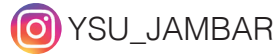


THE JAMBAR

The student voice of Youngstown State University since 1931

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Thursday, September 28, 2023



READ UP ON THE LATEST



Students can buy books at the YSU Bookstore.

Photo by Molly Burke / The Jambar

Pete Complete Book Program in the works

By Molly Burke
The Jambar

The Office of Student Experience is collaborating with the Youngstown State University Bookstore to introduce the Pete Complete Book Program, which would allow students to include the cost of class-required books on tuition bills.

If approved by the YSU board of trustees, the program will be implemented fall 2024, students will have the choice to opt out.

John Chaump, regional manager for Barnes & Noble Education, Inc., said Pete Complete is an equitable access program.

“We’re helping all students be equitably prepared for their classes on the first day of school. We do this by charging a flat fee to include all required course materials for the classes they’re signed up [for],” Chaump said.

The flat fee students would pay is \$23 per credit

hour. Chaump said this can make class materials more affordable for students.

“When you look at some classes, sometimes one individual book can cost \$300 per semester. When we look at the pricing and how we calculate it ... we usually look at about between 30 and 50% savings [with the program],” Chaump said.

Although the program can help students save money, it may not always be beneficial. Chaump said he encourages students to see if they can save before determining if they should opt out.

“You look at your ... whole academic journey, and there might be some semesters where it’s beneficial for you and some semesters when it’s not,” Chaump said. “That’s why ... you have that opt out option, so a student can make an informed decision on what works best for them.”

Pete Complete, Page 2

Ron DeSantis’ family at YSU

By Christopher Gillett
The Jambar

Since being elected Florida governor in 2018, Ron DeSantis has become one of the most controversial and influential politicians in America. In May, DeSantis announced his run as a Republican candidate in the 2024 presidential election.

Despite being born in Florida, DeSantis’ family is from Northeast Ohio and Western Pennsylvania and has ties to Youngstown State University.

Philip Rogers, Ron DeSantis’ maternal grandfather, played a prominent role in local Republican politics, serving as the director of the Mahoning County Board of Elections and assistant to the Ohio secretary of state during the 1960s.

He attended Youngstown University — which became a state university in 1967 — and graduated with a bachelor’s degree in 1965.

After obtaining a master’s degree from Kent State University, Philip briefly taught political science courses at YSU from 1968 to 1969.

Philip was then appointed assistant to the vice president of Financial Affairs at YSU in 1969.

William Binning, former chair of the Political Science Department who began at YSU in 1970, was friends with Philip and worked with him at YSU, as well as in local Republican politics.

DeSantis’ family, Page 4

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Pete Complete

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Heather White, the bookstore manager, said Pete Complete is different from the First Day Ready Program that has been used for the past six years.

“First Day Ready is a ... by course program. So with it, all sections of the class have to use the same materials, they get delivered digitally — there’s no print component to it,” White said. “The biggest change is that all students benefit from [the Pete Complete program] and it’s a mix of print and digital.”

Joy Polkabila Byers, associate vice president of Student Experience, said

Pete Complete will help students succeed by having their course materials on the first day of school.

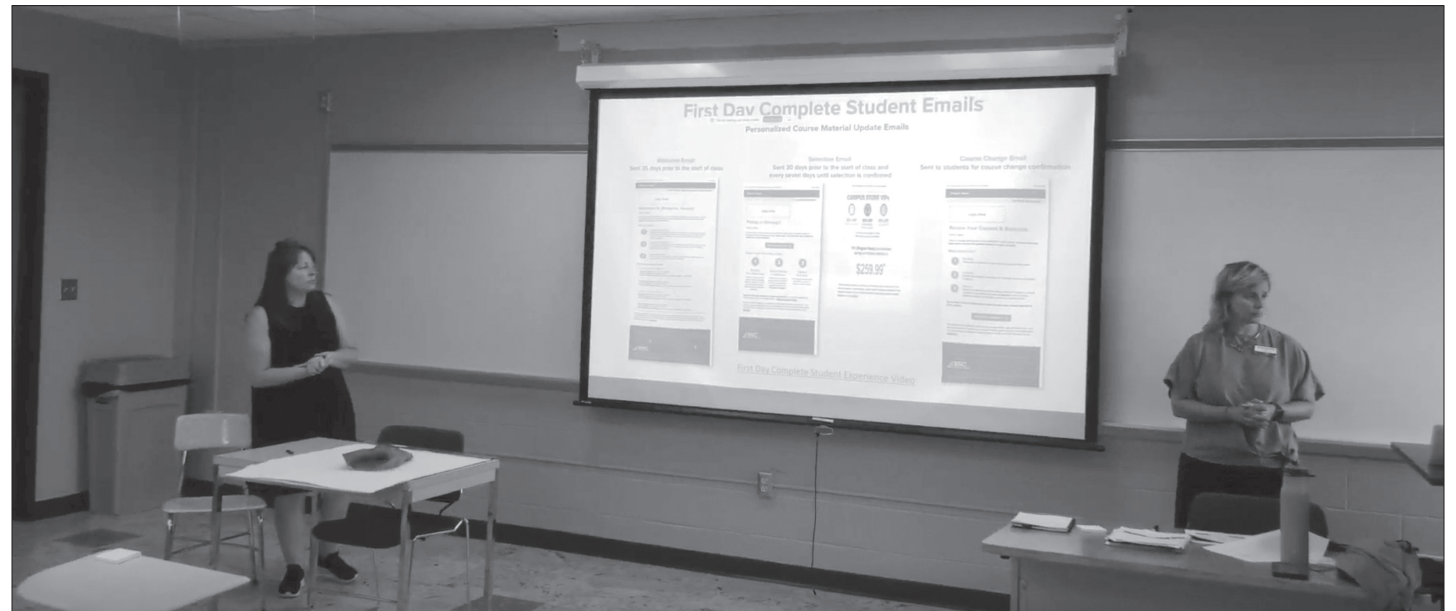
“I’ve heard of three students sharing a book and they all have the test at the same time,” Byers said. “Thinking about those things, ‘what are the challenges ... [getting] it at a cheaper price,’ but then [students] have to wait for it to get here. All of this is the idea that the first day of class you’re prepared.”

Alan Tomhave, philosophy professor and associate dean of the Beeghly College of Liberal Arts, Social Sciences and Education, said he likes the transparency of the program.

“I like that it’s transparent. So you

know, here’s how much it would cost if you stick with it, here’s how much it would cost if you opted out and bought the books separately.” Tomhave said. “[The program] allows for faculty to actually pick and choose and use the materials that are right for their version of their particular class.”

The Office of Student Experience is hosting twice-weekly meetings around campus and on Webex to inform and ask questions of any students, faculty or staff who attend. Meeting dates and locations can be found on the Office of Student Experience’s website.



Office of Student Experience hosts informative meetings on the Pete Complete Book Program.

Photo by Molly Burke / The Jambar

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7-DAY WEATHER FORECAST

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

Thu.	Fri.	Sat.	Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.
High: 67°F	High: 72°F	High: 79°F	High: 81°F	High: 82°F	High: 83°F	High: 78°F
Low: 56°F	Low: 53°F	Low: 55°F	Low: 55°F	Low: 55°F	Low: 56°F	Low: 57°F
Chance of precip: 81%	Chance of precip: 40%	Chance of precip: 4%	Chance of precip: 10%	Chance of precip: 12%	Chance of precip: 16%	Chance of precip: 3%



Rain



Scattered Showers



Partly Cloudy



Fair



Partly Cloudy



Partly Cloudy



Partly Cloudy

Information courtesy of accuweather.com

YSU College Comeback Program

By Tala Alsharif and Jillian McIntosh
The Jambar

The Ohio College Comeback Program at Youngstown State University aids former students with financial holds to complete their degree.

Molly Burdette, the assistant director degree completion and credential facilitator, said students who have not been enrolled for three semesters and have amassed debt may be eligible to return to YSU.

“The College Comeback program is for students who have dropped out of school or stopped out of school, who owe money to YSU that has been sent to the Attorney General’s office,” Burdette said.

Students should be in good academic standing and owe less than \$5,000 to meet the minimum eligibility requirements to reenroll.

“Up to \$5,000 [is] forgiven,” Burdette said. “The students have to take six semester hours, so two classes

each semester. For two semesters, \$2,500 per semester is forgiven.”

Returning students can use financial aid and other resources after their financial holds are released.

University Bursar, Susan Ewing, oversees operations of the billing and collecting at the university.

Ewing said she collected data to create the eligibility requirements for the campus program, alongside the previous registrar, Jeanne Herman.

“I actually collected some of the data ... as we worked with the Consortium to come up with some of the requirements and eligibility,” Ewing said. “I helped actually write the program and the spreadsheet that determines who’s actually eligible so that we can turn that into Ithaka and then they can determine who is actually eligible for the program.”

Ithaka S+R is a nonprofit learning organization that worked with the Ohio Department of Higher Education and College Now Greater Cleveland in support of the

eight public colleges and universities involved.

Any student previously enrolled at any of the participating institutions is eligible for YSU’s program.

The seven institutions also participating in the program are Cleveland State University, Cuyahoga Community College, Lakeland Community College, Lorain County Community College, Kent State University, Stark State College and The University of Akron.

Ewing said the goal of this program is to give the opportunity for returning students to move forward in their education.

“I really see in fall of 2023, it’s really picked up. In the beginning, we started this in fall 2022,” Ewing said. “We had seven students sign up and we were fortunate enough to cancel six of those seven students’ debt.”

Former students looking to reenroll can contact Burdette to schedule an appointment to get reinstated. Students can also visit the Penguin Service Center’s website for more resources.



A student viewing the College Comeback Program website.

Photo by: Tala Alsharif / The Jambar

DeSantis' family

Page 1

er at YSU for political science classes throughout his tenure, because of his political experience.

"He had a sterling reputation for the conduct of elections in the Valley and saw that they were conducted fairly and accurately," Binning said. "He would speak to classes on the conduct of elections ... the way they are organized and conducted in Ohio."

During his time in YSU's administration, Philip often represented the university at the state capitol. Binning said Philip felt uninfluential compared to wealthier political opponents.

"He said that 'The currency in Columbus was money,' and he was just down there to speak for YSU. He wasn't a big donor and he wasn't like an interest group that could give a lot of money. So, he was not happy with the degree of influence that he had when he did government relations," Binning said.

Philip was also an advisor to Theta Xi, a fraternity no

Binning said Philip was often invited as a guest lecturer

longer operating at YSU. Among its members during the late 1960s and early 1970s was Ron DeSantis Sr., father of the governor.

Ron Sr. and Karen Rogers, Philip's daughter, met and later married. Ron Sr. studied business administration at YSU while Karen attended the St. Elizabeth School of Nursing, which is no longer operating.

Cassie Nespor, curator of the Rose Melnick Medical Museum, said members of nursing schools like St. Elizabeth likely took some required classes at universities such as YSU.

"[Students] would take classes at the hospital, but then they might also take some classes at a local university," Nespor said. "Especially science classes that required laboratory equipment, but also maybe some general ed classes like psychology or some social studies classes."

After Karen graduated in 1969 and Ron Sr. graduated in 1970 with a bachelor's degree, they moved to Florida.

Philip was the last assistant to the director of Campus Development from 1975 to 1976, and in 1976 was made the director of Classified Civil Service Personnel, over-

seeing non-faculty university staff.

During his time as director in spring 1977, the classified employees voted to unionize.

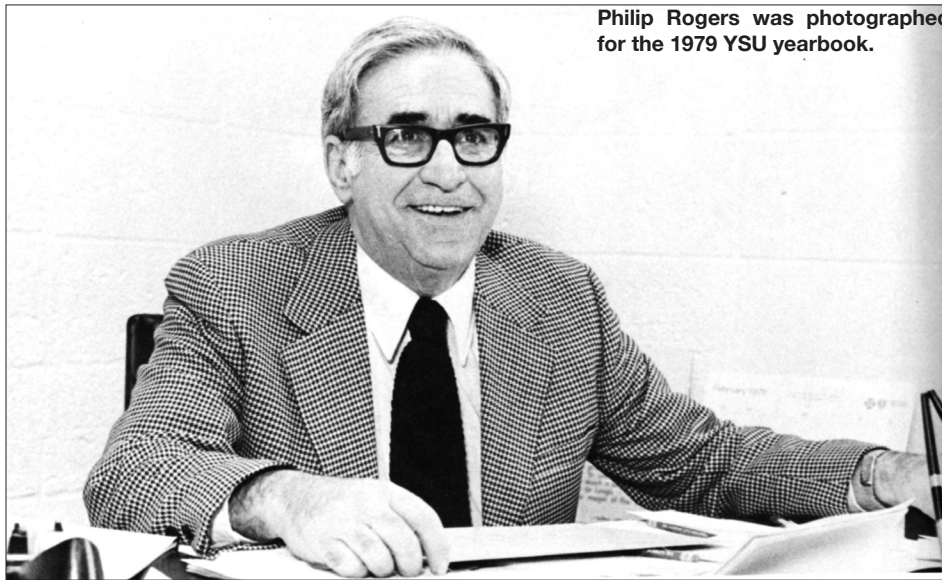
While some classified employees were union members, another election decided which of three different unions — the Ohio Civil Service Employees Association, the Communication Workers of America or the Service Employees International Union Local 627 — represented them.

When the SEIU filed an injunction to challenge how the election would be conducted, Philip went to court to assist in negotiations for YSU.

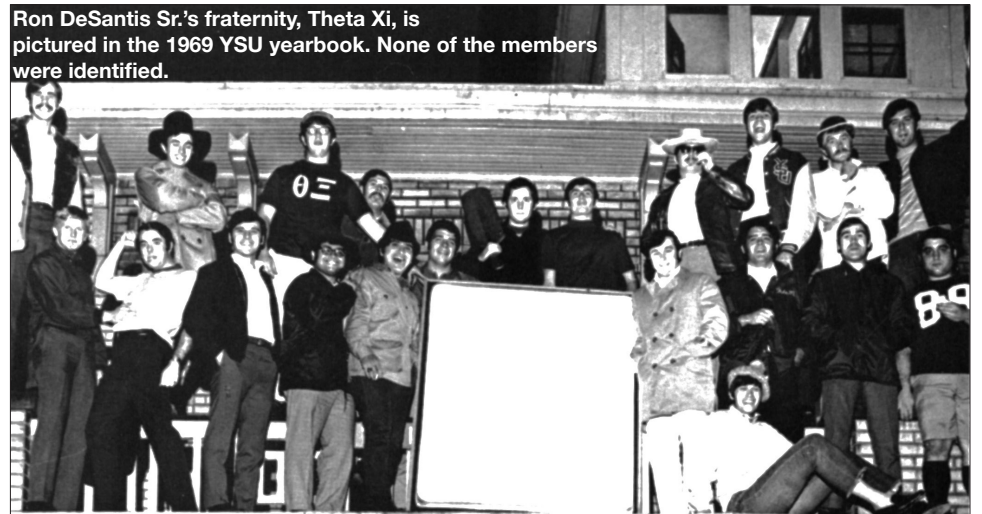
After the election ended April 21, 1977 with an OCSEA win, Philip commented to *The Jambar*, "I'm tired."

Philip retired from YSU in 1982, as the director of Employee Relations and a safety officer. He died in December 1997.

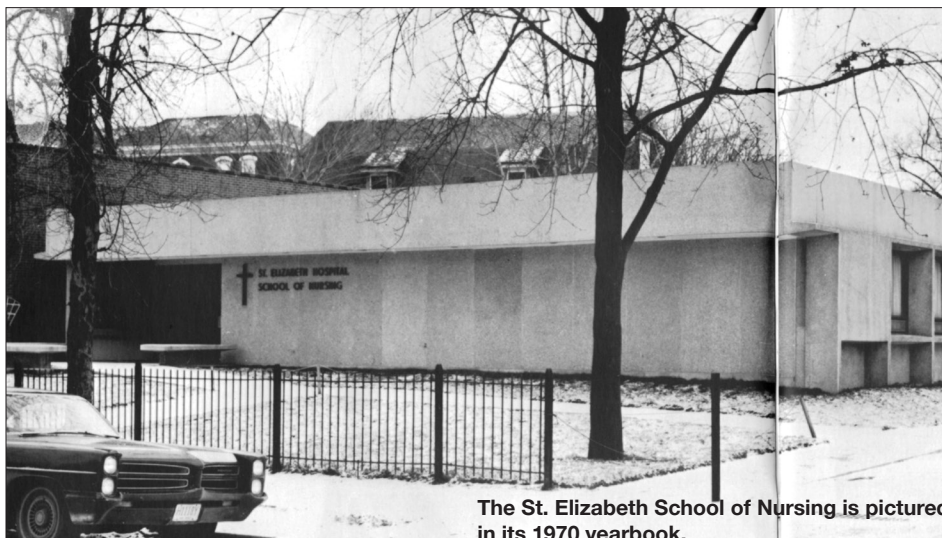
YSU historical documents can be found at University Archives and Special Collections on the fifth floor of the William F. Maag Jr. Library, or on its website. The Melnick Medical Museum is located in Cushwa Hall's basement.



Philip Rogers was photographed for the 1979 YSU yearbook.



Ron DeSantis Sr.'s fraternity, Theta Xi, is pictured in the 1969 YSU yearbook. None of the members were identified.



The St. Elizabeth School of Nursing is pictured in its 1970 yearbook.



Photos Courtesy of YSU Archives and Special Collections.

Philanthropy at YSU

By Tala Alsharif
The Jambar

Fifty-five students at Youngstown State University are being supported by Navarro Scholarships this fall semester.

The common area outside the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships, located on the second floor of Meshel Hall, has been named “The Shorty and Elba Navarro Commons” to honor Flor ‘Shorty’ and Elba Navarro for their history of philanthropy at the university.

Flor ‘Shorty’ Navarro, president of Stadium GM SuperStore Inc., and Elba Navarro, a retired school teacher from Chaney High School, have been supporting students of YSU since 2001.

“I wanted to be involved in the community and I found that Youngstown State University was the best, because I could help a lot of young people go to college,” Flor said.

Elba said the first Navarro scholarship was started to support Hispanic students.

President of YSU Foundation, Paul McFadden, explained Shorty and Elba Navarro established three more scholarships at the YSU Foundation.

“Their initial scholarship was to benefit students of Hispanic descent,” McFadden said. “They then moved into establishing another scholarship for students in education ... one in business and one in STEM.”

Elba said because she was a teacher, they decided to help students in science, technology, engineering and mathematics, and because of Flor Navarro’s history with business, they also decided to support students in business.

Flor explained he wants to bring more students to the university, since he believes YSU is an important part of the Youngstown community.

“I don’t believe Youngstown can do what it does without the university,” Flor said. “This is our home. This is our school.”

Flor believes the community, especially the Hispanic community in Youngstown, will benefit from the commons being named after the Navaros.

“The Hispanic community is growing every day and we have more kids coming out to YSU than ever,” Flor said. “By seeing our name in there, it will give them ... a positive light about coming to YSU.”

Elba said she hopes students who received scholarships will be inspired to give back to the community and help future students.

“You don’t have to take five students, just take one and help that one student get through school,” Elba said.

McFadden said the alumni who received Navarro scholarships often give back and want to help other students.

“It’s always powerful for an alumni to reach back and say, ‘Someone helped me when I was young, now I want to help those who are following in my footsteps,’” McFadden said.

The Navarro Scholarships will be here for many generations to come, since Flor and Elba have endowed them, McFadden explained.

McFadden said the scholarship provided to Hispanic students is chosen by Tiffany Thomas, the scholarship coordinator at the YSU Foundation.

The business, STEM and education scholarships are chosen by the committees of those respective colleges.

Students interested in applying to a Navarro Scholarship can visit the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships and fill out the general application. For more information, visit the office’s website.

News Brief

Friday events:

JambarTV’s newest episode
12 p.m.

Friday Nights at The Cove

4 to 6 p.m.
Kilcawley Center,
The Cove

Poetry Picnic

4:30 to 5:30 p.m.
Mill Creek MetroPark
Gazebo,
Fellows Riverside
Gardens

YSU Volleyball vs Green Bay

6 p.m.
Beeghly Center



The Shorty & Elba Navarro Commons is on the second floor of Meshel Hall.

Photo Courtesy of the YSU Foundation.

Bee creative at Sarah's Ceramics



Photo by Sydney Fairbanks / The Jambar

By Sydney Fairbanks
The Jambar

Sarah's Ceramics is a woman-owned pottery studio located in Austintown. The studio offers activities from playing with clay to glazing pre-made sculptures. This fall, the studio will be hosting spooky events for Halloween.

Sarah Fenton, owner and operator of Sarah's Ceramics, opened the shop at the end of 2021 when she ran out of space in her attic. Fenton kept a studio in her attic post-COVID-19 pandemic while also teaching online courses in her home. After she quit her teaching job, she decided to open her own ceramics studio to teach others the joys of pottery.

Walk-in hours are 12 to 6 p.m. Friday through Sunday and 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Thursdays. Starting at \$1.25, customers can glaze pre-made ceramic sculptures or play with clay to mold unique creations.

The studio offers studio space and kiln rental. Customers can rent the mudroom for \$20 for a whole day, and kiln rental ranges from \$20 to \$40.

Fenton said that playing with clay is her biggest seller in the studio, especially since not many other studios in the area offer that opportunity.

"People get to manipulate it and they don't realize how soothing playing with clay is until they get their hands on it and say 'Oh, this is fun, I might come back!'" Fenton said.

Aside from walk-in and renting, Sarah's Ceramics will host an assortment of festive events for the Halloween season. Events begin Oct. 6 with a two-piece witch hat workshop for \$30.

Sarah's Ceramics will join forces with Café Rosé to host a "Rocky Horror Picture Show" trivia and craft night, Oct. 7, for \$15.

On Oct. 13, the studio will create mini mask ornaments inspired by Jason from "Friday the 13th" for \$20. Oct. 14, guests can create ceramic jack-o'-lanterns and pumpkins for \$30.

The following week, Oct. 20, there will be a sculpting ceramic ghosts event for \$20. Lastly, on Nov. 10, Sarah's Ceramics will be working with Café Rosé once more for a "Nightmare Before Christmas" trivia and craft night for \$15.

The price of these events includes all materials, tools and finished products, and each event only seats 12 guests.

Sarah's Ceramics also sells local artists' work such as crocheted plushies, 3D printed sculptures, jewelry and more. Fenton has glazes for sale which are \$8.99 for two ounces or \$10 for four ounces.

Fenton said she likes to keep things local at her studio. All of the pre-made sculptures she has available for glazing are made of slip-casts that she purchases from local artists.

Above all, Fenton said she encourages creativity and relaxation. That is why the logo for her shop is a bee symbol with the saying 'bee creative.'

"It's a relaxing atmosphere because it's not loud. It's small, [and] it's not echoey like the mall is. I always want you to come in and be creative," Fenton said.

For more information on Sarah's Ceramics and to book a seat for upcoming events, refer to Sarah's Ceramic's website.

Sarah stands in front of her studio's logo.

News Brief

Homecoming voting deadlines

Students have the opportunity to vote for the 2023 Homecoming King and Queen on Oct. 3 and 4.

There are a total of 24 candidates, 12 candidates each for King and Queen, and candidate profiles are available on YSU's Student Activities' website under "Homecoming Royalty."

Only students currently enrolled for the fall 2023 semester are permitted to vote for candidates. Directions for students to cast their votes are located on the Student Activities' website.

The King and Queen will be announced on the field during the football halftime show when the 'Guins will take on Illinois State on Oct. 21.

Pumpkin spice and everything nice

By Owen Bertram and Shianna Gibbons
The Jambar

On campus, there are plenty of places for students and staff to fill their caffeine needs, and with the start of the fall season — fall flavors are available.

Youngstown State University offers multiple options across campus to purchase coffee such as Dunkin' Donuts, Starbucks, Stone Fruit Coffee and Pressed Coffee Bar & Eatery.

Stone Fruit is one of the many cafés on campus that offers coffee, food and space for customers to work or relax. Stone Fruit Coffee manager, Mike Cupp, said Stone Fruit has something for everyone.

"We really are everything coffee. So, from a pour-over coffee to lattes, to anything espresso based," Cupp said, "Down here, we made it a whole experience with baked goods, breakfast sandwiches, iced teas [and] iced tea lemonades — just a whole bunch of everything."

Cupp said fall flavors are now available and offered.

"We do have an autumn menu. There's maple pecan pie, we have a 'Mostly Ghostly' that is real popular, it is toasted marshmallow and white chocolate [flavor]. Pumpkin creme brulee, apple crisp, the list goes on and on," Cupp said.

Assistant manager and barista Madison Schantz said her favorite flavor is pumpkin creme brulee.

"As a barista, my favorite would be the pumpkin creme brulee," Schantz said. "[The most popular is] the pumpkin marshmallow or the pumpkin creme brulee."

Pressed is the second coffee location on Lincoln Avenue. Some of Pressed's most popular items include waffles and panini sandwiches.

"While we are known for our selection of hot and cold coffees and teas, we also source only the freshest ingredients possible to ensure our breakfast and lunch items are as fresh as they are delicious," according to Pressed's website.

Sophia Scafidi, freshman dental hygiene major, said she likes to keep her coffee orders simple.

"I'll normally get a caramel latte," Scafidi said. "During fall, my favorite flavor is pumpkin spice, which I guess is the most basic."

A junior telecommunications major, Emma Courtwright, said she likes to drink coffee from Pressed.

"I know they do a decent white chocolate and raspberry espresso," Courtwright said. "You can get any flavor — that's why I like it."

Some students, like freshman dental hygiene major Maddie Miller, prefer holiday flavors over fall.

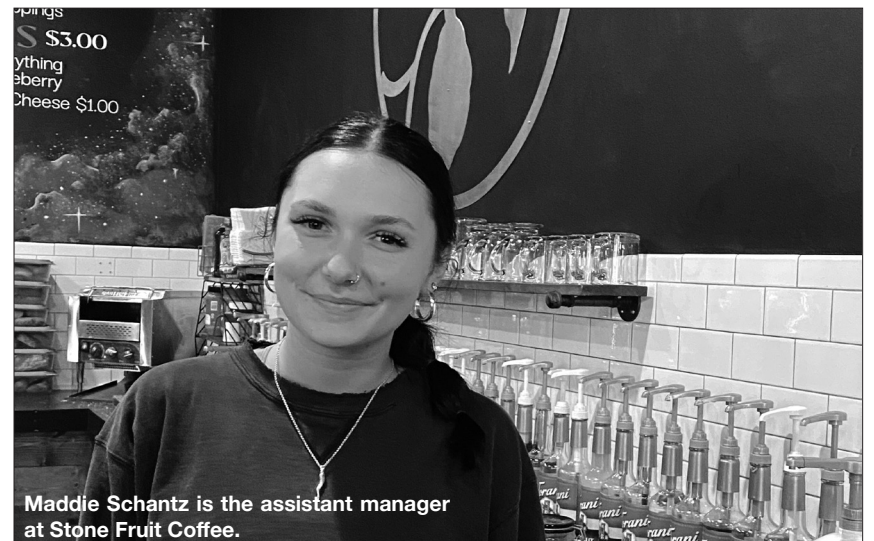
"I do like pumpkin spice but I like when it starts to become Christmas time [and café's have] the toasted marshmallow-flavored stuff more," Miller said.

Students, faculty, staff and the community can stop in and get fall flavors at Stone Fruit Coffee Monday through Friday 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., and Friday through Sunday 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Pressed is open Monday through Friday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturday through Sunday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

For more information on coffee places and other food options on campus, head to YSU's Kilcawley Center website.



Autumn flavors are available at Stone Fruit Coffee.



Maddie Schantz is the assistant manager at Stone Fruit Coffee.

Photos by Shianna Gibbons / The Jambar

Q: What's your favorite thing about fall?



Ben Pasku,
YSU student

"My favorite thing about fall is the leaves falling and the season changing. I love going to the Lanternman's Mill and seeing all the fall stuff."



Ashton Schweiger,
junior finance major

"I like sweatshirts and sweaters. So, I can now wear them again."



Colin Murphy,
YSU student

"I like the leaves, the pumpkins and everything like that. Good vibes."



Amy Bowman,
sophomore middle childhood
education major

"I like the colors and my birthday is in the fall."

Mobile Market hits the streets of Youngstown

By Elizabeth Coss
The Jambar

The Mahoning Valley Mobile Market travels across Mahoning County to provide healthy foods to the community — including Youngstown State University's.

The market is a 28-foot-long grocery store on wheels, spearheaded by the Alliance for Congregational Transformation Influencing Our Neighborhoods.

Jeffery Stanford, lead organizer for ACTION, said the Mobile Market was created to combat Youngstown's food desert.

"[ACTION] [has] been fighting food deserts ever since they've been here. We have been trying to get a brick-and-mortar grocery store," Stanford said. "We just want to make sure that those in Youngstown have access to fruits and vegetables, and all the amenities everyone else has."

Fresh tomatoes, peppers, onions and lettuce are available in a farm-to-table style. The market also offers a variety of meats, breads, dairy products, baking materials, microwave meals, ice creams and condiments.

Rose Carter, the executive director of ACTION, said the Mobile Market provides produce from local farms.

"We also get our food from local vendors, local farmers [and] local produce people," Carter said. "It's very

important because people need to learn how to eat healthy and the only way they're going to ... is to have fresh vegetables, fruits [and] meats."

YSU students qualify for a \$25 voucher to spend on the Mobile Market. Vouchers are available to other shoppers on a first-come, first-serve basis. The market also accepts other forms of payment including cash, credit, EBT or SNAP.

With the \$25 voucher, some students' groceries are essentially free. Students can shop multiple times a month on the market but can only get one voucher per household per month.

Kylee Chrastina, a YSU graduate, is the scheduling coordinator for ACTION and the marketing coordinator for the Mobile Market. She completed an internship with the organization, which was funded through the YSU Wean Foundation.

Chrastina said she understands the importance of affordable, healthy options for college students.

"I know the struggles of having to worry financially ... It's just lifting all these burdens that a lot of students face, especially with the rising cost of groceries," Chrastina said. "There's not a ton of healthy options that are affordable, especially for students who mostly don't work or you have international students who might not have access to a lot of these things."

The Mobile Market's services will soon travel to Trumbull County as the organization has ordered a newer, larger truck to expand its reach and improve accessibility features.

The truck will arrive at the start of 2024, but until then Carter said the Mahoning Valley Mobile Market will travel to Trumbull County during the holiday season.

"We are going to make different stops in Trumbull County while we are waiting on that truck," Carter said. "We've made arrangements with Trumbull Memorial Hospital, [Trumbull County Action Program] — some of the other spots — to just try to take the truck up there before Thanksgiving and before Christmas."

The Mahoning Valley Mobile Market makes multiple stops each month — some private to residential areas, while others are public.

The next public stops will be 12 to 2 p.m. Sept. 28 at the Sebring Library and 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Sept. 30 at the Austintown Farmers Market.

For more information on the Mahoning Valley Mobile Market, its locations and monthly schedule, visit its Facebook page. For more information about ACTION, visit actionoh.com.



Jeffery Stanford stands outside the Mahoning Valley Mobile Market on Sept. 22. [Right]



Photos by Elizabeth Coss / The Jambar

Sedona jumps into “Little Hollywood”

By John Ostapowicz
The Jambar

In the Mahoning Valley, an indie-rock and pop band is making waves on a local and national level.

Sedona, a four-person band from Youngstown, is gearing up for a busy remainder of 2023 with a local benefit concert called Hits For Hearing on Sept. 29, a new album Nov. 3 and a scheduled tour from November through December.

The band is led by frontman and rhythm guitarist Harrison Rhinehart with the help of his brother, rhythm guitarist and backing vocalist, Ben Rhinehart. Together, the two have garnered national attention and helped rejuvenate the local music scene.

The Rhineharts jumped into the Youngstown spotlight in 2017 and started networking with local musicians, which led to multi-instrumentalist Grant Shultz joining the brothers.

“Sedona” comes from a song of the same name from Indiana band, Houndmouth.

“I just liked that song and I thought that would be a cool band name, turns out there’s a lot of bands with that name,” Harrison said. “You just have to be unique to where it’s not a big deal.”

The band’s musical inspiration stems from other indie-rock bands such as Her’s, Vacations and Hippo Campus.

The mastermind behind Sedona’s unique tone is credited to Shultz. His combination of lead guitar, keyboard and trumpet puts its own twist on the indie-rock genre.

Shultz’s inclusion of a Roland Jazz Chorus solid-state guitar amplifier gave the band its raw reverb and high treble range.

“[Sedona] has been described as a trip to indie-rock heaven,” Harrison said.

With the addition of drummer Justin Barnett, the band has kept a consistent rhythm section for over a year and has released several tracks such as “Yat Club,” “Back Around (Rob’s Song),” an EP titled “Yat Rock” and its most recent release, “Remind Me,” which came out Sept. 1.

“Yat Club,” one of the band’s most successful songs, was inspired by Harrison’s red Fiat 500, but it quickly evolved into the fan base’s nickname.

“I didn’t think it would grow into something that big,” Harrison said. “I thought it was going to be this little song, but it really grew.”

The band itself has had some out-of-town experience as it has traveled to the RCA Dome in Indianapolis, The Outpost in Kent and The Rialto Theater in Akron.

For Harrison, nothing compares to playing at home. “Westside Bowl is the place in Youngstown. They take care of everybody and you never have to go there and worry about anything,” Harrison said.

Shultz recalled the Wickyards performance, in which

several people came out to see them.

“I’d say the past year has been pretty good [in Youngstown], seeing friends, family, new fans and old fans,” Shultz said.

As several musicians release music in the Youngstown area, Barnett said the local music scene is starting to generate new faces.

“The Youngstown music scene is starting to get alive again, it seems like people are starting to come around and see local music,” Barnett said.

A new album is scheduled for Nov. 3, titled “Slappers Only,” which will include five to seven songs. The album will be followed by a midwest tour November through December that will hit several major cities such as Cincinnati, New York City, Dayton and Nashville.

The group will be back in the Mahoning Valley alongside The Broken Relics and Matt Carson at 5:30 to 10 p.m. Sept. 29 at the Penguin City Brewing Company, in support of the Starkey Hearing Foundation and centers for hearing care hosted by Youngstown State University Delta Zeta sorority.

There will be a \$5 cover charge upon entry, which will benefit a local hearing center.

To listen to Sedona’s new album and music releases, check Spotify and Apple Music and to keep up with the band, visit its website at sedona.band. To follow its mid-western tour, check out its Instagram and Facebook.



Sedona’s new album, “Slappers Only,” will drop Nov. 3.

Photos courtesy of Erik Vargo

Honoring Hispanic Heritage Month

By **Natalie Lasky**
The Jambar

Youngstown State University is celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month, and it kicked off the month with an Opening Ceremony at the Youngstown Municipal Courthouse on Sept. 14.

Hispanic Heritage Month began Sept. 15 and it will end Oct. 15. The month is about recognizing Hispanic culture, history, fashion, food, music and dancing.

Sponsored by the YSU Hispanic Heritage Planning Committee, the Opening Ceremony started by representing 22 Hispanic countries and had YSU alumna Mirta Pacheco Arrowsmith as the keynote speaker.

Ana Torres, chair of the YSU Hispanic Heritage Planning Committee, said Hispanic Heritage Month is a way to celebrate immigrants who have settled in the Mahoning Valley.

"We celebrate the various contribu-

tions and the heritage of Latino cultures in this country of the immigrants and the families that have been here for centuries and have made the [U.S.] their home," Torres said.

YSU alumnus and Ohio State Rep. Al Cutrona said his favorite part of Hispanic heritage is enjoying the culture's food. Cutrona stated during the ceremony that the community should be focused on progressing by understanding history.

"I've always believed that you cannot progress as people if you don't remember your past," Cutrona said.

Francisco Rivera-Ocasio, a senior political science major, said Hispanic heritage means a lot to him.

"This is extremely important to me as a member of the Hispanic community and a descendant of Puerto Rican immigrants — to celebrate the culture of Puerto Rico and all these other Latin American countries," Rivera-Ocasio said.

Victor Arcieno, a faculty member of

The Department of English and World Languages, said it's essential to maintain and share cultural traditions when immigrants move to the U.S.

"To keep this tradition because when people come in right here, we don't want them to lose their cultural background but also we want to share [our traditions] here in the U.S.," Arcieno said.

Arcieno said people should respect others for their identity and cultural upbringing.

"You can accept people from different nationalities because as human beings, we [come] in different sizes, colors and we [are] unique in our own way," Arcieno said.

Hispanic Heritage Month activities are split up with some events taking place in the downtown area, and some at YSU's campus.

For more information on Hispanic Heritage Month, contact Ana Torres at amtorres02@ysu.edu or 330-941-1717.

YSU events included:

- Noche de Cine (Movie Night) at Maag Library
- International Coffee Hour
- #NotWhiteCollective art display at the McDonough Museum

Downtown Youngstown events included:

- 20th Century Hispanic Art exhibition at the Butler Institute of American Art
- Make Cuban Maracas
- The 13th Annual Non-Violence Parade and Rally
- ¡HOLA! Fest Youngstown and Hispanic Heritage Celebration
- Understanding the Global Diversity of Hispanic and Latin Americans speaker Michael Benitez, Ph. D.
- OCCHA Annual Gala Fundraiser and Veterans Appreciation Dinner.

¡Hola Youngstown!

By **Shianna Gibbons**
The Jambar

The first-ever ¡Hola Fest! took place in Wean Park near the Covelli Center on Sept. 23, the second weekend into Hispanic Heritage Month.

The ¡Hola Fest! event highlighted and celebrated Hispanic Or Latin American [Hola] culture and was sponsored by the Community Foundation of the Mahoning Valley, Youngstown Flea and Thrive Mahoning Valley.

The event kicked off with a parade at noon, and festivities continued throughout the day with a pageant, live music entertainment and vendors.

Lisette Encarnacion, media and marketing coordinator for ¡Hola Fest!, said the event is to celebrate Hispanic culture in Youngstown.

"It's an awesome way to spread the word of how big the Hispanic community is embedded in Youngstown.

It's important for us to know that [Hispanic heritage] exists and there's organizations to be able to help them get through life," Encarnacion said.

Before ¡Hola Fest! there was a Spanish Festival, but ¡Hola Fest! is different because it brings together different Hispanic ethnicities and identities, Encarnacion said.

"The Spanish Festival was celebrating Hispanic culture, but it was deemed [for] one specific heritage," Encarnacion said "¡Hola Fest! is really bringing everybody together, whether you're Caribbean, Peruvian, Columbian, Hispanic or from Spain."

David Labra, entertainment lead for ¡Hola Fest!, said not too many people are aware of the size of the Hispanic community in Youngstown or around the world.

"[¡Hola Fest!] is a great way to bring the Hispanic community together," Labra said. "Some people don't realize how much of the world Hispanic and Latin populations kind of cover. People can kind of see the diversity within Hispanics themselves and the event is a good representation of that."

Encarnacion said the event provokes nostalgia for Youngstown's history.

"Coming to celebrate is also nostalgic at the same time because in past times, even before 10 years ago, we're talking about the 1970s, Hispanic culture was always celebrated in the city of Youngstown," Encarna-

cion said. "Before it was on a smaller scale, then a bigger scale, and now, we're able to bring together all the Latin communities to celebrate on a larger, modern scale that Hispanics support you and we support them."

The parade started at the corner of East Front Street and South Avenue and followed Walnut Street all the way to the Covelli Center Entrance where the main event was located.

After the parade, a cultural pageant was held for children ages 3 to 18.

There were also three different live performing bands: Conjunto Sabroso, Grupo Fuego and Sammy Deleon.

Labra said there were over 40 different vendors at ¡Hola Fest! that sold food, jewelry or representing a specific Hispanic heritage.

Labra and Encarnacion said the event took months of preparation and collaboration to pull together an event this large in Youngstown.

"So many folks have put a lot of their lives into this, especially over the last few months. So, [I'm] just so appreciative of all those people [that were] willing to make this event happen," Labra said.

Labra said ¡Hola Fest! Youngstown is in the process of getting its 501(c) designation to continue celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month with the ¡Hola Fest! event.

Hispanic Heritage Month runs till Oct. 15. For more information and photos, go to ¡Hola Fest! Youngstown's website or its Facebook.

The Jambar Column

Summer's almost gone

By the time this column is published, summer will be over. All of the 90/90 days — 90 degrees, 90% humidity — will seem like a distant dream. With the departure of summer comes the much-appreciated arrival of fall.

Whether you love it for the scenery, the cool weather, the long nights, football games, etc., everyone — at least the people who I surround myself with — loves fall.

Obviously, the best part of fall for me is the cool weather, a close second would be the trees. Go down to Mill Creek Park and take a look at the mighty oaks. They stretch high into the sky and are usually flourishing with green leaves.

As soon as October and November roll in, the leaves are either scattered on the ground or turned red and orange and ready to drop

I've lived out in the country for the greater part of my life, so I've grown to love the long, cool nights and the landscapes during the fall. There is nothing better than driving down a long stretch of highway at sunset with the windows down and a little Eagles or America on the radio. To me, that is the American Dream.

Halloween is another plus to the fall season. I love binge-watching horror movies and skyrocketing my blood sugar levels on cheap candy. While some may hate them, I love a classic 70s horror movie. That was when directors didn't have CGI and had to rely on practical effects and atmosphere to create psycho-



Matthew Sotlar

logical horror.

The best Halloween candy is obviously the little Laffy Taffy bites — not including the banana flavor, yuck — and I will not debate on the subject. You're talking to a stubborn mule. As

for scary movies, my favorites are "The Wicker Man" and "The Shining." They're classics and worth it for the cheap scares.

I've got my costume lined up for Halloween, at least I do for now, until I inevitably change it — again — in a week. I'm going as Saul Goodman from "Breaking Bad," since I just finished the show last month.

Fall also brings Thanksgiving. There's nothing more American than gorging myself on turkey and side dishes and taking a five-hour nap at 4 in the afternoon. It's always a plus to see my family. The meal makes Thanksgiving worthwhile for me, even though I know the first Thanksgiving wasn't as fantastic as my teachers told me in elementary school.

The seasons in Ohio are always interchangeable. Some days in the fall reach 80 degrees and sometimes it's the mid 40s in October. Even when it's 90 degrees and I'm swimming, or it's 20 degrees and I'm sitting around the Christmas tree, I'm thinking about fall.

Of all the seasons, fall is the best. Like Goldilocks, it's not too hot or cold, just right.

Quote of the Week

"For last year's words belong to last year's language
And next year's words await another voice."

— T.S. Eliot,
American poet and editor

The Jambar Editorial

Drag is not a crime

Drag is a type of performance art which surrounds the exaggeration of gender expression, with many drag artists identifying as drag queens or drag kings.

Pioneered by LGBTQ people of color, drag artists often perform many talents, including lip synching, singing, dancing, stand up comedy and more, all while challenging the bounds of traditional gender roles.

For a long time, drag was thought of as simply cross dressing. Today, drag is respected and understood as much more than cross dressing, with many women becoming drag queens and men becoming drag kings, too.

While drag queens and kings are not necessarily transgender, many within the drag community do identify as transgender. It's a misconception that drag artists and transgender people are the same.

Since the early 2010s, drag has become a cornerstone of pop culture, even becoming the subject for many popular reality TV shows, including the Emmy Award-winning RuPaul's Drag Race.

However, drag artists have always faced discrimination — and recently, drag has been under attack.

In March, Tennessee became the first state to sign a law restricting drag shows from being public or in front of children.

In May, Montana banned drag performers from reading books to children in schools and libraries, something many drag artists have done to educate children on LGBTQ topics.

After federal courts struck down these laws as unconstitutional, both Tennessee and Montana were unable to enforce the bans. Nevertheless, this hasn't erased discrimination stemming from the legislation.

Several other states including Arizona, Texas, West Virginia, Florida, Kentucky, Minnesota and Missouri have anti-drag bills advancing in state legislatures. These bills range from classifying drag as adult entertainment to classifying parents who take their children to drag shows as sex

offenders.

While anti-drag legislation is justified as a means of child protection, drag queens and kings are not a threat to children.

Drag shows can include adult entertainment, but family-friendly drag shows do not contain this content. Most drag shows for children are comparable to princess performances found at amusement parks.

The true purpose for banning or restricting drag is to discriminate against the LGBTQ community and to uphold traditional gender roles.

Anything that goes outside these roles is often deemed harmful to children on the basis that it is sexually oriented. This only affirms the false notion that drag performers, transgender people or gender nonconforming people are inappropriate for children to be around.

The true intentions of drag bans and restrictions can be seen in the rise of anti-LGBTQ legislation in the states targeting drag.

The American Civil Liberties Union has been tracking 496 bills across the U.S. that target rights of LGBTQ people, with 84 already passed into law.

Many of the bills restrict gender-affirming care for transgender minors, prohibit transgender athletes from participating in school sports and restrict school access to books and resources on LGBTQ topics.

Violence and hatred have oppressed LGBTQ people throughout all of American history, and the community has fought tirelessly, with drag artists at its frontlines.

While the legislation doesn't come as a surprise, it is a major step back. It continues to create harmful environments for drag artists and even discrimination for allies who support them.

Despite being an art form that fosters and promotes acceptance and love, drag is seen and treated as a crime.

Drag is not a crime. It is a fight. It is a protest. It is a celebration.

*Spaces are used in between words

Across

4. Cold weather top usually knitted or crocheted

7. Director of Beetlejuice, Corpse Bride and Edward Scissor Hands

8. Labrynth made from a tall grain plant

9. 1993 Disney spooky movie with a 2022 sequel

10. Fall drink made from apples

11. These nuts fall from Oak trees

13. Most popular fall coffee drink

15. 1996 slasher movie starring Courtney Cox and Matthew Lillard

17. Retail store that is only open in the fall season

18. Popular spooky superstition involving felines

19. A carved out pumpkin with a light inside

20. 1978 horror/slasher movie series starring Jamie Lee Curtis

Down

1. A ride typically taken in the back of a truck with bales used for animal food

2. Marks the end of growing season for crops

3. Superstitious day believed to be filled with misfortune

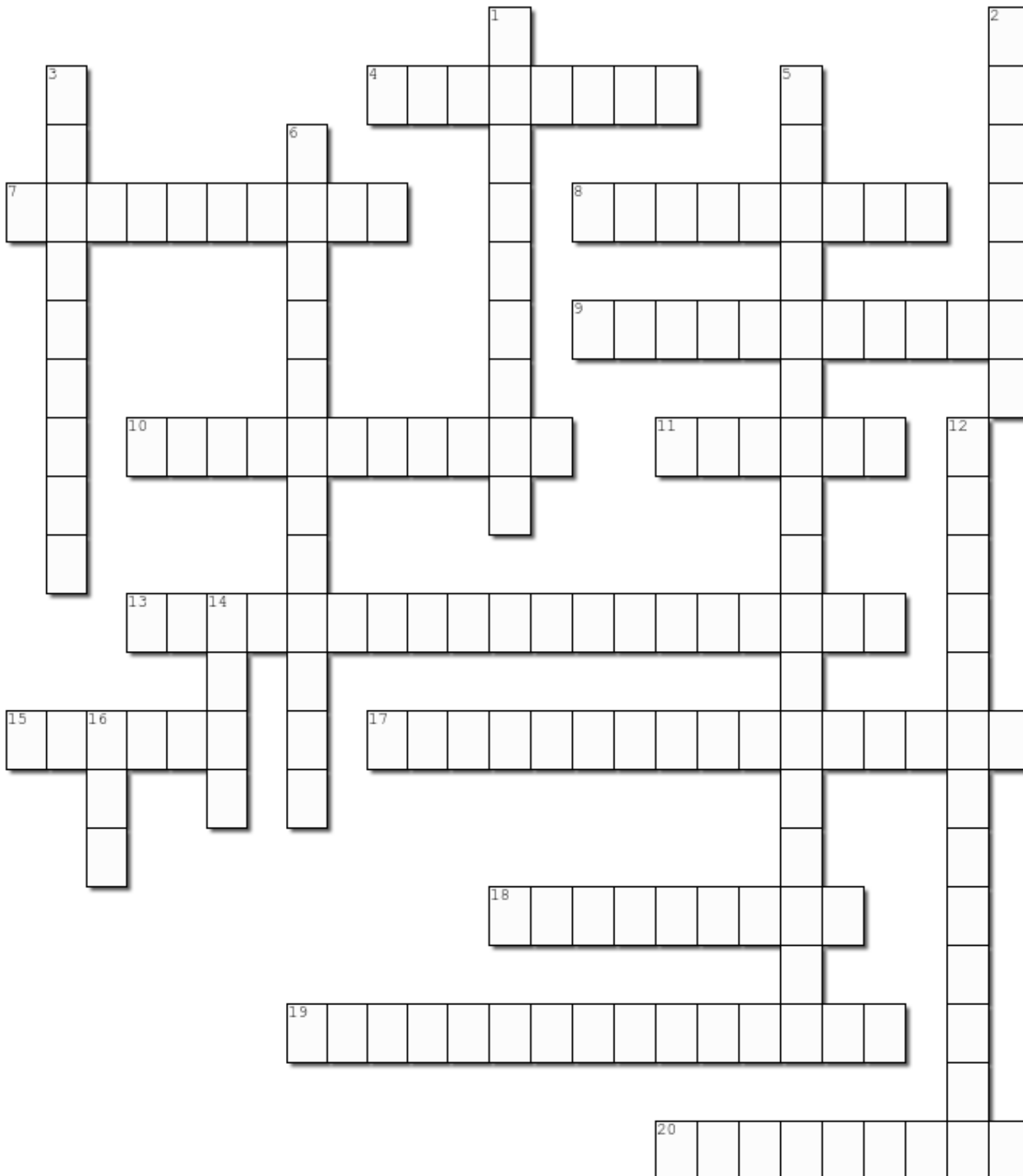
5. Where Friday the 13th movie series takes place

6. Horror writer described as the "King of Horror"

12. An indoor activity to do closer to Halloween for a good scare

14. Popular fall flower available in many different color options

16. Taylor Swift album and a fall color



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Women's soccer looks to move forward

By Dylan Lux
The Jambar

After taking care of business at home against Northern Kentucky University, the Youngstown State University women's soccer team continued its stout Horizon League schedule against Wright State University and Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis.

The Penguins' first matchup in the two-game span had the team travel to Dayton to take on the Raiders of Wright State on Sept. 21.

The game saw five total goals at the final buzzer, but Wright State took home the victory 3-2 over the Penguins.

At the 34-minute mark, sophomore Taylor Berry scored her second goal of the year, tying senior Lianna Van Sice for most points on the team. Her goal came off an assist from sophomore Emma Rigone.

The second Penguin goal in the matchup was a late strike at the 86-minute mark by graduate student Regan LaVigna, her first goal of the season and eighth of her career. Graduate student Abriana Rondin assisted on LaVigna's goal.

After a hard-fought loss, graduate student Mikayla

Mustard said the key to remaining positive is the girls' confidence in their team.

"Last year, we made it to the [Horizon League] championship for the first time ever, and just that is giving us hope," Mustard said. "We know we can get there, we know we can compete with all of these teams. We know that we're one of the best teams in the conference."

After the contest versus the Raiders, the Penguins moved to 5-4-1 on the season and 1-2 in conference play.

The following game saw the team return home to Farmers National Bank Field to face the IUPUI Jaguars.

The matchup between the goalies was highly anticipated, as both rank in the top seven in the conference in goals saved and goals saved per game.

Both teams saw a gloomy day on the pitch, as it rained on and off throughout the matchup and provided a defense-heavy performance, as the score was tied 0-0 through the first 45 minutes.

Ultimately, the lone goal of the match was scored on an IUPUI penalty kick in the 60-minute-mark of the matchup.

The Penguins didn't go down without a fight, as the team took 12 shots when the match was done, along with 4 shots on goal.

Head coach Brian Shrum said the offensive strength came from adjustments after the first half.

"In the second half, we addressed it. We moved some players around, put some players in different roles and that helped I think," Shrum said. "In that first 20 minutes we were really on top of them, it's unfortunate we didn't capitalize."

According to Shrum, the team will take key moments from its game against the Jaguars and looks to utilize them in future matchups.

"We'll address a couple of moments just because we've moved the system around a few times," Shrum said. "I've been happy with our attack ... in two games we've generated 28 shots. That's the most scoring opportunities we've had, so we're going to keep building on that."

As for the game plan for this weekend's matchup, Shrum keeps it simple.

"Put the ball in the back of the net," Shrum said.

The Penguins will return to the pitch at 1 p.m. Sept. 30 in Fort Wayne, Indiana to take on Purdue University Fort Wayne.

This game will be aired on ESPN+. For stats, highlights and more, visit ysusports.com.



The soccer team celebrates a goal by graduate student Abriana Rondin.

Photo courtesy of Robert Hayes

Men's tennis swings back into action

By Cameron Niemi
The Jambar

The Youngstown State University men's tennis team opened its fall season at Western Michigan University's Vredevelt Invitational on Sept. 22 and 23.

The team played both singles and doubles matches against three different teams, including WMU, DePaul University and Butler University.

Youngstown State has several returning players and three new players. The team is hoping to make it back for another chance at the Horizon League title.

At the invitational, the Penguins had an overall doubles record of 6-2. As for singles, the overall record was 9-12 over the two days.

Junior Nathan Favier and sophomore Nishant Dabas led the Penguins as they went a perfect 3-0, and this was the duo's first time playing together. Dabas is a transfer from St. John's University and was the number No. 1

ranked player in Indiana in 2021.

Favier spoke about the performance of the team at its first invitational of the fall season.

"It was tough physically because we played six matches in two days," Favier said. "The team did solid, [and] everybody got their first win. We are ready to keep going for the fall and getting ready for the spring as well."

Returning seniors David Alvarez Moreno and Asier Pena Ibanez went 2-0 in their doubles matches.

Junior transfer from Ashland University, William Rassat and freshman Onder Balci both went 2-1 in their singles matches, along with junior Harry Fouzas. Rassat was a First-Team Great Midwest Athletic Conference selection last season.

This past April, the team fell short in the Horizon League Championship, losing to Belmont University in the semifinals. Belmont went on to win the Championship.

The fall invitationals will help improve the team's

chemistry for both doubles and singles matches, as it prepares for conference play, which starts in spring.

The Penguins return home to the YSU Indoor Tennis Center for the YSU Invitational on Sept. 30 and Oct. 1. Matches will start at 9 a.m.

Favier spoke on returning home for the YSU Invitational.

"Playing home is always special. We love our court" Favier said. "Having this one home invitational is a good chance for us to have our friends come in. Our teammates having a chance to play here in front of our people is really nice."

The men's team will go on and compete in the ITA Midwest Regionals in Ann Arbor, Michigan on Oct. 19 through 21. Then it will wrap up its fall season at the Cleveland State Invitational on Oct. 27 through 29. Fans can watch the matches or view the results on ysusports.com.

Women's golf continues its winning ways

By Marissa Masano
The Jambar

The Youngstown State University women's golf team continued its success at the Roseann Schwartz Invitational as a strong final round finish secured its victory. The team overcame a five-stroke deficit and claimed its second victory of the season.

The lady 'Guins posted a score of 308 in the first round at the Mill Creek Golf Course in Boardman on Sept. 23.

The second day of competition opened up with a second-round score of 291, which tied for the eighth-lowest, 18-hole performance in school history. The two-round team total of 599 tied for the seventh-lowest, 36-hole team score in program history.

For head coach Nate Miklos, this year's team has the potential to put together a special season.

"We have a really strong team this year. This is probably the most depth we've had in my time at YSU and seeing our team just continuing to play at this level and to post those types of scores just tells me we have the capability to go out and put together great rounds every-time we go out," Miklos said.

During Sunday's final session, the lady 'Guins were five strokes behind Cleveland State University and Indiana State University.

However, the team overcame its first-round deficit with an invitational-low, second-round score of 291. Cleveland State finished as the runner-up with a two-

round team total of 600.

The highest Penguin finisher was freshman Neeranuch Prajunpanich. Prajunpanich placed third in her third collegiate event. On Saturday, the freshman scored 73; on Sunday, she finished with 72 to compile a two-round final score of 145.

Her second-round score was tied for the second-lowest, only trailing behind University of Detroit Mercy's junior Ariel Chang and Cleveland State's sophomore Mandie Ruminski. On Sunday, Prajunpanich's score of 72 featured 13 pars and three birdies. After completing the invitational, the true freshman tied for second in birdies with eight.

Two other Penguins finished in the top 10 on the individual leaderboard. Senior Maddie Smithco improved from last season's performance at the Roseann Schwartz Invitational. Last season, Smithco tied for 11th with a two-round score of 153. This season, Smithco tied for sixth with a two-round total of 150.

Smithco's final round total of 72, comprised 10 pars and four birdies. The senior finished the invitational ranking second in par 4 scoring and third in birdies with seven.

The final Penguin to finish in the top 10 was junior Lizzie Saur. Saur finished tied for ninth with a two-round final score of 154. The junior's first-round score was 79 and her second-round score of 72 included 13 pars and three birdies.

Saur finished in the top five for a par 4 scoring and ranked third in pars with 23 for the day.

The lady 'Guins will continue their fall season Oct. 1 and 2, competing in Niagara's Purple Eagles Invitational at Diamond Hawk Golf Course in Cheektowaga, New York. For Smithco, the next invitational is another opportunity for herself and the team.

"I want to keep the game going that I've had. I've had a good season so far. Just stay focused on what I can do and not get ahead of myself and think about trying to win another event individually or as a team. Just do what I can and try to help the team the best that I can," Smithco said.

To watch the invitational, check out ESPN+. For stats, highlights and more, visit ysusports.com.



Photo by Dylan Lux / The Jambar
Loudtragulgam driving.

Borum reaches new milestone

By Madeline Hippeard
The Jambar

After defeating Horizon League opponent Oakland University on Sept. 22, 3-1, fifth-year senior Josi Borum became the only active Division I collegiate volleyball player to reach 1,000 career kills, digs and assists.

The Penguins won the first set of the match, 25-20. Borum scored the final point of the set with her third kill of the day.

The lady 'Guins then opened the second set with a 12-6 lead, putting them on track to win the set, 25-20.

Despite their success in the first two sets, the Penguins trailed in the third, resulting in a 19-25 loss.

The 'Guins scored the first seven points in the fourth set, which set the pace for the rest of the match.

Later on, Borum scored her 1,000th career kill, giving her team a 22-17 lead. The Penguins won the set, 25-21.

The next day, the lady 'Guins travelled to take on Cleveland State University, where they lost three of four sets. They lost the first set, 23-25.

Sophomore Abbie Householder had a career-high of 17 kills in the match against Cleveland State, six of which came in the second set.

Householder said she is proud of how the team keeps its spirits high and works together while down during the game.

"We are good at coming together and getting out of it together and looking at each other and not putting our heads down. That's something

to be proud of," Householder said.

Householder's kills, along with a serving error on match point from the Vikings, helped lead the Penguins to a 25-23 victory in the second set.

After seven attack errors and four serving errors, the lady 'Guins lost the third set, 20-25.

The Penguins were unable to fight back against a 7-1 burst by the Vikings in the fourth set, and lost, 18-25.

Head women's volleyball coach Aline Scott said the Penguins are struggling with a lack of depth on the court because of injuries.

"When we play three times in one week, that depth would have been really critical for us to maintain our level of play throughout," Scott said.

Despite losing the first set of the match 16-25, the lady 'Guins won the second, 26-24.

The final two points of the set were scored by Borum and Householder.

The lady 'Guins also lost 0-3 against Wright State University on Sept. 26 at home.

The Penguins return to action at 6 p.m., Sept. 29, at the Beeghly Center to take on the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay.

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

