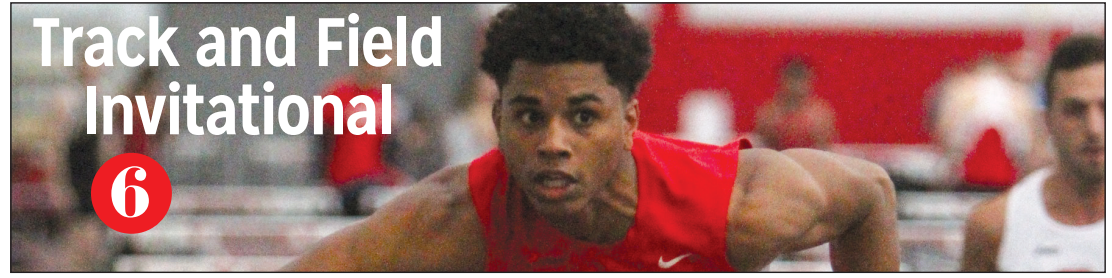




The Moxies 4



Track and Field Invitational

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Experiencing History Firsthand: Holocaust Survivor to Speak at YSU

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Irving Roth, a Holocaust survivor and renowned educator, will be speaking about his experiences at Youngstown State University's Chestnut Room on Jan. 20 at 7 p.m.

Roth is a survivor of the Auschwitz and Buchenwald concentration camps. He has dedicated his life to educating people on the horrors perpetrated by Nazi Germany and the dangers of propaganda.

"I will be talking about the step-by-step process from a personal perspective that began with the persecution of the Jews, and led to me winding up in a place called Auschwitz, and then Buchenwald, and then liberation," Roth said.

Roth said it is critical to understand the "signposts on the road to Auschwitz," so we can look at things happening in the world today and see if the same methodology is being used.

He pointed to the recent attacks in Paris, and the differences between the attacks on Charlie Hebdo and the incident in which four people died at the kosher grocery store.

"The reason they murdered the people [at Charlie Hebdo] is because they objected to the cartoons, so that's the excuse. But to murder Jews, they don't need to do anything but be Jews, and that's sufficient reason to be murdered. Their



PHOTO COURTESY OF NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND RECORDS ADMINISTRATION.

mere existence is sufficient cause to be murdered," Roth said. "The horrendous nature of that must be understood by people."

Sarah Wilschek, program coordinator at the Youngstown Area Jewish Federation, saw Roth speak at Westminster College in Pennsylvania and

was captivated by him.

"Survivors now are few and far between, and, more than that, ones that are still able to communicate well and travel and command a room are even fewer, so when we heard him speak, we decided we needed to have him [at YSU]," Wilschek said. "Mr. Roth is

very good at communicating how propaganda affects a community. How you can turn an entire country against one specific group of people, and how it happens slowly. So he is amazing at explaining history in a down-to-earth way."

Helene Sinnreich, director of the Center for Judaic and

Holocaust Studies at YSU, stressed the importance of hearing these stories firsthand.

"I think in our current society we've become a little immune to hearing stories of catastrophe and hardship, and

**HOLOCAUST
PAGE 3**

Members of the YSU Community Receive President's Award for Volunteerism

LIAM BOUQUET
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On Jan. 10, the A Way With Words Foundation, Inc. presented five members of the Mahoning Valley received the Presidential Volunteer Service Award for Lifetime Achievement.

The award is given by President Barack Obama's Council on Service and Civic Participation to American citizens for individuals who have put an exceptional number of hours into volunteer work in

their community.

Award recipients Anthony Spano, Madonna Chism Pinkard and Rachell Joy are all members of the Youngstown State University community.

Madonna Chism Pinkard, a part-time professor of communications and a community relations director at WFMJ, has volunteered with Big Brothers Big Sisters, NAACP, the Greater Warren Youngstown Urban League and the League of Women's Voters, to name a few.

Pinkard expressed her gratitude for the award. Her passion for volunteerism kick-

started after winning an award for her work with Big Brothers Big Sisters.

"By winning that award, I got \$1000, and I donated that to Big Brothers Big Sisters for their bowl-a-thon, and the ball started rolling there, literally," she said.

Pinkard worked with a young girl named Sparkle during her time in Big Brothers Big Sisters. She shared a defining moment she had with the young girl.

"Sparkle was a troubled child. One night I was on my way to the Maag Library and I had Sparkle with me. I was teaching her how to study and understand that a library was a good environment to study," Pinkard said. "As we were going down Market Street, we saw a prostitute and Sparkle went crazy. She said, 'there is my mother; there is my mother.'"

Though Pinkard was incredulous at first, when Sparkle tried to get out of the moving car, she turned the car around and pulled closer.

"And on the corner of Delason and Market Street was Sparkle's mother, for real. I didn't know what to do, and she is enamored because she sees her mother," she said. "I said, 'Excuse me, my name is

UPDATE ON YSU UNION NEGOTIATIONS

**LIAM BOUQUET
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At the conclusion of Youngstown State University's winter break, representatives from both the faculty and the administration were back at the negotiating table, attempting to work out a three-year faculty contract.

Two meetings regarding the faculty contract have already been held this month, with one more planned for Jan. 26.

Both sides acknowledged the need for a speedy resolution to the union negotiations that have persisted for the last 10 months — the longest lasting contract dispute in YSU's history.

"I really see the necessity of coming to an understanding on a contract that is less concessionary than the tentative agreement," said Gabriel Palmer-Fernandez, chief negotiator for YSU-OEA and a professor in the philosophy and religious studies department.

Harry Meshel, member of the YSU Board of Trustees, agreed.

"We wanted to get it off the public stage so to speak. We wanted to get it done," Meshel said in a past interview with The Jambar.

Though faculty and the ad-

ministration have indicated a desire to expedite the negotiations process, disagreements over the specifics of the contract remain unresolved.

Meshel expressed displeasure with the faculty, which chose to vote down the tentative contract that both union negotiators and administration were able to agree to last semester.

"We were being more than fair [with the tentatively assigned contract]," Meshel said. "I don't see any benefits to the university beyond what was already agreed to."

As he did in the past, Palmer-Fernandez argued that the faculty should not continue to suffer for the budgetary mistakes of the administration, pointing to the large concessions — including a reduction in base take-home compensation — made by the faculty when they signed their last contract three years ago. The proposed contract again asks the faculty to make sacrifices; it includes a reduction to summer instruction compensation and a real decrease in salary.

"We did it three years ago; they should have gotten their house in order," he said. "We are paying for their sins."

The university is not only in the midst of negotiating

**NEGOTIATIONS
PAGE 2**



PHOTO COURTESY OF ANTHONY SPANO.

Winners of the Lifetime Achievement Award stand with Brenda Rider of the A Way With Words Foundation, Inc. From left to right: A.C. McCullough, Kelly Stevens, Brenda Rider, Madonna Chism Pinkard, Anthony Spano and Rachell Joy.

**AWARD
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YOUNGSTOWN GROWS AS EXPORT HUB

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From 2009 to 2012, the Youngstown-Warren area has flourished in its industries, healthcare, workforce and housing sectors, factoring significantly into its economic success.

According to a study conducted by the Brookings Institution, the region was rated number one in the United States in export growth percentage from 2009 to 2012.

The industry that ranked highest in metropolitan export change was transportation equipment in 2009.

Mousa Kassis, international trade adviser of the International Trade Assistance Center at Youngstown State University, said that Youngstown is becoming a global player in exportation through its growing industries.

"Exporting in particular has been growing in this area. In 2010 to 2012, the Youngstown region, from

Warren to Sharon, Pennsylvania, was rated number one in export growth in the nation. So that is a good sign that there are globally-oriented businesses in this area," Kassis said. "We have many manufacturers, and there is great potential for growth with the discovery of shale products, and technology, which is transferable overseas. It has given us even more potential hope of exporting and becoming a global player."

Kassis said that about 75 percent of global consumption is outside of the United States, along with 95 percent of the population, and it is easier for companies to make a profit through exporting.

"Export growth means the area economically will grow. Exporting and being a global player, you have to do it, otherwise businesses will sink because of the global competition," he said.

Kassis added that the world is "metro to metro," and Youngstown needs to build its own metro to trade with other large cities in the

world. Kassis said that the Youngstown-Warren region needs to increase its competitiveness, and encourage export efforts among businesses, as well as introducing new manufacturing technology to encourage growth as a large export city.

"We still have a good primary metal and steel industry production here. We also have many smaller companies and sections in the economy that could be very well diversified," he said.

Primary metals, fabricated metal products, machinery, transportation equipment, chemicals, plastics, engineering services, forestry and grain production are big industries in the regions of Youngstown-Warren, Butler, Erie and Columbiana.

"The focus is to build and continue to build on all of these strengths, and we have a very competitive advantage in this area. The lower cost of energy is going to be a game changer for this area. Our manufacturing will be able to compete with over-

seas, mainly China, because of this factor. Lower energy costs for manufacturers are a huge advantage," Kassis said. "Given the cost of oil and energy being lower here, that is going to speed the process to be more competitive with China and other places in the world."

Last semester, the Williamson College of Business Administration partnered with the Ohio Development Services Agency to offer a program to students that would enable them to gain experience through exporting companies like Warren Steel Holdings or McDonald Steel.

"Youngstown has had a history of exporting, but is becoming more prominent now. Now, at YSU, we are having a program with Ohio Development Services Agency that partner with Williamson College of Business Administration to offer an export internship program. That program also does this with Fischer College of Business at Ohio State University," Kassis said.

As part of the program, YSU will accept and train 10 students with a junior or higher standing with at least a 3.0 GPA of any major.

The program deadline ended last semester on Dec. 10, and the students accepted will work 40 hours a week at any exporting company for four months. The school is offering a supplement for students who might have to relocate.

"That just shows the dedication of Williamson College, YSU and the state of Ohio for a new trajectory oriented toward overseas exporting and international trade," Kassis said. "That is huge, building a human capital that is focused on export."

Ohio will reimburse YSU, and YSU will reimburse the companies up to \$3,600 of wages that a company will pay to the student.

"We will continue this program. We are very excited about it," Kassis said. "We started it for the need, and the most important factor is building a human capital toward globalization."

Neighborhood Group Praises Strip Club for Cleanliness

DAWN RHODES
Chicago Tribune
(TNS)

CHICAGO — A Chicago neighborhood group is catching grief over a recent decision to recognize a local strip club for improving the aesthetics of the area.

Albany Park Neighbors decided this month to give

its "Block Star Business" award to the Admiral Theatre at 3940 W. Lawrence Ave. The award, according to the group's website, spotlights businesses doing their part to keep the neighborhood clean and presentable.

The group says those business owners who keep a neat sidewalk and storefront, ensure there are enough trash cans for the business and reduce the amount of trash patrons bring into the neighborhood can be eligible for the

award. "Trashy streets impact quality of life for residents in Albany Park — but litter also negatively affects business, too," the group's Web page reads. "This effort helps our group of residents recognize and champion local businesses who are going above and beyond in the fight against litter, while also providing great customer service and going the extra mile for our community."

The group announced the

award on its Facebook page late Tuesday night, with a photo of one of its managers showing off the certificate. The post drew criticism from those who saw a juxtaposition of a strip club receiving a beautification award.

"Really?!" one man wrote. "This business has to go! They can take that porn shop down the street with them, too. It simply attracts the wrong crowd into the neighborhood."

Group leaders countered

that the awarded businesses are chosen by residents. The group collects nominations from its readers and the top four vote-getters receive the award throughout the year.

"Can honestly say nobody has ever, ever, ever nominated the adult bookstore," the group wrote in response.

But some response has been positive as some residents, sometimes grudgingly, acknowledged that the Admiral's exterior was cleaner than other stores nearby.

NEGOTIATIONS PAGE 1

with YSU faculty. The staff union — YSU-ACE — is also working without contract.

Last semester, the contract dispute with YSU-ACE led to a fact-finder from the state government filing a fact-finding report. This was essentially a recommendation for a contract by the state, but both the Board of Trustees and YSU-ACE voted to reject the fact-finding report — sending them back to negotiations.

Currently YSU-ACE remains on media blackout, but Connie Frisby, president of the YSU-ACE union, said the union was, "looking forward to getting back to the [negotiations] table."

CORRECTION

Tuesday's article "Third Party Expected to Enhance Enrollment" incorrectly reported that FTE is calculated by dividing total number of credits by 12. That number should be 15.

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NEWS BRIEFS**Mahoning Regional Teacher Job Fair Next Week**

All recent graduates in education, credentialed teachers and substitute teacher candidates are invited to attend the Mahoning Valley Regional Teacher Job Fair on Tuesday, Jan. 20, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. This recruitment event is sponsored by the Mahoning Valley Regional Council of Governments. School districts throughout Mahoning and Columbiana counties will be on hand to address certified and daily substitute teacher opportunities in their schools. Attendees are urged to bring their resumes and RSVP's are welcomed. For more information, visit www.rachelwixey.com.

YSU Awards First Master's Degrees in Interdisciplinary Communication

The first five students to complete Youngstown State University's newest master's degree in Interdisciplinary Communication were awarded their degrees at YSU's fall commencement. These students were Sarah Chill, Elyse Gessler, Kaely Hawkins, Zach Humphries and Christina Miadich. The MIC program was approved by the YSU Board of Trustees in March 2012 and is jointly administered by the marketing and English departments.

Business College Info Session

The Williamson College of Business Administration is hosting prospective students Saturday, Jan. 31 from 9 a.m. to noon for an information session about the college. The day will include presentations on the available business majors, opportunities to meet faculty, current students and alumni, internship opportunities and leadership activities, among other things. To make a reservation, visit www.ysu.edu/wcba.

having that personal connection has tremendous impact," Sinnreich said. "It's very hard to say 'I don't care about that' if you've interacted with some individual."

She said that in the case of the Holocaust, future generations won't be able to experience these stories firsthand.

"There won't be Holocaust survivors later to talk about it, and this generation needs to hear it, so that sixty years from now, you can say to your grandchild, 'I met someone.' When I talk to my mom and she says, 'I met civil war soldiers in my lifetime,' that has impact on me, that through knowing my mother I can reach so

far back into history," Sinnreich said. "I hope that our students meet this survivor and then are able to then tell their grandchildren, 'I met a Holocaust survivor. You may be reading about this in a textbook, which may be as distant to you as when I read about the civil war, but I have a personal memory and connection to such a person.'"

The Youngstown Area Jewish Federation would like prospective attendees to RSVP by calling Sarah Wilschek at 330-746-3250 x123 or emailing swilschek@jccyoungstown.org, so they can get a headcount. The event is free and open to the community.

HOLOCAUST PAGE 1**AWARD PAGE 1**

Rachell Joy, a layout design artist in media and academic computing, said she used her passion for art and music in her volunteer experience.

"I volunteered quite a few times, doing music, for the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life," she said. "I volunteered down at the Juvenile Justice Center for Mahoning County, providing music therapy there."

Joy said she was inspired to volunteer by her parents' battle against cancer.

"That was one thing that motivated me a lot to go and volunteer and to help and raise the money for research," Joy said. "

During the awards ceremony, the audience was told that volunteerism was actually down in Ohio over the past few years. Spano, Pinkard and Joy all shared their thoughts on how to encourage volunteerism.

"We just encourage volunteers," Spano said. "You just have to make people feel accepted; you just have to make sure people feel engaged."

Pinkard said potential volunteers should always remember their impact.

"Never underestimate that you can make a difference. ... It can be something as small as reading to children," Pinkard said. "There are so many things that you can do that can make an impact in this community and ultimately in the Valley."

Joy reminded people that there is no necessary skill set for being a volunteer and any skill can be used to help the world.

"You look around and see this great need, and you just wonder, 'Well, what can I do?'" she said. "Well my mom told me, 'Well, do what you love to do.' I really enjoyed music and singing and that is what I found myself volunteering to do, using music to bring comfort to people when they are struggling."

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Longest Wildcard Show Continues at YSU

ALEXIS RUFENER
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The spring semester is underway and the students of Youngstown State University can once again tune in to hear the longest running student radio show on Rookery Radio, "The Dave and Jarrod Show."

The show is hosted by senior students David Tamulonis and Jarrod Novotny and has been on the air with Rookery Radio since September 2011. The pair said they try to bring a certain vibe and uniqueness to the content that they present to the YSU community by balancing comedy segments with academics and music.

Tamulonis is a double major in graphic/interactive design and market management. Novotny is double majoring in middle childhood education social studies and science.

Both guys decided on doing a show that has a "wildcard" plot, meaning their show doesn't have a set plan or schedule for the topics they will discuss — which range from movies, books or even the types of food on campus.

Novotny and Tamulonis got the idea for the wildcard genre from the currently running TV hit, "It's Always Sunny in Philadelphia".

"During that episode one of the characters, Charlie, would justify his bizarre behavior by saying he was the wild card. Since we feel our show is unpredictable and somewhat odd, the show has taken on

the wildcard attitude," Novotny said.

From discussions about local food, video games, what's going on in pop culture and many other subjects, each segment of The Dave and Jarrod Show is designed to be a surprise to those who turn on Rookery Radio and listen in.

"Since our first show in 2011, we have tried to mold our show into something more listener friendly. Our earlier shows lacked structure and were, by some accounts, difficult to follow and listen to. Throughout time we have tried to add some structure and shorten our segments of discussion to make the show easier to listen to," Novotny said.

"The fact is that we feel comfortable discussing a wide variety of topics. We are not just a sports show, a pop culture show or a comedy show — we are able to blend subjects and provide a variety of discussion for the listeners."

One specific segment that The Dave and Jarrod Show does is the "Craigslist Ad of the Week," where they would look over different items, whether bizarre



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE DAVE AND JARROD SHOW.

or unethical, and the hosts attempt to purchase some items.

Like most shows, music plays an essential role.

"The music we play on the show follows no theme. I usually try to find some really bizarre and stupid music to play that you wouldn't hear anywhere else. That's the point of having a college radio show in my opinion," Tamulonis said. "It's all about providing people with a unique and alternative listening experience not available in any other way."

Both Tamulonis and Novotny have plans to help make the show better and interesting for both new and current students.

"This semester we will be on a new time and day," Novotny said. "One of my goals for this semester would be to have a segment each week highlighting various organizations doing work to improve the Youngstown area."

For students who are interested in listening to the show, they can tune in to rookeryradio.com on Thursday nights from 5-7 p.m. Students can also follow them on Twitter: @Dave_Jarrod.

Youngstown Has 'Moxie' Cleveland Band to Play at Martini Bros



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE MOXIES.

GABRIELLE FELLOWS
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Martini Brothers, a local bar in downtown Youngstown, is hosting The Moxies, a three-piece band hailing from Cleveland, Ohio, on Thursday, Jan. 15.

Carolyn Jesko, member of Student Activities, saw the group live and the idea struck her to bring the band to Youngstown State University's campus.

"I went to see Welshly Arms in Cleveland at the House of Blues and The Moxies opened for them," Jesko said. "They put on a really good live show and [Student Activities] thought students would enjoy it."

The retro-bluesy style group consisting of Marco Ciofani (vocals, guitar), Kevin Werfield (drums) and Tyler Adams (bass) found their mainstay in the greased-back hair, shined shoes and state of mind of gritty old school rock. The band states modern artists Jack White, Cold War Kids and Cage the Elephant, and classic artists such as Elvis Presley, Johnny Cash and Etta James as major influences in the sound of the group.

Ciofani said he discovered his love of music after receiving his first guitar at age seven for Christmas. After playing for many years and winning several Battle of the Bands competitions, he decided that a

full piece band needed to be formed.

Werfield and Adams were recruited for the job, despite the fact that they had never played instruments before.

"I've been playing guitar for awhile and I decided to start a band. They had never played instruments before they had started playing in this band. We started from the lowest point you could pretty much ever start a band. I was living in my mom's fiancée's house at the time in a town with like 400 people total. I was playing in my garage with a five-watt amplifier and two dudes who had never played their instruments before," Ciofani said. "We played our first show at this really shitty bar that used to be a house and Kevin was using someone else's drum kit; I was using my five-watt amp. I made my pedal board in wood shop — I mean we were seniors at the time in high school. Kevin was terrified about keeping time."

The group found their success when they were picked up after playing a sold-out show at the Beachland Ballroom in December 2012.

"We just started playing and one thing led to another and we just started piling up shows. We always have done really good selling tickets; we could always get rid of all the ones a venue told us to sell," Ciofani said. "The fan base grew from Cleveland, and now we're in Nashville, Tennessee. It's always been movin'."

The Moxies play surcharge free on Jan. 15 from 8-10 p.m. at Martini Brothers.

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EDITORIAL

Scholar Privilege?

DISCLAIMER: Two members of The Jambar's editorial team are University Scholars. The author of this editorial is not a member of the Honors or Scholars programs.

The Scholars are a little entitled, aren't they?

With a name like "The University Scholars," how could they not? They live — cost free thanks to their full-ride scholarships — in Cafaro House, which sits atop a hill, providing the perfect vantage point for them to look down upon the rest of the slithering mass of students sharing their university.

And now they're whining because the university is suggesting shrinking their little club by cutting the full-ride scholarships awarded yearly from 40 down to 8 or 9, instead using that money to offer more scholarships to more students.

Half of the above is true. Half is very false.

The university is enacting this plan to redistribute the scholarship money to bring in more students, but the Scholars aren't the entitled crybabies that some students would make them out to be.

Following the publication of an article detailing the changes coming to the Scholars program in Tuesday's Jambar, the comment section on the article lit up with individuals suggesting the Scholars had a sense of entitlement fueling their resistance to the coming changes.

While there is certainly entitlement among some of the Scholars — as there is within any group of people — entitlement isn't fueling their distress over the changes. None of the changes will actually affect them. No one is losing their full ride; no one is losing money.

So why do they care?

As it seems, contrary to the view that they're money grubbing privileged college kids, the Scholars care about Youngstown State University and its future. This isn't a biased endorsement of the group; it's a reasoned guess based on past actions of Scholars who no longer have a personal stake in the program — namely the alumni.

Josh Hiznay, the president of the Scholar Alumni organization, shared the views of past Scholars with the Jambar. "With respect to the changes made to

the Scholar Program, we are saddened and disappointed. The Scholar program was an investment in YSU and it achieved its goal of attracting and keeping very talented students at the university for over two decades. The program's values of community, excellence and giving back had a substantial impact on all of us. Our love for YSU energized us to assume leadership roles on campus and donate back after we graduated. As a group, the Scholars have more people that donate back to YSU than any other group.

"Many scholar alumni also continue to give back by volunteering to help current YSU students. Alumni are invested in this scholarly community, so it was especially shocking that alumni feedback about proposed changes was not sought," Hiznay said. "Until the details for the Honors College are finalized, we won't know what role, if any, the Scholar Alumni will have, but we remain committed to current and future YSU students."

One of the most prevalent responses to the changes that current and former Scholars have is that had they not been offered a full ride — which includes room and board for those unfamiliar with the term — they would have certainly attended another college.

While obviously this reasoning isn't exactly full of Penguin Pride, it does ring true. How many students — when given the chance to attend a variety of universities, each wooing them with promises of scholarships — would choose to stay near home instead of venturing off to have that college experience movies and TV have promised us we'd have? Not likely many. For many of those students, the entire reason they stayed in the Valley is thanks to YSU's Scholars program and its offer of room and board on top of full tuition payment.

All of this said, it doesn't necessarily mean the current or former Scholars are correct in their arguments. It may very well be that the expanded Honors College is a huge success and accomplishes its goal of bolstering enrollment. It may spread available scholarship funds to many quality students; it may attract out of region students; it may

bolster retention and graduation rates, attracting more state funding. For the good of the university, we certainly hope it does. Unfortunately, the Scholars' arguments don't really even matter at this point, as the changes are essentially already in the process of implementation.

What does matter is the perception of this particularly influential group of students.

The way Scholars are perceived on campus should be fair. The idea that this group is entitled because they were awarded scholarships is petty and sad. The idea that they're entitled because they are fighting for an institution they believe in, despite the fact that they ultimately would not benefit or be harmed by the changes, is baseless.

The Scholars make up half of the Student Government Association's Executive Committee. They are involved and invested in YSU because they can be. They don't necessarily need to work an additional 30 hours a week at Uptown Pizza to make ends meet while they're in school. Call that privileged, but the university fares better from 160 heavily-involved students than from a sea of students who, despite having tuition scholarships, still need to spend their non-class time working off-campus jobs to afford their rent and their living expenses.

Like them or hate them, they're an important and necessary part of YSU's campus and culture.

That being said, the current Scholars should try to help make the Honors College the program a definitive success because, for better or worse, this change will not be stopped. Influential as they are, their attitudes and actions once the changes are fully implemented will impact the success of this program.

There are two roads to travel for current and former Scholars: throw their support in by making the Honors College the most enticing Honors program possible to help bring more students to the university or be bitter and resentful towards the university during a time of major transformations and conflicts.

We think we know what they will do.

How Not to Begin the Semester

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"Back to school, back to school" — that's what Adam Sandler cheerily sang in "Billy Madison" as he donned his sneakers and skipped to the bus stop.

Cheerily is the key word. When I start a new semester, I get into this mindset that everything is going to be so much better. I'm not going to procrastinate; I'm not going to fall into the same routine of prioritizing sleep over class and I'm not going to lose my stamina throughout the semester.

Why did I think this so much at the start of this particular semester? Because it's my last one.

Yes. The last semester. The end of my undergraduate years, as long as I don't mess it up. Let me just say, though, I'm off to a fantastic start.

I must've been under some illusion that school started in February because in my state of denial I was unaware that school started Monday. When I logged onto my portal Friday night, I came to find that I registered for some rather peculiar classes. And in addition to my wide array of courses, I registered for basically the same class, twice.

You can imagine my face when I walked into the same class with the same teacher and the same lesson on my second day.

Another motivation behind making the best of this so-far-a-disaster-of-a-semester is, like many of my peers, the fact that my last semester didn't go so smoothly.

In "How to Recover From a Bad Semester," on Uloop from Texas A&M News, published in April 2012, Christina Robinson covers the issue of the bane of every college student's existence: that bad semester.

"By the time you know it, the end of the semester is almost there and your grades have dropped, you feel drained and unsure of yourself, and some days it takes all you can not to go home and curl up in a ball and cry," Robinson said.

She reminds us that bad past semesters aren't failures but more of a learning experience. Robinson follows with encouragement to start making lists of accomplishments to boost self-esteem, reminding one that the infamous bad semester wasn't a total loss.

"When you're applying to graduate schools or a job, they don't care that you weren't perfect," Robinson said. "What they want to see is that you were able to adapt and modify when things got tough."

Although this semester is off to a rough start, my ability to overcome this hardship should prevail and I will come out a success — if I don't, I'll wallow in self-pity about having to stay an extra semester.

"Don't wait until things get so awful that they can't be fixed. Talk to your professors. Go to study sessions. Put in that extra effort," Robinson said. "In the end, you'll feel better about a lower grade if you know that you worked your butt off for it. ... College is a time to have experiences, network with peers and to even have fun. It's when we find that perfect balance that college truly becomes rewarding."

So the majority of my time so far has been spent in and out of offices explaining that I'm not sure what exactly I was thinking a few months ago when I was getting my final semester situated. But I was serious about making this the best possible semester — the best of the worst situation that I created anyway.

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Since being founded by Burke Lyden in 1931, The Jambar has won nine Associated Collegiate Press honors. The Jambar is published twice weekly during the fall and spring semesters and weekly during the first summer session. Mail subscriptions are \$25 per academic year. The first copy of The Jambar is free. Additional copies of The Jambar are \$1 each.

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LETTER
— TO THE —
EDITOR

When Donald Sterling's racist comments were secretly taped and later made public, he was forced to sell his NBA team and, justifiably, there was public outrage. When Bo Pelini's sexist comments were secretly taped and later made public, he was given a \$7.6 million severance package, and his photo was placed on the front page of the website for Youngstown State University, where he will be on the payroll. As educators, we teach our students that language matters, and that sexist and racist language is unacceptable in the classroom and in the community. Pelini's remarks degrade women and are especially offensive since he is a coach and an educator of young men. Now that we are finally talking about penalties for domestic abuse in the NFL and gang rape in fraternity houses, can we not also start up a dialogue about how misogynistic language has an insidious effect on our attitudes about gender and gender relations? We would like to see some more public outrage — especially in Youngstown — rather than amusement or dismissiveness, about this type of behavior. If racist comments should not be tolerated, then why should sexist comments be?

As parents, educators and advocates for girls and women, we find his language offensive and derogatory. His choice of words de-

grades women and reinforces sexist images of women and girls presented in the media. Pelini says he cares about values, but what kinds of values will our student athletes have when exposed to a barrage of verbal abuse with overtones of misogyny and rage? We feel a public apology, specific to using negative language toward women, is warranted because boys and girls everywhere are watching and learning from him. In our opinion, that type of behavior left unchecked promotes negative attitudes toward girls and women. It's also unhealthy for our boys and men. With domestic violence and sexual assault deeply embedded in the fabric of our society, it is our job as parents, coaches, teachers, professors and professionals to show respect for girls and women. All of our daughters deserve to be respected, and all of our sons deserve to be taught how to respect girls and women.

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Women's Basketball With Tremendous Start to '14-'15 Season

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After finishing with a 15-16 record in the 2013-2014 basketball season, the Youngstown State University women's team looked to continue improving the program. Halfway through this season the Penguins look as if they improved drastically after starting conference play.

As of Jan. 10, YSU posted a 12-3 overall mark, going undefeated in the five previous home games, as well as six of the team's nine road contests. The Penguins' most recent contest — a 66-43 loss to the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay Phoenix last Saturday — dropped the Penguins 1-1 in Horizon League play.

YSU's success is due in large part to the play of senior forwards Heidi Schlegel and Latisha Walker. Both have become critical parts of the offense.

Schlegel, who led all Penguin scorers with 14 points Saturday afternoon, averages 14.5 points per game and 8.8 rebounds per contest while knocking down 40.7 percent of her shots.

Walker, the team's top rebounder on Saturday with eight rebounds, is shooting 49.2 percent from the field averaging — 11.7 and 7.6 rebounds a game.

In Monday afternoon's press conference, head coach John Barnes called his team's most recent contest against Wisconsin-Green Bay a learning experience.

"I learned how good the Phoenix are," Barnes said. "I expected them to be very good and they were every bit as good as I thought they were. I think they played very well and we didn't necessarily play as well as we could have, obviously. A lot of that had to do with their defense. They came out really intense and pressuring, not letting us do what we wanted to do. Having

two freshmen guards and a sophomore — they learned a lot. We have to come in at a very high level in order to compete with arguably the best team in our league."

The Penguins are now in the heart of their schedule and beginning conference play, and Barnes knows the importance of winning league games.

"Every game is crucial," he said. "Every game is tough for us because I don't think we're hands-down better than anyone else in the league. We have to perform at a high level to get wins. Throughout the beginning of the season, we've overachieved and done some surprising things to some people. We're going to have to continue to overachieve if we want to be in the top three spots."

Schlegel used the loss at Green Bay as a lesson.

"I think we just learned that we have to come ready to play," Schlegel said. "I think it was really hard because our freshmen didn't understand what to expect. They've never played in that environment, so I think that's a big, huge step we took on Saturday, just learning that you can't let the environment affect us. We just have to stick to how we play and focus on what we have to do."

The Penguins are returning to the Beeghly Center on Jan. 15 to play Cleveland State University. YSU has an undefeated record at home of 5-0 at this point in the season.

Barnes also took time out to praise the Vikings.

"They score a lot of points in a motion offense," he said. "They shoot the three very well, they lead the league in 3-point makes and field goal percentage. I think they're tied for second in the league in 3-point field goal percentage. They're athletic, they're quick and they can attack the basket."

Tip-off for this week's contest is set for 7 p.m. at Beeghly Center.



PHOTO COURTESY OF RON STEVENS.

YSU Women's Basketball head coach John Barnes coaches the team on the sidelines mid-game during the first half of the season.

Track and Field Prepares for YSU Invitational



PHOTO COURTESY OF SPORTS INFORMATION.

Freshman sprinter and hurdler Caleb Lloyd participates in the hurdles during the YSU Icebreaker before the winter break. Lloyd finished first in the 60-meter hurdles during the YSU Icebreaker.

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The Youngstown State University track and field team is preparing for its first invitational of the indoor season after having over a month off since their last meet, the YSU Icebreaker, back in early December.

Coach Brian Gorby's Penguins will face over 30 schools in the YSU invitational that takes place on Jan. 23 at the Watson and Tressel Training Site and includes many out-of-state universities, such as West Virginia University and the University of Pittsburgh.

The Penguins had a strong showing in their opening meet of the season, including a record-breaking performance from freshman Caleb Lloyd in the 60-meter hurdles event. Lloyd posted a time of 8.13 seconds, which beat the previous record of 8.22 set by Jerrill Hall.

"It's big. I didn't see it coming honestly," Lloyd said about breaking the record as a freshman.

This early success is nothing new for the Lloyd family. Caleb's sister Cassandra Lloyd is a four-year letter winner at Wright State University and is considered one of the top female hurdlers in the country.

"She's a good mentor. She's the one who basically motivated me to run track," Lloyd said. "She broke records her freshman year, so it makes me feel special I did the same thing as her."

Lloyd is hoping to improve upon his record in the upcoming YSU invitational.

"That's what I'm working for right now," Lloyd said. "I'm looking to get in my sevens and hopefully do something to get into nationals."

Jumper Amaldo Morales is

also looking to make YSU history at the upcoming meet. Morales expects to break the school high-jump record which currently sits at 6 feet, 9 3/4 inches.

"I'm aiming to break the record here," Morales said. "I expect to do pretty good. High-jump, I expect to go 6 feet, 10 inches."

Gorby hopes the excitement of having the meet at home will give his team an added advantage.

"Going into this first meet, we're of course excited," Gorby said. "We want to raise the roof and get everybody excited. We got music exciting everybody."

The Penguin athletes also have a home-field advantage over those from other schools, according to Lloyd.

"This is where I practice all the time. It's a comfortability factor. I know how the track feels and all of that," Lloyd said.

As for the overall team success, Gorby said he expects the team to do well coming off the long winter break.

"We're looking for everybody to go after wins. Either winning or PB [personal best]," Gorby said. "That's going to always be the goal for YSU. We have a high standard."

Though this meet is important, the main focus for the team is to make it to the Horizon League Championship and then the NCAA Championships, Gorby said. YSU had 10 competitors in last year's NCAA Championships.

"There's always another level to go in our sport. Once we may of course win our meet, then we're trying to win conference, then after conference we're trying to make Nationals," Gorby said. "And, as Bobby Grace did last year, get top 3 at Nationals."