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## PLANS FOR CUTBACKS



Photo by Elizabeth Coss / The Jambar

YSU President Jim Tressel discusses decline in student enrollment and revenue.

## Faculty's future undecided, classes to be eliminated

By Elizabeth Coss and  
Samantha Smith  
The Jambar

The future of Youngstown State University's faculty was left in the air after a special meeting held by the Board of Trustees on Mon-

day, Oct. 25. The meeting highlighted the decline in enrollment by 11%, causing a loss in revenue and pushing the board to consider what means are necessary to improve budget spending.

The board moved in favor of the adoption of the resolution related

to YSU's future state. All trustees present at the meeting voted in favor of moving forward with the resolution, making for a quick adjournment.

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## COVID-19 update Cases decline despite last week's spike

Youngstown State University's number of COVID-19 cases dropped again after spiking last week. On Monday, the university reported 18 cases for the week of Oct. 17-23, a decrease from the 31 cases reported last week.

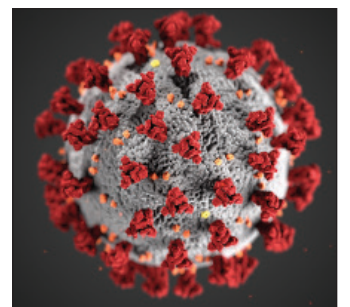


Photo courtesy of Pexels.com


Of those, 15 were students living off campus and three were employees, which could include faculty, administration or staff.

This week, 35 people were tested through the university's asymptomatic voluntary testing program. Of those, none tested positive.

YSU's COVID-19 dashboard is updated every Monday based on confirmed data from the week before. Students who have tested positive should report their case through the online form.

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Despite the meeting going quickly, questions about a stable future for faculty were left unanswered.

Provost and vice president of Academic Affairs Brien Smith was a lead for the effort going forward and spoke on numerous subjects pertaining to the meeting, especially faculty.

“In the short run, we may see fewer non-tenured faculty and fewer adjuncts,” Smith said. “Certainly, when you’re looking at budget cuts — naturally — some people are going to be affected.”

YSU President Jim Tressel took no surprise at the decline in enrollment. However, he acknowledged that as revenue goes down, the amount of money to invest goes down too.

“Our work force has had a little bit of an attrition, I think we had \$4.5 million worth of staff positions over the course of the last couple years just through attrition,” he said. “I think our faculty when I got here was in the neighborhood of 390 full-time faculty — and it’s around 370 now — but there will be more natural attrition, but there may be some targeted attrition.”

Despite the board facing the lowest numbers of enrollment in the recorded history of YSU, it aims to see millions of dollars in reductions by fall 2022 by possibly cutting faculty and reevaluating curriculums. Over the past year, YSU has sunset 13 total programs, one of the largest to be announced recently was the Master of Fine Arts.

“As we see falling enrollments, the technical — my technical definition of sunset — you would see that come into play as well, and we would have to look at other ways that programs are not performing well,” Smith said.

He also mentioned cutting specific

“In the short run, we may see fewer non-tenured faculty and fewer adjuncts ... Certainly, when you’re looking at budget cuts — naturally — some people are going to be affected.”

— Provost and vice president of Academic Affairs  
Brien Smith

classes that have a small number of students to help balance out costs.

“First of all, we need to look at as many places where we have curricular inefficiencies,” Smith said. “One way we are looking at this is where do we have small classes, particularly those who have fewer than 15 students. Not every case, but on average, 15 students is about the break-even point, so that means classes with less than 15 students [are] not mak-

ing us money.”

He said the board is being mindful of what cuts it may make to ensure it does not cut a crucial part of the institution.

By Nov. 15, a number of steps and expected solutions will be released, outlining the deficit and defining a phased approach describing how the university plans to tackle reducing expenses.

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Health District to offer two more vaccination clinics on campus.

These clinics will take place Nov. 4 and Dec. 2 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the Ohio Room in Kilcawley Center. All students, faculty, staff and their families are eligible for either the one-shot Johnson & Johnson vaccine or the two-shot Moderna

YSU reminded students that it’s partnering with the Youngstown City

vaccine. Appointments are required at ysu-covid.com

YSU sent out an email stating free surgical face masks and KF94 face masks are available at no charge to students. They can be picked up at Maag library, Kilcawley Center room 2075 and any of the university residence halls and apartments.

N95 respirators are also available to employees who qualify. Individuals must complete a health questionnaire at ysu.edu/request-n95-0

Any questions about masks and respirators can be answered by Tim Styranec at tmstyranec@ysu.edu

## SUNSETTING PROGRAMS



Photo courtesy of pixels.com

With lack of funding, programs are getting cut.

# Students fight to save creative writing program from being cut

By Abigail Cloutier  
The Jambar

Amid budget deficits and cuts, one of the programs on the chopping block is the Northeast Ohio Master of Fine Arts program. The program is shared by Youngstown State University, Kent State University, the University of Akron and Cleveland State University.

YSU teaches about 25% of the courses through the NEOMFA program — and over 1,200 people are fighting to save them.

Cassandra Lawton, a graduate student in the writing program, started the petition that has over 1,200 signatures. She moved to Youngstown from Michigan to be in the program.

“It’s just really sad to see something go downhill like that, and the program being cut [is] something that would impact me and the other people in the program

in a multitude of different ways,” Lawton said.

Though the students currently in the program will be allowed to complete it before it sunsets, she said potential future students could miss out on a lot without YSU’s participation.

“I work with Lit Youngstown, and oftentimes people know me because I’m in the program and I’m able to make a lot more community connections, and connections in general for that organization as well as the program, because I have both on my side,” Lawton said.

She said despite YSU President Jim Tressel’s claims of wanting to grow and support the arts in the area, programs like these are being cut.

“But we’re not seeing that. Over and over again he’s cutting these programs and the [NEOMFA] was just one of them. But it’s a huge one, and the arts fuel \$30-41.1 billion of Ohio’s economy every year. So it’s not a financial thing, because the program made money for YSU last year. So I think I would just love to see them

maintain it and give it the respect that it deserves in return to show that they are wanting to support the arts,” Lawton said.

Tressel declined to comment. Provost Brien Smith did not respond to requests for comment.

In the petition, Lawton discusses the successes of graduates from the program and how the decline could affect the area.

“If the program were to be cut from YSU, access to writers and resources would diminish in the area. YSU students in the program volunteer for events, such as the English Festival, impacting hundreds of local high school students, and the Lit Youngstown Fall Literary Festival, bringing hundreds to the area each year,” she said.

Lawton is planning a rally outside of DeBartolo Hall Tuesday, Nov. 2 at noon where attendees will walk to Tod Hall to demand a good-faith meeting and deliver the petition.



# Dashing through Youngstown

By Sydney Stalneckier  
The Jambar

The fifth annual Youngstown Marathon ran through the fall foliage at Mill Creek Metroparks, the streets of Youngstown State University's campus and ended at Second Sole in Boardman on Sunday, Oct. 24.

The half and full marathons kicked off at 8 a.m. with 326 runners, and the 5K began just 15 minutes later with 169 runners.

Mark Lipinsky, the race director, was excited for the race to start after all the preparation that took place within the last year.

"For me, it's a celebration. For a lot of the runners, it's a celebration of all their hard work and training," Lipinsky said. "It's just a time to go and enjoy Mill Creek park and enjoy the company of other runners doing the same thing."

Erik Reed, a 33-year-old from East Liverpool, won the marathon with a Boston Marathon qualifying time of 2 hours, 41 minutes, 0 seconds. His average pace was 6

minutes, 9 seconds per mile.

"I grew up watching a lot of people run these races, and I've ran them since I was 16. To be here now, still at 33 and able to run them and able to compete and be in Mill Creek park is just a blessing," Reed said.

He ran for the men's cross-country team at the University of Mount Union 10 years ago and went on to compete in many marathons.

"I did Boston three times. I've ran Chicago. I won Youngstown in 2018, and I've kind of done everything I wanted and a little bit more," Reed said.

According to the Boston Athletic Association, men ages 18-34 must complete a marathon in three hours or less to qualify for the Boston Marathon. Though Reed qualified for the marathon, he doesn't intend to run it.

"Each race is kind of a memory to your little puzzle piece in life," Reed said. "I'm pretty content at this point to say that if I did Boston again, it would just be kind of for the fun of it, but I think competitively my puzzle's kind of put together."

The race drew in runners from many states including

Florida, Missouri, Maryland, Delaware and New York — though the runners were predominantly Ohioans.

Hunter Lyder, a YSU alumna from Canfield, ran the full marathon in 4 hours, 28 minutes, 18 seconds. Her average pace was 10 minutes, 15 seconds per mile.

This was Lyder's first marathon and she started training in May 2021. Her longest run consisted of 20 miles three weeks prior to race day.

According to Runner's World, "most marathon training plans tend to follow a three week taper..." Tapers include gradually cutting back on weekly mileage and allowing the muscles to heal properly. This allows for the body to be as efficient as possible on race day.

"I've always been a runner I'd say, but just starting off running like three miles was really hard," Lyder said. "The longest I've ran is 20 miles, and that was three weeks ago, but that was a big feat so I'm going to try to add another six."

All race results are posted at [youngstownmarathon.com](http://youngstownmarathon.com)



Erik Reed crosses the finish line with a time of 2 hours and 41 minutes.

Photo by Sydney Stalneckier / The Jambar

## HEALTH AND WELLNESS



Halley Berg points out the variety of health care options that Wick Primary Care offers.

Photo by Jessica Stamp / The Jambar

# Stay protected this flu season

By Jessica Stamp  
The Jambar

With the cold and flu season here, it is imperative for students at Youngstown State University to protect themselves from sickness and to stay healthy.

Carrie Clyde, wellness coordinator, feels that people are listening to their bodies more nowadays, so it allows them to pick up on any signs that something might be wrong.

"People are more in tune with how they're feeling on a regular basis and monitoring their signs and symptoms," Clyde said. "I feel like [almost] all people have a very heightened state of awareness of when they're not feeling well [and] being in close proximity with others."

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the best time to get the flu vaccine is in September or October because it takes two weeks to develop antibodies to protect against the flu virus.

"It is early in the season, and I know many people

are still getting inoculated with a vaccine for the flu, so hopefully as the months go on that will continue to be the trends," Clyde said.

The flu virus changes constantly, so the CDC's Influenza Division and the World Health Organization Collaborating Centers and National Influenza Centers to safely select the flu vaccine and what needs to be updated. For this season, the flu vaccine is able to protect against four different flu strains that researchers believe would be most contagious.

The CDC conducts year-round research on circulating flu viruses and uses this data to assess population risk and recommend the vaccine to put into production for the upcoming flu season.

The CDC website states that 43% of 18-64 year olds have received the flu vaccine for the 2021-22 flu season.

Halley Berg, lead medical assistant at Wick Primary Care, said there is not much research and data about how the flu vaccine affects COVID-19, but it is still important to get both vaccines.

"However, getting the flu shot definitely reduces your risk of getting ill from the flu and other respiratory [illnesses]," Berg said. "The vaccines do significantly lessen the effects of the COVID and flu symptoms."

If a student wants to get the flu vaccine, Wick Primary Care accepts walk-ins and appointments.

Since the flu season starts in October and lasts until May, Berg and Clyde express the importance of wearing masks to protect yourself and others with health related issues, washing hands and using hand sanitizer frequently, staying healthy by drinking water and getting exercise.

"Be smart, wear your mask, wash your hands and just follow the CDC guidelines," Berg said.

Both the flu and COVID-19 vaccine can be administered at the same appointment depending on the location of the local health care provider.

For more information about flu vaccines, visit Wick Primary Care on YSU's website.

## DRAG RACING AND RECONNECTING



Photo courtesy of Jambar archives

# YSU graduate returns to speak about engineering background

By Emily McCarthy  
The Jambar

Janet Gbur, adjunct professor of mechanical engineering at Youngstown State University, partnered with Martino Motorsports to bring a unique lecture experience to her classroom.

Gbur has known the Martino family since she was young and has a background in drag racing.

The lecture is for her engineering materials class, which she said is “the one course that — even if you’re not in mechanical engineering — is a good course to provide a foundation for all of the other engineering disciplines as well.”

“I grew up in drag racing,” she said. “I wanted to have some kind of experience that I knew students would be able to relate to. Most people can relate to either owning a car or basic car maintenance. There is a lot of different materials that go into the car ... I wanted somebody who could bring an interesting perspective, something that maybe students are so aware of.”

Gbur decided a guest speaker may be a more engaging way to teach students about things like basic ma-

terial properties. In the past, she has hosted a variety of other speakers and said she tries to find speakers from other companies, national labs and other entities to teach students from their professional backgrounds.

“When I started teaching at Youngstown State, I wanted to bring something a little bit different to the classroom, because from a students perspective, if you sit there and listen to a lecture for 75 minutes ... they’re not really engaged,” she said. “I wanted to find a way to bring the classroom a little more to life rather than just listening to me, and I thought one way I could do that and to connect to the community is guest lecturers.”

Ryan Martino, a 2004 graduate of YSU’s fashion merchandising and marketing program and longtime friend of Gbur, is the speaker from Martino Motorsports. The Youngstown-headquartered company was started by his father who started by racing cars locally at 16 years old.

“Youngstown State, I have never really lost the connection with them,” he said. “Dr. Gbur, I actually grew up with her at the race track ... we reconnected four or five years ago and she asked if we had any interest in coming along. She usually brings four or five guest

speakers to her class per year and I was fortunate enough to be asked by her to join one year.”

After a couple semesters, Martino said the lectures had become a routine part of his schedule. During the pandemic last year, he said these lectures went through many changes and actually allowed for an entirely new experience.

“We were actually teaching class right from the garage where we were able to show the students hands-on by video of where everything goes,” he said. “In the classroom you can show pictures and videos and bring certain parts of the car, but it is actually pretty cool to actually be able to go from one end of the car to the other and actually show the students what was going on.”

Martino said it’s great to give back to the people that gave him success and he gives the university full credit for his own success. He also said he feels like he can relate to the students since he was once in their place and believes education opens doors for students.

# Pete's Clean Team needs student employees

By Kayla Duley  
Jambar contributor

Pete's Clean Team is looking for more employees to help out in the different buildings across buildings on Youngstown State University's campus.

Right now, there are about 30 students currently employed on the team. Jalon Tirado is the supervisor for both Pete's Clean Team and the janitorial staff.

Tirado said Pete's Clean Team provides a crew of students dedicated to the health and safety of the campus community. The team assists with cleaning high-touch areas 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., before it is turned over to the janitorial staff for the rest of the day. It is flexible with student schedules, and has a maximum work week of 25 hours in accordance with YSU's employment policy.

"They do this job so YSU can have classes back in person and to make sure the student feels safe on campus,"

Tirado said.

Pete's Clean Team was established during summer 2020 to help prevent the spread of COVID-19 on campus and to help get back to fully in-person classes.

"We are looking for more employees to ensure the health and safety of the campus while the seasons change and COVID-19 numbers [are] increasing globally," he said.

The job, Tirado said, consists of the students cleaning door handles in entrances, exits of buildings, door handles of classrooms and lounges, tables in student lounges, other high touch areas, and refilling hand sanitizer stations that are posted across buildings on campus.

Tirado said the students are paid out of a COVID-19 grant, which means employing the team is not an additional cost to the university. The hourly wage is \$9.25 per hour.

Corey Tidswell is a student employee for Pete's Clean

Team. He's been a team member since August 2020.

"It provides a sense of safety knowing that everything that you're touching is being disinfected and constantly cleaned, throughout all day, everyday," Tidswell said.

He works in Cafaro Hall, previously known as the Lincoln Building. His work day consists of checking the paper towel, hand sanitizer and disinfectant dispensers. Tidswell makes sure to disinfect all frequently touched surfaces.

"[It's] a laid-back job, and it's for a good cause, with how serious this pandemic has been, and I just feel like it's something good if you're looking for a job on campus," he said.

Students interested can apply to work for Pete's Clean Team by emailing Jalon Tirado at [jdtirado@ysu.edu](mailto:jdtirado@ysu.edu) with a copy of their class schedule. Posting for this job can also be found at [jobs.ysu.edu](http://jobs.ysu.edu) for the listing under student postings.



Luke Rhodes was a telecommunication major and member of Pete's Clean Team. This is an archive photo from 2020.

Photo by Kelcey Norris / Jambar archives



## STRANGE AND INTERESTING



Photos by C. Aileen Blaine / The Jambar

Working for Mushnik Flower Co., florist Seymour finds a ruthless plant he calls Audrey II who craves flesh.

# ‘Little Shop of Horrors’ captures audiences with prickly show

By C. Aileen Blaine  
The Jambar

Youngstown State University’s department of theater and dance is opening a show sure to hold captive audiences’ interest with its latest production of “Little Shop of Horrors” at Ford Theater this weekend.

The plot follows Seymour, an unassuming florist who works for Mushnik Flower Co. He discovers a strange, bloodthirsty plant, which he calls Audrey II after his co-

worker with whom he is enamored. As the plant grows and attracts more business to the flower shop, Seymour struggles to supply it with the flesh it craves. This staging takes the original setting of a 1960s skid row and modernizes it to the 1980s, with references to Cleveland instead.

Nathanael Montgomery, a senior BFA theater major, plays the comically evil dentist Orin Scrivello, DDS. Montgomery said “Little Shop of Horrors” is one of his favorite classics, and he’s looking forward to having fun

with the role on stage.

“The song ‘Dentist!’ — and this is such an exciting song — brings the house down every time. We already know that it’s going to be an exciting one, and I get to be the one to sing it,” Montgomery said. “People need to come see this, it’s going to be a treat.”

The show features a collaboration of efforts from multiple departments, including the visual and dramatic arts department, the Musical Theatre Ensemble and the department of theater and dance.



Guest director Ian Silverman said preliminary work on the show began at the end of the spring 2021 semester and has been an ongoing project since, with lots of behind-the-scenes preparations — such as set construction and line readings — taking place well in advance of opening night.

One of the more tedious preparations was the construction of the man-eating plant. Audrey II combines puppetry and live action performance, allowing the recently enhanced puppetry program at the university a chance to shine. The plant operates with the help of three puppeteers controlling its three hungry mouths, and a slide leading backstage allows performers to be “consumed.”

“Figuring out the safety of [the slide] and building that mechanism was quite challenging, but it’s really cool to see,” Silverman said.

The show’s leading roles are double-cast, with Adam Dominick and Samantha Gurd playing opposite each other on select nights and Kyle Hudson and Elise Vargo on the others.

Hudson, a musical theater sophomore, said he’s looking forward to co-starring with Vargo, a good friend of his in real life.

“It’s just very fun to get to connect with her and feel that chemistry without really having to try,” he said.

Dominick, a musical theater senior, said one of the bigger challenges was having half the time on-stage to work on his lines as Seymour.

“I do some of my best memorization when I’m actually on stage,” he said. “Luckily,

Seymour is a little bit closer to who I am in real life, so it’s not as hard to gauge the character.”

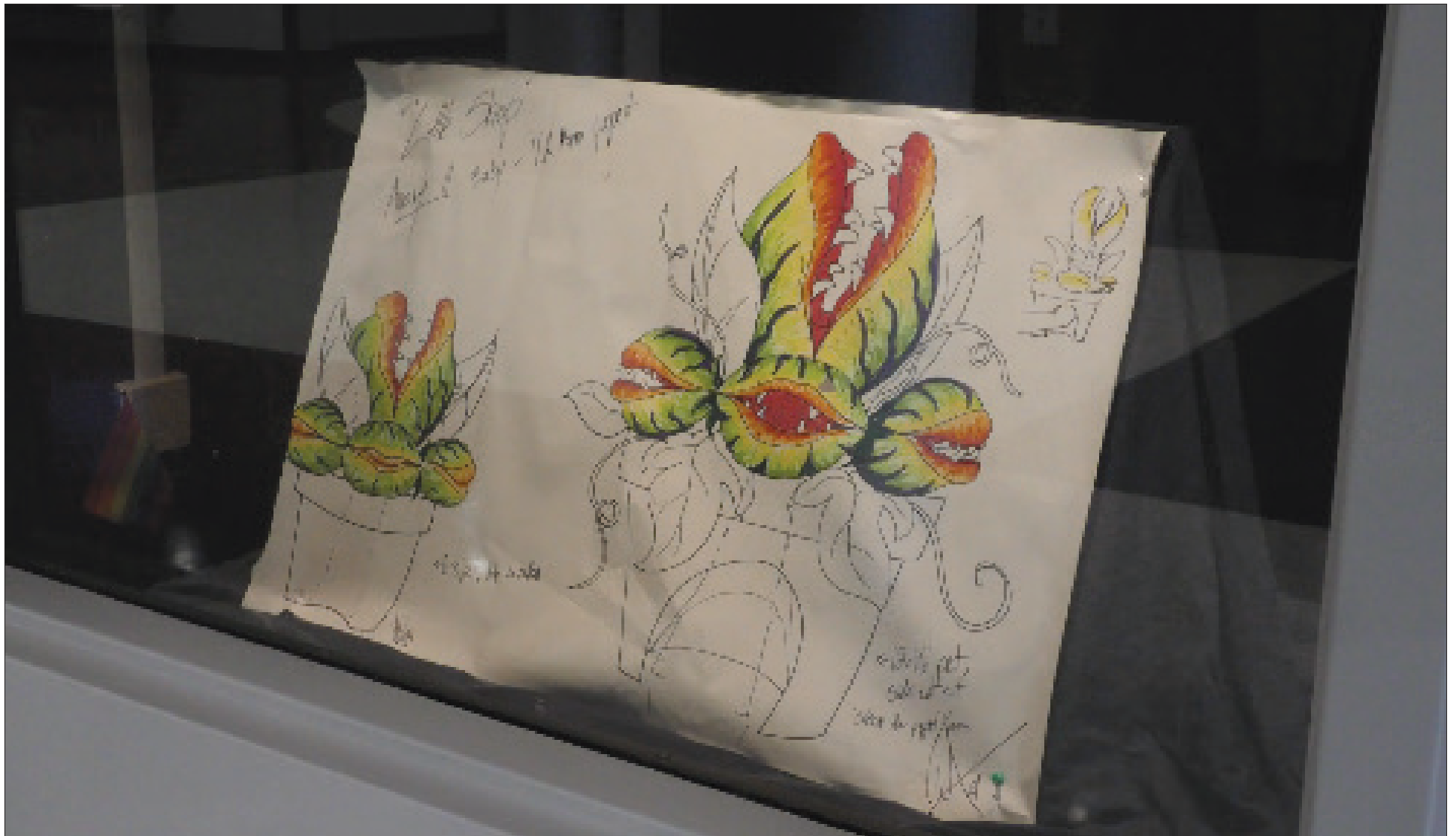
Tommy DeLuca, a junior musical recording and musical theater double major, plays Mushnik, the cantankerous owner of the flower shop. DeLuca said it’s been almost two years since his last theatrical performance. As a transfer student, this is his first onstage role at YSU.

“Here, I’ve just been the sound engineer for the shows,” DeLuca said. “Getting back into acting finally onstage, it’s been kind of a challenge to relearn, ‘Okay, this is how I’m supposed to do this,’ or ‘This is what I’m supposed to do here’ ... While it’s been fun, it’s also been very, very challenging.”

The shows occur on the following times and dates at Bliss Hall’s Ford Theater:

- Friday, Oct. 29: 7:30 p.m.
- Saturday, Oct. 30: 7:30 p.m.
- Sunday, Oct. 31: 2 p.m.
- Friday, Nov. 5: 7:30 p.m.
- Saturday, Nov. 6: 7:30 p.m.
- Sunday, Nov. 7: 2 p.m.

Adult tickets are \$16. Tickets cost \$8 for non-YSU students, YSU faculty and staff with valid ID, YSU alumni, senior citizens, Penguin Club members and groups of eight or more. Current YSU student tickets are free. Tickets can be found at [www.ysu.tix.com](http://www.ysu.tix.com), or call 330-941-3105 for more information.



This developmental design draft shows the behind the scenes to Audrey II's construction.

# Professor Adam Fuller creates a book about neoconservatives

By Kaitlyn McCarthy  
The Jambar

“Israel and the Neoconservatives: Zionism and American Interests” is a book about neoconservatism and the controversies surrounding them as a group. Adam Fuller, author of the book, is an associate professor of politics and international relations at Youngstown State University.

“In the book, I talk about a lot of the different ways in which the neoconservatives and their interest in Israel is analyzed,” Fuller said.

A press conference for Fuller’s book took place Thursday, Oct. 21. Jacob Ari Labendz, assistant director of the Judiac and Holocaust studies program, interviewed Fuller regarding his new book.

“Dr. Fuller is a sharp writer. The book is concise — one can even say short — and yet it accomplishes those twin goals of laying out neoconservatives’ relationships to Israel and forcing us to reconsider popular assumptions that people have made about that

relationship from the outside,” Labendz said.

Not everyone agrees with Fuller’s opinions in the novel, but this book helps create conversation and bring awareness to the issues regarding neoconservatives.

“Dr. Fuller and I disagree fundamentally from a political perspective and there are parts of the book, whether in terms of framing or conclusions, with which I deeply disagree,” Labendz said. “Yet it has also challenged me and broadened my perspective, inasmuch as it wrestles with neoconservatism, Israel, and Jewishness from a theory-internal perspective. I find that valuable on its own accord.”

Reading this book can be an educational experience and a way for readers to make their own opinions on neoconservatives, according to Labendz.

“While many people have heard of neoconservatism and neoconservatives, many lack familiarity with the movement and its ideologies. This book can be helpful in that regard,” Labendz said.

Fuller wrote this book after being involved in a

group where he had to research and write a paper on neoconservatives. After the paper was released, Fuller thought more needed to be said.

“That paper needed to be extended into book form — that’s how this book project came about,” Fuller said.

Labendz thinks students and teachers at YSU should be praised. Publications, such as Fuller’s book, will impact people outside of the university.

“I think it’s important to take time out to recognize the scholarly achievements of our professors and also students at YSU ... In doing so, we demonstrate to students the productive nature of scholarship and the contributions of YSU to a global community of scholars and knowledge producers,” Labendz said. “Our faculty publishes works that can have influences, both great and small, far beyond our region and in matters of utmost concern.”

Fuller’s new book, along with his previous book on neoconservatives, is available on Amazon and at Barnes & Noble.

# Bozoma Saint John gives advice

By Samantha Smith  
The Jambar

Youngstown State University hosted a lecture Wednesday, Oct. 20 at Stambaugh Auditorium. The lecture was presented in the form of an interview with Bozoma Saint John, chief marketing officer of Netflix.

Along with her role as the CMO of Netflix, Saint John has also worked as the CMO of Endeavor, chief brand officer of Uber and head of global consumer marketing for Apple Music and iTunes.

Besides job titles, Saint John has accumulated multiple achievements with-

in her career. She was inducted into the American Advertising Federation Hall of Fame in 2014, was named Executive of the Year in 2016 by Billboard’s Women in Music and recognized by Forbes as World’s Most Influential Chief Marketing Officer.

She came to YSU to discuss and answer questions about marketing and how she got to where she is today.

Betty Jo Licata, dean of Williamson College of Business Administration, began the lecture by introducing Saint John and giving a brief summary of her career so far.

Christina Saenger, associate professor of marketing; Judin Balella, senior

marketing major; and Jenna Binsley, graduate student, were then brought to the stage to conduct an interview and discussion with Saint John.

While answering questions, she gave her insight as to what her approach to marketing is and how that makes her successful.

“I truly have a love of people,” she said. “That’s really at the center of everything marketing. They’re the idea of how people integrate, what makes a community, what makes somebody like this versus that, the history of their stories and the places they come from.”

Saint John brought laughter and awe from the audience when speaking.

From discussing personal life to advice for those in the field of marketing, she gave tips on teamwork and inspired thoughts for those listening.

“Teamwork is not about just being the one who’s always motivating — sometimes we need to be motivated,” she said. “We’re not all going to be on all the time. So how you encourage and motivate your team, they also have the power to do that, and that is what also helps with the creative ideas. It’s what helps with solutions.”

For more information on the lectures produced by YSU, go to [ysu.edu/lecture-series](http://ysu.edu/lecture-series)

## LACK OF DIVERSITY



Photo by Elizabeth Coss / Jambar contributor

First-Ward Councilman Julius Oliver criticized the selection of art pieces for not having a better representation of minorities.

# Introspection on representation

**By Elizabeth Coss**  
Jambar contributor

The Butler Institute of American Art picked several initial pieces of art to be placed around Youngstown as part of a Youngstown CityScape project, but the pieces were criticized by First-Ward Councilman Julius Oliver. New pieces to place around the city will be decided on by the end of the year.

Oliver said he wished the city and its residents would have been considered when the art pieces — which are paintings of only caucasian individuals — were chosen. Oliver said he wanted more accurate representation of the city within the art, and for minorities to be considered in the decision process.

The criticisms of the lack of diversity in the selected pieces led the Butler to invite Oliver to come on a guided tour with Louis Zona, the museum's curator, and view the museum's diverse collection of art.

"When the local politician made his statement, that upset a lot of people. I invited him to come," Zona said.

While Oliver said he's been visiting the Butler for years, he did meet with Zona to explore its diversity.

"There are so many people that don't understand the absolute treasure we have with the Butler Art Museum," Oliver said.

Zona said the Butler is proud of what it's doing in terms of representing diverse art and artists.

"We're constantly on the lookout for really great artists who are minorities to showcase them. We're very proud of our history of showing great African American artists," Zona said.

Currently, the Butler is showcasing Teo Nguyen, a Vietnamese American artist from Minnesota who makes photo-realistic acrylic paintings of landscapes. The museum also is spotlighting a regional photography exhibit titled "Dismissed Abilities" by Alexa Daher and Kristyn Wagner that depicts the struggles of living with disabilities. The exhibit will run until January.

Every February, the Butler salutes Black History Month with an exhibit of art by an African American artist. This coming February, contemporary realism art by Philip Smallwood will be on display.

The Butler also houses resident artist Bill Dotson, who is known for photo-realistic portraits of individuals.

"His subjects are always African American athletes,

famous people in the community," Zona said. Dotson has created portraits of Martin Luther King Jr. and the Butler's board of trustees, both of which are on display at the museum.

The Butler also acts as an educational center, not only for college students, but also for children in the surrounding area, according to Wendy Swick, the Butler's public relations director. The Butler is free to the public and many visitors often peruse its artwork looking for inspiration for a project of their own.

"A lot of the schools have eliminated art education," Swick said. "With our Good Neighbors program and our school tours — we mostly serve the inner city schools and replace that art education — and so kids of all school ages and all backgrounds can get the inspiration and get that cultural enrichment."

The Butler also offers summer camps to several local schools including Campbell, Warren, Struthers and Youngstown to help promote art education and encourage children to pursue art.

The Butler Institute of American Art is open from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesdays through Saturdays and 12 p.m. to 4 p.m. Sundays. It is closed on Mondays.



## THE JAMBAR POLICY

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

### EDITORIAL POLICY

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

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR POLICY

The Jambar encourages letters to the editor. Submissions are welcome at thejambar@gmail.com. Letters should concern a campus issue, must be typed and must not exceed 400 words. Submissions must include the writer's name and telephone number for verification, along with the writer's city of residence for publication. The Jambar does not withhold the names of guest commentators. Letters are subject to editing for spelling, grammar and clarity. Letters will not be rejected based on the views expressed in them. The editorial board reserves the right to reject commentaries and letters if they are not relevant to our readers, seek free publicity, fail to defend opinion with facts from reliable sources or if the editorial staff has decided that the subject has been sufficiently aired. The editorial board will request a rewrite from the submitted writer based on these requirements. The Jambar will not print letters that are libelous, threatening, obscene or indecent. The views and opinions expressed in letters and commentaries on the opinion page do not necessarily reflect those of The Jambar staff. Editorials do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the faculty, staff or administration of YSU.

# The Jambar Editorial

## The importance of voting at the local level

Tuesday, Nov. 2 is Election Day. Though it's an off year and there are no presidential candidates or governors to deliberate over, it's still important to consider some of the local issues and solutions proposed by various candidates.

A number of places in and around the Mahoning Valley are running mayoral races this year: Cleveland, Canfield and Youngstown, to name a few.

Even if you don't live in a city or township with a current mayoral election, consider voting. Make sure you have the necessary identification, and check your

registration on the secretary of state website or register online for next year's elections. Familiarize yourself with the local issues on the ballot. If you're not sure where to go to vote in-person, use the voter information search website to find the right location. Your vote matters at the local level, because many local elections are determined by a small number of votes.

Voting is the most important part of a democracy — it helps keep those in power in check. If more people vote, politicians are more inclined to listen and do their jobs. It doesn't matter who you vote

for: the more active people are politically, the more power we have over those in office.

As students preparing to enter the workforce and make lives for ourselves, it is important to make our voices and opinions heard. If you don't agree with a current policy, speak up and vote for someone who will change it. If you're a fan of it, vote to reelect your current officer. Those without a voice in the past fought for us all to have the rights to use ours: don't let their fight be in vain.

# The Jambar Column

## What should Tressel's costume be?

Spooky season is here for those of you who celebrate Halloween. Along with that comes tricks, treats and often costumes. Now, I am sure that all of you have your costumes already picked out and are going to look great. However, as pointed out by our editorial team, you know who probably doesn't have his costume selected?

Youngstown State University President Jim Tressel.

With everything going on with campus, it has been brought to our attention that the president of our university probably has not had time to plan his Halloween costume. So, to make the process easier for him, I am going to make a



Mac Pomeroy

list of suggestions.

My first suggestion for his costume would be a statue. Now, there are many statues on

campus of various esteemed figures, so he would blend right in.

To do this, he would need to simply paint himself and his clothes bronze. If he wanted to go more detailed, he could make areas like the hands or knees silver, to show some

wear. To really play the role, all he needs to do is stand still in random places throughout the day.

My next suggestion is a bit more complicated, and I'll leave the construction up to him. Perhaps a statue may seem a bit stale, so instead he can go as something more current: a bottle of hand sanitizer. This would take a bit more of a calculated execution, but he could help encourage good hygiene and cleaning habits while looking stylish.

A third suggestion is Abraham Lincoln. Given that he is the president of the university, it is only fitting that he goes as one of the most well-known presidents of the Unit-

ed States. All he needs is a top hat, a beard and a suit.

Usually, I would just give three suggestions and end it there, but instead I will add a fourth suggestion for Tressel. Given all the work he does around campus to continue building it up, maybe a construction worker would be a good fit. Get a hard hat, a vest, maybe some fake tools. That would be a really funny costume, but also the most functional for the day.

Who knows what he'll go as? These are just my suggestions. But, I hope he takes my advice and dresses up for the holiday.

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Photo courtesy of pexels.com

# YSU sports shorts

**By Sports Staff**  
The Jambar

## Women's Golf

The Youngstown State University women's golf team placed 13th in the Palmetto Intercollegiate at Kiawah Island Golf Resort's Turtle Point Course in Kiawah Island, South Carolina on Oct. 25-26.

Junior Danae Rugola led the team, posting the highest placement by tying for 25th.

The Penguins finished with a final score of 901 after posting their first round score of 308, second-round 299 and third-round 294.

Rugola ended with a score of 221, the lowest score of her career. Sophomore Madison Smithco finished 43rd with a career best of 226. Freshman Elizabeth Saur finished with her career-best three-round 227 to tie for 48th. Junior Christina Lewis ended the event with a 238 to tie for 77th. Finally, senior Victoria Utrup finished with a score of 241 to tie for 80th.

This tournament marks the last event in the Penguins' fall season.

## Men's Golf

The men's golf team had five members finish in the top 25 this past weekend, Oct. 23-24, to end the fall sea-

son at the Towson Fall Invitational.

As a team, the men finished with a three-round total of 873 to tie for third with Robert Morris University. The Penguins recorded scores of 296 and 287 on Saturday, before scoring 290 on Sunday.

Seniors Ken Keller and Kevin Scherr had strong performances, leading the team with a three-round score of 217 each, tying for sixth place. Junior Cole Christman and senior Bryan Kordupel both finished in the top 15. Christman would finish in 11th with a three-round 219, while Kordupel would end in 13th with 220.

To cap out the top 25 for YSU, junior Cade Kreps tied for 24th with a three-round total of 226. His 226 marks the best of his career and his final-round 73 also marked the best of his career.

## Swimming and diving

The women's and men's swimming and diving teams both picked up victories over Gannon University on Saturday, Oct. 23 at the Beechly Natatorium. The men won 215-79 while the women's team earned a 174-122 win.

YSU swept the diving events as senior Tess Weiskopf won both the 1-meter and 3-meter events for the women with a score of 256.20 and 243.60. For the men, sophomore Cody Thill picked up victories in both diving events with a score of 257.10 in the 1-meter and 248.85

in the 3-meter.

The swimming team started off strong picking up wins in both the men's and women's 200-yard medley relay. The women won with a time of 1:49.19 and the men with a time of 1:35.25.

Freshman Hailey Clark and junior Olivia Wilcox both picked up two single-event victories. Clark clocked 10:45.96 in the 1000 free and 2:28.96 in the 200 breaststroke in her event wins. Wilcox swam a time of 59.42 in the 100 back and 2:10.45 in the 200 back for victories.

For the men, freshman Aleksa Radenovic came away with victories in both the 100 and 200 backstroke, and David Nacarino Campos won both the 100 and 200 breaststroke. Sophomore Jasper Liekens swam a time of 1:55.04 to win the 200 fly. Freshman Fabian Gines picked up a win in the 500 free with a time of 4:44.64.

In the men's 1000 free, YSU placed first, second and third. Sophomore Gavin Webb led the way with 9:14.02. Webb also placed second in the 500 free with a time of 4:49.73 behind Gines.

The Penguins are next in action Saturday, Oct. 30, competing against Valparaiso University and University of Wisconsin-Green Bay at 2 p.m. at the Valparaiso Aquatic Center.



# Service errors kill volleyball team

By Kyle Wills  
The Jambar

The Youngstown State University volleyball team fell against Cleveland State University in a 3-1 contest this past Saturday, Oct. 23 at Woodling Gymnasium.

YSU recorded 26 kills from freshman outside hitter Paula Gursching and senior outside hitter Amanda Lebioda, but Cleveland State University would win the last three sets of the match.

Lebioda said despite the team falling into a tough stretch of matches, it continues to work as one.

“The team has been [working] together. We’re working on communications, talking to the players on the court. It’s helping out a lot,” she said.

During the stretch of losses, the team was affected by a couple of injuries, one being sophomore Lexi Beeke. Lebioda said the team has players who have been stepping up to fill those voids.

“Josi [Borum] went from outside [hitter] to setter. This was better than we were expecting because she’s done an amazing job and that gives us confidence,” she said.

Gursching had a match-high 14 kills, seven of which came in the opening set the team won 25-18. Lebioda

had 12 kills of her own and registered an impressive .588 attack percentage. Freshman Caitlyn Jones had a match-best 17 digs, junior Aimee Beaupre had three blocks and junior Josi Borum recorded 36 assists.

YSU hit .448 in the opening set behind Gursching’s seven kills. The Penguins scored the first two points and led the entire set. The lead reached eight four different times.

CSU responded by scoring seven of the first eight points of the second set, which it won 25-16, and the Vikings used an early 10-3 run in the third set to win 25-12.

The fourth set was decided at the service line as the Vikings got 12 points from five aces and seven serving errors from YSU.

The volleyball team would battle for five sets with Oakland University on Sunday, Oct. 24, falling 3-2 to the Golden Grizzlies at the Athletics Center O’rena.

Jones recorded the third-most ever digs by a Penguin in a rally-scoring match with 31 in the five-set setback. Borum had 38 assists and 12 digs for a double-double, and she tied junior Nadia Pace for with a team-high three blocks. Lebioda paced the Penguins offensively with 16 kills on a .317 attack percentage.

The women forced Oakland into 10 attack errors in

the opening set as they won 25-20, but the Golden Grizzlies started the second set on a 9-3 run to help tie the match at a set apiece. YSU then had its best set of the day offensively as it hit .214 in the third behind five kills apiece from both Lebioda and Gursching as it took a 2-1 lead. Oakland would take the fourth set to force a fifth.

The Golden Grizzlies blocked Gursching on back-to-back points to start the fifth set. A service error gave Oakland a sideout, and the margin was at least three the rest of the set.

The volleyball team will play its final two road matches of the regular season next weekend as it travels to play Indiana University–Purdue University Indianapolis Friday, Oct. 29, and Purdue University Fort Wayne Saturday, Oct. 30. Both matches will begin at 6 p.m., and will be broadcasted on ESPN+.

Following the completion of this weekend’s road trip, the team will conclude its season on its home court for its final four matches. Lebioda said it is great to finish the season in front of the home fans.

“It’s amazing finishing at home because we have our fans, friends, the girls’ families, senior night, so it’ll be extra special to finish at home,” she said.



Amanda Lebioda attempts a kill against Duquesne University.

Courtesy of Sports Information

# Football loses on the road again

By Yousof Hamza  
The Jambar

The Youngstown State University football team looked to break its 15-game road losing streak this past Saturday, Oct. 23, in Terre Haute, Indiana.

The Penguins faced off against the Indiana State University Sycamores, and it was a tightly contested game until the fourth quarter. YSU held a 17-14 lead going into the fourth but ultimately faltered and lost 17-28.

Redshirt freshman quarterback Demeatric Crenshaw had to leave the game early due to an ankle injury. Senior quarterback Joe Craycraft came in to relieve the injured Crenshaw, but played poorly, throwing four interceptions.

All four interceptions came in the fourth quarter, ending each one of YSU's drives. Craycraft went 13-31 passing for 172 yards and threw one touchdown in addition to his interceptions.

Senior tailback Jaleel McLaughlin led the team rushing with one touchdown and 138 yards on 17 touches.

Other highlights include an interception by senior linebacker Grant Dixon in the endzone, despite having a cast on his broken hand.

Sophomore offensive lineman Aidan Parker explained that no matter who is throwing the ball, they need to do their job. He added that working with Craycraft was not an unfamiliar experience.

"The only difference is the different voice. Our schemes are the exact same. We've practiced with Joe [Craycraft], Joe and Meech [Crenshaw] were in a quarterback battle all camp, so it's not like we're unfamiliar with him," Parker said.

Parker also felt the team needs to work on small things, and said the men were a few plays from success — similar to what was said by teammates before the season began.

"There were a lot of little things that we did offensively that was uncharacteristic for us, whether it's a missed blitz or miscommunication on the line," Parker said.

Head coach Doug Phillips continues to stress the importance of finishing drives and the need to score touchdowns.

Phillips and the coaching staff have taken responsibility for the losses under the belief that the players are never at fault.

"It was a coach Tressel thing: it's never the player's fault. I want it to be on us," Phillips said. "If we're coaching it, we're allowing it."

YSU will play the 10th-ranked South Dakota State University Jackrabbits this Saturday, Oct. 30 at home. Crenshaw's status for the game is still unknown.

Going into the game against SDSU, the team still feels confident despite the dismal record. SDSU is on a two-game losing streak, but has one of the top offenses in the Missouri Valley Football Conference.

Phillips and company look to close the gap between YSU and the top conference teams this week.

"When you look at this league, we really are outsiders trying to fight, bite and scratch to be a part of it and to compete. We got to take that type of mentality, which I think fits Youngstown. I think that fits the grit. I think that fits the community and people we are and we got to go in a battle and fight as hard as we can," Phillips said.

The remainder of YSU's schedule is tough with three of the four remaining games against top 10 ranked opponents. After YSU plays SDSU they head to the University of North Dakota before returning home to play No. 2 North Dakota State University. The team finishes on the road playing against No. 3 Southern Illinois University.



Photo courtesy of David Dermer / YSU Sports Information  
YSU receiver Jorge Portorreal leaps to complete a catch against ISU.