

THE JAMBAR

The student voice of Youngstown State University since 1931

FREE!



Thursday, November 2, 2023



THE TRESSEL EFFECT



Photos courtesy of Nicholas Bianco

Youngstown University became Youngstown State University 56 years ago. The goal is for it to be around for 56 more.

What does YSU's future hold?

By Nicholas Bianco
Jambar Contributor

Youngstown State University has been around for over 100 years, but it might not be around for 100 more.

According to Youngstown State University's Preliminary Fall Term Enrollment Summary, there were 15,194 full-time students enrolled in 2010 and 11,072 full-time students in 2022, the lowest in its history.

Despite the drop, some YSU administration members are optimistic on what the future holds for the university.

Mike Sherman, vice president of YSU Student Affairs, Institutional Effectiveness and board professional, said the future for YSU is bright because of the degree programs the campus offers.

"We're going to be positioned in the region to be on everybody's career success pathway," Sherman said.

Sherman also said YSU has a strategic plan, which can be found on the YSU's Strategic Planning website. Student futures, lifelong learning, academic distinction, the discovery of knowledge and collective impact in the region must join together for the plan to work.

"There's the faculty, there's the staff [and] there's the leadership, and we all have to work together to implement the strategies of our plan for strategic actions to take charge of our future because we all contribute to the success of the plan," Sherman said. "We've gotten to where we're at with the best faculty staff, great students and an outstanding leadership team."

Future, Page 2

Upcoming election next Tuesday

By Christopher Gillett
The Jambar

Americans in several states can go to the polls Tuesday, Nov. 7 to vote on a variety of elections including federal and local offices as well as state-wide referendums.

Ohioans will vote on two state-wide referendums — Issue 1 and Issue 2 — along with several local elections. Both issues need approval from 50% of voting Ohioans to pass.

If passed, Issue 1 would enshrine access to reproductive medical care, such as abortion and contraceptives, by making it a part of the Ohio state constitution.

Issue 2 would legalize marijuana for recreational use for those 21 and over, alongside its growth, possession, sale, regulation and taxation. Issue 2 is not a constitutional amendment, but would instead revise the Ohio Revised Code.

Summaries and arguments in favor or against both issues can be found in the issues report released by the secretary of state.

More information about local elections and referendums that affect Mahoning County can be found on the Mahoning County Board of Elections website.

To find out where you can vote, visit the Ohio secretary of state's website. After clicking on the appropriate county, type out the registered street address.

Election, Page 4

News	1-4	Classifieds	9
Student Life	5-7	Sports	10-12
Opinion	8		

STAFF**EDITOR IN CHIEF**

Shianna Gibbons
smgibbons@student.ysu.edu

MANAGING EDITOR

Dylan Lux
dlux@student.ysu.edu

NEWS EDITOR

Christopher Gillett
cmgillett@student.ysu.edu

STUDENT LIFE EDITOR

Molly Burke
mkburke@student.ysu.edu

SPORTS EDITOR

John Ostapowicz
jfostapowicz@student.ysu.edu

ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

Cameron Niemi
cniemi@student.ysu.edu

SPORTS REPORTERS

Madeline Hippeard
mehippeard@student.ysu.edu

Marissa Masano
mamasano@student.ysu.edu

GENERAL REPORTERS

Natalie Lasky
nnlasky@student.ysu.edu

Jillian McIntosh
jjmcintosh@student.ysu.edu

Sydney Fairbanks
sefairbanks@student.ysu.edu

Tala Alsharif
tlalsharif@student.ysu.edu

Owen Bertram
orbertram@student.ysu.edu

Matthew Sotlar
mjsotlar@student.ysu.edu

HEAD COPY EDITOR

Elizabeth Coss
eacoss@student.ysu.edu

ASSISTANT COPY EDITOR

Hannah Werle
hewerle@student.ysu.edu

VOLUNTEER COPY EDITOR

Maria Schwartz
meschwartz01@student.ysu.edu

HEAD DESIGNER

Madison Fessler
mfessler@student.ysu.edu

ASSISTANT DESIGNER

Kaitlyn Livingston
kelivingston@student.ysu.edu

COLUMNISTS

Alison Butz
albutz@student.ysu.edu

Matthew Sotlar
mjsotlar@student.ysu.edu

HEAD VIDEO PRODUCER

Kara Boerio
klboerio@student.ysu.edu

ASSISTANT VIDEO EDITORS

Sydney Fairbanks
sefairbanks@student.ysu.edu

Luke Rhodes
lsrhodes@student.ysu.edu

WEB MANAGER

Christopher Gillett
cmgillett@student.ysu.edu

ASSISTANT WEB MANAGER

Mohammad Haram Kafil
mkafil@student.ysu.edu

SOCIAL MEDIA CURATORS

Abigail Long
aglong@student.ysu.edu

Grace Beerbower
gebeerbower@student.ysu.edu

BUSINESS MANAGER

Mary Dota
mfdota@ysu.edu

Future

Page 1

Sherman said the new “Know Y” brand will increase YSU’s visibility to potential students and families.

Neal McNally, YSU’s chief financial officer, said YSU competes with other state and national universities and programs. The challenge for YSU is holding on to its market share and making the university an attractive option for prospective students.

“If we learned one thing over the last five years, it’s just how quickly things can change,” McNally said. “When you throw in the online elements, we’re basically competing with universities all over the country.”

Despite wanting to draw in more students, McNally said there is a plan to decrease the physical size of YSU buildings.

“[The Zoldan Center] is a major project that will intentionally and deliberately reduce square footage, so the new zone center will be smaller by about 30,000 square feet.”

McNally said maintenance and energy costs were the top reasons for decreasing YSU’s physical size.

“We saw a \$1.2 million increase in our janitorial service contract. We consume a lot of electricity and energy by operating a lot of buildings, but a lot of our buildings aren’t fully at capacity.”

McNally said YSU can be successful despite its declining enrollment.

“We could be a university of 9,000 or

10,000 or smaller and be a successful university with successful outcomes,” McNally said.

McNally said YSU should reach these goals over the next five years and he’s placing his trust in the board of trustees and the administration to reach these goals.

Brien Smith, provost and vice president for Academic Affairs, said YSU will continue to explore ways to maximize students’ success and explained new additions to the campus.

“We have a new director in our career area, and we’re upgrading our mental health facilities to be able to address student needs,” Smith said.

Smith said those with additional concerns can speak to their academic advisors.

“We continue to take pride in the region and ... how we serve our students,” Smith said. “When I use the word partner, we need our students to partner with us, having a concern and not reaching out is not helpful to the student and it doesn’t help us to help you.”

Despite the general decline, the campus has seen an increase in international student enrollment. According to the YSU Preliminary Enrollment Summary, there were 339 international students enrolled in fall 2020. It increased to 561 students in fall.

“The reason international student numbers are going up is because a plan to target international students was implemented,” Sherman said. “It’s a combina-

tion of undergraduate and graduate student attraction that really has increased international student enrollment.”

McNally said the Recruiting Strategies and International Program Office were given the task of recruiting international students.

Smith said the university conducted studies which showed where potential YSU international students are in the world, as well as what graduate programs are in demand.

“We found a group of students that are very interested in such things like graduate education and computer science,” Smith said. “Through appropriate marketing and recruitment, we were able to bring many more graduate students to the campus this year.”

“We continue to take pride in the region and ... how we serve our students,”

— Brien Smith
Provost and vice president for Academic Affairs

CONTACT US

LIKE US ON FACEBOOK
THEJAMBARYSU



VIEW US ON YOUTUBE
JAMBARTV BY THE
JAMBAR



TWEET AT US
THE JAMBAR
@THEJAMBAR



SEND US AN EMAIL
THEJAMBAR@GMAIL.
COM



GIVE US A CALL
330-941-3094



SEND US A FAX
330-941-2322

7-DAY WEATHER FORECAST

Thu. Fri. Sat. Sun. Mon. Tue. Wed.

High: 48°F	High: 56°F	High: 59°F	High: 61°F	High: 66°F	High: 50°F	High: 47°F
Low: 34°F	Low: 42°F	Low: 44°F	Low: 46°F	Low: 45°F	Low: 35°F	Low: 32°F
Chance of precip: 4%	Chance of precip: 2%	Chance of precip: 15%	Chance of precip: 18%	Chance of precip: 59%	Chance of precip: 25%	Chance of precip: 10%



Partly Cloudy



Partly Cloudy



Mostly Cloudy



Partly Cloudy



Rain



Overcast



Overcast

Information courtesy of accuweather.com

Veterans Resource Center hosting Thank You Breakfast

By Tala Alsharif
The Jambar

The Veterans Resource Center is hosting a Veterans Thank You Breakfast on Nov. 8 in honor of Veterans Day at Youngstown State University in the Rossi Room located in Kilcawley Center.

Patrick “Rick” Williams, associate director of Veteran Affairs, said the event is open to all students and faculty.

“You don’t have to be a veteran,” Williams said. “It can be any student [or] faculty member who just wants to come and honor veterans ... it’s free of charge, you just have to sign up for the event.”

This year, Veterans Day falls on Saturday, Nov. 11 and the university will be closed Friday, Nov. 10.

Veterans Day was established Nov. 11, 1918, when a cessation of hostilities went into effect between the Allied powers and Germany in World War I, according to the U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs.

Williams said Veterans Day not only celebrates those who lost their lives but everyone who has served.

“We’re celebrating everyone who has served our country ... whether they’re still in the service [or] whether they’re no longer in the service,” Williams said.

Williams, along with his assistant director, Jaesson Lujan, will also speak at local high schools for Veterans Day assemblies.

Williams also collaborates with Kiel Jones, the veter-

ans representative for the Student Government Association, working with him on different initiatives regarding veteran affairs.

Jones serves as a liaison between student veterans and SGA and also helps student veterans that face challenges.

Jones said Veterans Day gives the community an opportunity to appreciate all the veterans that attend YSU and he thinks of all the people who still serve today.

“I think about my brothers ... [and] my actual blood brother who is currently serving,” Jones said. “So, for me, I think about all the people who are still there today.”

Williams said he’s proud of the university’s Veterans Resource Center as YSU is one of three universities in Ohio with a free-standing veterans center.

“We consider ourselves very fortunate to be one of those three universities,” Williams said. “We like to think of ourselves as a one stop for the student veterans.”

Williams said service members who served in the military for years can face challenges transitioning to university life.

“They are a little older than the average college student ... so it’s a little bit more difficult for them to make that transition,” Williams said. “We work with those students to try and make that transition smoother.”

Jones agreed and said it can be a challenge going back

to university and being older than other students.

“[It] might be a challenge just getting used to ... going back to school but also being ... older,” Jones said. “You’re going to have to step [in] and kind of be a role model in every class you’re in.”

The Veterans Resource Center guides veterans through the admissions process by helping them fill out applications and getting their high school transcripts.

“Once they become a student, then we really get involved with ... setting them up with a good advisor, someone who’s going to lead them down the right path for the degree they want to pursue,” Williams said.

Student veterans can get tutoring, use the computer lab located downstairs of the Veterans Resource Center and relax in the lounge where they can meet other veterans.

For students interested in volunteering at the Office of Veterans Affairs, visit it at the Veterans Resource Center located at 633 Wick Ave. You can also call (330) 941-2503 or email veterans@ysu.edu. Students can stop by the Veterans Resource Center for any questions or assistance.

Students can also contact Kiel Jones at his student email, kjones14@student.ysu.edu. To register for the Veterans Thank you Breakfast, fill out the form found under the Student Affairs Calendar.

Endowed history: Remembering the Holocaust

By Elizabeth Coss and Christopher Gillett
The Jambar

Over 100 Youngstown State University students and staff traveled to the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington D.C. on Oct. 22 to reflect on its effects throughout history.

For almost 15 years, the trip has been sponsored by the Mr. and Mrs. William B. Clayman Judaic and Holocaust Studies Endowment Agreement through the YSU Foundation.

The Clayman Endowment funds more than the annual trip to the Holocaust Museum, including the professorships, programs and activities of YSU’s Judaic and Holocaust Studies Program.

Jesse McClain, an adjunct English professor and the Holocaust liaison for the Jewish Community Center, said William and Hilda Clayman created the endowment in honor of the YSU professor who founded YSU’s Judaic and Holocaust Studies Program.

“[The Clayman’s] were very close to a professor at YSU — Saul Friedman,” McClain said. “To honor Dr. Friedman, and to keep the memory of the Holocaust alive, the Clayman family did an endowment to YSU for

that purpose ... one of the parts of it was getting students at YSU to have the experience of going to the Holocaust Museum.”

The endowment fully funds the trip and students can travel for \$25. After the trip, the money collected is pooled back into the endowment.

One student on the trip, Donald Vanhorn, a junior telecommunication sports broadcasting major, said learning about the atrocities overwhelmed him.

“It really made me emotional going through the museum ... All these people died for what?” Vanhorn said. “It just made me so sick that humans would want to do this to other human beings.”

Vanhorn said seeing the immensity of the Holocaust was surreal.

“I never really got to take in the Holocaust as it was. You’re learning about it in your social studies class [in] middle school and high school. They’re telling you about it, but you don’t get to really [delve] into what it’s really about. And I didn’t actually get to [delve] into it until we got to the actual museum,” Vanhorn said.

McClain explained the trip is sponsored primarily through the Beeghly College of Liberal Arts, Social Sciences & Education and the International Programs

Office. He said the trip is a great way for collaboration between the two.

“[The trip] is a lot. The International Programs Office — they couldn’t be nicer, they couldn’t be more accommodating — it’s wonderful to work with them,” McClain said.

Nicholas DuBos, coordinator for International Student Services, said the trip is not only impactful for American students, but international students who can experience the museum and Washington D.C.

Both McClain and DuBos said learning from the Holocaust Museum was important for learning how other genocides can be prevented.

“It’s easy to see something like that could always happen again in a country if ... things are going the way they did in Germany in the 1920s and ‘30s,” DuBos said. “If you look around the world, it’s always a possibility for something like [the Holocaust] to happen again, but [the museum] teaches you lessons.”

The annual trip takes place every fall semester and is open to all students. For more information about the Holocaust Museum, visit its website.

Election

Page 1

Pennsylvanians are also voting on a new justice for the state's supreme court after Judge Max Baer died. Those registered in Pennsylvania can find their polling place on the state's secretary of state website.

Youngstown State University students registered at a university dorm or apartment address can find polls at either First Presbyterian Church on Wick Avenue or the Eugenia Atkinson Recreation Center on Otis Avenue.

The League of Women Voters of Greater Youngstown is a nonpartisan organization, which is bringing out registered voters. Penny Wells, who works with the LWV of

Greater Youngstown, said voting is important because of the people who have sacrificed for it.

"I was brought up [to believe] that voting was important and — in the words of Vernon Dahmer, from Hattiesburg, Mississippi, who was killed because he was willing to pay the poll tax and encourage people to register to vote, 'If you don't vote, you don't count,'" Wells said.

Wells also said people who do not vote should not express their opinions afterwards.

"My feeling is if you don't get out and vote in any election we have — federal, state or local — you really don't have the right to express your opinion," Wells said.

Wells also founded the Mahoning Valley Sojourn to

the Past, which has taken a position in favor of Issue 1.

If interested in the LWV, go to its website. If interested in Sojourn to the Past, go to its website.

"My feeling is if you don't get out and vote in any election we have — federal, state or local — you really don't have the right to express your opinion,"

— Penny Wells

Founder of Mahoning Valley Sojourn to the Past



Planned Parenthood Generation Action painted the rock in support of Issue 1.

Photo by Christopher Gillett / The Jambar

News Brief

Student Activities is sponsoring a speaker presentation on how students can prevent sexual violence through bystander intervention. The event will be presented by Dr. Kevin Reynolds at 5 p.m. on Nov. 5 in the Chestnut Room of Kilcawley Center.

The event will train student leaders on campus about actionable and realistic ways to combat sexual violence. Reynolds will educate students on how to make environments and communities safer for everyone.

More information can be found in the Youngstown State University's Student Affairs' email that was sent on Oct. 29.

On the air with K8YSU

By Matt Sotlar
The Jambar

Youngstown State University's amateur radio station K8YSU competed in the American Radio Relay League's School Club Roundup from Oct. 16 through Oct. 20.

The School Club Roundup is a nationwide, radio-based competition that challenges students in college, high school and elementary school to contact as many as possible radio stations across the world within one week. The competition is held each semester, usually in October and February.

K8YSU is operated by members of the Amateur Radio Club, a student-based organization focused on operating broadband radios and contacting other stations on a worldwide basis. Its executive body is composed of a president, vice president, treasurer and secretary.

The COVID-19 pandemic brought the Amateur Radio Club to a halt. Sophomore business administration major and Amateur Radio Club President Ryan Pribulsky, said in the past year he has seen major improvements in membership.

"We were down, post-pandemic, to two members in the beginning of 2022, and the organization has grown

from two to about 15 interested members since I became involved," Pribulsky said.

K8YSU usually transmits on a daily basis. Pribulsky said the station operates on different frequencies using equipment to contact parts of the world.

"We are licensed to operate on a variety of frequencies. There is no primary frequency in which we operate. These radios will go from about seven megahertz, we are capable of about 400 megahertz," Pribulsky said.

One megahertz has the capability of reaching up to 300 meters away. The radios at K8YSU can operate at a full 1,500 watts — the maximum for amateur radios.

In February, K8YSU scored 6th nationally in the School Club Roundup, beating its rival Ohio State University. Pribulsky said distance plays a major factor in the competition's scoring.

"You get a certain number of points per contact, and some contacts are worth more than others. Contacting school stations, or other amateur radio club stations, are worth more points ... also getting DX contacts are very valuable — DX meaning places outside of the country," Pribulsky said.

Among the countries Pribulsky contacted during the competition include England, Slovenia, Bulgaria and

Israel.

For the fall semester, one of the goals of the Amateur Radio Club is to have a new antenna installed on campus.

"We're kicking around the idea of putting up another big loop antenna — about 800 feet of wire — on top of the roof in between the building. So, it would, in a loop, run between Moser and Cushwa," Pribulsky said.

Anyone can join the Amateur Radio Club. Pribulsky said students from a variety of majors and programs are part of the organization.

"We have people from all majors and backgrounds, from economics and business ... I would say it's mostly electrical and mechanical engineers ... but anyone could get involved. There's no prerequisites, no dues, no requirements really, other than an interest in radio," Pribulsky said.

The results of the Roundup are still being calculated by the American Radio Relay League.

Those interested in joining Amateur Radio Club can attend one of its meetings at 3300 Moser Hall. Meetings take place the first and third Monday of each month.

For more information, contact Pribulsky at rjpribulsky@student.ysu.edu.

Silence! At YSU's disco

By Sydney Fairbanks
The Jambar

In honor of homecoming week, Student Activities hosted a homecoming dance with a twist Oct. 20.

The dance was a silent disco where attendees received a pair of headphones to customize the music they listened to instead of hearing it from speakers.

The Silent Disco was hosted in the Chestnut Room in Kilcawley Center and was open to all students. The dance had snacks and refreshments, three DJ's and lots of room for sitting or dancing.

Jordan Record, a graduate assistant for Student Activities, said the Silent Disco was created to tie in the familiarity of high school homecoming traditions into Youngstown State University's homecoming weekend.

"A lot of high schools do a homecoming dance and we're a university so we don't want to do a homecoming dance. So, instead we do the silent disco as a way to still get some of that experience that you might know

from homecoming from high school, but put a university twist on it, make it our own thing," Record said.

Many students dressed more casually in regular pants and t-shirts as opposed to the formal wear typically worn at a high school dance. However, students were not discouraged from dressing up and a few formal outfits slid into the mix.

At the disco, each student was given a pair of headphones on which the station and volume could be controlled. The color of glowing lights on the headphones indicated which station was being played.

Each DJ played a different genre of music so students had a variety to choose from. The genres were R&B and hip-hop, EDM and pop, and international music and top hits from around the world.

"If you don't like the music that's playing on one channel, you have two other channels that you can listen to. So, it just gives you more options so you can listen to the music that you like," Record said.

Record also said the event allowed students to listen

to music and make friends through similar music tastes.

"You can definitely make friends at the event, especially if you find people who are listening to the same kind of music that you like. That's one way to make new friends based on similar interests," Record said.

Based on the availability of headphones, at least 100 students attended the Silent Disco.

While there have been other Silent Disco events at YSU, Record said this was her first and it was unlike any other event she had been to.

"This was a very unique thing for me to experience for the first time. Like I said, it was kind of funny— in a good way — funny watching them all have fun, but unless you put the headphones on, you didn't know what they were listening to," Record said.

For any upcoming events, go to the Student Activities website, and contact Record for any additional information at jarecord@student.ysu.edu

COMBATING FOOD INSECURITY ON CAMPUS

SGA to start student-run garden

By Molly Burke
Jambar Contributor

Youngstown State University's Student Government Association is creating a student-run garden in the Sandy Simon Greenhouse of Ward Beecher Hall to provide fresh produce to the Penguin Pantry. The project began this fall and it's expected to be ready by spring 2024.

Located on the first floor of Cushwa Hall, the Penguin Pantry is run by the Office of the Dean of Students to extend free resources like food, hygiene products and clothing to all students, faculty and staff. However, the pantry has never had a sustainable source of produce.

Jordan Pintar, executive vice president of SGA, said the garden will help combat food insecurity on campus by providing the pantry with produce it has always lacked.

"We wanted to find ways that we could bring healthy foods to campus. One of the ways we can do that is through our [Penguin Pantry and] helping with this garden. We saw a space in the greenhouse [and] we wanted to be able to give back to the students," Pintar said.

Pintar said the garden can also help students facing food insecurity by teaching them about growing food.

"Being student-run, we want to introduce students to growing food, growing food sustainability [and] doing that in a way that provides sustainable practices," Pintar said.

The garden will use hydroponic technology to grow fruits and vegetables. Pintar said SGA has asked for a \$5,000 grant to buy hydroponic towers from the brand Lettuce Grow.

"[Lettuce Grow] is super great because they work with schools and universities to provide these products, so we're able to get an educational discount through there," Pintar said. "We're looking at getting three towers, which are four to five feet in height. They have 24 seedlings each."

Ian Renne, associate professor of ecology and coordinator of the Sandy Simon Greenhouse, explained how hydroponic gardening works.

"Hydroponics is growing plants without soil. It's amazing how few factors plants need to grow. They need essential elements: nitrogen, potassium, calcium, phosphorus, magnesium [and] sulfur," Renne said. "They need some micronutrients also, light and water."

The Penguin Pantry will be moved to the third floor of DeBartolo Hall in the spring. Dean of Students and

Ombudsperson Nicole Kent-Strollo said as it makes the move, refrigeration will be required for the produce.

"We have written a couple grants where we're looking for some funds to get that refrigerator because it is going to be really important if we're going to be growing things that we have a place to store it," Kent-Strollo said.

Former YSU student, Moe Prather, took a medical leave from the university after four semesters, with one reason being food insecurity. Prather said if the Penguin Pantry had produce available before leaving, it would have been easier to stay.

"When you don't have access to a lot of food or good healthy food, your body starts to deteriorate like an old car," Prather said. "If it was there while I was there, it probably would've kept me there."

The Penguin Pantry is open Mondays 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 3 to 5 p.m., Tuesdays 9 a.m. to noon and 1 to 2 p.m., and Wednesdays 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and 3 to 5 p.m. Anyone who needs to access it outside of business hours can contact the Office of the Dean of Students for assistance.

For more information on the Penguin Pantry, visit its website. Those interested in volunteering for SGA's garden can contact Pintar at jmpintar@student.ysu.edu.



The SGA garden, which will be located in the Sandy Simon Greenhouse, will be the Penguin Pantry's first sustainable source of produce.

Photos by Molly Burke / The Jambar

The Labra Brothers come “Home”

By John Ostapowicz
The Jambar

Four years after the release of The Labra Brothers' debut album “Colder Weather,” the band of brothers is following up with a nine-track LP on Nov. 3 titled “Home.”

The Mahoning Valley has a large Hispanic community and The Labra Brothers look to provide Latin-styled music to the local area with several tracks sung primarily in Spanish.

The record will pay homage to old-school Hispanic roots while incorporating The Labra Brothers' style, which makes its music unique to Youngstown.

For guitarist and lead vocalist Adrian Labra, it's about staying true to the band's Hispanic heritage and incorporating culture into the band's music.

“We're really just trying to reflect who we are through our music. We are Mexican-American and the Spanish language is a big part of that,” Adrian Labra said. “It's been tough but fun to kind of hone in on what it means for us.”

The album will feature two reworked versions of previously released tracks: “Be Cool - acoustic version” and

“Not Far From Home - en español.”

Earlier this year, The Labra Brothers released an EP, “Be Cool,” which featured a Spanish track “Los Días” and the self-titled track featured a bilingual mix of lyrics.

Finding new ways to incorporate the Spanish language in the band's music is bassist Cristian Labra's favorite part of the band's creative process.

“Spanish is our second language. We were working out the kinks of the lyrics,” Cristian Labra said. “We branched out and we tried some new styles out.”

The brothers had a busy 2023 as they partnered with local musicians such as Unc D and Black Wolf & the Thief.

Rhythm guitarist and saxophonist David Labra feels the band is constantly listening to different music and artists to grab inspiration for the band's next project.

“We're always drawing from different sources of inspiration. Individually most of the songs have been written by Adrian, Cristian and myself so far, and you can clearly hear the blend of what we are listening to during the creative process,” David Labra said.

The Labra Brothers strive to give the audience something they haven't heard before by collaborating with

different artists to mix up the sound for the band's listeners.

“We try to mix it up wherever we can. When [the audience] comes to see a new show, they can expect to see something new in a way they haven't seen it before,” Adrian Labra said.

In celebration of Día de los Muertos and the release of The Labra Brothers' new album, the brothers will partner with the Canton Symphony Orchestra at 7:30 p.m. on Nov. 4 at the Canton Palace Theatre.

Tickets for the show can be purchased at cantonsymphony.org.

For the band, this will be its first live performance with the new songs as well as a new opportunity to play at a larger venue.

“It will be the first time we will be performing the new songs live and will be with the full orchestra,” Adrian Labra said. “Amongst ourselves we are just making sure we are practiced up and ready to nail them.”

The Labra Brothers' new album will be available to stream on Spotify, Youtube and Apple Music. To keep up to date with the band's live shows and new music, visit thelabrabrothers.com.



The Labra Brothers' “Home” is set to drop Nov. 3 and will be available on Spotify and Apple Music.

Photo courtesy of Mollie Crowe

The Jambar Column

Horticulturist hoopla

Whether or not you mean to do it, plant murder happens every day. Not all of us can be the best plant parents and that's alright.

All throughout my childhood, I was surrounded by plants and wildlife. This made it so exciting for me to receive plants as gifts. The first ever plant I was given was a cactus, and this was mostly because they are super easy to grow — and even harder to kill.

I had this cactus until I was around 15 years old. It only died because I didn't want to bring it with me on yet another move. At this point, I had moved twice already and grew busier with extracurriculars by the day.

I haven't really branched out to care for plants myself, but if it's anything like how my family is with keeping plants alive — I will not be good at it.

I remember my sister begging and begging for a bonsai tree when I was around nine or 10 years old. She ended up getting one later on and unfortunately, it didn't last long at all, or that's what my preteen brain remembers.

Bonsai trees are among the ranks for easy plants to take care of. Others include multiple varieties of cacti as well as multiple versions of succulents.

I've been thinking about getting more plants to care for and keep alive — one being an aloe vera plant — simply because I think it would be fun to grow and make my own aloe.

Another plant I think would be fun



Alison Butz

to grow is a prayer plant, which is a type of Marantaceae. This one is particularly interesting because the leaves move and bend throughout the day because of the sunlight.

An unrealistic plant I would like to own is a Venus flytrap. I think it would be fun and I think they're super cool and all, but it's unrealistic because I have such an irrational fear of bugs.

If I like having plants, I could get adventurous enough to grow my own veggies or fruits. I think it would be cost-efficient to have this type of garden because if I were to think about how much I spend yearly on fruits and veggies, it wouldn't be a pretty number.

I can even be one of those people that enter a ginormous pumpkin into the fall festivals in October to hopefully win a cash prize. This ultimately would take a lot of work, and I would definitely have to be in a good place to have the effort to take care of a garden like this.

Overall, plants are fun to grow, with bonus points if it was grown straight from a seed and not bought from a store. However, there are some people who just cannot be trusted with plants and you can never know until you try caring for a low maintenance plant.

Quote of the Week

"They are forced plants, raised in a hot-bed; and they are poor plants; they are but cucumbers after all."

— Samuel Johnson
English writer

The Jambar Editorial

Fifty years on

It's common to hear the sentiment that things were better in the past. The idea that generations are becoming less in touch, or that past times were better is something many of us have heard from our parents, grandparents and other relatives.

This kind of sentiment has been common throughout human history, and has been tied to feelings of nostalgia. Many of us have no doubt expressed nostalgia toward our childhoods, even if they weren't perfect.

At the same time, young people today have come under the impression their lives are going to be worse and less fortunate than their parents and grandparents.

These sentiments are far from inaccurate. The Conversation reported young people are seeing declining earnings — a trend that started before the COVID-19 pandemic.

Declining life expectancy is another trend that began pre-pandemic. According to NPR, an American's life expectancy fell by almost three years from 2019 to 2021. Alongside the pandemic, Americans have also been dealing with overdose deaths, mental health issues and other physical health issues.

Alongside fears about a lack of income, many young Americans are worrying about the role climate change will play in their lives.

Pew Research Center released a poll which found 63% of Americans said the effects of climate change will only grow worse in their lifetime, with 30% of those between 18 and 29 saying they'll have to make major sacrifices because of it.

The post-World War II era of the United States was perhaps — at least in terms of economics — one of the more secure

times to live in history.

While the benefits weren't evenly distributed — especially along racial and gendered lines — America was thriving as the only economy not destroyed by the war. This period of relatively equal economic distribution continued until fifty years ago.

1973 was a watershed year for many reasons.

Watergate was unraveling the President Richard Nixon's administration, America was pulling out of Vietnam, the CIA overthrew the Chilean government, the dreams of the 1960s were dead or dying and the economy was heading for uncertainty.

One of the most significant events of that year came from a topic familiar to the news today, war in the Middle East. October 1973 saw the Yom Kippur War, the last of a series of Arab-Israeli wars.

A coalition containing Egypt, Jordan, Syria, Lebanon and various other Middle Eastern countries attacked Israel, and while the anti-Israel coalition failed, the war rippled through the global economy.

Most of the OPEC nations began an oil embargo against Israel's major supporters, which included the United States.

Gas prices spiked and Americans had to line up at the pump for what little gas was available.

This set the stage for a decade which saw inflation, oil embargos, wage stagnation, deindustrialization — like Black Monday — and political realignment.

Today, we continue to face worry in the wake of environmental degradation, political instability and an uncertain future. With all that is happening, it is worth it to pay attention to current events that seem far away, as they can soon ripple into all our lives.

CLASSIFIEDS

HELP WANTED

Help wanted copying manuscripts, other computer skills needed.
Offering compensation.

Call Ms. Moore 330-941-0322,
330-623-5200



**Follow us
on Instagram**

@ysu_jambar

THE JAMBAR POLICY

Since being founded by Burke Lyden in 1931, The Jambar has won nine Associated Press Collegiate Press honors. The Jambar is published weekly in the spring and fall semesters. The Jambar is free for YSU students and faculty.

EDITORIAL POLICY

The editorial board consists of the editor-in-chief, managing editor, news editor, sports editor, arts and entertainment editor and head copy editor. These opinion pieces are written separately from news articles and do not reflect the opinions of any individual staff member. The Jambar's business manager, multimedia journalists and non-writing staff do not contribute to editorials, and the adviser does not have final approval.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR POLICY

The Jambar encourages letters to the editor. Submissions are welcome at thejambar@gmail.com. Letters should concern a campus issue, must be typed and must not exceed 400 words. Submissions must include the writer's name and telephone number for verification, along with the writer's city of residence for publication. 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 has decided that the subject has been sufficiently aired. The editorial board will request a rewrite from the submitted 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.

Advertise with The Jambar

Contact Mary Dota for more
information at
mfdota@ysu.edu



Check out JTV

JambarTV by The Jambar

PUTTING THE BALL TO REST

Penguins seek hope over the Horizon

By Dylan Lux
The Jambar

After a historic start to non-conference play, the Youngstown State University women's soccer team's season ended before the start of the Horizon League tournament. A 4-2-1 record in non-conference marked the teams' best start in program history.

With wins over Saint Francis University, the University of Akron and Duquesne University, YSU started the season 3-0 for the first time since 2012.

Returning home for their next contest, Canisius University snapped the Penguins' win streak as the Golden Griffins held a 1-0 lead throughout the match.

In its next three contests, the team would tie, win and lose to The George Washington University, Indiana State University and Valparaiso University, respectively. After their victory over Indiana State, the Penguins held a conference record of 4-1-1, which officially marked the best start in program history.

Entering conference play, the women's soccer team started 1-1 in the Horizon League after it lost its first

conference matchup to the University of Detroit Mercy on the road, 2-1, then won the following matchup at home 2-1 against Northern Kentucky University.

A two-game losing stretch followed the conference openers, as the Penguins lost on the road in Dayton to Wright State University, 3-2, and at home to Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis, 1-0.

Following a 0-0 tie at Cleveland State University for its next game, the team returned home to face Oakland University. After two goals from Oakland graduate student Macey Wierenga, the 'Guins lost the contest, 2-1.

Top-ranked University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee was the next opponent the Penguins faced at home. Despite a 2-4-1 conference record for YSU, the Penguins faced off against undefeated Milwaukee, but the game ended in a 1-1 draw.

For its last two games of the season, the soccer team took on the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay and Robert Morris University. The Penguins beat the Phoenix, 2-0, on the road but came up short against the Colonials, 2-1.

The women's soccer team finished 7-7-3, with a 3-5-2

record in the Horizon League.

Senior goalie Brooklynn Kirkpatrick finished her YSU career with the most wins in Penguin history at 18. She also finished fifth all-time in saves with 255 and first in save percentage, clean sheets with 14 and goals against average.

Sophomore forward Chloe Weiland led the team in goals and points, four and 11 respectively, for the season. She was also one of three Penguins with three assists on the year.

Sophomore forward Taylor Berry and senior forward Lianna Van Sice both tallied three assists for the Penguins. Berry scored three goals on the season and Van Sice totaled two.

Graduate student forward Regan LaVigna finished her collegiate career with 11 total assists, which places her tied for second all-time for the program.

Weiland and junior Maddie Keister tied for third in the Horizon League for game-winning goals with two each.

Kirkpatrick was third in the Horizon League in saves with 80 and fourth in saves per game with 4.71.



Maddie Keister (left) and Brooklynn Kirkpatrick (right) against Cleveland State at Krenzler Field.

Photos by Dylan Lux / The Jambar

Two Penguin teams crowned champions

YSU bowling

By Madeline Hippeard
The Jambar

The Youngstown State University bowling team earned its first tournament title since 2019 after being named champion of the Destination Orlando: Sunshine State Classic on Oct. 29

The classic was a three-day tournament, which ran from Oct. 27 to Oct. 29.

Day One of the tournament, the Penguins averaged 206.7 pins per game and posted a total pinfall of 5,167 in five Baker matches against Duquesne University, Texas Southern University, Saint Francis University, Jacksonville State University and Alabama A&M University.

The team lost its first match against Duquesne University, 1,018-1,067. Despite a loss right off the bat, the 'Guins went on to win their last four matches of the day.

The Penguins defeated Texas Southern University, 1,048-951, to get their first win.

Then, they defeated Saint Francis University, 1,031-959, and Jacksonville State University, 1,103-1,087.

The 'Guins finished the day with a 967-871 victory against Alabama A&M.

Over the course of their games on Friday, the Penguins were the only team to top 960 pins in every match, ranking them third overall heading into Day Two.

On Saturday, the Penguins lost their first four matches to Stephen F. Austin State University, Vanderbilt University, Sacred Heart University and Fairleigh Dickinson University.

Despite their losses, the 'Guins defeated Florida A&M University, 1,106-963.

Senior Kristen Moore bowled a 1,052 set over five games, placing her as Youngstown State's top finisher and 15th overall in individual standings.

Moore said the team remained hopeful that it could win the championship, despite hitting a rough patch on Day Two.

"Saturdays can be tough days. We had a pretty good day on Friday, Saturday started off kind of rough. But it's in those moments that you need to really dig deep within yourself," Moore said.

After the conclusion of Day Two, the Penguins totaled 10,148 pins over 10 qualifying matches, placing them fourth overall and sending them into the championship best of seven bracket on Sunday.

The 'Guins began the championship bracket by defeating Vanderbilt, 4-3.

The team then defeated Stephen F. Austin, 4-3.

Finally, the Penguins defeated Jacksonville State in

the championship match 4-0, earning them their third tournament title in program history.

Head coach Doug Kuberski said this championship was an important moment to the Penguins because of how long ago their last victory was.

"It was a great feeling. It's been four years since we won a regular season event. We've had a bunch of second places, a bunch of close calls, and so to get the job done and the team so happy and thrilled with that was a pretty good moment," Kuberski said.

Alongside earning a victory at The Classic, YSU's junior Jade Cote was named the Most Valuable Player of the tournament.

The 'Guins will return to action Nov. 10 when they participate in the SFA Ladyjack Classic in Kenosha, Wisconsin. For more information and to follow along with the Penguin's next tournament, visit ysusports.com.



Photo courtesy of @ysubowling on Instagram

The bowling team celebrates its championship title.

YSU men's XC

By Marissa Masano
The Jambar

The Youngstown State University men's and women's cross country programs competed at the Horizon League Championships on Oct. 28 at Fairborn Community Park in Fairborn. The men competed in the 8K with 12 athletes, and the women competed in the 6K with 10 athletes.

The men took first place to achieve back-to-back conference titles. This marks the first time in history the Penguins have earned consecutive championships and is the fourth title in program history.

The Penguins had four top-10 finishes and averaged a time of 24:27. The team also had six runners finishing sub-25 minutes. Senior Hunter Christopher placed first, earning the first individual cross-country title of his career. Christopher had a time of 24:04.17.

For Assistant Coach Eric Rupe the mag-

nitude of runners who can contribute to the scoring effort shows this Penguins team's depth.

"The depth that we have on the team to have that many in scoring positions really shows we are in a good spot heading into post season meets. So having that many people that can contribute to the top 10 potentially allows us maybe have one of our guys not have a great day and then there's another guy right behind him to kind of pick that guy up," Rupe said.

Senior Ryan Meadows placed second behind Christopher. Meadows finished with a time of 24:13.65.

Junior Thomas Caputo took an eighth-place finish and was the third Penguin to cross the finish line. Caputo's time of 24:35.30 was a personal best.

Following Caputo was redshirt freshman Sage Vavro, who placed ninth with a personal-best time of 24:36.22.

Redshirt freshman Blaze Fichter placed 11th and rounded out the Penguins' scoring effort. Fichter finished with a time of 24:42.26.

The Penguins scored 31 points, finish-

ing 16 points ahead of the runner-up, Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis.

On the women's side, they placed fifth, averaging 22:25. Six 'Guins finished in the top 50, including the 2022 women's HLXC champion, graduate student Morgan Cole.

Cole finished as the runner-up with a 6K time of 20:50.90. This was Cole's fifth consecutive top-six finish at the Horizon League Championships.

Senior Alyssa Deeds finished 16th and was the next 'Guin to cross the finish line. Deeds ran a personal record, clocking in at 21:57.27.

Senior Hannah Wagner finished next for the 'Guins, placing 37th at 23:01.39.

Rounding out the scoring effort were freshman Grace Rhoades and junior Alayna Cuevas. Rhoades delivered a 39th-place finish with a time of 23:05.26 and Cuevas clocked in at 23:07.14 to place 42nd.

Rupe says, "The number one reason for school records and fast times is how hard they work and the culture that's been

established on the men's and women's team."

Several Penguins won individual awards at the championships. Vavro, who ran a personal best at the championships, was awarded the Cross Country Men's Freshman of the Year.

Christopher and Meadows were named to the Men's All-League First Team, and Caputo, Vavro and Fichter were called to the Men's All-League Second Team.

Cole was the lone lady 'Guin to be named on the Women's All-League First Team.

After the championships, the men's cross-country program is now ranked 10th in the Great Lakes Regional Poll.

The team will travel to the Thomas Zimmer Championship Cross Country Course in Madison, Wisconsin, compete at 1:30 p.m., Eastern Standard Time, on Nov. 10.

The women will run the 6K, followed by the men's 10K. The men finished 11th at the 2022 regional championships, tied for the best finish in program history.

To keep up with the Nov. 10 meet, visit ysusports.com.

Football lays down bear trap

By Cameron Niemi
The Jambar

The Youngstown State University football team played its second-straight home game Oct. 28. Missouri State University came to Stambaugh Stadium with a 3-4 overall record. The Penguins won their fifth-straight home game and defeated the Bears by a final score of 44-28.

The YSU offense found success in the passing game as senior quarterback Mitch Davidson and senior wide receiver Bryce Oliver both had career-high games.

Davidson led the offense to victory as he passed to 10 different targets throughout the game. Davidson threw four touchdown passes for the second week in a row and went 26-of-33 through the air for 390 yards passing.

Oliver finished with six catches for 169 yards and two touchdowns.

Missouri State jumped out to an early 7-0 lead in the first quarter. YSU responded with a drive of its own as Davidson found Oliver for a 48-yard completion.

That drive led to a 10-yard catch and score from junior wide receiver C.J. Charleston.

With the game tied at 7, the Penguins got the ball again and took their first lead of the game. Davidson found senior tight end Jake Benio for a 2-yard touchdown. The 'Guins went into the second quarter with a 14-7 lead.

A scoring drive for the Bears ensued and YSU responded with a five-play, 85-yard drive which ended with a 51-yard touchdown pass to Oliver, which gave the 'Guins a 21-14 lead.

Davidson connected with Oliver again late in the second quarter for a 20-yard catch in the corner of the endzone for a touchdown. Redshirt freshman Andrew Lastovka kicked a 27-yard field goal to end the first half and extend the teams lead, 31-14.

The Penguins received the ball to start the second half. They marched down the field 75-yards in two minutes, as senior Dra Rushton ran in a one-yard touchdown, which extended the teams lead, 38-14.

Missouri State slowly started to fight back as it went and scored 14 unanswered points before heading into the fourth quarter.

YSU's defense showed up big in the final quarter. The team had five sacks in the game, three of which came in the fourth quarter. Senior defen-

sive lineman Devin Lee led the team with two.

Junior Troy Jakubec also had an interception early on in the quarter, which led to three points from the foot of Lastovka from 29-yards out, which gave the Penguins a 41-28 lead.

Lastovka had another perfect game as he finished 5-of-5 on extra points and 3-of-3 on field goals. His third field goal was a career-long 44 yards.

Davidson spoke after the game on the offense's success and the defense showing up when they needed it in the fourth quarter.

"To come in the Ice Castle and defend it like we did, very proud of the way the offense came out to play and the way that the defense stepped up when we really needed them," Davidson said. "The defense is always doing their job when we need it most."

Davidson was named Missouri Valley Football Conference Offensive Player of the Week after a successful day through the air. Nate Mays was the last YSU quarterback to receive this achievement in 2019.

Oliver — who came off a productive game — spoke after the win on the importance of preparing for next week's game.

"Just having that road focus. Taking this thing day by day, week by week. Last time we went there we ended up coming up short, that definitely left a sour taste in our mouth," Oliver said. "We're gonna go there and just try to get that W."

The Penguins moved to 5-3 on the season and 3-2 in the MVFC. The team jumped to No. 22 in the Stats Perform FCS Top 25. YSU still remains on the outside of the FCS Coaches Poll.

Youngstown State will travel west to Indiana, to take on a winless Indiana State University at 1 p.m. on Nov. 4.

For more information on the game, go to ysusports.com. To watch the game, go to ESPN+ or listen on 570 WKBN.

