

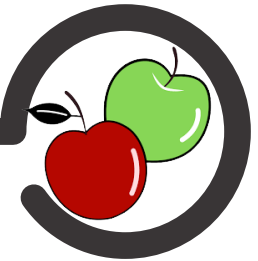
# THE JAMBAR

The student voice of Youngstown State University since 1931

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Thursday, September 21, 2023



GENERATING CONTENT...



Liliana Marinkovich says she doesn't use AI for her schoolwork.

Photo by Shianna Gibbons / The Jambar

## Professors speak on AI

By Jillian McIntosh  
The Jambar

The Youngstown State University board of trustees modified the Student Code of Conduct to address the use of artificial intelligence at a meeting in June.

According to Article III, the unauthorized use of AI by a student is a violation of academic integrity:

— In taking quizzes, tests, assignments, or examinations.

— When completing assignments, solving problems, or carrying out other assignments as detailed in the course syllabus or in other instructions by the instructor.

Rachel Faerber-Ovaska is the faculty instructional design consultant of YSU's Department of Cyberlearning. She said early forms of AI were narrow, using algorithms to analyze and predict patterns.

"For example, like Spotify or your Netflix account, how is it that it was able to suggest things that you would probably like," Faerber-Ovaska said. "It used a simple form of artificial intelligence to analyze your previous choices and then to predict what other choices would likely fit."

Faerber-Ovaska said OpenAI researchers and scientists created a new form of software that used generative AI.

"The researchers have fed the entire accessible internet to these large language models," Faerber-Ovaska said. "People's discussion boards, Facebook marketplace ads, all of the libraries that have publicly accessible works — has been ingested."

Faerber-Ovaska said she supports the authorized use of AI by students.

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## New management with familiar faces

By Tala Alsharif  
The Jambar

Youngstown State University will be taking over the management of the University Courtyard Apartments starting Oct. 1.

According to Executive Director for Student Experience and Residence Life, Erin Driscoll, one of the reasons for the change is because the university wants to add a twelve-month contract option to students alongside their current housing options that offer academic-year contracts.

"We saw this as an opportunity to really expand what the university will directly be able to offer students," Driscoll said.

Additionally, taking over direct management eliminates the annual fee paid to the outgoing management company, RISE.

"This change will really just help us have a direct role in managing the facilities," Driscoll said. "It will make it more financially responsible ... for the university to use our resources instead of paying a separate company to do it. We'll be able to pay employees and take care of facilities through [the] university budget."

Driscoll explained the university had no concerns with RISE and will retain the ten employees as YSU employees.

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## AI

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“Make sure you understand what your professor wants to permit or prohibit about using a chat bot. If they say you can use it, cite anything you receive and indicate what sort of assistance you got from it,” Faerber-Ovaska said.

Mark Vopat, a philosophy professor at YSU, has used AI software and detectors such as ChatGPT and GPTZero.

“There have been times when in grading I wanted to see if I gave the prompt ... I would sometimes run it through ChatGPT just to see what kind of answer it would give.” Vopat said. “I’m using GPTZero and it’s been good. It has detected people who have just openly [admitted to using AI].”

Vopat said he has also implemented

specific learning methods as a direct response to unauthorized student use of AI.

“Now, I have in one of my classes where all the students, every few weeks, are going to turn in a reading notebook,” Vopat said. “Presumably, it’s going to be a lot more difficult to go in and say to an AI, and then try and copy that.”

Vopat also said tools for AI detection are not the most reliable.

“Even if it’s 90% effective, that still means 10% of a class of 100 students, that could still be 10 students who are actually accused falsely,” Vopat said.

Jay Gordon, an English professor, said he had concerns about the faculty’s use of AI detection.

“This is kind of the dangers you run into, and I worry with detectors, people will become dependent,” Gordon said. “If you have strong suspicions that the stu-

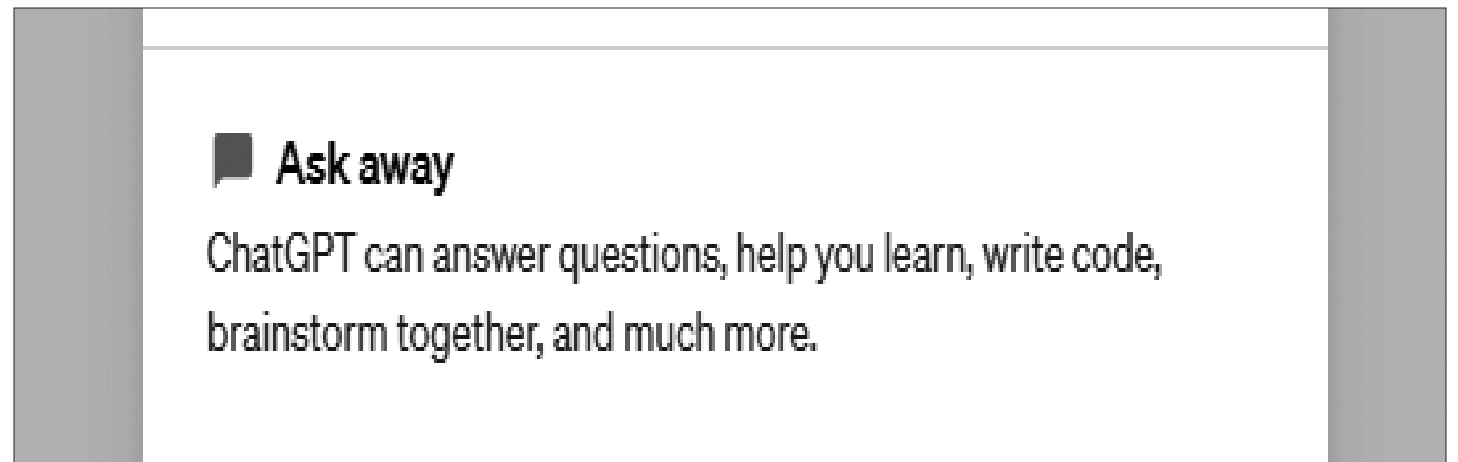
dent uses ChatGPT, there is a difference between asking and accusing.”

Hillary Fuhrman, assistant provost for teaching and learning, oversees faculty development and the assessment of student learning.

The Institute for Teaching and Learning offers grants of \$300 per year to professors to purchase software or equipment, according to Fuhrman.

“We’ve done a mini-grant with a couple of faculty who wanted to get a ChatGPT subscription, so they could explore it more, in order to integrate it into their coursework in effective ways,” Fuhrman said.


Each professor agreed that maintaining academic integrity is the main priority for higher education institutions as AI becomes more prevalent in everyday and educational use.




The ChatGPT homepage.


Photo courtesy of OpenAI


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## 7-DAY WEATHER FORECAST

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

Thu.	Fri.	Sat.	Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.
High: 79°F	High: 78°F	High: 73°F	High: 77°F	High: 74°F	High: 74°F	High: 70°F
Low: 52°F	Low: 51°F	Low: 50°F	Low: 52°F	Low: 53°F	Low: 54°F	Low: 51°F
Chance of precip: 1%	Chance of precip: 5%	Chance of precip: 3%	Chance of precip: 5%	Chance of precip: 15%	Chance of precip: 22%	Chance of precip: 25%



Partly Cloudy



Partly Cloudy



Mostly Cloudy



Partly Cloudy



Mostly Cloudy



Mostly Cloudy



Mostly Cloudy

Information courtesy of accuweather.com

# Planetarium update

By Sydney Fairbanks  
The Jambar

The Ward Beecher Planetarium is still waiting for repairs to be made since the Jan. 9 fire. A reopening date is still up in the air, but those involved are hoping for late 2024.

While the planetariums' big ticket items — its video system and the Chronos GOTO Star Projector — are still intact, the planetarium is not yet ready to host shows for the public.

According to planetarium engineer, Curt Spivey, classes are still taking place while the design team, hired by Youngstown State University, draws up the repair plan.

"They're looking over everything that needs to be done from the dome replacement, light replacement, the roof replacement on the outside, [to] fixing the electrical [and] fixing the speakers," Spivey said. "They're putting a comprehensive design plan together, then the design firm will hire the contractors that will come in and fix things."

The department is estimating that repairs will exceed seven figures in cost and that insurance will pay for a large portion of that amount. The fire was caused by a subcontractor and the university's insurance is already working with the subcontractors insurance.

One major issue holding plans back is the need for a custom-made planetarium dome.

With only two existing companies that produce domes for planetarium use, Spivey said he worries that if a new dome is not ordered within these next few months, the projected date will be pushed back even further.

He estimates that the cove lighting system, which directs light into the dome, will be in a similar situation. The lights are not as custom as the dome, but the

company is in high demand.

"I know those guys very well, they have been taking care of our lights for 15 years. They're very very busy," Spivey said.

Before shows can resume, the sound system will also need to be replaced. The seven speakers in the dome were ruined by water and to achieve proper sound balance, the two subwoofers and five other speakers must be ordered.

Additionally, water damage affected the display cases — one of which hosted a "History of the Ward Beecher Planetarium" display. All the pictures were thrown out, the glass has cracked and the bottom of the case has started to slump down. Two new cases will need to be put in and a new showcase will be designed.

Spivey said he's hoping to see a lower dome for a more immersive experience as well as the addition of theater strip lights on the steps when the carpet is replaced.

Patrick Durrell, an astronomy professor and Ward Beecher Planetarium director, said once repairs begin, the planetarium will be shut down for months. In preparation, the department has other temporary classrooms to relocate students to during the repairs.

"We won't have the cool video system to use, but we will still be able to teach the cool astronomy stuff in classrooms," Durrell said.

Once repairs are finished, the Astronomy Department has many plans for future planetarium shows. Durrell said he's hopeful the repaired planetarium will be able to project images from the James Webb Telescope as well as work done on the Hubble Space Telescope done by Durrell and John Feldmeier, a YSU professor.

For more information and updates, head to the Ward Beecher Hall Facebook page.



Curt Spivey with the Chronos GOTO Star Projector. Photos by Sydney Fairbanks / The Jambar

## University Courtyards

Page 1

applied to YSU ... five full-time staff members will now be university employees and then there are five student-staff members that will now be hired by the university as well,” Driscoll said.

The university works closely with the existing staff at the Courtyards and meets regularly with the apartment manager, who is involved with YSU committees.

General manager, Marissa Liposhak, said the Courtyards will be partnered with University Housing and use the same housing applications and processes.

According to Driscoll, the transition will be smooth and minimally disruptive to residents.

“Their leases will be maintained for the academic year, so they won’t need to sign new leases with us and

“The staff that were already working through RISE

the billing will continue to happen through their student account,” Driscoll said.

Driscoll said rental rates at the Courtyards are going to increase minimally.

The board of trustees approves rental rates for the courtyards, since they are owned by the university, despite a separate company’s management.

Driscoll said the Courtyards are in the process of submitting next year’s rates to the board of trustees and that the change in rental rates will be close to how it has been in previous years.

Rates fluctuate based on demand and will be increased by around \$15 a month, Liposhak said.

Next year, students will be provided with a \$50 sampler meal plan.

“The Courtyard residents will also be going to receive a \$50 sampler meal plan to showcase the meal plan options on campus that are available to the Courtyard res-

idents and [that will] be a first,” Liposhak said.

The university is not anticipating major changes in the initial phase. Down the road, it hopes to offer student residents more flexibility when they sign a 12-month lease.

“We know that some students might end up graduating mid-year, transfer to another school or take a break from school,” Driscoll said. “Our hope is that we can help some of those students find other students who need to sublet and help the university by still keeping those beds full and vibrant.”

To stay informed about the University Courtyard Apartments, visit its website. To ask questions about changes or updates, visit the Office of Housing and Residence Life or the main housing office located on the first floor of Kilcawley House.



YSU will take over the management of the University Courtyard Apartments on Oct. 1.

Photo by Tala Alsharif / The Jambar

# News Brief

## Remembering Carol Bennett

On Sept. 13, a remembrance was held for the late Carol Bennett, assistant provost for the Office of Diversity, Equity and, Inclusion.

The ceremony was from 6 to 7 p.m. and held in the Lariccia Cultural Collaboratory Room in Jones Hall.

The Black Students Union, African and Caribbean Student Union and the Office of DEI planned a ceremony to honor Bennett’s life.

Family, students, faculty, staff and community members shared the impact Bennett had on their personal lives and the impact she left in the community.

Bennett’s values were to always be kind and help others.

For students in need of grief resources, reach out to the Office of the Dean of Students at 330-941-4721 or Student Counseling Services at 330-941-3737.

For faculty or staff, the Employees Assistance Program is offered through Impact Solutions and can be reached by calling 1-800-227-6007.



Photo courtesy of YSU

# News Brief

## Seven-building power outage

On Sept. 14 around 11:18 a.m. the power went out in Beeghly Center, Stambaugh Stadium, Kilcawley Center, Fedor Hall, Cafaro House, Lyden House and Christman Dining Commons.

William Haas, director of engineering, took the call when the power went out. Haas said power was restored for those buildings around 11:59 a.m. to 12:07 p.m.

Haas said the power outage was because of a trip in the breakers located in the main substation.

"It's one of those things sometimes there's a false tripping and that's exactly what happened yesterday," Haas said. "There was basically no fault detected once the breakers were reset and some initial testing to make sure everything was okay."

False trips are not typical occurrences, but Haas said everything should run smoothly going forward.

"It's not very often [that this situation happens]. It depends on the system and the different faults that occur, but [Sept. 14] was a false trip, which doesn't happen too often," Haas said.

For any facilities concerns, call 330-941-3235.

# New student in Tod Hall

By **Shianna Gibbons**  
The Jambar

Natalie Dando was appointed as a student trustee by Gov. Mike DeWine over the summer for Youngstown State University's board of trustees.

Dando is a junior double majoring in chemical engineering and mathematics. Dando's term as student trustee runs through April 2025 and she's expected to graduate from YSU in fall 2025.

Julie Centofanti, senior biology major, is the other student trustee that serves on the board. Dando said Centofanti told her about the application and encouraged her to become a student trustee.

"I've been really thankful for my time here at YSU and it seemed like a really unique and impactful way to give back to the university," Dando said.

Dando said she believes the student trustee position has impacted her and her future.

"It's helped my networking and communication skills so much already. It really takes some getting used to talking to such important peo-

ple," Dando said. "We all are passionate about YSU and so it helps with [the job] but it's going to help with those soft skills as well."

Living in the Akron area, Dando chose YSU for "head-and-heart" reasons.

"I wanted somewhere in-state and somewhere affordable. YSU checks both of those boxes for me," Dando said. "When I visited the campus, the vibe was just so friendly and I really could see myself fitting in here."

As student trustee, Dando's responsibilities consist of providing student perspectives for the board to make informed decisions. Dando attended the special meeting held Aug. 18, which approved the recent three-year faculty union contract.

Dando said she's hoping to provide more insight for the meetings held Sept. 19 and 20.

Dando said if any students are interested in giving their input for campus-related events, contact Student Government Association.

"I'm in communication with [SGA] and that's a good place to go to see if [SGA] can help you directly, or if it's something that needs to be relayed to me, and I can give it to the board. Students can email me as well," Dando said.



Photo by Shianna Gibbons / The Jambar  
Natalie Dando's term as student trustee runs through April 2025.

## KETCHUP WITH NEW FOODS

# Food for thought

By Matthew Sotlar  
The Jambar

With the arrival of the fall semester, several new restaurants have popped up on campus, each with its own unique food options.

Among the new additions is Choolaah, an Indian barbecue restaurant located in the KC food court of Kilcawley Center. Choolaah replaced Chop'd and Wrap'd.

Along with Choolaah, Jimmy John's Sandwiches also returned to campus. Located on Lincoln Avenue next to Stone Fruit Coffee, its hours are 10:30 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Christman Dining Hall now offers late-night dining, which lasts from 8 to 11 p.m. Orders can be placed online and picked up by using the Boost: Campus Food Ordering app.

Other new food options can be found at Just Baked, located between Chick-fil-A and Kilcawley House. Director of Dining Services, Lisa Beck, said it's a vending machine that serves hot foods.

"[Just Baked] is open 24 hours a day. They have White Castle burgers, Krispy Kreme doughnuts, they have about 12 to 15 selections in there that you can use," Beck said.

Catering Director, Bill Wynn, said the new food locations were implemented to bring healthier options to campus.

"We're noticing a trend that folks want to go towards healthier items," Wynn said. "We're starting it off at KC food court with Choolaah, which it seems has become a popular option."

Chartwells Dining Services, which caters for YSU, is looking to expand its food options. With previous COVID-19 regulations, Chartwells was forced to halt its plans to offer new restaurants.

"Once COVID hit, we restricted our options, but we're trying to expand them again," Wynn said.

Chartwells catering sees the most business during the fall and spring seasons when classes begin and conclude. Wynn said YSU tailgating is one of the most popular times for catering.

"Since we're getting into football season, we're starting to see a lot more orders, as far as tailgating is concerned," Wynn said.

Chartwells also services functions off campus. Wynn said that Chartwells is open to catering to any function in the greater Youngstown area, such as weddings and tailgate parties.

"[Chartwells] campus-wide," Wynn said. "But we also offer catering in the general Youngstown area as well."

Beck also said sushi is a popular food option that appears all across campus. Hissho Sushi, which is located in the Hub next to Dunkin' Donuts, sends individually wrapped sushi packages to different locations on cam-

pus.

"We also take sushi and send it out to ... some of the buildings, the Maag Library, Cushwa [Hall] and the Williamson School of Business," Beck said.

Beck said that while a number of new food options have appeared, options drawing the most students have been around the longest.

"Chick-fil-A would be the most popular," Beck said. "We also have Dunkin' Donuts [which is] super popular."

All food options on campus accept Pete's Points, a prepaid meal plan accessible via the YSU student ID. Hot Head Burritos, Pressed Coffee Bar, Subway, Stone Fruit Coffee, Charlie Staples BBQ, Mocha House, University Nutrition Shake Shop and Giant Eagle on Belmont Avenue are off-campus options that accept Pete's Points.

Beck said the best way to reach out with any questions or concerns is by visiting the Dining Services offices in Kilcawley Center or call 330-941-3391.

"We're always available here ... we're more than willing to talk to anybody," Beck said.

There is no information concerning Wendy's plan to reopen, according to the Times2Dine's webpage, its opening has been delayed because of technical difficulties.



Hissho Sushi is currently being offered on most college campuses.

Photo by Matthew Sotlar / The Jambar

# Halfway to “Zombie Prom”

By Owen Bertram  
The Jambar

Youngstown State University Theatre is preparing for its 2023-24 season with its first musical “Zombie Prom,” which is scheduled to open Oct. 6.

Director Adam Day Howard said the choice of the musical was easy.

“We wanted to do a Halloween musical ... and ‘Zombie Prom’ ticked all the boxes. It’s funny [and] it’s my favorite era, which is the 1950s,” Howard said. “It plays to all of our strengths and we thought of tons of fun things to do to promote it.”

Howard said a zombie walk will take place Oct. 2 on campus to promote the show.

Auditions are conducted for every University Theatre production. Howard said what he looks for in a cast is a combination of talent and the ability to take on the challenges of role.

“It’s not a star-driven show ... it’s about the entire ensemble understanding a really high style ... We are

focused on B-horror movie acting and the 1950s propaganda films ... the stakes are very high,” Howard said.

“Zombie Prom” is halfway through the rehearsal process. Howard said time management, discipline and attention to health are important aspects for being involved in a production.

“We’re rehearsing probably 30 hours a week right now ... as we get closer to the production in a few weeks, it will be more than that,” Howard said.

The cast of the musical is primarily comprised of YSU theatre and musical theatre students. Brooke May, a freshman musical theatre major, was cast as Toffee.

“Toffee is the definition of a good girl. [She] gets straight A’s. She falls in love with Jonny, who is a good kid, but from the outside seems a little rugged. Her parents and principal don’t like that, so they make her break up with him. He responds by throwing himself into the town’s nuclear power plant — as you do — and he comes back as a zombie, who only wants to take his girlfriend to prom,” May said.

May said there’s also a message in the musical.

“This show really kind of captures — in a lot of different ways — learning to be yourself and accept yourself, even when the world is telling you [that] you shouldn’t,” May said.

Musical theatre freshman, Nicholas Altwood, was cast in the show as Joey. Altwood said being part of University Theatre is an enjoyable and fun experience.

“It’s just a great experience. You make great friends, meet new people [and] gain new skills,” Altwood said.

University Theatre will also put on “Scapin,” a comedy written by French playwright Moliere, as well as the spring productions “The Robot Play/It’s A Small World” and “Once Upon A Mattress.”

University Theatre’s box office is located on the first floor of Bliss Hall. It will be open one hour before each show to purchase tickets, which can also be purchased online.

YSU faculty and staff can purchase tickets for a reduced price, and all students get tickets for free. For more information, check out the University Theatre website.



University Theatre students rehearsing for “Zombie Prom.”

Photo by Owen Bertram / The Jambar

# Funk it up with “MMBLJZZ”

By John Ostapowicz  
The Jambar

Three months after the album release of “F’Uncstown,” the mumble jazz, lo-fi, jazz funk and fusion artists, Unc D and Thin Thicket are back with a new pop-take on the mumble jazz genre.

The musical duo of Dante Basista and Danny Svenson, known professionally as Unc D and Thin Thicket respectively, had a busy 2023 with numerous albums and singles releases garnering international audiences.

From Tokyo to Los Angeles, the Youngstown musicians have grabbed the attention of approximately 40,000 monthly listeners on Spotify. The pair anticipates more with its scheduled release of “MMBLJZZ: WTF is MUMBLE JAZZ!?” on Sept. 29.

With the success of the seven-song LP released June 16, “F’Uncstown,” the track has accumulated over 65,000 streams on Spotify.

“There is power in doing what we do best, which is jazz funk,” Basista said. “When you get everyone there and kind of do what we do without having to think about it much — that is how you get a good result.”

The duo’s latest album will add a jazz-pop approach — a newer genre in their repertoire — according to Basista.

“It very much has that vibe where this is our closest to pop we have ever gotten for how weird we already are,” Basista said. “It’s definitely a change in the sound as it’s a more mature sound for what mumble jazz is.”

The term “mumble jazz,” was created by Basista with the combination of Auto-Tune hip-hop mixed with jazz influences. The duo’s new album will have fewer modulated vocals and feature Basista’s natural vocal range rather than using “chipmunk” or “monster” voice modulations, which appear in previous works.

“I wanted [“MMBLJZZ: WTF is MUMBLE JAZZ!?”] to really translate to people in the range they know as not everyone has an Auto-Tune with chipmunk on it,” Basista said.

The album has been in the works since 2022, as the songs were created while producing the album rather than mastering previous works. The basic roots of the songs rely on an 808 drum machine.

Svenson, the producer who adds his own creative input in Unc D’s music, is constantly working with other local groups from Youngstown such as Spirit of the Bear and the Labra Brothers. He said he’s learned a lot from his experiences and continues to grow as a musician.

“I try to be a little better than I am in some capacity the following day,” Svenson said.

Besides Unc D’s upcoming album, two more albums will be released by the end of the year. The first, “humans being people,” will be released Nov. 17. The final album, “Funk It! We’ll Do it Live 3,” is the third installment in Unc D’s live series and will drop Dec. 29.

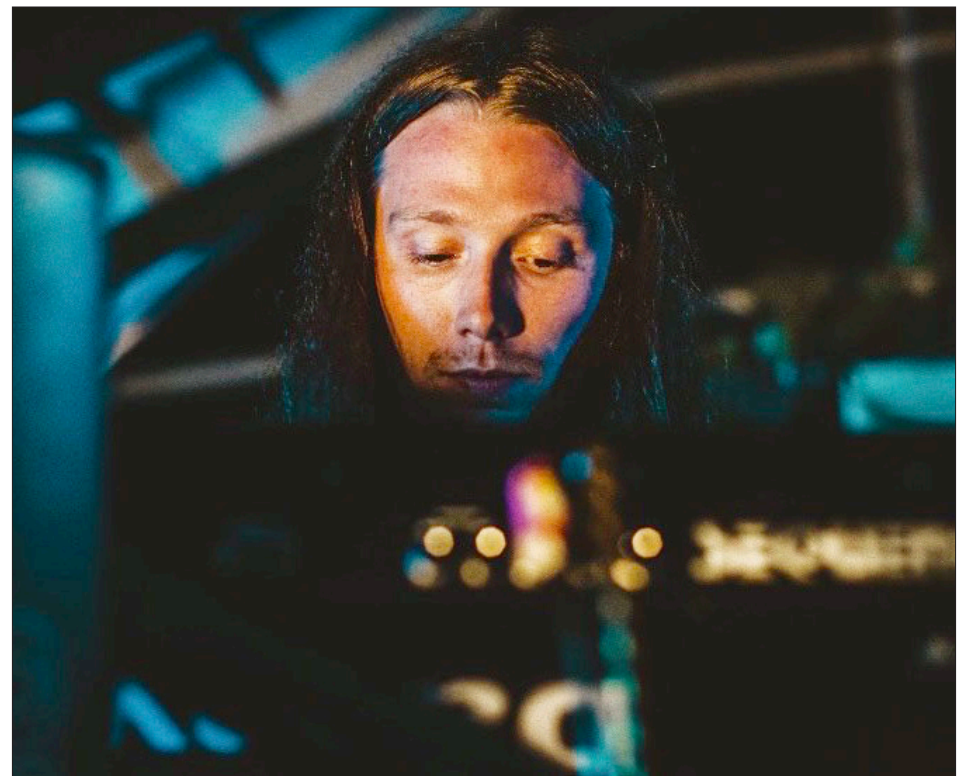
Reddit, Instagram and Spotify have played a role in attracting listeners. Radio air-play has also been a factor for Unc D’s music, as it has been played on a Minneapolis station and a private radio network in Seattle.

“All over the world on the internet, Reddit and Spotify, you can see [mumble jazz] is getting listened to,” Basista said. “The vast majority of people listening to it do not live anywhere near where we live.”

For live shows, Unc D and Thin Thicket utilize all aspects of a traditional jazz ensemble. Duos, trios and a big band style captivate sounds Basista and Svenson want to incorporate in their music.

Unc D will be back in the live music scene Sept. 29 to celebrate the album’s release at Club Cafe in Pittsburgh. Unc D and Thin Thicket will return to the Mahoning Valley on Nov. 11 at Modern Methods Brewing Company in Warren.

With new music planned every Friday, Unc D’s latest single “Cough it Up” is now streaming on Spotify.



Unc D (left) and Thin Thicket (right) performing.

Photos courtesy of Kamron Meyers



# Falling for fashion

By Molly Burke  
The Jambar

Fall begins Sept. 23, marking the start of the season filled with pumpkin spice, sidewalks covered in orange leaves, hot apple cider and impromptu trips to local farmers markets.

For many, the start of fall means the beginning of the most iconic season for fashion.

Fashion and interior merchandising professor, Tací Turel, said trench coats, gray tones, oversized jackets and apple red will be in this fall.

“The classic trench coat is coming back ... extra large puffer jackets or oversized jackets for the fall and sometimes they will have bold patterns or colors,” Turel said.

“This year the apple red is very popular along with the different shades of gray.”

Another staple in fall fashion is denim. Turel said there are many ways to style it.

“There is this barrel-jean style this fall, and those are fitted in the waist but they kind of make an arc shape going down around the knees,” Turel said. “I see a lot of denim maxi skirts ... pants with matching crop tops.”

Turel said every season, fashion trends change not only to adapt to changes in weather, but

also to adapt to economic and cultural changes as well.

“We have people who are influencers on Instagram and they popularize a style,” Turel said. “There’s also the functionality aspect as well ... based on the technology or what is happening in the world ... In a situation where the economy’s not that great — sometimes cheap fashion [and] hip-hop fashion — those become more popular.”

Senior marketing major, Mya Snyder, runs her own clothing and accessories business, Sew What? Sew This! Snyder said she creates clothing by upcycling discarded textiles.

“I’m super into vintage quilts and what not,” Snyder said. “I can upcycle a tablecloth into just about any-

thing. I make a lot of tote bags, ‘Bummin’ Bags,’ they’re like little fanny packs ... and clothes.”

Snyder said she is inspired by fall fashion to make new pieces for her business.

“Fall fashion is super in and because we’ve had such a warm summer ... all these pieces in my closet that I haven’t had the chance to wear for months I’m getting to wear again and that’s inspiring too — just to see everything I loved last season,” Snyder said.

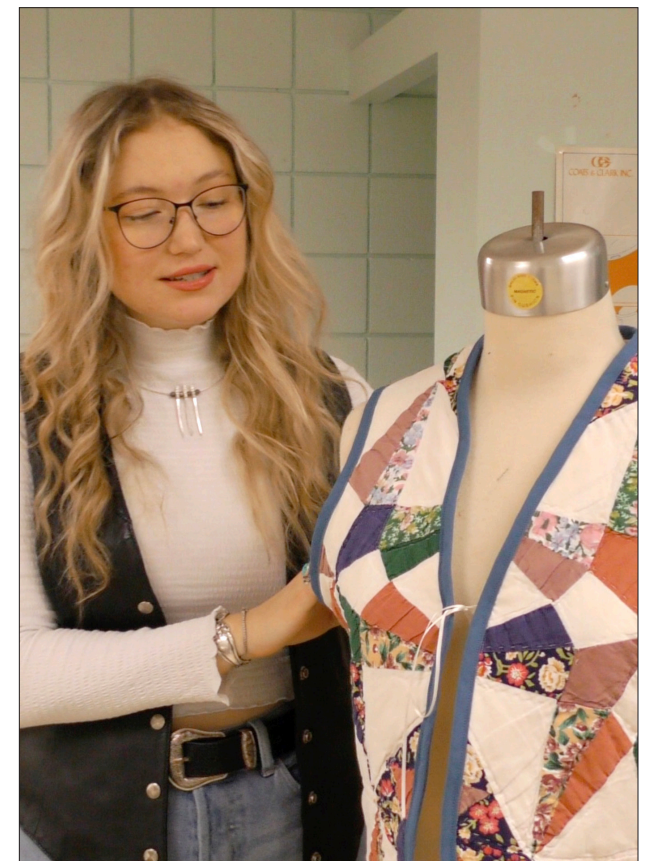
Snyder said she likes layering clothes during the fall, not only for warmth, but to add depth to her look.

“Fall is my favorite season. I love wearing jeans, comfy sweaters [and] long sleeves. Layering is my favorite part of fall fashion,” Snyder said. “During the fall time, you can spice up say a dress for example with some funky tights, a vest [or] a cool sweater. You definitely have a little bit more leeway to play around with fabrics and patterns.”

Joey Kempe, senior geography major, said the fall weather is his favorite because he can dress more comfortably.

“You don’t have to wear a large coat but you don’t have to worry about being hot all the time,” Kempe said. “[I like] crewnecks especially, flannels, hoodies [and] kind of lazy wear I guess ... Lots of like earth tones so, dark green, dark brown [and] a little bit of orange. Those are my favorites.”

Those interested can find Sew What? Sew This! at The Youngstown Flea this fall or on Instagram @sewwhat\_sewthis.



Mya Snyder sells clothes and accessories with Sew What? Sew This!

Photos Courtesy of @sewwhat\_sewthis Instagram (left and middle) and Molly Burke (right) / The Jambar

# Women at work

By Christopher Gillett  
The Jambar

The Youngstown Historical Center of Industry and Labor opened a new exhibit Sept. 14. The exhibit, "Women at Work: Change and Continuity 1940s through the 2010s," which will stay up for the rest of the school year.

The exhibit details the history of women in the workplace and was made possible through a \$7,500 grant obtained in spring.

The steel museum completed approximately 60 interviews with women of different ages about their experiences working various jobs over several decades and how they dealt with issues such as childcare, discrimination, harassment and unfair pay.

Marcelle Wilson, site manager for the YHCIL, had the idea for the project after learning about the issues work-

ing women dealt with during the pandemic.

"It was based on many of the complaints that were expressed during the COVID-19 pandemic and the lockdown, and the fact that issues continued to come up which as a historian I saw many times in the past," Wilson said. "We often think that these things were problems that have been dealt with and that were solved."

The interviews were conducted by two steel museum staff members, Director of Outreach and Education Nicole Marino and Archival Assistant Susan Lowery.

Marino said she enjoyed the project and wished she could collect more interviews, even though it's finished.

"There were so many really cool points in working on this. I loved doing the interviews. The interviews were great. I would be happy to do more to just add them to our archival collection even though we kind of completed the exhibit. It was a really fun project," Marino said.

Marino said most of the women she talked with found camaraderie with one another.

"They were excited to have this other place where they could do something useful, earn that extra money, have other women and colleagues that they considered their friends to be around for 40 hours a week and that was a big deal," Marino said.

Marino said this sense of belonging was important for older women.

"The earlier in time that you go, the more important [it] was because they didn't always have that opportunity for a social structure where they could be with other women who understood their own situation," Marino

said.

Lowery said while she doesn't think she has the qualifications to make a broad generalization, her research points toward progress for working women.

"I don't feel I have the qualifications to make a decisive decision whether working conditions for women have improved or not, but this is what I have documented and seen," Lowery said. "It was a little bit harsher in some respects, but as time progressed and the laws changed and people became more [adapted]."

Marino said childcare and family issues have stayed the same but the burden is shared more by both parents.

"It's now family issues rather than women's issues. It used to be that it was a given that anytime your children needed some kind of extra care, that it was the mother's job," Marino said. "The evolution of it seems to me to be that it's now both parents are taking more of an equal role in 'Okay, we have to go pick you up. We can both do that. We can divide our time to do that thing.'"

Most of the interviews are available to the public at the YHCIL's top floor archive library.

The opening event was also the first in the Downtown Merchant's Lecture Series, with more presentations coming on local and worker history topics. The next lecture will be presented by Carl Jacobson at 5:30 p.m on Sept. 28.

To learn more about the YHCIL or its lecture series, call 330-941-1314, email [centerofindustryandlabor@gmail.com](mailto:centerofindustryandlabor@gmail.com) or visit its website.



The event opening the new exhibit brought many guests including interviewees.

Photo by Christopher Gillett / The Jambar

# The Jambar Column

## Pride and pumpkin spice

When I think of fall, I think of changing leaves, the cozy scent of the colder air and oddly enough, pumpkin spice. Pumpkin spice seems to be loved by many, and hated even more by others.

In the 1990s, some café owners came out with a brand new hot beverage, and it just so happened to be a pumpkin spice flavored coffee.

However, the first known occurrence of pumpkin spice was in 1675, when a mixture of pepper, cloves, nutmeg and cinnamon was used in recipes. Later on, this mixture would be known as pumpkin spice.

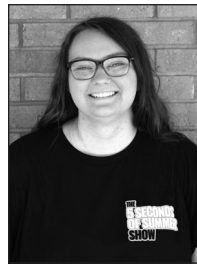
Pumpkin spice really took off in 2003 when Starbucks officially put its pumpkin spice latte on the menu.

I only really started to care about coffee flavors when I reached high school—when I actually started to enjoy drinking it.

Johns Hopkins University conducted a study on why the flavor is so popular, and the study concluded the aroma triggers a sense of nostalgia with the rapidly approaching season.

More studies show the popularity of pumpkin spice comes from the anticipation of Thanksgiving, when you spend time eating pumpkin pie with family.

Other studies have even narrowed down the states which are the most obsessed with pumpkin spice. No. 1 is



Alison Butz

Washington, which makes sense because Starbucks originated out of Seattle.

It's also not just an American thing anymore since the trend has spread overseas. However, pumpkin spice is not as popular as it is in the U.S.

This year, Starbucks added another pumpkin-flavored drink to its menu, and it is actually how I prefer my pumpkin fix. That new drink takes form in a pumpkin spice chai latte.

Even then, it was common to see my friends and family either posting or sharing the recipe for a version of the pumpkin chai before it was inevitably added to the menu.

In fact, the first time I tried it was when my sister bought me one for my birthday a couple of years ago. From then on, it became the only pumpkin flavored drink I will splurge on.

However, I can safely say that over the years, pumpkin-flavored things have gotten out of hand. For example, I have seen pumpkin spice ice cream all the way to pumpkin IPA. Sure, I can get behind a pumpkin coffee every now and then, but ice cream is taking it a little too far.

## Quote of the Week

“I aimed at the public’s heart, and by accident I hit it in the stomach”

— Upton Sinclair,  
American writer and political activist

# The Jambar Editorial Godspeed Armenia

Right now, a humanitarian crisis is unfolding in the Caucasus mountain region, one that has led to suffering and could culminate in the complete genocide of a long-established Indigenous people, the Armenians.

Despite being between the Middle East, Eastern Europe and Central Asia, the region is often unfamiliar to the average American and yet at the center of Eurasia. The people in that area have been under the yoke of many empires over the centuries.

However, the focus of this goes to a conflict between three countries — one barely recognized by the international community, Artsakh and Armenia, and Azerbaijan.

While the Caucasus mountains have a deep history, this conflict can be traced back almost a century to the Armenian Genocide.

Simplifying history, the Armenian Genocide was initiated by the dying Ottoman Empire, which suffering military defeats in World War I and motivated by Pan-Turkish nationalism, targeted various ethno-religious minority groups in the country — not just the Armenians — but also Greeks, Assyrians and Yazidis.

The Ottoman Empire fell and became Turkey, as did the Russian Empire who possessed the Caucasus mountain range. Out of that fallen empire, the countries of Armenia and Azerbaijan also formed.

Motivated by Pan-Turkish nationalism and sitting on oil, Azerbaijan had the backing and power to claim Artsakh, also called Nagorno-Karabakh. Azerbaijan and Armenia fought a war over the region, which only halted because of the rise of the USSR.

The Soviets then gave Artsakh to Azer-

baijan. As the USSR fell, conflict resumed.

The Armenians of Nagorno-Karabakh declared independence as the Republic of Artsakh, and Azerbaijan has been fighting to take it ever since.

During the pandemic, things changed when Azerbaijan invaded Artsakh again, and took most of Karabakh and destroyed cultural sites. The Armenians living in the region were either killed or fled out of fear.

What was left of Artsakh was only connected by one road to Armenia. Since then, things have only become worse. In December 2022, Azerbaijani “eco-protesters” surrounded Artsakh and blockaded materials, food and gas for people living in the country, eventually being replaced by outright Azerbaijani military leaders.

Azerbaijan’s ambitions expand beyond Artsakh. In Sept. 2022, Azerbaijan invaded Armenia. Azerbaijan has been accused of several atrocities, including the torture of prisoners of war and civilians.

On Sept. 19 that blockade turned to outright invasion, and Sept. 20 the Artsakh Defense Forces surrendered. The future of Artsakh seems over, and the future of Armenians is uncertain.

This is all while Azerbaijan and its main ally Turkey deny the Armenian Genocide.

Many other countries are reliant on Azerbaijani oil, and Azerbaijan’s dictatorship is rich from that oil money, spending on it lobbying and influence. One U.S. congressman was raided by the FBI because of his alleged connections to Azerbaijan.

But what can any of us do besides pay attention?

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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.

#### EDITORIAL POLICY

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

#### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR POLICY

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

## CORRECTION:

In the Sept. 14 edition of The Jambar, the wrong date for the flu vaccination clinics was published. The correct date is Sept. 19, not Sept. 23. The Jambar apologizes for this mistake.

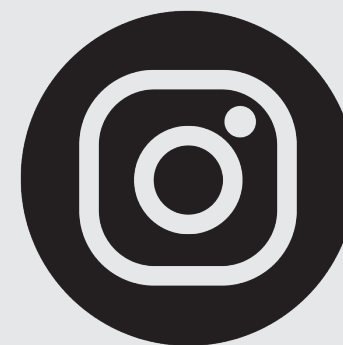
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# Borum leads nation in triple-doubles

By Madeline Hippeard  
The Jambar

After 17 kills, 17 assists and 15 digs against Kent State University on Sept. 15, senior setter and right-side hitter Josi Borum earned her third triple-double of the season, placing her as the national triple-double leader in Division I college volleyball.

The Penguins won three of four sets on the road at Kent State, but they lost the first set of the match, 18-25.

After trailing 17-10 in the second set, the Penguins came back strong after a timeout and won the set, 26-24.

The Penguins trailed for most of the third set. However, the women fought hard and pulled ahead at the last minute, earning a 25-23 victory.

In the fourth set, the Penguins held the lead for the first time in the match.

Borum's 17th kill of the match finished the fourth set with a 25-21 victory.

After learning she led the nation in triple-doubles, Borum said she was excited, but is keeping her sights on a bigger goal for the season.

"My only goal is to beat my 10 triple-doubles last year.

I kind of want to beat my own record in that," Borum said.

Borum also recorded her 1,000th career dig.

The Penguins also lost three of four sets to the University of Akron in front of nearly 700 Youngstown-area students in the first-ever School Field Trip Game.

Head women's volleyball coach Aline Scott said the idea to hold a kid's day game was a result of a scheduling conflict.

"We had to move the time of our game this year and so we had this idea of moving it to an early in the morning game so that we could invite all the local elementary and middle schools to attend the game and fill the gym," Scott said.

Shortly after the first set started, the power went out in Beeghly Center.

While the power was out, players interacted with the students while listening to music on a battery-powered speaker.

The power remained off for over an hour. Once back on, players were given time to warm up and play resumed.

Akron continued to outscore the Penguins following the power outage, which led to Akron's win in the open-

ing set, 16-25.

In the second set, the Zips went on a 15-1 run after overcoming an 8-8 tie. Unable to recover, the Penguins lost the second set, 16-25.

Despite losses in the first and second sets, the women scored 12 of the first 15 points of the third set, winning the set, 25-19.

Sophomore Abbie Householder led the offense with 10 kills throughout the game, two of which occurred during an 0-6 run for the Penguins in the third set.

The Penguins started the fourth set with a 12-11 lead. However, the lady 'Guins were unable to hold their lead, losing the set 16-25.

Youngstown State returned home against Northern Kentucky University on Sept. 19 and fell to the Norse in four sets.

Despite the loss, Borum recorded her fourth triple-double of the season to go along with 13 kills, 20 assists and 16 digs.

The Penguins return to action at 6 p.m., Sept. 22, when they travel to Rochester, Mich. to face Oakland University.

To watch the game and find more information, visit ESPN+ and YSUsports.com.



The Penguins celebrating their win over Kent State.

Photos courtesy of YSU Sports Information

# Penguins bring the heat with new offense

By John Ostapowicz  
The Jambar

Despite a loss to the University of Detroit Mercy on Sept. 14, the Youngstown State University women's soccer team bounced back with a win against Northern Kentucky University on Sept. 17.

The Penguins started conference play against Detroit Mercy on the road, and despite a late goal by sophomore Marissa Masano 70 minutes into the game, it proved not enough. The Titans downed the Penguins 2-1 in the first conference game of the season.

For Masano, it marked her first collegiate goal from an assist from redshirt freshman Tatum Gretz. Masano tried to lead the offense despite a 2-nil deficit in the second period.

Youngstown State returned home to Farmers National Bank Field inside the Covelli Sports Complex and defeated the Norse, 2-1.

The Penguins' offense looked dominant as they jumped out to a 2-nil lead. The first goal was scored on a secondary assist by freshman Emma Berdiner and graduate student Regan LaVigna to senior Lianna Van Sice.

The assist opportunity allowed Van Sice to jump out past the Norse goalie, senior Mickayla Kowalski, for a wide open opportunity for the team. The goal marks

Van Sice's second of the season to go along with three assists off corner kicks and currently leads the team in points with seven points.

The second offensive score came in the second period from another secondary assist by Gretz and junior Elis Klein Spindola to graduate student Abriana Rondin at the 47:24 mark to put the Penguins up by two.

"[Klien Spindola] is an awesome player to play with. She is one of the most selfless players, when she got that ball in the box, I knew if I called for it, she was going to play it," Rondin said.

In total, four assists were recorded on the day which is a game high for the Penguins this season.

For Rondin, it marks her first goal of the season as she adds to her historic career with eight goals and 21 assists.

Before the match up against Youngstown State, Kowalski only allowed one goal over 500 minutes played.

For head coach Brian Shrum, the offense has gotten better and that started with two veteran players who made crucial plays for the team.

"It came from two players who were really looking to step up and we've been asking our wingers to do a little more with the ball," Shrum said.

Defensively, Brooklynn Kirkpatrick recorded five saves and currently leads the Horizon League with 48

saves and an average of 5.33 saves per game.

The women's soccer team improves to 5-3-1 overall and 1-1 in Horizon League play. The Penguins currently sit at fifth place in the conference standings.

Youngstown State is back in action against Wright State University on Sept. 21 in Dayton, Ohio. For more information on the game, check out [ysusports.com](http://ysusports.com) and keep up to date with the team @ysuwsoccer on Instagram and Twitter.



Photo courtesy of Robert Hayes  
**Abriana Rondin gives love after scoring.**

# Women's golf tees off a great season

By Dylan Lux  
The Jambar

The Youngstown State University women's golf team started its 2023 campaign off strong with a win at its first match of the year during the YSU Kickoff at Mill Creek Golf Course.

The team hit the links for the first time this season Sept. 2 in Boardman, facing off against five opponents, including Horizon League opponent Northern Kentucky University.

Women's golf head coach Nate Miklos said he lets the players finely tune their games and find out what they'll need to improve on for an upcoming campaign.

"All the players are really at home working on their game," Miklos said. "Relying on them to do what they need to, to get ready for the season."

YSU took the opening tournament by a wide margin, beating out second place

NKU by 26 strokes. The team finished one stroke under par for the tournament.

As for individual Penguin performances, fifth-year senior Danae Rugola took home the best overall finish in the YSU Kickoff, with a 4-under-par 68.

Rugola wasn't the only 'Guin with an impressive performance, as six Penguins featured in the top 10. Senior Madie Smithco finished right behind Rugola in second place with a score of 72, making her even for the tournament.

Miklos said Smithco's performance was inspiring and one of the best he's seen so far in his coaching career.

"Her performance was ... unbelievable at the tournaments," Miklos said. "The way she finished and closed out that final round was probably one of the best finishes I've ever seen in my coaching career."

Other top 10 finishers for the Penguins included Neeranuch Prajunpanich, who

finished tied for third; sophomore Adena Rugola, who ended the tournament in fifth place; sophomore Chaela Barnett, who finished in sixth place; and junior Lizzie Saur and senior Titita Loudtragulngam both finished tied for seventh.

Miklos added there are many athletes on the team that can post great scores and help the team succeed.

"There's always gonna be at least one or a couple of our players that can go out there and post a really low number and help carry the team that week," Miklos said.

In its most recent competition, the team traveled to central Pennsylvania to take part in the Nittany Lion Invitational, hosted by The Pennsylvania State University.

Smithco finished first overall in the tournament through three rounds, with a final score of 210. She had a score of six under par to end the tournament.

Smithco said she enjoys the competition of the bigger schools.

"It's really fun, to play [some of] the best competition," Smithco said. "We beat Penn State at their home course ... [It] feels great. It's a good start to the season."

Saur finished in the top 10 at the invitational, ending the tournament tied for ninth place with a 6-over-par 222.

Other notable Penguin finishes from the invitational include Prajunpanich, who finished 25th for YSU, with a final score of 227.

Barnett finished 37th for the 'Guins and tallied a score of 232. Loudtragulngam ended the tournament with a 236, which tied her for 42nd, while Adena Rugola wrapped up the Penguins in the top 50 with a score of 240, and finished tied for 48th.

# Cross country starts strong

By **Marissa Masano**  
The Jambar

The Youngstown State University men's and women's cross country team started its 2023 campaign at the Penn State Harry Groves Spiked Shoe Invitational Friday, Sept. 8 at University Park.

On the men's side, seniors Tyler Coon and Tyler Clark return after finishing in the top 11 at the Horizon League Championships in 2022. Coon led the Penguins at last season's Harry Groves Spiked Shoe Invitational. He finished 27th to help the men's side finish seventh overall.

After winning the Horizon League Championships in 2022, the men's cross country program was named the 2023 Under Armour Horizon League Cross Country preseason favorite with nine first-place votes.

For the women's side, graduate student Morgan Cole is returning after an impressive season last year. For assistant coach Eric Rupe, Cole's return benefits the team immensely.

"[Cole's] leadership and her approach to training and what she does day to day really helps. Especially the younger [players] can see that and emulate that. She is definitely a leader by example, so having her back this year for not just what she can do on the course, but also off the course is a huge help," Rupe said.

In 2022, Cole was named Women's HLXC Athlete of the Year, Horizon League Champion and the Penguins'

top finisher in each race she competed in. Last season, she finished 26th at the Penn State National Open, clocking a 6k time of 21:21.8.

The lady 'Guins were picked to finish third, receiving 101 points and one first-place vote. Last season, the women finished third behind Oakland University and the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.

At the Penn State Spiked Shoe Invitational, 20 Penguin athletes competed and both teams finished sixth in their respective races.

Redshirt freshman Owen Brady led the men's side in the 5.2 mile with a 33rd-place finish. In his Penguin debut, Brady clocked in at 26:36.0.

Three other Penguins placed in the top 50. Junior Tobias Jones placed 35th with a time of 26:39.9; followed by Clark, who ran 26:43.2 for 39th place. Rounding out the top 50 for the Penguins was junior Thomas Caputo, who finished in 42nd place with a time of 26:46.3.

The lady 'Guins competed in the 6k at the Harry Groves Spiked Shoe Invitational. Cole, leading the team, placed 10th and clocked in at 21:35.1.

Next to cross the finish line for the Penguins was senior Alyssa Deeds. Deeds placed 47th with a time of 23:19.6; followed by senior Aiamyia Dudley, who finished 56th at 23:53.0.

The Horizon League recognized three YSU cross-country team members after their performances at the Penn State Spiked Shoe Invitational. The league announced

Tuesday that Cole, Brady and freshman Grace Rhoades earned Horizon League Under Armour weekly honors.

Cole was named the Women's Runner of the Week after finishing 10th in the women's 6k at the Penn State Spiked Shoe Invitational. She faced Power-5 teams such as the host team and event winners The Pennsylvania State University and runner-up Syracuse University.

Brady earned the Men's Freshman Runner of the Week. During his collegiate debut, he led all other Penguins in the 5.2-mile and finished 33 out of 72 runners. Runners from other teams included event winners, 11th ranked Syracuse and second place University of Pittsburgh.

After leading her freshman class, Rhoades was named the women's freshman of the week, placing 65th at the invitational. The Ohio native ran a time of 24:42.4 in her Penguin debut and first collegiate race.

Rupe said he believes this is just the beginning for the younger runners of the team.

"It's just nice to have guys and ladies that you can rely on that are younger that maybe aren't as experienced but still able to be in the top five on the team, so we are going to rely on them heavily throughout the year," Rupe said.

On Sept. 29, the Penguins will travel to the Joe Piane Notre Dame Cross Country Invitational.

To watch the meet, check out ESPN+ and for stats, highlights and more, visit [ysusports.com](http://ysusports.com).

## Cross Country Schedule

Joe Piane Notre Dame Cross Country Invitational

- Sept. 29

- South Bend, Indiana

Bill Lennox Slippery Rock Cross Country Invitational

- Oct. 7

- Slippery Rock, Pennsylvania

# Penguins run through the Colonials

By Cameron Niemi  
The Jambar

The Youngstown State University football team wrapped up its final home game of September. The Penguins hosted Robert Morris University and defeated the Colonials by a final of 48-28.

Youngstown's run game continued to shine against Robert Morris. Seniors Tyshon King and Dra Rushton helped propel the team to victory. The running back duo combined for five touchdowns. This was the first time two YSU running backs scored multiple touchdowns in a game since 2016.

King had 12 carries for 124 yards and three touchdowns, averaging 9.8 yards per carry. Rushton had 14 carries for 55 yards and two of his own touchdowns.

The Penguins scored on their opening drive. Rushton capped off the drive with a 6-yard touchdown run taking an early lead in the first quarter. RMU blocked the extra point making it 6-0. The Colonials immediately responded with their own scoring drive and took a 7-6 lead in the first.

The 'Guins responded with a quick five-play, 80-yard drive. King broke free for a 32-yard score, making it 13-7. Robert Morris once again took the lead early in the second quarter, 14-13.

The Penguin defense started to put together some stops, as they forced RMU to punt on its next three drives.

The offense went on to score two unanswered touchdowns before going into halftime. Rushton and King each scored on touchdown runs. At half, YSU led 27-14.

The Youngstown offense kept up the pressure. Senior quarterback Mitch Davidson connected with junior tight-end Brandon Serrano for the touchdown pass in the third quarter.

Davidson was efficient in the passing game as he finished 21-of-25 for 325 yards, with one passing and one rushing touchdown. Davidson threw his first interception of the year and third of his collegiate career off a tipped pass in the second half of the game.

Davidson spoke after the game about the last non-conference game of the season and how he felt

about the matchup.

"It's about us at the end of the day, as our offense we were using this game to see who we are and what we can do. We found out who we are and what we can do," Davidson said. "What we did was very successful today and we are gonna build upon that heading into this bye week."

Junior C.J. Charleston was the leading receiver for Davidson, as he had six catches for 119 yards.

Senior Bryce Oliver also had six catches for 108 yards. This was also the first time since 2017 two Penguin wide receivers had over 100 receiving yards in the same game.

Robert Morris went on and scored two late-fourth quarter touchdowns.

Head coach Doug Phillips spoke on the teams performance and conference play on the rise in two weeks.

"Leave no doubt. We control what we can do," Phillips said. "They are buying into that process, but understanding we are not there. I believe this team can be a really really good team. We gotta clean up some of the stuff we have, we are certainly gonna get challenged in the next eight weeks. I'm excited to go in and focus just on us and see the areas we need to get better at."

The team now has a 2-1 record on the season as it heads into bye-week to prepare for eight-straight weeks of Missouri-Valley conference play. The Penguins have jumped back into the FCS coaches poll rankings, coming in at No. 24, their highest of this season.

Youngstown State will hit the road for its first conference game of the year to face the University of Northern Iowa on Sept. 30. Kickoff is set for 2 p.m. To watch the game, go to ESPN+.

