

THE JAMBAR

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KENT STATE CONSIDERS KICKING TOBACCO



Kent State University's Undergraduate Student Government Association votes to pass a tobacco-free campus resolution drafted by Chelsea Kennedy (front).

STORY: **SAMANTHA PHILLIPS**

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PHOTO COURTESY: **CHELSEA KENNEDY**

While Youngstown State University currently permits smoking in some areas, Kent State University recently began the process of creating a tobacco-free campus.

Kent State could be tobacco-free as of July 2017, banning the use of all tobacco products including electronic cigarettes and chewing tobacco.

Chelsea Kennedy, a senator on

Kent State's Student Government Association, drafted a tobacco-free campus resolution that was passed by SGA. The university will vote on the resolution in May.

"Tobacco free focuses on the health and well being of everyone on campus where the smoke-free policy focuses more on the individual and second-hand smoke effects," Kennedy said.

Kent State currently has a ban on smoking within 20 feet of buildings, but Kennedy said most students ignore the rule.

"It will take time to implement [a tobacco-free campus] and to be effective," Kennedy said. "I mean, this is for students and employees, and there's big implications."

She said they would increase smoking cessation programs for students and employees, and those with health care could access nicotine patches and gum to help them quit. They also want to ramp up education efforts.

"Over 80 percent of people start an addiction before the age of 26," Kennedy said. "I think tobacco industries are definitely focused on marketing to get [people like college students] to continue using tobacco for the rest of their lives, even if it means a shorter life."

On March 15, they participated in 1Day Stand, a campaign to raise awareness about the harmful effects of tobacco use by adopting a tobacco-free policy for one day.

She compared the cultural change of people ceasing to smoke on campus to the movement for seat belts to be required in a car because people started learning about the hazards of not wearing them.

"Now ... if you don't wear your seatbelt, you're criticized because everybody's educated on how important seatbelts are, all cars have them," Kennedy said. "I think that's how a tobacco-free nation at this point will go. It's going to take time, we know it's

not good for you, there's other ways to cope, it's just a culture change."

Ron Cole, director of university communications at YSU, said the university currently lacks a campus-wide policy, but smoking is prohibited outside of limited and specific areas.

"One of the challenges with a campus-wide no smoking policy is enforcement — it's very difficult, if not impossible," Cole said. "I do know that the topic is always up for discussion, and it's possible that the administration and eventually the [YSU] Board of Trustees could choose to revisit the policy at some point in the future."

YSU currently forbids smoking in university-owned buildings and vehicles, outdoor areas where smoke may enter buildings and athletic events and concerts. However, many students smoke within a few feet of buildings, either oblivious to or not caring about the policy.

The university allows smoking in areas more than 50 feet away from buildings not specifically labeled as non-smoking. They also provide services to help students, faculty and staff who wish to stop smoking.

YSU student Sarah Morrissey-Custer said students who pay to go here should be allowed to smoke, vape and chew tobacco.

"Banning it is not going to be beneficial to the university, especially when they are trying to get their enrollment up," Morrissey-Custer said. "It's their choice on whether or not they want to [quit]."

But Morgan Sanner, another student, said he's allergic to cigarette smoke, and he often encounters people smoking right outside of buildings, such as the Lincoln Building.

"If people blow it in my face, I'll have a migraine for the rest of the day," Sanner said. "For the health and the safety of the students who don't smoke, it's better for them."

HARVARD PROFESSOR ADDRESSES ALL LIVES MATTER

STORY: **JUSTIN WIER**

JCWIER@STUDENT.YSU.EDU

PHOTO: **JUSTIN WIER**

Harvard University professor Evelyn Brooks Higginbotham spoke at Youngstown State University on Friday and provided a historical perspective to the debate surrounding the Black Lives Matter movement.

Higginbotham teaches in Harvard's history department and the department of African and African American studies and has received several awards including the 2014 National Humanities Medal from President Barack Obama.

Higginbotham's speech stemmed from hearing Alicia Garza, co-creator of the Black Lives Matter movement, speak at Harvard. When someone suggested that all lives matter, Garza responded, "When black lives matter, all lives will matter." Higginbotham pondered these words and came to the conclusion that they were true.



She documented several instances throughout history when the definition of all lives in the United States excluded black lives — beginning with "all men are created equal" in the Declaration of Independence and "We the people" in the Constitution.

"Our great Constitution begins, 'We the people of the United States,' yet the meaning and interpretation of those words excluded persons of African descent for much of the history of this nation," Higginbotham said. "What does it mean to say all lives

matter, when the law of the land, the constitution upheld not the humanity of black people, but rather the right of white people to own human property."

She outlined Supreme Court decisions noting that the definition of person in Dred Scott v. Sandford did not include black Americans. She also pointed out the hypocrisy of Plessy v. Ferguson's separate but equal doctrine.

HARVARD PROFESSOR
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Planetarium Receives NASA Grant



STORY: **LAUREN FOOTE** | LAURENLEONA.1@GMAIL.COM
PHOTOS COURTESY OF : **PATRICK DURRELL**

Youngstown State University's Ward Beecher Planetarium received \$650,000 from a NASA grant awarded to Southern Illinois University Edwardsville that will allow them to develop programming for planetariums around the world.

Patrick Durrell, associate professor of astronomy and director of the planetarium, has worked along-

side Pamela Gay at SIUE who started CosmoQuest, a citizen science project, in 2012.

"Basically, citizen science projects are projects that are accessible to everyone," Durrell said. "You can go online and using real data, you can be part of astronomy. The public can partake in actual resource."

Gay received \$11.5 million over five years from

NASA to expand its activities through CosmoQuest, which Gay said will allow anyone who wants to volunteer their time to help explore the universe.

"We are running a virtual research center that is looking to create all of the things that you have at a top real-world research center, but online and designed to engage the public ... with people from NASA," Gay said.

Durrell said the money will enhance a bunch of CosmoQuest projects including moon maps, educational lesson plans and planetarium programming, which is where YSU comes in.

"Planetariums are looking for content, so what we are going to be doing is making some short full dome videos about all these citizen science projects," Durrell said. "Once we get going, we are going to do computer animation, do some video, get some images from NASA and put it up online for free."

Gay said they chose Youngstown because they provide content to the public without charging



their audience.

"There are a lot of programs out there that are creating high-dollar content that can only be used by other planetariums that have large budgets," Gay said. "The idea of creating things that we can give away to increase science education is really at the heart of CosmoQuest, and Youngstown was a natural partner to get content out there for the little guy."

Curt Spivey, planetarium engineer, will be working to make sure the new material is universally accessible.

"Our system has a resolution of 1024 by 1024 pixels, which is the bare minimum. Planetariums around the world use resolutions up to 4000 by 4000," Spivey said. "Our goal is to create 4000 by 4000 resolution masters that can then be distributed around the world."

Much of the grant money will go toward improving technology and hiring a new staff member. They will also be hiring another student to work alongside them.

"The new staff member is going to be taking the video that we get ... animation, adding it together and basically creating the new videos," Durrell said.

Spivey said the new technology will help them create the high-quality masters that will work in planetariums with higher resolution projectors.

"The point of this grant is not only to make stuff that we can use, but make sure that other planetariums around the world can use it too," Spivey said.

Sing for Flint

STORY: **JEFF BASH** | JMBASH@STUDENT.YSU.EDU

Youngstown State University's NAACP is helping bring relief to the victims of the Flint, Michigan water crisis by having a lip sync battle known as "Sing for Flint" to raise awareness and funds for the city.

The event, "Sing for Flint," will be a lip-synch battle planned by the NAACP. Proceeds are planned to go to other universities and schools who are suffering from the water crisis in Flint, Michigan.

YSU's local youth chapter of the NAACP has been working to expand their recruitment and build a school-wide effort to combat social injustice. Victoria Shaffer, a senior political science major and current president of the NAACP youth chapter, is interested in collaborating with student leadership to build a coalition that could bolster support to combat social injustice

"Being the President of the NAACP

is a challenge; however it is a fun challenge. The difficult part of running the organization is getting everyone involved," Shaffer said. "So that's why our group has taken the initiative to try and get more organizations to unify to help us for our lip sync battle. I want it to be about other organizations as well, not just the NAACP."

Shaffer argues that community involvement shouldn't start with the government but with people. Being a resident of Michigan, she wants to see positive change locally that will spread hopefulness and charity to other regions.

Speaking personally about living only an hour away from Flint, Shaffer related memories of her time in the region. She spoke of her involvement with the Boys and Girls Club of America and how it inspired her toward community involvement. Now she hopes to expand the influence

of student organizations on campus through unifying efforts.

Ashley Orr, the Student Government Association president, echoed the sentiments of Shaffer and expressed her excitement for the collaboration.

"I think utilizing other organizations through collaboration is key. SGA is excited to advertise for them and the event," Orr said. "I see collaboration as unity — that is, how can we work together to accomplish our goals — this time, the NAACP Lip Sync, which I think will be awesome."

The student government has been working to increase communications and synergy between organizations since the beginning of Orr's term as president.

"Student government offers a variety of services for student groups and their events; we can fund them, advertise for them and attend them,"

Orr said.

Kimiya Flowers, a junior telecommunications major, has been closely working with Shaffer to help construct and coordinate the event. Flowers has been collaborating with other student groups attempting to gain supporters for the project and hopes that students from all walks of life will join the groups' efforts.

"You know, I think one thing that needs to be said is that the NAACP is not just for African American students," Flowers said. "It's for anyone who wants social justice and to help build a greater community."

Flowers and Shaffer's event ideas culminate into an event fully catered and entertained by different individuals and organizations competing to be the top performers for a good cause.

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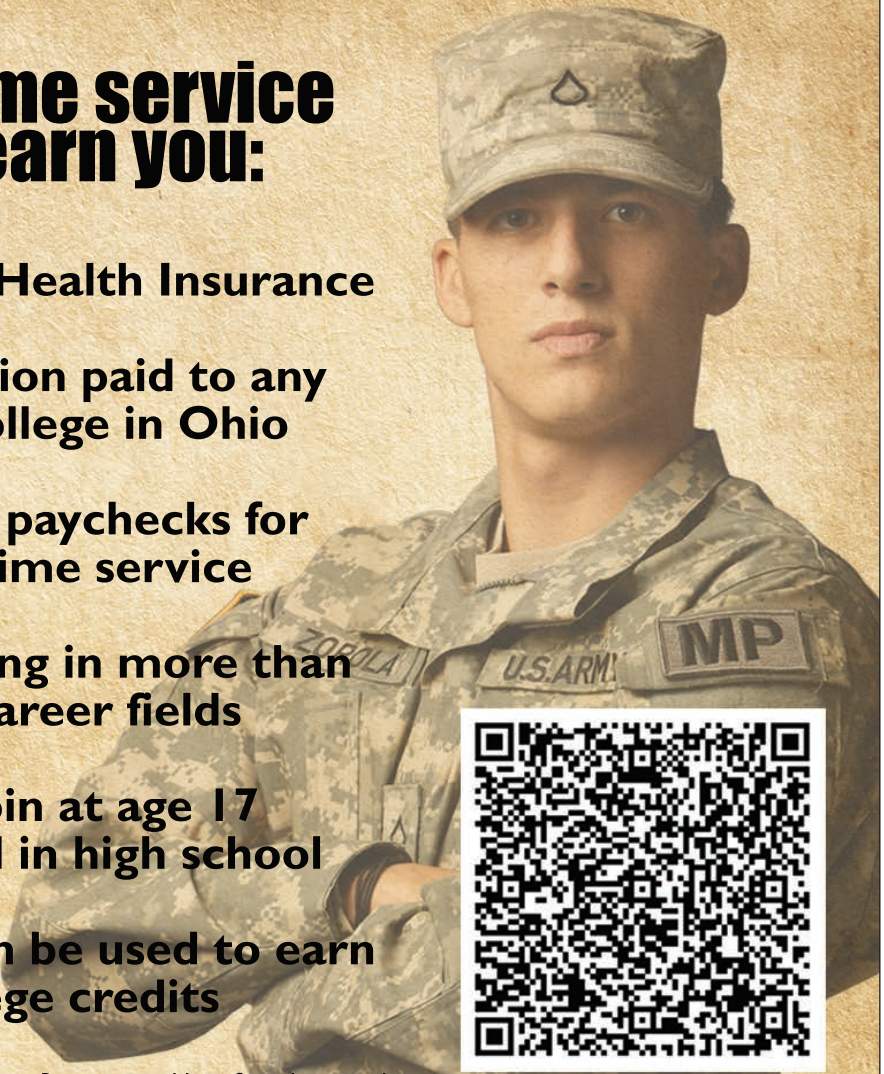
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Federal Ink Imprints on Youngstown Youth

CONTRIBUTOR: WILL KEFFLER

Dave Bianco always dreamed of entering the field of clothing and fashion but found it difficult. After a few years of graphic design school at Kent State University and Youngstown State University, Bianco decided he would find his way by starting a design and screen-printing company.

Enlisting the help of his long-time high school friend — Jason Telford — in April 2015, the two officially opened “Federal Ink,” a t-shirt design and print shop. Wanting to stay close to their roots, they decided to set up shop in Youngstown. Bianco and Telford said they were grateful for the opportunities that the recovering city provided, and in return they found that their business created opportunities for them to give back to the community.

“We enjoy being local and being part of the revival,” Bianco said. “It’s nice, because you feel like you’re part of the community. Doing local events, we get to hear that people appreciate our shirts and the artwork we’ve done for them. It’s incredibly rewarding to see people wearing our product.”

Bianco is the shop’s graphic artist, and Telford is the man in charge of running the numbers. Together, they do the screen-printing of the designs Bianco creates. The pair uses a six-screen, six-color, hand-operated silkscreen press.

Joseph D’Uva, an associate professor of print-making at YSU, said there are many creative opportunities when using a hand press.

“It allows one to print on a wider range of objects,” D’Uva said. “Printing by hand also allows for more creativity within the process and more experimentation and incorporation within the fine arts.”

One of the major flaws to a hand press are “mistake shirts,” but Bianco and Telford have recently decided that rather than letting the flawed

shirts go to waste, they could give them back to their community.

“When printing runs of shirts, we end up having test print shirts and mistake shirts,” Bianco said. “Most people wouldn’t even notice the mistakes, but when we do, we count it as a loss and set it aside. We feel that instead of trashing these shirts or testing on them, why not donate them? The local rescue mission, Beatitude House and Goodwill are perfect for this.”

Growing up in the greater Youngstown area, Bianco and Telford said they have seen the city evolve over the years. Early in their lives, they saw the city as a decrepit, former-industry hub, but as the pair has gotten older they have learned that the city won’t fix itself. Now that they are an established community business, they said they finally feel that they are in a position to do their part.

“We take a lot of pride in sticking to our roots and contributing to rebuilding where we’re from,” Telford said. “You see new businesses popping up here and there, and it seems like it’s starting to come back. Someone needs to roll up their sleeves and revive our city, but if everyone leaves, there will be no one here to do it.”

With the shop being open for more than a year, the team feels that they are ready to teach others in their craft. For them, this means opening their shop to interns who are seeking to enter the field but don’t know where to start. A position Bianco and Telford were in just a few years ago.

“We feel internships are great for students to get their feet wet in a craft they’re interested in and studying,” Telford said. “Whether it be from YSU or elsewhere local, we would like to be part of this community and for us, that means helping one another out as much as possible.”

Bianco and Telford also feel that for the city to

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Interviews will take place later that same week.

improve, there needs to be an emphasis on teaching the youth the opportunities that Youngstown can provide. They decided that the best way for them was opening their shop to field trips for local schools.

“We want to teach kids what it takes to start a business and that anyone can do it,” Bianco said. “It just takes hard work, focus and being interested in what you’re doing. We think showing kids the process of how an everyday t-shirt is made, and even having them create shirts of their own, would be a great learning opportunity.”

Federal Ink is located at 350 East Federal Street and welcomes all groups of the community in need of shirts to stop by for a design consultation.



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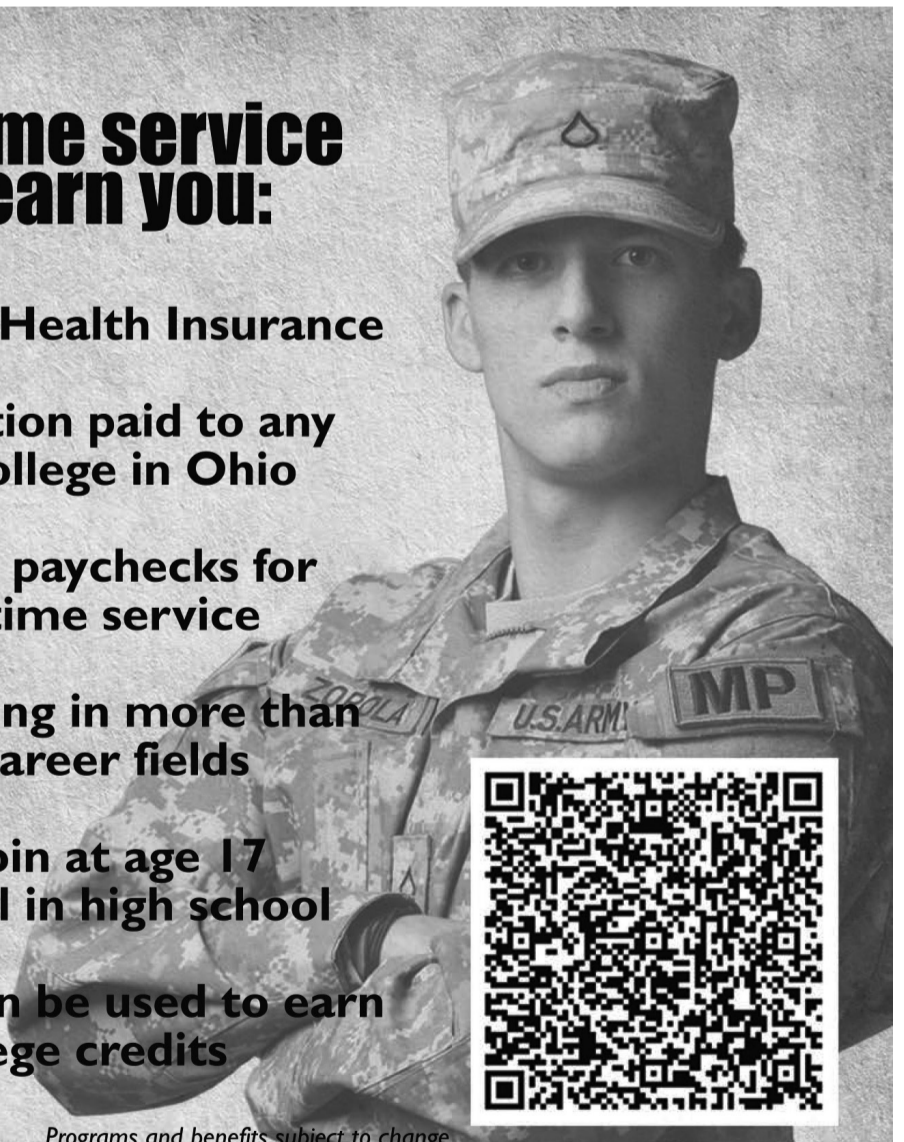
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'We Must Hold People Accountable' for Sexual Harassment, UC President Says

BY KAREN KAPLAN | LOS ANGELES TIMES (TNS)

With sexual harassment controversies roiling multiple campuses in the University of California system, UC President Janet Napolitano on Friday announced new measures designed to prevent future incidents and ensure that punishments, when necessary, are uniform system-wide.

In an open letter addressed to the UC community, Napolitano said that a newly formed peer review committee would evaluate the proposed punishments for "senior leaders" who violate the system's policies regarding sexual harassment and sexual violence.

The committee will have 10 days to approve, reject or modify the sanctions that are sent its way for review, Napolitano explained in a separate letter to UC chancellors.

Chancellors, associate and assistant chancellors, provosts and vice provosts, deans, athletic directors and head coaches would all qualify as senior leaders under the policy.

In addition, all senior leaders will be required to complete sexual harassment training by March 25 to make sure they are all up to speed on the university's policies and procedures.

"We must, and we will, do a better job of investigating all claims of sexual harassment or sexual violence thoroughly and fairly," Napolitano wrote in the open letter. "And when claims are substantiated, we must hold people accountable and impose sanctions that appropriately reflect the seriousness of these cases."

Napolitano had already created a joint committee — made up of representatives from the UC administration, the Academic Senate and students — to assess the way sexual assault cases involving faculty are handled. That group is supposed to make recommendations by April 4.

However, "recent developments have demonstrated that we must take immediate steps to further shore up our efforts," Napolitano wrote.

The newly appointed peer review committee has 12 people who represent all 10 campuses in the UC system, with two co-chairs from the Office of the President. The committee will be led by Sheryl Vacca, who heads the President's Task Force on Preventing and Responding to Sexual Violence, and Allison Woodall, UC's deputy general counsel.



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NEWS BRIEFS

Mental Health Advocacy Training Features Address by Suicide Experts

Youngstown State University Student Government Association will be hosting Mental Health Advocacy and Training Day at 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. on Friday, March 25 in the Chestnut Room of Kilcawley Center. The event will be featuring a keynote address by Paul and Darcy Granello, suicide prevention researchers who are members on the Counseling Education faculty at Ohio State University. The training will feature presentations on mental health, stigma and violence, depression, bipolar disorder, anxiety, trauma, PTSD, sexual violence, eating disorders and suicide prevention.

Real Estate Classes Start at YSU

Anyone who wants to earn a license as an Ohio real estate salesperson can now begin coursework in the Williamson College of Business Administration at Youngstown State University. The completion of four courses is required to take the state exam: Real Estate Law, Real Estate Principles and Practices, Real Estate Finance and Real Estate Appraisal. All classes are offered 5:30 to 9:30 p.m. in Williamson Hall at 221 N. Hazel St. on the YSU campus. For more information, please visit www.ysu.edu/wcba.

HARVARD PROFESSOR FRONT

"The law had systematically defined and confined the Negro's place," Higginbotham said. "It did it to these tangible spaces, but it also did it in intangible ways in these ideas that speak to what we think of today as public opinion.

And this public opinion located and assigned black people within a racial order according to a hierarchy that positioned them at the very bottom."

She then compared those involved in the Black Lives Matter movement today with Ida B. Wells, who led a crusade against lynching in the late 19th century.

"Ida B. Wells was criticized in ways similar to the criticisms voiced by many of our, the older generation, toward the younger generation," Higginbotham said. "Black people, not just whites, found her style problematic."

Higginbotham said she cringed when Black Lives Matters confronted Hillary Clinton and Bernie Sanders over the summer, but with articles such as "Are We a Race of Cowards?" Wells likely made people in her day cringe as well.

Higginbotham mentioned that the federal government was never able to pass an anti-lynching bill, many of which included provisions addressing extrajudicial killings by law enforcement.

She endorsed Black Lives Matter but argued for a wider movement that encompasses more than just police violence and mass incarceration by also addressing issues like black-on-black violence and reentry.

"Just like in the 1960s, we need today a new civil

rights movement," Higginbotham said. "We talk about today something called the new Jim Crow — that's the name of a book written by Michelle Alexander. Well if we have the new Jim Crow, we need a new civil rights movement."

She advocated for something resembling the wide array of grassroots organizations, many that disagreed with one another, addressing different issues that existed in the '60s.

"I cannot overstate the importance of a great groundswell across generations of people making a difference in multiple ways without privileging or thinking that there's only one way, or one type of organization or one type of personal style to make black lives matter," Higginbotham said.

YSU President Jim Tressel said these discussions need to happen at colleges and universities.

"It's so exciting to have programs on our campus that will allow us to have those dialogues," Tressel said. "To bring speakers in who can really challenge us to think ... that's the neat thing about being on a college campus is that we can have that dialogue."

Tressel introduced Judge Nathaniel R. Jones, who in turn introduced Higginbotham. Last week it was announced that the NAACP would award Jones the 101st annual Spingarn Medal — previously awarded to Sidney Poitier, Oprah Winfrey and Martin Luther King, Jr., among others.

Jones said that those who ignore history are doomed to repeat it, and historians like Higginbotham play an important role in bringing attention to the past events that contributed to current conditions.

"No one is better prepared to help our nation emerge

from the cloud currently engulfing all of us with regard to race and this notion about worth," Jones said. "What is life worth for all of us? What is it worth for black Americans?"

A lengthy Q&A session followed the lecture in which Higginbotham fielded questions from a woman returning from the funeral of her brother, who died at the hands of police, and a younger man who works with teenagers on Youngstown's South Side.

The woman asked how we create a narrative that makes people that aren't marginalized realize that violence may impact their lives as well because she never thought it would impact hers. Higginbotham said the woman is creating that narrative by serving as a witness and sharing her story.

"We recognize that you woke up one morning not knowing what that day would bring, and it brought you something you never would have expected," Higginbotham said.

The man from the South Side asked how to respond to youths who say their lives don't matter, they're already dead or they would be lucky to make it to 18 or 21.

"It helps to have stories about people who faced terrible odds, and who had terrible losses in their lives because sometimes when people know about those people's lives, they realize that they can do it too," Higginbotham said.

The Epsilon Mu Omega and Delta Delta chapters of Alpha Kappa Alpha presented the event in collaboration with the Bitonte College of Health and Human Services, YSU Student Diversity Programs and the Youngstown Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi.

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SOAP WRAPS UP 'HOME ART' EXHIBITION, LOOKS TO FUTURE EVENTS

STORY: **ASHLEY CUSTER** | AKCUSTER@STUDENT.YSU.EDU
 PHOTO: **BILLY LUDT**

It's generally accepted that the furniture found in a living room, appliances in the kitchen or the knick-knacks adorning walls are not works of art, but these pieces aren't typical home furnishings.

The Soap Gallery is wrapping up an exhibition called "For Your Home" that runs from March 4 to 27. The show sheds light on furniture, ceramics, paintings and other objects that are for the living room, kitchens and walls as works of art and not simply as furnishings. The exhibition is free to the public.

Daniel Rauschenbach, curator and co-owner of the Soap Gallery, declared the opening for the show a success.

"For Your Home" is an exhibit that allows everyone to take home a piece of artwork or furniture that maybe doesn't have the room or tons of money," he said.

There are about 20 artists in the show, with 90 pieces on display. The show features Mark Nelson, a furniture maker who is a wood working professor at Rio Grande University in Southern Ohio.

There is also photography by many regional artists such as Susan Griffin and Stephen Poullas, a Soap Gallery co-owner, and ceramics by Andy Thomas, a Youngstown State University alumnus that is currently finishing his masters at Kent State.

"For Your Home" suggests that buyers look the maker in the eye, ask the craftsman how it was made and form a bond with a local artist before making the purchase.

Andy Thomas, a YSU graduate with a bachelors of fine arts degree in 3D design, is showcasing some of his work in the exhibit. Thomas has about 10 pieces that are available for purchase.

"The Soap Gallery is one of the best spots in Youngstown, and it is exciting to see what they are doing to promote art within the Youngstown area," Thomas said.

Rauschenbach hopes YSU students take the opportunity to visit the exhibit.

"It is a great show to stop down and see in between classes," he said. "This is the Soap Gallery's sixth show, and the opening welcomed many new



comers to the space. We hope with diverse shows that we are able to keep expanding the crowds attending openings."

Tony Armeni, a Soap Gallery participant, creates primarily abstract steel sculptures.

"I hope by having my work in 'For the Home' that bird lovers who are also art lovers might have a spot in their yard for one of my pieces," Armeni said.

Relating his work back to Youngstown, his preferred material is steel, but he also uses clay and fiberglass to create his birdbaths.

"Making bird baths is a way for me

to offer a collector a piece of functional outdoor sculpture. They are aesthetically pleasing and offer the birds a place to bathe and drink," Armeni said.

The next show at Soap opens April 1. It is the gallery's first one man show featuring local printmaking artist Eric Alleman titled "Liminal."

May 6 will begin the First Friday Art walks downtown. It is free for YSU students to setup, but \$10 if they need a table.

Any students interested in selling crafts, artwork, custom furniture or clothing should register by emailing Daniel@SoapGalleryYo.com.



PHOTOS: **MIRANDA TIMMINS/STUDENT ACTIVITIES**

Student Activities continued its Penguin Nights event series with an evening of music, activities, prizes and food for Youngstown State University students on Thursday in Kilcawley Center. The evening was capitalized by midnight performances by Pittsburgh pop artist Daya followed by soul artist Chris Jamison. Jamison was a participant on the NBC singing competition television series, *The Voice*.



YO!

YO Magazine, The Jambar's semesterly features publication, is looking for YSU students to contribute. If you're interested in writing, send an email to: yomagazine2@gmail.com.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Did Presidential contender Donald Trump tip his hand on health care when he mentioned corporate raider Carl Icahn is one of his brains trust at Youngstown-Warren Regional Airport?

Both Trump and Icahn have the deal-maker's acute eye for hidden value and underlying forces. They'll know that America's unique group health insurance is a rotten idea that has run its course. Big Business wants out, and it's been slyly doing that through cost-shifting, outsourcing, off-shoring, and tactical bankruptcies.

Big Business fears government intervention it can't control, so it's conceivable President Trump will offer to "buy" its insurance

beneficiaries with Big Business's own money. Specifically, Trump could offer a conditional, multi-year tax holiday on global American corporation profits held overseas to avoid taxes, currently at about \$2 trillion and counting. A single-buyer scheme could be the temporary door-buster to some sort of national health plan commonly used economically and effectively elsewhere. Win-win?

Writer Ron Unz notes "we live within the distorted matrix of American Pravda". Having observed and written about health care, I agree. Blurry newspaper articles only hint at the truth behind the health care curtain, the way Solzhenitsyn, in his preface to *The Gulag Archipelago*, wrote

of how mass hunger in the Soviet prison system was revealed to knowing readers in a bland science article that described a newly discovered prehistoric fish that was promptly eaten "with relish" by its prisoner-discoverers.

Candidate Trump and advisor Icahn, both master diagnosticians of sclerotic institutions and antiquated ideas, know that "distorted matrix", and how to see through it.

Self-funded, Trump's rascally, insurgent rhetoric is remarkably different from his lobbyist-scripted, focus-grouped opponents', making this an out-of-the-ordinary election season.

Jack Labusch

EDITORIAL

Should Kent's Smoking Ban Come to Youngstown?

When you can't walk from one class to another without someone carelessly blowing a plume of vapor into your face that smells like 100 sublimated scratch and sniff stickers, it's easy to sympathize with the campus-wide smoking ban Kent State University plans to institute next year.

Youngstown State University currently bans smoking within 50 feet of building entrances and in a few other areas.

What's that? The last time you walked into DeBartolo Hall you had to evade the exhalations of a gauntlet of smokers? They were against that wall just outside the door!? Not even 50 feet away!?!?

Therein lies the problem with a campus-wide ban. The university struggles to enforce the modest smoking ban we already have in

place.

Kent's ban also extends to chewing tobacco, which seems even more impractical and extends from protecting non-smokers or non-vapers from the unpleasant side-effects of other people's habits to attempting to protect tobacco users from themselves.

Sure, carrying around bottles of spit tends to gross people out a bit, but those people don't suffer adverse health effects as a result of observing such repulsive behavior. Universities should trust educated individuals to make their own decisions about their personal health, ill-advised as they might be.

Still, at YSU, improvements could be made regarding our own smoking policy. For one, the 50-foot restriction is both poorly promoted and a bit abstract. Do most smokers disregard

the 50-foot restriction, or are they just unaware that the no-smoking stickers on the doors of buildings generate a 50-foot force field within which the practice is also verboten?

Some signage near areas where smokers congregate — outside DeBartolo, Kilcawley, Cushwa and Maag for starters — could help improve compliance.

And in regards to the abstract nature of the policy, does anyone have a firm grasp on what constitutes 50 feet? Maybe these scofflaws think they're 50 feet away from buildings when they're actually only 20 or 30 feet away. Enforcers may hesitate to confront a smoker if they aren't sure the person is within the boundary.

The university could paint circles on the concrete surrounding entrances, but that would likely prove un-

sightly.

An easier solution might be creating specified places, out of the way of typical campus traffic, for smokers to congregate.

Plenty of locations would fit the bill: the area between Maag Library and Wick Avenue with the benches and trees, the area between DeBartolo and Fifth Avenue up near the Rec Center, the area north of Kilcawley between the basketball and volleyball courts and Sweetney Hall.

These are just quick suggestions; other areas surely exist. As ill-informed — and unenforceable — as Kent's ban might be, efforts could be taken to make YSU's campus more comfortable for non-smokers. No one enjoys smelling like cigarette and the chemical Kool-Aid smell of vape juice is often just as bad.

.....THE.....

JAMBAR COLUMN

It's OK to Brag

Every Now and Then

JORDAN MCNEIL | JEMCNEIL@STUDENT.YSU.EDU

Do you know those people who get annoyed at their Facebook friends who post their end-of-the-semester grades or other seemingly bragging posts about accomplishments of all sizes? Are you one of those people?

I used to be like that a bit. I would join in the regular jokes about "Oh it's that time of the year for the sea of grade posts," and I've been careful myself on what I post on my account to keep myself from becoming one of those Facebook users.

Lately, though, I've been reconsidering my outlook. I'm involved in quite a few projects and organizations on campus, and I like to think I do a good job with all of them. Ultimately, I'm pretty proud of the work I do with Jenny Magazine, Penguin Review, these columns for The Jambar and even the assignments I have to do for my graduate assistantship. And sometimes, I just want the world — or, at least, my small section of the world — to know that.

There is absolutely nothing wrong with taking pride in the work you do. This is the goal, after all, isn't it? To do work you enjoy, to feel good about what you do? I hope to keep this feeling about my work after I graduate and move on to the adult world, because it's rather great.

If you're proud of your grade on that chemistry

test, or speech class, or history presentation, who cares what those Facebook friends from earlier think? Share your pride, own your talent and abilities.

A lot of times, I find myself focusing more on my shortcomings, and I know I'm not alone in this. I do believe it's good to admit that you do have shortcomings, that you can't do everything, but you shouldn't focus only on that. You have skills and talent and abilities that you do rock, and you should remember that. You should take pride in that.

Recognize your achievements, no matter if they appear to be small to others. Don't worry about those people. We all should be able to share our pride in what we've accomplished without worrying about whether we annoy our friends or come off as bragging or not. Really, there shouldn't be anything wrong with "bragging" online every now and then about what we've done well that day or week or month. It's just showing that we have some self-confidence in what we do, that we're proud of the work we spend most of our time doing, that we made it through something that we were worried or stressed about and are happy about the outcome.

What's so wrong with that?

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 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.

YOUR SIDE POLICY

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



Castiglione Named CLASS Semifinalist

STORY: JEFF BROWN | JRBROWN02@STUDENT.YSU.EDU

Youngstown State University softball standout Miranda Castiglione is a candidate for the Lowe's Senior CLASS award.

Castiglione was named as one of 30 senior NCAA student-athletes who excel on and off the field. CLASS stands for Celebrating Loyalty and Achievement for Staying in School. The award encourages student-athletes to make a positive impact in the community. To qualify for the awards, students must have achievements in four areas: community, classroom, character and competition.

"I think it really rounds up what a Division I athlete is supposed to be," Castiglione said. "If you have all four of those areas, then I feel your doing pretty well as a Division I athlete."

YSU Softball head coach Brian Campbell said he could not be more proud of Castiglione receiving this high praise not only for her work on the field but off the field as well.

"It's a great recognition for Miranda — just a wonderful young lady all around. She's done a tremendous job during her four years," Campbell said. "For her four years, she's been a complete leader, and [I] could not be more proud of her."

The 30 candidates will be narrowed down to 10 later in the season with a Senior CLASS Award winner to be

named during the 2016 Women's College World Series.

"It's pretty cool. I'm nominated with some girls that are pretty high up in softball from conferences like the SEC [Southeastern Conference] and Big 10, so coming from a smaller conference it's just nice to be recognized out of all the players in all the conferences of the NCAA," Castiglione said.

Castiglione has been a standout student-athlete off the field but has also been a key factor to the Penguins success on the field. Earlier this month, Castiglione set the school record for steals in a career with 50 stolen bases to date.

"It's a pretty cool accomplishment, but at the end of the day we got to win," Castiglione said.

Castiglione has been one of the better players in the Horizon League over the past three seasons, was named to the All-Horizon League First Team the past two seasons and was also named Horizon League Co-Player of the year in 2014 during her sophomore season.

"Since I was a freshman, I learned a lot from the players and coaches. Every year it's different," Castiglione said. "New girls coming and a different diversity, but you just have to take each year as it's own and approach it



Youngstown State University infielder Miranda Castiglione (17) stands at the plate during a Penguins' home game.

as it needs to be."

Coach Campbell said that Castiglione was able to make the transition well when she entered college during the 2013 season and was a big factor in her developing into the player she is today.

"Coming in as freshman, she was able to make the change very well. Miranda has played multiple positions for us. When we've had kids go down, she hasn't had a problem at all jumping from position to position,"

Campbell said.

Castiglione is happy to be nominated for the award, but said her main goal for her senior year is to help her team to a Horizon League Championship.

"I think we have a pretty good chance this year," Castiglione said. "We have a good group of girls. We have a strong offense, good pitching, so if we continue to play as we've been playing then we'll succeed."

PRESSBOX PERSPECTIVE:

Good For LaRoche, Good For the White Sox ... Screw the Haters

DAN HINER | DHINERJR@GMAIL.COM

On March 15, Chicago White Sox's designated hitter Adam LaRoche announced his retirement. This wasn't much of a surprise as Adam LaRoche told the organization that he was going to retire, but that wasn't supposed to happen until after the season.

The real story behind his departure was due to the White Sox telling Adam LaRoche that his son, Drake LaRoche, was no longer allowed in the clubhouse.

Over the weekend, his teammates and White Sox's general manager Ken Williams decided Drake LaRoche was spending too much time in the locker room.

In response to the request, Adam LaRoche decided to end his career to spend more time with his family.

Some people have a problem with the orga-

nization keeping Drake LaRoche out of the locker room. But I don't have a problem with it.

Professional locker rooms aren't intended for children. Even though Drake LaRoche is 14 years old, I still wouldn't be comfortable with a child hanging around with professional athletes all day. Between the foul language, comments and attitude of the players, I've felt awkward in professional clubhouses myself.

I understand why Adam LaRoche would turn down the \$13 million he would have earned if he had played. To him, family is more important, and it should be for all of us. He was going to retire at the end of the year anyway to spend more time with his family.

I can't even condemn the White Sox organi-

zation for not wanting Drake LaRoche in the clubhouse. Players were feeling uncomfortable, not because someone they didn't know was there, but because it was a child.

In this situation, I think both parties were in the right. Both groups were looking out for the child's welfare in their own ways.

But that doesn't excuse the opinions of certain people that believe Adam LaRoche should have shut up and played for the money.

John McGrath is a columnist for The Olympian in Olympia, Washington. In his column on Friday, McGrath asked, "Is LaRoche a principled parent or a nitwit?"

McGrath said Adam LaRoche was being an over-bearing parent and was depriving his son the ability to form

relationships with people his own age.

"Adam LaRoche wants his son to keep a safe distance from bad kids, sad kids and odd kids," McGrath said. "LaRoche is so committed to keeping his son safe, he walked away from a job paying him \$13 million to play six months of baseball."

Sure high school helps form your personality and contributes to your development as a young adult. But saying that a father and son shouldn't spend all the time they can together is asinine.

The constant interaction with my father formed my personality and shaped who I am today.

To say a child doesn't want to be around his or her father seems to be coming from the perspective of a privileged life. There are many

children out there that would love to spend time with fathers that are in and out of their lives.

McGrath described his father, who worked in the railroad-supply industry and spent time away from his family to support them. McGrath also said he went out to lunch with his father when he was 14 and said he would only want to have that happen once — not five times a week.

If you are judging Adam LaRoche for walking away from the money to spend time with his family, or you have a problem with Adam LaRoche's parenting style, then you should remember that you can't raise another person's child.

It's not your right to judge how a man or woman wants to spend time with their kids.

In Adam LaRoche's case, if he didn't have his son with him, he would see Drake LaRoche on-and-off for six months. He's been in the MLB since 2004, and he hasn't had his son by his side the whole time — they started spending time in the locker room five years ago when Drake LaRoche was 9.

For any parents out there, imagine if you didn't get to see your family for half a year. You would probably want to spend as much time with them as possible.

Adam LaRoche took the highroad in this situation. If I was him, I would have told all the haters, "You damn sure can't tell me how to raise my son!"

New Coach Brings Different Mentality to YSU Soccer

CONTRIBUTOR: MARC WEEMS | PHOTO COURTESY OF: YSU SPORTS INFORMATION

The Youngstown State University soccer team will have a new coach at the helm next season.

Fabio Boateng, former Mississippi Valley State University head coach, was hired on Dec. 8, 2015. Mississippi Valley State won the Southwestern Athletic Conference last year.

Boateng became the sixth head coach in YSU history, and the players have a newfound excitement for the upcoming campaign.

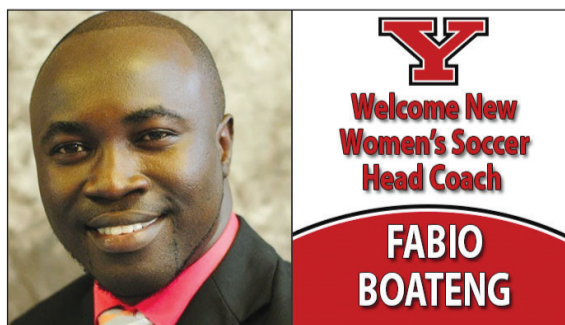
Katie Hackos, a sophomore forward and midfielder, is excited for "a new beginning" under a new head coach.

"We have been so close to making the tournament and taking ourselves far in the tournament," Hackos said. "With everything we have seen from Coach [Boateng], we can see how we would be able to go very far in the Horizon League."

Shannon Leghart, a senior defensive player, also spoke about the new found excitement in having a new coach.

"I think having a new coach helps bring new structure, and also a new system where I believe that we needed a change," Leghart said. "Our coaches are going to put a lot of new things into our team into [becoming] conference champions."

Both players were asked about the chemistry and culture of the team since getting Boateng. Leghart said the team is becoming stronger the closer the players are becoming on and off the field. Hackos



said the players are starting to develop a team mentality and aren't focusing on individual success.

"We definitely struggled with having chemistry before [Boateng] came here, and we have been able to get much closer on and off the field," Hackos said. "We used to be a team that just had individual talent and didn't play together as a team. That's very important to be able to win games and championships."

YSU went 7-11, 2-7 in the Horizon League, last season. Under Boateng, Mississippi Valley State finished the season 13-7-2 and 8-1-1 in Southwestern Athletic Conference play. Boateng talked about his ability to change the culture of this team.

"I took this job because when I was coaching at Lincoln College (PA), they were not very good, and

I was able to turn them around in my four years there. Then I went to Mississippi Valley State where, once I got there, the format changed so that each team played 10 conference games, which wasn't true before," Boateng said.

Boateng also spoke about the challenges that come with going to a new school after winning at another school.

"For my career, I need this type of challenge for myself," Boateng said. "The leadership that is around me here is what truly motivated me to come to Youngstown State in the first place."

"In order to build a long time legacy, you have to be in a place for a long time. Everyone that hired me has been here for 10+ years and that means something in this industry. If I am successful here, I can make this place my home if I do succeed."

Boateng also spoke of the coaching style he uses to make teams better. Boateng said he's more laid back on the sidelines as compared to most coaches, and he realizes the players are responsible for what happens on the field.

"Once the game starts, I'm just a person on the sidelines. I don't have a jersey on, and all the work is now on all the players to execute on the field," Boateng said. "I think I can take this program, with the level of talent we already have, and we can recruit and only get better."