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Thursday, November 7, 2024

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A SHIFT IN FOCUS



Paul McFadden helped allocate the donation to Dana.

Photo by Nicarylle Hanchard / The Jambar

Zoldan donates to Dana

By Nicarylle Hanchard
The Jambar

The Dana School of Music received a \$5 million donation from Bruce Zoldan, which was previously promised to the new student center.

The donation was withdrawn following controversy about the appointment of Youngstown State University President Bill Johnson.

In a press release, Zoldan stated that Dana's significance in the community outweighed his opposition to the YSU board of trustee's decision.

"Despite our differences with the board and administration of YSU, we felt the importance of the Dana School to the community and surrounding areas took precedence. We hope this will make a meaningful difference to the Dana School, the university

and the community," Zoldan said.

Johnson said he would not speak on his interactions with Zoldan.

Johnson said Zoldan's redirected donation is the first of a campaign to raise funds for Dana.

"He approached the university about changing the donation he had previously made. We went along with that, helped him make that transfer and he has donated \$5 million to the Dana School and is starting a campaign to raise additional funding for Dana. And that is a good thing," Johnson said.

Paul McFadden, the president of the YSU Foundation, said the donation will be going into an endowment fund for present and future uses.

Donation, Page 2

YSU loses power

By John Ostapowicz
The Jambar

Youngstown State University experienced a campus-wide power outage at approximately 5 p.m. Nov. 4.

Rebecca Rose, director of marketing and communications, said the outage affected several parts of the university and, as of Nov. 5, Beeghly Center was still without power until midday.

"The outage was limited to Beeghly Center, Ward Beecher, Kilcawley Center and Kilcawley House and as of 9 p.m. [Nov. 4] the only building that is still

down is Beeghly Center," Rose stated.

The women's and men's basketball teams' respective matchups were delayed, before ultimately being canceled after an hour-long wait.

The women's matchup against the University of North Dakota was canceled and will not be rescheduled because of travel.

For the men's game against Westminster College, Ron Strollo, director of Intercollegiate Athletics, stated there are, "No decisions on rescheduling at this point."

Late-night bakery opens

By John Ostapowicz
The Jambar

Philadelphia-based cookie company Insomnia Cookies officially opened its new location Nov. 2 at 135 Lincoln Ave., near the campus of Youngstown State University.

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“Despite our differences with the board and administration of YSU, we felt the importance of the Dana School to the community and surrounding areas took precedence. We hope this will make a meaningful difference to the Dana School, the university and the community,”

— **Bruce Zoldan,**

Owner of Phantom Fireworks

“An endowment fund is a large holding of funds that we take 4% of a year and apply to the cause. This endowment is forever and will be here decades for the Dana School,” McFadden said. “It will grow through investment practices and possibly more dona-

tions down the road.”

McFadden said Phyllis Paul, the dean of Cliffe College of Creative Arts and Joseph Carucci, the director of Dana and University Theatre, played a significant role in securing the donation.

“Carucci and Paul have been integral in this conversation with Zoldan over the past six months. They’ve helped shape this proposal to Zoldan and they helped shape this campaign as we move forward,” McFadden said.

Carucci said he is delighted to be a part of the process and is hopeful for Dana’s future.

“I’m really excited about the opportunity. It is structured so that these funds can be used for the best interest of the Dana School and in my position and the faculty’s position that means our students and community,” Carucci said.

He said the donation will help support various initiatives going forward.

“We’re going to be able to create a sustainable Dana School of Music as well as create new opportunities and initiatives to support our student curriculum or student experience in the community and ultimately, our students’ marketability when they graduate,” Carucci said.

Carucci said the donation and campaign have now shed a positive light on the future of the Dana School.



YSU Foundation conference room.

Photo by Nicarlyle Hanchard / The Jambar

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7-DAY WEATHER FORECAST**Thu.**

Partly Cloudy

High: 58°F

Low: 41°F

Chance of precip:
9%**Fri.**

Fair

High: 61°F

Low: 41°F

Chance of precip:
13%**Sat.**

Partly Cloudy

High: 60°F

Low: 44°F

Chance of precip:
13%**Sun.**

Rain

High: 65°F

Low: 52°F

Chance of precip:
70%**Mon.**

Overcast

High: 64°F

Low: 47°F

Chance of precip:
3%**Tue.**

Fair

High: 62°F

Low: 46°F

Chance of precip:
0%**Wed.**

Rain

High: 64°F

Low: 46°F

Chance of precip:
61%

Information courtesy of
accuweather.com

Understanding extremism on campus



Students should call YSU Police at 330-941-3527 if they find any discriminatory materials on campus.

Photo by Matthew Sotlar / The Jambar

By Matthew Sotlar
The Jambar

In September, there were two hate-based incidents on campus.

Several international students were verbally attacked and shot at with a pellet gun Sept. 21. The attacker shouted racial epithets at the victims before fleeing. Before this incident, multiple flyers spreading bigoted misinformation were posted by Patriot Front across campus.

According to the Anti-Defamation League, Patriot Front was formed in Texas following the 2017 Charlottesville, Virginia Riots.

Richard Rogers, Youngstown State University associate professor of criminal justice, said the flyers left by the group are a common recruitment tactic.

“What they did on campus was pretty typical for what they do,” Rogers said. “They go around the country and they put up these signs, both to advertise their cause and to also try to let people know they’re out there.”

The flyers included white-nationalist rhetoric and misinformation about individuals of color. Rogers said he believes this incident was an isolated incident and

there is little cause for concern.

“That would probably only be an issue if they keep coming back, because if they keep coming back, that means they see something here that makes them see some sympathy to what they’re doing. But the fact that they just showed up, it’s not a big thing,” Rogers said.

Rogers added that hate groups like Patriot Front attempt to protest on campuses occasionally.

“The other thing that they do where they’re not as successful is, every now and then, they try to protest or counterprotest,” Rogers said. “That has not gone well for them, people end up getting arrested. So, this strategy of posting is probably their most visible strategy.”

As for the students attacked on campus, Rogers defined this as a “lone wolf” type of attack.

“A lone wolf is a person who is probably working by himself, has been radicalized—nowadays we would say probably by looking at the internet or maybe reading something, and so they take these things out on their own,” Rogers said.

Police say the alleged attacker was arrested in Youngstown on unrelated charges and was identified as 18-year-old Curtis Carver.

Rogers said radicalized lone wolf attackers are gener-

ally motivated by a sense of retribution.

“There’s actually a whole bunch of these kinds of people who have done these things and they think that they single-handed are going to take out retribution or revenge,” Rogers said. “The place we see this most commonly was with active shooters. So many of them have that as their ideology.”

With the recent election and an uptick in extremism, Rogers said he believes the sense of urgency to prevent attacks has been heightened.

“Would we see another Jan. 6? That’s a little more complicated because you actually have to organize things,” Rogers said. “In general, we would expect law enforcement to be smarter this time.”

According to the YSU Office of the Dean of Students’ webpage, the university complies with federal and state laws that prohibit discrimination or harassment based on age, sexual orientation, race, national origin, disability and gender identity, among others.

There have been no follow-up reports of discriminatory flyers being posted around campus. Students should report any discriminatory material to YSU Police.

Insomnia Cookies

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The late-night bakery chain celebrated its grand opening and held an after-party celebration, which included several free giveaway items such as stickers, pencils and a classic cookie for those who signed up for the store's rewards program.

The location opened with a soft launch Oct. 14, but had a limited menu. Britnie Gates, general manager of Youngstown's Insomnia Cookies, said the location has already seen a steady flow of customers.

"[Insomnia Cookies's] foot traffic has been amazing,

we have gotten a lot of love from the area already," Gates said.

From cookies to ice cream, Insomnia Cookies offers warm and cold desserts 11-1 a.m. Monday through Wednesday, 11-3 a.m. Thursday and Friday, noon-3 a.m. Saturday and noon-1 a.m. Sunday.

The new store marks the company's 15th location in Ohio. YSU is not the only Ohio university to have Insomnia Cookies on its campus, as The Ohio State University, Kent State University, Ohio University and several others have recently seen stores open on their campuses.

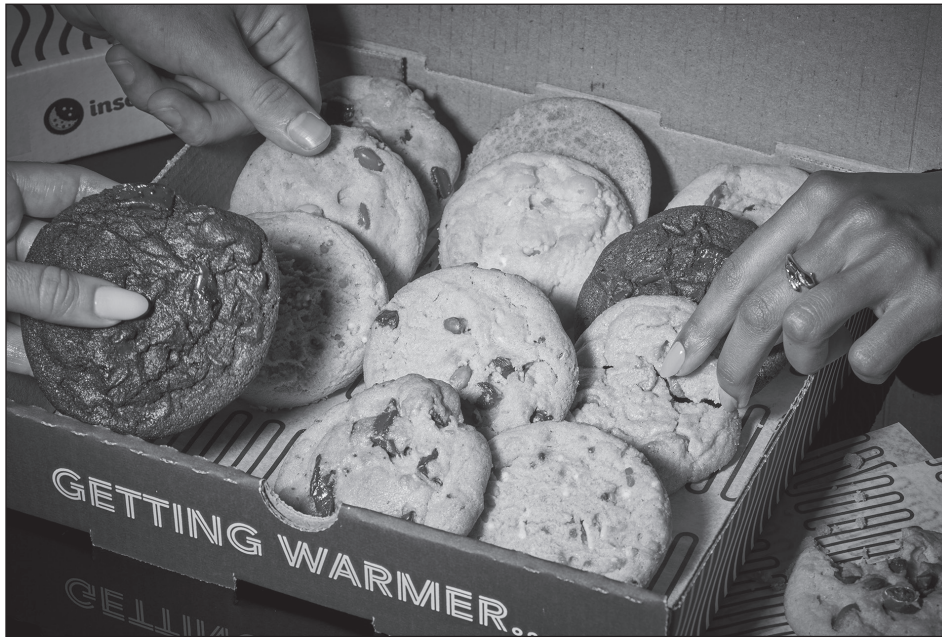
Insomnia Cookies was founded in a University of Pennsylvania dorm room by Seth Berkowitz in 2003. Since then, the chain has built over 300 locations na-

tionwide.

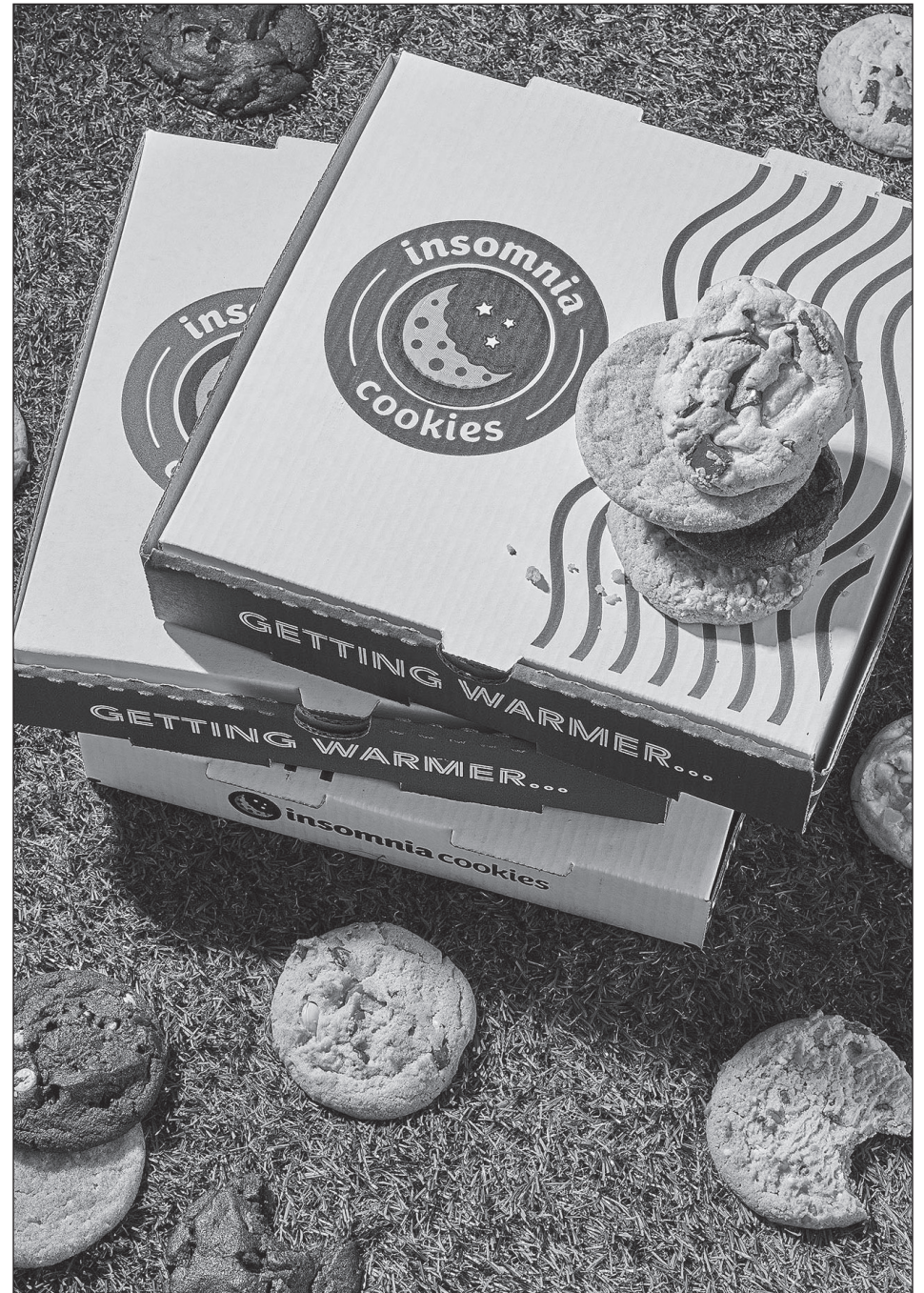
Insomnia Cookies offers in-store, pickup and delivery options for students and Youngstown residents. The location offers a wide variety of desserts and flavors, such as chocolate chunk cookies, deluxe cookies, ice cream cookie sandwiches, brownies, blondies and brookies, which is a combination of a brownie and a cookie.

The menu also comes with a variety of vegan and gluten free options, along with a frequently-rotating menu.

Insomnia Cookies has an app for its customers to sign up and receive exclusive rewards. With Insomnia Rewards, customers can track points, redeem available rewards, access limited-time offers and reorder menu items.



Insomnia Cookies offers late-night bakery items.



Photos courtesy of Lifestyle Imagery

YSU is here for its veterans

By Nicarlyle Hanchard
Jambar Contributor

The Reveille Warrior Awareness Training sessions are offered to staff and faculty at Youngstown State University to better their relationships with student veterans.

The training sessions are offered through the Office of Veterans Affairs and aim to educate faculty and staff in student-veterans' transition to YSU.

The sessions are conducted by Rick Williams, a retired major of the U.S. Army and the associate director of the Office of Veterans Affairs. The course was designed for faculty members to be aware of the experiences and difficulties veteran students may have and how to properly serve them.

"When we came out with the course originally, we directed it primarily toward faculty and staff, specifically the advisers, because they meet with students every semester. We wanted them

to be aware of the experiences of military students and some of the issues they deal with," Williams said.

The sessions include five focus areas:

- Military culture
- Transition process for veterans into the university
- Challenges veterans face after their service
- The GI Bill
- The Carl A. Nunziato Veterans Resource Center and what it provides.

Toward the end of the session, there is a panel of student veterans who provide attendees with firsthand insight into the difficulties of coming to college after serving.

Dylan Bigelow, a U.S. Air Force veteran and senior journalism major, was a member of the student panel at the most recent training session. He said the training is important as it provides attendees with knowledge of military culture.

"The warrior awareness training does a great job exposing faculty and staff who may have little understanding of military culture to what veterans go through," Bigelow said. "Veterans are all unique with our own experiences, but we do possess a shared identity that means a lot to us, and it's great that the Veterans Resource Center provides the training so people at YSU can understand a bit of who we are."

Williams said Wells Fargo sponsored the classes before the COVID-19 pandemic. At that time, only one in-person session was held, as the university followed the lockdown protocols of the pandemic.

He also said that 135 YSU faculty and staff members have taken the training over the past four years.

"We did it virtually for a year, and then in 2022 we returned to face-to-face classes," Williams said. "We always encourage people to come back and take the train-

ing a second time or promote it to their fellow faculty members who have not had it."

Though training is tailored to faculty members, Williams said he is fine with executive members of student organizations attending.

"As far as leadership of the various organizations on campus, I'm not opposed to them attending. I've never turned anyone away who has signed up for my training," Williams said.

Six training sessions are held per academic year, three each in the fall and spring semesters. The next training is scheduled for Nov. 20.

Those interested in attending can find more information in the Student Affairs Digest or visit the resource center on Wick Avenue.

Editor's note: Dylan Bigelow is a Jambar Contributor and had no editorial input.

Mustaches for men's health

By Dylan Bigelow
Jambar Contributor

Be prepared to see more mustaches on campus this month.

November is Movember, a month-long campaign to raise awareness of men's health issues by encouraging participants to grow mustaches. According to the campaign's website, us.movember.com, its goal is to change the face of men's health.

Jacob Clemente, a senior accounting major and the philanthropy chairman of Youngstown State University's Sigma Alpha Epsilon chapter, said his fraternity will host events throughout the month to promote the campaign and raise funds.

"I wanted to make it a month-long thing, I thought it would be very beneficial," Clemente said. "If we have an event going on for a month, then campus would be bound to see it."

Sigma Alpha Epsilon will hold table and fundraising events from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. every Monday and Wednesday of November in Kilcawley Center. The fraternity will also host guest speakers and organize trivia and game nights to raise awareness and bring people together.

Event dates will be posted on flyers around campus. All proceeds will benefit Movember and its related projects.

According to its website, Movember has raised more than \$1.3 billion and funded over 1,250 projects since being founded in 2003. These projects focus on three main areas, including mental health and suicide prevention, prostate cancer and testicular cancer.

"There is that stigma where men feel like they do have to be tough, they do have to be hard, so bringing this to campus and spreading awareness is great," Clemente said.

Casey J. Cornelius, a public speaker on healthy masculinity and personal development, is set to give two talks Nov. 17 in the Chestnut Room of Kilcawley.

The first, scheduled for 5 p.m., is titled "The Extraordinary Art of Caring (When No One Else Seems To)." The second, at 6:30 p.m., is titled "Be the Man: A Movement for Healthy Masculinity."

Another speaker, Jake Protivnak, professor and director of the counseling program at YSU is scheduled to speak at 4 p.m. Nov. 18, with the location yet to be determined.

SAE is aiming to make its trivia and game nights cre-

ative and engaging with Movember themes.

"We're thinking about doing a board of 'Guess that Mustache' and having a bunch of pictures of cut-out mustaches, numbering them and we'll see who can guess the most correct for who they belong to," Clemente said.

SAE is encouraging participation from other Greek Life organizations by donating 5% of the fundraising to a cause selected by the fraternity or sorority most involved with the campaign.

In the U.S., men die by suicide at nearly four times the rate of women, making up about 80% of all suicides, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Additionally, the American Cancer Society reports that about 1 in 8 men will be diagnosed with prostate cancer, and testicular cancer is the most common cancer in young men.

People in need can call or text the 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline. The Lifeline offers 24-hour confidential support for anyone in suicidal crisis or emotional distress. For life-threatening emergencies, call 911.

VIEW OF THE HORIZON

YSU's Horizon Legacy



Photo by Dylan Lux / The Jambar

Wright State University player Trey Calvin inside Beeghly Center.

By Jacqueline Arroyo
Jambar Contributor

Youngstown State University has won 56 Horizon League championships over the past 11 academic years and achieved more than 10 consecutive top-five finishes in the McCafferty Trophy standings.

YSU joined the Horizon League in July 2001 and has since experienced notable success, along with several associated benefits.

The Horizon League is a collegiate athletic conference in the NCAA Division I. Founded in 1979, the league consists of 11 schools located in the Great Lakes region.

The league values student-athletes well-being, integrity, respect and stewardship.

Football is not one of the 19 sports included in the Horizon League. In fact, only two of the 11 schools in the league — YSU and Robert Morris University — have football teams.

During the football season, YSU competes in the Missouri Valley Football Conference, while RMU competes in the Northeast Conference.

Recently, YSU hosted women's volleyball, coming away with a win. At Beeghly Natatorium, the YSU men's swimming and diving team put forth a strong effort against Cleveland State University, but ultimately lost 161-139.

Ron Strollo, executive director of Intercollegiate Athletics, played a key role in leading YSU's transition to the Horizon League.

"Back then we were in the Mid-Continent Conference and that conference had really spread out across our country, and our kids were missing a lot of class and traveling," Strollo said. "The Horizon League was a conference out there that had a lot of schools in our

geographic footprint, so it made sense at the time."

He noted that the Horizon League approached YSU about membership.

Most conferences charge a membership fee to cover the expenses of the league office. The league office operates with a budget of roughly \$2 million to \$3 million and provides support to member institutions, including assistance with NCAA compliance.

Typically, a membership fee is required to participate in the operation. However, YSU hasn't found much success in the Horizon League's March Madness tournament. Schools like Oakland University and Northern Kentucky University have advanced further, generating revenue for the league.

The NCAA has a significant television contract, and teams earn shares based on their performance in the tournament, which can then be converted into financial rewards.

"Some of that money flows back to the leagues, and we use that money to fund the league operations. So fortunately for us, we're not paying membership dues," Strollo said.

Strollo also said there are times when revenue exceeds expenses, allowing the league to distribute some of the surplus back to YSU. The extra money supports specific projects, such as mental health initiatives for student-athletes.

Mental health has been one of the Horizon League's priorities over the years.

Shawn Sullivan, associate commissioner of the Horizon League, oversees branding, messaging and strategic initiatives. Part of his job is to emphasize the achievements of the 11 member institutions, relaying stories about athletes, coaches and programs.

"[The Horizon League is] mak-

ing a really significant financial contribution to each institution, \$500,000 in total across the league, for [schools supplement] what they're already doing on campus to support student-athlete mental health well being," Sullivan said.

He also noted the Horizon League wants its institutions to feel proud to be part of a league that supports and advocates for student-athletes.

"We're so glad to be the umbrella organization of 11 really critical institutions to their regions and cities," Sullivan said. "By working together and having that relationship we're sharing stories, we're making sure that they feel loved."

Sullivan said another benefit for schools joining the league is the opportunity to host Horizon League championships.

Although championship requirements vary by sport, there are specific criteria for hosting league championship events. In many cases, the coaches' group plays a role in voting on or advocating for how championships should be organized.

"In the case of outdoor track and field, our 11 schools, there are only a couple of schools that meet the requirements of their venue or facility to host," Sullivan said. "Youngstown State and Okland are the two outdoor facilities, so the championship actually bounces back and forth between those two institutions."

The Horizon League provides an operational budget that varies by sport, which the host school uses to manage the event. The host school also retains revenue from ticket sales, parking and other on-site sales.

The 2024-25 outdoor track and field championship will be held May 9-11 at YSU's Farmers National Bank Field.

'Multiples' paints perspectives

By Nicholas Bianco and Dylan Lux
Jambar Contributors

Youngstown State University students and community members have the opportunity to learn more about creative and visual arts via the art exhibit, "Multiples."

The exhibit is on display from Nov. 1-29 in the Judith Rae Solomon Gallery, located in Bliss Hall.

"Multiples" is a student art exhibit, where students enrolled in the paint studio course can have their work displayed.

Dragana Crnjak, art professor, teaches the painting studio course and said "Multiples" is an extension of a class project.

"Students are asked to develop [a] series of works examining conceptual, formal aspects of the work and its extension of their work, that they work on a larger scale. So it's just examining how that can be translated or something smaller and into these like visual narra-

tives," Crnjak said.

Crnjak said she is excited about "Multiples" being a part of YSU.

"It not only takes painting studio students outside of the classroom into professional practice but puts their work on display for community members," Crnjak said.

Crnjak said the exhibit is a great way for students and community members to learn more about the culture of arts.

"We really hope all YSU faculty and students can come out and be part of that culture and enjoy art, but also have a chance to really talk to students and learn something they didn't know about," Crnjak said.

Junior art student Lauren Barrett has a 12-piece exhibit called "I'm an Empath," included in "Multiples."

"They're all self-portraits and they are the same image, and the way I've painted them and my color choices is what separates them from each other," Barrett said. "They're all meant to be viewed together but separately

and they all tell their own story."

Barrett said she views her exhibit as a reflection of herself.

"If you didn't know me and you looked at any of those pieces individually, you would have a completely different story of who I was as a person," Barrett said. "But when you see them as a whole, even if you don't know me, you might get an idea of what I might be like."

Senior art student Mychal Ben, has an exhibit featuring masks called "Sentinels Part 2" included in "Multiples."

"The most important thing for me is to be able to make a body of work that represents what I'm actually after with my career in visual arts," Ben said.

According to Ben, visual arts is a way to nonverbally communicate ideas. However, visual arts have been overlooked in the past few years.

"Now is no different, I think it's important for people to pay attention to arts, especially visual arts," Ben said.

Planting seeds of change

By Syann Ellis
Jambar Contributor

The Youngstown Environmental Sustainability Society is igniting a green revolution at Youngstown State University, encouraging students and community members to plant trees, through workshops and local partnerships.

YESS is a nonprofit student organization at YSU that aims to create greener spaces on and off campus by lending a hand in environmental projects and events.

Mia Swain, the president of YESS, said its mission is to promote sustainability on and around campus.

"Our mission is to promote sustainability on and off campus. We do that by providing educational opportunities and chances for people to get involved in events, as well as community outreach," Swain said.

YSU has a rain garden adjacent to Cofelt Hall. Its main function is to decrease stormwater runoff.

"We are part of this rain garden. We

are planting hydrophilic plants, plants that like water. They'll absorb that water and filter out pollution and other contaminants," Swain said.

YESS works closely with local organizations such as YSU Legacy Forests Project, to make an environmental difference around Youngstown.

"A great organization is Legacy Forest. They plant a tree for every incoming freshman for climate change purposes," Swain said.

Serene Awad, the vice president of YESS, discussed her experience working with and seeing Legacy Forest.

"During my freshman year for my foundations of environmental science class, we all went out to the Legacy Forest tree planting," Awad said.

Victoria Micco, social media manager and public relations chair at YESS, also spoke about the impact Legacy Forest has had on YSU and the Youngstown community.

"I haven't actually been to a tree planting yet, but I am excited about it," Micco said. "The thought of it is really cool. Ev-

ery person who comes to YSU is making an impact without even knowing."

YESS also brings in events and speakers, including representatives from the Mahoning County Soil and Water District and the Mahoning County Land Bank, who help with planting and identifying certain types of flora.

"Last Sunday, we held a soup kitchen event where we handed out food," Swain said. "We also have speakers come in for Green Penguin Day, inviting different businesses, and we invited a school last year, which brought their kids to participate."

YESS hosts hikes that are open to both YSU students and members of the Youngstown community.

"If we get people involved and they're learning new things while participating in events, I think that is making an impact in their lives, and maybe they'll spread that knowledge," Swain said.

Micco expressed her desire to get students involved in YESS.

"Getting people opened up to that side of nature, all the different things you can

see and do, is important," Micco said.

Brittain Bosela, the treasurer of YESS, said the club is impactful for students.

"I needed to do something I found fun, and that's exactly why I want to be a part of YESS. I want to make this a fun club and show others that while there's important information to learn about sustainability, we can also make it enjoyable," Bosela said.

Christina Corturillo, the secretary and greenhouse manager of YESS, said the nonprofit is not just for environmental science majors.

"I wish people knew that we welcome anybody," Corturillo said. "We want to educate people, spread the word about this organization, what we do, and how you can help both in and out of the organization."

YESS will host an upcoming Legacy Forest event Nov. 14, and it will also hold a T-shirt sale in early November.

People interested in joining YESS can visit its website or Instagram page, @youngstownness.

CUSTOMIZED CURRICULUM

DIY degrees

By Molly Burke
The Jambar

For some students at Youngstown State University, finding a major that's right for them requires creativity and help from faculty members.

The Individualized Curriculum Program allows students to create their own unique major by combining two or three disciplines from different departments or colleges.

While usually only a few students pursue an ICP each semester, Kevin Ball, the associate provost of Academic Programs and Planning, said it's beneficial for those interested in interdisciplinary studies.

"The ICP allows those students to craft a plan of study or educational roadmap that meets their specific needs," Ball said. "It's been really successful for the students who took advantage of that option."

Senior Aubree Peterson-Spanard is studying archeo-

astronomy and museum studies — a combination of anthropology, astronomy and history. She plans to work in either planetariums or museums.

"I've always been a jack-of-all-trades, someone who's always dabbling in different things. So, to me, it makes sense that I don't fit a mold for a major here," Peterson-Spanard said.

According to Ball, a student could create an ICP in any college, as long as there's faculty to support it. However, some discipline specific programs — such as nursing — are unable to be combined into an ICP.

Linguistics professor Cynthia Vigliotti is an advisor for students pursuing ICPs involving linguistics. She said while ICP students have more flexibility with their curriculum, they still have to follow basic college requirements.

"Whatever is required for the regular Bachelor of Arts, for example in our college, would also be required for the ICP in terms of number of hours, in terms of general education requirements and things of that nature," Vigliotti said.

The university doesn't have a campus-wide policy for the program, but most colleges require a student to be a sophomore before declaring a ICP.

When it comes to creating curriculum, some colleges have students create a committee of faculty members to help them. Others require a department chair to select students' coursework.

"What our students are looking to do is try to combine areas of interests ... We have to try and be as flexible as possible with those," Vigliotti said. "That may explain the lack of a greater umbrella system on campus to take care of things."

ICP students also complete a capstone project during senior year. Vigliotti said the program allows students to be prepared for their careers.

"I know some students have expressed concern in terms of, 'Will this transfer?' 'Will this be seen in such a way that it will be legit in terms of a major and an undergraduate degree?' And it's all of those things," Vigliotti said. "We try to ensure that the student is at least exposed to some of the things that they might find either in the field or in their professional lives."

Junior Curtis Nelson is pursuing an ICP in anthropological linguistics with plans to go to graduate school and eventually work in research. Nelson said the program allows students to have a personally tailored skill set.

"Not a lot of people going into grad school in my field have such a specific target or focus. So, if a school has a good program for either anthropology or linguistics, it sets you apart from other applicants. Having a degree you constructed yourself also stands out," Nelson said.

YSU alumnus Erik Engartner graduated in 2019 after completing an ICP in tourism and event planning — a combination of geography business and hospitality. He then got a masters in urban planning from The Ohio State University and a masters in business from YSU.

"It helped me [with] all the degrees I ended up pursuing post grad," Engartner said. "I was able to take what I learned from some of my business classes and the hospitality classes I had in my undergrad and apply it in the MBA, apply in the real world."

Engartner is now a database coordinator for the YSU Foundation and runs an independent concert venue in Youngstown called The Wickyards.

"I am able to apply the business skill set to really anything just dealing with people — hospitality too," Engartner said. "I've even found ways to incorporate map making into my current job [at the YSU Foundation]. So, geography played a role in that. It's just about being versatile."

Students interested in creating their own ICP can talk to their advisor.

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Erik Engartner owns and operates The Wickyards. Photo by Molly Burke / Jambar Contributor

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 \$9.95**



**WINGS
 WED & SUN
 .79¢**

FINALLY FIRST FRIDAYS

Local events in local spaces

By Mick Dillon
The Jambar

The Downtown Youngstown Partnership wrapped up another evening of First Fridays Downtown Youngstown on Nov. 1 at The Butler Institute of American Art.

Adam Lee, program director for Youngstown Cityscape, has overseen First Fridays since their inaugural showcase in 2023.

In 2023, the events began as part of a community series held at Youngstown Foundation Amphitheatre and were designed to bring people downtown for an evening of food and entertainment. This soon gained the tag of “First Fridays” and gradually developed into the event of today.

First Fridays were held downtown on Phelps Street from May to September and a hybrid show in October. The event is hosted at local businesses around the city such as Noble Creature Wild Ales & Lagers, Cassese’s MVR, The Public Library of Youngstown and Mahoning

County.

Lee emphasized how important it is for local businesses to have an event like this in their backyard.

“Our goal is mostly going to be May through September ... for Phelps Street ... to help support the bars and restaurants in those spaces ... and bring people into the central business district,” Lee said.

The monthly events typically feature an array of live music, food, drinks, art exhibits, shopping, family-friendly activities and more.

The most recent experience at the Butler saw a live performance from local musician Dan Shiller, who specializes in international percussion.

First Fridays also catered international food as well as mask-making activities to follow the international theme.

“We’re looking forward to providing a variety of different experiences,” Lee said.

The food menu included Mexican and Indian street food from Youngstown’s Delhi Cafe, El Hefe and other

local cuisine.

Beverages included chai masala from Delhi Cafe and various wine selections supplied by the Butler.

Regarding the future of First Fridays, Lee said he hopes to see more spaces getting involved with hosting the event as well as a heightened involvement from the community as a whole.

“[In the] summertime, I would really love to see Phelps Street full, and be a very vibrant community space,” Lee said.

Lee said he also encourages YSU students to come out and attend the events as well.

“We’re really trying to make it so that there’s a lot of opportunity for not just the broader community, but [for] YSU students ... and create space for them that’s more than just going out to a bar,” Lee said.

More information on future First Fridays events can be found on the First Fridays website or on the Downtown Youngstown Partnership Facebook page.

Flea brings community together

By AnnaBelle Boone
The Jambar

Patrons gathered downtown for the Youngstown Flea, featuring small-businesses, vintage shops and other homemade creations from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. Nov. 2.

The monthly flea market event was held at 365 E Boardman St., across the street from Penguin City Brewing Co.

The event has vendors selling products such as baked goods, curated vintage items, plants and more.

There were a variety of food vendors at the Fall Flea, including some for pets. Jennifer Lopez, the owner of Wookee Cookees, has tabled the flea market for two seasons.

“I have worked markets in three different states, and this is the best market I have ever worked,” Lopez said.

Lopez started her business when her rescue beagle, Suzie, got sick after eating a commercially-made dog treat. When Suzie recovered, Lopez began researching what ingredients go into dog cookies.

She decided to make her own, as she couldn’t find healthy or allergy-friendly dog cookies.

“I went vegan across the board,” said Lopez. “[The treats are] allergy-friendly vegan because some dogs can’t tolerate a lot of chicken or fish, so they’re having dietary issues.”

Lopez and Wookee Cookees was just one of the many vendors located throughout the event.

A common product for vendors at the Flea is jewelry, with options including silverware forged into rings or other handmade pieces.

Amanda Austin, owner of Midnight Violets in Clay, said her business was a great way to get involved in jewelry after the birth of her daughter.

“Basically, when I had my daughter, I needed something to do, and I used to stay up well past midnight to do some jewelry, and her name is Violet,” Austin said.

Midnight Violets In Clay sells handcrafted clay jewelry, along with permanent jewelry, hair clips and bookmarks.

“My favorite time is the Christmas Flea,” Austin said. “It’s just busy and fun and festive.”

One of the businesses that’s been with the Flea since its first location is Kelly Simmons’s booth, Nitro-Flury Glass.

“I make stained glass, and I do drawings, art prints, and recently got into doing freeze-dried candy,” Simmons said.

Simmons has been working with the Flea for about four years.

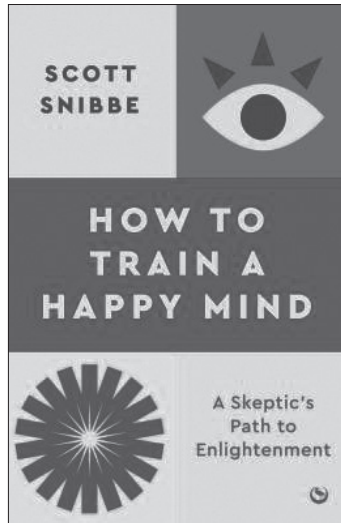
“Other than moving locations, one of the big changes over the years has been adding more vendors and a different variety of vendors. It’s just a community. All the vendors know each other,” Simmons said.

Simmons added that her favorite thing about the Flea is seeing the same customers.

“What I really love about the Flea is getting to have repeat customers, who come to my booth and know me, and know my work, and I’ll do custom stuff for them. It’s really cool to have your artwork on walls and stuff.”

The next Youngstown Flea will be holiday-themed the first weekend of December.

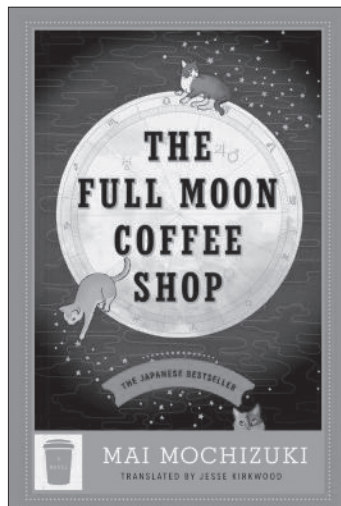
Penguin Book Nook with The Public Library



Nonfiction review

How to Train a Happy Mind: A Skeptic's Path to Enlightenment
by Scott Snibbe

Struggling to build better mental habits? Snibbe shares his ideas on happiness as influenced by Buddhist practices in this modern-take on self-help.



Fiction review

The Full Moon Coffee Shop
by Mai Mochizuki

A charming Japanese translation featuring talking cats who run a mysterious and magical coffee shop in Kyoto. Recommended for fans of contemporary gentle fantasy, caffeine connoisseurs and cat ladies.

Upcoming programs

Tuesday, Nov. 12

6 p.m.

The Galaxy Escape Room

Wednesday, Nov. 13

6 p.m.

Cafecitos y Libros

Monday, Nov. 18

11 a.m.

Mystery Monday Book Club

Monday, Nov. 18

5 p.m.

Monochrome Movie Monday

Visit libraryvisit.org to register, get more information or find other programs

To find more information or to place a hold on a title, visit libraryvisit.org, meet us at 305 Wick Ave. or call the library at (330) 744-8636.

Have something to say to The Jambar?

Write a Letter to the Editor!

Email The Jambar at

thejambar@gmail.com

The Jambar Column

Happy birthday, or whatever

'Tis the season of birthdays for Libras, Scorpios, Sagittariuses and Capricorns. Happy birthday, when it comes, or belated if it has passed. For those awaiting their earthstrong, have plans been made to have a good day?

I know we can cite the current state of the world, and different personal issues, as a reason to not have something planned, but have you made the concerted effort to celebrate or even acknowledge the fact that you made it another 365 days? If not, I really hope you do.

Older people would tell us as we get older, our birthday becomes a normal day. For many people, there are different reasons why it is not a cause for celebration — I have seen some firsthand and I understand.

As for me, I'm still in my early 20s. I even had an older customer at work call me a "baby" last weekend. Initially, I was offended, but if she's in her 60s, then I am definitely a baby compared to her. I believe I am too young to have my birthday reduced to a regular day.

In high school, when I thought that time of my life was the weight of the world on my shoulder, my birthday was the one day I allowed myself to "be free." I smiled and socialized more. I was in a good mood and I wanted everyone to share in the good vibes.

However, high school was high school and the people who are miserable and want others to share in their misery attempted to counter my positivity. Did they succeed? Yes, unfortunately. I remember two instances where the attempts had some success. For not wanting to relive the moment, I will not



Nicarlyle Hanchard

discuss them.

Did they know it was my birthday? No. I don't really want everyone to know, but cheers to the good vibes. In retrospect, I wonder what was the reason?

What was their goal in projecting their misery? I digress.

My last two birthdays felt like normal days. Nothing special happened really. I was Grateful to have breath in my lungs when I awoke, but nothing celebratory was planned.

I made plans both years, but life happens, what to do? I made plans for this year also, but life has happened.

Is that to say I will not find other ways to enjoy my special day? No, the least I can do is recognize that I am open for plans. Through introspective thought, I evaluated the lessons I learned in the past year. It will be a day I plan for the coming year, before the new year.

What I am trying to get at is, we can enjoy our birthdays in many ways. It does not have to be a big celebration, but I think the least we can do is acknowledge the fact that we have life — in a positive, celebratory manner.

Also, birthdays are for celebrating our birth. The mere fact that we contemplate celebrating the day means we have life and life deserves to be celebrated everyday!

The Jambar Editorial

Do you read fine print?

Many people acknowledge that their data is being sold, but do they know the extent of it?

A Deloitte study showed that 91% of surveyed individuals accepted terms and conditions without reading them — and that percentage was even higher for those ages 18 to 34.

According to usercentrics.com, user data collection is the act of gathering information on users through websites, apps, or online services. Collected data can include personal information, behavioral data and technical data.

This data is sold because it helps businesses better understand consumers and their purchasing history. Consumer data allows companies to predict the best way to market to consumers moving forward, resulting in better sales.

Data selling has been an ongoing topic of controversy as media use grows, leading to the introduction of privacy bills such as the Ohio Personal Privacy Act.

Previously, there were few rules and regulations regarding the collection or sale of data because of rapidly evolving technology.

The OPPA was created to give control back to Ohio residents and their personal data.

As seen on infotrust.com, there are five specific rights afforded to customers:

- Consumers' right to know what personal data is collected about them

- Consumers' right to request personal data collected about them

- Consumers' right to have their personal data deleted

- Consumers' right to have their personal data corrected

- Consumers' right to prohibit the sale of their personal data

Ohio.gov explains the purpose of these rights.

"These rights would give Ohioans control over how businesses are using their data and give Ohioans the option to tell businesses to not sell their data," the website states.

The OPPA brought many new expectations for companies that were previously selling data.

Moving forward, there is a lot to look at regarding data collection and selling. The hope would be that companies reevaluate their approach to be more transparent with consumers.

According to commonsense.org, customers' rights can improve through companies communicating with users, along with obtaining consent for gathering and selling data.

Even though it should be expected that companies are transparent when sharing personal data, it's important to know exactly what you are clicking "I agree" to. Now, with the passing of the OPPA, Ohio is moving in the right direction.

Quote of the week

"Great thoughts speak only to the thoughtful mind, but great actions speak to all mankind."

— Theodore Roosevelt,
Former president of the United States

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.



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Penguins flock to Redbirds

By Joel Fuzo
The Jambar

The Youngstown State University football team fell short against Illinois State University with a 23-16 loss Nov. 2.

Before the game, Head Coach Doug Phillips was critical of the team's recent execution, with two turnovers against the University of North Dakota.

"We've got to clean up some of those mistakes," Phillips said. "To win a game when you do that is hard to do."

Sophomore Beau Brungard completed 19 of 32 passing attempts for 157 yards, with one touchdown and one interception.

Youngstown State leaned heavily on its run game, recording a team total of 38 rushing attempts for 142 yards.

Senior Tyshon King led the ground effort with 59 yards, averaging 4.9 yards per carry.

Junior Max Tomczak finished as the Penguins' reception leader with eight catches for 73 yards and a touchdown.

Junior DJ Harris led the defense with 13 tackles and one interception, while junior Jaylen Castleberry was second in tackles with 10. Castleberry also tallied a sack that resulted in a safety on Illinois State's first possession.

At the end of the first quarter, Illinois State led 3-2. The Penguins' offense did not score in the first half, as the Redbirds reached the endzone for the first touchdown of the game in the second quarter.

The opening drive of the third quarter resulted in an Illinois State touchdown and took a 14-point advantage.

Youngstown State answered with a touchdown, as King ran it in from one yard out, cutting the lead to one.

The Redbirds responded with their second touchdown of the half on their next possession, giving them a 23-9 lead entering the fourth quarter.

The Penguins missed a field goal on

their first drive of the fourth quarter.

Youngstown State's defense rallied with a forced fumble on Illinois State's first drive of the fourth quarter. The defensive play gave the Penguins the ball at their own 33-yard line.

The Penguins capitalized on the turnover, as Brungard connected with Tomczak for a 7-yard touchdown.

Although the 'Guins made it a one-score contest, Illinois State was able to run out the clock on their following drive, ending the game 23-16.

Youngstown State will continue its road stretch with a game at 1 p.m. Nov. 9 against Southern Illinois University.

Penguins run away with title



Men's cross-country wins title at Horizon League Championship.

Photo courtesy of YSUsports.com

By John Ostapowicz
The Jambar

The Youngstown State University men's and women's cross country teams competed in the 2024 Horizon League Cross Country Championships on Nov. 2, hosted by the University of Wisconsin–Green Bay.

The men's squad recorded an historic milestone with its third-straight Horizon League title, which signifies the longest streak of consecutive titles in program history. The feat also marks the men's program's fifth title overall, which is the fourth most in Horizon League history.

Fifth-year senior Hunter Christopher led the way for

Youngstown State with his second-consecutive individual title in the men's 8K, with a time of 24:11.2. He became the first men's runner since 2009 to win back-to-back Horizon League titles — Andy Baker of Butler University won three-straight from 2007-2009.

Graduate student Ryan Meadows finished in fourth place with a time of 24:31.5, which marked his third-straight top-five finish at the Horizon League Championships.

In total, five Penguins placed in the top 10, as the men won the championship with a team total of 26 points. Indiana University Indianapolis came in second with 74 points, while Oakland University placed third with 86 points.

The women's side for Youngstown State finished fourth overall with 98 points, as Robert Morris University won the Horizon League title for the women's side, with a team collective of 67 points.

Sophomore McKinley Fielding, finished runner-up in the 6K with a time of 21:09.9. Junior Anelise Egge of the University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee placed first in the event and won the women's individual title.

Both the men's and women's cross country teams will participate in NCAA Great Lakes Regional Championships on Nov. 15 at Silver Creek Park Cross Country Course in Norton.

THE NIGHT THE LIGHTS WENT OUT IN BEEGHLY

Welcome back, basketball

By Dylan Lux
The Jambar

The wait is over, as the NCAA's men's basketball season is underway — which means the Youngstown State University men's basketball team isn't far behind.

This offseason was a busy one for YSU, as former Head Coach Jerrod Calhoun, who spent seven seasons with the Penguins, moved out to the Mountain West Conference to become the new head coach of the Utah State University men's basketball team.

The 'Guins will be under new management this season, as Ethan Faulkner, former assistant coach and associate head coach, will lead Youngstown State into the 2024-25 season.

Faulkner said he is excited about the opportunity to be YSU's head coach, but knows the season isn't just about him.

"[I'm] super honored to be head coach and obviously excited about that opportunity, but this season's not

about me," Faulkner said. "It's about our guys and trying to maximize the potential of our team."

Faulkner said he wants to focus on the team's shooting heading into the opening games of the season.

"The biggest thing is, we have to shoot the ball better," Faulkner said. "We haven't shot the ball from three that well and we've got some really good looks. Execution wise, we've got some things to clean up."

Youngstown State welcomed nine new Penguins to the men's basketball roster over the offseason, including three Division I transfers and two true freshmen.

Joining the 'Guins for the 2024-25 campaign are fifth-year seniors Nico Galette, Ty Harper and Siem Uijtendaal, juniors Cris Carroll, Juwan Maxey and Jason Nelson, sophomore Kevin Hamilton and freshmen Elijah Guillory and Shaheed Solebo.

The Penguins had six returning athletes, including key members such as sophomore Gabe Dynes and senior EJ Farmer.

Dynes was named to Horizon League All-Freshman

and All-Defensive Teams. Dynes led the Horizon League with 61 blocks and 2.3 blocks per game in his first collegiate season.

Being one of the returners for YSU, Farmer said the team wanted to establish their culture with the new players right away.

"We've been talking about it since before the new guys even came ... the guys that were returning — we were saying how we have to start the culture, from the spring workouts to now," Farmer said.

He said the new members of the team adjusted well to Youngstown State.

"By the time the new guys came in, we showed them the ropes and everything we've got going on around here and they picked it up pretty well," Farmer said.

In an anxious fashion, the men's basketball season opener against Westminster College was postponed due to a power outage. The reschedule date is to be determined.

Currently, the season opener is set for 8 p.m. Nov. 9 in Chicago. The team will take on Chicago State University, who is a brand new member of the Northeast Conference, as they were independent for two seasons before joining the conference.

The matchup will be broadcast live on NEC Front Row and 570 WKBN.

Penguins look to light it up

By Teziah Howard
The Jambar

Following a power outage in Beeghly Center, the Youngstown State University women's basketball team was forced to cancel its match up against the University of North Dakota.

Tipoff was set to begin at 5:30 p.m, but was delayed when the lights in the arena shut off while the teams were nearing play.

First-year Head Coach Melissa Jackson will have to wait until the end of the week to make her YSU debut.

Jackson had high praise for her athletes when asked about their performances prior to the season. Jackson said her players are quick learners and bring excitement to the court.

"They have been an unbelievable group to coach. They have been so coachable and receptive," Jackson said. "There is a ton of excitement around our program and being in Beeghly Center."

Although Jackson is new to the program, she is a familiar face in the Horizon League. For the 2023-24 season, she served as assistant head coach for Cleveland State University.

Jackson's time at CSU was short, but she led the Vikings to a 29-6 overall record that earned them the regular season title.

For the past seven years, the Penguins have showcased a home court advantage, as they have had winning records in consecutive seasons inside Beeghly Center.

In total, Jackson added six freshmen and four transfers to the women's basketball program, including senior Jewel Watkins and redshirt junior Faith Burch.

Burch transferred from Cleveland State over the offseason. As a member of the Vikings, she played in 35 games and averaged 3.6 points per game with 47.8% from the field, to go along with 3.9 rebounds.

Watkins joins the Penguins from the University of North Carolina at Char-

lotte, where she played in 28 games. Before Charlotte, she spent two seasons at Coppin State University and was a Second Team All-Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference selection.

The Penguins will look to lean on their six returners for leadership early in the season.

Graduate-student Malia Magestro returns for her fifth year at YSU. She has been a main factor of the offensive firepower in previous years.

Magestro highlighted her role as a veteran on the team. She said it's an opportunity to lead by example.

"Now it's my turn to be the oldest on the team, and I'm really trying to lead and grow this program in the right direction for coach Jackson," Magestro said.

In the 2023-24 season, she totaled 310 points and 68 rebounds. Magestro was also YSU's top-scoring guard and second-leading scorer in the Horizon League, averaging 11.8 points per game.

Junior Abby Liber played in every game

her first season with YSU basketball as a sophomore. Liber put up 110 points, 85 rebounds and 35 assists last season.

Senior Haley Thierry played in all 32 games of her junior campaign, including 15 games of which she started. Thierry was a main staple in the Penguins' defense throughout the season, as she recorded 120 rebounds and dished out 61 assists on the season.

Last season, the Penguins were led by their opponents in various categories, including total points per game, rebounds and steals.

With the cancellation of week one's home matchup against North Dakota, the Penguins will have three more opportunities to showcase their basketball team inside Beeghly Center.

YSU will host Lake Erie College, with Friday's tipoff set for 6:30 p.m. Nov. 8.

The Penguins will continue their home stint for the following two weeks against St. Bonaventure University and Mercyhurst University.

Celebratory sweep on senior day

By Marissa Masano
The Jambar

The Youngstown State University women's volleyball team swept Oakland University and celebrated its seniors Nov. 1-2 inside Beeghly Center.

In Match One, the Penguins defeated the Golden Grizzlies in five sets. Oakland won the first two sets, 25-23 and 25-18, respectively.

Before the third set, fifth-year senior Nyia Setla said the team discussed how they needed to play at a high level.

"We knew that we weren't playing to our fullest potential. This was it, the time was now. It's the third set, we just have to play hard," Setla said.

The third set saw five ties, as the Penguins took the lead after a four-point rally to make the score 18-16. Youngstown State closed out the set, scoring three consecutive points to win 25-21.

The Penguins controlled the fourth set, scoring seven consecutive points. Fifth-year Isabel Schaeftbauer scored four of those points.

The fifth set was contested with 12 ties, but the final score was 15-13 in favor of Youngstown State. Junior Abbie Householder scored the final two points to solidify the first five-set win, after trailing 2-0.

Three Penguins recorded double-doubles, as Householder had a match-high 21 kills and 13 digs, while Schaeftbauer recorded 44 assists and 19 digs.

Freshman Kelsey Cooper recorded four new career highs in service aces, total blocks, assists and points.

The team celebrated its senior day Nov. 2, as it beat the Golden Grizzlies in three straight sets. The sweep marked the Penguins first over Oakland since Nov. 13, 1999.

Setla credited the team for sticking to its game plan.

"We wanted to make sure we were going

to adjust to anything they were going to change, but to keep going with our initial gameplan. We knew as long as we stuck to our jobs and read the scouting report and honestly leaned into each other, that's what it came down to," Setla said.

In the first set, sophomore Maria Inzana scored the final three points, with one ace to secure the first set 25-20.

The second set was less contested as Youngstown State defeated Oakland 25-19.

Oakland started the third set scoring four consecutive points, but the Penguins responded with their rally led by a kill from junior Bianca Giglio.

Youngstown began to lead the set 6-5 and did not look back. They went on to outscore the Golden Grizzlies 14-5 and took the set 25-15.

After the game, Setla, who transferred to YSU from West Liberty University, opened up about her emotions surrounding senior day.

"I lost my dad three years ago, so having him not be there physically today was an emotional moment for me. I knew I needed to do my job for the girls around me. I can now be with them and feel all these emotions now. This was a beautiful game," Setla said.

The Penguins set a new program high in a Horizon League matchup for hitting percentage at 36.2%.

Householder posted her third-consecutive double-double with 14 kills and 10 digs. Schaeftbauer also had a double-double, as she posted 11 digs and 39 assists.

For her efforts in the matches, Householder was named the Under Armour Horizon League Volleyball Player of the Week for the first time in her career.

Up next, the Penguins travel to Cleveland State University on Nov 8-9. Live stats for both games will be available on ysusports.com.

