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## TECH-NICALLY SPEAKING



Guins Gadgets is run by YSU's IT Service Desk.

Photo by Matthew Sotlar / The Jambar

# Cybersecurity awareness

By Matthew Sotlar  
The Jambar

October marks the start of cybersecurity awareness month at Youngstown State University. Several programs and events have been planned to help inform students of the importance of cybersecurity.

Associate Director of IT Training Services Sean Melnik said cybersecurity should be a major priority for students at YSU.

"Cybersecurity is very important at YSU," Melnik said. "It's important to protect your student data and also your valuable student information that basically keeps your accounts secure."

To ensure security, YSU has taken measures to prevent hackers from accessing private information, such as private passwords with special characters. Melnik stressed the importance of using one pass-

word per website.

"Never use the same password across multiple platforms," Melnik said. "Create helpful variations of the password by simply just changing the order of the letters around or adding additional numbers or special characters."

Using secure Wi-Fi browsers limits the risk of being hacked. Melnik said YSU's Wi-Fi is the safest option on campus.

"Make sure that whenever you connect your devices to the network that you're connecting to the YSU Wi-Fi. You don't want to connect to any open Wi-Fi that you're not familiar with. That could be a way for bad hackers to steal information from you going across their network," Melnik said.

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# You can 'BEE' anything

By Nicarlyle Hanchard  
Jambar Contributor

Youngstown State University's Office of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion is now the Office of Belonging, Empowerment and Engagement. The change came toward the end of the spring semester.

In June 2023, the U.S. Supreme Court returned its ruling on *Students for Fair Admissions, Inc. v. President and Fellows of Harvard College and Students for Fair Admissions v. University of North Carolina*.

The universities were accused of discriminatory practices during their admissions processes through affirmative action. The Supreme Court voted to repeal the application of affirmative action in the admissions process of higher education.

YSU President Bill Johnson, said given the ruling, he and the members of the former DEI Office met to discuss the office's relaunch.

"Back in the early spring, we got word of the Harvard-Supreme Court case, where they issued rulings around race-based admissions and financial aid," Johnson said. "We then got guidance from our state attorney general. In light of all that guidance dealing with DEI, we decided at YSU to refocus our DEI department on the individual rather than an ideological agenda."

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The charter for the Office of BEE was done by Susan Moorer, associate director, and Donquail Mims, the former coordinator of transition and mentoring programs. President Johnson said the rewrite was done to ensure everyone's needs were met.

"[Moorer and Mims] were actually the ones who rewrote our charter so that we can ensure that everybody, whether you are a student, faculty or a staff member on campus, regardless of where you're from, your walk of life, your skin color, ethnic background or your gender preference, that you feel safe, respected, valued and that your voice is heard," said Johnson.

Moorer said her office looked into the approach taken by other universities in the state, and that provided them a base from which to build.

"We took a combination of some of the other names we had seen for universities, and we thought belonging, empowerment, and engagement encompassed everything we wanted to do in this office," Moorer said. "We're an office where we want everyone to feel welcomed. It's not a specific, targeted group, it's for everyone. All students."

The BEE Office also experienced a location change, as it's now housed in Melnick Hall. The office is now a part of the Sokolov Honors College, which is located in Fok Hall. Moorer said it was more practical to make the move from the office's longtime home in Jones Hall.

"We are now a part of the Honors College with Dr. Amy Cossentino and we're working in conjunction with the Tressel Institute for Leadership and the Office of Community Engagement," Moorer said. "It was more efficient for us to work collaboratively, to share resources and staff. It's a lot more efficient than us working

on our own."

Johnson said he also believes the change of location will add to the mission of the BEE Office.

"We wanted to give the Office some increased focus. That's the whole purpose in doing this, to elevate the individual. There's no better place to do that than in our Honors College and in our Community and Engagement Office," Johnson said.

Moorer said the Office of BEE is a planning partner for Hispanic Heritage Month. The office was also involved in the Homecoming events for the National Pan-Hellenic Council.

The office has several mentorship and transitional programs, such as the Achieve Impact Motivate mentoring program, Navarro Executive Fellows and a summer program through the Youngstown State Enrichment Summer Scholastic Institute, among others.



The IT Customer Service Desk can be reached by phone 24/7.

Photo by Matthew Sotlar / The Jambar

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**7-DAY WEATHER FORECAST**

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

High: 60°F	High: 68°F	High: 70°F	High: 69°F	High: 71°F	High: 73°F	High: 63°F
Low: 36°F	Low: 37°F	Low: 40°F	Low: 44°F	Low: 47°F	Low: 46°F	Low: 45°F
Chance of precip: 2%	Chance of precip: 9%	Chance of precip: 11%	Chance of precip: 14%	Chance of precip: 3%	Chance of precip: 0%	Chance of precip: 1%



Partly Cloudy



Fair



Fair



Partly Cloudy



Fair



Partly Cloudy



Fair

Information courtesy of accuweather.com



# YSU's approach to AI

By Nicholas Bianco and Tala Alsharif  
Jambar Contributors

Artificial intelligence allows machines to perform human-like tasks. AI mimics the cognitive functions of human minds, such as learning and problem-solving.

AI's influence has spread around the world over the past few years, especially in academics.

Youngstown State University aims to align the potential of AI with its mission to inspire, enhance and enrich the educational journey of students.

Communications professor Thomas Flynn said AI is impacting how professors teach courses.

"I'm only [at the] tip of the iceberg in terms of how to use it," Flynn said.

Flynn said some faculty members suggested that AI should be banned from campus. However, he believes that's unrealistic.

"Degree programs [have to be] preparing students for the jobs they're going to be going into, which means we have to actively incorporate AI as it relates to the jobs people will be doing," Flynn said.

Marketing senior lecturer John Rossi said a small percentage of students use AI for classwork because of a fear of academic dishonesty.

"Those academic issues put some obstacles in front of a lot of students, even experimenting or trying it," Rossi said.

According to Rossi, he tries to implement AI tools in his classes through exercises that show students how it works, along with guidance to avoid plagiarism.

Rossi said students should be using AI quickly, prolifically and should feel comfort-

able doing so.

"Most of the ethical issues, with regard to academic integrity and such, are probably going to be dealt with pretty quickly," Rossi said "That will make them feel more comfortable with structure, so they don't fear it."

Prompt engineering is a process of structuring an instruction to be interpreted and understood by a generative AI model. Rossi said he uses prompt engineering in his classes as a training mechanism for students using AI.

"Give it the task that you want to address, give it the voice, the tone and response you're looking for," Rossi said. "You get accurate results or results that meet your expectations, particularly if you're using it as a tool."

Rossi said he teaches his students the responsibilities in using AI tools.

"One of the best things to do is provide them with the digital literacy, the lesson plan and then explain what the requirements for academic honesty, integrity, ethics and plagiarism are," Rossi said.

Flynn said he uses Otter.ai, which records and transcribes audio, in a course where students conduct interviews.

"The very quick transcription of those interviews was fantastic," Flynn said. "[Otter.ai] is the primary thing that I use right now in terms of the work I do."

Rossi said AI is a new tool that students and faculty will eventually be familiar with using.

"We started with computers, we had to get familiar with them. It scared us for a while, we had the internet and that scared us for a while," Rossi said. "We have a new tool and we're going to have to get over our fears, figure out what the obstacles are, mitigate those and adopting that either as a tool or assistant."



AI has been a debate topic on college campuses over the year.



Photos by Nicholas Bianco / Jambar Contributor

**DEI**

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Throughout October, the IT Training Department and IT Security will be sending out informative emails to students to help them understand tricks hackers use to gather information. Melnik listed some of the topics that will be explained in the emails.

“Things like protecting your account, being aware of phishing scams, identifying bad hackers and information they’re trying to steal ... and of course keeping your devices clean of malware and viruses ... that can not only infect your system but also potentially jeopardize our network,” Melnik said.

There are a variety of scams that target both students and faculty alike. One example is phishing scams, where hackers send out emails that appear to come from reputable sources. Any students who receive a suspicious email should report it, rather than interact with it.

Melnik said while YSU’s network has systems to prevent hackers, students should

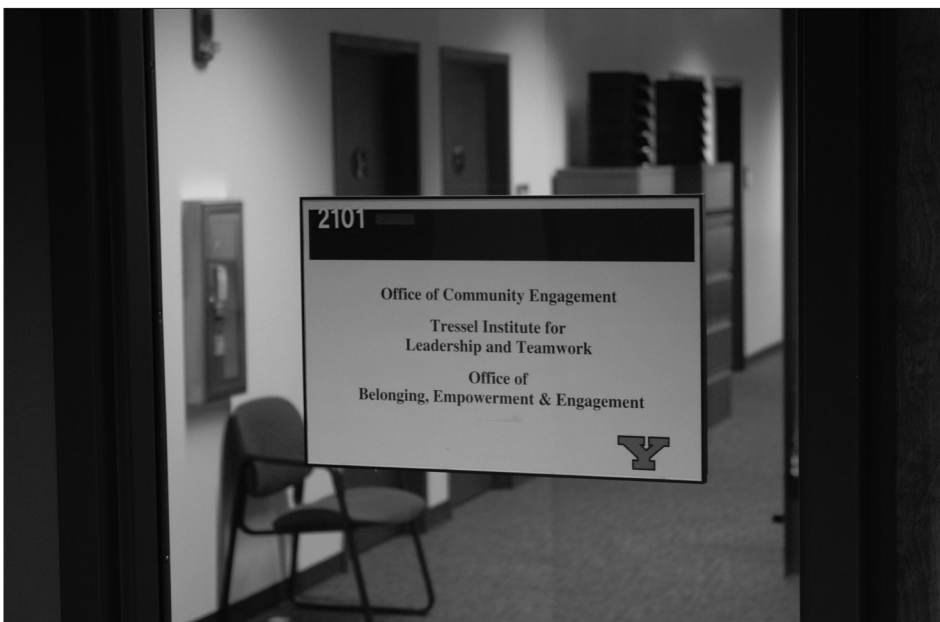
still be mindful of any software they install.

“We make sure we have our security parameters in place,” Melnik said. “But, be mindful of any software that you install on your devices. For example, free is not always good. You need to be mindful of the information that those software applications might be collecting and sharing outside of your control.”

Students who need technical support can reach out to the IT Service Desk at 330-941-1595. Melnik added that the IT Training Department can also help with specific technical issues.

“If you have general questions, how do you do something in Blackboard, if you have questions about Microsoft OneDrive or your use of Microsoft Teams ... the IT Training Department is here to help you utilize resources available to you as a YSU student,” Melnik said.

Students in need of the IT Training Department can email them at [itservices@ysu.edu](mailto:itservices@ysu.edu). A cybersecurity workshop will be held from 1–2 p.m. Oct. 21 in Kilcawley’s Rossi Room. Students can register for the event via emails from IT Training Services.



The Office of BEE has been relocated to Melnick Hall.

Photos by John Ostapowicz / The Jambar



# Cliffe College means business

By Molly Burke and Madison Fessler  
Jambar Contributors

Colleges across the United States are aiming to improve students' career readiness in and outside the classroom, and Cliffe College of Creative Arts is making changes to follow the trends.

Cliffe College Dean Phyllis Paul said the college has updated its curriculum and collaborated with Youngstown State University's Office of Career Exploration and Development.

"Our students are getting an outstanding education in the arts, whether that's visual art, music or theatrical arts, but they're also within their degree program really getting a great start on business — what a business portion of this looks like," Paul said.

Curriculum changes apply to incoming Cliffe students as well as any existing students who decide to switch to the 2024-25 course path.

Students getting a Bachelor of Arts in music performance, a Bachelor of Fine Arts in theatre or a BFA of musical theatre are now required to complete a minor.

Joe Carucci, director of Dana School of Music and University Theatre, said the minor requirements were added after the departments took a deep dive into graduates' careers.

"They might get a minor in technology, they might get a minor in marketing, in business, in entrepreneurship, in accounting. This will make them more marketable when they graduate for those various income streams that a performer often uses," Carucci said.

While theatre students were already required to take a career preparation course, music performance majors must now take one as well. Audio and music production majors are also required to complete an internship.

Additionally, the Dana School of Music introduced certificates in audio and music production as well as audio and music production pedagogy.

"We're trying to build into our music educators a sense of audio and music production and a sense of technology master that they can bring into the classroom," Carucci said.

Daniel Keown, associate professor of music education, said the department streamlined its music education degree.

"We had a degree that was about 134 credits, which is about 14 credits over," Keown said. "We felt it was really important to make sure we set up a curriculum for students so they could actually graduate in four years."

Joy Christiansen Erb, acting chair of the Department of Art, said students getting a BFA in studio art with a concentration in interdisciplinary studio art are required to choose one of five business minors: entrepreneurship,

nonprofit leadership, social media, marketing or business for non-business majors.

"We also included some new courses in the curriculum that kind of bridge the gap between the studio art side and the minor in business," Christiansen Erb said. "We have a professional practices class, we have a community engagement internship for students and we also have a writing for artist course."

Outside the classroom, Lilli Horvat is CCCA's resident coordinator of career exploration and development. She's teaching free courses for the college's Career and Professional Development Series throughout the fall.

"We offer resume and cover letter reviews, LinkedIn reviews and networking tips, career exploration," Horvat said. "The goal is for all of the classes to be very hands-on. We don't want them to just come in and feel like this is another lecture."

The series kicked off with a Mock Art Reception at McDonough Museum of Art in September. Students could practice networking with professors, as the museum is running a faculty art show throughout the fall.

"They had the chance to practice and talk with us as artists," Christiansen Erb said. "They got a little bit of a presentation from Lilli Horvat, who talked to us about ways to make small talk, things to do to prepare for a reception."

The event also featured a Gallery Glam Fashion Show hosted by the Student Art Association.

"They gave us some great examples of ways that you can be expressive but still dressed up for an event," Christiansen Erb said. "There was a large group of students at this event — freshmen to seniors. So, there was a chance for people to recognize that coming to receptions can be really great."

Christiansen Erb said it's important for students to feel supported while preparing for their careers.

"In my generation and a lot of the faculty — in school, we didn't have that. It's something that you had to learn on your own," Christiansen Erb said. "We're recognizing the importance of teaching the students early so they can practice those skills."

Junior theatre and biology major Natalie Horvath said she feels supported by faculty and staff at CCCA.

"I was one of the people that didn't think there weren't many jobs for theater," Horvath said. "Being here, I found that there's so many more job opportunities that I can achieve, and all the things that my professors have given me is helping me find ways that I can continue my level of theater."

A full schedule of the Career and Professional Development Series can be found by the elevator on the first floor of Bliss Hall.



Photos courtesy of Carrie Yasnowski

Students practice networking at the Mock Art Reception.

# Inside YSU athletics

**By Joel Fuzo**  
Jambar Contributor

Youngstown State University currently has eight athletics programs for men and 11 for women, with the possibility of expanding to add more programs in the future.

Ron Strollo, executive director of Intercollegiate Athletics, said there are several important factors to consider when adding a new team.

“First and foremost it’s the interest of our students. The next evaluation would be Title IX, gender equity. As you know, we continue to strive to achieve that. [Another consideration is] do we have the facilities for it to work?” Strollo said.

According to the U.S. Department of Education, Title IX is a federal law, which prohibits colleges and universities that receive federal funding from discriminating based on sex, including within their athletic programs.

The criteria for equality in athletic programs includes how schools award athletic scholarships or financial assistance. In other words, schools must afford the same amount of money for men’s and women’s athletics.

Strollo said a team club sport’s participation and popularity can be a way to assess student interest in a new

team.

“Club sports are a great way to figure out where your student interests are because they are home grown,” Strollo said. “Gathering together to play that sport and going through the challenges of fundraising, setting schedules and finding coaches then you know there is a real interest there.”

Andrew Cvetkovic, president of YSU’s men’s soccer club, said many of his team members want an official soccer team.

“I know there’s a lot of people in my club that are extremely talented who wish there was a team and are capable of walking on and proving their worth to the club and maybe YSU as a whole,” Cvetkovic said.

Strollo said finances are also a factor with the implementation of a new sports team.

“We gotta make sure if we bring a new sports team to our campus, it’s going to add to our enrollment and the rest of the mission of the university,” Strollo said.

Chet Cooper, NCAA faculty athletics representative at YSU, said Title IX impacts the school’s decision of adding new teams.

“We have to create a women’s team so we can balance out the men’s team and that’s a little difficult to do,” Cooper said.

According to Strollo, this time of year would be the timing if the school were to decide to create a new team.

“You would probably want that first year to hire a coach, and give them a full year to recruit, so a lot of the time you would be making those decisions now,” Strollo said.

Strollo noted the importance of mindfulness during the recruitment process.

“It’s usually right after their season and you want to spread the word that you’re in that community of coaches that you’re getting ready to add a sport and hopefully drum up some interest and do some recruiting,” Strollo said.

With the House v. NCAA court case resolution, Strollo said many schools will be adapting and changing. In some cases, schools may be dropping sports.

Schools can now directly share revenue with players by compensating them for their name, image and likeness.

“This is a tough time for schools to be adding sports because of this litigation. That will be a factor within the next two, three years on how people decide to manage their athletics programs,” Strollo said.

## Assembled together

**By Keon Edington**  
Jambar Contributor

Youngstown State University’s intramural sports draws interest from students, as well as fraternities and sororities across campus with a wide variety of sports.

From flag football to soccer, IMLeagues is offered by the Andrews Recreation and Wellness Center.

Intramural sports are leagues created for students who want to get experience in an athletic environment and not be weighed down by the pressure of being a student athlete.

During the fall semester, pickleball is

on Mondays, soccer is held Wednesdays, volleyball is held Thursdays and flag football is on Sundays at various YSU facilities.

Intramural sports are open to students of all experience levels. Sports such as basketball are offered in the spring semester.

Josiah Horst, coordinator of competitive sports at the Rec Center, said intramural sports differ from normal recreational sports because they cater to YSU students.

“The Recreation center is open to anybody. Intramural is just for YSU students, faculty and staff that want to participate.

“The main way to get involved is to cre-

ate a team with a group of their friends, and register at [imleagues.com],” Horst said. “The team captain would go in and approve of all of their friends.”

If a student has an interest in starting a sports league that’s not already established, the process has a catch.

“We choose what sports we’re gonna run. It’s not like I wanna start this league and I’m gonna do it,” Horst said. “As long as there are students interested, I’m open to starting it.”

Greek Life is also involved in intramural sports, with fraternities and sororities participating in volleyball, Wiffle ball and flag football this semester.

Competition begins Oct. 22. According to Hunter Lynch, interfraternity council overseer of intramurals said it’s a good

competitive experience.

“Each fraternity goes against each other in a tournament playing all sports,” Lynch said. “The scores are then ranked for the entire year and the winner gets the title of ‘Fraternity of the Year.’”

The Rec Center is looking to add ultimate frisbee, and is working with smaller leagues that don’t require a full team.

Hissiam Hassan, intramural overseer, said that while these sports are meant to have fun, athletes show a passion for winning.

“[In] flag football, there is a lot of competitiveness, really between the top teams,” Hassan said. “They really like to trash talk one another. It gets real competitive out on the field.”

It costs \$5 per sport to sign up, or \$12 for a semester package with all sports. Students can visit imleagues.com to join a team or league.



# Car crimes plague Penguins

By Molly Burke  
Jambar Contributor

Senior Josh Grosswiller was leaving for Youngstown State University's Homecoming celebrations when he found a pile of broken glass next to his car.

"I was supposed to go to my frat house for [parade float building], and I got to my car and realized that the window was broken on my driver side," Grosswiller said.

He discovered the damage around 8 a.m. in the same overnight campus lot he's parked in for two years.

"At first, I didn't really think it was my car because I've never had anything like this. So, it was kind of like shock. Turns out, it was my car. I saw that the steering column was all broken into. The ignition was torn out," Grosswiller said. "They tried to hijack and take the car."

No property was stolen from his 2013 Hyundai Elantra, but the damage cost his family \$1,500.

According to YSU Police Chief Shawn Varso, Grosswiller is not the only victim of attempted vehicle theft in the past few weeks and he's not the only one with a Hyundai.

"We have had a few car break-ins on campus in the last couple of weeks. There has been an increase in stolen vehicles, both Kia and Hyundai in the city and other surrounding areas," Varso said. "There were no vehicles taken from campus. However, there were a few attempted thefts on campus."

According to CNN, certain models of Hyundai and Kias made before 2023 have been vulnerable to theft because they lack certain basic auto theft prevention technologies such as electronic immobilizers. The models saw a 1,000% increase in thefts from 2022 to the beginning of 2023.

On YSU's campus, seven vehicle thefts were reported in 2023. 10 years prior, either one or zero thefts were reported — with an exception for 2017, which had four.

Varso said four of the seven thefts in 2023 were stolen Kias and Hyundais.

"The Kia and the Hyundai issue that came about where they were using USB drives to steal cars — we kind of fell victim to that same thing," Varso said. "When the United States at large saw an increase in auto theft last year, it kind of trickled down to us."

The impact can be seen in data from Clery reports across public universities in Northeast Ohio.

Cleveland State University's campus had 29 vehicle thefts in 2023, compared to 12 in 2022 and one in 2021. The University of Akron had 10 in 2023, compared with one in 2022 and one in 2021.

Kent State University reported zero in 2023 and 2022 and one in 2021.

Of YSU's other vehicle thefts last year, Varso said they were mostly preventable.

"One was an individual who left their keys in their car, and then another one was someone who borrowed the vehicle and parked it in another parking lot. So, it's still considered an auto theft, but it wasn't one of the traditional auto thefts," Varso said.

Danny O'Connell, director of YSU Parking and Support Services, said parking lots are kept well-lit and behind gates to prevent crime. While police also monitor video cameras, O'Connell said they're most useful in investigations.

"Cameras are not a preventative measure because the more cameras and the more people that know and see you have cameras, the more careful the people who are doing wrong to us are," O'Connell said. "Where the cameras help the police is in an investigation after the fact, and even then it's a long shot. It helps them get timelines and things like that."

YSU also saw seven burglaries on campus last year. While there were six reported in 2019 and seven reported in 2017, it's a spike from one reported in 2022 and three reported in 2021.

Varso said burglaries tend to increase as more students live on campus, but many cases are crimes of opportunity.

"Some of the cases we've had, it's not a forced entry into an apartment or somewhere along those lines. It's someone neglecting to lock their doors behind them when they leave. It's an easy way to get in there," Varso said. "You have to make sure you lock your stuff behind you when you leave."

On-campus dorms and apartments are equipped with security cameras and residential parking lots are adjoining or kept in close proximity. Olivia Cupp, director of Housing and Residence Life, said the department supports students when they're a victim of any crime.

"My team are frequently turned to as the resource or looked to for help in situations when students are really negatively impacted," Cupp said. "The first thing that we really encourage the student to do after we verify that they are safe is we connect them with YSU police to make a report."

While multiple departments work to ensure student safety, Varso said students can be proactive in preventing crime.

"Just something as simple that awareness — make sure you don't have any expensive stuff out in the middle of your car where people can see it, make sure your car doors are locked, make sure you take your keys with you," Varso said. "One of the biggest things that we rely on is the students, our faculty and staff actually letting us know if they see something suspicious."

Varso said students should call YSU Police at 330-941-3527 rather than 911 for the quickest police, fire and EMS response on campus.



Photo courtesy of Josh Grosswiller  
Grosswiller found his car damaged the morning of Oct. 5.



# It's more than just football

By Dylan Lux and Raeghan Hilton  
Jambar Contributors

When asked about a Youngstown State University game day, the reply usually revolves around football. While football is the main attraction for home games, many factors play into a game-day experience.

While all athletes practice and train throughout the season, other athletes, students and staff work together to create an atmosphere for sporting events.

Trainers help keep the athletes healthy, while coordinators and coaches help to hone athletes on their abilities and improve their game.

Many students plan on going to a football game to help fill the stands. A loud stadium is one way for a team to gain an advantage over an opposing team, supporting them throughout the game.

Blake Springer, a double major in criminal justice and accounting, frequents the student section on game days.

“As soon as you walk [to the student section], everybody is ready. Everybody is yelling, screaming. Everybody is having a good time. The moment something happens it's just an uproar. Everybody is locked into the game,” Springer said.

Student athletes also make appearances at football games — in more ways than one.

Maddie Angelo, senior defender for the women's soccer team, said it's about the support displayed by all YSU sports teams.

“Women's soccer team coming out to support the football team, especially on Homecoming weekend, just means when we need them, they'll do the same for us,” Angelo said.

A unique experience occurred for the soccer team Oct. 5, when YSU defeated Wright State before the football game.

“We started off the day strong with a 1-0 win. So now we're gonna cheer on football and hope they do the

same,” Angelo said.

Student athletes also work alongside staff to help with giveaways on game days. They are assigned community service hours and can use them at certain times throughout the season.

Haley Thierry, senior guard for the women's basketball team, said the team likes to get involved through volunteerism.

“We enjoy doing volunteer work and giving back to our community in any way, shape or form” Thierry said. “We also enjoy having tailgates on Saturdays, where we can bring out family and friends to mingle before the football game.”

Game day brings the Youngstown community together. There are many elements at YSU that go into making the experience good for everyone — beyond just the athletes.



YSU game days bring together students and surrounding community.

Photos by Dylan Lux / Jambar Contributor



## COFFEE CONNECTION

# Have a sip at coffee hour

By AnnaBelle Boone  
The Jambar

With an international community growing on campus, the International Programs Office has multiple events each semester for international and domestic students to socialize.

At International Coffee Hour, students can enjoy drinks and food from their home countries while they are far away.

The first coffee hour of fall semester was held Sept. 6. The event was hosted by the IPO in the Lariccia Cultural Collaboratory. President Bill Johnson also stopped by the event.

The second coffee hour was hosted at the Andrews Student Recreation and Wellness Center by Campus Rec.

Nick DuBos, an international student scholar and advisor for IPO, said he worked the event his first year and started with IPO in March 2022.

"From the moment I came here," DuBos said. "I've been involved with it."

Joe D'Amato, assistant director of the IPO, said he has been involved with the coffee hour since he started at the English Learning Institute in 2014.

"Since I've started here, it's been a real successful event," D'Amato said.

Coffee hour is sponsored by different organizations on campus such as Campus Rec, Friends Around The World and the International Student Organization.

"It's always just been a really great opportunity ... for community members and both domestic and international students to come together, kind of like a nice end of the week social event," DuBos said.

The event also showcases the different cultures of students on campus, from sharing their food and drink to presenting songs or dances from their home countries.

"I think we really want to make it ... like a cultural education opportunity," D'Amato said. "Give students the opportunity to share about their culture because we feel like it can be a social event and educational."

Nikechi Onunwor, a finance and political science major and the president of the African and Caribbean Students Union, has hosted the event several times.

"I look forward to attending coffee hour sessions because I know I will see a familiar face," Onunwor said. "Community members also attend coffee hour now and then, which helps us know more about Youngstown and feel a greater connection to this great city."

One of Onunwor's favorite memories about the event was playing Kahoot!

"I don't remember the questions," Onunwor said. "But I remember my team and I [was] laughing as we failed most of them. It was a splendid time!"

The mission of coffee hour is to embrace student connections.

"It's more than coffee," said Onunwor. "There are fun activities, amazing people to talk to, lovely music, snacks from other countries, performances and more."

The next International Coffee Hour will be held Nov. 5, celebrating *Días de los Muertos*, also known as the Day of the Dead. The final coffee hour of the semester will be held Dec. 6.



President Johnson at the first coffee hour of the semester. Photo courtesy of IPO's Instagram

A promotional graphic for Pressed Coffee Bar &amp; Eatery. The background is light brown with various sized brown circles, some containing white smiley faces. A large dark brown circle in the center contains the text "Pressed Coffee Bar &amp; Eatery" in a white, stylized font, with the address "215 Lincoln Ave, Youngstown OH 44503" below it. Underneath, it says "Introducing BOBA DRINKS" in a mix of white and pink fonts. Below the text are five boba drinks in clear plastic cups with wooden sticks. At the bottom left, a dark brown circle contains a white "\$1 OFF ON ALL BOBA DRINKS" offer. At the bottom right, it says "Valid until: November 30, 2024" and "\*\*Not valid with other offers or discounts \*Only valid for one boba drink only".

# Butler Cafe reopens under new ownership

By Mick Dillon  
The Jambar

After being closed for nearly four years, Butler Café has reopened its doors under new ownership.

Chef Bill Prest was approached with the opportunity to take over the Butler Café in the summer of 2023 and was able to get the business opened back up within months.

“Where I’m at right now ... as I’m getting older, I thought this would be a great way to finish out my career,” Prest said.

Prest’s passion for food dates back to his teenage years, when he worked at a butcher shop and prepared dishes using an electric skillet.

“I really just studied cookbooks like I was going to school for a medical degree,” Prest said.

Since Prest has also been working with Julian Gray’s catering, he decided to bring in his own staffer, Brittney Canning, to manage the Butler Café.

Canning has been along for the ride with Prest and shares the same vision for the future of the cafe.

“I kind of just do a little bit of everything,” Canning said.

Prest said he is proud that the Butler Café uses fresh ingredients and has an inventive menu.

“We don’t do anything out of a freezer,” Prest said. “We make it homemade and from the freshest ingredients.”

Prest looks forward to revamping the cafe with a new fall menu that will feature a wide variety of weekly specials, including Burger Tuesday and Comfort Food Thursday.

Along with its specials, the fall menu will have daily items such as Reubens, grilled ham and Swiss sandwiches, gyros and a wide variety of seasonal soups.

Canning hopes to see more Youngstown State University students coming into the cafe in lieu of these new specials.

“It’s a good little spot for them to come and get a quick little bite,” Canning said. “We’re definitely open to suggestions. I’ve thought about doing a suggestion box. We want to cater to the people around and make what the people like.”

Students can also expect to see some promotional flyers being passed out on campus in the coming weeks. YSU students are encouraged to submit menu recommendations to the Butler Café either in person or on its Facebook page.



Photo by Dylan Lux / The Jambar

Bill Prest (left) and Brittney Canning (right) reopen Butler Café.

# Butler to install sculpture

By Tim Corso  
Jambar Contributor

The Butler Institute of American Art is installing a sculpture on Youngstown State University’s campus.

Susan Carfano, the director’s executive assistant at the Butler, said “Primary Compass” is a 22-foot high, two ton sculpture, which was created by Don Gummer. The statue’s plinth, which is currently being built, will be situated between the Butler and William F. Maag Jr. Library.

Carfano said Gummer began creating artwork similar to “Primary Compass” in the mid ’80s and his artwork has been featured in collections around the world.

His early work included table-top and wall-mounted sculptures before he transitioned to free-standing

sculptures such as “Primary Compass.”

Gummer commonly works with materials including bronze, aluminum and steel, with steel being the make-up of YSU’s soon-to-be newest addition to campus.

Gummer has public sculptures that can be seen in major U.S. cities, such as Los Angeles and New York, and other countries, including Denmark and Japan.

Louis Zona, the Butler’s executive director and chief curator, said he’s looking forward to Gummer’s work to be displayed.

“Don Gummer is probably the best. He’s an Indianapolis-based artist,” Zona said. “He’s also a terrific teacher and I’m hoping that he’ll do some projects for us involving a lecture or two about the sculpture.”

The sculpture was originally in Trumbull County, before the museum decided to move it to Youngstown.

Zona said the sculpture is an effort to embellish the property.

While campus is going to be the home of the sculpture, the Butler owns the property where the sculpture’s base will be placed.

Zona said the university is supportive of Gummer’s work being cemented as a new part of YSU’s campus.

“They were enthusiastic — from President [Bill] Johnson to Jim Tressel [and] John Hyden, who’s in charge of the property,” Zona said.

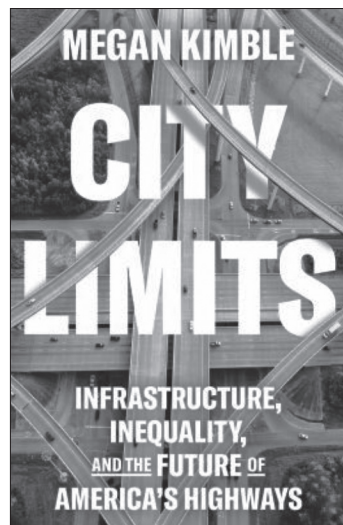
The project has been in the works for several years, but the COVID-19 pandemic halted its installment.

Although there is no set date for installation, the project will be finalized in the near future.

As for future projects, Zona said the Butler isn’t yet committed to any.



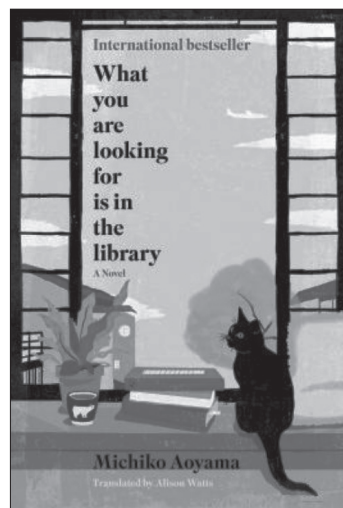
# Penguin Book Nook with The Public Library



## Nonfiction review

### **City Limits: Infrastructure, Inequality, and the Future of America's Highways** by Megan Kimble

Looking at major highway infrastructures in some of the biggest cities in Texas, Kimble outlines the devastating impacts of independent vehicular transportation. However, she also offers hope—seeing how activists band together to stop the state's Department of Transportation and advocate for alternatives to build communities, rather than tear them apart.



## Fiction review

### **What you are looking for is in the library** by Michiko Aoyama

A series of stories featuring a Tokyo librarian with the ability to recommend the perfect book to her patrons exactly when they need it. A heartwarming and gentle read, recommended for book lovers who appreciate the magic of libraries.

## Upcoming programs

**Monday, Oct. 21**

6 p.m.

Monochrome Movie Monday

**Monday, Oct. 21**

6 p.m.

Cross Stitch Autumn Card

**Thursday, Oct. 24**

6 p.m.

Casual Scrabble

Visit [libraryvisit.org](http://libraryvisit.org) to register, get more information or find other programs

To find more information or to place a hold on a title, visit [libraryvisit.org](http://libraryvisit.org), meet us at 305 Wick Ave. or call the library at (330) 744-8636.

# Have something to say to The Jambar?

## Write a Letter to the Editor!

Email The Jambar at

**[thejambar@gmail.com](mailto:thejambar@gmail.com)**

# The Jambar Column

## I'm just a girl!

My gender communication class this semester has to be one of the silliest — and I mean that in the best way — classes I've ever taken. From day one it has been a whirlwind of lively discussions and unexpected bursts of laughter.

Between having my boss as the instructor and my friend as a fellow student, walking through the door you never know what to expect, which is what makes it fun.

Due to the diverse opinions in the class, one might think we would be prone to tense debates. Instead, we are all there to have fun, share our views and see where the conversation takes us — without anyone worrying about stepping on toes.

The conversations we have are very serious, but nothing that would lead to arguments or eye rolls. It is more like a collaborative brainstorm where everyone talks about their personal feelings. Sometimes those feelings are ridiculous, but that is what makes this class magical.

After every chapter we have discussions based on what we have covered. One of the topics was about early feminism — where we were asked to talk about what we thought about the different theories of feminism, with here the topic sparking new perspectives.

There is something refreshing about being in a room where everyone has something to contribute and they're confident enough to do so. It never feels like anyone is being cautioned or put down for their thoughts and that's rare to see.

This class is completely chaotic — the kind that makes being there worth it. Every topic we discuss in the class takes on a life of its own, with everyone bringing



**Aicha Sawaneh**

ideas from every angle. It is almost impossible to stay on a straight line of thought, but somehow, this works perfectly for this class.

Whenever we start a topic, within minutes, we've spiraled into a hilarious tangent that nobody saw coming. And yet, we always manage to circle back to the original topic and end up with something meaningful.

We have a diverse group of people that make the conversations very interesting. There is a certain freedom in knowing that no matter what you say, it'll be met with an open mind or, at the very least, a good-natured laugh. People will jump in to add their two cents, and the conversation keeps flowing.

Somehow, we manage to take serious topics — you would expect to be dry or heavy — and make them lighthearted. It's the kind of class where I find myself looking forward to seeing what direction the conversation will go next. Every day feels different and there's never a dull moment.

I have never been in a classroom where people can express themselves so freely and still keep it fun. If you're ever looking for a class that's both chaotic and insightful, this one's it. Trust me, you'll never look at communication the same way again.

# The Jambar Editorial

## Greatest bass players of all time

For any band, arguably the most important member of the group is the bassist. The Jambar has talked about the greatest guitarist of all time, but never the bass player.

From funky grooves to octave chord progressions, bass players keep the rhythm of a band together. Publications such as Rolling Stone and Guitar World have released articles about the subject in the past, but leave out the overall technique and change bassists have brought to their respective bands.

The Jambar's list of the top five bassists of all time covers a wide variety of musicians, throughout multiple decades, who have reshaped the use of the bass guitar or added a new element that is still used in today's music.

To start the list at No. 5 is Metallica's former bass player Cliff Burton. Although Burton died in 1986, he appeared on three studio albums for the band.

"The Call of Ktulu" featured a distorted bass solo, which was new to the metal genre in the '80s. The most popular and groundbreaking track featuring Burton's new bass technique is "For Whom the Bell Tolls."

The widely-known song was not Burton's first track to feature his crunchy bass lines and heavy distortion, as its first appearance is on the four-minute bass solo titled, "(Anesthesia) — pulling teeth."

At No. 4 is Geddy Lee, the bassist, keyboardist and frontman for the Canadian rock band Rush.

Whether it was Lee's brilliant improvisational bass riffs in "Y2Z" or his complex technique on "Tom Sawyer," he created new sounds by changing the way he attacked the neck of the bass.

Funking his way to No. 3 is Victor Wooten. One of the most musically inclined bass players on the list, Wooten combines both music theory and parts of jazz to create harmonies and elegant bass solos.

Wooten's ability to easily solo on a bass during a jam session can be seen on YouTube videos. Wooten's song "Funky D" adds a groovy and jazzy feel to the bass guitar that lays perfectly under an alto saxophone solo.

A controversial pick at No. 2 is Primus frontman and bass player, Les Claypool. Before the current Primus lineup, Claypool auditioned to replace Burton in Metallica after his death, but was ultimately passed up for Jason Newsted.

Although Primus can be considered obscure or weird by both haters and supporters of the band, Claypool introduced funk to the metal genre. Tracks such as "Tommy The Cat," "Too Many Puppies" and "My Name Is Mud" showed the true talent level Claypool brought to the bass guitar, as he utilizes both the six-string and the standard four-string bass guitar.

The No.1 spot on the list goes to the Red Hot Chili Peppers bassist, Michael Balzary, known professionally as Flea. Recognized for his slap technique on the bass, Flea popularized this on tracks such as "Higher Ground," "Weird Like Me" and "Give It Away."

Besides RHCP, Flea's iconic bass lines are heard on the 1989 track "Bust a Move" by rapper Young MC and on the Alanis Morissette track "You Oughta Know."

With newer bass players already making waves in the music community like Stephen Bruner, known as Thundercat, The Jambar's list will continue to change.



# 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](mailto: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.



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# Soccer drops two conference games

By Kevin Skolny  
The Jambar

The Youngstown State University women's soccer team was on the road in Wisconsin for games at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee on Oct. 10 and the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay on Oct. 13.

The Penguins entered both games coming off a win at home against Wright State University, however the success was not repeated, as the 'Guins lost both matches by a combined seven goals.

In the first game, the Panthers got off to a hot start as sophomore Ellie Rebman assisted senior Lainey Higgins on a goal within the first minute of the matchup.

Rebman scored again in the 46th minute off of an assist from redshirt junior Elizabeth Reece.

The Panthers also added two additional goals late in the game as redshirt junior Senya Meurer scored on a free kick in the 83rd minute and redshirt freshman Maya Wilson scored on a header assisted by junior Anna Champine in the 88th minute.

For the Penguins, it was a quiet night on offense as they only recorded seven shots on goal. Three of which came from sophomore Emma Berdiner.

However, for the 'Guins redshirt freshman Maya Naimoli, it was anything but quiet. The Panthers recorded 11 shots on goal, while Naimoli saved six shots, four of which slipped through the net.

Youngstown State fell to Milwaukee, 4-nil.

The Penguins looked to rebound against the Phoenix, but fell short as they scored

three times before half. Green Bay held onto the lead throughout the remainder of the match.

For the Phoenix, true freshman Abby Lom scored her first goal of the season, off an assist from fifth-year senior Trudy Quidzinski, to get things going in the 33rd minute.

Just one minute later, true freshman Senah Hanes assisted freshman Laney Stark on her second goal of the season. At the 41st minute mark, Hanes grabbed her eighth goal of the season off an assist from junior Hanna Arvay, to set the score at 3-nil.

For the Penguins offense, Berdiner and junior Taylor Berry, were the only players to record a shot on goal.

At goalie once again was Naimoli, who managed to grab another six saves, bringing her season total up to 80.

After two matchups on the road, the Penguins' fell to 4-9-2 with a 2-5 record in Horizon League play.

While the Panthers improved to 6-6-2 with a 5-0-1 record in the Horizon League, keeping them at No. 2 in the conference standings. Milwaukee is currently one point behind the University of Detroit Mercy. As for the Phoenix, they will improve to 4-6-4 with a 2-3-2 record in conference play.

The Penguins will be back home at 6 p.m. today to host Cleveland State University at Farmers National Bank Field. The Vikings have yet to win a game this season with a 0-13-1 overall record.

There will be a giveaway for a free McDonald's McChicken and the game will be broadcasted on ESPN+.

# It all goes Wright for Raiders

By Teziah Howard  
The Jambar

With only a month left in the Youngstown State University women's volleyball team's season, the 'Guins look to ignite a flame as they dropped their seventh straight game in a row.

Youngstown State was bested by Wright State University on Oct. 11-12 with both matchups ending in a 3-0 loss.

With the loss, the Penguins fell to 10th in the Horizon League as the Raiders improved their record to 15-3, with an undefeated record in conference play.

In the sweep against the Penguins, Wright State won the first set 25-21, the second set 25-16 and the third 25-14.

Graduate student Sam Ott and sophomore Mya Ayro, led the Raiders with 17 kills each. Wright State sophomore Lauren Yacobucci led the game in assists with 42.

Errors in Friday's matchup were spread evenly amongst the two teams, as the Penguins and Raiders

had 15 each.

Junior Abbie Householder led the team in kills with 10, while senior Kiyah Franklin trailed closely behind with eight.

Franklin said the team was able to get their feet deeper into the season.

"The demeanor of the team has changed a little bit. At first, we were all a little anxious, which has to be expected," Franklin said.

Wright State's offense was clicking as the Raiders led the Penguins in aces, kills and assists. Fifth-year senior Isabel Schaeffbauer led the team in assists with 16 and the Penguins posted 30 collectively.

With the conclusion of Friday's matchup, the Raiders picked up where they left off. Wright State earned its second sweep against the Penguins inside their home arena.

The final set scores were 25-19, 25-13 and 25-20. While errors and attempts amongst the teams were close statistically, the Wright State offense could not be stopped.

The Raiders outdueled the Penguins in kills, racking up 51 to YSU's 28. Ott led her team in kills again, while Ayro and freshman Haley Robinson posted 11 kills.

YSU was all in with an early 15-13 lead, but the Raiders robbed the Penguins of their two-point margin shortly after as Wright State went on a 12-4 run.

Hitting for the Raiders was efficient enough to thrust them to a victory. Wright State posted a .361 hitting average to Youngstown State's .189.

The YSU women's volleyball team will return to the Beeghly Center on Oct. 18-19 for a matchup against the Indiana University-Indianapolis Jaguars. Friday's game is set to begin at 5 p.m. while Saturday's match begins at 1 p.m.

The Jaguars are coming off of a two-game win streak at home against the Robert Morris University Colonials, who the Penguins will face Oct. 29.

To view live stats and stay updated on the volleyball team and their season, visit [YSUSports.com](http://YSUSports.com).



# Jackrabbits run wild



Youngstown State looks to bounce back against No. 4 South Dakota.



Photos by Dylan Lux / The Jambar

**By Marissa Masano**  
The Jambar

The Youngstown State University football team traveled to Dana J. Dykhouse Stadium on Oct. 12 to face the top-ranked team in the FCS, South Dakota State University.

The Penguins fell to the Jackrabbits 63-13, dropping to 2-5 overall and 1-2 in Missouri Valley Football Conference play.

Before the game, Head Coach Doug Phillips noted the defensive strategies of the team.

“It’s a relentless defense that is disciplined, tough, and focused on fundamentals — run fits, tackling, not giving up big plays and eye discipline by your corners and safeties,” Phillips said.

However, Youngstown struggled to contain big plays. The Jackrabbits opened the game with a 99-yard kickoff return by junior Angel Johnson. Later in the first quarter, SDSU junior Chase Mason scored a 38-yard rushing touchdown to extend the lead.

The Penguins’ defense continued to face challenges as Mason and redshirt freshman Kirby Voorhees averaged 32.2 and 28 yards per carry, respectively.

Youngstown State got on the scoreboard with a 39-yard field goal by sophomore placekicker Andrew Lastovka.

On the Penguins’ next possession, sophomore Beau Brungard threw an interception to Jackrabbits’ senior Dalys Beanum, who returned it 50 yards to the YSU 25-yard line. SDSU capitalized with another touchdown, making the score 28-3 early in the second quarter.

YSU responded with an impressive drive on their next possession. Brungard connected on key passes to senior Latrell Fordham and junior Max Tomczak, moving

the Penguins into the red zone. Brungard finished the drive with a four-yard rushing touchdown.

At halftime, the Penguins trailed 35-10. In the third quarter, SDSU’s senior Mark Gronowski connected on a 45-yard touchdown pass.

Brungard provided a spark with his longest run of the day, a 24-yard carry, and senior Ethan Wright added his longest run, a 21-yarder, putting YSU in the red zone again.

After a YSU touchdown was nullified by a penalty, the team failed to convert on fourth down. The Jackrabbits took over at their own seven-yard line, and Voorhees broke free for a 74-yard run, quickly setting up another score.

SDSU extended their lead further, while YSU added another field goal late in the fourth quarter.

Offensively, Brungard led the team in both passing and rushing yards and finished with 74 passing yards and 169 rushing yards. Tomczak led in receiving with six catches for 78 yards, while senior tailback Tyshon King added 50 rushing yards.

Defensively, the Penguins allowed 404 rushing yards and 153 passing yards, with SDSU scoring on its first seven possessions for 557 total yards.

After the game Phillips said his team’s play and record in the MVFC is exactly what they faced last season.

“Last year we were 1-2 at the same point in our league. We’ve been here before. You learn through adversity who you really are. You got to have that stick-to-itiveness to keep working,” Phillips said.

Up next, YSU returns home for more MVFC action, taking on the top-ranked University of South Dakota. Kick off is set for 6 p.m. Oct. 19, with coverage available on ESPN+ and 570 WKBN.

# Back to the lanes

By Dylan Lux  
The Jambar

Over six months ago, the Youngstown State University bowling team completed its best season in school history, with a top-three finish in the nation.

In the 2024 National Tenpin Coaches Association Preseason Poll, No. 3 Youngstown State was behind No. 2 Arkansas State University and the reigning NCAA National Champions Jacksonville State University.

To start the 2024-25 season, Youngstown State hosted the 16-team Penguin Classic from Oct. 11-13. Through the first ten matches, YSU sat at 10-0.

YSU finished as the only team that went undefeated in Day One, as it won all five of its matches. The 'Guins averaged 208.1 pins per match, behind the No. 5 University of Nebraska, at 215.5 per match.

Day One included wins over three teams in the NTCA preseason poll top 25. No. 17 Wichita State University, No. 25 Niagara University and Arkansas State were all beaten by the Penguins.

YSU capitalized on five more victories on Day Two, which secured the third seed in the bracket. It included a 1,020-986 win over No. 10 Duquesne University, as the team finished with 207.2 average through 10 matches.

Senior Jade Cote was the highest Penguin finisher on Day Two, with a 1,087 match finish. Graduate student Madysen Marx had the highest single-game performance with a 258 against Lewis University.

In the same match, senior Ellie Drescher put up a solid 236-pin performance to help the 'Guins win 1,107-918 over Lewis and finish 10-0 over two days.

Drescher said she was happy with how the team performed in its first meet in nearly 200 days.

"It was a good first meet back, it's always difficult to get back into the swing of things, but I feel that we came in with a 'bang,'" Drescher said. "It's not the outcome that we wanted — third place, we always want to win — but your season can't be linear, there's waves to it."

In the three day tournament, Youngstown State defeated fourth-seeded Duquesne 1,017-922 to face the loser of the No. 1 vs. No. 2 matchup.

In round two, the team went up against No. 2 Wichita State. YSU was defeated 1,291-1,145, giving the Shockers a chance to win the tournament.

In the third-place match, Youngstown State faced fifth-seeded Arkansas State. 1,052-922 was the final score, as YSU secured third place in the fifth ever Penguin Classic.

Youngstown State finished third overall out of 16 teams at the Classic, finishing behind No. 5 Nebraska and No. 17 Wichita State who finished first and second, respectively.

Beginning Oct. 18-20, the Penguins will travel to Florida for the Destination Orlando tournament hosted by Sacred Heart University.

Drescher said road trips presented to the team are often an opportunity for bonding and a chance to become closer as a unit.

"We'll be there from Tuesday to Sunday and it can take a toll but sometimes leaving early is more beneficial," Drescher said. "It's a little team bonding and relaxation before we start, then we turn the switch on to competition mode on Thursday."

The tournament begins at 9:25 a.m. Oct. 11 and will be streamed live on YouTube.

