

THE JAMBAR

The student voice of Youngstown State University since 1931

FREE!



Thursday, November 30, 2023



LAST MAN STANDING



Photo by Shianna Gibbons / The Jambar

William "Bill" Johnson and his wife, LeeAnn, accepted the board's offer on Nov. 21.

Johnson becomes 10th YSU president

By Shianna Gibbons and Dylan Lux
The Jambar

The Youngstown State University board of trustees voted 8-1 to give U.S. Rep. William "Bill" Johnson the position of YSU president on Nov. 21.

Michael Peterson, chair of the board, said Johnson was unmatched as a candidate.

"Johnson expressed a passion for YSU and the community more than other candidates," Peterson said. "We firmly believe that our YSU family will understand why he is selected as the leader of YSU."

Johnson thanked the community for expressing confidence in his ability to lead and addressed the community's concerns.

"It's been a huge honor. [Being YSU president] fits with my sense of service. I see that opportuni-

ty of service here at YSU. I know some have questioned my professional and educational experience — it's not the traditional route," Johnson said. "As president, my history in politics will not reflect my decisions here at YSU, regardless of political and religious affiliation. I'm committed to creating a diverse and inclusive environment."

Johnson's contract is worth \$410,000 a year, and his presidency will start sometime in March 2024, during the first quarter of the year.

The board announced that the presidential search was a confidential process similar to private institutions. Anita Hackstedde, secretary of the board, said in a press conference that an executive leadership team made up of different stakeholders met with the

Bill Johnson, Page 2

YSU offers second-largest athletic program in Ohio

By Gunnhildur Baldursdottir
Jambar Contributor

Youngstown State University's Athletic Department is ranked the second largest in Ohio, after The Ohio State University, with 520 student-athletes across the 21 sports programs.

Ron Strollo, executive director of Intercollegiate Athletics, said YSU expanded its athletic programs in 2019 when enrollment declined on campus.

"There was a necessity for us to take on some more student-athletes and more sports. That's when we added lacrosse, men's swimming and diving, and doubled the roster in cross country," Strollo said.

According to the National Collegiate Athletic Association, Division I schools must sponsor a certain number of sports depending on the university's football team's division. For YSU and other Football Championship Subdivision schools, the requirement is 14.

YSU athletics affect the campus and community through mitigating enrollment numbers and state-funding toward academic success.

Neal McNally, the vice president for finance and business operations, said implementing more sports at YSU was a goal led by former President Jim Tressel.

Athletics, Page 4

News	1-4	Classifieds	9
Student Life	5-7	Sports	10-12
Opinion	8		

STAFF**EDITOR IN CHIEF**

Shianna Gibbons
smgibbons@student.ysu.edu

MANAGING EDITOR

Dylan Lux
dlux@student.ysu.edu

NEWS EDITOR

Christopher Gillett
cmgillett@student.ysu.edu

STUDENT LIFE EDITOR

Molly Burke
mkburke@student.ysu.edu

SPORTS EDITOR

John Ostapowicz
jfostapowicz@student.ysu.edu

ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

Cameron Niemi
cniemi@student.ysu.edu

SPORTS REPORTERS

Madeline Hippeard
mehippeard@student.ysu.edu

Marissa Masano

mamasano@student.ysu.edu

GENERAL REPORTERS

Natalie Lasky
nnlasky@student.ysu.edu

Jillian McIntosh
jjmcintosh@student.ysu.edu

Sydney Fairbanks
sefairbanks@student.ysu.edu

Tala Alsharif
tlalsharif@student.ysu.edu

Owen Bertram
orbertram@student.ysu.edu

Matthew Sotlar
mjsotlar@student.ysu.edu

HEAD COPY EDITOR

Elizabeth Coss
eacoss@student.ysu.edu

ASSISTANT COPY EDITOR

Hannah Werle
hewerle@student.ysu.edu

VOLUNTEER COPY EDITOR

Maria Schwartz
meschwartz01@student.ysu.edu

HEAD DESIGNER

Madison Fessler
mrfessler@student.ysu.edu

ASSISTANT DESIGNER

Kaitlyn Livingston
kelivingston@student.ysu.edu

COLUMNISTS

Alison Butz
albutz@student.ysu.edu

Matthew Sotlar
mjsotlar@student.ysu.edu

HEAD VIDEO PRODUCER

Kara Boerio
klboerio@student.ysu.edu

ASSISTANT VIDEO EDITORS

Sydney Fairbanks
sefairbanks@student.ysu.edu

Luke Rhodes
lsrhodes@student.ysu.edu

WEB MANAGER

Christopher Gillett
cmgillett@student.ysu.edu

ASSISTANT WEB MANAGER

Mohammad Haram Kafil
mkafil@student.ysu.edu

SOCIAL MEDIA CURATORS

Abigail Long
aglong@student.ysu.edu

Grace Beerbower
gebeerbower@student.ysu.edu

BUSINESS MANAGER

Mary Dota
mfdota@ysu.edu

Bill Johnson

Page 1

final three candidates.

Despite recent protests, petitions and a Student Government Association resolution condemning the board's actions that excluded the YSU community from its decision, the board presented and approved the contract.

At the start of the meeting, the board acknowledged the recent protests and petitions but did not allow public comments or concerns to be raised before entering an executive session.

During the executive session, public comments were held in the lobby of the first floor of Tod Hall by YSU students, faculty, staff, alumni and community

members.

The community called for the board to include the YSU community in its decision-making process for the new president. Daniel Catello, YSU alumni class of 2014, said the community cannot support the board's decision.

"The student body is diverse and we need a leader that will represent and support our students," Catello said. "If there [are] going to be closed doors in this process, there [are] going to be closed walls."

The YSU Foundation released a statement regarding different donors that are pulling or reconsidering their donations.

"The YSU Foundation finds it necessary to express our concerns regarding

recent developments surrounding the YSU presidential search with our donors, friends, the YSU board of trustees, and the YSU community at large. We would have preferred a more inclusive process that represented the university's students, faculty, and staff, along with its donor base, supporters and alumni."

Bruce Zoldan and the Zoldan family, who donated \$5 million toward a new student center, said they haven't made an official decision but may ask for the donation to be used for student scholarships instead of the Zoldan name on the new center.

The next board of trustees meetings will be Dec. 6 and 7 on the first floor of Tod Hall.



The board of trustees finalizing its decision.

Photo by Shianna Gibbons / The Jambar

CONTACT US

LIKE US ON FACEBOOK
THEJAMBARYSU



VIEW US ON YOUTUBE
JAMBAR TV BY THE
JAMBAR



TWEET AT US
THE JAMBAR
@THEJAMBAR



SEND US AN EMAIL
THEJAMBAR@GMAIL.
COM



GIVE US A CALL
330-941-3094



SEND US A FAX
330-941-2322

7-DAY WEATHER FORECAST

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

Thu.	Fri.	Sat.	Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.
High: 50°F	High: 45°F	High: 56°F	High: 52°F	High: 43°F	High: 41°F	High: 38°F
Low: 39°F	Low: 42°F	Low: 40°F	Low: 37°F	Low: 31°F	Low: 32°F	Low: 28°F
Chance of precip: 2%	Chance of precip: 94%	Chance of precip: 56%	Chance of precip: 81%	Chance of precip: 74%	Chance of precip: 49%	Chance of precip: 1%



Partly Cloudy



Rain



Scattered Showers



Rain



Scattered Showers



Scattered Showers



Mostly Cloudy

Information courtesy of accuweather.com

Powering down and recycling bound

By Christopher Gillett
The Jambar

Youngstown State University received the Early-Concept Grant for Exploratory Research from the National Science Foundation to fund research with the State University of New York at Albany into lithium-ion battery recycling.

Worth \$300,000 over two years, the EAGER Award was split between YSU and SUNY, with \$149,684 going to YSU. The research at YSU is overseen by Doug Genna, a professor of chemistry in the Department of Chemical and Biological Sciences.

Lithium-ion batteries are an important component of electronic devices and transportation.

Alongside lithium, these batteries sometimes contain other elements such as nickel, cobalt and manganese. When disposed of, pyrolyzed and ground up, lithium-ion batteries are formed into a “black mass” of all these metals, which can pollute the environment.

Genna and his students are researching ways to separate the lithium from the precious metals in the black mass, through metal-organic frameworks. MOFs are a polymer — or a chemical made up of a repeating building unit — which is porous, meaning it can hold different microscopic and nanoscopic components similarly

to how sponges can hold water.

The difference is while sponges absorb, MOFs adsorb the components through adhesion.

Genna and his students’ research is trying to find a MOF for lithium adsorption.

“[Making] one ton of battery takes 800 tons of ore. If you could recycle a battery, it’s something like 20 tons of lithium-ion recycled will make one ton of new batteries. It becomes an economy of scale versus letting our batteries sit in a landfill somewhere,” Genna said.

According to Genna, lithium-ion recycling would lead to less dependence on international sources for lithium.

“We don’t have reserves for lithium. Most of that comes from China. So, we have to outsource all of our intake for that,” Genna said. “If we could develop a way to recycle lithium-ion batteries it would remove our dependence on international sources.”

Since August, Genna’s lab has also received \$346,828 through the Research Undergraduate Institution Grant from the NSF to study MOFs.

According to Genna, grants like these are vital in supporting the research students do.

“[Grants] really allow us to do the business of research, which is not cheap. It’s expensive — especially in time. So, student’s time is precious, and if they’re the ones doing the bulk of the chemistry involved then

we want to be able to compensate them for their time,” Genna said.

Genna said he views the research as a form of exploration.

“I view myself as a chemical cartographer — how do we get from [point] A to [point] B chemically? So, we know the start point and we know the end point. We don’t know the route in between. We don’t know all the things that happen,” Genna said.

Genna said he equates the feeling of exploring chemical compositions to exploring in open world video games.

“When you play any open world game, they start you in the middle of the map, and it’s always fogged around,” Genna said. “By the end of the game — It’s fully annotated, you’ve been to all the end points and you still don’t know how to get anywhere for the most part.”

According to Genna, helping students research is one of the best parts of his work.

“Most of the work is done by students in the lab and not by me. I’m the idea guy. I help also raise the money. I help them go over the results and brainstorm the experiments to run. But watching them blossom and grow is really the best part,” Genna said.

From the past to the future with HATH

By Tala Alsharif
The Jambar

The 10th annual History Across the Humanities conference at Youngstown State University will take place Feb. 22 through 24 of 2024 at the Youngstown Historical Center of Industry and Labor.

The HATH conference was started by YSU students as an opportunity for students to learn from experts in the field of humanities.

The conference is open to students from any university.

History professor Amy Fluker said this year, the YSU history program is partnering with the Department of English and World Languages at YSU and the Trumbull County Historical Society for this year’s HATH theme.

The theme revolves around science fiction in film, literature and popular culture. It’s called “Understanding the Past, Improving the Present, and Imagining the Future.”

The Trumbull County Historical Society is building a national science fiction museum in Warren.

The idea for the museum came to be when Warren native John Zabrocky, who had a career in Hollywood making props in the film industry for 30 years, donated all his props and materials to his hometown.

“That’s going to be the heart of the museum in Warren,” Fluker said. “The Trumbull County Historical Society reached out to us that they’re looking for a place to spread in the community that they’re building this museum.”

Fluker said she thought it was a great opportunity to involve the students in the process and introduce them to future work and internship opportunities within the museum.

“That’s really the intent of this year’s particular theme, to connect our students to that really important local project,” Fluker said.

Guest keynote speakers, such as academic historians and public history professionals, are always invited to the conference, and students can speak about what they’re learning regarding history and the humanities.

“It was always intended to be interdisciplinary and to bring in as many perspectives on the past as possible,”

Fluker said.

The 2024 HATH Conference will feature multiple guest speakers and among them is Tiffany Knoll from Bowling Green State University, an associate professor who teaches about science fiction and film.

“[Knoll is] going to do a talk for us related to her research and so that will be one of the highlights of HATH this year for sure,” Fluker said.

The conference invites students who want to speak at the conference to submit 250-word proposals describing the chosen topic related to the humanities and how they would like to be involved.

Fluker said the conference benefits students by exposing them to the value of history outside the classroom and the variety of career paths within history and the humanities.

“We always make an effort to ... feature students but also put them in paths of people that they can network with in history related fields,” Fluker said.

Students interested in learning more about HATH and submitting a proposal can visit its website.

Athletics

Page 1

“It has helped mitigate and slow down the decrease in overall enrollment, as we’ve seen more and more student-athletes on campus ... We cannot say the same thing about a lot of our academic programs,” McNally said.

Strollo said YSU athletics holds a budget of \$20.5 million or 11% of the total university’s budget this year. In comparison, McNally said the Academic Affairs budget is currently 65%.

The yearly \$48 million of state funding from the state of Ohio is driven by enrollment and academic success, which athletics helps maintain, according to McNally.

“Our student-athletes have actually helped drive state funding as well. So there’s definitely some revenue components that probably go unnoticed but are very real and have a significant impact,” McNally said.

James Slessor is a sophomore business management major and international student from New Zealand. He holds YSU’s record in 50 and 100-yard breaststroke on the YSU swimming and diving team.

Slessor said he loves the nature of sports at YSU and appreciates the opportunities athletics has given him to make friends from other sports teams.

“The swimming team showing up to volleyball games and basketball games in our speedos and then having [the volleyball team] come to our meets. That’s pretty awesome,” Slessor said.

Slessor also said there is nothing like the NCAA in

New Zealand, so continuing his athletic career while pursuing a degree simultaneously was the most logical decision for him.

Universities around the country have been cutting programs in recent years for various reasons, but COVID-19 and its aftermath was a setback for many. McNally said increasing overall enrollment remains the biggest challenge for YSU. However, YSU athletics is unlikely to be cut for future financial reasons.

“Athletics didn’t make the cut for cuts because we would have been shooting ourselves in the foot,” McNally said. “That doesn’t mean there weren’t constituencies on campus who still would have liked to see a sort of fairness.”

McNally adds that numerous universities look up to YSU and its financial position as members of the Horizon League and Missouri Valley Football Conference.

“When Jim Tressel first arrived in 2014, he had people whispering in his ear, ‘This is our opportunity to elevate, get to the Mid-American Conference’... it didn’t make sense for us economically,” McNally said. “The Akron CFO has whispered in my ear, ‘I wish our athletic programs were like yours. I wish we weren’t in [the] MAC.’”

Strollo said the athletic department is constantly evaluating its work and time and that athletics will likely add more sports in the future.

“We need to have that conversation with our president and our board of trustees just to see where we fit in the grand plan of enrollment. The more student-athletes we can bring, the better it helps our institution,” Strollo said.



Photo courtesy of Gunnhildur Baldursdottir
YSU softball team warms up before a game Sept. 15.

THE JAMBAR POLICY

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

EDITORIAL POLICY

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

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR POLICY

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

\$120,000 raised for WYSU

By Matt Sotlar
The Jambar

Youngstown State University's public radio station, 88.5 WYSU-FM, was celebrated in October for Support WYSU Month. All month was spent raising donations for the station's Getting Together Fund Drive.

WYSU, which was founded in October 1969, is affiliated with National Public Radio. The station is listener-supported, commercial-free and runs 24/7. Associate Director of Broadcasting David Luscher said WYSU strives to provide free media for all of the Mahoning Valley.

"We've been here since 1969, and our primary mission is to provide the region with fine arts, music and information programming," Luscher said.

At the end of October, WYSU raised over \$120,000 in donations. Luscher said the amount is standard for the station.

Most of the music WYSU broadcasts is either jazz or classical. Some of these programs include, "Anytime Classical" and "The Jazz Sofa with Rick Popovich."

WYSU also provides NPR-based news analysis programs like, "All Things Considered" and "Morning Edition." Its music library is home to over 15,000 CDs and vinyl records.

Several Youngstown-based programs are aired at WYSU, including a local politics program hosted by YSU English professor Timothy Francisco and "Doing Good," a local public awareness program.

WYSU's station is located in Melnick Hall. Alongside the broadcasting team, Luscher said it also hires YSU student assistants.

"We employ a lot of students here. We post our job positions through Student Life. Anytime they see that posting, just fill out that application," Luscher said.

To support the station, WYSU hosted its annual Getting Together Fund Drive. Luscher said drives are held to help fundraise for the station.

"Twice a year, we have fund drives. We've been doing this since the station signed on the air. Listeners contribute to the station to help pay for our programming cost," Luscher said.

WYSU, like NPR, is a nonprofit media organization.

Luscher said all donations are used to support the station.

"In noncommercial radio, we're allowed to accept donations. Those donations go to pay for our broadcast rights fees and our affiliation fees. Every program that we air that is produced by the network, we have to pay for upfront," Luscher said.

WYSU has also hosted a number of celebrities on the air in its 54 years. Luscher said that most guest speakers at YSU tend to appear on the air for an interview.

"We've had Governor Mario Cuomo [and] Bob Woodward. Anytime someone is coming through the university, like the Skeggs Lectures Series, they usually stop by for an interview. We've had a lot of famous musicians that have stopped by to be on the air. Over 50 years, it's hard to name everybody," Luscher said.

On average, WYSU brings in around 25,000 to 30,000 listeners per week in the Mahoning Valley region. According to Nielsen Media Research, WYSU is the 8th most popular station in the Youngstown-Warren area.

SGA combats food insecurity

By Molly Burke
The Jambar

Youngstown State University's Student Government Association raised over \$500 and over 100 meal swipes to combat food insecurity on campus for its annual Swipe Out Hunger Week.

The week took place Oct. 30 to Nov. 2, but fundraising and collections concluded at SGA's Friendsgiving celebration Nov. 16.

Swipe Out Hunger is a national nonprofit that works with colleges to implement anti-hunger programs. SGA President Alexander Papa said YSU spends its Swipe Out Hunger Week collecting unused meal swipes for YSU dining locations.

"It originally started as a national program that a bunch of schools participate in, but you donate extra meal swipes to those in need," Papa said. "We've expanded it to do some more educational programming and raise awareness about it."

SGA also held basket raffles to fundraise for YSU's Penguin Pantry. The pantry is located in Cushwa Hall and is run by the Office of the Dean of Students to provide free clothes, food and hygiene products to any stu-

dent, faculty or staff member.

Papa said Swipe Out Hunger Week benefits YSU because Youngstown is a food desert.

"We're technically located in what's called a food desert — we're not near any grocery stores or anything. So, it's harder for students who don't have cars, especially international students who can't drive places to get groceries," Papa said.

SGA hosted several events to educate the YSU community about food insecurity, including a discussion panel Oct. 30 and a hunger simulation Nov. 2.

SGA Vice President Jordan Pintar said the simulation allowed students to understand what it's like to experience food insecurity.

"The hunger simulation event is just a time for students to get hands-on experience and understand how ... budgeting for food specifically works," Pintar said. "I'm sure a lot of college students already know how expensive groceries are, but also having the idea of like ... maybe you have a whole family to support."

Other Swipe Out Hunger Week activities invited the YSU community to get involved, including Craft for a Cause on Oct. 31 where attendees made tie blankets for a local shelter.

According to Pintar, students volunteered at the Penguin Pantry on Nov. 1 to prepare it for new donations, which included over 2,000 packets of ramen and over 3,000 pieces of clothing from Greek Life organizations.

"[We had] a whole group of students come in and be able to sort through all the clothes, we sorted through all the sizes [and] we checked all the dates on the food," Pintar said. "A lot of students that might have not known about the pantry before got a chance to learn about it ... hopefully that will create a lot more volunteers on a regular basis."

SGA Chief of Staff Rayvin Gorrell said it's important to combat food insecurity and spread awareness about it on campus.

"One in three students suffer from food insecurity at least some point in their college career ... that is usually at least someone you know," Gorrell said. "It's just really important to be able to eat and go to class. You shouldn't have to choose between those two."

Anyone seeking help from the Penguin Pantry or struggling with food insecurity can contact the Office of the Dean of Students at dos@ysu.edu or call 330-941-4036.

Petitions, protests and a president

By Shianna Gibbons
The Jambar

Before Thanksgiving break, petitions circulated and protests were held on campus following the board of trustees' announcement of offering William "Bill" Johnson the position of president at Youngstown State University.

The announcement was sent to YSU students and staff, and the greater Youngstown community Nov. 16 without prior announcements of candidate selection in the national search for a new president.

A crowd of around 30 people gathered outside of Tod Hall on Nov. 20 to share their dissatisfaction with the board for the lack of transparency and involvement.

Rose McClurkin, president of Planned Parenthood Generation Action and senior political science major, put together a petition, "Bill Johnson is Wrong for YSU!" and organized the protest. The petition has garnered over 2,000 signatures since Nov. 29.

McClurkin said the community wanted to be included in the process.

"Everybody heard [about the offer] at the same time because we were not made aware," McClurkin said. "It

feels very disappointing. I have seen the development of trying to get the trust between the faculty of trustees and the board is not committed to valuing that trust and its lack of transparency shows that over and over again."

An alumni petition was also started and a letter sent to the board and signed by Daniel Catello, Madeline Grimes, Ashley Orr, Tyler Pabst and Jacob Schriener-Briggs. The alumni petition has gathered over 2,000 signatures since Nov. 30.

The petitions and letters from the YSU-OEA and alumni were sent to the board, posted publicly and released to the media.

At the protest, leaders of different campus-related organizations shared their thoughts on the board's decision to choose Johnson. The crowd chanted "Resist the offer. Open the process" and "Hear our voice. We want a choice" in between speakers.

A counter-protest was also held Nov. 20 in support of the board's decision. YSU's chapter of Turning Point USA President Austin Browne said he believes the concerns are mostly about Johnson's politics.

"Our stance on the issue is we think [Johnson's] qualified," Browne said. "We think a lot of the attacks coming against him, despite what people say about it being

about the procedure and transparency — it's politically motivated."

YSU's Student Government Association also presented a resolution at the Nov. 20 meeting to "express dissatisfaction on behalf of the student body." The resolution was passed and then presented to the board.

Alexander Papa, SGA president, said SGA wanted to address students' concerns with the presidential search process.

"This resolution was crafted to address the fact that we as students feel left out in the process," Papa said. "In the past they had presidents come onto campus, do interviews, do town halls and that just didn't happen this time."

The board announced a meeting for Nov. 21. Michael Peterson, chair of the board of trustees, said the board had received the petitions and saw the protest but would not accept public comments until the Dec. 7 meeting. Later, the board voted to approve a contract of employment for Johnson. Observers booed the board.

McClurkin, SGA, alumni, YSU-OEA and the greater community plan on giving public comments during the December meeting.



The protest was in response to Bill Johnson being offered the position of president. Johnson has since been named the 10th president.

Photos by Christopher Gillett / The Jambar



Photo by Sydney Fairbanks / The Jambar

Above are resin jewelry and stuffed dinosaurs Emma Courtwright made for Alice's Spell Shop.

Shopping with students for the holidays

By Sydney Fairbanks
The Jambar

As November comes to a close, many are holiday shopping for friends and family. Some may opt to shop at small businesses to find unique items and support local artists.

Students at Youngstown State University can support their peers by shopping from Alice's Spell Shop and Sew What? Sew This!

Alice's Spell Shop is owned by Emma Courtwright, a fifth year telecommunications major at YSU. Her shop sells a variety of handmade items from earrings,

keychains, plushies, candles and dice.

With Courtwright's ability to create a wide variety of products, she said if she has the materials, she can make anything a customer requests, especially with resin-based products.

"If you think it's something cool that you would like made, I can probably make it as long as I have the silicone mold for it," Courtwright said.

Courtwright's business started after she decided to craft hand-made gifts to cheer her friends up. She said she began dabbling in Paganism and Wicca by creating spell jars and she really enjoyed the process.

"[It started] more like something for me or a close friend, but from there, I was like 'Hmm, this is really fun,'" Courtwright said. "I can make money doing something I love to do and then it went from one hyper-fixation to another hyper-fixation."

For Black Friday, Courtwright offered a buy one, get one sale for items of equal or lesser value. She is also selling Christmas themed items such as The Grinch keychains and ornaments, Christmas tree earrings, mittens, snowflakes, candy canes and more.

Courtwright is currently offering 10% off orders of \$20 or more and 15% off orders of \$30 or more until Dec. 11.

Courtwright does not yet have a website for her creations, those interested in her products can message her on her shop's Instagram page @alices_spell_shop or send an email to alices.spell.shop@gmail.com.

Senior marketing major Mya Snyder sells thrifted textiles reworked into wearable items such as small shoulder bags that she coined 'bummin' bags' and vests. She began her business, Sew What? Sew This! after the pandemic when she bought a sewing machine to alter her own clothing.

"A really good friend of mine encouraged me to sell my pieces at a local vendor's market," Snyder said. "I've been an artist my entire life and being able to just channel my creativity in a way that not only utilizes my skill for sewing, but my love for fashion, it's just like the perfect blend of everything I enjoy doing."

Snyder said most of her pieces are made from vintage thrifted clothes and each piece is unique. She takes inspiration from the '60s and '70s with her pieces and reworks clothes from those eras.

"A lot of the textiles I sew with are from the '60s, '70s, the '90s — which are considered vintage now," Snyder said. "They're works of art. You see something you like, I highly encourage you [to] pick it up. You're not going to find something like that any place else which makes it pretty cool."

Snyder will have her first website launch early December before attending her next vendors market. She will be at the Flea on Phelps in downtown Youngstown on Dec. 3 along with other local vendors.

Those interested can shop from Sew What? Sew This! on Instagram @sew-what_sewthis or email Snyder at sew-what.mm@gmail.com.



Mya Snyder makes custom tops.

Photo by Sydney Fairbanks / The Jambar

The Jambar Column

Nostalgic games

Recently, I've rediscovered games that I used to play in class throughout elementary, middle and high school to pass time. These are old flash games that pretty much everyone would have probably played themselves or at least heard about.

One of these games is "Fireboy and Watergirl." I can remember playing this in my elementary school computer lab on the days where we could play whatever we wanted on "Cool Math Games."

This is a game where you can control two characters by the arrow keys and WASD keys simultaneously. When I revisited this game, it hit me that it was supposed to be a multiplayer game all along.

It would make sense because the controls are on opposite ends of a keyboard. However, it was always seen as such a flex if you were able to move both characters flawlessly at the same time.

The ironic part about playing these games on a website entitled "Cool Math Games" is that most of the games didn't include math. There are other games that actually include some form of math, like "2048" or "Sudoku."

Only some of these games saved progress which was convenient for if you wanted to return and play later. However, for the few games that did not, it was quite heartbreaking.

Another series that I can remember being a big hit was the "Papa's" games. The most popular was "Papa's Pizzeria."



Alison Butz

In this game, you play as an employee at multiple different food and drink joints throughout Papa's universe.

My personal favorite game was "Papa's Wingeria," where you play as an employee at a wing joint. The hardest one for me was "Papa's Susheria" because it was always hard to line up where to cut the sushi roll.

However, my favorite game I used to play all the time is the "Duck Life" games. In fact, I still find myself revisiting them when I am bored.

This is a game where you control a customizable duck in order to become the strongest and fastest duck in the world. Each race would increase in difficulty which you had to train your duck for. The training included running, swimming, and jumping among other things.

I think the most nostalgic part about the "Duck Life" games has to be the soundtrack, mostly because there aren't any voiceovers for the ones I played.

My strategy for these games in a speedrun type of way is to train my duck until it is maxed out in all its training.

There are 10 games that do not include the hacked versions, but the ones I remember the most are simply named "Duck Life," "Duck Life 2" and "Duck Life 3."

Quote of the Week

"Love is a circle that doth restless move in the same sweet eternity of love."

— Robert Herrick
English poet

The Jambar Editorial

Greatest guitarists of all time

What makes a great guitarist? According to Rolling Stone magazine, "it's about innovation, risk-takers and originators."

In October, the magazine released "The 250 Greatest Guitarists of All Time," a re-release of its "100 Greatest Guitarists," which was published in 2011.

The Jambar decided to make its own list of the greatest guitarists of all time. The criteria for the ranking will value technique, integration and the overall impact the musician made on the instrument.

To start the list at No. 5, Carlos Santana reworked Latin music in his own style by incorporating the electric guitar into the genre.

Santana showed his solo and guitar technique on tracks such as "Samba Pa Ti" and "She's Not There."

Santana successfully combined Afro-Cuban jazz, rock and blues together and utilized clave-based rhythms on the guitar, which was new to Latin music in the '70s.

Some may argue that B.B. King is the greatest blues guitarist of all time, but when looking at the integration of rock into traditional blues, Stevie Ray Vaughan combined both genres and holds the No. 4 spot.

Vaughan's successful blues rock revival paved the way for artists such as John Mayer and Kenny Wayne Shepherd.

With several guitar options, Vaughan primarily used a Fender Stratocaster to bring out strong and bright tones, which can be heard on tracks such as "Texas Flood" and "Pride and Joy."

In 2000, Vaughan was inducted into the Blues Hall of Fame and enshrined eight years later in the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame.

Another guitarist who utilized the Fender Stratocaster was Eddie Van Halen who mastered the tapping technique on the guitar to claim the No. 3 spot.

It's unclear whether Van Halen invented tapping, but he contributed to its popularity in the late '70s. The self-taught guitarist built the legendary "Frankenstrat" with components from several other guitars to achieve his popular tone.

From "Eruption" to "Beat It," Van Halen dabbled in several different genres and would recreate animal noises using his instrument. Van Halen's flashy stage presence also changed how guitarists carry themselves during live shows.

At No. 2 is David Gilmore, who changed the landscape of guitar playing with the band Pink Floyd and his vibrato on tracks such as "Comfortably Numb," "Time" and "Hey You."

In 1996, Gilmore was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame as a member of Pink Floyd and was previously ranked as one of the greatest guitarists in the world.

Finishing the list at No. 1 is Jimi Hendrix — the greatest guitarist of all time. Hendrix popularized the electric guitar and delivered an impressive performance at the 1996 Woodstock Festival.

Hendrix drew attention to himself during his live shows by setting his guitar on fire and smashing it into pieces. Hendrix offered a new musical sound that changed the ideology of what rock and roll was and is.

For Hendrix, his rendition of "The Star-Spangled Banner" grabbed the attention of millions of Americans. He also popularized the use of the wah-wah pedal on "Voodoo Child (Slight Return)" and an octave pedal on "Purple Haze."

CLASSIFIEDS

HELP WANTED

Help wanted copying manuscripts,
other computer skills needed.
Offering compensation.

Call Ms. Moore 330-941-0322,
330-623-5200



Follow us
on Instagram

@ysu_jambar

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

To whom it may concern:

On Tuesday, Nov. 21, the YSU trustees voted 8-1 to approve a contract offer to sitting congressman Bill Johnson from Marietta, Ohio. I think it's important to note that during the press conference the congressman stated twice that, "Youngstown's purpose is to educate people, not indoctrinate them, not politicize them."

Inferring that YSU, and other institutions of higher learning, engage in indoctrination of some sort. As a graduate of YSU (BA 1972, MA 1974), I find that comment offensive and polarizing, and another example of why someone with no experience in academia is the wrong choice for YSU.

Johnson, whose career has spanned over 20 years in the Air Force, some time in the private sector, and 12 years in the House of Representatives, has no experience in academia. His level of education was a master's degree.

YSU, our university, is the cradle of higher education in the Mahoning Valley, with over 11,000 students. As with most universities it is the home for learning, but also the home for the exchange of ideas, acceptance of facts as real and toleration of others' ideas.

As president, Johnson would be the face of YSU. He comes from a political background where book banning is accepted, women are not in control of their bodies, immigrants are feared and different cultures and religions are denigrated.

Johnson himself was one of 147 Republicans that refused to accept the results of the 2020 election by voting against the electoral college results. He did this even after fleeing the House chamber when a mob stormed the Capitol.

Johnson is also dubious of climate change since he is an outspoken advocate for more coal and natural gas exploration.

I think this is hardly the right choice for the presidency of a university, our university, YSU.

Frank Wanat

EDITOR'S NOTE: ROSE McCLURKIN SUBMITTED A LETTER TO THE EDITOR WHICH IS AVAILABLE ON THE JAMBAR'S WEBSITE



Check out JTV

The Jambar Video

What happens in Vegas, stays in Vegas

By Madeline Hippeard
The Jambar

Before heading to the Las Vegas Holiday Classic, the Youngstown State University basketball team spent time handing out Thanksgiving turkeys for students and their families at the Youngstown Community School.

Senior guard Mady Aulbach organized the event with the help of Boak & Sons and Valley Industrial Trucks through an NIL deal. The two businesses donated enough money through the Penguin Collective to help Aulbach distribute 100 Thanksgiving meals to their community.

The 'Guins started out their Thanksgiving week of play with a 94-40 loss at West Virginia University. Throughout the game the Mountaineers outshot the Penguins by 26.9%.

Fifth-year senior Dena Jarrells scored the Penguin's first points of the game with 6:14 left in the first quarter.

The 'Guins trailed West Virginia closely at the first media timeout of the game, 11-6, but were unable to keep up with the Mountaineers.

To start the second quarter, the Mountaineers scored the first 18 points. The 'Guins were unable to recover from the large point differential, resulting in their first loss of the week.

On Nov. 24 and 25, the Penguins participated in the Las Vegas Holiday Classic.

Head coach John Nicolais said before heading to the tournament, he tried to create a locked-in and game-ready headspace with his team.

"We explained it to them to not waste opportunities ... We have six seniors or super seniors that will finish their career here so the time that we have within each practice and each game to try to maximize the opportunities they have and not have regrets after each one," Nicolais said.

On Day One of the tournament, the 'Guins lost 63-50 to the University of Rhode Island.

Fifth-year forward Emily Saunders said the Penguins knew Rhode Island would be a difficult opponent to face.

"We want to take advantage of the huge challenge that we have in Rhode Island and the next teams we play," Saunders said. "This is a really, really good team that we're about to play and it's a really good challenge before conference play for sure."

Youngstown State had an early 10-8 lead in the beginning of the game, but lost it as Rhode Island scored the final 10 points of the first quarter.

After losing their lead in the first, the 'Guins were unable to recover offensively going into the half down 31-20.

The Penguins continued to fight hard, getting as close as eight points behind Rhode Island, but could not close

the score gap, ending the third quarter behind, 43-30.

The 'Guins started the fourth quarter strong with a 9-2 run making the score 49-39, but were pushed back by an 8-0 run for Rhode Island.

Youngstown State was unable to come back, ending the game, 63-50, with its third loss in a row.

The next day, the Penguins took on Northern Arizona University.

Northern Arizona held a large lead over the 'Guins for the majority of the game, including a 41-28 lead at the end of the first half.

In the third quarter, NAU held the largest lead of the game, 51-32.

The Penguins continued to fight throughout the third quarter and managed to bring the score to 56-48 heading into the fourth.

At the beginning of the fourth quarter, fifth-year senior Shay-Lee Kirby and sophomore Abby Liber scored for the Penguins, bringing the team three points behind Northern Arizona, 58-55.

The 'Guins were unable to flip the script on the Lumberjacks and earned their fourth loss in a row, 74-70.

The Penguins return to action at 6:30 p.m. on Nov. 30 to start Horizon League play against University of Detroit Mercy.

For more information on the game visit ysusports.com. To watch or listen live visit ESPN+ or 570 WKBN.



Fifth-year Dena Jarrells (left) and senior Malia Magestro (right) look for openings in the defense.



Photos by Dylan Lux / The Jambar

PENGUINS BLAZE THE TRAIL

Men's basketball stays undefeated at home

By Marissa Masano
The Jambar

The Youngstown State University men's basketball team took on Utah Tech University and Lake Erie College at home inside the Beeghly Center and hit the road to face the University of Dayton.

The Penguins defeated Utah Tech on Nov. 17 by a score of 75-68. Graduate student DJ Burns recorded a double-double with 16 points and 11 rebounds. Graduate student Bryson Langdon and senior Jaylen Bates each scored 12 points. Bates led the team with two 3-pointers.

For Bates, this team is all about the "next man up" mentality.

"I felt comfortable from the beginning of the game. My coach always told me to be ready when my number's called, and that's just how we go about business here — next man up mentality. Someone doesn't have it going one night — you have to do everything in your power to pick them up," Bates said.

Youngstown led at the end of the first half 34-26 and kept adding onto its lead as the Penguins scored the first five points in the second half. Within the second half,

the Trailblazers were able to cut the lead to one point, but a dunk by graduate student Brandon Rush kept the Penguins' lead.

The team's field goal percentage improved from its first half percentage of 30.8%. The Penguins shot 54.2% from the field in the second half, ending the game with a field goal percentage of 39.7%.

On Nov. 19, the Penguins defeated Lake Erie 79-57 as sophomore John Lovelace Jr. set a career-high 29 points.

To accompany his 29 points, Lovelace posted two 3-pointers, seven rebounds and three assists. The sophomore was 12-of-17 shooting from the floor.

Graduate student Ziggy Reid was the next highest scorer for the Penguins with 12. Reid also had two 3-pointers.

The Storm scored the final 10 points of the first half, and the teams entered halftime knotted at 32 apiece. At the beginning of the second half, the Storm took its first lead of the game, 36-34, but YSU regained the lead and went on a 13-5 run.

After the Penguins gained a 13-point lead with 8:48 remaining in the game, they never trailed again and

held a double-digit lead to finish the game.

For head coach Jerrod Calhoun, the game's first half exemplified what the team wants to improve on as Horizon League play approaches.

"There's a standard here, the way we want to play. We didn't play that way in the first half. Credit to them, but also some of our deficiencies really stood out. You can't have 14 turnovers and go seven and 27 from three, that doesn't help either," Calhoun said.

Youngstown lost to Dayton 77-69 on the road at the UD Arena on Nov. 24.

During the game, the Penguins made 13 3-pointers, and Rush led in that category with four. The guard also led the team with 18.

Youngstown's largest lead was 10 in the first half, but the Flyers took a 37-35 lead at halftime. The Penguins had a 12-0 run in the first half but did not score again in the last three minutes.

Youngstown had a three point shooting percentage of 44.8%, and both teams had eight turnovers.

The Penguins took on Horizon League opponent Cleveland State University on Nov. 29. To view stats and scores from the game, visit ysusports.com.



Fifth-year Brandon Rush (left) and graduate student DJ Burns (right) attempt shots at home.

Photos by Dylan Lux / The Jambar



Penguins dump the Dukes and advance to second round

Team celebrates after Bryce Oliver's (bottom) record-breaking touchdown reception.

Photos by Dylan Lux / The Jambar

By Cameron Niemi
The Jambar

Last year, the Youngstown State University football team ended its season with a 7-4 record and 5-3 in the Missouri Valley Football Conference but was not selected for the FCS Playoffs.

This season, the Penguins finished with the same record as a year ago, but “left no doubt” and were selected for a bid in the FCS Playoffs for the first time since the team’s National Championship run in 2016.

YSU finished the regular season Nov. 18 on the road against Murray State University. The Penguins took care of business as they defeated the Racers, 34-17.

YSU was selected to play Duquesne University in a first-round matchup. The Dukes finished their season with a 7-4 record and won the Northeast Conference Title.

Duquesne traveled to Stambaugh Stadium on Nov. 25 to take on the Penguins in the first round of the FCS Playoffs. YSU secured a 40-7 victory over the Dukes and earned the program’s 17th straight home playoff win.

YSU controlled time of possession throughout the game and held the ball for over 42 minutes.

Senior quarterback Mitch Davidson drove the offense down the field in the first quarter as he connected with junior wide receiver C.J. Charleston for a nine-yard touchdown and took an early 7-0 lead.

The Dukes responded with a touchdown of their own, making it a 10-7 Penguin lead before heading into the second quarter.

The Penguins put together a long drive in the second, which ended with a two-yard touchdown run from senior running back Dra Rushton, which extended the lead 17-7.

Rushton finished with 16 carries for 77 yards and senior Tyshon King had 19 carries for 101 yards. King was also named to the MVFC All-Newcomer Team in his first year as a Penguin.

Right before halftime, Davidson found his number-one target, senior Bryce Oliver in the corner of the endzone for a 21-yard touchdown. Oliver finished with eight receptions for 181 yards.

This marked Oliver’s 26th career touchdown catch, officially breaking YSU’s record of most receiving touchdowns by a player. This was previously held by Jim Ferranti who was a part of the YSU football program from 1976-79.

Davidson finished the game 18-of-27 for 316 yards through the air and two touchdowns as he threw to 10 different targets throughout the game. This also marked the most passing yards by a YSU quarterback in a playoff game.

Redshirt freshman kicker Andrew Lastovka was perfect on field goals as he went 4-of-4 including a career-long 50-yarder.

Davidson spoke after the game on the team’s dominant win and breaking the passing record.

“To get in the playoffs as a sixth-year senior, since I got here in 2018 that’s really all I wanted to do as a quarterback was to be able to step in there and help a team make a playoff run and I feel like I’m doing that,” Davidson said.

Head coach Doug Phillips also spoke after the teams first playoff win since 2016.

“Great to get into the Ice Castle today, you could feel

the crowd and to be able to get a playoff win not only for our seniors, but for our program [and] for our community,” Phillips said. “I couldn’t be more proud of our players, our coaches, our fans, our community. It feels great to get that playoff victory.”

The MVFC announced its All-Conference team Nov. 27. On the defensive side of the ball, defensive back Troy

Jakubec and defensive end Dylan Wudke made Second-Team All-Conference.

On the offensive side of the ball Oliver, King and offensive lineman Jaison Williams were also named Second-Team All-Conference.

Youngstown State will travel to Philadelphia for the first time since 1999 to take on No. 8 Villanova University in the Second Round of the FCS Playoffs. Kickoff is set for 12 p.m. on Dec. 2. To watch the game go to ESPN+ or view live stats on ysusports.com.

