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YSU EXPRESSES GRATITUDE TOWARD COMMUNITY DONORS

Sam and Caryn Covelli on the field in Stambaugh Stadium, Sept. 30. The Covellis were recognized for donating to enhance YSU's athletics facilities.

Photo Courtesy of YSU SPORTS INFORMATION

DAVID FORD

A \$1 million donation, courtesy of Sam and Caryn Covelli, will go toward enhancing Youngstown State University's athletic facilities.

In recognition of the donation, YSU will name the athletic facilities west of Fifth Ave. across from Stambaugh Stadium the Covelli Sports Complex. The Covellis were honored at the YSU game against South Dakota State University on Sept. 30.

YSU President Jim Tressel said the donation is a component of the university's campus beautification project and will help to upgrade facilities, as well as en-

hance student experience.

"We have continued to seek upgrades and are continuing our project to enhance the area west of Fifth Ave.," Tressel said. "The donation is both a part of athletics and student experience and will hopefully allow us to create a beautiful complex."

Tressel continued by expressing his optimism about the campus beautification project and how the Covelli family's donation will be utilized.

"I think some of the money will go to aesthetics," Tressel said. "We have on our wish list to create an indoor and outdoor athletic tennis center. The area [west of Fifth Ave.] is something we've dreamed about upgrad-

ing."

According to Tressel, private donations have been critical for the university in creating a campus with a countless number of opportunities for students and faculty to succeed.

"It's a tremendous opportunity to have gifts like this that allow YSU to have a campus that students, faculty and alumni can all be proud of," Tressel said.

Last year, the university received \$1 million from YSU alum and local businessman Don Constantini to build a multi-media center for the communications department. The building will also be used for game-day activities.

Ron Strollo, the athletic direc-

tor at YSU, said outside donations are critical and allow the university to not only enhance current facilities, but build new ones.

"The [Covelli] donation is definitely a win-win situation for us," Strollo said. "It helps us to clean up the area around campus and to keep our enterprise going."

Strollo said athletics typically receive around \$4 to \$5 million a year from outside donations, allowing for increased opportunities for not just student athletes, but the university as a whole.

Each year, YSU receives donations from the community, allowing them to create various scholarships for its students and enhance facilities to create aca-

ademic opportunities.

Paul McFadden, the president of the YSU Foundation, said the arrival of President Tressel has allowed the university to get in contact with an increased amount of donors. McFadden also added the importance of the philanthropic community around YSU that has allowed the university to achieve its goals.

"You can't walk more than two steps without tripping over philanthropy," McFadden said. "We have a legacy of philanthropy that allows us to enhance our students' learning experiences. We simply would not be the same college without the generous donations from our community."



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Photo by MELISSA TUROSİK/THE JAMBAR

HUNDREDS COME TOGETHER FOR ALZHEIMER'S AWARENESS

MELISSA TUROSİK

The 15th annual Walk to End Alzheimer's took place on Saturday at the Watson and Tressel Center.

Over 700 people showed up to last year's walk and more than 400 preregistered prior to the event this year according to Helen Paes, the Alzheimer's walk coordinator.

In the U.S., 5.5 million Americans suffer from Alzheimer's Disease. One in 10 people over the age of 65 have Alzheimer's, according to the Texas Health and Human Services website.

Paes said symptoms to check for Alzheimer's vary.

"If someone is forgetful

about personal history, that's where it starts. People whose personality changes, maybe they're not as socially active as they once were. It's a change in answering questions and knowing what things are used for and problems with judgement," Paes said.

People at the walk who made a \$100 donation received a free purple t-shirt with the caption, "Walk to End Alzheimer's."

Paes said the Alzheimer's walk is the largest across the country in nearly 600 communities to raise funds for care, support, research and increase public awareness of this disease.

There was a lot going on inside the training center before the walk began, Paes said.

Activities included Zumba,

a kid zone, team pictures and many other events.

People were able to walk, check out local health organizations and listen to a disc jockey play music before the opening ceremony began.

The event began with an opening ceremony and remarks from Paes.

Comfort Keepers, a leading provider of in-home care, gave out four different colored pinwheel flowers, with purple representing a loved one with Alzheimer's, orange representing the cause, blue representing memory loss and yellow representing supporting and caring for a loved one who is suffering from Alzheimer's.

The crowd held up their pin-

wheels and honored loved ones lost to this disease.

Tammie Cooper, a YSU student, volunteered at the event and supported the cause.

"It's a need. I know people who had Alzheimer's and how it affected them. It's a sad disease. My aging and society [class] professor asked if I wanted to volunteer, and that's how I got involved," Cooper said.

Kathy Chambers attended the event because her own mother passed away from Alzheimer's.

"I don't think people realize how much it affects family. People don't know who the person really is," Chambers said.

Chambers said the event has improved awareness for the community about the disease

itself and the affect it has on the caregiver and family.

The group of people lined up and held their flower pinwheels as a YSU student carried a purple flag and led the march around the training center for one lap before they embarked on their two-mile walk across campus and around downtown.

Paes promised the crowd that they will not let Alzheimer's defeat them and that a cure is inevitable.

"Together we're moving toward our goal to raise funds and awareness. We're moving toward a cure. One day we'll end this disease. Let's show the world our passion and purple. Alzheimer's isn't going to back down and neither are we," Paes said.

YSU GOES WILD WITH JEFF CORWIN



Photo by MORGAN PETRONELLI/THE JAMBAR

MORGAN PETRONELLI

Wildlife conservationist and TV host Jeff Corwin spoke to students and faculty of Youngstown

State University in a private session before his community lecture at Stambaugh Auditorium on Oct. 4.

Corwin's lecture was a part of the Skeggs Lecture Series pre-

sented by YSU.

The private session was set up in an open question and answer format that gave audience members the chance to ask the conservationist some questions that would normally not be touched upon in a lecture.

Corwin discussed how witnessing people badly manage nature, along with his love for nature, inspired him to be a conservationist.

Corwin has hosted TV series on Animal Planet, Disney Channel, the Discovery Channel and ABC. His current project, "Ocean Treks with Jeff Corwin," airs on ABC.

The discussion centered around conservation and the Earth changing due to pollution and the effects of global warming.

Corwin discussed multiple bills currently traveling through Congress that deal with lessening pollution restrictions on companies, denying recognition of endangered species from other countries and weakening the

Environmental Protection Agency.

"If we have learned anything from the very divisive, bitter political environment we are in now, no matter what you think, we are all under this stifling umbrella," Corwin said. "So, what can we do in our lives to make a positive change?"

Corwin said it is essential to be aware, look at both sides and get involved at every level which includes in the field and politically.

Landon Durda, a YSU student and attendee of the lecture, said he was excited for the opportunity to listen to Corwin.

"I grew up watching 'The Jeff Corwin Experience,' and I never get the chance to actually talk to somebody who has such a vast spectrum of what they cover and the situations they've been in," Durda said.

He said Corwin's public approach to conservation has taught him how to balance business and biology as a career path, both of which are Durda's majors.

"I like Jeff Corwin and Neil Grasse Tyson because they are able to put complex ideas into simpler terms," Durda said. "I came here to listen to what he had to say about the current situation we are in politically and environmentally."

Paige Beaver, a pre-vet med student at YSU, said she attended the lecture for a class, but would have done so anyway because of the subject matter.

"I just really like animals," Beaver said.

One thing stayed consistent throughout the lecture: how can people become a conservationist?

Corwin offered ways to help conserve wildlife and the environment, such as calling your congressmen about legislation and avoiding face washes containing microbeads. There is always a way to help, he said.

"There's no good guys or bad guys in the end. If there is someone held accountable, it's us for not exercising our power," Corwin said.

THE MCNALLY ERA

JENNIFER RODRIGUEZ

With November right around the corner, Youngstown residents will soon say farewell to their current mayor, John McNally.

Born and raised in Youngstown, McNally grew up on the Northside and graduated from Ursuline High School in 1987. He is a husband and father of two. Previous to holding the position of mayor, he worked in other areas of the city and county.

"Coming back here as mayor was fairly easy because I had worked with most of the department heads, I knew a good chunk of the employees, still knew them when I was county commissioner, still did some things for the city. So it was a pretty smooth transition to become mayor," he said.

McNally became mayor of Youngstown on Jan. 1, 2014. From 2005 until 2012 he served two terms as one of three Mahoning County commissioners. He served as assistant law director for Youngstown from 1998 until 2002 and law director of

Youngstown from 2002 until 2004.

During his time in office he has maintained a good relationship with Youngstown State University, according to Ron Cole, public information officer at YSU.

"He has consistently recognized that it's important for the city and the university to work hand-in-hand for both the city and the university to reach our potential," Cole said. "His advocacy for the university and our students has been unwavering."

In 2014 McNally appointed YSU's evening operations manager of YSU's Kilcawley Center to the position of coordinator of Downtown Events and Citywide Special Projects.

Michael McGiffin still holds the position and said he's had a pleasure working with the current mayor.

"He was one of the smartest and best leaders I've ever worked for," McGiffin said. "I'm really proud of the work we accomplished while he was mayor."

McGiffin gives credit to the mayor for many of the changes brought to the city, such as the construction throughout downtown and YSU campus as well as the new amphitheater that is on its way.

"A lot of the growth in the downtown area was due to a mayor who was willing to take some chances and think outside the box," McGiffin said.

As for taking chances, McGiffin recalled McNally taking a big one in September 2016, when he rappelled off the roof of the Metropolitan building, the tallest building in downtown Youngstown.

McNally, along with over 70 others, participated in a fundraising event for the Beatitude House. Anyone who raised at least \$1,000 was able to rappel from the 18-story building. The mayor was one of the first to take that leap.

McNally said one of the bigger accomplishments of his time as mayor has been the reforming of the infrastructure in the city. Under his administration vacant or devastated homes have come down in Youngstown.

"When we came in there were a few things we really wanted to make a dent in and the first was the quality of life in our neighborhoods and how our main corridors look," McNally said. "We've taken down in the past three years about 1,400 homes. This year so far we've taken 325 homes down and expect to take down at

least another 110."

In November the residents of Youngstown will vote for a new mayor. McNally said he doesn't plan to stop working though, as he joked he will be on the hunt for a job.

When asked what his hopes are for the new mayor of Youngstown, he said there are several areas to focus on.

"I think they obviously have to pay attention to demolition, quality of life, infrastructure issues and that has to be a focus," McNally said.

He also expressed a dire need to focus on infant mortality.

"One of the things we tried to focus on with our city health district and the Mahoning County Board of Health was the issue of infant mortality ... Mahoning County and Youngstown have some awful infant mortality numbers. Ohio has awful infant mortality numbers. So, I think that's a social type issue," McNally said.

McGiffin said the work of McNally will live on past his term.

"He made a lot of the right moves that will allow the city to benefit long after he is mayor," McGiffin said.

CLIMATE CHANGE MAY BE RESPONSIBLE FOR SEVERITY OF HURRICANES

RACHEL GOBEP

In light of recent hurricane activity in the Caribbean and southern United States, professionals at Youngstown State University expressed their thoughts on the cause of these natural disasters.

September 2017 was the most active month for hurricanes and tropical storms in the Atlantic Ocean since the 1960s, according to Jeffrey Dick, chair of geological and environmental sciences.

“At the same time, Pacific Ocean hurricane and tropical storm activity has been relatively low,” Dick said.

Climate change refers to the long-term change in the Earth’s climate or the climate of a region, according to NASA.

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Association defines the formation of a hurricane as when the maximum sustained winds of a tropical storm reach 74 mph.

Hurricanes are rated on a scale of 1 to 5 according to intensity on the Saffir-Simpson Hurricane Wind Scale. Categories 3 to 5 are considered to be major hurricanes.

Hurricane season runs from June 1 to Nov. 30 in the Atlantic Basin, but the most active month is September, said Bill Buckler, geography professor at YSU.

On Aug. 25, Hurricane Harvey made landfall in Texas as a Category 4 hurricane with winds of 130 mph. CNN reported that Harvey was the first Category 4 to hit the United States since Hurricane Charley in 2004.

Hurricane Irma made landfall as a Category 5 hurricane on Sept. 6 on the islands of Antigua, Barbuda, St. Martin, Anguilla, St. Kitts and Nevis, U.S. Virgin Islands and British Virgin Islands. It later made landfall in Cuba and hit the Florida Keys as a Category 4 on Sept. 10, as reported by CNN.

According to a report by CNN,

Hurricane Maria hit Puerto Rico on Sept. 20 as a Category 4 hurricane and was the strongest storm to make landfall in Puerto Rico in 85 years with sustained winds of 145 mph.

“This was the first time that we have had two Category 4 hurricanes in the same year. That’s unusual,” Buckler said.

Dick said he believes it is easy to attribute the increased activity in the Atlantic to climate change, but conclusions cannot be drawn from a single season.

“Looking at earth from a historical perspective, climate change is the norm and not the exception,” Dick said.

Buckler teaches weather and severe weather, soils and water systems at YSU and said climate change will result in more major hurricanes, not an increased number in hurricanes.

The stronger category hurricanes that occurred in September are an indication of more severe storms in the future, he said.

“We are in the midst of global warming and whether some people want to believe it or not, the science is very clear. Not only is the atmosphere warming up, but the oceans are warming up,” said Buckler.

Buckler defines hurricanes as nature’s way of moving energy from one place to another. He said hurricanes in the Atlantic basin move excess energy from the warm oceanic waters in the tropics.

According to a report by the Washington Post, a poll conducted by ABC and the Washington Post in 2005 a month after Hurricane Katrina made landfall in New Orleans showed that 39 percent of Americans at the time believed climate change helped fuel Katrina’s intensity.

Today, 55 percent of those who participated in a poll conducted by ABC and the Washington Post believe that the hurricane intensities in September 2017 were fueled by climate change.

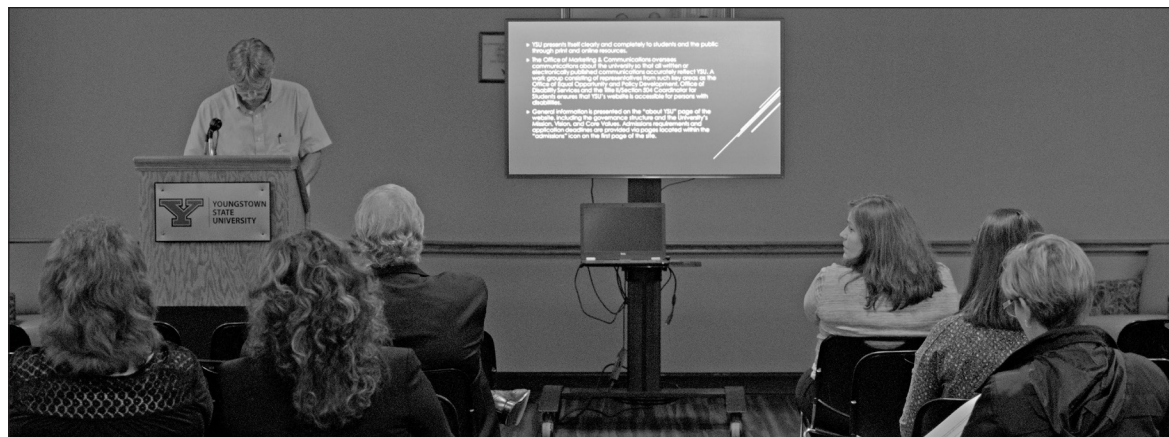


Photo by TANNER MONDOK/THE JAMBAR

YSU PREPARES TO REAFFIRM HLC ACCREDITATION

ELIZABETH LEHMAN

Youngstown State University is preparing to reaffirm its accreditation with the Higher Learning Commission in 2018 by hosting a series of five open forums.

The first meeting was Oct. 4 and the rest will be held through Dec. 6. Students, faculty and staff are encouraged to participate.

Kevin Ball, coordinating committee member of the HLC Steering Committee, said the objective of the forums is twofold.

“We’re sharing the evidence we’ve gathered and the arguments we are making with the campus community, and at the same time we’re also soliciting feedback from the campus community about anything we may have overlooked or omitted in our argument,” Ball said.

The steering committee is distributing a guide around campus to help prepare the YSU community for the HLC’s visit, scheduled from March 25 to March 27. The guide explains accreditation and the process involved in reaffirmation.

According to the guide, during the visit five peer review team members of the HLC will interview a range of campus community members, including the president, provost, board of trustees, deans, department heads, faculty, students, staff and Youngstown leaders.

Ball said the team will want to ask students about their experience with the mission, their instructors and various offices on campus.

“We know the team will want to meet with groups of faculty and staff, so we’re trying to reach out to all of those groups now so they know what to expect,” Ball said.

Each open forum will focus on one of the five HLC Criteria for accreditation, which was stated in a mass email from the steering committee that announced the dates of the forums.

According to the steering committee’s guide, the five criteria are: mission; integrity: ethical and responsible conduct; teaching and learning: quality, resources and support; teaching and learning: evaluation and improvement; and resources, planning and institutional effectiveness.

The first open forum focused on the mission of YSU. A presentation given at the forum said the HLC looks at four core components in regards to the university’s mission: the mission must be broadly understood within the institution and guide its operations; the mission must be articulated publicly; the university must understand the relationship between its mission and the diversity of society; and the mission must demonstrate commitment to the public good.

The first open forum began with opening remarks from Ball. Mary Lou Dipillo, member of the steering committee and co-chair of the Criterion I section, took the floor next and gave the first half of the presentation about YSU’s mission.

Cary Wecht, professor in communication studies and director of faculty development, stepped up next to present the rest of the slides. An open discussion among attendees followed.

Ball said YSU is required to compose an assurance argument to present to the HLC. The argument outlines how YSU meets each of the five criteria for reaffirmation. The forums give attendees an opportunity to discuss the argument.

Julia Gergits, member of the steering committee, said in the end, hundreds of people will have been consulted about the argument.

“We want to make sure that we capture the truth about the assertions we make in the report,” Gergits said. “It’s hard to know every corner of the university; it’s easy to miss important things. So, we hope that our teams and participants will point us in the right directions.”

As the forums proceed, the corresponding section of the argument will be available at YSU’s website about HLC accreditation.

According to the website, YSU has had continuous regional accreditation since 1945 and received a 10-year reaffirmation in 2008. Accreditation qualifies the university to administer federal financial aid to students and to receive federal grants and contracts. It also supports transferability and recognition of credits earned by students.

The rest of the open forums will be held on Wednesdays from 3 to 4:30 p.m. in the Schwebel Reception room in Kilcawley Center. Please contact Kevin Ball at x1560 or keball@ysu.edu for dates or with any other questions.

GUINATHON HOSTS MIRACLE WEEK TO RAISE MONEY FOR LOCAL HOSPITAL



The Youngstown State University Guinathon team and local families gathered in Heritage Park Oct. 4 for pumpkin painting, games and dancing. The evening activity was one of many events during Miracle Week, which raised awareness and funds for Akron Children's Hospital: Mahoning Valley.

Miracle Week also prepares for the dance marathon that the organization hosts annually, this year raising \$18,247. The 2018 dance marathon will be held on Feb. 10, and Guinathon aims to fundraise \$30,000 for the hospital.



Photos by JORDAN UNGER/THE JAMBAR

NEWS BRIEFS

Faculty Vote on Contract Agreement

The Youngstown State University faculty voted in favor of the tentative agreement made between the YSU-OEA negotiating team and the administration on Monday to finalize the faculty's three-year contract. About 95 percent of faculty voted for the agreement and the Board of Trustees are scheduled to vote on Oct. 20.

YSU RISE CULTURAL COMPETENCY WORKSHOP

NAMI NAGAOKA

Youngstown State University's Culture of Community held two cultural competence training workshops in the morning and afternoon on Saturday.

Approximately 30 people attended the morning workshop, and about 10 YSU student leaders participated in the afternoon workshop.

Jesse Thompson, an assistant dean at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, had a presentation on the topics of Making Inclusion Work, Serving Underrepresented and First Generation Students, Strategies for Community Inclusion and the Task of Community and University Leaders.

"When we put people together into the discussion that offers different perspectives, that's where I believe we come out with the best answer," Thompson said.

"Cultural competence is being comfortable in the environment as well as engaging in the other community, with knowing the general cultural background no matter what group of people I am with."

He said some people make judgements not culturally competent such as calling someone a b---h, or mentioning the color of their skin.

"I want [people] to understand that this community you exist in can't be productive without [the university and the community] coming together," he said.

According to the National As-

sociation of Colleges and Employers, 27.5 percent of employers plan to hire international students, making it the second lowest group since 2012.

William Blake, the director of Student Diversity Programs, said President Jim Tressel started the Cultural RISE Community. The community, promoted through the Division of Multicultural Affairs, consists of four subcommittees: respect and well-being, inclusion and awareness, spirit and tradition and excellence through engagement.

Blake said he belongs to the sub-committee of inclusion and awareness.

"We try to include everybody as much as possible on campus, and participate in some aspects in [one way or] another," Blake said.

According to Blake, it is important for students to be involved with the committees, and all are welcome.

"[There's an] invitation for everybody to get involved and everybody to bring their ideas to the table," he said. "All of our committees really need students' involvement on [them]."

Blake said there are a number of different programs being sponsored by different committees to help our cultural community be more involved with diversity and diversity programs.

He emphasized three words from Thompson's presentation; retention, drives and admission.

"We have to be very much more actively involved in terms of trying to promote retention," Blake said. "Working with our student population to help them

to be successful on campus and not providing a barrier to them in terms of success."

Ernie Barkett, the vice-president of Student Government Association, was one of the participants at the workshop.

He said the workshop taught him about how to promote and facilitate a diverse community at YSU.

"In order to truly help diversify the campus community and uplift those from underserved areas, it will take a commitment from both Youngstown State and the surrounding community," he said.

"Teamwork between the community and the university is key to helping the valley in the future."

A BAR CRAWL SUPPORTING RELIEF

NOAH JOHNSON

Motivated by the destruction caused by Hurricane Irma, Youngstown State University student Bailey Mackey is doing her part to support relief efforts by engaging the community's nightlife.

Mackey organized a Pajama Party Bar Crawl that took place Oct. 6 from 6:00 p.m. to midnight. The crawl spanned most of W. Federal St. establishments, including Suzie's Dogs & Drafts, Avalon Downtown and the Draught House.

Admission and raffle tickets proceeds went toward Samaritan's Purse and their efforts to provide relief to those affected by the hurricane in Florida, Mackey said.

"My biggest focus was just the people who were devastated by all the hurricanes," Mackey said. "It hurts to see what they're going through."

The idea for the bar crawl came to Mackey when she was contemplating how to make her event unique, inspired by the pajamas she was wearing at the time while

drinking in Suzie's.

As a 4-H student volunteer and vice president of the YSU Dance Ensemble, Mackey said she had experience working on childhood development programs and organizing fundraisers. She went to Beau Bowden, the manager of Suzie's, for assistance in setting up the event.

"I helped her set it up, like the logistics of a bar crawl," Bowden said. "Logistics are how you actually raise money, what techniques you can use, like 50/50 raffles."

Bowden had experience managing bar crawls in the past. He said events like this have assisted the downtown bar scene to grow closer and more successful.

"I've only worked on one bar crawl and that was the superhero bar crawl," Bowden said. "They're always a lot of fun."

Registration for the pajama party bar crawl began at 4:00 p.m. inside Suzie's. A regular registration was \$5 with a \$10 option that included ten raffle tickets. Suzie's also offered 15 percent of their food sales to the charity with other bars offering similar deals.

One participant in the bar crawl, former YSU stu-

dent Joe Fiorenza, wore his bright red Deadpool onesie. Fiorenza lives in Akron, but grew up in Youngstown and attended because of his familiarity with the city.

"I had a past experience with the superhero bar crawl," Fiorenza said. "I had a blast so that's mainly why I wanted to come to this one," Fiorenza said.

The bar crawl also featured singer and songwriter, Brett Newski. Although he didn't plan on performing specifically for the bar crawl, he welcomed the opportunity to entertain the pajama-wearing participants.

"I played at the old Cedars, and then I realized they had free hot dogs here, so I immediately started playing all my shows here," Newski said.

Newski will be touring the United States with the Violent Femmes throughout the rest of October.

Friday's bar crawl managed to draw a decent crowd, something Mackey considers annualizing.

"It would be awesome to find a different cause each year to put the money towards," Mackey said. "If it's a huge success, I'll definitely look into it."

BOARD GAME NIGHT LIVES ON

JAMBAR CONTRIBUTOR

VICTORIA REMLEY

Board Game Night brought people together for a night of worry free fun. The night was held Oct. 4 from 3 to 10 p.m. in Kilcawley Center in Bresnahan 1 and 2.

Games ranged from Uno or Sushi Go! to strategy games like Dead of Winter or Betrayal at House on the Hill. There were also be resource-focused games such as Settlers of Catan, Dungeons and Dragons and Lords of Waterdeep.

President of the Modern Board Game Club, Kaitlin McClendon, and vice president Erik Glasgow kept the club alive when the main organizer of the group graduated.

"We did not want to see those nights end, so we took up the mantle under the

Urban Gaming Club," McClendon said.

Board Game Night events are for everyone on Youngstown State University's campus.

People can test games they have created at the event. Some people come to Board Game Night to run a tabletop role-playing game.

McClendon said Board Game Night is a great escape from stress and schoolwork.

"School is stressful, plain and simple. It helps to have a night where, even if it's only for an hour or for several, you can do something inconsequential and fun," McClendon said.

McClendon said the night is intended for fun and Modern Board Game Club members are willing to teach anyone who walks in how to play any game.

"We are always willing to teach people how to play and Board Game Night opens

your eyes to a whole world of entertaining games beyond just Monopoly," McClendon said.

McClendon said Board Game Night is a great way to meet people and make friends.

She said it did not take long to set up the night.

"Erik and I, along with other Urban Gaming Club moderators, already had a relatively sizable game collection, and people who attend also bring their games to share. It's a group effort. We just need a room and some tables and we're good to go," McClendon said.

Ronald Stauffer, a member of the group, said he enjoys the competition most during Board Game Night.

"I enjoy the competition. Definitely the competition," Stauffer said.

Ciera Flickinger, also a member of the

group, said she likes how friendly everyone is.

"There's no judgment, which makes it a lot of fun. It makes everything very laid back and a good time for everybody involved," Flickinger said.

Gwen Mayberry, a group member, said it is nice to be with people who like to play board games.

"When you don't have a lot of friends that want to play the same things that you do it's hard to do much of anything. Every couple weeks I can come here and relax and have fun," Mayberry said.

Future Board Game Night events are Oct. 18, Nov. 15, Nov. 29 and Dec. 13 at 3 p.m.

For more information, call Kaitlin McClendon at (330) 519-7489 or email kgmclendon@student.yosu.edu.



Photo Courtesy of ASHLEY ROBERTS

THE LABORING OF LOVE LIVES ON

MARAH J. MORRISON

The origin of the cookie table tradition in Youngstown dates back to the 20th century. Because wedding cakes were expensive at the time, immigrants who came to this area decided cookies were the next best answer.

Friends and family have been laboring love through cookies ever since for newlyweds and people tend to remember the cookies from such occasions.

Rhonda Lasko, a retired high school English teacher and counselor, loves everything about the cookie table tradition. She said it's a great way for family and friends to participate in the celebration.

Lasko said she doesn't want this particular tradition to be overused because it may lose its special place in weddings where it all began and where it should always remain.

"The cookie table used to be a way for the women to show off their baking skills and to share recipes from their homeland," Lasko said. "To me, it is a sacred tradition to be celebrated at the most sacred of the sacraments."

Dana Pusic, a clinical front end specialist at the Joanie Abdu Breast Care Center, said Youngstown is known for its traditions, especially food and cookies. Pusic has also met brides-to-be at her own wedding who have said they wanted a cookie table at theirs.

Pusic's cookies came from friends, family and local bakeries, and she said she also had a huge amount of guests offer to bake for her and her husband at their wedding.

"I personally think the cookie table is a big hit because that's what people always remember," Pusic said. "Yeah, you have the cake, but even until this day people still talk about the cookie table."

Pusic's cookie table included Ital-

ian, Croatian, Slovak and Greek cookies among many others. She enjoyed how her family, friends and even strangers offered to help bake. Pusic said they helped the reception come together.

A Youngstown State University graduate of 2014, Ashley Roberts, said that some must-have cookies for the table are clothespins, pizzelles and kolachi.

Roberts and her mother currently run a small home bakery business, Caked by Ash. She said they get booked to do cookie tables for many different events.

"Each time we strive to make more cookies and making the display more fabulous than before," Roberts said. "Luckily for me, my mom used to cater and I was able to learn some great recipes from her."

Roberts is planning on having a cookie table at her wedding and her Youngstown guests are already anticipating it.

"The best cookies are made in Youngstown," Roberts said. "Even if a bride doesn't have a lot of money to

spend, the cookie table makes the event very special."

Sandy Krainock, who has her own, small cookie business called Cookies by Sandy, said it is not an event without following the tradition. Krainock said the cookie table brings back memories of her mom, grandma and their family recipes.

"Many times someone will tell me, 'These taste just like my mom's,' and I love hearing that," Krainock said. "It makes me feel so good to know that I helped stir up some good memories."

Krainock said everyone looks forward to these tables at the wedding reception and parties don't have to have as big of a cake if there are cookies.

"Women love to share their special cookies and that makes them feel like they are a part of the wedding," Krainock said. "A big cookie table is quite something to see when they are displayed among several tables."

THE PREFERENCE ON MUSIC PLATFORMS



JOHN STRAN

For students, music can be a break from reality during a stressful day of tests and studying. Music can also be a crucial factor in getting into the right mindset to take on the task at hand.

Besides the genre, the platform where students listen to their music differs. According to the Business Insider website, the most preferred music platform in the U.S. is iTunes, followed by Pandora then Spotify.

Youngstown State University student Alexis Morales said she listens to music on YouTube because she likes being able to pick the songs she listens to rather than going through a playlist. Morales enjoys

not having to worry about the number of skips she has left when it comes to the site.

“YouTube allows me to choose what songs I want to listen to, but a definite negative is all the ads,” Morales said.

The use of ads for music apps has a factor in the platform due to the capital on their services that are free to users. When people pay for their music, the need for ads is decreased.

YSU student Malcom Gordon said he prefers Pandora over other music streaming services because of the music selection and because it’s free. What he dislikes about it is the inability to pick exactly what song he wants to listen to.

Another student, Kyle West, said he listens to his music on Spotify as well as on CD.

“While at school, my go-to would be

Spotify,” West said. “But a friend of mine got me into buying CDs and there’s something about having an actual copy that I can’t explain but I really enjoy.”

West said what stands out to him most about Spotify is that it introduced him to many new artists that he may not have heard of otherwise. West’s least favorite aspect of Spotify is paying for it. The Spotify Premium membership costs \$9.99 per month. West said he uses it frequently, though, and believes it’s worth the price.

Other platforms offer paid premium memberships as well. Pandora Premium also costs \$9.99 a month and according to the app, offers higher quality audio and unlimited skips and replays.

The YouTube music app, YouTube Red, also costs \$9.99 a month. YouTube Red offers the ability to listen to music with the screen off and promises music even

Photo by TANNER MONDOK/THE JAMBAR with a poor connection.

Morales said she uses YouTube everyday throughout any given school week and it has advantages and disadvantages when it comes to affecting her school performance. Morales said although listening to music can help her with school work, it can also be distracting to her.

“Listening to music when I am doing homework or studying can help me focus, though it can hinder my ability to focus if I am listening to the music more than paying attention to my homework,” Morales said.

There’s no music platform that completely outdoes the others; some are just more popular. Each one has the ability to give the listener music that sets their tone for an entire day.

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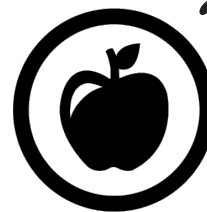
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CAMPUS COMPUTER LAB UPDATES OFFER NEW TECHNOLOGICAL CONVENIENCES

JAMBAR CONTRIBUTOR
TREVOR MASTRAN

Discussions have begun with Youngstown State University's Information Technology Steering Committee (ITSC) to convert some of the campus computer labs to "bring your own device" labs.

The IT department at YSU is close to implementing a new pilot program where a number of computer labs on campus may be partially or fully converted to allow students to bring their own laptops, tablets or other devices and use them in the same capacity as the current desktop computers.

Ernie Barkett, YSU's Student Government Association executive vice-president, outlined the basic objectives of the project

"Students can expect to see improvements in all technology across campus in the coming years with upgrades to computer labs, blackboard, and charging stations being installed around campus," Barkett said.

YSU's Chief Information Officer Jim Yukech said this new initiative is still in the preliminary stages, but it may allow for the introduction of new and more convenient

technologies to students across campus if fully implemented.

"Right now, the computer labs are set up for, in many instances, degree specific or class specific software which needs to be loaded onto a server or onto those desktops," Yukech said. "So, by thinning those applications out, hosting them in the data center and layering in application virtualization, those applications could be accessed by any device anywhere."

Yukech said, according to a Doodle survey, between 92 and 95 percent of YSU students have their own devices. Applying the BYOD conversion would serve to further benefit these students as well as reducing the university's tech costs.

There are somewhere around 2,400 computers on campus. Software needs to be refreshed every five to seven years at a price of between \$850 to \$1,000 per unit.

With the conversion initiative in developmental stages and the overall goal being ambitious and extensive in respect to costs and required time, the conversion will not be implemented quickly or all at once, Yukech said.

"We want to extend the offering to the student to access everything they need any place, anywhere and then, at

the same time, get a cost benefit of reducing the number of workstations that we have in computer labs," Yukech said. "I don't see us, in the near term, closing or altering our computer labs. This project's going to probably take a good part of two to three years, and that's if we work out the total cost of ownership to where there's a benefit."

In addition to the cost of application virtualization technology, there is also the need for physical servers from which the software can be hosted, YSU's Director of Infrastructure Services Ryan Geilhard said.

"The other half of it is deploying infrastructure in the data center that actually houses all these applications in a centralized place," Geilhard said. "So, we're essentially publishing the application to both the lab computers as they stand, but also to the BYOD devices of the student."

Despite upgrade costs and a long rollout, the benefits provided for students would be significant.

"What we envision is most applications are installed across all the labs on campus or available on an online portal on any student laptop, tablet [or] even smartphone," Geilhard said. "You could do all your YSU work on campus, at home, at Starbucks — really wherever you are, remotely."

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MARIO'S MOVIES: **BLADE RUNNER 2049**

MARIO RICCIARDI

Most people will say the original “Blade Runner” is a sci-fi classic. Robots, apocalyptic scenery and a Shakespearean narrative questioning what it means to be human, even Han- I mean- Harrison Ford; it’s all there and people will tell you they love it.

I don’t get the appeal. As the Beatles did (and yeah, I get backlash for this too), “Blade Runner” marks a new age for its medium. I can pick out a handful of good things about it, but then I call it a day. The pacing is too slow, the story falls flat on its own ambition and Harrison Ford in true Harrison Ford fashion never really acts. I guess I’m more of an Elvis guy anyway.

For a classic that has enough alternate cuts to warrant a suspicious mind, it makes sense to make a sequel that will one, make the studio more money, and two, try to get the film right the first time. Hence “Blade Runner 2049.” If there’s one thing to say about it, it’s that it looks

amazing!

Each shot in this movie could hang in the Butler at an exhibit for neo-noir atmospherics. Director Denis Villeneuve makes the viewer fully aware that movies are art in the sequel. “Blade Runner 2049” follows Blade Runner, Ryan Gosling’s Agent K, as he (literally) unearths a secret meant to stay buried that has the potential to throw what’s left of the post-apocalyptic society he lives in into chaos.

His discovery leads him on a dangerous hunt for answers about his own mortality, a face-to-face with the enigmatic owner of the world’s most powerful corporation, and Rick Deckard himself. Sharing similar visual influences to Villeneuve’s other films “Prisoners” and “Sicario,” it is clear he and cinematographer Roger Deakins are creating unique images coming from a visionary mind.

For a seedy, noir color palette, there is a lot to look and marvel at. The sets are sleek and the lighting design is truly something special. You can’t help but wonder about

the symbolism each shot holds because the painstaking preciseness from the first shot on is very apparent. Think Edvard Munch but with the crisp image of digital 4K resolution.

Now I know most of that was film geek ranting and means little on a personal level to most. I know why you’re really here. You are all waiting for one particularly burning topic to be discussed – no, Kylo Ren does not kill Harrison Ford in this one.

Honestly, Harrison does little acting, but he’s good at carrying a screen presence. This is something he and his spiritual predecessor Ryan Gosling share in “2049.” Neither have much to flex their acting chops with, but they do a job of it that keeps your attention.

In fact, supporting actors Jared Leto, Robin Wright, Dave Bautista, Ana de Armas and Lennie James also pack a lot of meaning into the minimal material they are given and earn your attention. This is necessary for “Blade Runner 2049”

because overall it is a very long, drawn-out film. It clocks in at about two hours and forty-five minutes, and although you know there is a plot revolving around subject-matter of great importance, it is difficult at times to see clearly what that is.

I do not trust the “Blade-Runner 2049” lengthy run time, challenging plot and ambiguous meanings to deliver something worthwhile and meaningful for life outside of the theater. For myself, that is what makes science fiction great. Good sci-fi shows you a deeper look at humanity through fantastical means. If the new “Blade Runner” did that, I am still searching for it.

Overall, “2049” hits the same highs as the original (color-palette, set design, casting), but hits the same lows as well (pacing that is too slow, overly ambiguous plot, too little meaning for so much substance). This one will probably hang around, but for me it will most likely fade away like tears in the rain.

WHAT IS THE ONLY THING WE HAVE TO FEAR?

NATHAN HRITZ

Spiders, clowns, heights and your midterm grade. What do these things have in common? Fears. They are all things that people have feared in the past and possibly even fear now.

Some are rational, most completely irrational, but fear is fear regardless of what it is. I’m a firm believer that it is always good to be on your toes, but I have never bought much into the idea of fear.

Granted, it is a very real feeling and something that is good to feel from time to time. I cannot say that I am particularly afraid of anything. I believe that Franklin Delano Roosevelt said it best in saying, “The only thing we have to fear, is fear itself!” Hallowed words from a

hallowed man that I think we should all take to heart.

In my opinion, being afraid of something is nothing more than granting power to something/someone when instead, you could be giving that power to yourself. These days, empowerment seems to be something of a trend, so why not give it a shot?

Instead of fearing your demons, pick a fight with them. Become your demons’ demon. I have a lot of respect for anybody who shows a strong will, and to me that means somebody who is standing their ground.

The best thing anybody can do to conquer their fear is to face whatever frightens them head on. If you are afraid of spiders, hold one. If you are afraid of heights, climb a ladder. You get the point.

There are certain things that we just have to accept and live with, though. Those are the fears I would consider rational. For instance, the future is something that I per-

sonally think about and maybe even worry about a little.

Things of that nature can only be faced head on and taken day by day. I find myself thinking a lot about how the decisions I make today can affect tomorrow for the better or for the worse. Each day brings forth new obstacles that have to be faced in the moment, making it difficult to confront the worries that they bring.

Some people are worriers by nature, some by experience. At some point we all worry, but don’t give worries the courtesy of being a fear. Worry is manageable, fear is unnecessary. As FDR said, “All we have to fear, is fear itself!” There is also an old Latin saying that I like to live by, “carpe diem,” which translates to “seize the day.”

I could be perceiving that entirely incorrectly, but I take it as we should take each day as it comes and to make the most of any situation.

A JAMBAR EDITORIAL: THE DARK SIDE OF BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

Pink ribbons, pink t-shirts, and other pink merchandise. It's that time of year again everyone: Breast Cancer Awareness Month. While many organizations will hold walks, benefits, and other events, it is important to remember the survivors and fighters and all they've had and still have to go through.

While Breast Cancer Awareness Month has brought attention to the cancer that affects more than 200,000 U.S. citizens per year, it has become too feminized, oversexualized, and commercialized. The hardships that many survivors and fighters had or have to go through are overshadowed by the bustle of pink products, Free the Tatas events, and phrases like "Save Second Base." The reality of breast cancer is far from the cute and witty portrayals; it is scary, painful, and emotionally and physically draining.

It's no secret that Breast Cancer Awareness Month is mainly focused on women. While women have 252,710 new cases of breast cancer per year with 40,610 of them resulting in death, men are also at risk for breast cancer, though it is rare. According to the American Cancer Society, about 2,470 cases of breast cancer will be diagnosed in men throughout 2017 and 460 of them will die. While men are a minority in this disease, it is important to

be inclusive to everyone dealing with the battle against breast cancer.

As the name implies, breast cancer forms in the cells of the breast and can cause painful and uncomfortable symptoms such as lumps, bloody discharge from the nipple, and changes in shape or texture of the breast. Despite this, breast cancer has managed to be sexualized. In Free the Tatas events throughout the U.S., women forego wearing bras in support of Breast Cancer Awareness Month. Phrases such as "Save Second Base" are printed on t-shirts, stickers, and more. While everyone is free to express their sexuality or preference of dress, using these particular choices to raise awareness for breast cancer can be in poor taste to some.

In a Facebook post made by cancer survivor Tracie Marie on Oct. 7, 2017, she describes the hardships she faces in her fight against breast cancer.

"Breast cancer is often very sexualized," Marie said. "Showing models with fake scars, beautiful bodies and breasts with the strap so perfectly dangling from her shoulder. That's not what breast cancer is. It's CTs, surgeries, amputations, biopsies, MRIs, X-rays, radiation, chemo, IVs, blood tests, fear, worry, hate, anger, confusion, sadness, loneliness, medications, checkups, anxiety, depression, insomnia,

pain."

"We do not receive free boob jobs," Marie continued. "We have reconstruction. Expanders placed to stretch your skin to fit the implants, complications, tram flap surgeries, sometimes our bodies reject the implants, some choose to go flat, some reconstructions are amazing and look fabulous, some look completely deformed ... We amputated them and had foreign objects placed in our skin to resemble the breasts we once had. We tattoo our nipples on, we get prosthetic ones, or we go without ... Save the Tatas, save 2nd base, no bra day with a bunch of nipples poking out in no way supports those with breast cancer."

While some people use humor and wit to overcome trauma, it should be up to those battling the disease to utilize these options. Openly sexualizing a very serious and dire disease is not the best way to raise awareness to a disease that kills thousands of people every year.

Finally, the commercialization of Breast Cancer Awareness Month can have huge drawbacks. As it turns out, most of the money made for breast cancer awareness by big-name organizations such as the Susan G. Komen organization does not go toward breast cancer prevention or research.

According to the Popular Science's website, many corporate sponsors have already decided on a donation amount, regardless of how many products they sell. Therefore, the money you're spending is going right back to the manufacturers, not research or care.

Despite this, there are other organizations to support and donate to, such as the Breast Cancer Research Foundation, Dr. Susan Love Research Foundation, and others who either give 80+ percent of their revenue to research, care and helping minorities with breast cancer. It is okay to donate to and support organizations that deal with breast cancer, but it is important to do the research on where your money is going and who it will ultimately be helping.

Breast Cancer Awareness Month is a time to come together in support, unity, and love. Most of us have known someone who has battled this disease and want to help in any way we can. One of the easiest ways we can help is to be conscious of the very real struggles that breast cancer survivors and fighters go through. By not letting the commercial industry, feminization, and sexualization obscure the meaning of the season, we can make that possible.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

To the editor,

Some think that secondhand smoke exposure is an issue that has already been handled in society. Yes, many laws have changed in regards to the public smoking of tobacco. However, I would like to raise awareness for this issue again as I feel authorities have become lax. For example, Youngstown State university policy 3356-4-01 (Smoke and tobacco-free environment policy) states that smoking is prohibited near, "outdoor areas where smoke may enter the building through an entrance, overhang, windows, vents, loading dock or other openings to

a building or other structure, any outdoor patio that is not physically separated from a building, and fountain seating area outside of Kilcawley." These are a few areas among many that smoke should be prohibited.

According to the CDC, "secondhand smoke causes nearly 34,000 premature deaths from heart disease each year in the United States among nonsmokers" and "secondhand smoke increases the risk for stroke by 20-30%." These are only two of the many negative, harmful side effects of secondhand smoke. Second hand smoke exposure is something we need to talk about again. We need

to continue to bring more awareness to the community on the dangers of secondhand smoke and remind them of what they may have forgotten.

I propose stricter enforcement of the policy mentioned above. More consequences for violation and for awareness to rise again about the dangers of secondhand smoke exposure.

**THANK YOU
EMILY SHIELDS
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HIGH ENERGY: MENS BASKETBALL'S FIRST REAL WEEK



Cameron Morse (24) drives with the ball against Oakland University during last year's Horizon League tournament.

Photo courtesy of YSU SPORTS INFORMATION

MARC WEEMS

After a summer plus some parts of August and September of minimal practicing, the Youngstown State University men's basketball program is finally going at it full strength. After the first practice and the first week, the Penguins look ready to go.

"The kids had a great attitude," YSU head coach Jerrod Calhoun said. "It's a dream come true so I knew I was going to be ready. The kids were anxiously waiting for this. I thought we had a great first day."

Calhoun described the night before the first official practice as a Christmas Eve feeling.

"I think we've done a great job of getting everyone excited," Calhoun said. "We're just trying to change the culture. Not just from a standpoint of on the court. Obviously, our play style is way different from what these kids were used to."

This season will be a high-flying season compared to any of the last 10 years under former head coach Jerry Slocum. Calhoun preaches moving the ball as quickly and efficiently as possible.

With just six returning players and just three impact returners, YSU has a lot to plug in for the next month.

"It's going to take some time but I think this team can be a very dangerous team," Calhoun said. "The way we play, not too many teams play the way we play. I'm not sure why because it's a system that's very

hard to play against."

Last season, YSU struggled with pace quite often. It seemed that players didn't fit the system they were running. Now, Calhoun believes that it can all work.

"I love this style, and I think our kids are starting to love it as well. It's gonna be fun to watch. I would encourage fans to give this team a shot," Calhoun said.

Two of the returners were starting backcourt guards, Francisco Santiago and Cameron Morse. They were the only two players to average double-digit points with 11.6 and 22.9, respectively.

"They are great kids. Francisco's family and I go way back with each other," he said. "I got a chance to meet Cam's father. They are just great kids and this team is fun to be around. Our guys are fly-

ing around with a lot of energy," Calhoun said.

Calhoun said that when playing basketball it's important to have fun because life is too short to not have fun.

Part of playing well is winning at home and with just 11 home games, that will be tough.

"We try to play really hard and play really smart," he said. "Jacob Brown, Michael Akuchie, Naz Bohannon and Garrett Covington will all play some big minutes for us. Tyree Robinson has been the best so far. He's a special athlete and will be a fan favorite. He's a high flyer and has stayed consistent. Those guys will be important on top of 'Cisco and Cam.'"

YSU's first game at Kent State University is now just 30 days away.

PRESS BOX PERSPECTIVE: A DRAFT CLASS WORTH THE TALK

SETH RIVELLO

The past couple of NFL drafts have had some big-name talent, but for the most part it's been consistent with a lot of flash-in-the-pan players. What I mean by that is that many of the rookies put up good numbers that first year and after that, you never hear about them again. Either they struggle with injury or are just flat out unproductive. The 2017 class is different; these guys are different.

In a preseason game against the Seattle Seahawks, Spencer Ware, starting running back for the Kansas City Chiefs at the time, got gang-tackled and tore his MCL and PCL. With him missing for the rest of the season, it put the ball in Kareem Hunt's hands, the rookie running back from the University of Toledo.

At the NFL Scouting Combine, it was said Hunt had "average explosive traits" and "could struggle to find chunk runs at the next level," which may have been a reason he was picked over and taken in the third round.

Hunt now leads the league with 609 rushing yards, yards per rush attempt with 6.3 (minimum 90 carries), rushes of 20 yards plus with seven, and yards per game with 121.8. It's early in the season, but the Chiefs are 5-0 with the help of Hunt. Kansas City has one of the best offenses in the league. Hunt was definitely a steal and a number one back of the future.

Deshaun Watson was a winner in college with the Clemson Tigers, but he was always picked over during the Heisman voting. It always seemed like Watson was the little brother to someone. In this year's draft, Patrick Mahomes II and Mitchell Trubisky were the more talked about quarterbacks, leaving Watson last.

Watson was selected twelfth by the Houston Texans, Tru-

bisky was second and Mahomes was chosen tenth. Houston always has talent but never a quarterback, but they have found their man. Watson through five games has the Texans at 2-3, but is second behind Aaron Rodgers in passing touchdowns with 12. Watson has over 1,000 yards passing and a passer rating of 100.7.

He can move, too, as he has close to 200 yards rushing with a couple touchdowns. Most recently, he threw five touchdowns against a stout Kansas City defense. Watson looks like the real deal, a Brett Favre-like player. Hopefully he can carry the Texans farther than a Wild Card loss.

The Jacksonville Jaguars haven't had a spark since the 2015 season where it had two receivers over 1,000 yards and 10-plus touchdowns apiece. The Jags still finished 5-11 that season and a big reason was because it lacked a running game. 2016 was even worse with the offense at an all-time low. With the fourth pick in the draft, Jacksonville selected the running back from Louisiana State University, Leonard Fournette. The Jags haven't had a 1,000-yard rusher since 2011 and are looking for Fournette to break that drought. He is currently first in the league with 109 rushing attempts and second in the league with 466 rushing yards, which puts him 143 behind Hunt. Fournette is tied for first with five rushing touchdowns.

Fournette's breakout performance came recently against the Pittsburgh Steelers where he carried the ball 28 times for 181 yards and two touchdowns. One touchdown was a practically untouched 90-yard scamper.

With all these guys in the spotlight, we forget about Christian McCaffrey, recently injured Dalvin Cook and Corey Davis. This draft class is very deep and could compare to 2014, one of the deepest the NFL has ever seen.

HIGH EXPECTATIONS: YSU BOWLING BEGINS ITS SECOND SEASON

RICK HENNEMAN

The Youngstown State University women's bowling team will begin its second season this weekend at the Bud Whitman Memorial tournament in Sinking Springs, Penn.

Last season was the first in program history but the Penguins' performances earned national recognition. The women were ranked 23rd in the country during the season and finished the year ranked 25th. YSU head coach Chelsea Gilliam said that even she was surprised by her team's performance.

"We always hoped that we would be that successful but you never really know," Gilliam said. "Especially having such a young team with so many freshmen we just wanted to go out and be competitive. The fact that we could actually break into the top-25 was amazing."

The Penguins will begin this season as the 24th-ranked team in the country and are returning seven of the eight bowlers from last season. With the addition of two talented freshmen, Gilliam expects even more out of her team this year.

"I have been telling everyone from day one that we set the bar high for ourselves," she said. "Not only do I have expectations of us finishing even better and having more success than last year, the community does as well."

With a national ranking comes more confidence but also pressure to perform well on a larger stage. The Penguins gained experience against some of the best teams in the country last season, but Gilliam is warning her team to respect the lesser talented teams they come up against.

"It's going to help us because we will face them more and more this year and we know that we can compete with them," she said. "We have to keep in mind that we can't take the new programs or the unranked programs lightly because we were that team last year. We have to always bring our A-game."



Photo courtesy of YSU SPORTS INFORMATION

Rachel Darrow throws a ball in a tournament that helped get YSU in the top-25.

Gilliam added that she wants her team to finish higher in each tournament than it did last season and that it can break into the top 20 this season.

One of the returning athletes that played a major role on the team is sophomore Rachel Darrow. Darrow led the Penguins last year with a 190.59 pin average in team games and bowled 19 games over 200. She has been working this off-season on a part of her game that isn't fixed on the bowling lane.

"There is always something you can improve on in practice but I have always struggled with the mental game," Darrow said. "That is what I have been working on the most."

Darrow also said that her goal for this season is to always finish in the top 10 during tournaments and for the team to finish higher in the national polls.

Freshman Emma Dockery went to Crestwood High School in Ravenna, Ohio, and is looking to make an immediate impact on the YSU team. She knew that Youngstown was the place for her from the very beginning.

"My recruiting process was funny because I came here first and I loved it," Dockery said, "My dad made me give every school an equal opportunity, but everywhere I went, something didn't feel right. I really fell in love with YSU and Chelsea [Gilliam] is awesome."

After the Bud Whitman Memorial tournament this weekend, YSU will move on to the Brunswick Bearcat Open which is hosted by defending national champions McKendree University. Dockery said that she doesn't expect the Penguins to be nervous about the competition.

"I don't think there will be any added pressure," Dockery said. "It's just another game. Everybody is there to do the best they can and there's no saying whether they will defend their title this year or not. We can't get caught up in standings."

The YSU women's bowling season begins on Oct. 14 and 15.



Kyle Hegedus (10) shows the ball to the the sideline after he recovered it back on Sept 30.

Photo courtesy of YSU SPORTS INFORMATION

THE PENGUINS LOOK TO CONTINUE HOME WIN STREAK

CHRIS MCBRIDE

After a disappointing road loss, the now eighth-ranked Youngstown State University Football team (3-2, 1-1 Missouri Valley Football Conference) is looking to redeem itself at home against the second-ranked North Dakota State University (5-0). This is YSU's third straight nationally-ranked opponent.

The University of South Dakota managed to steal the victory from YSU late in the game after a sack on Penguins' quarterback Nathan Mays at YSU's 5-yard line to set up USD for a 29-yard field goal. USD sealed a 31-28 victory with that field goal.

MVFC rusher Tevin McCaster scored four touchdowns against USD. McCaster is second in the conference with 536 rushing

yards and eight touchdowns. Those rank 14th and second in the entire Football Championship Subdivision (FCS), respectively. It was a loss YSU head coach Bo Pelini holds close to the chest blaming himself for the loss, citing a lack of preparedness.

"We didn't react, we didn't make adjustments very well, we weren't very efficient offensively on a number of drives," Pelini said. "Too many boneheaded mistakes and it all adds up to a loss."

With time until the next contest, Pelini said he looks towards the fundamentals and finding success in the details as keys to winning the next game – something players will have to examine in the days leading up to their next game.

"Saturday was nothing we wanted at all but we came in on Sunday, watched the film, got

it out of our heads and looked at what we needed to fix," YSU safety Kyle Hegedus said.

Facing yet another tough match in the undefeated six-time champion North Dakota State, the Penguins will have a lot on their plate against a team that has outscored opponents by at least 27 points each game.

The play of NDSU's quarterback Easton Stick and tailback Lance Dunn will be big concerns with their ability to pass or run coming into the game. Dunn leads the FCS with 12 rushing touchdowns.

"With every good football team it starts with the run game, but they can throw it and they can throw it efficiently," Pelini said. "When you look at a team like this what makes them good in all areas is balance. I think they're a very balanced team with good systems and they know them

well. They're a well-coached team."

Despite the threat, the confidence levels are high coming into another Top 10 matchup at home.

"We respect them, but we don't fear them at all," Hegedus said. "Playing at home is really big and having the crowd behind our back is a lot better than them [NDSU] having theirs."

Two sets of streaks will be on the line as Youngstown State looks to continue its 11-game home win streak while NDSU looks to continue its 11-game road win streak. The Penguins trail in the series 7-4 and have dropped the last five games against the Bison.

Coming into this game, Youngstown State hasn't won a home game against NDSU since 2008.

"You never want to lose at

home," YSU offensive tackle Justin Spencer said. "It's something about losing at home that hurts a little more but we obviously wanna protect our home turf."

The offensive line allowed six sacks against USD, which was more than the team had allowed all season. YSU only gave seven in the first four games. That is something Spencer and the offensive line look to improve against NDSU.

"We have to play better. O-line is unique because it's not one guy making the play, we all have to play well or we get a sack. As a unit, we have to play better and improve every week," Spencer said.

Youngstown State will suit up to defend the Ice Castle on Oct. 14 against North Dakota State at 7:00 p.m.