

# THE JAMBAR



## FIFTH AVENUE CONSTRUCTION CONTINUES INTO START OF YSU FALL SEMESTER

Photo by **Heather Newsome/The Jambar**

### BRIANNA GLEGHORN

Orange and white traffic cones, detour signs and yellow construction vehicles lined Fifth Avenue as students began to return to Youngstown State University's campus for the fall semester.

The avenue will remain open as it undergoes a waterline replacement project for the city of Youngstown. It will be completed by the end of September.

John Hyden, associate vice president of facilities maintenance, said students, faculty and staff should drive with caution while traveling through the construction.

"There's going to be lane restrictions, and you're going to have to weave through the cones," Hyden said. "It's going to take attention to details as you're driving through there because otherwise you could get in a little bit of trouble."

The construction will not impact any open parking lots or the deck around Fifth Avenue.

Hyden said the waterline replacement marks the beginning of a three-year project to six different roads in Youngstown, and Fifth Avenue is a focal point of the project.

According to Hyden, it will have less lanes, greener infrastructure and new traffic signals.

The city of Youngstown, YSU, Eastern Gateway Community College and community partners are financially supporting the reconstruction.

Hyden said the main goal is to reconstruct Fifth Avenue to replicate the past success of Wick Avenue's construction.

"One of the things that we found when we had Wick Avenue closed for nearly two years was that people took alternate routes," Hyden said. "Once Wick Avenue opened up, students must have been continuing to use the alternate routes because we haven't had as

much congestion."

Charles Shasho, the city's deputy director of public works, said having a solid underground structure is crucial when working on the waterline.

"We are going to be doing a complete rehab of the roadway," Shasho said. "We don't want to have to be digging it back up in a year because the waterline breaks. So, we want a nice underground structure as we finish the roadway up."

Shasho hopes students and community members will remain patient throughout the construction.

"We just want everybody to be patient and expect a great project when this is all over," Shasho said.

Richard White, director of planning and construction, said YSU and the city of Youngstown have worked well together over the course of the project.

"We have a pretty good relationship with the city of Youngstown," White said. "They always help us out. We work together on a lot of projects."

White said students take alternate routes on Belmont Avenue, Wick Avenue or the Westbound Service Road between the east grandstands and the Watson and Tressel Training Site.

White suggests the best time for projects are in the summer because there are fewer students and "it's less disruptive."

"What you really want to try to avoid is actually working where there's a lot of people just because they have to walk through the construction and it's noisy," he said.

The total road reconstruction is expected to be complete by spring 2020.

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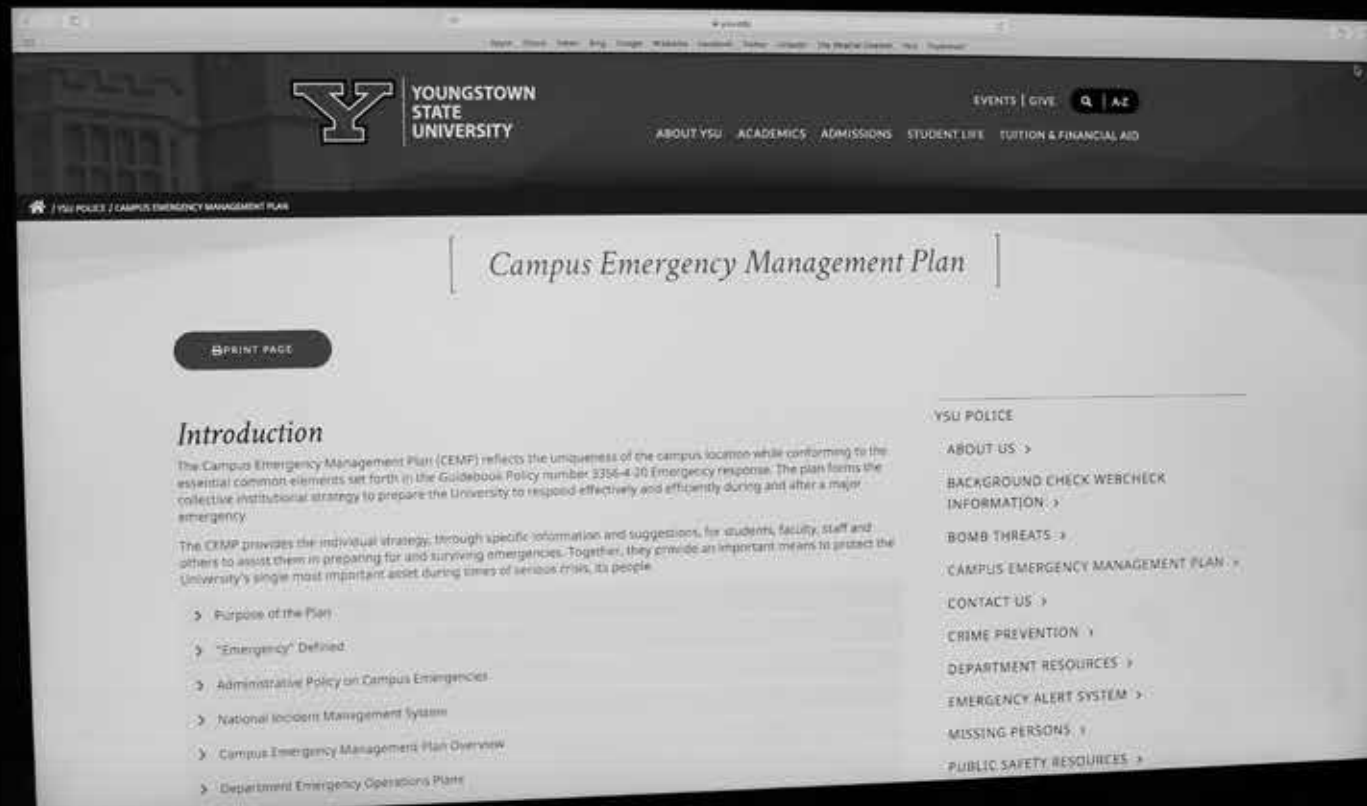


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# YSU UPDATES SECURITY, EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PLANS

Youngstown State University has updated its campus emergency plan. Prior to the December lockdown, the university had one plan. It now has plans for each college and non-academic building.  
Photo by **Rachel Gobep / The Jambar**

## RACHEL GOBEP

The Youngstown State University community was sent into a panic this past December after receiving a Penguin Alert — the campus was in lockdown.

“THE CAMPUS IS IN LOCKDOWN. A SUSPECT IS CURRENTLY AT LARGE WITH FIREARM. LAST SEEN BY REC CENTER,” the alert read.

Students, faculty and staff were instructed to lock all exterior, office and classroom doors, but concerns arose after classroom doors did not lock. This is an issue that the YSU Police Department and university facilities addressed over the summer.

One-hundred and thirty six classroom doors now automatically lock when shut.

John Hyden, associate vice president of facilities maintenance, said if the door is closed, it is locked.

“The only way that you can get the door open from the hallway ... is to put a key in it, turn the key,” he said. “The

mechanism will be unlocked when the key is in it. As soon as you take the key out, the door returns to the locked position.”

YSU Police Chief Shawn Varso said a lot of concerns arose after the lockdown, with doors not locking being the most popular issue.

He said in the event of a lockdown, all someone needs to do now is shut the door.

As a result, faculty members were issued keys for each of their classrooms. The only people who have access to keys are faculty, chairs, deans, facilities and YSU Police.

Isabella Orr, a junior integrated math major, said she was in Lincoln Hall when the lockdown occurred. The door to her classroom did not lock and opened outward, making it nearly impossible to barricade the entryway.

“About half way through the lockdown [a staff member let] us know that the exterior building doors did not lock either, so we were going to move to a classroom that did,” Orr said. “But, when the class was told that, we all kinda looked around like we’ve been sitting in a classroom in an unlocked building with a

potential gunman running around.”

She said the fact that the doors now lock makes her feel safer. “Nobody thinks it could happen at their school, or their town, until it does,” Orr said. “It’s a tragic thing we have to worry about, but the fact it was brought to our attention — how unprepared YSU would’ve been — is a good thing. So I’m glad there are things being done to address it.”

There were also updates to the university’s Campus Emergency Management Plan.

“Over the year, prior to the lockdown incident, we were revamping our emergency plans on campus,” Varso said. “We had one main campus emergency plan ... which actually ... gave a broad overview of what the campus would do in the event of an emergency.”

The university has 25 new Emergency Operation Plans across campus, new emergency response signage in all classrooms as an education campaign and an expanded Penguin Alert emergency messaging system.



# THE FIRST SEASON OF JAMBAR TV IS IN FULL SWING

A practice run-through took place on Thursday for the cast and crew of Jambar TV to rehearse the weekly student-run newscast. Photo by **Amanda Joerndt /The Jambar**

## AMANDA JOERNDT

With regional, state and national recognition of The Jambar newspaper, a new online media platform will be coming to the screens at Youngstown State University to highlight community and campus news coverage, known as Jambar TV.

Jambar TV will feature weekly news, arts and entertainment, interview segments and sports content to showcase the connections made at YSU and throughout the city of Youngstown.

Rachel Gobep and Alyssa Weston, senior journalism majors, attended a national media conference in Louisville, Kentucky, where they learned about the benefits of different media platforms on college campuses.

Weston's role as the executive producer of the show helps her connect ties between the paper and the newscast because the newspaper reporters provide the content for the show.

Weston said the development of Jambar TV was an effort between the students and the staff members in the journalism and telecommunication departments.

"[Rachel Gobep] and a few others decided to make the show happen after we went to a conference in Louisville," she said. "After we saw what all of the other schools were doing and the impact TV has on other colleges, we decided that we wanted to be a part of that."

According to Weston, understanding journalism in all capacities is crucial to gain a better understanding of different news platforms.

"Not only is it important to us, but it's really important to the community. It's a time right now where journalism is really important, especially with the closing of The Vindicator," she said. "We're trying to be a voice for not just the university, but also Youngstown."

Dante Colella, a senior sports broadcasting major, said his role as a co-director and technical director will help him learn how to work with others and think on his feet.

"I call the shots while we are on-air," he said. "Having a show such as Jambar TV definitely is vital for us because it gets us practice going into the real world and experiencing it in a high-pressured situation."

Colella's main goal is to improve each week and hope the cast and crew of Jambar TV can grow together by the end of the school year.

"I hope that by the end of it, we look back at the first episode and we look back at the most recent episode and we think, 'Wow, we really got better,' and we really improve all of our skills."

Amy Crawford, electronic media adviser for Jambar TV and telecommunication professor, said this is a wonderful opportunity for the students, the department of communication and the community.

"With Jambar TV, we will be able to tell stories in innovative ways, while giving our students hands-on experience with multimedia journalism."

Mary Beth Earnhardt, Jambar adviser and director of the Anderson Program in Journalism, said Jambar TV complements coverage provided by the student newspaper.

"It's a collaborative project that will provide our students with even more choices for accessing reporting about campus," she said.

Ryan Donchess, media engineer for the department of communication, instructs students on the technological side of constructing a newscast such as operating cameras and managing audio boards.

Donchess said the purpose of Jambar TV is to allow students coming through the media programs at YSU to gain real world

experience.

"We're trying to get all of that experience for students that you would get at a station into our facility here," he said. "Gathering news, telling stories, highlighting the great stuff that we do here at YSU ... This is really the way to do that to a mass audience."

According to Donchess, his goal for the first season of Jambar TV is for students to learn the ropes of how the news industry operates.

"My hope is that [students] learn something about putting a newscast on, and I think we can do that," he said. "The bigger thing is to develop each week into telling better stories with everyone that's a part of this."

Donchess said there were new renovations to the TV studio, which required help from a professional set design company in Florida.

"They came up with our new TV studio, which is very versatile for our newscasts and other productions we do," he said. "We have new LED lights, digital audio system that's two years old now, new pedestals on the cameras and much more of what you would find at a station."

Jambar TV will be airing a weekly newscast every Friday at noon on thejambar.com and other social media platforms.

YSU will launch the newscast on Friday, Aug. 23 at noon, and to celebrate the event, the Office of Student Media is hosting a launch party at the fountain area outside the doors to Kilcawley Center's Chestnut Room.

The event is free and open to the public. Parking is available for a nominal fee in the parking deck on Wick Avenue.

Members of the inaugural news team will be at the event to meet viewers and several televisions will be set up in Kilcawley Center to display the first episode. Joining the Jambar TV news team will be local television personalities who are also YSU alumni.

# TAKE CHARGE OF YSU'S FUTURE: STATE OF THE UNIVERSITY ADDRESS

Youngstown State University President Jim Tressel addresses a full audience of faculty and staff in Kilcawley Center's Chestnut Room in his annual State of the University address on Aug. 16. Photo by Rachel Gobep/The Jambar

## ALYSSA WESTON

President Jim Tressel emphasized Youngstown State University's recent accomplishments, budgeting, enrollment woes and the YSU Board of Trustees' new initiative "Taking Charge of Our Future" in his annual State of the University Address on Wednesday, Aug. 16.

Tressel started his speech on a high note by congratulating the Ohio Small Business Development Center at YSU on receiving the national SBDC Excellence and Innovation Award from the U.S. Small Business Administration. Alicia Prieto Langarica, a mathematics and statistics professor, was also recognized for receiving the national Henry L. Alder Award for Distinguished Teaching from the Mathematical Association of America.

Additionally, the YSU Board of Trustees was praised for earning the John W. Nason Award for Board Leadership from the Association of Governing Boards of Universities and Colleges.

"You cannot have a great university without a great board ... it's impossible," Tressel said.

A main topic of discussion during the speech was enrollment.

The enrollment for fall 2018 was 12,280 students. This fall, it is 11,886, which is a 3.21% decrease.

Tressel addressed the enrollment decrease and put an emphasis on retention. In Tressel's opinion, enrollment is the most important revenue variable for the university.

"Every student who does begin here, let's not lose any of them," Tressel said.

One way the board of trustees are focusing on student success is with the "Taking Charge of Our Future" plan.

This initiative will focus on increasing efficiencies of operations, increasing educational quality, focusing on research in a strategic manner, collaborating with community stakeholders, using new technology and reliable data to create well-informed decisions, the alignment of policies and procedures and the enrollment of new students.

During the speech, Tressel welcomed Victoria Woods as the newest student member of the YSU Board of Trustees.

Woods, a junior nursing major, said the experience has been eye-opening.

"I didn't fully comprehend the scale of work it takes to run an organization the size of the university," she said.

Woods said she has a greater appreciation for the work the administrative staff has to do to keep the university running.

"I believe it is vital for universities to have students on their board of trustees as this gives the students representation and a voice. I really want to use my position to encourage fellow students to attend a board meeting," she said.

Tressel also formally welcomed the new provost, Brien Smith. "[Smith] is thoughtful, he's collaborative," Tressel said. "He has taught us a lot of lessons in the last month or so."

According to Tressel, Smith often references "momentum gainers" to jump-start strategic action on campus.

These "momentum gainers" include efficiencies, governance enhancements, revisions in the retention and completion plan, integration of a student success technology plan, the implementation of a new degree audit system, redesigning first-year experience and redesigning advising.

The speech ended by urging the audience to "take charge of our future."

"If it's going to be, it's up to we," Tressel said.

# MAAG LIBRARY CREATES HEALTHY, ALTERNATIVE OPTION FOR STUDENTS

## AMANDA JOERNDT

Youngstown State University students looking to incorporate exercise and schoolwork into their hectic schedules can now multitask through Maag Library's fitness desks.

There are four new workout bikes on the third floor of the library with fitness armbands for students and staff to utilize throughout the day and exercise physically and mentally.

The fitness desks are designed for students to burn calories while reading, writing and even working on their laptops.

Christine Adams, co-director and head of research and academic support at Maag, said the exercise bikes are an efficient way for students to take a break from their academics and relax for a short time.

"I think it's hard to just sit and study sometimes, so it does give them an opportunity

for some movement," she said. "There's students who spend entire days in the library and study, so they don't have to leave and go to the gym. They can ride the bike while they're studying."

Ana Torres, co-director and head of library services and operations, said other departments on campus are supportive of the new "fit desks."

"We're meeting with the wellness center here on campus to go over some advice and other things with using the bikes," she said. "The rec center was excited when they heard about the bikes."

According to Torres, the workout bikes are not only attracting students, but other faculty and staff members.

"Staff already are using them, and other people have seen them in the window up there and came inside to try them," said Torres. "That is wonderful because sometimes you

want to go to the gym, but you don't have any time to fit it in."

Adams said she keeps up with other university social media pages to get updates on latest trends, which is how she discovered the fitness desks.

"I saw a Facebook post from Wright State University's library, and they just got some of the fit bikes," she said. "So, we contacted the library there, and they showed us where they got them from. They were much more economical than what we expected them to be."

Torres said the economic advantages are a win-win for students and the library when ordering more for future use.

"When we saw how reluctantly inexpensive they were, an average of \$250 ... That's a deal," she said. "You can now combine a little exercise while reading your textbook, doing research

and even taking a break [from studying]."

Adams said there are hopes for a larger supply of bikes in the future.

"If students like them, they were very reasonably priced, and we have a good warranty on them, so we might consider adding them to other floors."

Samira Nagi, a junior criminal justice major, agrees with the advantages of the new workout bikes being placed in the library.

She said the idea behind the bikes will bring her to Maag more frequently.

"Honestly, I never came to the library to study, but now that the workout bikes are there, they sound pretty interesting to use," Nagi said.



## FORMER YSU STUDENT EXCEEDS EXPECTATIONS IN ALL CAPACITIES

Lexi Rager, a Youngstown State University graduate, is now employed by the university as the Honors College recruitment and orientation student manager. Photo Courtesy of **Lexi Rager**

### KELCEY NORRIS

From student board of trustees member and Honors College student leader, to current Youngstown State University employee, Lexi Rager has taken advantage of all the opportunities the university has to offer as a student and now as a faculty member.

Rager, Honors College recruitment and orientation student manager, started her YSU education as a Summer Honors Institute participant and soon fell in love with the people and atmosphere on campus.

Once Rager started her education, she found herself being one of the many members of the YSU student body to join the Honors College, which helps students gain opportunities, learn and grow into their future.

Rager said one of her first connections made at YSU was with Amy Cossentino, dean of the Honors College.

“When I first came to YSU, I emailed Amy and asked, ‘What can I do to help?’ and now that I’m a coordinator, I hope to see myself where Amy is,” she said. “I’d really like to continue just helping students and touching their lives.”

Rager’s professors and other faculty members noticed her efforts and enthusiasm toward helping others.

Cossentino said Rager’s love for YSU and the student body was clear from day one.

“She was terrified of public speaking as a freshman, and I encouraged her to get up on stage at Summer Honors Institute and she went for it,” she said. “Lexi grew so quickly in her ability to talk about being a YSU student. It became very clear that she was going to be a great ambassador for YSU.”

Cossentino said Rager will be working with the current Honors College students to help them gain experience and opportunity as a

YSU student.

“We get so many different requests on a weekly basis for our students to go out and volunteer,” she said. “Lexi will be that person who will coordinate with those individuals and help promote those opportunities for our students.”

Mollie Hartup, part-time faculty member at the Honors College, said she noticed Rager’s eagerness to help others at the beginning of her education.

“I first got to know Lexi when she was a student, and early on you could tell she was an incredible student and a ‘go-getter,’ as some may say,” Hartup said. “She was just incredible working with the students and has really been involved greatly with the Honors College over the years.”

She said she worked with Rager on various occasions as a YSU student.

“Over the years, we became involved together

in Phi Kappa Phi after she was inducted and became student vice president, so we had a chance to collaborate on the executive board and literacy grants.”

Rager will continue learning through higher education as a student at YSU, and in her position working with prospective students, she will funnel them from high school to YSU in the Honors College.

According to Rager, she will be working on different projects within the Honors College, helping future students transition to the program.

“I am the adviser for Honors Trustees, and I also write the Weekly PHil!,” she said. “I sort of have my hands on a little bit of everything, which I really enjoy and keeps me very busy for sure.”



Construction workers work to finish the Fifth Avenue waterline replacement project. Photo by **Heather Newsome/The Jambar**



Bliss Hall looks a little different after renovations that occurred over the summer. Photo by **Shawn Williams/The Jambar**

# RENOVATIONS REFRESH BLISS HALL FOR FALL SEMESTER

## ABIGAIL CLOUTIER

Youngstown State University's Bliss Hall received renovations over the summer to improve the look and atmosphere of the building.

The renovations included fresh paint, new LED lights and an updated student lounge on the second floor. New security measures were installed, such as security cameras in all the stairwells and exits of the multistoried building.

Stephen Gage, director of bands and orchestra, said he utilizes Bliss Hall every day, and he is excited about the renovations.

"We needed a face-lift, and we got a great one," he said.

Gage said the new aesthetic beauty of Bliss is important because it's a music and arts college,

and he suspects there will be tight instructions from those who run Bliss to keep it neat and orderly.

"Students have already received notice in a July email that they are no longer allowed to post anything in Bliss unless it is on designated boards, a big change from the posters and stickers that covered lockers and stairwells several months ago," he said.

One concern that still exists is the lack and optimization of space, and some faculty members hope that less cosmetic and more structural renovations allow for better utilization of space in the future.

The renovation has partially addressed the problem by removing student lockers in the second floor hallway with intentions to replace them with cabinets.

Amy Crawford, telecommunication studies

professor, said space is one of the most valuable commodities on a college campus.

"It's just a matter of seeing where Bliss goes with that space going forward," she said.

Ryan Donchess, media engineer at YSU, said the second floor of Bliss Hall is more inviting with the overhaul of the walls, floor, ceiling and lighting, and he believes there is always room for improvement.

"For now, though, I think it is about maintaining the space and keeping it looking good for the next phase of improvement, which hopefully would actually be changing the footprint of the building," he said.

Jacob Provino, a music education major and a marching band member, said he hopes the new look positively impacts students' attitudes.

"I think it's much more bright and vibrant now. It feels like a different space," Provino

said. "I hope people will acknowledge that, and it will help with a new atmosphere."

He said the updates show the university is changing with each year because the Dana School of Music is nearly 150 years old.

Lauren Zetts, a music education major, said the building has changed drastically.

"As a fourth year student, everything was all right before, but it feels more open and welcoming and I'm ready to start my day when I walk in the building," Zetts said.

She said when people are deciding what college to attend, it's important to feel comfortable there, and the new Bliss Hall renovations will help students to get the most out of their college experience.

# FEMALE MATH MAJORS MULTIPLY WITH REPRESENTATION

## J. HARVARD FELDBOUSE

At Youngstown State University, not only are there more women pursuing mathematics degrees, but there is an increasing number of women in leadership roles.

YSU's student math organizations are chiefly led by women, and the Department of Mathematics and Statistics has many female educators.

With little encouragement and few role models in the past, female mathematics majors were scarce in higher education, but third and fourth wave feminism has empowered more women to enter traditionally male-dominated fields, such as mathematics.

Alicia Prieto Langarica, associate professor in the mathematics department, started studying mathematics in her home country of Mexico, where sexism and social norms made the pursuit difficult. Female intelligence was

discouraged and belittled, and female role models in math were lacking.

"There was a lot of competition among the very few women that were there," Prieto said. "When there's so few of you, it seems like there's only space for fewer, so you kind of battle for those spaces."

Much of the sexism Prieto and other women experienced was centered around beauty and intelligence. If she got a problem wrong, it was OK because she was still pretty. If she got a problem right, it couldn't have been her idea.

When Prieto moved to the United States to finish her bachelor's and doctorate degrees, she realized that while society outside of mathematics got better, within the mathematics community didn't change much.

When Prieto first came to YSU six years ago, she remembers at most five women involved in research and mathematics clubs. Only three women accompanied her to the Nebraska Conference for Undergraduate Women in

Mathematics.

"I think when women approach a system where they're not well represented and in which the science on the outside is telling them, 'You're not good enough,' yeah, we internalize our mistakes," Prieto said.

However, as female representation in the mathematics department increased, so did the amount of female math majors.

"Last year, we had 16 girls wanting to go [to the conference]," Prieto said. "Right now, almost every single student organization that is attached to math has almost all-women leadership. I have a lot of research students, and I haven't counted, but I think it's something between 20 [students]. I have two men, the rest are women."

Thomas Wakefield, professor and chair of the math department, noticed that women now are more comfortable and confident when speaking in class and seem more at ease than in his 15 years of prior teaching. He owes this

increase in female math majors to the quality role models in the department.

"I would like to give credit to our mentorship, our female faculty leadership and being very proactive about recruiting female math students," Wakefield said. "They are very determined to create a supportive environment for female mathematics majors and really go out of their way to get their needs met."

Shilpa Bhandari, a mathematics major, also didn't have female role models in math to look up to as she studied math in Nepal. This lowered her self-esteem as she went to college, and she initially didn't join as a math major.

"Fortunately, the math department at YSU has a great number of female students, faculty and staff," Bhandari said. "I realized I was never happy in my life when I wasn't doing math. All of them inspire me in so many ways and have boosted my self esteem by being incredible themselves. That's why now I am a happy math major."





Youngstown State University students prepare for the fall semester with Welcome Week activities. Photo by **Frances Clause/The Jambar**

# HERE FOR YSU'S WELCOME WEEK

## FRANCES CLAUSE

Excitement for the fall semester at Youngstown State University can be felt through the festivities of Welcome Week. This year's theme, "Here For It," will connect new and returning students to their Penguin pride.

From lining up for free nachos at Maag Library to petting dogs at Puppy Palooza for stress relief, Student Activities planned the week to ensure the transition into a busy semester schedule is balanced with games, food and helpful resources.

While returning students' Welcome Week begin at the start of the semester, new students began early at IGNITE, a campuswide collaboration aiming to get the students involved and comfortable at YSU.

Karen Becker, director of First Year Experience, said IGNITE is an opportunity to connect new students with similar interests.

"[IGNITE] is a nice opportunity to meet in teams and do some fun activities that are based out of your college or major," she said. "So, when you walk around campus, there's people you know and can say hello to besides the folks that you're just used to maybe seeing from your hometown."

Becker's advice to new students during Welcome Week is to get out and have fun because after that, the time will come to work through the busy semester.

"I think it's important to find out what's available on campus that's fun but also academically helpful like the writing center and math assistance center," she said. "A lot of those places participate in Welcome Week in different ways."

While organizations and students participate in Welcome Week, some are passionate about planning its events.

Samantha Davis, a junior marketing management major and marketing coordinator for Student Activities' major events, said she decided to get involved with planning Welcome Week because it gets new students acclimated to campus and returning students excited to come back.

"The first thing is figuring out what students want to see," she said, referring to this year's preparations. "We decided to have a bunch of giant inflatables, lots of music and lots of prizes to incentivize students to attend the events."

A new event this year is the Think Fast Game Show that will involve trivia, pop culture, music and dancing.

"Students are bound to love it," Davis said. "You could either do it by yourself, or you could do it in a group and at the end

there is a \$200 cash prize."

But, out of all events to participate in throughout the week, Davis believes Build-A-Penguin is the most popular among students.

Davis said Student Activities will publish the date, time and location of Build-A-Penguin on its social media platforms to encourage students to follow its accounts and get involved.

"We have a bunch of fun stuff planned for the academic year for Guins to enjoy, so it's important to know when they're happening," she said.

Chaste Chapman, a senior psychology major, said she is making sure to attend Welcome Week's many activities, and they hold the power to give students confidence.

"My goal is to meet, connect and build relationships with other students," she said. "They may be homesick, but I want to show them how to have a good first week."

"I'm looking forward to the many things up ahead not only for me, but those who come after me," she added.

For more information on Welcome Week activities, go to [ysu.edu/welcomeweek](http://ysu.edu/welcomeweek).





Youngstown State University students have the ability to purchase clothing at vintage shop, Mel's Habitat. Located on Elm Street, the shop's owner Melanie Buonavolonta (pictured) has a history in vintage retail. Photo by **Frances Clause/The Jambar**

# MEL'S HABITAT: A SKIP AND A SHOP THROUGH HISTORY

**CAILEY BARNHART**

When customers enter Mel's Habitat, a house-turned-vintage-haven in Youngstown, they are greeted with the sweet crackle of an old record while taking in all the sights.

From the kitchen stocked with quirky mugs to the vintage clothing section, customers can stumble upon items ranging from leather fringe chaps to the Louis Vuitton bag of their dreams on 906 Elm St.

The shop's owner, Melanie Buonavolonta, who has a history in vintage retail, said Elm Street inspired her to open the shop this past summer.

"I came across a vacant space that I can inhabit with an idea," she said. "I saw a need for more retail in the Elm Street corridor. I like what's going on here, and I feel happy to be a part of it and excited in what will come about here."

Buonavolonta gives credit to a corduroy jacket from the '70s she thrifted in high school as the piece her love of thrifting stems from.

"Now, they're remaking all of these things from the '70s

and '90s, which is excellent, but there's this whole fast-fashion conundrum where we're making things so fast and cheaply that we're not being responsible along the way," she said.

In Buonavolonta's opinion, vintage is making a comeback.

"Nobody is wearing a specific modern Coach bag anymore, they're all wanting ones from the '80s," she said. "Young people are specifically focused on the '90s style, which I can appreciate because I was young then and I remember it all."

Buonavolonta began her vintage journey focusing on clothing, but the shop has grown since opening in May to include stocked kitchen and music areas.

While many of what customers come across at Mel's Habitat is vintage, the store also offers work done by local artists.

Shoppers will be able to buy paintings, handmade earrings from Fruit Collective and the latest releases from Sam Goodwill.

Kate Perry of Fruit Collective said she loved being able to fill up the beautiful space and give people a chance to see and hold her pieces in person.

"Women supporting women is an extremely important concept to me, and I'm so grateful to have that through Mel's

Habitat," she said.

As the store grows, Buonavolonta plans on creating a section for hard-to-find camera film, as well as a "Socialist Fantasy Fridge" where shoppers can leave a donation in exchange for salads, fresh fruits or natural options.

Albert Chizmar, a senior political science major at Youngstown State University, played an acoustic set at Mel's Habitat during last month's Northside Jamboree and enjoyed the shop's homely atmosphere.

"The neighborhood has really come to life within the past few years, and I think it's a perfect location for a store like that," he said. "Since it is so close to the YSU campus, hopefully a lot of students will wander in once the semester starts."

The next event featuring Mel's Habitat is the Northside Lineup, featuring other Elm Street establishments, such as Her Primitive Ways Red Road Apothecary and Culturehouse Coffee Company.

Stores will be open late and the event features live music and food trucks. The lineup takes place Sept. 9.

# COLLEGE: A COMPLETELY DIFFERENT WORLD

## MAC POMEROY

Bridging the gap from high school to college can be a huge and stressful deal. Suddenly, you go from seeing the same people every day and having the same daily routine to being thrown into a crowd of thousands of people who have no idea who you are or what you are good at.

It can be a lot, and you may start to wonder if you are even ready for all of this. Even surrounded by this many people, you feel alone and like you just don't fit in.

One of the most important things to do when beginning college is to realize you aren't going to fit in, at least not in the same sense as high school. Unlike the social circles before, college is a new start. There will be people of all different backgrounds and fields with their own separate schedules to tend to.

Following the flow of these schedules will be really challenging the first few days. Trying to get around campus and maneuver your way through the crowds can be tough. Eventually, you will get used to it all and find yourself getting along and paying attention to your own business.

Fitting in is not the same in college. Unlike high school —

where kids have time to judge and fuss — college students are much more focused on their own work. They are starting independent lives and need to pay attention to that first.

When I started my first year, I was very anxious. I was used to years of constantly being watched and judged against others. I was worried that I would not make any friends or that I would spend my years here alone.

I realized, however, that no one paid any attention to what I was doing. It was not that I was being ignored. People were still friendly and gave passing nods and smiles. Instead, it was that no one cared what I was doing.

I also realized people grow up in college. In some ways this may seem much better, but it also might make you feel even more alone. Can you make friends with people who are too busy to spare you a second thought? Before it seemed like you just sat beside someone and started talking. Unfortunately, the person you are sitting beside now has their head in their textbook.

This is where you will need to make more of an effort. Joining clubs and activities can be a great way to help with this, as you can be sure that the people there have similar interests and are

open to making new friends.

If that isn't your thing, you can also try the old-fashioned method of just walking up to someone. There are thousands of people on campus, so you have plenty of opportunities. Once you do find people who understand and appreciate you, you will feel much more welcome.

I found my place quicker than I thought I would. From sitting down and talking to friendly faces in Cushwa Hall, to discovering opportunities and groups that I did not previously consider, I began to feel comfortable. Once I dropped my fears and began to explore what college has to offer, everything seemed to click into place.

Yes, the switch from dealing with high schoolers to college students can be drastic, but that doesn't mean you will never adjust. You just need to be open to the fact that things are different now. Everyone else is just as busy and stressed with their lives as you are, so don't worry.

You made it into college; you got this far. Just go out and try your best.

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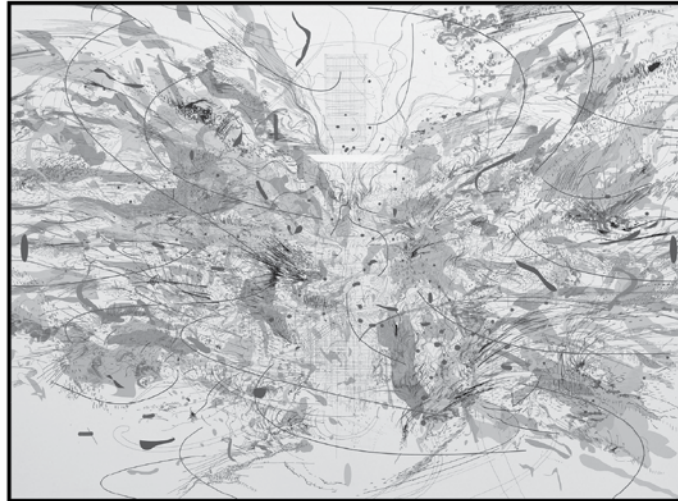
**WATCH JAMBAR TV ON  
THEJAMBAR.COM FRIDAYS AT NOON**



Chipotle has opened on Youngstown State University's campus. It is open from 10:45 a.m. to 10 p.m. every day and is located on the corner of Lincoln and Wick Avenues. The restaurant also features a drive-thru pick up lane. Photos by **Rachel Gobep/The Jambar**



**DANA OLDFATHER**  
Out of the Woods Into the Weeds



Excavations: the Prints of  
**JULIE MEHRETU**



**WHITNEY TRESSEL**  
America Still

# MCDONOUGH MUSEUM OF ART

## FALL 2019 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

August 23 – October 26  
Public Reception, Friday, August 23, 5-7pm  
**SEASON OPENS WITH THREE EXHIBITIONS**

**Excavations: the Prints of Julie Mehretu**  
is organized by Highpoint Editions,  
Minneapolis. Image courtesy of Highpoint  
Editions and Julie Mehretu.

**Dana Oldfather:**  
Out of the Woods Into the Weeds

**Whitney Tressel: America Still**

**Whitney Tressel**  
Department of Art Lecture Series  
Monday, August 26, 5:10pm

**Dick Von Kiel: aleatoric composition**  
for programmed audio files  
Wednesday, September 11, 5:30pm

**24th Annual MAD About the Arts Benefit**  
Friday, September 27, 7-10pm  
McDonough Museum of Art and WYSU  
\$50/\$75 tickets online visit  
[www.wysu.org/madaboutthearts](http://www.wysu.org/madaboutthearts)

**Emmai Alaquiva**  
Department of Art Lecture Series  
Wednesday, October 2, 5:10pm  
co-sponsored by  
YSU's Department of Communication

**Jeremy Raymer**  
Department of Art Lecture Series  
Thursday, October 10, 5:10pm  
co-sponsored by  
Mahoning County Land Bank

**Dana Oldfather, Artist Lecture**  
Thursday, October 17, 5:10pm

**Maria Elena Versari**  
Department of Art Lecture Series  
Tuesday, October 22, 5:10pm

**Uno Lady**  
Emerging Performance Artist  
Wednesday, November 6, 5:30pm

**Open Projector Night**  
Wednesday, November 13, 5:30pm

**Fall Graduating BFA Exhibition**  
November 22 – December 14  
Public Reception  
Friday, November 22, 5-7pm

**YSU Chamber Music Showcase**  
Monday, December 2, 5pm  
Guest Composer, Forrest Pierce

**Hours at the John J McDonough Museum of Art | Tuesday through Saturday, 11am until 4pm**

The Museum is open to the public and admission is free | For additional information please call 330-941-1400  
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Excavations: the Prints of Julie Mehretu is organized by Highpoint Editions, Minneapolis. Image courtesy of Highpoint Editions and Julie Mehretu.

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DEPARTMENT  
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# THE JAMBAR

## — LETTER FROM — THE EDITOR

### CHANGE IS GOOD, EMBRACE IT

Welcome back Penguins! From incoming freshmen waddling onto campus for the first time to seniors preparing for the next chapter of their lives, change is a common trend in college.

Change is normal, and it is expected, but it can be overwhelming at times. I'm here to tell you that although college can be intimidating, you should make the most of your time here at Youngstown State University.

YSU looks much different today than it did when I started college in fall 2016. When I began my education, The Enclave and University Edge did not exist. The university is now more focused on residential students, which provides opportunities for more activities on campus.

It has also morphed into a university that is more connected with downtown Youngstown.

One aspect of campus that hasn't changed is construction, but don't worry, the waterline replacement project on Fifth Avenue will finish up by the end of the semester.

For those that work at The Jambar, YSU's student-run newspaper, change has hit us in the face like a brick wall, but for the better.

The Jambar staff has worked tirelessly over the summer to create a newscast: Jambar TV. This is something that I always

hoped would happen, and it is finally a reality. It gives students the ability to have real-world experience in a fast-paced environment when we tape the show every Thursday afternoon.

Although I will always love print journalism and continue to publish the best newspaper possible each week, it was time for our journalism and telecommunication students to have multifaceted talent and showcase news through a different platform.

Now, our journalists will write a story for the newspaper and shoot video for their story to air on Jambar TV. There are many talented people participating in this effort, and I'm proud to say that we are founding members of the newscast.

When I began my tenure at The Jambar as a freshman, there were rumors that we were moving into a new space in Kilcawley Center. Those rumors led to excitement that eventually led to disappointment because we remained in the same space.

I waited three years for The Jambar to find a new home, and it finally did. Now, instead of being separated from other student media platforms at YSU, our office is called the Office of Student Media. This is something that will give students in journalism and telecommunication the opportunity to collaborate more and be exposed to new ideas.

Our newsroom previously had an office feel. We would jump over the walls and crowd 10 people into an 8-by-8 room because we needed to collaborate with each other.

Now, we have an open-concept newsroom and can all see each other at any given time, which gives us the ability to become closer, create better content and learn from one another.

Overall, there have been many changes at The Jambar this year, but I'm excited to show what we have in store for the campus community.

Jambar TV will air every Friday at noon, and can be viewed at [thejambar.com](http://thejambar.com). So, please tune in, support the journalism that our students at YSU are doing and see the news happening on campus.

I wish you all a wonderful semester, and always remember that if you believe there is something that The Jambar should cover, please let us know. News tips can be sent to [thejambar@gmail.com](mailto:thejambar@gmail.com).

Rachel Gobep  
Editor-in-Chief



# PENGUINS HEAD SOUTH FOR THE SUMMER

Darius Quisenberry passes the ball to a teammate during the Penguins game against Cleveland State University in March. Photo by **Brian Yaeger/The Jambar**

## MICHAEL EVANKO

While the Youngstown State University men's basketball team's regular season is still a long way off, the Penguins got an early start to the season playing three games of exhibition ball in Saint Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands.

Penguins coach Jerrod Calhoun is excited about this opportunity to get real game experiences this early in the season.

"I think the competition is going to be really good," Calhoun said in a press conference before the team left. "We're playing the University of Calgary. They're a Canadian team who was 29-2 last year, although they lost four out of six guys. Then we play the host school that played Northern Kentucky in their trip last week."

While the games did not affect the win-loss records of the teams involved, Calhoun and his

players knew that the games are an opportunity to see where the team is at early in the season, especially on defense.

"We've spent a lot of time on defense, so hopefully we see our defensive numbers take a jump," he said. "We've talked about that all offseason. I'm anxious to see the defense; they may be anxious to see another team, but I'm anxious as a coach to see where our defense stands."

Junior Naz Bohannon was right in tune with Calhoun when discussing how important this trip is for the Penguins.

"Defense is probably the main priority over there," Bohannon said. "We know we can score the ball, run, get up and down. [We can] take as many shots, but just everybody buying in and keeping the ball on one side, having somebody low. Let's see how many charges we can take over

there, just personal things like that."

Senior guard Donel Cathcart III echoed the sentiments of his teammate.

"Coach emphasized defense a lot this summer," he said. "Last year wasn't so much focused on defense, but this year you have to communicate on defense if you want to be a good team. I feel like our communication is great; everyone out there knows that we have to talk if you want to play. It's being a part of one another."

Calhoun and his players know how important this stretch of games is for the team's chemistry, not only on the court, but off the court as well.

"Basketball is so different than all these other sports," Calhoun said. "We really spend a lot of time with our guys; this seems like there is no offseason. I've seen great change in all of them."

He said the team has eight returning players

who understand the system.

"You only get to do it every four years," Calhoun said. "There's a reason they don't let you do this every year. My message to them has been enjoying every moment and have fun."

Cathcart said the time he gets to spend with his teammates is what makes him excited.

"Getting to know one another, actually seeing where we are at with the team on the court and even off the court too, excites me," he said. "We just want to be a family and enjoy the moment."

The Penguins swept their three games in the Virgin Islands beating Calgary 74-71 in the first game, 71-59 in the second game and won 90-82 over the U.S. Virgin Islands national team.

There will be a follow-up with the players' thoughts after the trip in next week's issue of The Jambar.





# FILLING THE VOID

Tyler Stephens of LaBrae High School watches his shot go in during the OHSAA Basketball Tournament. Stephens is currently attending the University of Buffalo for football. Photo by **Brian Yauger/The Jambar**

## BRIAN YAUGER

Welcome back everyone. With the semester kicking off and numerous changes happening with student media, I think it's time to toss one more change on the pile.

Coverage of high school sports is something that's very important to me. Not only does it help people stay informed with what's happening in their community and their local kids, but not everyone is able to continue their athletic careers into college. For a lot of seniors, their final year is a last hurrah for them.

Imagine you're a high school athlete playing in your final games and you did something outstanding. Perhaps it was a last second

touchdown pass, a 30-point comeback or a huge upset over a team no one expected you to beat.

Isn't that something you would want to be seen by family and friends? Wouldn't it be something you'd want to keep hold of, in case you stop playing the sport you love in college?

If no one was there to remember it, or document it, it would suck, right?

With *The Vindicator* ceasing publication at the end of August, going unnoticed could be a harsh reality for many local athletes.

There are 18 high schools in Mahoning County, not to mention 21 in Trumbull County and 12 in Columbiana County that are all losing a source of coverage.

Granted, the *Tribune Chronicle* and *Lisbon Morning Journal* are Trumbull and Columbia County's primary papers, but that doesn't mean the loss of *The Vindicator* isn't going to leave a void.

That's where *The Jambar* can step in.

This fall semester, we're going to try and fill that void during football season. Although we know the void will never truly be filled, we will do our best, whether it's covering a high school game or a story on a recruiting commit to Youngstown State University.

If it goes well, it's something we'll continue to do into basketball season.

Obviously, we're not going to be scaling back on our coverage of YSU athletics to fill

this void — just think of it as broadening our horizons.

There's more than enough room for some high school-related content in the mix. With YSU being a largely commuter school, there's a decent chance the school you attended being included in this.

*The Jambar* as a whole is beginning to expand beyond our campus, so it makes sense that our sports section does as well.

Thanks for coming along for the ride with us, and welcome back to campus for the new year.





# PENGUIN FOOTBALL PREVIEW: MAKE A STATEMENT

The Penguins take the field for their game against Southern Illinois University. Photo by **Brent Bigelow/The Jambar**

## NATHANAEL HAWTHORNE

With a new academic year at Youngstown State University, the upcoming football season is underway. Last season, many Penguins weren't satisfied with their record, but they are hoping to change their luck this season.

"Last year, we went 4-7 and were projected to finish seventh in the conference," senior tailback Joe Alessi said. "That's not us. We want to make a statement and show that we're way better than that."

Making a statement seems to be the team's MO this year.

"We're more hungry than we were last year," senior linebacker Cash Mitchell said. "We had a disappointing year last year, and we just want to go out this year and show everybody that last year was a down year for us, but we're going to pick it up this year."

The Penguins went 3-5 last season against conference teams with great success at home, winning four of their six games at the Ice Castle. This was the high-point of the season as the Penguins dropped all five games on the road.

Even with a tough season behind them, the team is optimistic, prepared and ready for what is ahead of them.

"This year, it's all about making a statement, and [letting] everybody know that we can come out and be the best team on the field. Every game we come out [to play]," senior defensive back Devanere Crenshaw said.

This season, the players are putting an emphasis on teamwork and striving to work together to make it a success.

"We're really excited, really positive and we have a lot of energy. I've been here for five years, and I think [the energy] is higher than it has been in the last couple of years," senior wide receiver Ryan Emans said.

According to Alessi, that feeling has extended to the team culture.

"The culture has changed a lot from last year to this year," Alessi said. "Everybody is here to work."

With the season opener quickly approaching, the team is anxiously waiting to get on the field and prove to the Youngstown faithful that this is going to be a big year for the Penguins.

"I'm just looking to getting out there with my boys," Crenshaw said. "That's it. Getting it underway and making that statement we've been saying we're going to make and just getting [after] it."

Going into the first game with all eyes on them, Mitchell said he knows the team needs to come out energized.

"I just want to go out and bring energy, have fun and concentrate on the little things," Mitchell said. "It's not the big things. It's the little things we need to focus on with [Samford]. They're fast and like to throw the ball a lot, so we're just going to have to run and hit [like] we usually do."

The first home game is less than a month away, and the team is ready to show the fans what they're made of.

"We're gonna have a lot of fun on the field, so we expect the fans to come out and show love," Crenshaw said. "We'll show love right back by getting a 'W.'"

When it comes to expectations of the year, fans can expect one thing in spades: effort.

"Expect a whole bunch of players. Eleven people on the field at all times who are going to go out and give the best they absolutely can," Emans said. "We want to compete. We want to have fun and obviously, we want to win. That's the goal every week."

The Penguins will have their first game Aug. 24 against the Samford University Bulldogs at 3 p.m.

The team will defend the Ice Castle Sept. 7 against Howard University.