.

Higher education across the nation is being challenged to prove its existence. The state's accountability and outcomes measures embraced by both political parties are the new normal. With federal stimulus funds exhausted in 2012, all universities face an unprecedented firestorm. The expected state budget shortfall is estimated between \$4-8 billion and significant cuts for many programs are likely, no matter who was elected. However, bipartisan support for Ohio's Strategic Plan for Higher Education has been unequivocal during a very-challenging economic time.

The editorial further suggests that YSU should have seen the "political tornado" coming. We did, and have been working to address this coming "storm" for months. YSU made a conscious effort to develop a new strategic plan which considers the changing face of higher education. Our plan is being developed independent of the political environment to address student success, institutional accountability, urban research and regional impact. These themes have meaning to students, faculty, staff and the community regardless of the economic and political environments.

YSU's successful history of planning has thrived in good and bad economies and under the leadership of both political parties in its history. Our plan is not being developed based on what the state is doing now, but rather, developed by all of YSU's stakeholders so that we may be "ahead of the curve" and prepared to face the new funding formula, outcomes measures and potential budget cuts.

While the next few years will challenge YSU in unprecedented ways, new opportunities will simultaneously present themselves. Yes, we will continue to do more with less and find ways to support new initiatives with no new dollars. But my unshakable confidence in the students, faculty and staff of YSU and the university's loyal supporters, gives me hope that the university's best days are yet to come.

Scott R. Schulick  
Chairman, YSU Board of Trustees

### Tear down your altars and lifeless idols



### Break time

Chris Cotelesse  
COLUMNIST

I'm taking a break from porn.

It isn't an issue of morality. I don't believe pornography violates the rights of women. I fully support a woman's right to choose her profession. So does adult film star and feminist Nina Hartley.

In the September/October issue of The Humanist magazine, Hartley summed up the issue with four words: "My body, my rules."

My opposition to porn is purely self-interested. Gratifying myself via two-dimensional media is pathetic. During the 10 minutes or so I spend in the act, I feel nothing but desire for beautiful women with ample curves. Afterward, I feel shame and disgust.

I wouldn't say I'm addicted, but I have definitely avoided problems in favor of online sex shows.

When I'm having a bad day, I could go to the gym, but Sasha Grey will make me forget. When stress is overwhelming me, I could call a friend, but Eva Angelina will ease my tension.

Eventually, my worries return, worse than before, because I feel like a loser.

Pornography has its advantages. You don't need to seek out a partner. You can be selfish. Yours are the only needs that matter.

Those are also what I believe to be the worst things about pornography. In my experience, sex is best when it's generous. There's nothing more satisfying than lying down mutually spent and throwing your arm over warm, smooth skin.

I haven't engaged in sexual congress since Valentine's Day. I've been supplementing the experience with self-love. I'm afraid that I've been training myself to be an inconsiderate lover who expects immediate satisfaction.

I'm even more worried for the rest of the world.

According to Family Safe Media, the worldwide revenue for pornography is \$97.06 billion annually, larger than the combined revenues of Microsoft, Google, Amazon, eBay, Yahoo!, Apple, Netflix and EarthLink. America's share is \$13.33 billion.

To me, these tremendous numbers seem indicative of an increasingly disconnected culture. I don't want to be that guy who doesn't put any effort into gaining charisma because pornhub.com is just a click away.

I'm not preaching that we should all boycott sexually illicit material. I know couples that incorporate masturbation and pornography into their sexual relationships. Some people have no other option, but I'm not ready to give up on human interaction.



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## YSU STUDENTS OPEN MUSIC STORE

**Chelsea Miller**  
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT  
EDITOR

Youngstown State University student Varg Freeborn met his wife, Katie, in a religious studies class at YSU.

"She was the prettiest girl in class," he said of his wife.

It was their love of music, however, that brought them together.

"I think the first time I really noticed him, he had a guitar," Katie said, laughing. "He came to class, and he was carrying a guitar for some reason. I think that's why I noticed him."

Now Varg and Katie are using their love of music to make a living. The Freeborns recently opened a music store in Girard called Guitar Slinger in an attempt to break the mold of the corporate guitar center.

"We're the owners, and we're here every day ... We're not trying to get rich and retire. We're trying to bring a culture of music," said Varg, who is "pro-music, anti-establishment."

The Freeborns started off selling equipment at local flea markets. Two to three days a week, they would work side by side, sometimes selling \$300 to \$400 a sale. It was nothing, Varg said, to earn \$1,000 a week at the flea markets.

They used the profits earned through flea market sales to open Guitar Slinger.

Varg said the store also offers trade-ins and consignments on used merchandise, giving beginner musicians the opportunity to purchase reasonably priced instruments.

"I remember when I was a kid, there were times when there wasn't a lot of money, so if I can provide the opportunity for some kid to get a guitar that wouldn't be able to get one due to financial reasons ... that's a great thing I think," he said.

As experienced musicians — Varg with guitar, Katie with drums — the couple emphasizes performance in the store by adding in a stage to play.

"When you first walk in, automatically it hits you that there is something very different about this place," Varg said. "A lot of times, some-

body wants to try something out ... it's just a game changer to put them on the stage ... and actually we've had situations where, 'Alright, so let's throw some drums behind it and really let you try this thing out.' You know, you can't get that anywhere else."

Guitar Slinger's weekly "jam night" allows musicians to meet and play with others.

"We have the jam nights in here during the week ... We've had people come in and already form bands out of meeting each other here and playing together, which is what we hoped would happen. We would make this kind of like a hub for musicians," he said.

Opening the new shop, however, was not without its challenges.

Katie is a graduate student at YSU majoring in clinical counseling. She also holds another job. Varg estimated that he works around 100 hours a week at the store. He said hard work is necessary to succeed in a new business competing against a struggling economy.

"In this economy, you have



YSU students Katie and Varg Freeborn work at their business, Guitar Slinger, on Saturday. The Freeborns opened their music store two months ago in Girard. They sell various instruments and host weekly "jam sessions." Photos by Doug Livingston/The Jambar.

to be willing to do two things: You have to work harder than you've ever worked, and you have to be more creative than you've ever been."

However, the Freeborns said they are optimistic about the future of their business. Since opening two months ago, they have received a positive response and look to expand in January.

Dante Dutch and his friend Wendy Huff, both area high

school students, visited the store for the first time Saturday. Dutch, who is a musician, said he immediately noticed the store was different from others he's been to in the past.

"It's really nice. I like the atmosphere ... You've got the little stage right there. You don't find that everywhere else. I like it," he said. "This is one of the nicest places around here actually."

## Guitar virtuoso to perform at YSU

**Jared Buker**  
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT  
REPORTER

The Dana School of Music's Bliss Recital Hall will host Canadian guitar virtuoso Jerome Ducharme tonight at 8 p.m.

After studying music at the Music Conservatory of Montreal and later in Switzerland, Ducharme began performing for small crowds in 1995. He earned prizes at the Guitare-Antony in France and the Guitare-Lachine in Montreal in 2003. He also placed at the Guitar Foundation of America International Guitar Competition in 2004.

Ducharme said he believes receiving first place in the GFA International Guitar Competition in 2005 was the turning point in his career.

Music has been Ducharme's passion since he began playing guitar as a teenager. He said he dreamed of being a



Guitarist Jerome Ducharme is scheduled to perform at Bliss Recital Hall on Tuesday. Ducharme is internationally recognized, placing first in the 2005 Guitar Foundation of America International Guitar Competition. Photo courtesy of Anna Riscutti.

heavy metal guitarist, but his mother enrolled him in a classical guitar class.

"Since I started, pretty much everything else became of secondary importance," Ducharme said. "It is the main thing revealed to me in life."

Ducharme recorded his first CD, "Naxos," after winning the GFA International Guitar

Competition. He has played in more than 40 cities throughout North America since the album's release.

Recently, Ducharme made an appearance with the Montreal Symphony Orchestra for Donizetti's opera "Don Pasquale."

Francois Fowler, faculty adviser for the Dana Guitar

Association, has known Ducharme since they met at a music camp in Quebec nearly 15 years ago. Fowler's students were impressed with Ducharme after watching him perform on YouTube. This prompted him to invite Ducharme to YSU.

"My students really wanted to have him perform and give a masterclass at YSU," Fowler said. "They thought he was a fantastic player."

Fowler said he believes the masterclass will give his students the rare opportunity to receive instruction from a master musician.

"Having an artist of this caliber come to YSU is great for the students and brings attention to the guitar program at the Dana School of Music," Fowler said.

Three past winners of the GFA International Guitar Competition have performed at Dana, and Fowler expects around 175 people to attend.

The concert is free and open to the public.

### yo\* calendar

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# University Theater presents musical based on popular fairy tale

Marissa McIntyre  
REPORTER

Beginning Friday evening, University Theater will present "Once on this Island," a musical based off the well-known fairy tale "The Little Mermaid."

The main character, Ti Moune, is a struggling peasant girl who falls in love with a wealthy boy, Daniel, who lives on the other side of the island. "Once on this Island" is a tale of forbidden romance, as well as a story about differences between classes.

Frank Castronovo, theater and dance department chairman and professor, is the director for Youngstown State University's production of "Once on this Island." This musical is the first of the year and was selected to provide musical theater students with experience in song and dance.

"It's family friendly with a good message," Castronovo said.

Ben Scannell, a freshman theater major, is working as a dresser for the musical. He said the story features a touching message.

"When I was watching re-

hearsal, I cried a bit," Scannell said. "I think the message puts across that people shouldn't be judged on where you are from or who you are."

YSU's adaption of the musical has a cast of 20 students, which is different from the Broadway adaptation of 11 cast members. Castronovo said. On Broadway, actors would play multiple roles.

Castronovo has been working with the cast and crew for the past seven weeks in preparation for opening night. The process started with open auditions in September.

Emma Andruschenko, a freshman arts and theater studies major, is doing makeup and is another dresser for the musical. She also performed these tasks for YSU's adaptation of "Leading Ladies," and is familiar with visualizing characters.

"Makeup and dressing is what I want to do. I've had a lot of fun with it," Andruschenko said.

She also said the musical has a good storyline.

"The audience can relate to the characters. We see the struggles happening everywhere you go," Andruschenko said.

Freshman theater major Alex Samuels, who is part of the run crew for the production, said the show gives him



Nikita Jones, Kaleigh Lockett, Joey Alvey, Brittney Simone Grant, Cory Davis and London Sanders (pictured) are part of University Theater's production of "Once on this Island." The musical, which is an adaptation of "The Little Mermaid," will run Friday through Sunday. Photo courtesy of Anna Riscutti.

"mixed feelings."

"You just get sad at a lot of parts seeing what Ti Moune has to go through, but then you get happy when she gets through it," Samuels said.

For sophomore theater major Nikita Jones, this is her first time taking part in a YSU play as an actress. Jones will

play the part of Mama Euralee.

"Parts are sad, but it's nice because in the end everything works out," Jones said. "The experience has been strenuous, but I've enjoyed it. It's taught me a lot, and the cast has worked really well together."

The show will run for 90 minutes, making it a good performance for families to bring kids to, Castronovo said.

Opening night is Friday in Bliss Hall's Ford Theater. The production will run from Friday through Sunday and again from Nov. 18-21.

## Greek Week activities spur competition

Caitlin Fitch  
REPORTER

Since the 1990s, Youngstown State University's sororities and fraternities have celebrated Greek Week. A scavenger hunt kicked off this annual tradition Monday.

"Many of [the] sororities have been at YSU in past years, and some have come and gone," said Greg Gulas, assistant director of student programming. "We have the smallest number in a long time, but we continue to grow and that is a good sign."

Nine sororities and fraternities will compete to win the Greek God and Goddess award. Last year's winners, Delta Zeta and Sigma Tau Gama, will compete against four fraternities and three sororities to hold on to their reign.

This year, Sigma Alpha Epsilon, Sigma Chi, Alpha Omega Pi, Delta Zeta, Phi Kappa Tau, Alpha Phi Delta, Zeta Tau Alpha, Alpha Xi Delta, Sigma Tau Gamma and Tau Kappa Epsilon will compete.

A number of events are planned throughout the week. Tuesday will feature "Stuff the Bus" for United Way, while a powder puff football game featuring the ladies of different sororities will be held on Wednesday. Thursday will feature the Greek Olympic games, and Saturday, the crowning of the Greek God and Goddess award will occur.

The planners of Greek Week are Jessica Sarich, a junior, and Mathew Papatonakis, a senior.

Sarich said planning for Greek Week events and activities started in the summer, and the schedule was finalized early.

Sarich's duties as a chairwoman for Greek Week can at times conflict with her membership in Zeta Tau Alpha.

"Some of the activities I won't be able to do because we know the answers to the game or know what to expect, but most of them I will definitely play," she said.

The winners of Greek Week count toward sorority and fraternity of the year, Sarich said, so each of the organizations take the activities seriously.

## African Student Union brings culture to YSU

Christine Darin  
REPORTER

The African Student Union is set to bring a little spice to Youngstown State University on Friday with African Culture Night.

African foods and culture will be highlights of the event, which will benefit Habitat for Humanity.

"African students on campus, like other student organizations, are a valuable part of the university community," said Victor Wan-Tatah, director of Africana Studies and adviser of the ASU. "As busy as they are, African students want to inform and educate the community about their origins and are interested in making valuable contributions to help others."

Dr. Michael K. Obeng, a native of Ghana and a prominent cosmetic surgeon at St. Elizabeth Boardman Health Center, will be the keynote speaker for the event.

The topic of Obeng's discussion is "Perseverance Leads to Success," and the message

he wants to send to students is that persistence pays off.

Obeng came from Ghana where he grew up poor, but with the love and support of his family, he was able to travel to the United States. Upon arrival, Obeng had only \$150 in his pocket and enough hopes and dreams to overcome any obstacles in his way.

"I never gave up," Obeng said.

He sometimes went without food or books during college and worked two or three jobs during the summer of his first year of college in Texas.

"Being able to overcome obstacles in life" is key to succeeding, Obeng said.

Sometimes people tell you that you cannot do something in life, he said, but "you can achieve what you set out to achieve."

Obeng hopes to inspire other students with similar difficulties to become persistent in their endeavors.

Sodexo Catering will serve traditional African foods at the event that represent most West African cultures. Tropical foods will be on the menu as well as some spicy foods,

which are common in African cuisine.

An ensemble of African contemporary popular dance performances will be featured. The dances will represent countries where some of the members of ASU originate including Ghana, Nigeria and countries south of the Sahara Desert.

Wan-Tatah will read African poetry at the benefit as part of the performance.

A couple dance competition will be part of the festivities, along with a dramatic play highlighting traditional African wedding practices from betrothal to the marriage ceremony.

An African-themed fashion show will display traditional and contemporary African fashions, including casual and formal outfits.

"I hope that people who come to the event will leave with a rich knowledge of Africans and their cultures, and a taste of African food as well," Wan-Tatah said.

The event will be held at Peaberry's Cafe in Kilcawley Center from 6 to 10 p.m. Student tickets cost \$5 and faculty tickets cost \$15.

## YSU veterans pay respects to servicemen

Adrienne Loines  
REPORTER

The Office of Veterans Affairs will host its 13th annual ceremony commemorating Veterans Day on Wednesday at 10 a.m.

Names of Youngstown State University employees and students who died during active duty will be read, and the Cincinnati Award will be presented at the Veterans Plaza located on YSU's campus.

"It is very important for students and the community to remember veterans," said Jim Olive, program manager in the Veteran Affairs office. "We have to remember it was the veterans who helped

build YSU a little bit after World War II. If it were not for those vets, it would be really hard to tell where YSU would be."

Olive said this is the only event that YSU has planned on campus next week.

"I'm a veteran, although sometimes I do not feel as if I deserve that title," said Robert Hogue, Air Force veteran and associate professor in computer science and information systems. "I was never overseas, or never in danger. I feel veterans deserve a great amount of respect, and they do not always get that respect. The good thing about Veterans Day is that we get a chance to remember those who have served."

Hogue served in the U.S. Air Force from 1970 until 1974.

Ron Shaklee, director of the University Scholars and Honors Program and a U.S. Army veteran, said it is extremely important that we continue to acknowledge those who have taken time away from their everyday lives and put themselves in harm's way.

Shaklee's military history includes Advanced Individual Training in Ft. Holabird, Md., 45th Military Intelligence Company and Military Assistance Command in Vietnam.

Shaklee was the 1st Infantry Division in Ft. Riley, Kan., from 1971 until 1972. Shaklee's rank at discharge was Specialist 5, SP5.

"It's important that we remember those who have risked their lives to serve this country," Shaklee said.

Sal Sanders, associate professor in

health professions and an Army veteran, said those who have served bring their experience to their community.

"Those who are in the military provide tremendous amount of service to the community. The skills that students learn in the service, they bring those skills back to the community and to their classes here at YSU," he said.

Sanders was a member of the 838th Military Police Company. He served in the Ohio Army National Guard where he was a staff sergeant from 1979 until 1988.

Thursday is Veterans Day, and YSU will be closed in remembrance.

"I have to express my thanks for those that have served under difficult and at times unthinkable conditions," Sanders said.

IMAGE COURTESY OF MCT CAMPUS

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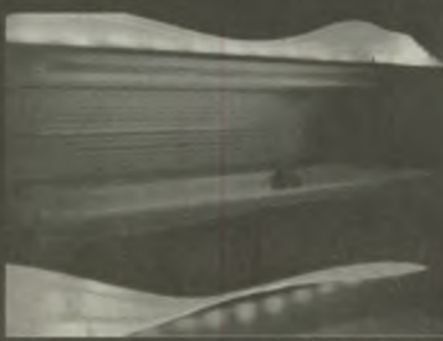
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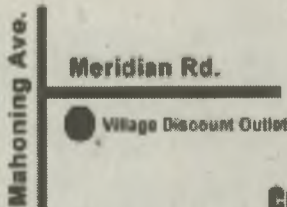
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### MEN'S BASKETBALL

# Sulskis leads Penguins into new season



**SENIOR LEADER**-Senior Vytas Sulskis leads the Penguins into the 2010-2011 season. The Penguins are young and inexperienced and will need Sulskis to lead by example this season. Photo courtesy of Ron Stevens

### Zach Humphries REPORTER

When he first arrived at Youngstown State University in 2007, Vytas Sulskis was known as a Lithuanian basketball recruit with a hard-to-pronounce name. Now, Sulskis is a well-known sharpshooter looking to lead the Penguins on and off the court during his 2010-2011

senior campaign.

The only YSU freshman ever named to the Horizon League's All-Newcomer team, Sulskis has been a prolific shooter and offensive player throughout his time at YSU.

"When I came to YSU, I wanted to play," Sulskis said. "I did not want to go to a school and sit on the bench."

He started 29 out of 30 games in his first season. The good start was far from

a fluke, though, as Sulskis has appeared in every game since his freshman year.

"My best moment so far on the court is hitting the game-winning shot against Milwaukee my sophomore year," Sulskis said.

This shot, made during a Feb. 14, 2009, game versus the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, occurred with just one second left on the fourth-quarter clock, highlighted Sulskis' sophomore

season.

Last season, Sulskis averaged 11.3 PPG, 4.4 RPG and 1.8 assists per game. Sulskis scored a career best of 340 points, with 133 rebounds and 53 assists. His production has increased each season, setting him up for a potential breakout final season.

Sulskis experienced several challenges during his transition to Youngstown, even though he spent two years in Florida with a host family for his last two years of high school.

"The language barrier and missing my family were the two most difficult things," Sulskis said. "I could understand what people were saying, but at first I didn't know how to respond."

Even though Sulskis sometimes finds it difficult to communicate with others around campus and at the dorms, he is still able to make friends.

"Meeting new people was an easy transition because everyone is friendly here," Sulskis said.

Sulskis will be relied heavily upon in his final season under head coach Jerry Slocum and the Penguins basketball program. The team features 10 new faces via junior college transfers and incoming freshmen.

"I have to be more of a leader on the court," Sulskis said. "I have to show these guys how things work around here and take time to explain to them all the things they are going to see at this level."

Off the court, Sulskis said he is recognized more around campus.

"People know who I am because I have been here for a long time, and I am one of the only guys left from last season," he said.

The Penguins struggled last season in the win and loss column, but Sulskis has already decided to change that statistic.

"Well, after having a bad year last season going 8-22, of course I have to have a totally different mindset," Sulskis said. "I hate losing, so I will do whatever my team needs to win."

Sulskis said he hopes that competing every night and getting better each game will be key to the team's success.

Sulskis is studying international business at YSU. After Sulskis graduates, he wants to play professional basketball in Europe.

# Men's basketball team anticipates fresh start for season

### Keith Langford Jr. SPORTS EDITOR

With the departure of nine players from the 8-22 season of last year, the Youngstown State University men's basketball team looks to start fresh for the 2010-2011 campaign.

The drastic loss of players and the gaining of 11 new players have caused the Penguins to be picked last out of 10 teams in the Horizon League preseason poll. National runner-up Butler University sits on the top.

The only players who return from last year's group are senior guard Vytas Sulskis, junior guard Ashen Ward, senior forward Dan Boudler and redshirt freshman guard Sheldon Brogdon. Brogdon redshirted last season due to a

knee injury.

A helping factor for this season's team with all the new faces will be the advantageous schedule the Penguins have



SLOCUM

drawn. The Penguins play 16 games at home, including four of their first five games.

Six of last season's eight victories came on the home court. The Penguins will be

looking for inspiration from the home crowd with such a young team.

Nine out of the 15 players on the men's roster are freshmen or sophomores with a strong possibility of a couple of freshmen starting off the season for the Penguins. Freshmen guards Kendrick Perry and Devonte Maymon both have a strong possibility of starting against the Samford University Bulldogs on Friday.

"We'll play somewhere between eight to 10 guys I think," head coach Jerry Slocum said about how far he will dive into his young bench.

Although Slocum said he believes his young players can score, he thinks the biggest adjustment for his freshmen will be on the defensive end.

"When you have young players, it doesn't show up as much on the offensive end as it does defensively," Slocum said.

Sulskis, who has been a stalwart for the Penguins, averaging 11.4 points last season, is the leading returning scorer. He may have to bump his average from last season to accommodate the loss of scoring from last year's seniors DeAndre Mays and Kelvin Bright. Both players averaged double digits alongside Sulskis last season.

Sulskis is approaching a 1,000-point milestone this season. He needs only 81 more.

"I'm a team player. I don't care about individual stats. I just want to win," Sulskis said.

The game against Samford could be a nice way for Penguins to get into the win column to start off the season. The Bulldogs went 11-20 last season with just four road victories. Senior Josh Davis leads the way for the Bulldogs as he averaged 12.5 points and shot 38 percent from behind the arc.

### FCS TOP 25

1. WILLIAM & MARY
2. DELAWARE
3. APPALACHIAN STATE
4. WOFFORD
5. EASTERN WASHINGTON
6. JACKSONVILLE STATE
7. SOUTHEAST MO. ST.
8. STEPHEN F. AUSTIN
9. VILLANOVA
10. BETHUNE-COOKMAN
11. MONTANA STATE
12. LIBERTY
13. MONTANA
14. MASSACHUSETTS
15. SOUTH CAROLINA ST.
16. NORTHERN IOWA
17. NEW HAMPSHIRE
18. PENN
19. CAL POLY
20. GRAMBLING STATE
21. RICHMOND
22. JACKSONVILLE
23. WESTERN ILLINOIS
24. NORTH DAKOTA ST.
25. ROBERT MORRIS

### QUOTE OF THE DAY

**"I'm a team player. I don't care about individual stats. I just want to win."**

-Vytas Sulskis

### PENGUIN SPOTLIGHT



VYTAS SULSKIS

**POSITION:** Guard  
**YEAR:** Senior  
**HOMETOWN:** Vilnius, Lithuania  
**HIGH SCHOOL:** The Rock (Fla.)  
**2009-2010 Season Stats**  
**Points:** 11.3  
**Rebs:** 4.4  
**3pt %:** .380  
**Free Throw %:** .765

### SCHEDULES

**SWIMMING & DIVING**  
 Nov. 12- BOWLING GREEN  
 Nov. 18-20-@ Radford Invitational  
 Jan. 7- @ Ohio  
 Jan. 15- AKRON/ST. FRANCIS (Pa.)  
 Jan. 22- @ Cleveland State  
 Jan. 28- @ UIC

### WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Nov. 12- @ Pittsburgh  
 Nov. 17- @ Bowling Green  
 Nov. 20- IPFW  
 Nov. 24- BUCKNELL  
 Nov. 27- OHIO  
 Dec. 1- @Kent State

### MEN'S BASKETBALL

Nov. 12- SAMFORD  
 Nov. 16- BUFFALO  
 Nov. 20- @Akron  
 Nov. 24- TOLEDO  
 Nov. 27- SAINT FRANCIS (Pa.)  
 Dec. 2- @ Milwaukee  
 Dec. 4- @ Green Bay

# Sophomore forward looks to build confidence

Joe Catullo Jr.  
REPORTER

Youngstown State University women's basketball forward Brandi Brown already brings with her a huge profile coming into the 2010-2011 season. Last season, Brown became the fifth YSU player to earn all-newcomer honors.

Brown was also the only player in the Horizon League to average a double-double with 11.4 points and 10.6 rebounds per game. Brown said she would try to help out the team this year as much as possible.

"I am very optimistic and excited because I feel like this is a great team," Brown said. "We have great team chemistry. We are going to try to win them all."

First-year head coach Bob Boldon said he's excited about Brown because she is interested in learning more.

"Brandi wants to keep learning as much as she can. She brings a lot of effort and energy to the floor every game, and she is committed to getting there," Boldon said. "Brandi has been shooting well all year and is strong

enough to shoot from outside the three-point line."

Brown became the third player in YSU history to record 300 rebounds in a season, which broke Jen Perugini's previous record as a freshman. She also ranks third in freshman school history in points in a single season with 342, and it came without attempting a three-point shot.

In 18 Horizon League games, Brown put up 10 double-doubles. A couple of game accomplishments include 19 rebounds Jan. 9 against Loyola University (tied in the Horizon League for rebounds in a game in 2009-2010) and recording seven steals March 6 at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.

At her high school in Pomona, Calif., Brown was a two-year letter winner. She graduated from Claremont High School as the all-time leading scorer and rebounder, averaging 24 points and 19.6 rebounds per game in her senior season.

Last season, Brown led the Penguins with 127 field goals made. She also led the team in all three rebounding categories: 136 offensive rebounds, 182 defensive and 318 total.

## FOOTBALL

# Penguins hope to end season on high note with win over Sycamores

Jordan Uhl  
SPORTS REPORTER

With the Indiana State University Sycamores coming to town on Saturday and one game left in the season, the Youngstown State University football team is looking to salvage anything it can.

Coming off another heart-wrenching loss, one of many this season, the Penguins have a good mindset, head coach Eric Wolford said.

The Sycamores maintain a 5-4 record, 3-3 in the Missouri Valley Conference, giving them the sixth place position in the conference. While it's nothing to write home about, it's much better than YSU's position. Coping with a six game losing skid, after starting 3-1, the Penguins are last in the MVC.

On paper, the two seem to be evenly matched, with ISU averaging 33.3 points per game, while YSU averages 32. The Sycamores' defense is allowing 28.3 ppg and the Penguins 31.7. Even their offensive production is relatively similar. ISU averages 196.9 yards rushing and 221.8 in the air. YSU averages 215.6 and 192.6 respectively.

If Indiana State plans on coming out victorious, it will need to tighten up their run defense, one that has allowed 22 of the 34 touchdowns allowed. This could spell disaster for the Sycamores, as Cook and company have scored 66 percent of the teams' rushing touchdowns.

This is no sign of things to come, Wolford said.

"It's important to have balance, especially on first down. We're going to do whatever [we] need to do to try to put points on the board to try to win the game," he said.

The Sycamores, who also amassed most of their scoring on the ground, may encounter difficulties against the Penguins' stringent rush defense, which has allowed just 15 touchdowns all season.

Although these statistics weigh heavily in YSU's favor, Wolford pays them no mind.

"They're doing a good job. I think they're probably the most improved team in the league," he said.

While this is the last game of the season for the Penguins, for the seniors it's the final game of their collegiate career.

"We want to send the seniors out the right way," senior offensive guard Eric Rodemeyer said.

Senior wide receiver Dominique Barnes is struggling to grasp the culmination of his career.

"It still hasn't hit me yet," he said. "I've played a lot of games here for YSU, a lot of games in this stadium. So it's probably going to be emotional this week at practice and this weekend."

Senior center Justin Rechichar said, "We've never lost to this team since I've been here. We just want to go out and play hard, build a little excitement for this program and get this town excited."

Wolford said he understands how vital it is to achieve victory this weekend.

"It's important for us to get a win at the end of the year, get a positive taste in your mouth it's like winning a bowl game," Wolford said. "These guys [have] good attitudes, and they're good kids. They're working hard. They're going to be successful in their future endeavors, [and] I can assure you that because they're hard workers and do things right."



**SUPER SOPHOMORE**- Sophomore Brandi Brown will lead the women's basketball team into battle at the University of Pittsburgh on Friday. The team will look to snap a 31-game losing streak.

## WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

# Women's basketball looks for first win in 31 games

Joe Catullo Jr.  
REPORTER

The new head coach of the Youngstown State University women's basketball team, Bob Boldon, said he is not looking at last year's 0-30 season and is only focusing on this year.

"We have got to get better," he said. "We have to improve week by week and continue with the mindset that we can win."

Boldon is a Northeast Ohio native who comes in after coaching at the University of Akron for three seasons and at Florida Gulf Coast University. He was an assistant coach at both schools.

As head coach at the University of Arkansas at Monticello, Boldon took a 1-15 team and turned it into an 8-8 team the next season. In the 2008-2009 season, he was named the Association of Independent Institutions Coach of the Year, where he led Lambuth University to 29 wins and a second-place finish at the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics national champion-



**BOLDON**

ship. YSU is playing with many new faces. There are three new freshmen on the team, and four student-athletes who did not play at all last season.

"We will put the best player on the court every game, regardless of what their [class] rank is," Boldon said.

Sports Information Director Trevor Parks said last year's team struggled at times to score at least 40 points in a game.

"We need to shoot more three-point attempts this season," Bojana Dimitrov said. "But this year we have more players who can score. [Boldon] gives us more free-

dom to shoot with the motion offense."

In an exhibition game Thursday against Urbana University, YSU scored 102 points. The women shot at 43.7 percent and 32.4 percent from beyond the three-point line. They outrebounded Urbana 52-38, including 12 more offensive rebounds. YSU made 87 field goal attempts and sank 38.

Dimitrov and sophomore Brandi Brown were the point leaders with 22 points.

Brown was also the leading rebounder with 13 rebounds.

Junior Tierra Jones played the most minutes of anyone and lead all players with three blocks.

Sophomore Maryum Jenkins lead with seven steals as YSU had a total of 24 in the game. Urbana muscled out only nine.

The final score was YSU 102 and Urbana 70.

YSU women's basketball opens up their season on Friday at the University of Pittsburgh. The team's home opener is Nov. 20 against Indiana University-Purdue University Fort Wayne. The Penguins' first division game is scheduled for Dec. 31 at Loyola University.