

GRAPHIC NOVEL

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PROCRASTINATION

O

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S

NEW TECHNOLOGY LEND A ROBOTIC HAND

SAMANTHA PHILLIPS
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MAKOplasty technology — featuring a robotic arm that allows surgeons to perform precise operations — was on display in Ward Beecher Hall on Friday.

A team of surgeons used the technology to perform a hip replacement surgery on a cadaver while Youngstown State University students observed. They answered questions about the equipment following the procedure.

Northside Medical Center has performed nine surgeries using MAKOplasty, and it is also being used at St. Elizabeth Boardman Hospital.

Raymond Duffett, an orthopedic surgeon and physician to YSU athletic teams, said MAKOplasty helps with hip replacements in patients with arthritis or degenerative joint disease. They place landmark points on the hip socket and a 3-D image is rendered on a computer. Then surgeons can see exactly where they need to ream the socket to create a perfect hemisphere.

He said ideally the robotic arm reproduces the same re-

sult every time. Being off by a few millimeters can cause the hip replacement to wear out more quickly. The technology ensures the surgery is a more permanent solution.

“We’re trying to get that one [perfect] operation,” he said. “That operation that’s not going to wear out, that’s not going to have a complication and, of course, we think maybe this is a step in the right direction.”

Hip replacements typically last for about 25 years, which is an improvement from when Duffett started his practice 30 years ago. MAKOplasty is intended to extend the life even further.

Another advantage is the prevention of causing pelvic damage by reaming too deep into the socket. The cartilage is green on the screen, and when surgeons get too close it turns red.

David Weimer, an orthopedic surgeon at St. Elizabeth Health Center, said there is a positive outlook for the technology.

“I think this is going to continue to grow in popularity,” he said. “I think more and more cases will be done with robotic assistance. Originally this started with prostate surgery,



PHOTO COURTESY OF YSU STEM.

and now its application has expanded into orthopedics.”

Weimer said using MAKOplasty takes longer because there is more technical work involved, but the more cases you do, the faster you learn how to use it.

“It’s more accurate and it gives you real time information

so it can be more consistent case to case,” he said. “Everyone’s anatomy is a little bit different, and this helps you map their anatomy.”

Stryker Corp., one of the world’s leading medical technology firms, provided the MAKOplasty robot and the cadaver for the demonstration at YSU.

Duffett hopes that students will be inspired by the demonstration and told them not to be discouraged by changes in the field.

“It’s a tough road — 14 years from the start until you see your first patient,” Duffett said. “But I would do it all over again.”

University 101

LAURA MCDONOUGH

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A focus group held in the DeBartolo Hall auditorium Wednesday discussed the possibility of adding a first-year experience course to the general education requirements.

Joseph Palardy, general education coordinator, presented the basic idea of the proposed course before opening it to public discussion.

Two reasons for introducing the course are the need for increased completion and retention rates and the desire to create a common experience.

Palardy said six-year graduation rates were at 32 percent in 2008, which could be considered unacceptable at a school marketing its programs as four-year degrees.

Jacob Schriner-Briggs, executive vice president of Youngstown State University’s Student Government Association, said that because students test out of or take different required courses, students are not necessarily taking the same courses and having a shared experience.

“You could finish the gen-ed model, and I could finish the

gen-ed model, and we don’t have to take any of the same courses,” Schriner-Briggs said.

Three models were suggested for students at different levels. Palardy said this was because one size does not fit all.

The first is a “University 101” course that focuses on student success with limited academics.

The second is a hybrid course that would focus on the foundations of student success with a more academic focus.

The third model would be considered a freshman seminar. The course would be almost exclusively academic with a focus on writing and critical thinking. The only student success content would be what was state mandated.

Schriner-Briggs said there are no definitive plans, but conversations about content are ongoing.

Participants in the open forum voiced concerns about staffing the courses.

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TEDx Speaker Series: Larry Moliterno: Addiction Prevention is the Key

LAUREN FOOTE

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Larry Moliterno, president and CEO of Meridian Community Care, said he is concerned about the heroin epidemic.

There are three things Moliterno thinks need to happen. We need to get as many people into treatment as possible, we need to appropriately deal with drug crimes and provide treatment options in prison, but the third thing is what he’s focused on.

“How do we stop another generation of people from being affected by drug addiction?” Moliterno said.

He said the question occurred to him one day when he attended the funeral for someone who had overdosed.

“The mother turned to me and said, ‘We have to stop this. We have to stop another mother from getting this phone call,’” Moliterno said. “It was the same day and it was on my mind, and I saw a pregnant mother and I thought, ‘What could we do for that baby not to possibly end up like this person?’”



PHOTO COURTESY OF LARRY MOLITERNO.

Moliterno received a bachelor’s in communications and a master’s in business administration from Youngstown State University. He also works as an adjunct in the Williamson

College of Business Administration.

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TEDx Speaker Series: Performing for the Arts



PHOTOS COURTESY OF JAMES SHUTTIC

DOM FONCE

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Artist James Shuttic and poet Ron Book will collaborate on a performance piece for TEDx Youngstown in January.

Shuttic is the founder of the Warren Arts Center and the owner of Shuttic Arts with his wife Julia. He graduated from YSU with a bachelor's degree in painting and returned recently to obtain an associate's degree in drafting and design.

"I've been drawing for only as long as I remember," Shuttic said.

Book worked as a substitute teacher for 12 years before getting his master's of fine arts in poetry at Ashland University. He also founded the Rust Belt Poets and Writers Group.

"[It's] a nonprofit organization. We have monthly readings at the Trumbull Art Guild on the third Wednesday of every month," Book said.

Their performance will draw attention to the importance of high school arts programs.

"It'll be myself reading poetry, [Warren G. Harding High School] senior Alina Howard playing the clarinet and James Shuttic will be creating his art," Book said.

He said if it weren't for arts in high schools, he wouldn't be writing poetry, Howard wouldn't be playing music and Shuttic wouldn't be an artist.

He said the first things academic institutions cut are their arts programs.

"It's even creeping into colleges," Book said. "Look at the University of Akron, they cut away their student creative

writing publication."

Shuttic and Book met because they both participate in local art shows.

"It's all due to networking," Shuttic said. "Ron would show up at my shows and events. We just clicked. We have the same mindset. We like to surround ourselves with creative [people] without an elitist view. Art, to us, is more about the process of creation — it's about having fun — not just the end product."

They said Warren has seen an art renaissance in recent years, with shows often set up

on the downtown square.

"A lot of local artists picked up a do-it-yourself attitude," Shuttic said. "We found that a lot of people in the art world are dismissive — controlled by old mindsets — so we took the attitude to make our own opportunities. We got to the same mental place, and I think this attracted a lot of local and even big city artists to come support the Warren art movement."

With their performance, they want to show people that "everyone can do it."

TEDx Youngstown will be held on Jan. 22, 2016.



Eight YSU Students Participate in Pittsburgh AdFed Contest

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Eight Youngstown State University graphic design students are participating in the American Advertising Federation's Pittsburgh AdFed contest.

Students from the University of Pittsburgh, Point Park University, Chatham University and YSU were broken into six groups of eight to brainstorm ideas for a mystery nonprofit client with local advertising agencies.

Jackie LaLama and Nate Unger were among the participants from YSU. Unger is one of four YSU students on semifinalist teams.

"The nonprofit organization wants to earn \$1 million, and we were assigned to come up with a design strategy for that," LaLama said.

The groups were given a limited amount of time and funding to generate designs.

"We were given only \$500 and eight hours, so we didn't have much to work with," Unger said. "We just had to come up with a creative idea to help them out quickly."

No matter who wins the semifinal, two YSU students will be recognized at this year's ADDY Awards.

Jamie Bogdan and Mackenzie Sturtz are semifinalists with the advertising agency Marc USA. Unger and Deanna Cameneti are their opponents with the agency Garrison Hughes.

"Having four YSU students as semi-finalists shows that we know what we're doing," Unger said. "Obviously it speaks well of our professor and Rich for always giving us this opportunity."

Richard Helfrich, assistant professor of graphic and interactive design, recommended the students. He said while winning awards is always nice, networking and working in a real job setting are the real benefits of this contest.

"I think these contests are so successful because, a: it gets them in that professional environment. They can now understand the context of what they're learning in the classroom and applying it to what they'll see in the real world," Helfrich said. "B: it gets them networking. Oftentimes, students are plucked by these agencies and given internships. This happened to a few of our students this time around."

This is the second year in a row that the Advertising Federation of Pittsburgh invited YSU students to participate in this contest.

"It really illustrates the quality of the work and how well the students prepare prior to graduation," Helfrich said. "I think what it also does is elevate the reputation of the program and the Pittsburgh professional community. And it's priceless."

The winner of the semifinals will be announced on Nov. 13 at Point Park University.

Ayotte Backs EPA Clean Power Plan

By Niels Lesniewski

CQ-Roll Call

(TNS)

WASHINGTON — Sen. Kelly Ayotte, R-N.H., broke with Majority Leader Mitch McConnell Sunday by announcing her support for the Obama administration's Clean Power Plan.

McConnell, whose home state of Kentucky has long relied on coal industry jobs, might be the most fervent opponent of the Environmental Protection Agency under President Barack Obama. That includes its plan, released Friday, to cut carbon emissions in existing power plants.

But New Hampshire is quite different, and Ayotte has been among the few Republicans backing other environmental standards. She is also facing a competitive re-election challenge next year in the swing state from Democratic Gov. Maggie Hassan.

"It's so important that we protect New Hampshire's beautiful environment for our economy and for our future," Ayotte said in a statement announcing her support for the plan.

New Hampshire TV station WMUR first reported the news.

The announcement comes the day before the state's top Democrats, Hassan and Sen. Jeanne Shaheen, are scheduled to appear together to tout the Clean Power Plan.

"I have decided to support the Clean Power Plan to address climate change through clean energy solutions that will protect our environment," Ayotte said in her statement. "New Hampshire is already well on its way to meet the goals of the Clean Power Plan through positive steps it has already taken."

Ayotte said she "will carefully monitor implementation of the plan to make sure there is sufficient flexibility for New Hampshire" and to ensure energy costs don't increase.

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NEWS BRIEFS

Sixth Annual Halloween Costume Contest

A charity event to benefit the American Cancer Society will take place on Thursday, Oct. 29 at Inner Circle on campus from 7:30 p.m. to midnight. There is a \$5 contest entry fee and a \$5 unlimited pizza and punch fee. First place prize for best costume is \$150, second place is \$100 and third place is \$50. Door prizes and gift baskets will be available. For more information contact Jeff Tyus at jltysu@ysu.edu or (330) 941-1856.

Virginia Tech University Professor Lectures on ISIS Sexual Violence

Ariel I. Ahram, associate professor of government and international affairs at Virginia Tech University, will lecture on "Sexual Violence and the Destruction of the Yezidis in Syria and Iraq." The lecture will be at noon on Monday, Nov. 2 in the Bresnahan Suites of Kilcawley Center, and is free and open to the public. For more information, contact the Center for Judaic and Holocaust Studies at judaic@ysu.edu or (330) 941-1604.

UNIVERSITY 101 FRONT

courses with three different models every fall. Using existing faculty to staff the courses may not be a viable option, and hiring new faculty members may not be possible.

There was discussion about whether or not concepts like money management should be included. A member of the general education board said he didn't want to teach "things that should have been learned in high school." Another participant asked how we can help students without providing them with life skills high schools neglect to teach.

There was little discussion about what would actually be taught in these courses, only that they would be required and would boost graduation and retention rates, mainly because other universities have implemented similar programs that work.

The University of South Carolina was mentioned — the school had an approximately 80 percent attendance rate in the elective course — and

they've set an example for other universities to follow.

Palardy said he did not talk to many students when considering what should be taught in these courses and didn't say what information he gathered, only that it was "not a great sample."

In addition to academic content, state mandated material would be presented to students, such as the Campus Sexual Violence Elimination Act, which addresses sexual assault on campus.

One participant brought up that IGNITE — the new freshman orientation program — covered this information. However, approximately half of the current freshman class did not attend.

The university has considered this type of course in the past, although no one could say whether a formal proposal had ever gone before the Academic Senate.

Although the program is not yet ready, Schriener-Briggs said piloting a few first-year experience courses in fall 2016 is realistic, if the academic senate approves the proposal.

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He started working at Serex Vending Services Company in Akron, and one of his clients was a corrections facility that provided treatment.

"I liked working with them. I found it interesting and they were growing and expanding and they asked me if I wanted to work for them," Moliterno said. "I went to work for them in an operational job and I loved that field."

He then worked for Catholic charities dealing with mental health, adoption services and feeding the homeless. After a brief stint at United Way, he ended up at Meridian Health-care.

"They were looking for people with more of a business sense to work in the non-profit," Moliterno said.

Moliterno wants students to be aware of the prevalence of heroin and opiate addiction not only in our community, but nationwide, and understand we need to take responsibility for it. It is a growing problem.

"According to statistics, it is not even supposed to hit its peak until 2017, so we have not even seen the worst of it yet,"

Moliterno said.

He said we need to meet kids where they're at and help them deal with their struggles so they make better decisions.

"If we get everyone into treatment, but we don't get to the kids? Then we are not going to end it," Moliterno said.

He said they are seeing more young people in the suburbs go straight to heroin before experimenting with other drugs. He said he wants people to start talking and thinking about solving the problem with a focus on prevention.

"People are talking about putting them in jail or shoving them into treatment, but no one is talking about prevention," Moliterno said. "We believe that it is a critical component if we are going to solve this issue, and that is where I want to go with this."

He said addiction is an illness, and there can't be a stigma attached to it. He said students need to be part of helping the next generation beat addiction.

"I want students to come out of this talk and think, 'This is my issue. This isn't just something I don't worry about,'" Moliterno said. "Everyone needs to be part of the solution."

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Hurricane Patricia Peters Out Over Mexico; No Deaths Reported

By **Tim Johnson**

McClatchy Washington Bureau

(TNS)

MEXICO CITY — In just 40 hours, the weather system that became known as Hurricane Patricia grew into the fiercest hurricane ever recorded in the Western Hemisphere, threatening calamity on Mexico's Pacific Coast, only to fizzle into a weak tropical depression after it came ashore.

Hurricane experts said quirky conditions nurtured the storm's rapid growth and intensity. Its winds topped out at 200 mph by midday Friday. Warmer than normal Pacific temperatures, combined with calm atmospheric conditions, helped the storm bulk up.

Veteran hurricane chasers voiced dread at the potential of the Category 5 storm as it approached Mexico's Pacific coast.

"Still can't believe what's just offshore. You'd have to be a Cat-5 idiot not to be scared of it. Despite years and years of chase experience, I'm just in awe of this one," wrote Josh Morgerman from La Manzanilla in

Jalisco state, near where the eye of the hurricane passed.

Patricia struck hard near Cuixmala in Jalisco state, but within hours had degraded to a tropical storm over Zacatecas state. By noon Saturday, its sustained winds were barely 35 mph and dissipating fast. While property damage was extensive, not a single fatality was reported.

Experts said the dissipation of the storm, caused by hitting rugged coastal mountains, was far less surprising than its colossal and rapid buildup. Hurricanes often weaken significantly upon hitting mountainous terrain. And since no major city was in its path, Mexico was spared a high toll.

But the rapid growth of the system from a collection of thunderstorms Thursday to the most powerful storm ever was all but unexpected.

One factor was that ocean temperatures in the eastern Pacific off Mexico currently are averaging about 87 degrees Fahrenheit, and that's close to the warmest ever recorded.

"Those warm waters extended to great depth so as the hurricane moved over those waters and stirred them up, the waters that

came to the surface ... didn't have a cooling effect," said Jeff Masters, director of meteorology at Weather Underground, a weather forecasting service.

"The storm was able to draw a tremendous amount of heat energy out of the ocean," he said.

Adding to that was a lack of wind in the upper levels of the atmosphere. Such winds can shear updrafts in a building hurricane, weakening it. Without them, Patricia was able to form and strengthen quickly.

A third factor was high humidity. Masters said relative humidity of nearly 80 percent off Mexico's coast was "a powerful source of energy" for the storm since condensation releases heat energy, which strengthens winds.

Those conditions helped Patricia intensify its winds by about 100 mph within a day, turning it into a monstrous, powerful storm acting with the force of a tornado near its compact eye.

Such conditions have existed elsewhere at other times around the world, but hurricanes rarely form so quickly with such strength.

"Patricia did that, and it reached its maximum po-

tential intensity, and that's really a rare occurrence. We really don't understand why it doesn't happen more often," Masters said. "We've never measured winds that strong anywhere in the world."

Luckily, the storm struck land at 6:15 p.m. Friday in a sparsely populated area of Jalisco state with pristine beaches and resorts the primarily serve the ultra rich. Twitter postings and photos from indicates heavy damage and mass flooding in the towns of Cuixmala, Emiliano Zapata, Costa Careyes and Melaque.

But Puerto Vallarta, the Pacific resort city popular with U.S. and Canadian tourists, which is about 50 miles to the northwest, received far weaker winds and less rain. Commercial flights to and from Puerto Vallarta, which had been canceled Friday, resumed Saturday morning.

If Mexicans felt they dodged a bullet, they had reason. Patricia was the first Category 5 hurricane to land in North America since 2007, when Hurricane Felix hit the sparsely populated border between Honduras and Nicaragua.



Graphic Novel Author to Visit YSU

MARY VAN JURA

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Dara Naraghi, a graphic novelist and comic creator, will visit Youngstown State University on Wednesday, Oct. 28 in DeBartolo Hall room B91.

After meeting at a book festival in 2014, English professor Rebecca Barnhouse wrote a proposal to bring Naraghi to YSU to talk to students.

"I knew there was a lot of interest about writing and illustrating graphic novels at YSU, especially among creative writing students, and I thought he would be able to give students

a lot of the kind of information they wanted," Barnhouse said.

Barnhouse said Naraghi will cover a number of topics, including instructions to create script pages and artwork for graphic novels.

"He will discuss creating comics and graphic novels, including how to hone your skills, how to build relationships, how to be professional, how to get experience and what resources are available for graphic novelists," Barnhouse said.

Naraghi has been writing comics for 23 years. He said that after a bad first experience with a West Coast publishing company where he was never paid for his work, he was 'sour'

about creating comics.

Naraghi spent his childhood reading comics. He showed a great interest in "The Adventures of Tin Tin" comic series and Marvel and DC superheroes. As he grew older, Naraghi began delving into more mature, literary graphic novels.

"I always enjoyed creative writing and storytelling, so I guess it was just natural that at some point I combine these two loves and start writing my own comics," Naraghi said.

In 2002, Naraghi said that a few of his artist friends brought him back to creating again, which led him to his first professionally published graphic novel in 2008.

"Which I'd consider the true start of my writing career since it was the first time I was paid properly for my efforts," Naraghi said.

One of Naraghi's proud works is an issue of the "Ghostbusters" comic in which he co-created a character with artist Salgood Sam, but Naraghi said he favors his current trilogy *Persia Blues* most. The story centers around Mino Shirazi, a young Iranian woman who leads a mysterious double life.

"I'm enjoying blending Persian history and mythology with current Iranian politics and drawing inspiration from some of my own experiences in Iran as well as those of friends

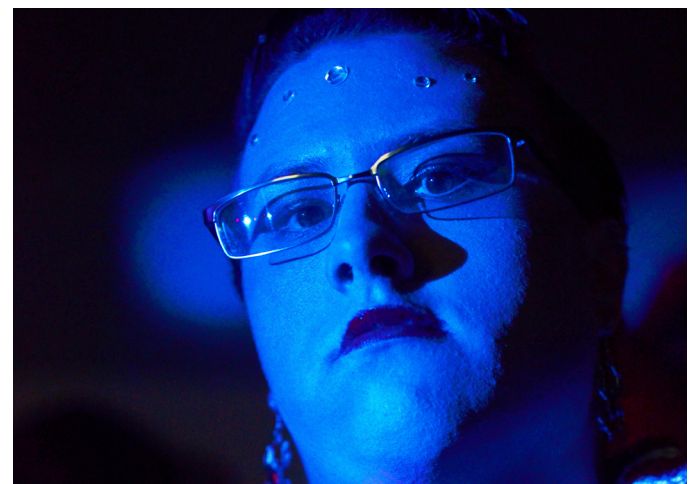
and family members," Naraghi said.

He hopes that the students will gain knowledge and inspiration for creating comics, whether on their own or by collaborating with a writer or artist.

"If creating comics is something they want to do professionally, hopefully I can also leave them with some advice on how to navigate the treacherous waters of the business," Naraghi said.

Barnhouse encourages anyone who is interested in graphic novels or Naraghi's work to come and speak with him on Wednesday.

Diversity Prom Lights Up YSU



PHOTOS BY GRAIG GRAZIOSI/THE JAMBAR.

Deadpool, Rorschach and a host of other characters dance during YSUnity's annual Diversity Prom. The event is meant as an opportunity for people to express themselves in a judgment free environment. Participants were asked to "unleash the superhero within" for this year's theme.

A Worldly Good Halloween Party

BILLY LUDT

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Youngstown State University's International Student Association is hosting its 4th Annual Halloween Costume Party, Fright Night, on Halloween from 7 to 11 p.m. in the DeBartolo Stadium Penthouse.

Catherine Cooper, vice president of the International Student Association, talked about the importance of events like Fright Night for the community, as well as American and international students.

"We want everybody to become involved," Cooper said.

Fright Night will have a

pumpkin carving contest, games, music, henna tattoos, tarot card readings and Halloween makeup with the a YSU Make-up Effects Guild. The pumpkin carving contest is team-based and a prize will be given to the winners.

The International Student Association organizes events and trips that are open to the YSU community. They recently took a group of students to Niagara Falls.

Admission to Fright Night benefits the International Student Association, allowing it to continue organizing events for group members.

"The real reason why I joined, and why I became a leader, is that I have a vision

for this organization to help American students to understand international [students] and also to promote diversity," Cooper said. "Internationally, I want them to gain the experiences in order to understand about America. I want them to have fun. This is why they're here. They want to have fun; they want to make friends."

The group aims to promote diversity, acceptance of regions and backgrounds and giving opportunities to international and American students to work together and network.

Cooper said her mother was originally from Ecuador and moved to the United States 25 years ago. She had a difficult time assimilating in American

culture because of a language barrier.

"We're trying to help them learn different things about — this is what our culture's expectations are, this is what our traditions are — because they want to know too," Cooper said.

Next month the International Student Association is hosting the Taste of Culture Formal on Nov. 14, a celebration involving 20 universities. They are also working on organizing International Students Day, which would be a procession in Kilcawley Center where international students would dress in traditional clothing. The event would try to get the YSU community interested in international culture by provid-

ing food, music and introductions to different languages.

"I think American students would benefit from learning about different cultures, making new friends, building relationships, networking with students from different countries," Cooper said.

The International Student Association is continuing to work to get international students involved in the YSU and surrounding community.

More information about the YSU International Student Association can be found on their Facebook page. Admission to Fright Night is \$5.

EDITORIAL

The Pot Editorial That Should Not Be

The big vote for marijuana legalization is coming up on Nov. 3, and the usual shouting match between people who think “Reefer Madness” is a documentary and those who talk about marijuana like it’s a two-way radio with the divine has flared up as expected.

ResponsibleOhio’s attempts at legalization are complex, and this editorial is not a tally in support of ResponsibleOhio, but an explanation of why legalization is the best course of action in 2015. We shouldn’t have to explain this, but unfortunately our hands are tied on this one.

Let’s start with the obvious. Marijuana, as a schedule 1 drug, is viewed by the federal government as having no medical benefit. It’s equal to heroin and more seriously prosecuted by the federal government than cocaine, opiates and methamphetamines. The arguments for and against pot as a medicine are hotly debated, but in a culture where chronic stress is linked to the six major causes of death, the case for chronic as medication is clear.

The current chief of the Drug Enforcement Agency admits that marijuana is not nearly as dangerous as hero-

in. Yet they are policed — or at least the law suggests they should be — with the same rigor.

The argument for legalization isn’t claiming marijuana is good, it’s that the costs associated with prohibition are greater than the costs associated with legalization.

In a Vindicator editorial, the Ohio Hospital Association is mentioned as a source opposing legalization. The OHA claims that marijuana use negatively impacts the long-term health of Ohio. They cite negative neurological effects to children exposed to second-hand smoke and low birth weight in babies whose mothers get high while pregnant.

Apart from the laughable idea that marijuana use is in some way even a blip on the “things Ohioans do that will eventually kill them” radar, the crux of the OHA’s argument seems to be a “but what of the CHILDREN?” plea. It’s an appeal to emotion. A fallacy.

People who want to get high while pregnant are already doing it, and those who don’t generally are not the people you would expect to all of a sudden decide they’re going to start smoking up when they’ve got

a bun in the oven just because it’s legal.

We haven’t made it illegal to drink while pregnant. There are just some strongly worded warnings about doing it, despite drinking during pregnancy being linked to actual birth defects, not just “low birth weight.” The OHA doesn’t even have a page dedicated to warning people about all the risks associated with alcohol consumption, yet it decides it’s necessary to make a public statement arguing to keep marijuana illegal for the sake of the kids.

The OHA may also want to issue a call for the prohibition of addictive prescription drugs. While marijuana is often touted as a “gateway drug,” according to a 2014 study in JAMA Psychiatry, three quarters of heroin addicts turn to the drug after becoming addicted to prescription pills.

Rather than calling for the prohibition of prescription pills to protect from heroin abuse — for the record, we shouldn’t do that — state law now allows for pharmacies to sell Narcan without a prescription. Narcan is a drug which can help keep heroin overdose victims alive long enough for

help to arrive.

CVS can be trusted to dole out pills that might lead people to heroin use. CVS can be trusted to hand out a drug used to treat heroin overdoses, but Ohio adults can’t be trusted with a plant that has killed approximately zero people in the entirety of its history. Gotta protect those kids though.

What about the college kids who get arrested on non-violent pot offenses, enter the system and have their lives derailed because they wanted to feel goofy for an hour? Shouldn’t we be concerned with the welfare of our nation’s children in the pivotal years when they’re studying to become adult members of society? Or does that become inconvenient for the emotional plea?

It’s even worse for black Americans. A recent New York Times piece by Sendhil Mullainathan analyzed data from fatal police shootings in which black Americans were killed, and concluded that black Americans are shot more often because they encounter the police far more often than other races.

Police, drugs and black people tend to have hefty rep-

resentation in low-income neighborhoods. Despite using marijuana at the same rate as white Americans, black Americans are as much as 30 times more likely than white Americans to be arrested on marijuana charges according to the ACLU.

Not only would legalization keep otherwise non-violent offenders out of prison — where they could certainly learn to be violent from those who’ve done it well enough to earn a room — but it very well may help reduce the number of fatal shootings in police encounters.

This is to say nothing of the revenue it would bring into the state.

Do some research on the issue, don’t just take our word for it. Don’t take the OHA’s, don’t take your dealer’s, don’t take the Vindicator’s and certainly don’t take ResponsibleOhio’s views. Look at the claims and seek out actual data before you cast your vote, both on legalization and on the monopoly argument.

The worst thing you can do is assume this issue is a no-brainer.

JAMBAR POLICY

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

OUR SIDE POLICY

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

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

Confessions of a 20-Something Procrastinator

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Anyone who really knows me knows that I am a procrastinator. I hardly ever start projects or papers or studying for tests at any decent amount of time before deadline. I’m constantly pulling late nights the day or two before something is due to finish the work, or sometimes start it.

It’s OK; I’ve accepted it. It’s just part of who I am.

Though one question is always raised when I’m up at 3 a.m. writing the midterm paper I should’ve started weeks ago: “Why is this how I am?”

My go-to answer, of course, is simple. I’m lazy. I am a lazy person. The idea of working on an assignment that isn’t due for a week is less appealing than, say, sleeping, or playing Sims, or watching cute goat videos. I get enjoyment from just sprawling on my bed, doing absolutely nothing

of importance. It’s a pretty relaxing feeling.

Until that due date rears its ugly head, and I’m reminded of all the work I’m supposed to be doing, I instead just aimlessly scroll through my Twitter feed. Then the panic sets in — I get that upset stomach feeling from nerves, paired with the doubts on a loop: “I’m never going to get this done in time. What was I thinking? I could just kick myself right now.”

I’m sent into a flurry of activity to throw together something that may resemble the assignment enough to get a decent grade. And I have done OK so far, which just leads me to continue the cycle. I mean, why not when there hasn’t been a large enough consequence for me to change?

Remember, I’m lazy. Change is work.

But here’s where another possible answer to the question of why I am a procrastinator comes into play. Maybe the reason why I haven’t experienced that dire consequence of waiting

until the last minute to do work yet is because I actually work best with the pressure, with a deadline.

That is actually part of the reason I decided to go to grad school for my MFA — I noticed throughout my undergrad years that I had issues making myself write on my own. Any deadlines I’d set would be 100 percent negotiable because there would be no consequence; however, if a deadline is set by a professor, there’s a real consequence for not getting any writing done: failing the course.

Now, this still hasn’t stopped me from procrastinating, as I am halfway through this semester and still have yet to actively work on anything ahead of time. But I’m getting stuff written — you know, eventually.

Like I said, procrastination is part of who I am. It’s going to be a process to change, even a little bit.

A process that I’ll start tomorrow — maybe after a nap.



Uncharted Territory for YSU Basketball

Jerry Slocum Rebuilds Starting Five



PHOTO COURTESY OF YSU SPORTS INFORMATION.

Last season Youngstown State University's Bobby Hain (20) recorded his 1,000th career point in the team's loss to the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee at the Beeghly Center.

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This year's Youngstown State University men's basketball team will have a completely different look than a year ago. YSU is returning only four players who appeared in game action a season ago and will have to replace four of their top five scorers.

The changes, however, may be welcomed after a more than disappointing season a year ago. The Penguins finished 11-21 and only managed a 2-14 record in the Horizon League play.

Head coach Jerry Slocum's major overhaul of the roster gives the Penguins a considerable amount of size at every position this year. Senior Bob-

by Hain was the only true big man on the roster last season, but this year the Penguins have five players listed at 6-foot-7 with multiple players being able to play the center position.

"We're in uncharted territories around here. There will be times on the floor when we have a 7-footer, a 6-foot-11, a 6-foot-8 guy," Slocum said. "We've never been able to do that."

The size has led for Hain, who was primarily a center last year, to make the permanent switch to power-forward this year. Hain averaged 15.6 points and 7.4 rebounds per game and was named to the All-Horizon League second team as a center this year.

"I think it's great for me. I get to have those bigger guys down low, but I'm not also guarding 7-footers night in and

night out and trying to beat each other up," Hain said. "But also I can use my skill and my outside shooting to my advantage."

Sidney Umude, a 6-foot-7 sophomore, has taken on the starting center role, while 7-footer Jordan Kaufman also is expected to play a large role at the position and could push for playing time. Umude took over the center role during the Penguins' foreign tour in the Bahamas this August where Umude started all three games. He averaged 3.3 points per game and played in 22 games last year.

"It's a change, but over the summer I've worked a lot on getting stronger and just doing my footwork in the post because Coach thought I was doing real well down there in the summer," Umude said. "It's

a big change for me moving down from forward to center, but I'm still going to step out and shoot some jumpers."

The foreign tour gave the Penguins a chance to get their young and inexperienced team some action before the start of the season. The Penguins competed in three games against international opponents, finishing 2-1. It also gave the Penguins 10 additional practices.

"The Bahamas trip really helped us figure out who we're going to be and how we're going to do it. We have a lot of freshmen and new guys and they're going to be a big impact with the team," Kaufman said.

Coach Slocum was particularly impressed with the growth of his backcourt during the tour. Newcomer Francisco Santiago started at point guard, and sophomore Cam-

eron Morse started at shooting guard in the Bahamas. Morse averaged six points per game last season but only appeared in 17 games.

"Of anything that came out of that tournament positively was that our backcourt's pretty good. Our two point guards really performed well down there," Slocum said. "I'm not going to say that it wasn't a learning curve, but those guys are pretty confident guys, and they're guys I have a lot of confidence in."

The Penguins tip off their season at Kent State University on Nov. 14, who they lost to last year's opening game 69-61.

"I can't wait. I can not wait until Nov. 14 to step out on the court again," Kaufman said.

Riese Leads Soccer to Senior Night Win

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The Youngstown State University soccer team headed into Saturday night's home finale at Farmer's National Bank Field hoping to send off the departing senior class with a win versus The University of Illinois-Chicago Flames.

Despite a heavy rainstorm, the Penguins ended the home schedule of the season with a 2-1 victory on the strength of goals by Macey Riese and junior midfielder Tyesha Kizer.

YSU (7-10, 2-6 Horizon League) took a 1-0 in the 28th minute of play. Riese converted off of a free kick from 20 yards away for her second goal of the year, assisted by sophomore forward Katie Hackos and Kizer.

Kizer later scored her second goal of the season in the 72nd minute to take a 2-0 lead.

UIC (5-11-2, 2-5-1 Horizon League) cut the Penguins' lead to 2-1 after UIC senior forward Emily Wauer scored her second goal of the season two minutes later.

Statistically, YSU was led by Hackos, who took four shooting attempts, one on goal, along with an assist on Riese's goal. Riese took two shots, one on goal in the contest.

Sophomore midfielder Tyler Lum registered two shots, as did junior midfielder Kathy Baquero. YSU took 13 shooting attempts to UIC's 10 in the match. Of YSU's 13 shots, three were on goal, while six of UIC's 10 shots were on goal.

UIC sophomore forward Olivia Everin tied with UIC freshman midfielder Jasmin Carerra for a game-high with three shots, one on goal each, for the Flames. UIC and YSU each took four corner kicks in the match.

YSU junior goalkeeper Katie Montgomery registered five saves during the match for her fourth win as goalie this season, while UIC goalkeeper Kelly Fritz recorded one save in her 10th loss as goalie this season.

After the win, Riese talked about her goal in the first half.

"I've been looking to score a goal on a set piece all year," Riese said. "I did once, the game-winning

goal against [University of] Findlay, so it was nice to win it again — especially in front of my parents and grandparents and my friends."

Riese reflected on how gratifying it was to win on senior night.

"It's definitely awesome to win on senior night," Riese said. "This is obviously our last game on our home field, so it's just a terrific win, a great memory for me."

The weather might have played a factor in the second half of the game. Riese discussed the impact of the weather and Montgomery's play on Saturday.

"In the second half, the weather was definitely a huge factor," she said. "It was really rough out there on the field. Katie Montgomery came up with some great saves. For a keeper to make saves like that in the rain is just awesome, so I'm really proud of her and our defense held strong, as well."

YSU has one last match this season, next Saturday at the University of Oakland. Kickoff time is just after 7 p.m.

MISSOURI VALLEY FOOTBALL ACTION WEEK EIGHT

(8) North Dakota St def. (18) Indiana St 28-14

South Dakota def. Missouri State 40-10

(3) Illinois State def. (20) Western Illinois 48-28

(23) Northern Iowa def. (6) South Dakota 10-7

FCS Top 25

- Jacksonville State (6-1)
- Coastal Carolina (7-0)
- Illinois State (6-1)
- Chattanooga (6-1)
- Eastern Washington (5-2)
- Richmond (6-1)
- North Dakota State (5-2)
- Sam Houston State (5-2)
- James Madison (7-1)
- McNesse State (7-0)
- Fordham (7-1)
- Portland State (6-1)
- Eastern Kentucky (5-2)
- South Dakota State (5-2)
- Harvard (6-0)
- William & Mary (5-2)
- Montana (4-3)
- UNI (3-4)
- Montana State (4-3)
- North Carolina A&T (6-1)
- Indiana State (4-3)
- Dartmouth (6-0)
- Western Illinois (4-3)
- Charleston Southern (6-1)
- Youngstown State (3-4)