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Thursday, September 22, 2022



PLANS TO RESHUFFLE FACULTY



Plans of faculty replacement and voluntary separation were discussed at meeting. Photo by Elizabeth Coss / The Jambar

Replacement, retirement and recognition: Resolutions galore

By Elizabeth Coss
The Jambar

Youngstown State University's board of trustees held its first meeting of the semester Sept. 21 in Tod Hall.

Starting with speakers, the board listened to presentations regarding student and professor successes on research as well as hearing from successful athletic teams like the Baja racing team and pole vault

team.

The resolutions on the docket were all passed with no objections from any board members. The first being the search for an interim president of the university following President Jim Tressel's retirement scheduled for Jan. 31.

The board will begin by interviewing international

Trustees, Page 2

To be determined: Kilcawley's future

By Samantha Smith
The Jambar

Youngstown State University's Kilcawley Center plans to change in the future. After a board of trustees meeting Sept. 21, YSU President Jim Tressel said the board should come to a resolution about the future of Kilcawley in its December meeting.

Joy Polkabila Byers, associate vice president of Student Experience, explained what changes would be in store for the building.

"We're looking at a renovation, really looking at re-imagining what our Student Union will look like," Byers said. "We have reduced the square footage and what we're looking at bringing, but making sure it's modern enough and flexible enough to meet the students' needs as we continue to grow."

John Young, executive director of Student Experience, said the new designs, with the smaller square footage will allow a better flow and use of the building. This includes having sections that would be independent of the building and give the Student Union the ability to have additional weekend or evening hours based on student requests or events.

Young also said why the Kilcawley building was considered for renovation.

"The challenge for us when we were looking at spaces and looking at some of the other student unions in the state and even around the country, ours kind of really fell in comparison to some of the new modern designs," he said.

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Trustees

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search firms and then go into a hiring process. The interim president can come from within the university or be appointed from the outside.

Tressel said he hopes an interim president is named soon.

“My hopes would be that an interim could get named prior [to Feb. 1] so that I could spend a little bit of time handing off some of the things that [the university] is working on,” Tressel said. “I’m sure [an interim will be named] sometime between now and the next board meeting.”

The board also passed a resolution to create a strategy for re-evaluating the needs of faculty placements, following the release of the 14-day enrollment numbers, which revealed a 4% decrease in enrollment.

Earlier in the week, the university announced a voluntary separation plan for faculty in collaboration with the YSU-OEA.

Tressel said the university is staying realistic in its efforts to keep the university stable despite lower enrollment and revenue.

“We can only do what the revenue that we attract allows us to do. We’ve been

spending a lot of time on our deans and department chairs and provost and everyone on campus,” Tressel said. “We’ve been asked by the board, you know, to make sure we’re using our data, which our number one data point is our enrollment.”

Another key resolution that was passed was recognizing the Division of Workforce Education and Innovation as an official division at the university.

Previously undesignated, the division aims to provide community needs and partnerships with local area workforces and companies.

John Jakubec, the board of trustees chairperson, said there is importance in establishing the division.

“If we want industry to come in the area, we’ve got to show companies that we can provide the workforce and that we can educate the workforce,” Jakubec said. “We have some big names of companies that have moved in, like Ultium and FoxConn and so forth.”

Dr. Sergul Erzurum was sworn in as a trustee and participated in her first meeting after being appointed by Gov. Mike Dewine to replace James Roberts back in June 2022.

The next board of trustees meeting will take place Dec. 9 in Tod Hall.

“We can only do what the revenue that we attract allows us to do. We’ve been spending a lot of time on our deans and department chairs and provost and everyone on campus.”

— Jim Tressel,
YSU president

7-DAY WEATHER FORECAST

| Thu. | Fri. | Sat. | Sun. | Mon. | Tue. | Wed. |
|--|---|---|--|--|---|---|
| High: 62°F Low: 44°F Chance of precipitation: 80% cloudy, passing shower | High: 61°F Low: 44°F Chance of precipitation: 0% sunny to partly cloudy and cool | High: 65°F Low: 52°F Chance of precipitation: 3% cloudy | High: 67°F Low: 51°F Chance of precipitation: 86% cloudy with couple of showers | High: 61°F Low: 48°F Chance of precipitation: 88% cloudy and cool with showers | High: 59°F Low: 45°F Chance of precipitation: 25% cool and cloudy | High: 60°F Low: 44°F Chance of precipitation: 25% cloudy |
|  Overcast |  Partly Cloudy |  Partly Cloudy |  Overcast |  Overcast |  Partly Cloudy |  Partly Cloudy |

Information courtesy of [accuweather.com](https://www.accuweather.com)

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Kilcawley

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Andrews Student Recreation and Wellness Center and Kilcawley House will not be affected during the renovation. Byers explained part of the reconstruction includes making Kilcawley a better pathway for students through the center of campus, the residence hall and the Rec Center.

Tressel discussed how the university will fund the

renovations and how long it could take.

“Our plan, as approved by the board of trustees, is that we’ll be able to take some long-term bonds out that can be paid over three or four decades with the idea that we’ll be able to raise significant dollars and pay off some early,” he said.

Tressel went on to mention the fundraising plans the university has for this project.

“Fundraising will be a big part, and the fact that we’ll have a new student center gives us the opportunity to

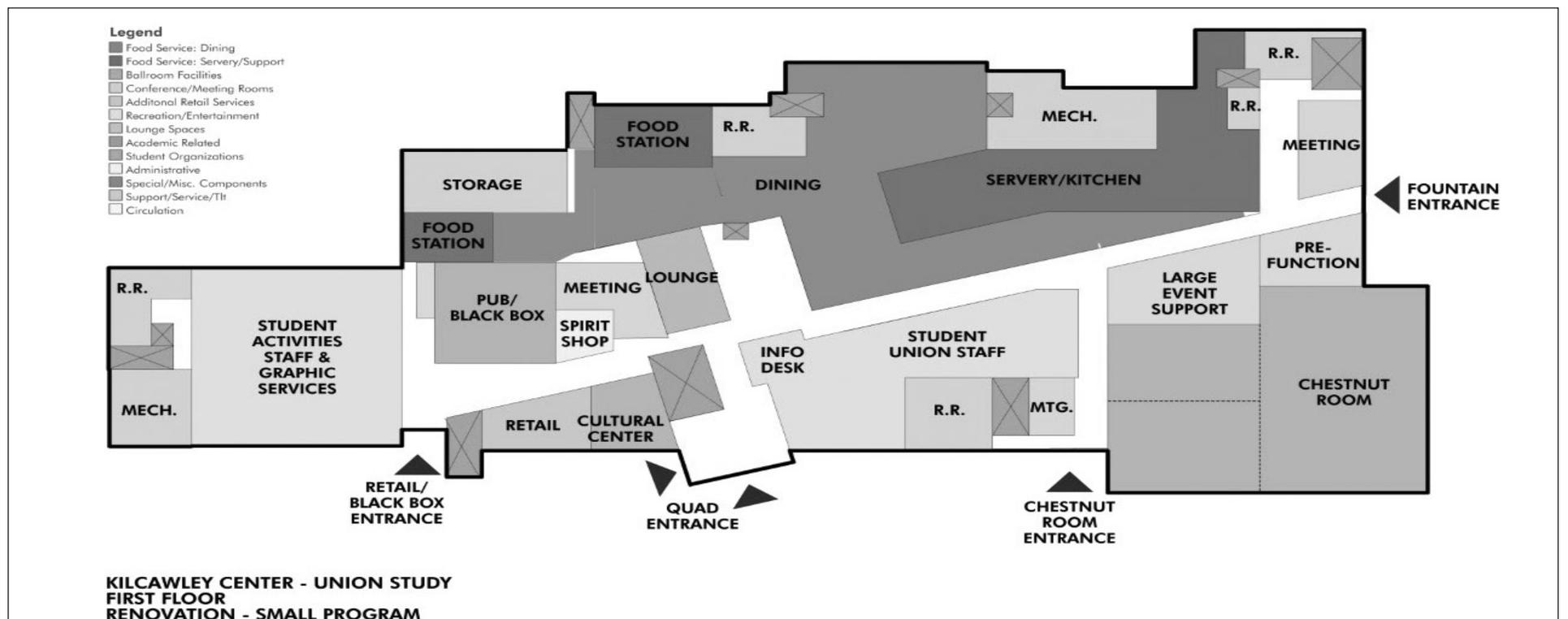
have a lot of new naming opportunities,” he said. “In fundraising, you go out and try to get some of the largest gifts. The naming of a building would be a large gift. For instance, if you want a classroom named after you, it’s \$100,000. If you want a chair for a faculty member, it’s \$1.5 million. If you want a building, it’s \$5 million.”

Byers said she hopes to have a webpage for the Student Union created soon to give students updates about the Student Union and have a chance to leave feedback through the page.



An outside view of Kilcawley Center.

Photo by Viktoriya Paliakovich / The Jambar



Blueprints of renovations for Kilcawley Center.

Photo courtesy of Joyce Polkabra Byers

Uncertainty grows unsettling

By Elizabeth Coss
The Jambar

Faculty at Youngstown State University were notified retrenchment and contract non-renewals were possible in the upcoming weeks and months for departments with low enrollment statuses.

In an email sent from the Office of the Provost on Sept. 19, faculty were notified that enrollment will be down by 4%.

Eleven departments were listed in the email to possibly face retrenchment and contract non-renewals for faculty as a means to reduce costs.

The departments are as follows:

- Department of Accounting and Finance
- Department of Art
- Department of Communication
- Department Criminal Justice and Consumer Science
- Dana School of Music and Theatre
- Department of English and World Languages
- Department of Health Professions
- Department of Humanities and Social Sciences
- Department of Mathematics and Statistics
- Department of Physics, Astronomy, Geology and Environmental Sciences
- Department of Teacher Education and Leadership Studies

According to the email, a variety of considerations go into re-evaluating departments such as, low enrollment, — especially if a duplicate program is offered at a nearby university — under-enrolled classes especially

at the junior or senior level, low market growth potential, poor mission fit with the department and college and low student to faculty ratios, experienced with low enrolled courses.

Whole departments will not necessarily be affected by these austerity measures, according to the email.

“Appearing on this list does not necessarily mean entire departments will be impacted; rather, it is likely that areas within a department will be the focus, considering the extent to which they are aligned with the attributes listed above,” the email stated.

A voluntary separation or retirement program has been created for faculty considering leaving the university.

Despite the announcement of imminent cuts, the university stated it plans on taking appropriate measures necessary to ensure the quality of education and sustainability.

“Overall, as demographic challenges continue, the intent is to build the appropriate academic and organizational structures that recognize the needs of the workforce and community while at the same time continuing to achieve a sustainable and prosperous Youngstown State University,” the email stated.

Mark Vopat, union president and professor of religious and philosophical studies, said the union was aware that cuts were coming to faculty but didn’t know which programs or departments would be affected.

“The only thing we knew is that they had intentions to make cuts,” Vopat said. “We weren’t given any specifics and we didn’t know the extent of the parts. We didn’t know how many programs would be under scrutiny and

this seems like a lot, a lot more than I think we would’ve expected or guessed, but we had no way of really knowing.”

According to Vopat, the amount of departments listed to face faculty cuts surprised the union.

“It’s also a surprise to me that in the two years in a row of cuts and retrenchments that they’re doing, no one is looking at the bigger budget,” Vopat said. “The thing that’s, you know, being focused on for cuts to faculty, cuts to the programs and cuts to the opportunities for students.”

Following the board of trustees meeting Thursday, Sept. 21, President Jim Tressel said the board of trustees has been working on ways to deal with declining enrollment.

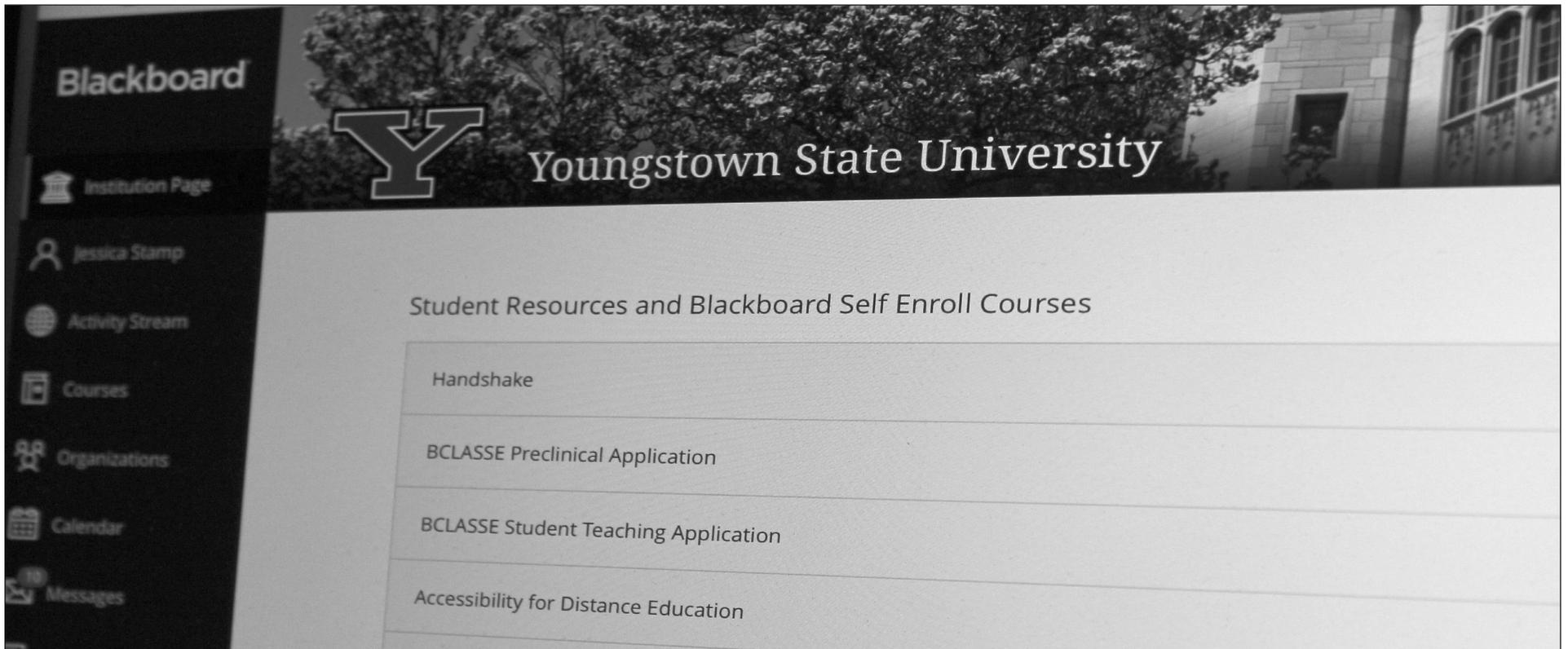
“We’ve been working for the last two years with a group of folks all over campus from all types of positions and so forth, to create a strategic plan, and we call it ‘Take Charge of Our Future,’” Tressel said. “We’ve offered a voluntary separation retirement plan for some of our [staff] who could maybe help us with meeting those challenges.”

The possibility of sunsetting programs or cutting majors was left as an uncertainty with no current expectations, Tressel said.

“We would never sunset something that we couldn’t have someone complete ... Uncertainty is hard for students, it’s hard for faculty, it’s hard for administrators, it’s hard for the community,” Tressel said. “While uncertainty is unsettling, our board is given is what necessitated the resolution.”

The 11 departments are as following:

- Department of Accounting and Finance
- Department of Art
- Department of Communication
- Department Criminal Justice and Consumer Science
- Dana School of Music and Theatre
- Department of English and World Languages
- Department of Health Professions
- Department of Humanities and Social Sciences
- Department of Mathematics and Statistics
- Department of Physics, Astronomy, Geology and Environmental Sciences
- Department of Teacher Education and Leadership Studies



The learning platform, Blackboard, is used by YSU students.

Photo by Elizabeth Coss / The Jambar

Blackboard troubles students

By Shianna Gibbons
The Jambar

Just weeks into the fall 2022 semester, Youngstown State University students are experiencing a range of problems with Blackboard.

Blackboard is an online learning platform allowing access to courses' notes, PowerPoints, assignments, syllabi and more. Some courses are asynchronous and rely entirely on Blackboard.

Taryn Hobbs, a sophomore majoring in exercise science, cannot upload any assignments for her medical terminology class.

"[Blackboard] is telling me there's a failed submission," Hobbs said. "I'm emailing my teacher my work so it can get graded."

Hobbs said her problem with Blackboard is more challenging because her class is asynchronous. Hobbs sought help from the IT department but was told the problem was not on her end of Blackboard.

"When I contacted my teacher, they said it was on my side, but it's not," Hobbs said. "[IT] said it's possibly on the instructor side because of how they upload their curriculum."

Other students have complained that Blackboard will not load, or crash when attempting to upload an assignment or take an exam. Simon Bartlett, an unde-

cided freshman, said Blackboard typically works until he needs it to.

"When I need Blackboard in class, it comes up blank when I click on course content. Thirty minutes later, it'll be better," Bartlett said. "It's way too inconsistent to be the main thing we do our work on."

On July 1, Kent State University retired Blackboard and switched to Canvas for its online learning system. However, YSU is not looking to change the learning platform anytime soon, according to the Associate Director of Information Technology, Sharyn Zembower.

"We are moving towards having all the faculty and courses taught on Blackboard Ultra," Zembower said.

According to Zembower, this is a future goal YSU is working toward, but there is no specific timeframe for when YSU will be just Blackboard Ultra. She believes this will help resolve some issues students experience, but she also has some tips for students experiencing Blackboard problems.

Zembower said when helping students with Blackboard, she first look for what browser students are using. Zembower said this usually resolves problems where Blackboard does not load or assignments fail to submit.

"We always recommend Google Chrome or Firefox. Edge and Safari have some known bugs that Blackboard is aware of," Zembower said.

If assignments continue to fail to submit or not show up, Zembower said it might be because of how the document was saved. If the document is in OneDrive, students should click "Browse Cloud Service" rather than "Browse Local Files."

"Otherwise, they would have to download the document from their OneDrive, save to desktop and then upload it for 'Browse Local Files,'" Zembower said.

The next possible solution could be checking the Wi-Fi or Internet connection. Students on campus should not use guest Wi-Fi and instead should connect to the appropriate network. Zembower said if students are home, moving closer to the modem, checking wifi strength and how many devices are connected could improve the Blackboard experience.

Zembower said sometimes the problems are more complex and students should go to the IT Service Desk if the problem persists.

"There's a lot of different things that come into play. Is it a laptop? Is it a tablet? Are they using the Blackboard app? There is a lot of different [factors], so I would just have [students] stop at the service desk," she said.

For Blackboard or other technology-related issues, visit the IT service desk in Kilcawley Center or go to the service desk's page on YSU's website.

Trump's praise and condemnation in the Valley

By Elizabeth Coss and Gunnhildur Baldursdottir
The Jambar

Thousands filled the streets as former President Donald J. Trump rallied behind JD Vance's Ohio Senate-race campaign Sept. 17 at the Covelli Center.

Alongside Vance and Trump were other speakers like U.S Representatives Bill Johnson (R - Ohio), Jim Jordan (R - Ohio) and Marjorie Taylor Greene (R - Georgia).

Trump supporters, protestors and various vendors lined the shop-fronts and filled several roads including Market Street, Front Street, Champion Street and Walnut Street.

Bryan Bates, who follows Trump's rallies to sell merchandise, said there are benefits for him as a vendor.

"I first got on the circuit in 2016 and I couldn't believe how crazy [rallies are]. Every rally has 10 to 15,000 people," Bates said. "It pays the bills and then some."

Bates wasn't the only vendor at the rally, some businesses had tables set up with apparel and flags, but oth-

er businesses had to cancel their plans for the rally.

Daniel Rauschenbach, owner of the Soap Gallery, said there are pros and cons to holding these kinds of events.

"Everyone has the right to experience their politics, but privately as a business it causes a disturbance when certain things aren't well planned out," Rauschenbach said.

Rauschenbach said he was dismayed with how many people were presenting and acting in the crowd.

"I'm an owner of an art gallery in a depressed city, so I support 100% what others have the right to view. We do have a white supremacist group set up in front of our gallery right now," Rauschenbach said. "[There are] shirts that say things like, 'gay pride sucks,' and other things, so it's very discriminating, very sad and it's very heartbreaking."

For many in the crowd, excitement loomed at the opportunity to see the former president.

Kenneth Miller, a resident of Powell, Ohio, said he came to Youngstown to see the sights and sounds, as

well as the former president.

"It's very secure and very safe, these are all patriotic, real Americans," Miller said. "I would hope to meet [Trump]. I would be honored to meet him, it would be incredible."

Over on Market Street in front of the Mahoning County Federal Courthouse, a counter rally in opposition to Trump's visit was set up.

Warner Lange, a former part-time faculty member in the sociology department at Youngstown State University, attended the protest and said the "Make America Great Again" movement stands for something dangerous.

"We have to stop the MAGA movement because if it succeeds we will have facsism in America," Lange said. "We have a saying on top of the board there that says, 'A nation cannot outlive justice where law and tyranny begins.' This former president is totally lawless."

Trump will next hold a rally in Wilmington, North Carolina, Sept. 23 to support U.S. Senate Candidate Ted Budd (R).



Photo by Cameron Stubbs / The Jambar

Curious to see
how volleyball
played? See page
14 for more
information.



Amy Crawford, chair of the Communications Department, talks about the importance of free speech.

Photo by Christopher Gillett / The Jambar

Kilcawley celebrates Constitution Day

By Christopher Gillett
The Jambar

Youngstown State University celebrated Constitution Day by holding an event in the Rossi Room at Kilcawley center Friday, Sept. 16. A presentation on universities and the First Amendment occurred along with games and voter registration.

The federal holiday recognizes the signing of the Constitution by the framers Sept. 17, 1787. The national celebration of the holiday began in 2005. One of the most celebrated and contested parts of the constitution is the First Amendment, which guarantees the separation of church and state, freedom of speech, press, assembly, religion and petition.

Amy Crawford, chair of the department of communications, lectured on the First Amendment, free speech and its application at public universities to educate and encourage dialogue among attendees.

"Students have a constitutional right to free speech. Youngstown State University is committed to giving students broad latitude to speak, write, listen,

challenge, learn, and discuss," Crawford said.

Crawford began her lecture on the creation of the First Amendment. She focused on James Madison, the fourth president and a Founding Father. She explained the marketplace of ideas, where views are open and accessible to the public, which is how free speech operates in the United States and Ohio.

The event had a trivia game, where attendees could spin a wheel and answer constitution trivia for the opportunity to win prizes themed off the constitution and American history.

YSU's chapter of the conservative political organization, Turning Point United States of America, held a table to register voters.

Austin Browne, a junior engineering major, is the president of YSU's chapter of TPUSA. He explained what motivated him to table for the organization.

"That's one of the major things we do as a group. We give out literature and things like that, set around America and freedom and stuff like that, and we register people to vote at all of our tables. [We] figured this would be a good place to come and do it," Browne said.

Many YSU students attended the event. Elsa Khan, senior biology major, explained why she attended.

"I came because it's really important to learn about free speech, especially in a time where saying your ideas more and more might be criticized a lot. I think it's really important for me to understand how to be respectful and also be a good listener," Khan said.

Jordan Pintar, a sophomore political science and philosophy major and a student government representative gave her thoughts on the importance of the day's celebrations

"I'm interested in anything that has to do with our constitutional rights, [and] anything like free speech, but also being a representative of student government I wanted to learn more about the university policies and how it's affecting our students here so that I could better represent them." Pintar said.

If students are interested in learning more about YSU's policy on free speech they can go to the student affairs website.

KEEPING IT LOCAL



YO! app brings awareness to local businesses.

Photo by Molly Burke / The Jambar

Shopping small goes big-time

By Molly Burke
The Jambar

Discovering the unique collection of businesses in Youngstown just got easier with a new app available for download. The YO! City app is a free rewards system for shopping locally, allowing users to earn discounts at businesses across the area.

Youngstown's Economic Action Group launched the app in July 2021. Daniel Bancroft, program manager at EAG explained the app and how to sign up.

"Users download the app, link their card and whenever an app user goes to one of those businesses and uses their credit card to pay they earn points for shopping there," Bancroft said.

The app supports 137 businesses, many of which are located on or near YSU's campus. Some of these include the Arms Family Museum, The Butler Institute of American Art, Cassese's MVR, Charlie Staples Bar-B-Q and StoneFruit Coffee Co.

YO! also uses a currency called city bites. One city bite is equal to one dollar and they can be redeemed at 25 businesses on the app. Users can receive five free city bites when signing up, and 10 free bites by referring a friend.

In addition to making shopping more affordable,

Bancroft said the app can help people who want to discover more about Youngstown's businesses and culture.

"There's so much out there to explore - so many different cultures that we have here, so many great restaurants, coffee shops, little retail shops," Bancroft said. "It's great for really getting to know your community."

Students that live at Youngstown State University or spend long hours on campus have begun using the YO! app because it makes discovering new places more accessible and affordable.

Junior history major Gabe Vass-Gal talked about why she uses the YO! app and encourages other students to try it out.

"It's really tough to be able to stay on campus to get everything you need and want, but there are experiences and events on the app as well that you don't know about," Vass-Gal said. "There are a couple vintage boutiques in Youngstown that I had no clue about and I've gone to a couple of them and they're really nice."

Mike Cupp, owner of the Youngstown StoneFruit location said there are benefits to partnering with the YO! App.

"Everyone is looking to save money here and save money there, and typically with any business, a re-

wards program costs a good amount of money, and so for us it was a no-brainer to get involved because it doesn't cost us any money and it just helps out all around," Cupp said.

As a small business owner, Cupp said he appreciates the positive impact the YO! app has had on StoneFruit and the growing scene of entrepreneurship in Youngstown.

"When someone comes here and buys something from us, it doesn't just stay here. Our money is spent here. A lot of our baked goods we get locally from different local businesses as well," Cupp said. "The moment you walk in here, you'll see, we know everybody that comes in here. So, it helps grow Youngstown."

Senior biological sciences major Shreeya Manandhar is a marketing intern with EAG. She said working with the YO! app has allowed her to make a change in the area.

"I think it's a great opportunity. You get to be a part of development around Youngstown," Manandhar said. "Students can be part of those businesses and there can be more economic action."

For those interested, the YO! app can be downloaded on the Apple and Google app stores.

Long time YSU employee starts laundry business

By Christopher Gillett
The Jambar

Lamar Gilford has been working at Youngstown State University for 17 years. He was recently inspired to start a new mobile laundromat business to help disadvantaged people around Youngstown.

Gilford is a YSU staff member, currently holding the position of site manager for Core Facility Services. The company he works for does janitorial work around campus, cleaning the bathrooms and buildings.

Lamar's new business, Mr. Mar's Wash and Dry, is a mobile laundromat he started in April. He was inspired to start the business during the pandemic after having a dream one night and waking up "in sweat and cold."

"I had a dream that I was doing something to help out with the pandemic. My dream was the push to figure out: What can I do here to be able to help the world out?" he said. "I wanted to be different so I had to figure out real hard and think real whole, what would be different in the world and is actually helping people with the

pandemic? The first thought in my mind was laundry."

Gilford remembered his employees stories about struggling with laundry for years, and the toll the pandemic took on them.

"I had six employees that got sick going to laundromats, six employees that we had to let ... quarantine for 14 days," he said.

He operates out of a bus and services those who cannot access laundromats due to reasons such as danger, poverty, injury, disability or age. Gilford purchased the bus in April from a man in Cleveland who had been using it to bring people to church.

According to Gilford he was "blessed" to receive the bus from the man, who after learning what he planned to do with it, lowered the price.

He redesigned the inside of the bus to include two washing machines, a dryer, a water tank, two televisions and three lounge chairs. This will allow customers to entertain themselves or work while their laundry is being processed. He gets his water from the water department and his electricity from a generator.

Because Gilford is close to campus, he hopes to appeal to YSU students.

"In regard to the YSU students, I feel like it would be a big help for them to actually stay here on campus and they don't have to go farther out to the bigger places," he said. "They don't have to go out worrying about getting robbed or worried about somebody taking stuff from them, [or] being in bad environments."

He has had limited success with YSU students so far, but according to him "I would love to be able to get these students help."

Gilford spoke on his ambitions to expand the business across the country.

"I hope to achieve to be nationwide and public and branch off to different cities and states. I'm hoping that everybody will actually like it," he said. "My biggest goal is to have contracts so that I can just branch off."

If anyone would like to contact Lamar Gilford about Mr. Mar's Wash and Dry, you can call (234) 855-5638 or email lamargilford864@gmail.com.



Mr. Mar's Wash and Dry is a mobile laundromat business Lamar Gilford started.

Photo by Christopher Gillett / The Jambar

Maag Library brings awareness to censorship and banned books



Maag Library highlights commonly banned books. Photo by Viktoria Paliakovich / The Jambar

By Jessica Stamp
The Jambar

Youngstown State University's Maag Library is bringing awareness on banned books and censorship from Sept. 19-23 with Banned Books Week.

According to the American Library Association, a ban or challenge is the removal of that material or an attempt to remove or restrict materials based upon the objections of a person or group.

"In Oklahoma, a bill introduced in the State Senate that would prohibit public school libraries from keeping books on hand that focus on sexual activity, sexual identity or gender identity," an article by the New York Times said.

PEN America stated on its website, "state legislators are introducing — and in some cases passing — educational gag orders to censor teachers, proposals to track and monitor teachers, and mechanisms to facilitate book banning in school districts,"

The library will display some of the most commonly banned books of this year while also having events like guessing the banned book, located on the main floor.

To challenge students on their knowledge, banned-book bingo cards will be available to see how many banned books students have read. The banned-book bingo cards are located at the front desk and students who get a bingo can enter their name into a drawing to win a prize.

Colleen Duchon, reference librarian for health and human services, wants students to be aware of what

is happening to censored books and its effect on libraries.

"It's just to bring to light the aspect of censorship and libraries and making sure that people are aware of the challenges and essentially trying to take away collection in ... any library that's out there," Duchon said. "There has been a large increase in banned books challenges that are going on nationally."

Duchon said it is important to support libraries so they can continue to share stories and ideas people can benefit from.

"Everybody has a story and everybody should be able to read that story and to see themselves in the world," Duchon said. "You take that away, you're not taking away that person, you're just taking away their validity and you're taking away their feeling of being present in literature."

Duchon said she likes to describe banned books by comparing them to a restaurant and if there is an item on the menu an individual doesn't like, that individual can't tell the restaurant not to serve it anymore. The individual can either not go to that particular restaurant anymore or choose a different item on the menu.

"You can't completely take away what other people want just because you don't like it. It's not your responsibility to control a collection for the rest of the community just because you feel like it's inappropriate," Duchon said.

Duchon said she encourages students to get involved with their library and to let those in the community know the library is constantly promoting freedom of information.

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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.

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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.

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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 Column

Social Media: The desire and struggle to move away from the screen

Phones are a huge part of society today, whether it be talking on the phone, texting or communicating with others via social media. Social networks help us to keep in touch with friends and family, meet new people and open up job opportunities.

There is just one problem: It's like a drug. Social media is highly addictive and can have negative effects on us.

When it comes to scrolling through social media, I always tell myself, "just one more video" or "five more minutes," even though that never really works. Instead, I'm glued to my bed while scrolling for hours. Some fellow Jambar members admitted they struggle to move away from social networks as well.

These apps are full of comical content and talented people. There is also content with cute animals, beauty tips and travel. These videos make me laugh, make me happy and take away my worries.

I spend a lot of time on platforms including TikTok, Instagram and Twitter. It is easy for me to get lost in the enjoyment. It is nice to scroll on TikTok or Instagram sometimes, but additionally overdoing it can have unfortunate consequences.

Despite the joy I get from viewing this content on social networks, I always feel as if I could be doing something more productive. I make a lot of excuses for myself when really I could be doing more important things like studying. I could even use that time to develop a more useful hobby like cooking.

Social media allows users to post whatever they want and even overpost. This happens when people decide that social media can be used to share their opinions, problems and entire life stories.

I witness overposting very often on Facebook. This can be overwhelming because it causes me to worry about the



Hailey Rogenski

person oversharing. Revealing too much information can cause others to harass or verbally attack someone.

Social media is also a stomping ground for bullies. Many of my friends have had Facebook accounts made of them — I've even had accounts made of myself — and these accounts have all been fraudulent.

Women can be the subject of negative, degrading comments on TikTok. I always see these types of comments on videos where girls display confidence. I've posted videos of myself being confident and received the same kind of negative feedback.

On the other hand, social media can boost your confidence if you are the type of person who can handle criticism. When people leave negative comments on my content, I view it as them trying to make me unhappy because they are unhappy with themselves. There are some positive or neutral comments on posts that help me get through these kinds of things as well.

Social media can be dangerous and allow others to find your location just by seeing the background of where you are standing. Stalkers can find out where you live from others. I once had a picture of my house posted to Facebook by online bullies. This scared me because it put my life in danger and put me at risk of being stalked.

I hope this column helps you understand that when it comes to social media addiction or social media security risks you aren't alone, and that just because something is enjoyable doesn't always mean it's a good thing.

The Jambar Editorial

Royalism Shmoyalism

Queen Elizabeth II died Sept. 8. The world has been mourning her loss for the past couple weeks, but a large population has started asking the question: Why is the monarchy still relevant in 2022?

In 2021, the crown brought in \$120 million from taxes paid by British residents. Why? Yes, the queen meets with other heads of state, but that could be done by an elected official. In fact, every duty undertaken by the monarchy could, arguably, be carried out by some elected official.

The United Kingdom is a constitutional monarchy, in which Parliament passes actual laws and executive actions. You could say that within Parliament, the royal family has a say on who is in the House of Lords, but again: Why? Shouldn't the world be moving away from plutocratic political appointments in favor of adhering to the will of the public? Do we still actually believe that winning the birth lottery qualifies someone for — as Monty Python called it — "supreme executive power"?

For several weeks now, mentions and references to the queen have been everywhere: the news, social media and tabloids. Some of us are asking ourselves just how much we — as Americans — are supposed to grieve for the figurehead's death.

Some of those who maintain an apathetic stance make the argument that her death is a symbolic end to the era of colonialism. In countries such as India, which during the queen's lifetime was under British rule, there were groups celebrating in the streets. Other nations are grieving as though their own leader has died, dedicating broadcasts and magazine spreads to her life and legacy.

Opinions on the monarchy notwithstanding, Elizabeth of Windsor — as a person — deserves respect in her time of passing. She broke barriers as a woman in power during her reign. She oversaw the UK through turmoil — even though most of that turmoil was the fault of the UK. She also convinced Prime Minister Winston Churchill and Parliament to act during World War II, arguably saving the world from Axis rule.

That said, don't be surprised if you are greeted with more apathy than sympathy when lamenting how sad the queen's passing was. She lived a very full life, full of triumph and controversy, and at the end of the day, we at The Jambar will remember her most fondly for her silly hats.

From her wildly colorful outfits to her greetings with international officials that have turned heads for years, the queen will be remembered. For better or worse.

Quote of the week

"He sipped at a weak hock and seltzer,
As he gazed at the London skies
Through the Nottingham lace of the curtains
Or was it his bees-winged eyes?"

— Sir John Betjeman,
English writer and broadcaster

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say to
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TENNIS MATCHES LAST YEAR'S ENERGY

Clement is the 'Main-guy' for men's tennis

By John Ostapowicz
The Jambar

The Youngstown State University men's tennis team traveled to Nashville, Tennessee Sept. 16-18 to compete in the Belmont Hidden Duals hosted by Belmont university.

With the start of the season, the team is coming off of its first NCAA tournament appearance in school history.

All eight members of last year's Horizon League Championship team return, led by HL Player of the Year senior Laurentiu Mandocescu and HL Freshman of the Year Clement Mainguy.

"I'm happy with that achievement last season, but it was mainly because of the team's spirit on and off the court," Main-

guy said.

The Penguins debuted in the season-opening tournament Sept. 17, which saw the team fall to Belmont University with only two singles matches to show for its efforts.

In singles matches, Mainguy and senior Javi Pla were able to secure victories against the Bruins.

In doubles matches, the defending Horizon League champions could not secure a single victory against the Bruins, losing all four of their matches.

Youngstown State turned things around against Tennessee Tech University on the same day. The men's tennis team walked away with three individual victories by junior David Alvarez Moreno, sophomore Harry Fouzas and Main-

guy.

Following singles matches, the Penguins won three of four doubles matches as the teams of Alvarez Moreno, Fouzas, senior Laurentiu Mandocescu, junior Asier Pena Ibanez, Pla and Mainguy led the charge in securing the teams victories.

Youngstown State went to work on its final day of the tournament Sept. 18, as the team faced Vanderbilt University and Lipscomb University.

Against Vanderbilt and Lipscomb, four Penguins walked away with wins in singles matches with the likes of Mainguy, Mandocescu, senior Will Everett and Alvarez Moreno.

In doubles, Youngstown State split with Vanderbilt and Lipscomb as Ever-

ett, Favier, Fouzas and Mandocescu won their respective matches.

With the first match of the season under the teams belt, Mainguy paved the way with three victories in singles matches. Over the course of two weeks, he looks to work on the mental side of the game.

"For me it's focusing even more, getting even more hits as it was the first tournament in a month and a half," Mainguy said.

With the conclusion of the tournament, the men's tennis team is on a one week break before traveling to Tulsa, Oklahoma, to compete in the Intercollegiate Tennis Association All-American Championships with matches beginning Oct. 1.

Gursching 'setzt' records for Penguins

By Cameron Stubbs
The Jambar

The Youngstown State University volleyball team faced off against two local rivals as they traveled to the University of Akron and then faced off against Kent State University at home.

Against the Zips, the Penguins accomplished a 3-0 set sweep for the second time in matchup history.

Sophomore Paula Gursching led the Penguins to their third straight win with 21 kills. The 21 kills is the most in a three-set match for YSU since Ebony Barbosa in 2006.

Freshman Abbie Householder recorded her second career double-double with 12 kills and 15 digs. Senior Josi Borum contributed with five kills and 20 assists.

This was the Penguin's third win in a row and sixth for the season, which matches the win total from last year.

Head coach Aline Scott is proud of the team and its early success as she stated in an interview.

"Overall, I feel that this non-conference season was really productive for us," Scott stated, "I'm happy with the team we've become."

"It's so much fun to play with this team ... we are really prepared [for conference play]. I think we'll be really good, I expect a lot."

— Paula Gursching,
Sophomore Outside Hitter

Next, against the Golden Flashes, the Penguins fell in five sets.

Gursching and Householder both finished with double-doubles as Gursching led the way again with a match-high 24 kills.

Borum contributed with her second triple-double of the season and the third of her career, with 10 kills, 28 assists and 10 digs

The loss ended the win streak, as well as non-conference play, but Gursching is excited for what is to come in the Horizon League.

"It's so amazing how much we've changed from last year," Gursching said, "It's so much fun to play with this team ... we are really prepared [for conference play]. I think we'll be really good, I expect a lot."

The Penguins started conference play facing off against Cleveland State University, falling to the Vikings in five sets.

Gursching continued to dominate as she spiked down 25 kills and received 24 digs. This was the second 20-20 game by a Penguin in the past 15 years.

Borum posted another triple-double with 11 kills, 29 assists and 12 digs. Householder added 29 digs and sophomore Isabel Schaeffbauer also contributed with 24 digs and 27 assists.

Up next the Penguins will travel to Wisconsin to take on the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee in the Klotzsche Center & Pavilion Friday Sept. 24.

Catch this match on ESPN+ or follow along on ysusports.com



Wright State defeats the Penguins.

Photo by John Ostapowicz / The Jambar

Penguins raided by Wright State

By John Ostapowicz
The Jambar

The Youngstown State University women's soccer team traveled to Rochester, Missouri to take on its first conference opponent, Oakland University, Sept. 15 which resulted in a draw.

Both teams were competitive as the battle did not end until the Penguins were trailing 1-0 at the 81:42 minute mark, freshman Taylor Berry scored her first career goal.

The goal was perfectly orchestrated by senior Regan LaVigna's throw-in, which found Berry who punched it in at the top right corner of the net to tie the game.

Over four games, LaVigna has been a standout veteran presence on the women's soccer team and continues to improve as the season progresses. Head coach Brian Shrum recruited her to become a Penguin four years ago to be able to come in and play at a high level.

"That's something that she's been brought in to do by providing scoring opportunities for us, getting in and around the goal to put the ball in the box," Shrum said.

In the net for the Penguins, junior Brooklynn Kirkpatrick stood tall, tallying four saves while facing 14 shots. The Golden Grizzlies offensive attack was neutralized due to the team's lockdown defense.

After tying against Oakland, Youngstown State came back home to hit the pitch at Farmers National Bank Field to take on its second conference opponent in Wright State University Sept. 18, which resulted in a Penguin loss, 2-0.

With the loss, Wright State holds the all-time head-to-head record, 22-1-3. The Raiders have not lost to the Penguins since 2012 and own a seven-game win streak.

For the Raiders, former Penguin, senior Marcella Sizer scored the final goal taking the wind out of the team's sails. In her three seasons at Youngstown State, she totaled 23 points on 10 goals, two game winners and three assists.

In response to the loss, junior Justine Appolonia explained what needed to happen in order for the team to respond better to the pressure the raiders put on the team.

"Early on in that game, we were showing high pres-

sure which was the plan to press them high and we had many opportunities. Unfortunately, we couldn't capitalize on them," Appolonia said.

Despite the loss, Youngstown State attempted 10 shots led by senior Abriana Rondin and freshman Elise Klein Spindola. Rondin currently leads the team in shots with 15 for the season.

The shutout loss marked the first time since Aug. 28 against Loyola University Maryland that Kirkpatrick allowed more than one goal.

Kirkpatrick leads the Horizon league at the goalie position in total saves with 48 and ranks fourth in save percentage at 81%.

The Penguins traveled to Detroit, Sept. 22 to take on their third conference opponent, The University of Detroit Mercy. You can catch the game on ESPN+ and ysusports.com for stats as well as highlights from the game.

Youngstown State is back home Sept. 25 to challenge third-ranked Horizon League foe, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee at 1 p.m.

WILDCATS MAUL PENGUINS

Football's perfect season ends to No. 9 Wildcats

By Kyle Wills
The Jambar

After a strong start to the season, the Youngstown State University football team fell into the loss column for the first time in 2022 against a SEC opponent in the University of Kentucky at Kroger Field Sept. 17.

In what was a courageous effort, the Penguins fell by a final of 31-0 to the No. 9 Wildcats after trailing 21-0 at the half.

The Penguins continued their impressive run stuffing ability as they held Kentucky to 2.9 yards per carry. The Wildcats managed 103 yards on 36 rushing attempts.

Sophomore Dylan Wudke helped lead the defense with seven total tackles including 3.5 tackles for loss and a sack

Despite getting multiple stops on defense, Wudke said the team needs to put its focus ahead.

"We just have to keep going, we can't point fingers. We can't look at the offense and do that. We just have to keep going and keep grinding," Wudke said.

Youngstown State forced two interceptions and four sacks, but allowed 377 yards on 27-for-35 in the air to Kentucky's Will Levis. The Wildcats also converted six of their 10 third-down conversions.

The offense struggled to get anything going as it gained 192 yards of total offense and was 0-of-10 on third-down conversions.

Senior Jaleel McLaughlin rushed for under 100 yards for the first time this season as he only mustered 36 yards on 10 attempts, but the lead back was able to gain 60 yards on three receptions including a 64-yard pass in the third quarter.

Sophomore Demeatric Crenshaw couldn't find many open receivers as he only completed seven passes for 120 yards along with an interception.

Head coach Doug Phillips said the Wildcats were a challenge to face, but he was happy with how hard the team played.

"We knew it would be a tough game coming in here and I can say that I'm not one ounce disappointed in the effort of our kids," Phillips said.

Despite coming out on the wrong end of the score, Phillips said the team did do great things in the game.

"It makes me proud of my kids, they belong ... When I turn the film on, I'm going to see some good things ... I'm excited for the players and I'm excited to see where this team can go," Phillips said.

The football team will have a bye week before continuing its season Oct. 1 versus North Dakota State University in Fargo, North Dakota. The game can be listened to on 570 WKBN or watched on ESPN+.



Penguins prepare to storm the field from an earlier season game.

Photo by Kyle Wills / The Jambar