

THE STUDENT VOICE OF YOUNGSTOWN STATE UNIVERSITY SINCE 1931

#JAMBAR

PENGUINS LOOK TO REBOUND IN WEST VIRGINIA

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SINGLE MOM SEARCHES FOR MORE CAMPUS SUPPORT

Photo by *Morgan Petronelli /The Jambar*

ALYSSA WESTON

A Youngstown State University student-parent said she has noticed a lack of on-campus resources for herself and her child.

Kaitlyn Wieder, a sophomore early childhood education major, has a six-month-old son named Carter who has Down Syndrome.

During her pregnancy, Wieder said she didn't find any parent support groups at YSU. Rather, she found other pregnant students who would get together and lean on each other for support, but nothing run by the university.

She said she thinks YSU student-parents could benefit from having an on-campus support group where parents can talk about their struggles and help each other.

Wieder said she didn't know her son had Down Syndrome until after he was born, and she planned to enroll in classes for the fall 2018 semester, but because of the extra care he requires she took the semester off.

"There was no testing done that indicated that he had Down Syndrome. Everything came back normal," she said. "When I found out, because I'm majoring in early childhood education and minoring in special education, I knew he was meant to be."

A hospital pediatrician told Wieder the her son might have Down Syndrome the day after he was born, based on small indicators such as his toes having a gap, a crease in his palm that goes all the way across the hand and extra skin on his neck.

Carter was in the neonatal intensive care unit for about a month and had to have surgery to correct Crohn's Disease.

Wieder's son is part of the Down Syndrome Association of the Valley, which she said has resources for parents and has helped her find a sense of community among other parents in

similar circumstances.

Although DSAV is geared more toward the kids, the organization helps parents arrange support groups and has a library that parents can check out books from.

Weider said she plans to take night classes for the spring 2019 semester so her parents, who help her take care of her son, can watch him when they come home from work in the evening.

She said being a new parent can be scary, but she's decided to take things as they come and not worry about the future and encourages other new parents to do the same.

"Just because you have a baby at a young age doesn't mean you can't go back to school and do what you dream to do," Weider said. "For parents with a child with disability, I would say continue to set your goals and don't let it be a setback."

Finding Solutions

The Student Government Association President Ernie Barkett said as far as he knows, there aren't any resources on campus for student-parents, and more specifically for parents like Wieder who have a child with a disability or special needs.

"With disability services, they only cover registered students so that doesn't trickle down to their children or spouses."

This was confirmed by Gina McGranahan, assistant director of disability services.

Barkett said he and Executive Vice President Caroline Smith plan to meet with the administration at Maag Library to start a family area equipped with toys and soft mats, where parents can take their children during class breaks.

"The library administration was really receptive to our emails about finding a space available. We are going to do a walk-through," he said. "We hope to find a space."

Although SGA wants to open a child-friendly

space on campus, there are no plans to turn it into a day care.

"I don't think the effort is to make it a day care," Smith said. "People won't be there to supervise your children, but if you wanted to bring them there to decompress that would be the space to do it."

SGA was inspired to find a space for student-parents after they received complaints at their town halls the past two years for not being a parent-friendly campus.

Barkett said SGA has tried to address part of the issue by installing baby changing stations over the summer and making sure there are a few in each building.

SGA is hopeful there will be a family space at YSU before the start of the spring 2019 semester.

Resources to Utilize On and Off Campus

Nicole Kent-Strollo, director of student outreach and support, said although there is a lack of devices on campus for student-parents, there are resources in the community that she can connect students with.

"Normally when someone comes to me, I'm trying to figure out what do they have and what do they need. Then we have to figure out what are our resources not only on campus or close by but specifically in the community," she said.

In regards to students with children, the scope varies depending on each situation.

Kent-Strollo said when a student-parent comes or is referred to her office, it is important that she connects them with resources but also an understanding of they are not the only one going through the circumstances.

"I always emphasize to the students: if you don't get anywhere make sure you come back to me, because I'm going to assume that you found the help you were looking for," she said.

Kent-Strollo said the SGA student food pantry and the career closet are incredible resources for any students but specifically students who have

found themselves in a situation where they are not just paying for themselves anymore.

Resource Mothers in Youngstown, a program affiliated with Mercy Health St. Elizabeth Hospital, focuses on assisting pregnant women and women who have a baby a year or younger, and, the affiliated support group Empowering Moms is available for as long as the parent chooses to participate.

"The whole point of it is to connect [mothers] with other people in the same situation. They teach moms how to cook, balance a checkbook and talk about different topics they would be interested in," Kent-Strollo said.

We Care Day Care Center and the YWCA in Youngstown, both within walking distance of campus, offer aid to new parents.

Kent-Strollo, the YSU liaison for We Care Day Care, said the day care employs many YSU students and students and faculty alike take their children there.

YSU Little Penguins Preschool and Day Care is run by the Mahoning County Educational Service Center and although not affiliated with YSU, offers child care based on income.

Valerie Sturgeon, YSU Little Penguins teacher, said YSU Little Penguins is a place children can go to preschool and receive child care.

"YSU education students also have the opportunity to student teach and observe in the classrooms," she said.

Kent-Strollo said the student outreach and support office hopes to connect students with other people who are in the same situation.

"I think there's probably more resources around here than we realize but it's about how you connect with them," she said. "It's so important to know that you can come to this office it's absolutely okay for anything that you need. We will get you to the right place."



Photo courtesy of Joel Lewis

CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF SUCCESS

AMANDA JOERNDT

The Youngstown State University College of Graduate Studies celebrated 50 years of success by holding a banquet on Aug. 25 to bestow awards, give networking opportunities to students and alumni and show presentations from YSU figures.

The graduate program began in 1968 with 13 programs and has increased to 55 since 2014. There are currently 1,200 students enrolled this semester.

STEM has gained much recognition over the years, and Sal Sanders, dean of the college of graduate studies, said it is a high-level program that draws students in each year.

“[The students in the STEM program] are probably some of the best in the country at what they do, so they attract students from all over the country” Sanders said. “We have students that are working on being prepared as future professors.”

The graduate college plans to expand over the next year by adding in new programs that will help the needs within the community. Sanders said there has been a lot of growth with shifting in programs and developing new ones that are in need.

“We just got approval for a Ph.D. in health sciences,” he said.

“As needs are identified out in the community and job markets with different careers, we build those high-level programs to allow students to take their education to the next level.”

Graduate college students have several chances to gain different opportunities throughout their education such as research, performance and co-authoring papers and through projects together at national conferences.

Tori Centofanti, a second-year mechanical engineering student in the graduate studies program, said she has already had a few experiences in her field.

“I work with a professor, and I’m doing research with him,” she said. “I already had an extended abstract published and will have two papers published by the time I’m graduated.”

Centofanti said a master’s degree pushes students to expand their minds and build more knowledge in their field.

“I know for engineering, a master’s is very valuable,” Centofanti said. “It depends on how much you enjoy being a self-starter and to push yourself to grow and be motivated.”

Centofanti said having a master’s can be helpful in the long run when applying for jobs. She said sometimes it can differentiate what type of job a student may get.

“Someone with a master’s may be doing more of creative

solutions thinking versus someone with an undergraduate,” she said.

At the banquet, the faculty selected several nominees for the GIANT award based on their achievements and contributions to their graduate education.

Guests participated in campus tours provided by the Penguin Shuttle and tour guides. A wine and beer social followed in the Williamson College of Business Administration.

YSU President, Jim Tressel, and Joseph Mosca, interim provost and vice president of academic affairs, gave opening remarks. Sanders presented the history of the program to the audience.

Angie Jeffries, senior coordinator of graduate administrative affairs, said there are several events planned throughout 2018 to celebrate the anniversary.

“2018 was our 50th anniversary, so we have several things planned throughout the year including a tailgate during alumni weekend,” Jeffries said.

A group of alumni sponsored 20 tickets for students to attend the event and listen to the presentation and award ceremony.

TAIWANESE COOKING: CULTURAL EXCHANGE COOKING DEMONSTRATION

NAMI NAGAOKA

An international cuisine demonstration was held at the Youngstown State University Christman Dining Hall on Sept. 2. YSU invited two internationally celebrated chefs to present a popular Taiwanese dish, cashew chicken.

Tony Huang, an associate professor at Hsing Wu University in Taiwan, and his assistant, Amo Liang, prepared the dish.

The cultural cooking demonstration began with a short introduction of Taiwanese history including the relationship between Taiwan, China and Japan.

Florence Wang, a senior advisor of Asian Market at the Youngstown-Warren Regional Chamber, said she invited the two chefs to YSU.

Wang said these types of cultural exchange programs and events hosted through her organization typically engage in larger cities such as New York, Chicago and San Francisco.

Beginning last year, Wang’s organization expanded the program to other cities.

“This is the first year that YSU and the community council have collaborated to bring a cultural exchange event in Youngstown,” she said.

The two chefs visited the Mahoning County Career and Technical Center last year and then planned to hold the event with YSU’s hospitality management program.

Mark Zetts, hospitality management program coordinator, said this event intended to encourage student exchange between American and Taiwanese students at YSU in the hospitality program.

Wang said she hopes to work with YSU corporate sponsors through events such as this cultural exchange demonstration in the future.

She also said there are other key individuals who plan to pull together scholarships that will bring Taiwanese students into YSU’s hospitality program.

Josh Cryder, sophomore criminal justice major, said the cashew chicken was different than the food he was use to, but liked the Americanized Taiwanese fried rice. He said this was his first time trying real Taiwanese food.

An-Yun Cheng, junior education major from Taiwan, said the food was similar to authentic Taiwanese food.

“It is very good and I really like it,” she said.

Cheng said the taste of cashew chicken differs depending on the region in Taiwan or family recipe.

Liz Rubino, a YSU alum, attended the demonstration and tasted the food.

Rubino said she used to work at a family-owned Asian restaurant in Austintown and was familiar with Taiwanese cuisine.

“It was fantastic,” she said. “[Cultural exchange] is crucial for change in the world,” she said.

PENGUINS FINISH WELCOME WEEK AT THE CANFIELD FAIR

Photo by J. Harvard Feldhouse /The Jambar

FRANCES CLAUSE

Youngstown State University moved the fun of Welcome Week activities to the Canfield Fair with a student pep rally on Aug. 31. The fair brought families, friends and YSU spirit to its 350 acres from Aug. 29 to Sept. 3.

Members from the YSU Marching Pride performed at the pep rally to celebrate YSU Day. Jenna Provino, a junior music education major, said playing at the fair showcased the band's spirit toward the university.

"Seeing so many other students made me feel like more of them are getting excited for their college experience," she said. "The atmosphere felt energizing and unifying."

The fair reached its 172nd year, and Provino said she was happy to experience it with the other Marching Pride members.

"The band represents YSU in a professional

yet fun way," Provino said. "I'm happy I could celebrate 51 years of YSU being a state university at the biggest county fair in Ohio."

Penguin pride was not the only thing that caught the eyes of visitors at the Canfield Fair. George Roman, director of concessions and grandstands, said the demolition derby and the truck and tractor pull were popular.

"The new and exciting rides are what really grabbed the attention of fair-goers, though," he said.

The new rides included a 120-foot Ferris wheel and the first adult roller coaster on the fairgrounds in years. Reithoffer Shows, Inc. purchased the coaster for \$1 million.

"Reithoffer is a new carnival ride company at the Canfield Fair this year," Roman said. "[The company] promised a selection of fantastic rides and that promise was certainly fulfilled."

Katelynn Socha, a freshman pre-nursing major at YSU, said she was impressed with the

new rides at the fairgrounds.

"My family comes every year," she said. "I didn't think the rides could get any better, but they do every time I visit."

Socha's said her favorite ride was the Dutch Wheel, and she loves being able to see the whole fair from the top of the Ferris wheel.

"It's the best to ride at night because everything looks beautiful lighting up," Socha said.

The Canfield Fair's summer tradition continued with local talent in the fine arts building. Elizabeth Kalka, 18, said seeing the creations of artists her age inspired her to continue sketching.

"I'm from Butler, Pennsylvania, but making the drive to the Canfield Fair is worth it, even if it's just to look at the artwork," she said. "Seeing others' work fuels my own ideas, and I hope to submit some of my pieces for next year's fair."

Kalka's favorite category to view is the

photography section. She said she's not a photographer herself, but the power an image can send the audience is fascinating to her.

"Some people may think photography is easier than other mediums of art, but the same amount of effort is needed to capture the perfect shot," Kalka said.

Kalka encouraged young artists to continue pursuing their passion. She said as an artist, one needs to put their name out there to get noticed.

"I find the Canfield Fair to be the perfect opportunity to spread the importance of art and supporting local creators," Kalka said.

The fair festivities ended on Labor Day with the country singer Toby Keith headlining in the grandstand as part of his Should've Been a Cowboy XXV tour. The "Red Solo Cup" artist filled up the venue with about 8,000 concertgoers.



CAFÉ CRAWL BRINGS STUDENTS TO LOCAL COFFEE SHOPS

Photos by Tyler Rothbauer /The Jambar

VICTORIA REMLEY

The participants of Chi Alpha's Café Crawl explored what downtown Youngstown has to offer in coffee related activities on Aug. 29.

Joe Weser, Chi Alpha pastor, said the coffee crawl was similar to a bar crawl, but it was an alternative to drinking alcohol for students who want to drink coffee.

"We've done several of them in the past," he said. "We've done them during Alcohol Awareness Week to give students another option."

Weser said the Café Crawl was an opportunity to drink quality local coffee, hang out with other students and build relationships.

The group did not have to do a ton of preparing for this particular event. In the past, Weser said the organization would

alert the coffee shop they're planning on attending.

"It's sort of self-sufficient where we just show up at a coffee shop and go," he said. "For the most part, if our numbers are too big we'll split up and go to different ones at different times."

The crawl began at Joe Maxx Coffee Company, continued to Stone Fruit Coffee Company and ended at Pressed Coffee Bar and Eatery.

"We always have food at the end," Weser said. "Pressed has the best food and after drinking all that caffeine, you need it."

Judah Siekkinen, a senior geography major and crawl participant, said Chi Alpha prepared for the crawl by advertising the event. He said they do some online promoting through Twitter and when the YSU app came out, it was a big help.

"We tried Instagram for a while without a whole lot of success," Siekkinen said. "Other than that, it's just word of mouth. People are interested in coffee and talk about it."

The crawl gave YSU students a chance to venture off campus. Siekkinen said he thinks YSU students have a fear of leaving campus and exploring downtown. He said it's less so the older students get.

"I think it's good for people to see the rest of the city," Siekkinen said. "Plus, you get to taste the best places for coffee around here."

Tyler Longwell, a junior pre-business finance major, crawl participant and treasurer of Chi Alpha, said he loves coffee. He said he heard about the event through the YSU app and Facebook and loved the event.

Chi Alpha showcases other events and service-based activities including the involvement fair, Games on the Core, group cookouts and cookie giveaways on campus.



YSU PSYCHOPATHOLOGIST MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Photos by **Tanner Mondok/The Jamban**

COURTNEY HIBLER

A Youngstown State University psychology professor, Jaelyn Farris, has a personal goal of disseminating a program to prevent developmental disorders in children and adolescents.

Farris is a highly-trained developmental psychopathologist who studies social, emotional and behavioral development, with a focus on understanding and changing the factors that can help people develop in healthy ways.

Farris was awarded a Research Professorship for the 2018-2019 academic year. YSU's Office of Research offers this program to aid faculty in pursuing their scholarly work while also teaching and advising students.

With this award, Farris will have support to engage with community and talk to people who

live and work in the Mahoning Valley.

"I will be conducting focus groups with parents and social service providers in the Youngstown area," Farris said. "I will talk about my research and request feedback on the ways that I can help in our community."

Farris said her goal is to help people who are facing more challenges than the average person, but haven't yet developed a disorder such as social, emotional or behavioral.

"I try to promote resilience among youth who are at risk for problems or negative outcomes," Farris said. "Most disorders begin in childhood or adolescence."

Farris said one of the most effective ways to prevent problems in children and adolescents is by offering help and support to parents and caregivers.

"Most parents don't have access to prevention programs and can't attend on a regular basis,"

Farris said. "I will invite local parents and service providers to come in and hear about my research."

Kara Kushner, a junior special education major, believes the focus groups and lectures are extremely important for parents to attend.

"Parents are the biggest influence on their child's life," Kushner said. "Their education on this specific issue can help their child tremendously."

Taylor McKenney, a junior psychology major, said attending one of the lectures will be valuable.

"You'll be gaining experience rather than reading about it," McKenney said. "These are scientific facts and statistics people will be learning."

This program is a pilot project for Farris to provide data in order to obtain grants for a larger parent empowerment program in the future.

Farris said this project has been in the making for 20 years and is near and dear to her heart.

"This is the first small step toward my goal of preventing problems among the youth in our community," Farris said. "Healthy children are on a path toward becoming healthy adults."

Jeff Coldren, chair of the psychology department, and Kristine Blair, dean of the college of liberal arts and social sciences, said they are giving their full support to Farris as well as a group of psychology majors.

"This community and university has helped me achieve my goals and it's an honor to be able to give back in some way," Farris said.

Students are able to get involved with this program by working as research assistants.

Those interested are encouraged to attend a meeting the psychology department will be holding on Sept. 26 at 4 p.m. on the third floor of DeBartolo Hall.

SMALL FUNDS GO A LONG WAY

JOHN STRAN

Acquiring outside funding can be the lifeblood of college for many students. Scholarships, grants and donations to a university can add necessary resources, creating stability and growth for students and faculty.

Smaller financial resources have been made available to researching faculty across Youngstown State University.

The Office of Assessment recently distributed \$10,000 in mini-grants to some faculty across campus. Recipients were awarded for their projects involving research expected to benefit YSU students.

Joy Tang, assistant professor of psychology, received \$2,500 to research the effectiveness of a graph that studies family relationships, known as an emotion map, in improving students' emotional, social and academic outcomes.

Tang said her project will cost more than the amount she received for her mini-grant, but it will help her get a start on her work. Her grant will be used to pay student participants in her study.

If student loans are the main or only source used to pay tuition, it's possible these loans will dry up and another main source will have to substitute paying off a YSU bill.

YSU's emergency fund is one option for nearly graduated

students who have exhausted their subsidized and unsubsidized loans, along with possibly their Pell grant.

Elaine Ruse, director of the office of financial aid and scholarships, said the emergency fund is for students who are a semester or two away from graduation and are low on fiscal resources.

"For the emergency fund, we work on a case to case basis with someone close to graduation," she said. "We'll have them bring academic advisor evaluations and help them apply for on-campus scholarships."

Ruse said she worked with the YSU Foundation a few years ago to create miscellaneous funding for that specific purpose, after she noticed students running low on financial aid becoming a more frequent issue.

"If someone is that close to graduating, we definitely feel a responsibility to try and help them," she said.

Similar funding can be found on other college campuses as well.

An article by The Hechinger Report reported that the University of North Carolina-Charlotte began offering a \$1,000 completion grant or gold-rush grant to students in their senior year.

Ninety-five percent of students who received this completion grant either graduated or continued toward their graduation date.

Ruse noticed many of the YSU students who received

emergency funding come back to her office and thank her for helping them graduate.

The perks of this funding are slightly lessened by its limitability. Ruse said the fund is a very small amount and may not be able to help every student, which is why she stresses the importance of only borrowing the needed amount.

Ruse said the different colleges at YSU may be able to help students looking for different types of financial resources.

In the Department of Communication at YSU, the junior and senior level honors society Lambda Pi Eta offers grant opportunities for its members, as well as early access to different student employment opportunities.

Jeff Tyus, assistant professor in the department of communication and advisor for Lambda Pi Eta, said members also receive early access to companies that reach out to YSU looking for students to do things for them like run their social media platforms.

"With each of these, there are no guarantees that Lambda members will gain employment," Tyus said. "But to have early access to the opportunities has been beneficial to Lambda Pi Eta members in the past and I anticipate it will continue to be beneficial in the future."

To try and avoid a last minute bind, Ruse said students should be educated in financial aid. She advised that students apply to as many grants and scholarships as they can and as early possible.

YO LAB

YOUNGSTOWN MEDICAL TRAINING
AND EDUCATION LAB, LLC

YO LAB SEEKS TO CONTINUE EDUCATING AREA MEDICAL PROFESSIONALS

MORGAN PETRONELLI

It's no longer a hassle to schedule labs in the Youngstown area thanks to YO LAB, a new medical training lab created to aid in the furthering of education of medical professionals in the area.

The facility includes a fully functioning lab, where participants practice on fresh-frozen cadavers. Other areas of the bioskills facility include showers, restrooms, men and women's locker rooms, three treatment centers and a lecture room.

The space is rented out by different professional medical companies seeking to further their employees' education. It is typically operated after work hours, so participants are able to practice after they get off from their jobs. Sales representatives are also welcome to rent out the space to demonstrate their product.

Maura Maloney DiDomenico, owner and managing director of YO LAB, said her husband, a podiatrist, mentioned there were no bioskills training facilities anywhere between Cleveland, Ohio and Pittsburgh, Pa., making it inconvenient for working medical professionals to attend labs.

With a large medical community in the Youngstown area, DiDomenico said there is an insufficient amount of support on the educational side of the field.

"We thought there was a need in our community so we took the plunge," she said.

DiDomenico took on the administrative side of the business while her husband handled the day-to-day operations of the laboratory.

"There is nothing privately owned in our area like [YO LAB]," DiDomenico said. "We've seen that it's hard for these doctors to get in if there's a scheduled course, but with us being in such

close proximity to their homes, it's easier for them to squeeze into a course."

Dr. Justin Rivera, a three-year resident who works for DiDomenico's husband, said working for him makes it easier to access the facility and practice his skills more frequently.

Rivera said he has also had the opportunity to rekindle with medical residents who he had gotten to know in school through YO LAB.

Diana Carpenter, a lab assistant at YO LAB, said the most fascinating aspect of her job is she gets to watch all the behind-the-scenes action that happens at the lab.

"I get to meet the residents and build a relationship with the sales reps, all the while getting to stand back and watch all the action," Carpenter said.

This "action" includes witnessing surgical training, product marketing demonstrations and medical treatments.

DiDomenico said she sometimes thinks how it must be for residents to go into the operating room and expect to know what they're doing despite their limited exposure to surgical techniques and medical equipment.

"I'm happy we can provide something, and I hope it's more heavily utilized because I think it really does offer a significant amount of exposure that's desperately needed here," she said.

DiDomenico said the bioskills lab has not worked with Youngstown State University yet, but is highly interested in creating a partnership.

"What underlies our whole mission at YO LAB is a passion for academics and a love for this community," she said.

For more information about YO LAB and how to rent out their space, contact DiDomenico at (330) 953-3222 or visit their website at yolabmed.com.

Photos courtesy of YO LAB

MULTIMEDIA CENTER UNDERWAY IN STAMBAUGH

RACHEL GOBEP

Youngstown State University is currently developing the Don Constantini Multimedia Center on the east side of Stambaugh Stadium. It is expected to be completed in August 2019.

Don Constantini, a YSU alumnus, helped to fund the project with a \$1 million gift to the university.

The center will be similar to a press box and will house a classroom, space for the sports broadcasting program and football radio booths.

Sports broadcasting students will have the opportunity to be in the multimedia center for football games, classes and some of the spaces will be converted into makeshift editing suites.

Adam Earnhardt, chair and professor in the department of communication, said in the early stages of developing the multimedia center the department wanted it to be used more than five or six Saturdays during the Penguin football season. The students will have the ability use it for five or six days a week.

Earnhardt said the communication department wants students to have the ability

to work on real, live sports productions during their freshman year. Currently, students may not have the opportunity to work on productions until their junior or senior year through internships.

He said there is nothing better than giving students the ability to be where the action is.

"Obviously, we want our students to have that real game day experience, so what better place to have it then to actually have it at the stadium," he said.

Guy Harrison, assistant professor of telecommunications, also said this will allow students to be closer to the action.

"Rather than us just discussing things in a classroom setting, we'll be able to have those discussions in the very kind of venue that they are likely to utilize the concepts we discuss in our classes," he said. "Also, the center will theoretically enable our students to work with greater efficiency as much of what they will need in some of our classes will be housed under a one roof that happens to be conveniently located near our greatest partner to date, YSU Athletics."

Earnhardt stressed the importance of

students and faculty mingling with YSU Athletics and Sports Information staff on a daily basis.

"Those are the people they're going to learn from," he said.

Harrison said the communication department hopes the center will become a staple of the sports broadcasting program.

"Covering, shooting and editing sports content will all be more convenient as a result of the center," he said.

Harrison said he looks forward to teaching in the new setting.

"It won't just be more convenient for our students but for their instructors as well," he said. "The materials and venues required to deliver our curriculum will be more easily accessible and the center will symbolize for our students just how seriously we take our program."

John Hyden, associate vice president of facilities maintenance, said the best part of the new center is that the sports broadcasting program will use it as their "laboratory."

He said although the construction of the multimedia center may be inconvenient right

now because the east side of Stambaugh has been closed, it will give the stadium itself a different feel.

"Students that get involved in going to the games, enjoying the games and participating [as] a fan. I think when it's all said and done ... it's going to be a whole lot more exciting," he said.

Harrison said if students have a passion for sports, talking about sports or "are intrigued with the process of providing electronic sports media content" they should look into the sports broadcasting program at YSU.

"If students don't think they'd be comfortable on camera, we can show them the ropes behind the scenes, and if there are students who have always dreamed of being on the air, we prepare students for those types of careers as well," he said.

Hyden said the multimedia center was designed by MS Consultants, Inc., a local architectural, planning and engineering firm, and the general contractor on the project is Murphy Contracting Company.

Photo by *Marah Morrison/The Jambar*

IT'S IN THEIR DEOXYRIBONUCLEIC ACID (DNA)

MARAH J. MORRISON

Emily Exists, a piercing and tattoo apprentice at DNA Studios, is making her mark in the body modification world. Nothing could be better for her than to be a part of the family-run shop as she progresses in the industry.

Exists began as a piercing apprentice in January and has been a tattoo apprentice for two weeks. She said sketchy tattoos she received as a kid introduced her to the industry.

"I met Joshua [Fellows], and he showed me what good tattoos look like," she said.

Exists said meeting Fellows, a tattoo artist and piercer at DNA, gave her the opportunity to expand upon her love for art.

"It's a family business here and that's what we do," she said. "It's extremely rewarding, and it's an art that, if you're doing it

right, you don't want it to die."

Exists said the relationship between the tattoo artist and the client is what brings the ink to life. She said she can tell when a tattoo was done by Fellows because his soul is in it and the tattoo has a life of its own.

She said they do not use flash tattoos, which are designs that are pre-made and displayed on the wall to give walk-in customers ideas, at the studio.

"You're not going to see a nautical star hanging on our wall for someone to just say, 'I want that one' like everyone else has," she said.

Exists said each tattoo done at DNA is unique to the artist. She said they all have their own style and if people pay attention to it closely, they will be able to see the difference.

"Taking out the trash is a part of apprenticeship," she said. "Doing paperwork is a part of apprenticeship; and then you

gradually move up and I'm at that part where I'm moving up."

Exists said her piercing and tattooing journey has been a blessing. She said she is doing what she loves every day, so no matter how busy it gets, at the end of the day she's thankful.

"Mark and Joshua, I couldn't imagine not having people in my life like that," Exists said.

Fellows said he couldn't be more proud of Exists.

"It's awesome to see," he said. "It's inspiring and she's pushing through it and taking it seriously."

Fellows said Exists is taking pride in her work and that tattooing is a very spiritual art.

"Every move that you make is forever," he said. "If you actually know Emily and what she has come from and been through, it's inspiring to see it happen. She's driven and it's awesome to see all three of the chairs in the shop being utilized."

Photo by *Tanner Mondok/The Jambar*

PETE'S PLANNERS HOST OPEN MIC NIGHT

KATLYN KRITZ

Pressed Coffee Bar and Eatery hosted an open mic night organized by Pete's Planners on Aug. 30.

Pete's Planners is a student organization at Youngstown State University that helps organize, run and maintain campus-related events. The group helps put together events such as Welcome Week and homecoming festivities.

Wyatt Miller, sophomore computer science major, is an outreach coordinator for Pete's Planners and was responsible for setting up the open mic night.

"I had originally pitched the idea when asked in a meeting what we would like to have happen during Welcome Week," he said. "I participated in several last year and am very fond of them."

Miller performed two pieces from Bach's "Six Cello Suites" on his cello and played "Gravity" by John Mayer on his guitar.

"I've been playing the cello for a little over nine years," he said. "I got into [it] before middle school because students had to choose either band or orchestra."

Miller said future events are still in the planning process, but he hopes for more mic nights in the future.

Hannah Rosser, freshman musical theater major, also attended and said she had a great time. Rosser sang "Friend Like Me" from "Aladdin" and "Take on Me" by Ah-Ha.

"This was the first open mic night I've ever been to," she said. "I'd definitely go to another one on campus."

Rosser said her performance of "Friend Like Me" was the first time she's performed it in front of other people. She said she hopes to refine it, as she will be using it for future auditions.

"My best advice to people who get stage fright is think of how you'll feel after," she said. "You'll feel so good and so confident after you do it."

Rosser performed "Take on Me" with Makayla Contestabile, a freshman biology pre-vet major.

Contestabile said she started singing when she was younger. Her mom sang to her when she was a child which led her to take an interest in singing.

She gave advice for people who feel nervous to perform in front of crowds.

"Go with friends," Contestabile said. "It's good to go with a support system. It makes it easier."

Contestabile said she enjoyed the Welcome Week festivities and YSU has helped her make many new friends.

MARIO'S MOVIES: THE BLACKKKLANSMAN FIGHTS FOR WHAT'S RIGHT WITH BALANCE

MARIO RICCIARDI

Comedy and drama. Talking and listening. Style and substance. Two different sides of the same coin. Opposed yet irrelevant to existence without each other. When put together, the pair shines brightest. Spike Lee's latest "joint" strikes a master's balance between these pairs in his latest film, "The BlacKkKlansman."

The seasoned director's best film in years, "The BlacKkKlansman" tells a story about the past that is very much relevant today. One part dramatization, one part history lesson, Lee is a preacher showing the audience just how cut and dried his cause is. Driving his message home by using the film to reinforce that activism is humanity's cry for change.

"The BlacKkKlansman" is the wild true story of American hero Ron Stallworth (John David Washington). Stallworth, the first African-American detective to serve in the Colorado Springs Police Department, is determined to make a name for himself.

Facing racism within the department, Stallworth bravely chooses a uniquely dangerous mission to prove himself: infiltrate the Ku Klux Klan. Joined by Officer Flip Zimmerman (Adam

Driver), the two go undercover to investigate and expose one of America's most repulsive organizations.

Lee shoots the movie like a director fresh out of film school. The 61-year-old director fills just about every shot with style to balance the subtext of the politically charged film. He mixes dark comedic moments with thought-provoking symbolism.

He says what needs to be said, sometimes yells it, but then juxtaposes it with moments of reflection. "The BlacKkKlansman" is a film about finding balance where balance is due. This idea reaches its climax in Spike Lee's refined voice-for-change directing a young cast.

John David Washington's Ron Stallworth is reserved and honest in situations nearly impossible to be. Washington turns in a quiet performance, bold enough to carry the slick-looking film forward, stealing enough attention from the set decoration and costumes.

Adam Driver's Flip is a catalyst for Washington's performance, playing a Jewish cop who escapes racism because of his skin color, but is quietly disturbed by it.

The other true star of the film is Laura Harrier's Patrice Dumas. Most of the middle of the film gets its momentum from the strength Harrier gives to her character, the leader of a

college's black student union. Lastly, Topher Grace's near-perfect performance as David Duke, clearly started with the casting of Topher Grace as David Duke. In a role that is almost cameo, Grace plays the character with a dopey mix of hate, ignorance and humor.

In "The BlacKkKlansman," characters represent a right, a wrong and a middle ground intermixing to drive home the overarching message. It is easy to make the KKK look bad, but the real hurdle is making the bad look good in such divisive times.

Lee's solution? Just tell it like it is. "Power to all the people," one of the film's mantras is powerfully captured by characterization within the film.

Whether good people or bad people, all the groups in the film and its people hold certain amounts of power. The ones who win out are rightfully the ones looking to share the power with others.

"The BlacKkKlansman" tells a clear story with complex politics by striking near perfect balance.

★★★★ 4/5 Penguins

THE MAN BEHIND THE DESK

BRIAN BRENNAN

In 1932, Howard W. Jones was appointed director of Youngstown College by the trustees of the YMCA (his title was changed to president in 1935). Unknown to most is that Jones was preceded by another man as head of what would become Youngstown State University.

His name was Homer L. Nearpass, but few have heard of him. There are no statues or plaques in his memory. No rooms on campus have been named in his honor. His portrait does not adorn the lobby of Tod Hall.

As director of Youngstown College (and its preceding incarnations), he was basically the de facto president from 1928 through 1931. Yet, he left the college under circumstances that were concealed at the time.

Nearpass was a military school graduate and majored in secondary education at Western Reserve University, now Case Western Reserve University, where he was a member of Phi Beta Kappa. His career in secondary education was interrupted by the First World War.

Afterward, Nearpass earned his Master of Arts degree from Columbia University. In 1923, he accepted a position with the Youngstown YMCA as educational director. In this capacity, Nearpass managed both the YMCA's high school and college-level activities.

In 1928, the college division separated and moved to quarters on Wick Avenue. Nearpass was made its director. Nearpass worked well with Leonard Skeggs, general secretary of the Youngstown YMCA.

In his book "Steel Valley University: The Origins of Youngstown State," Alvin Skardon portrays Skeggs as the association's educational "promoter" and Nearpass, the "administrator." More importantly, Nearpass was well liked by the students at YoCo.

Nearpass established an open door policy and was known as the kindly "man behind the desk." He communicated to students through a regular column in *The Jambar*.

In January 1932, upon their return to classes after the Christmas break, students were shocked to learn of Nearpass' sudden departure from YoCo. *The Jambar* reported that Nearpass moved to California because of his wife's declining health.

The nature of her illness was not disclosed; however, Nearpass had one son already residing there, and another set to enter the

University of Southern California. A gathering of the clan in the Golden State seems reasonable enough, regardless of his wife's medical condition.

Yet, unknown to the YoCo student body, other forces were at work behind the scenes.

YMCA board member and local industrialist James L. Wick Jr. and others sought to emphasize the collegiate mission of the YMCA. To assist in this endeavor, Howard Jones was hired to oversee matters, bringing with him previous experience as the acting president of his alma mater, Hiram College.

Yet, Jones' duties closely paralleled those of Nearpass. Conflict ensued. Wick argued that there was no need to retain both officials, so Nearpass was "released" by the Y board. General Secretary Skeggs, who was in Canada at the time, reportedly expressed anger at the board's ruling.

Time has shown that the decision to appoint Howard Jones as director proved correct. Sadly, the role of Homer Nearpass in the foundation of YSU has never been acknowledged. It is long overdue.

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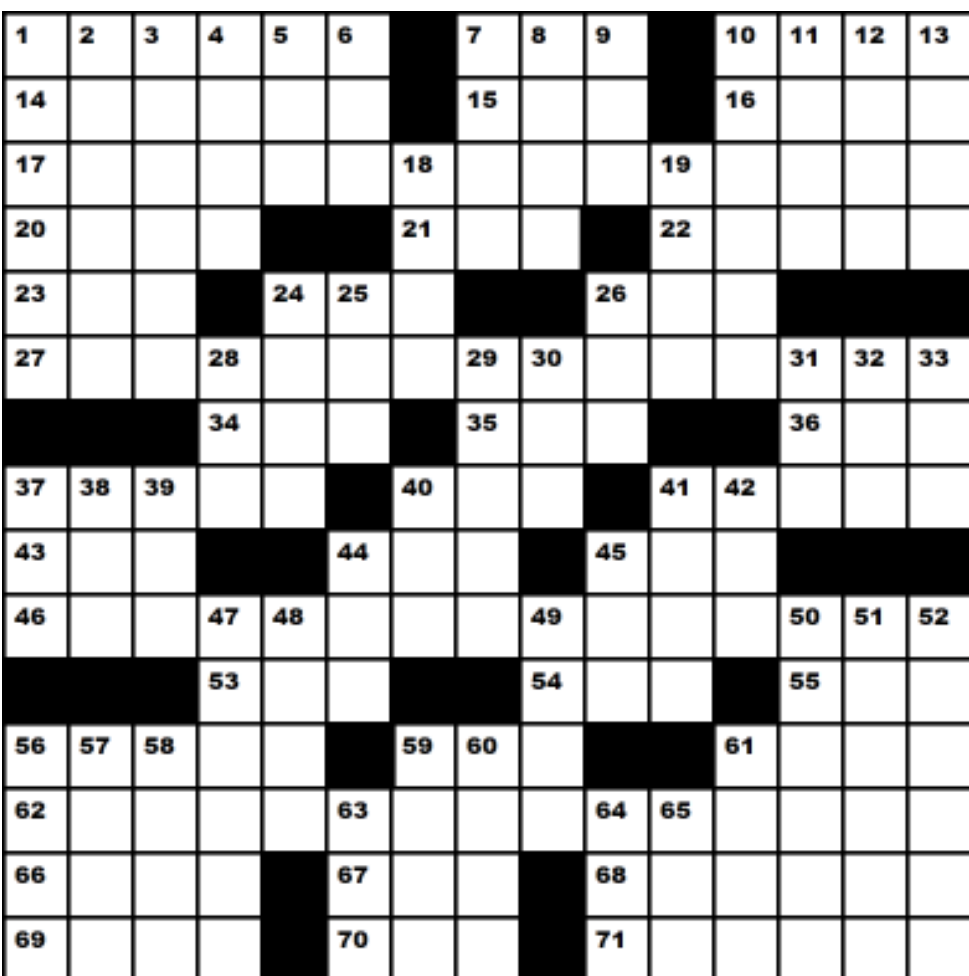
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HOW TO SUCCEED AT YSU

Across

- YSU's "view my bill" official
- RR depot (Abbr.)
- Part of a Superman costume
- Verdi opera based on a Shakespeare play
- Lordstown labor group (Abbr.)
- On the briny
- Don't miss the lectures (4 wds.)
- Per (2 wds.)
- Bottom line
- Goofball
- ___ de Janeiro
- Come down from being high in Aspen, Colorado maybe
- Comic ___
- Don't just listen (4 wds.)
- ___ chi
- Fond du ___, Wis.
- Dude
- Title character of a Guisewite comic strip
- Tiny bit

- Ready to head back to the dorm
- 2011 Will Smith role
- "___ is me!"
- Enjoy some Taco Bell
- Don't ignore prof's course summary (3 wds.)
- Scheider of "Jaws" and "SeaQuest"
- Salad dressing ingredient
- Early afternoon time
- "DJ Got Us Fallin' in Love" singer
- Greyhound vehicle
- Makes angry
- Don't forget to prep for finals (4 wds.)
- "Darn it"
- Part of a joule
- Loosen, as a corset
- Commedia dell' ___
- Pint-size
- November list of choices

Down

- Intro to Film Study subject
- Perfect world
- Got a do-over on an exam

- Supper served by a swineherd
- ___ & AJ
- Pooh's pal joey
- "You betcha!"
- Diplomat's asset
- Shoemaker's hole punch
- Hollywood Gaming, for one
- Org.
- Rounded end of a hammer
- "Piece of cake!"
- Troop group
- Quotation notation
- Defeat a dragon, say
- Japanese pond carp
- Ozone depleting gas (Abbr.)
- Biblical verb ending
- Tart plums used in a red liqueur
- Cracklin' ___ Bran
- Unknown, on a schedule (Abbr.)
- "To ___ is human..."
- Vegan staple
- M-63 sight
- Suzie's Dogs & Drafts quaff
- Aunt, in Spanish class
- Ganz of YSU football
- You can climb one at the Rec
- YSU's Lambda Pi ___
- Philosophy class question
- ___ Young Band
- Excavating machine
- Conservative
- David who played the original Blue Ranger, Billy Cranston
- Located in the north, like lights or wind
- World Heritage Site org.
- Group of six in Bliss
- Food pyramid agency (Abbr.)
- "___ Trek"
- Try to track down
- Put the class to sleep, say
- Craving
- "___ have to do"
- Not many
- Kilcawley area near Dunkin, with "The"
- Bambi's aunt

THE JAMBAR

EDITORIAL

NIKE MADE THE RIGHT MOVE

Colin Kaepernick wrote in a tweet on Monday, “Believe in something, even if it means sacrificing everything. #JustDoIt,” and Nike unveiled an ad campaign to honor the 30th anniversary of “Just Do It” featuring Kaepernick. The company also plans to donate money to Kaepernick’s “Know Your Rights” campaign.

Kaepernick, the former starting quarterback for the San Francisco 49ers, started a movement when he refused to stand during the national anthem before games in the 2016 season.

When asked why he was kneeling for the anthem, Kaepernick said, “because of the oppression of people of color and ongoing issues with police brutality.”

Kaepernick withdrew his contract with the 49ers and has yet to sign with another team.

This new ad campaign was a great move by Nike, but boycotts have quickly emerged with people posting photos and videos of themselves destroying their Nike apparel. It would be smarter to donate to a local veterans organization to stand up for what you believe in instead of boycotting Nike and burning your apparel.

It’s important to understand that Kaepernick was not protesting the military or the United States when he knelt.

The Trump administration has bashed Kaepernick for kneeling, and Trump released statements advising the NFL to fire any player who disrespects the flag. Again, the kneeling movement was by no means an attack on America itself.

Kaepernick’s original contract with Nike was about to expire and his new one is expected to feature him on billboards,

commercials and online ads. He is expected to get his own apparel line, according to multiple sources.

Ian Rapoport, NFL media insider, reported that Jocelyn Moore, the NFL’s executive vice president of communications, issued a statement on NFL social justice.

“The National Football League believes in dialogue, understanding and unity,” she said. “We embrace the role and responsibility of everyone involved with this game to promote meaningful, positive change in our communities. The social justice issues that Colin and other professional athletes have raised deserve our attention and action.”

This statement came days after an arbitrator denied the NFL’s request to throw out the grievance Kaepernick filed last year, alleging that the league owners conspired to keep him out of the NFL.

Although the NFL stated that social justice issues deserve attention, this contract may make relations with the NFL awkward.

According to a New York Times report, Nike and the NFL announced in March that they have extended their apparel deal through 2028. Therefore, the company provides all 32 teams with game day uniforms embellished with the well-known “swoosh.”

It is important to look at this issue at more than face value. He has “sacrificed everything” to make a difference for the treatment of people of color in the United States. This new contract might be a game changer.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR: WHY WE CURTAIL ENERGY ON CAMPUS

Of the many decisions we face in this division of the university, there are two that unfortunately create more complaints than anything else.

The first is the decision to close campus during bad weather. Actually, as we all know, this is ultimately the president’s call, but we have a good amount of input. To close or not to close during snowy, wintry weather is always a decision that’s going to create a lot of discussion.

The second, and the one I’m writing to you about today, is the decision to curtail energy across campus. That means shutting down the air conditioning in all university buildings for a couple hours during the hottest days of the year. And, well, it’s a decision that certainly ends up making all of us a bit hot under the collar.

We curtail energy on campus for two general reasons.

First, it saves money. Our annual electricity rates are

determined based on our energy consumption on the five hottest days of the year across the grid from Chicago to New York. If we’re able to reduce use on those five days, we can save lots of money. So, over the last four years, we have cut back on electrical use across campus from two to four hours on a total of 43 days. We try our best not to curtail while fall classes are in session. In fact, of the 43 curtailment days the last four years, only seven were when Fall classes were in session, including three so far this semester. There were no curtailments during fall classes in 2016 and 2017. The savings are big — estimated between \$250,000 and \$1 million, annually. It’s a cost avoidance opportunity that we cannot ignore and one of the many reasons we are one of the most efficient, cost-conscious and affordable universities across the region.

Second, as a committed member of the community, state and region in which we live, we feel a responsibility to conserve where we can. On particularly hot and muggy days throughout the Midwest and East coast, the electrical grid can be under

Colin Kaepernick @Kaepernick7 · Sep 3
Believe in something, even if it means sacrificing everything. #JustDoIt



Tweet via @Kaepernick7.

tremendous stress. In fact, many utilities will call even residential customers asking that they refrain from over-usage in those periods. By curtailing our energy, we are demonstrating our commitment to environmental stewardship and to the long-term sustainability of energy sources.

We understand that these curtailments can, without a doubt, create discomfort across campus — hot buildings, muggy classrooms, steamy offices. But the discomfort is short-lived and the benefits are quite extensive. We do our best to give fair warning when we know that a curtailment is going to occur. We will continue to explore ways to be a good energy partner across the region. And, as always, we appreciate your understanding.

John Hyden
Associate Vice President, Facilities
Youngstown State University
(330) 941-3235



PENGUINS LOOK TO REBOUND ON THE ROAD VS. WEST VIRGINIA IN WEEK 2

Photo by *Marc Weems/The Jambar*

JOSHUA FITCH AND BRIAN YAUGER

Following the 23-21 loss to the Butler University Bulldogs in week one, the Youngstown State University football team is ready for another opportunity this week against West Virginia University.

“People are still having a tough time dealing with it,” Penguins starting defensive tackle Wes Thompson said. “After we practice, hopefully everyone responds good. It was a tough loss. We just have to put it behind us.”

This weekend marks just the third matchup between these teams. The most recent being a 38-21 home win for West Virginia in 2016. They were tied at halftime at 14 before WVU scored 17 unanswered.

The Mountaineers [1-0] come into Saturday’s matchup after defeating the University of Tennessee, 40-14. The West Virginia offense scored seven times with quarterback Will Grier at the helm.

“He’s a confident kid,” Penguins head coach Bo Pelini said.

“He’s decisive and knows where to go with the football. He’s very elusive, hard to bring down in the pocket and creates a lot for them.”

After one week of play, Grier is heavily in the mix to win the Heisman Trophy. That is after a performance in which he completed 25 of his 34 pass attempts for 429 yards and five touchdowns.

Grier passed to 11 different receivers against Tennessee, but fans should keep an eye on his primary target, David Sills V.

Sills, a once highly recruited quarterback as a seventh grader, now is the face of a deep receiver core. Sills caught seven passes for 140 yards and two touchdowns against Tennessee.

Grier will also have the home-field advantage going for him this week. Preparing for a trip to Morgantown is something the Penguins are looking forward to and must be ready for.

“I’m really excited,” Penguins wide receiver Darius Shackleford said. “I was in Morgantown two years ago when I was a redshirt freshman. It was a great atmosphere. It’s going to be under the lights this time, and I’m ready to get back out there especially after last week. Just get back on the field, try to help our team

get to 1-1.”

Shackleford made his first career start with the Penguins against the Bulldogs and is a starter on the unofficial depth chart for Saturday.

The Penguins defensive line was a bright spot in the loss against Butler, allowing only 86 rushing yards. They face a tougher challenge in West Virginia, who put up 118 rushing yards in the win against Tennessee.

“West Virginia is a good team,” Thompson said. “We have to put behind what happened on Saturday, and just focus. I feel if we put a great week of practice together we should be able to compete with this team.”

The Penguins rushing offense will need a repeat of the performance against Butler. In that game, Tevin McCaster rushed for 166 of the team’s 235 yards on the ground while Christian Turner rushed for 46 yards on eight attempts.

The Penguins will look for their first win of the season Saturday at Milan Puskar Stadium in Morgantown, W.Va. Kickoff is set for 6 p.m.

“THE OFFICE,” BASKETBALL EPISODE: AN AMERICAN CLASSIC

DAVID FORD

On Aug. 30, a friend of mine convinced me to make the trip to New York City where Creed Bratton would be taking pictures and signing autographs at the Brooklyn Cyclones baseball game. The trip was worth every penny. For Creed, it was a complete display of human godliness.

Creed Bratton plays a fictionalized version of himself on the greatest television series in history, “The Office.” He’s won several Dundies awards, delivered classic one-liners, all while never knowing exactly what his job was with the Scranton branch of the Dunder Mifflin Paper Company was. Creed is iconic as they come.

In general, my columns focus on sports topics, but my meeting of Creed inspired me to find any means necessary to write a sports-related column, as well as pay tribute to “The Office,” my all-time favorite show.

Released on April 19, 2005, “The Office” episode Basketball sets an example for any

basketball filmmaking that follows.

Essentially, the entire plot revolves around the office and warehouse battling it out in a winner-take-all game of basketball. No holds barred, Scranton-style hoops. The winner gets the weekend off. The loser works on Saturday.

According to the season one DVD commentary, the inspiration for the episode was from a deleted scene in the pilot where Michael talks to the office about playing a game of hoops.

At the beginning, regional manager Michael Scott picks his team solely based on which employees he likes (Ryan Howard, Jim Halpert), people he’s forced to pick (Dwight Schrute), and players whose skills he assumes based on their racial background (Stanley Hudson). He denies Phyllis and Kevin based on their physical stature, both of whom possess athletic skill.

Throughout the series, Michael proved adept at filmmaking (“Threat Level Midnight”), paper sales, as well as ice skating. Basketball just wasn’t his calling.

Despite being the worst player on the court, Michael takes the role of team captain.

In typical fashion, he makes questionable play calls. Advantage Team Warehouse.

In another athletics-based episode, Michael takes the initiative of leading yet another athletic event, in the form The Michael Scott’s Dunder Mifflin Scranton Meredith Palmer Memorial Celebrity Rabies Awareness Pro-Am Fun Run for the Cure.

Like his basketball skills, Michael defied conventional thinking. Rabies had already been cured; the donations were largely wasted on purchasing a giant check, all while having a stripper collect the money. Both episodes are hilarious, in their own ways.

For one major reason; however, Basketball became an instant classic. Despite Michael’s obnoxious and cocky attitude, he is an absolute disaster on the court. He hassles opponents and teammates alike, he launches free throws nowhere near the basket, and can’t defend a single person within the game, yet he trash talks the other team. Some might call it cockiness; I call it confidence.

“I might just be a basketball machine,” Michael says. It might not be true, but based on work ethic alone, he’s right. It’s best to assume

you’re the best player on the court.

The game itself left the audience at the edge of their seats. Halpert played a physical brand of basketball to impress the receptionist, Pam. Dwight stole the ball from teammates to score and impress Michael. Ryan trickled the twine from outside the arc. Michael, of course, failed to competently throw the ball toward the hoop. Stanley couldn’t even dribble it, but the office team played their hearts out.

On paper, this team was too much for the warehouse. In the game, both teams showed grit.

While the office technically wins, the warehouse intimidates Michael into admitting defeat.

Unfortunately, no additional games take place during the series’ nine seasons, but with rumors of a revival in the works at NBC, we can only dream that those who return will lace up their sneakers one more time.

In the meantime, Basketball lives on as some of the finest sports footage caught on camera. A true American classic.

MCNUTT CONTINUES LEAVE INTO WEEK 2

Youngstown State University will go without co-defensive coordinator Richard McNutt for the second week of the season as he continues to be on paid administrative leave.

University officials confirmed this two weeks ago and said there is no timetable at this time for his return. He is the subject of an internal investigation. McNutt’s status for Saturday’s away game against West Virginia University is still uncertain.

McNutt has been on the YSU staff for four years and played under YSU President Jim Tressel at Ohio State University. He was promoted to his current job this past offseason after serving as the defensive backs coach. His son, Devon, is a running back on the team.

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TRAVEL HEAVY: MEN'S GOLF 2018 SEASON IS UNDERWAY

The Youngstown State University men's golf team is hopeful for another successful season under the direction of Tony Joy for the 35th season.
Photo courtesy of *YSU Sports Information*

JOSHUA FITCH

The Youngstown State University Men's Golf team opened the 2018 season in Verona, N.Y. last weekend during the Turning Stone Tiger Intercollegiate tournament hosted by the University of Missouri. The Penguins placed 10th in the event.

Leading the way for the Penguins was senior Jason McQuown, who shot 72-77-70 in three rounds, and finished tied for 13th in the tournament. Sophomore Kevin Scherr shot a 224 for the event including three birdies and 13 pars. Scherr finished tied for 27th.

The Penguins will have quick turnaround in Henryville, Indiana for the Fuzzy Zoeller Intercollegiate hosted by the University of Indiana which begins on Sept. 8. Normally there's more time in between tournaments at the start of the season but head coach Tony Joy thinks it can only benefit his players.

"It's really good for the young players," Joy said. "It gives them time to work on their game and get their numbers up. The freshmen will push others to play better."

Now in his 35th season coaching the Penguins golf program, Joy has seen it all. His experience alone gives his players an advantage not only on the course, but with the overall grind that comes with playing golf.

"He's really knowledgeable," McQuown said. "Just to talk about everyday things, he's personable about that. He's comfortable with the whole process and all the stuff that people don't realize go into golf. He understands what we have to do in order to play our best."

McQuown is one of just two seniors on the roster, and while this will be his last year with Youngstown State, he's trying not to think about how fast the time has gone, but instead to focus on his role as a senior athlete.

"It's definitely in the back of my mind," McQuown said. "When I was a freshman, we had seniors that were really good. We have these sophomores and freshman that are really good, so I'm trying to take the pressure off of them. I'm trying to be a leader, but the time does go fast."

The freshmen are Bryan Kordupel, Derek Miller and Brian Terlesky. Kordupel made his YSU debut on Sept. 1. He shot 77-81-77, finishing with a 235.

Both Kordupel and Terlesky are graduates of Boardman High School, while Miller graduated from James A. Garfield High School as a two-time team captain.

While preparing for a season that contains six tournaments and 12 events overall, Youngstown State's resources pay dividends during the offseason for the team and individually.

"It's more on your own, but we'll have practice," McQuown

said. "We'll go to the WATTS center. We have our putting green up there. We just hit different yardage. I think it's good because not a lot of teams in our conference have a facility like that. It's definitely an advantage because the winters around here aren't ideal."

The Penguins will play two more tournaments out of state before the Firestone Invitational, hosted in Akron, Ohio on Oct. 1 and 2.

Following the Firestone Invitational, the Penguins will travel to Westlake, Ohio for the Tom Tontimonia Invitational. After that, they close out the season in Highland, Mich. at the Detroit Titans Motown Tournament before the conference championship.

Despite a lot of travel, time and hard work, this team is ready for the challenge and for a chance to be great in 2018.

"There're long hours but you just have to concentrate on what you're working on and put something together," McQuown said. "We all have the talent and there's a lot of competitiveness within the group which makes us all better."

The competitiveness, drive and effort are what it takes to be successful in golf, and Tony Joy believes each member of his team is here for a reason.

"They're all in," Joy said. "Not just to be a part of the golf program. They're in it to win it."